

Statistical Commission
Fifty-second session
1–3 and 5 March 2021
Item 3 (g) of the provisional agenda
Items for discussion and decision: migration statistics

Background document
Available in English only

**Questionnaire for the consultation on national practices related to
migration statistics, conducted in 2019**

Prepared by United Nations Statistics Division

Survey on national practices related to international migration statistics

To prepare for the revision of the United Nations 1998 Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration (thereafter 1998 Recommendations), the United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics is carrying out a survey on national practices related to international migration statistics.

Your input is extremely important. You can save the partially completed questionnaire and return to it at any time for completion. You can also review the completed questionnaire after your submission to correct any erroneous entries.

We understand that statistics on international migration are usually collected by multiple agencies within the country, please help us distributing the form to all relevant agencies.

Thank you!

* Required

1. Email address *

Tell us about yourself

2. Your name *

3. Your title/function *

4. Which office do you work for? *

5. Is your office *

Mark only one oval.

- National Statistical Office
- National government authority specific to international migration matters
- National government authority covering different areas including migration matters
- Other: _____

Current practice on migration data production

6. Has your institution produced any statistical data on international migration, regardless of definition and the level of details, since 1 January 2010? *

Mark only one oval.

- No, my institution is not in charge *Skip to question 130.*
- No, even though formally my institution is in charge *Skip to question 129.*
- Yes, but only once *Skip to question 7.*
- Yes, regularly but less frequently than annually *Skip to question 8.*
- Yes, at least annually *Skip to question 8.*
- Other: _____ *Skip to question 8.*

If not regularly producing statistics

7. Could you please explain the main reason(s) that migration data are not regularly produced?

(Click all that applies.) *

- Depending on the available data source
- Limited interest from policy makers / no first priority
- Limited funds
- Limited human resources
- Other: _____

Stock of international migrants

8. How do you measure the "stock of international migrants", i.e., migrants who are part of the population of your country on a reference date? Select all that apply. *

- Number of foreign-born person
- Number of foreign citizens, including stateless persons
- Number of foreign citizens who were born aboard
- Number of persons who have ever resided abroad in the past
- Other: _____

9. Which data source(s) do you use for the "stock of international migrants"? Select all that apply. *

- Census (traditional enumeration)
- Population registers
- Immigration register
- Residence permit and/or visa
- General-purpose sample survey(s) including variables related international migration (e.g., households' surveys).
- Sample survey(s) dedicated to international migration
- Big data, i.e., social media and mobile phone
- Other: _____

10. If more than 1 data source is used for "stock of international migrants", are the multiple data sources integrated? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, at microdata level
- Yes, at macrodata (aggregated) level
- Yes, both at the micro- and macro-data level
- No

11. Which is the "statistical unit" in your international immigration stock tables? *

Mark only one oval.

- Always the persons (i.e., immigrants resident at the reference date)
- Always the documents (e.g., valid residence permits / visa at the reference date)
- Persons for some data, documents for other data
- Both available (persons and documents) for all data
- Other: _____

12. What variables are used to further disaggregating immigrants stock data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Flow of international immigration - production

13. How do you measure the "flow of immigrants", i.e. persons who are becoming part of the population of your country in a selected period? *

Mark only one oval.

- Number of all persons who have arrived in the country during that period *Skip to question 16*
- Number of persons who have acquired specific characteristics or granted specific rights during that period (e.g., national citizenship, recording in national registers, new residence permits or visa, etc.), regardless of where they are *Skip to question 16.*
- Number of persons who have arrived in the country and meet specific criteria
- Other: _____ *Skip to question 16.*

Flow of immigration - criteria

14. Which specific criteria do you apply to qualify a person who has arrived in your country as an "immigrant"? Select all that apply. *

- Born abroad
- Foreign citizenship
- Established residence in the country by making a declaration to authorities
- Lived in the country for a period of time since last arrival (so-called 'actual stay')
- Intention to live in the country for a period of time (so-called 'intention of stay')
- Granted a legal permission of stay (visa, residence permit, etc.)
- Other: _____

15. Please provide the required duration of stay in the country to be considered "immigrant", if there is a duration element in the criteria above. *

