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Introduction

This document contains the quality report on population and migration statistics. This publication refers to the data transmission to Eurostat that took place between 2020 and 2022.

The quality assessment was carried out in accordance with Article 12 of [Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009](#) on European statistics. It was also conducted in accordance with the statistical requirements set out in [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) on European demographic statistics and [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) on Community statistics on migration and international protection and their implementing measures.

This report was prepared in line with the recommendations of the [European Statistical System Handbook for Quality and Metadata Reports](#) (2021 re-edition) on how to draft user-oriented reports and apply quality criteria.

The common quality framework of the European Statistical System (ESS) is composed of the [European Statistics Code of Practice](#), the ESS's [Quality Assurance Framework](#) and general quality management principles (e.g. continuous interaction with users, commitment to leadership, partnership, staff satisfaction, continuous improvement, integration and harmonisation).

1.1. Purpose of this report

This quality report aims to inform users about the quality of European statistics on population and migration disseminated by Eurostat.

This report is based on working papers such as quality reports prepared by Eurostat and presented to the Working Group on Population Statistics and the Working Group on Asylum and Managed Migration Statistics.

The purpose of this report is not to rank countries for each quality indicator, but to provide users with information on the different factors affecting statistics so that users of statistics can appraise data quality by themselves.

1.2. Scope of this report

1.1.1. Country coverage

This report provides quality assessment of data submitted by the following countries:

- **EU Member States** in protocol order: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.
- **EFTA countries** in protocol order: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- **Enlargement countries** in protocol order:
 - candidate countries²: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Moldova, North Macedonia, Albania, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine.
 - potential candidates: (Kosovo³ and Georgia⁴)
- **Other countries**: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Monaco and San Marino.

Note that the United Kingdom is not included in this Quality Report. Its statistical reporting obligations ceased at the end of 2020. The last complete reference year of detailed data transmitted by the UK to Eurostat was therefore 2018 or 2019 (depending on the dataset).

1.1.2. Data coverage

This report covers all data transmissions from the reporting countries to Eurostat according to the EU legislation on [population and demography](#) and [migration and asylum](#) statistics as well as according to some voluntary agreements between Eurostat and the reporting countries.

The data collections are regulated by [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) and by [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 826/2007](#) and their corresponding implementing measures.

- **Population and demography data**: this collection includes mandatory data defined by the EU regulations (population stock, deaths and live births) and voluntary data (marriages and divorces).

The population and demography collection includes annual statistics on population and [usually resident population](#) on the 1 January; weekly and annual statistics on deaths; monthly and annual statistics on live births; and annual statistics on marriages and divorces.

- **Migration and asylum data**: this collection includes mandatory/voluntary data defined by the EU regulations (international migration flows, acquisition and loss of citizenship, asylum, enforcement of immigration law and residence permits) and voluntary data (temporary protection).

The migration and asylum collection includes annual statistics on immigration and emigration; annual statistics on acquisition and loss of citizenship; monthly, quarterly and annual statistics on asylum and temporary protection; annual statistics on Member States responsible for the examination of the asylum application (the Dublin statistics); quarterly and annual statistics on enforcement of immigration law; and annual statistics on residence permits.

1.1.3. Time coverage

This report focuses on data on population, demography, migration and asylum statistics for the reference period between 2020 and 2022, transmitted between 2021 and 2022.

(²) In June 2022, Moldova and Ukraine became EU candidate countries.

(³) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

(⁴) In June 2022, Georgia became a potential EU candidate country.

Population and demography

Population and demography data	Reference period	Transmission period
Population	2020-2021	2021-2022
Deaths	2020-2021	2021-2022
Live births	2020-2021	2021-2022
Marriages and divorces	2020-2021	2021-2022

Migration and asylum

Migration and asylum data	Reference period	Transmission period
Immigration	2020-2021	2021-2022
Emigration	2020-2021	2021-2022
Acquisition and loss of citizenship	2020-2021	2021-2022
Asylum and Dublin	2020-2022	2021-2022
Temporary protection	2022	2022
Enforcement of immigration legislation	2021-2022	2021-2022
Residence permit	2021	2022

1.3. Quality criteria applied

ARTICLE 12(1), REGULATION (EC) NO 223/2009

'To guarantee the quality of results, European statistics shall be developed, produced and disseminated on the basis of uniform standards and of harmonised methods. In this respect, the following quality criteria shall apply:'

The data quality can be evaluated by the following quality components presented in Article 12 of [Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009](#).

