

RB290: COUNTRY OF MAIN CITIZENSHIP

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Citizenship and migrant background

Variable type: Core Variable/First wave/Annual

Unit: All current household member aged (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: New from 2021 (moved from P-file to R-file, used instead of PB220A previously used)

VALUES AND FORMAT

SCL GEO code	Country of the main citizenship
STLS	Stateless
FOR	Foreign-born but country of birth unknown

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a main source
-1	Missing
-7	Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

The variable reports on the country of the person's main citizenship. Citizenship is defined as the particular legal bond between the individual and his/her State acquired by birth or naturalisation, whether by declaration, choice, option, marriage or other means according to the national legislation. It generally corresponds to the country that issues the passport.

A person with two or more citizenships shall be allocated to only one country of citizenship, to be determined in the following order of precedence:

1. If one of the person's citizenship is the reporting country, it shall be recorded as the country of main citizenship;
2. If the person does not have the citizenship of the reporting country but one of another Member State, it shall be the recorded as the person's main citizenship.
3. If the person does not have the citizenship of the reporting country but multiple citizenships of other countries, the person may choose which of his/her EU citizenships is to be recorded.
4. If the person does not have the citizenship of any Member State, the person may choose which of his/her citizenships is to be recorded.

In other cases (e.g., dual citizenship where both countries are within the EU, but neither is the reporting country) the person may choose which country of citizenship is to be recorded.

If the information on the person's country of citizenship is not available (e.g., in case the information is obtained from administrative sources), the reporting country may determine which country of citizenship is to be allocated.

Information on the country of main citizenship is used to distinguish between national citizens (individuals having the citizenship of the reporting country), non-national citizens (individuals having the citizenship of a country other than the reporting country) and stateless persons. Citizenship shall refer to the current (at the time of the interview) national boundaries and not the boundaries at the time of the reference period. To apply this definition, information only on citizenship may be insufficient. More detailed information on the current country is needed if the boundaries of the have been changed. In the case of citizenships that no longer exist, the present-day borders of the country should be used.

The list of countries is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO which is largely based on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166 country codes (3166-1 alpha-2).