Flow of immigration - sources and unit

16. Which data source(s) do you use for the "flow of immigrants"? Select all that apply. *

- Census (traditional enumeration)
- Population register
- Immigration register
- Residence permits/visa
- Border-crossing data
- General-purpose sample survey(s) including variables related to international migration
- Sample survey(s) dedicated to international migration
- Big data, e.g., social media and mobile phone data
- Data on migration available from other countries (so-called "mirror" statistics)
- Other: _____

17. If more than 1 data source is used for "flow of immigrants", are the multiple data sources integrated? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, at microdata level
- Yes, at macrodata (aggregated) level
- Yes, both at micro- and macro-data level
- No

18. Which is the "statistical unit" in your international immigration flow tables? *

Mark only one oval.

- Always the persons (i.e., the migrants)
- Always the events (i.e., the migrations)
- Persons for some data, events for other data
- Both available (persons and events) for all data

19. What variables are used to further disaggregating immigration flow data? Select all that apply.

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Flow of international emigration - production

20. How do you measure the "flow of emigrants", i.e. persons who are leaving the population of your country in a selected period? *

Mark only one oval.

- Number of all persons who have left the country during that period *Skip to question 23.*
- Number of persons who have lost specific characteristics or rights during that period (e.g., loss of national citizenship, deletion from national registers, expiration of residence permits or visa, etc.), regardless of where they are *Skip to question 23.*
- Number of persons who have left the country and meet specific criteria
- Other: _____ *Skip to question 23.*

Flow of emigration - criteria

21. Which specific criteria do you apply to qualify a person who has left your country as an "emigrant"? Select all that apply. *

- Born in the country
- Born abroad
- National citizenship
- Foreign citizenship
- Establishing residence abroad (informing the national authorities of your country)
- Living abroad for a period of time since last departure (so-called "actual stay")
- Intention to live abroad for a period of time (so-called 'intention of stay')
- Expiration of a legal permission of stay (visa, residence permit, etc.)
- Other: _____

22. Please provide the required duration of stay abroad to be considered "emigrant", if there is a duration element in the criteria above. *

Flow of emigration - sources and unit

23. Which data source(s) do you use for the "flow of emigrants"? Select all that apply. *

- Census (traditional enumeration)
- Population register
- Immigration register
- Residence permits/visa
- Border-crossing data
- General-purpose sample survey(s) including variables related to international migration
- Sample survey(s) dedicated to international migration
- Big data, e.g., social media and mobile phone data
- Data on migration available from other countries (so-called "mirror" statistics)
- Other: _____

24. If more than 1 data source is used for the "flow of emigrants", are the multiple data sources integrated? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, at microdata level
- Yes, at macrodata (aggregated) level
- Yes, both at micro- and macro-data level
- No

25. Which is the "statistical unit" in your international emigration flow tables? *

Mark only one oval.

- Always the persons (i.e., the migrants)
- Always the events (i.e., the migrations)
- Persons for some data, events for other data
- Both available (persons and events) for all data

26. What variables are used to further disaggregating emigration flow data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Citizens living abroad - data production

27. Does your institution produce any data on citizens living abroad? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 30.*

Citizens living abroad - definition and data**28. How is citizens living abroad defined in your data? ***

29. What variables are used to further disaggregating citizens living abroad data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Citizens living abroad - policy relevance**30. Is there a policy need to collect official data on citizens living abroad in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Return migrants - data production**31. Does your institution produce any data on return migrants? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 34.*

Return migrants - definition and data

32. How is return migrants defined in the data? *

33. What variables are used to further disaggregating return migrants data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Return migrants - policy relevance**34. Is there a policy need to collect official data on return migrants in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Labour migration - data production**35. Does your institution produce any data on labour migration? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 38.*

Labour migration - definition and data**36. How is labour migration defined in your data? ***

37. **What variables are used to further disaggregating labour migration data? Select all that apply.**

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Labour migration - policy relevance

38. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on labour migration in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Seasonal migration - data production

39. **Does your institution produce data on seasonal migration? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 42.*

Seasonal migration - definition and data

40. **How is seasonal migration defined in your data? ***

41. What variables are used to further disaggregating seasonal migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Seasonal migration - policy relevance