- **Relevance** refers to the degree to which statistical output meets current and potential user needs. It depends on whether all the statistics that are needed are produced. It also depends on the extent to which the used concepts reflect user needs (e.g. definitions and classifications).
- **Accuracy** refers to the degree of closeness of the estimates to their true value.
- **Timeliness and punctuality:**
 - timeliness refers to the length of time between the information becoming available and the event it describes;
 - punctuality refers to the time lag between the release date of data and the target date on which they are scheduled for release in the official release calendar.
- **Accessibility and clarity** refer to the conditions and modalities under/by which users can obtain, use and interpret data:
 - accessibility is determined by the physical conditions under which users obtain data: where to go, how to order, delivery time, pricing policy, etc.
 - clarity of statistical output is the ease with which users can understand the data. It is determined by the information environment within which data are presented.

- **Comparability and coherence:**

- comparability refers to the measurement of the impact of differences in applied statistical concepts. This term is a special aspect of coherence, where the statistical output refers to the same data item by combining them so that the data can be compared over different time periods.
- coherence refers to the suitability of the data to be reliably combined in different ways and for many purposes. Furthermore, the coherence of two or more statistical outputs refers to the degree to which the statistical processes by which they were generated used the same concepts, classifications, definitions, target populations and harmonised methods.

1.4. Sources of information

Eurostat assesses the quality of data transmitted by Member States on the basis of data analysis and validation, and available documentation.

Article 9 of [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) requires Member States to transmit reference metadata to Eurostat using European Statistical System standards, especially for data sources, definitions and estimation methods applied for the reference years for demographic data. Furthermore, Member States should inform Eurostat of any changes made in the metadata and provide relevant information necessary for evaluating the quality of statistical information.

In addition to the metadata, this quality assessment was also prepared on the basis of information collected during the data validation process and information contained in the working documents of the Working Group on Population Statistics and the Working Group on Asylum and Managed Migration.

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Background information

2.1. Definitions and key terms

EU legislation in the field of population and migration statistics requires EU Member States to follow agreed concepts, definitions and breakdowns to ensure the comparability of the demographic data that they transmit to Eurostat.

European demographic statistics are internationally comparable because they comply with internationally agreed concepts and definitions, adapted (where necessary) to fulfil EU purposes.

2.1.1. Population and demography

Usually resident population

The definition of population is the central aspect of the entire domain of European population statistics.

The internationally recommended definition is the definition for **usually resident population**. According to Article and 2(d) of [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) on European demographic statistics, 'usual residence' means 'the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage'.

Article 4(2) of [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) states that Member States may estimate the total population referred to in Article 4(1) (i.e. total population at national level for the purpose of qualified majority voting) from the legally resident or registered population using scientifically-based, well-documented, and publicly available statistical estimation methods.

ARTICLE AND 2(D) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1260/2013

'The following persons alone are considered to be usual residents of the geographical area in question:

- those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time;
- those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year.'

EU legislation allows countries to use the legal registered residence instead of the 'usual residence' when the circumstances described in the above-described points cannot be established.

For the purpose of [qualified majority voting in the Council of the European Union](#), EU members are obliged to transmit data on their total population, following strictly the above definition of usual residence.

The population figures in the demography domain may differ from those available in other domains such as the Labour Force Survey (LFS), the Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) and national accounts. The difference is due to the specific populations that are covered.

In social surveys, according to [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1700](#), the statistical population must consist of all persons having their usual residence in private households in each Member State, but demographic statistics must cover the entire population. In contrast to demographic statistics, surveys provide population figures for specific age brackets only (for example, 15-89 years for employed persons and 15-74 years for unemployed persons in the [Labour Force Survey](#); and in the [Survey on Income and Living Conditions](#) small parts of a national territory amounting to no more than 2% of the national population may be excluded).

