

Measuring International Migration

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Key decision factors

- The revision of RM Population estimates is a must to be accomplished ASAP and at the highest level of accuracy
- The revised population estimates need to be based on the International Recommendations regarding Place of Usual Residence
- (For that to happen) Accurate estimates of net international migration must be developed

Place of usual residence definition

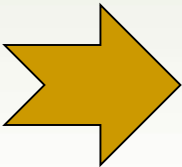
1. The place at which the person has lived continuously for most of the last 12 months (that is, for at least six months and one day), not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least six months;
2. The place at which the person has lived continuously for at least the last 12 months, not including temporary absences for holidays or work assignments, or intends to live for at least 12 months

Implications for migration measurement:

- ✓ The 12 months reference period is strongly recommended
- ✓ The need to exclude temporary absences clearly stated

but

- ✓ Not a clue regarding how temporary absences should be defined and measured

 **Each country has to select the way to implement the definition according to the local situation and data availability**

Local situation in RM

- RM residents have increasingly easy access to adjacent (and other) European countries
- For many years a large number of residents of RM use to work abroad for periods of different lengths

Data availability

- Statistics on international migration flows can be produced in RM from administrative collection of border crossings (excluding movements through Transnistria)
- Other existing data sources will require exhaustive analysis and checks before it can be decided if they can be useful to provide estimates of migration flows

Who is an immigrant/emigrant?

- Migration streams (immigrations and emigrations) heavily depend on the tolerance for “temporary absences”
- Fortunately NET migration estimates are less dependent (but still influenced) on the above mentioned tolerance
- **Any definition of this tolerance will be at least partly arbitrary**

The process

- Checks of the suitability of border-crosses data for migration statistics have been conducted (based on samples)
- Migration estimates have been produced for 2014-2017 after preliminary assessing the quality and completeness of the data
- In depth analysis of the estimates, under alternative definitions of migration reconfirmed their suitability for migration statistics

The process (cont.)

- Solutions regarding missing (or wrong) data have been developed (statistic imputations)
- Comparisons of different definitions brought to selection of the more suitable definition
- Net migration estimates by age and sex have been calculated for each year since 2014 Census to 2017
- These estimates allowed calculation of revised population estimates from Census day until the beginning of 2018

The process (cont.)

- Revised demographic indicators have been calculated
- Population projections will allow to produce preliminary estimates for the beginning of 2019
- A routine for calculating each year updated population estimates has been developed

Still several additional challenges lie ahead of NBS

Main remaining challenges

- To calculate additional statistical indicators based on the revised population estimates
- To identify RM citizens among those using (only) foreign documents when crossing the borders
- To calculate disaggregated net international migration estimates at more detailed geographic resolution
- To calculate net internal migration estimates at the same geographical levels

Some conclusions

- The Revised Population Estimates are an enormous contribution to RM statistical system by providing a much more accurate picture of RM demographic situation
- The accumulated expertise will allow NBS to keep the quality and further improve additional indicators in the near future

Q and A