42. Is there a policy need to collect official data on seasonal migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Circular migration - data production

43. Does your institution collect data on circular migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 46.*

Circular migration - definition and data

44. How is circular migration defined in your data? *

45. What variables are used to further disaggregating circular migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Circular migration - policy relevance

46. Is there a policy need to collect official data on circular migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Temporary migration - data production

47. Does your institution produce data on temporary migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 50.*

Temporary migration - definition and data

48. How is temporary migration defined in your data? *

49. What variables are used to further disaggregating temporary migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Temporary migration - policy relevance

50. Is there a policy need to collect official data on temporary migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Long-term migration (longer than national main definition of migration) - data production

51. Does your institution produce data on long-term migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 54.*

Long-term migration (longer than national main definition of migration) - definition and data

52. What is the definition of long-term migration (longer than national main definition of migration) used in your data? *

53. What variables are used to further disaggregating long-term data? Select all that apply. *

Check all that apply.

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Long-term migration - policy relevance

54. Is there a policy need to collect official data on long-term migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Short-term migration (shorter than national main definition of migration) - data production

55. Does your institution produce data on short-term migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 58.*

Short-term migration (shorter than national main definition of migration) - definition and data

56. How is short-term migration (shorter than national main definition of migration) defined in your data? *

57. What variables are used to further disaggregating short-term migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Short-term migration - policy relevance

58. Is there a policy need to collect official data on short-term migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Family-related (reunification/formation) migration - data production

59. Does your institution produce data on family-related migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 62.*

Family-related migration (reunification/formation) - definition and data

60. How is family-related migration defined in your data? *

61. What variables are used to further disaggregating family-related migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Family-related migration - policy relevance

62. Is there a policy need to collect official data on family-related migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Education-related migration - data production

63. Does your institution produce data on education-related migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 66.*

Education-related migration - definition and data

64. How is education-related migration defined in your data? *

65. What variables are used to further disaggregating education-related data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Education-related migration - policy relevance

66. Is there a policy need to collect official data on education-related migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Descendants of migrants (e.g., second-generation migration) - data production

67. Does your institution produce data on descendants of migrants? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 70.*

Descendants of migrants - definition and data

68. How is descendant of migrants defined in your data? *

69. What variables are used to further disaggregating descendants of migrants data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Country of birth of parents
- Country of citizenship of parents
- Other: _____

Descendants of migrants - policy relevance

70. Is there a policy need to collect official data on descendants of migrants in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Irregular migration - data production

71. Does your institution produce data on irregular migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 74.*

Irregular migration - definition and data

72. How is irregular migration defined in your data? *

73. What variables are used to further disaggregating irregular migration? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Irregular migration - policy relevance

74. Is there a policy need to collect official data on irregular migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Mixed migration - data production

75. Does your institution produce data on mixed migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 78.*

Mixed migration - definition and data

76. How is mixed migration defined in your data? *

77. What variables are used to further disaggregating mixed migration data? Select all that apply.

*

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Mixed migration - policy relevance

78. Is there a policy need to collect official data on mixed migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Diaspora - data production

79. Does your institution produce data on diaspora? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 82.*

Diaspora - definition and data

80. How is diaspora defined in your data? *

81. What variables are used to further disaggregating diaspora data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Diaspora - policy relevance

82. Is there a policy need to collect official data on diaspora in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Forced migration - data production

83. Does your institution produce data on forced migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 86.*

Forced migration - definition and data

84. How is forced migration defined in your data? *

85. **What variables are used to further disaggregating forced migration data? Select all that apply.**

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Forced migration - policy relevance

86. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on forced migration in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Environment-related migration - data production

87. **Does your institution produce data on environment-related migration? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 90.*

Environment-related migration - definition and data

88. **How is environment-related migration defined in your data? ***

89. What variables are used to further disaggregating environment-related migration data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Environment-related migration - policy relevance

90. Is there a policy need to collect official data on environment-related migration in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Cross-border workers - data production

91. Does your institution produce data on cross-border workers? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 94.*

Cross-border worker - definition and data

92. How is cross-border worker defined in your data? *

93. What variables are used to further disaggregating cross-border worker data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Cross-border workers - policy relevance

94. Is there a policy need to collect official data on cross-border workers in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Transit migration - data production

95. Does your institution produce data on transit migration? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 98.*

Transit migration - definition and data

96. How is transit migration defined in your data? *

97. **What variables are used to further disaggregating transit migration data? Select all that apply.**

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reasons for migration
- Other: _____

Transit migration - policy relevance

98. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on transit migration in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Migrants' access to services in your country

99. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on migrants' access to services in your country? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 103.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 103.*

Migrants' access to services in your country - details

100. **What services are considered relevant? Select all that apply. ***

- Access to education
- Access to health care
- Access to social protection
- Housing
- Other: _____

101. List data/indicators published by your institution assessing migrants' access to services. *

102. What variables are used to further disaggregating data on migrants' access to services? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Migrants' situation, in relation to other populations in the country

103. Is there a policy need to collect official data on migrants' situation in your country? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 107.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 107.*

Migrants' situation in your country - details

104. What aspects are considered relevant for assessing migrants' situation? Select all that apply. *

- Level of education
- Labour market performance
- Poverty level
- Civic participation
- Other: _____

105. List data/indicators produced by your institution assessing migrants' situation in the country. *

106. What variables are used to further disaggregating data on migrants' situation in the country? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Fighting against discrimination and vulnerability of migrants

107. Is there a policy need to collect official data on discrimination against and vulnerability of migrants? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 111.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 111.*

Fighting against discrimination and vulnerability of migrants - details

108. Type of vulnerability that are relevant. Select all that apply. *

- Exploitation and abuse
- Discrimination
- Violence against migrants
- Smuggling
- Trafficking
- Other: _____

109. List data/indicators published by your institution on discrimination against and vulnerability of migrants in the country. *

110. What variables are used to further disaggregating discrimination against and vulnerability of migrants data? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants

111. Is there a policy need to collect official data on fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 114.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 114.*

Fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants - details

112. List data/indicators published by your institution on fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants. *

113. **What variables are used to further disaggregating data on fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants? Select all that apply. ***

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Regular pathway and irregular migration

114. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on regular pathway and irregular migration? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 117.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 117.*

Regular pathway and irregular migration - details

115. **List data/indicators published by your institution on regular pathway and irregular migration. ***

116. **What variables are used to further disaggregating data on regular pathway and irregular migration? Select all that apply. ***

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Migration experience and perception

117. Is there a policy need to collect official data on migration experience and perception? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No Skip to question 120.
- Don't know Skip to question 120.

Migration experience and perception - details

118. List data/indicators published by your institution on migration experience and perception. *

119. What variables are used to further disaggregating data on migration experience and perception? Select all that apply. *

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Access to information for migrants

120. Is there a policy need to collect official data on access to information for migrants? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No Skip to question 123.
- Don't know Skip to question 123.

Access to information for migrants - details

121. List data/indicators published by your institution on access to information for migrants. *

122. **What variables are used to further disaggregating data on access to information for migrants? Select all that apply. ***

- Sex
- Age
- Duration of stay
- Education level
- Reason for migration
- Other: _____

Drivers and impact of migration

123. **Is there a policy need to collect official data on drivers and impact of migration? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 125.*
- Don't know *Skip to question 125.*

Drivers and impact of migrants - details

124. **List data/indicators published by your institution on drivers and impact of migration. ***

Child-specific migration indicators

125. **Does your institution produce any child-specific migration data, e.g., unaccompanied or separated children, child detention etc? ***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Skip to question 127.*

Child-specific migration indicators - details

126. List data/indicators published by your institution on child-specific migration. *

Gender-sensitive migration indicators

127. Does your institution produce any gender-sensitive migration data? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

Gender-sensitive migration indicators - details

128. List data/indicators published by your institution on gender-sensitive migration. *

Skip to question 130.

If not producing statistics

129. Could you please explain the main reasons (click all that apply)? *

- No data source is available
- No interest from policy makers / not a priority
- Limited funds
- Limited human resource
- Difficulty to meet international recommendations on migration statistics
- management is not keen
- Other: _____

Other relevant national agencies

130. Could you please provide the name and contact information for institution(s) that also produce statistics on international migration in your country? *