Furthermore, national accounts measure the population using the 'centre of economic interest' concept. In national accounts, on a given date, the total population of a country consists of all persons (citizens or foreigners) who are permanently settled on the economic territory of the country, even if they are temporary absent from it. An annual average of headcounts is the basis for estimating national accounts variables or for uses as a denominator in comparisons and indicators. The population variable between national accounts and demographic statistics should therefore be carefully compared. Additional information can be found under the [European system of accounts – ESA 2010](#).

Other demographic concepts

Eurostat provides data on vital events such as live births and deaths, and marriages and divorces. Relevant concepts and definitions on vital events can be found in the following text box.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Live births means births of children that showed any sign of life. It is the total number of births, excluding stillbirths (total births include live births and stillbirths).

Fertility rates by mother's age (age-specific fertility rate): the ratio of (i) the number of live births to mothers of age x to (ii) the average female population of age x.

Total fertility rate is computed by adding the age specific fertility rates for women in a given year. It can be interpreted as the mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year and surviving.

Death means the permanent disappearance of all evidence of life at any time after live birth has taken place (post-natal cessation of vital functions without capability of resuscitation).

Excess mortality is the rate of additional deaths in a month compared with the average number of deaths in the same month over a baseline period (2016-2019). The higher the value, the greater the number of additional deaths that have occurred compared with the baseline. A negative value means that fewer deaths occurred in a particular month compared with the baseline period.

Life expectancy at certain ages represents the mean number of years still to be lived by a person who has reached a certain exact age, if subjected throughout the rest of their life to the current mortality conditions (age-specific probabilities of dying).

The life table is one of the most important and most widely-used devices in demography. It summarises various aspects of the variation of mortality with age and shows, for each age, the probability that a person of that age will die before their next birthday. One column of the table is 'age' and other columns tabulate age-related functions pertaining to mortality: the numbers of survivors

to various ages, deaths in particular age intervals, age-specific death rates, probabilities of death in various age intervals, and life expectancy at a given precise age.

Infant death means the death of a live-born infant who has not yet completed the first year of life.

Foetal death means death before the complete expulsion or extraction from the mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of her pregnancy. Death is indicated by the fact that, after such a separation, the foetus does not breath or show any other evidence of life (e.g. beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or definite movement of voluntary muscles).

Late foetal death means foetal death of 28 weeks or more of completed weeks of gestation.

Stillbirth means the expulsion or extraction from the mother of a dead foetus after the time at which it would normally be presumed capable of independent extra-uterine existence (commonly taken to be after 14 or 28 weeks of gestation). Infants who are born alive but die shortly after birth are not included in this category.

2.1.2. Migration and asylum

International migration and citizenship

The main concept is the definition of **international migration flows**.

KEY INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Immigration means the action by which a person establishes their usual residence in the territory of an EU country for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least 12 months, having previously been usually resident in another EU or third country.

Emigration means the action by which a person, having previously been usually resident in the territory of an EU country, ceases to have their usual residence in that country for a period that is, or is expected to be, at least 12 months.

Net migration is the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants. In the context of the annual demographic balance, however, Eurostat calculates net migration figures by taking the difference between total population change and natural change. This concept is referred to as net migration plus statistical adjustment. The statistics on 'net migration plus statistical adjustment' are therefore affected by all the statistical inaccuracies in the two components of this equation, especially population change. 'Net migration plus statistical adjustment' may cover, besides the difference between inward and outward migration, other changes observed in the population figures between 1 January in 2 consecutive years which cannot be attributed to births, deaths, immigration and emigration.

Acquisition of citizenship occurs when persons have their usual residence in the territory of an EU Member State and acquire that Member State's citizenship; and these persons had previously held the citizenship of another EU country or a third country or had been considered stateless.

Asylum statistics

Asylum data are based on administrative sources and are supplied to Eurostat by statistical authorities, interior ministries or related immigration agencies.

An asylum application is defined as an application made by a non-EU citizen or a stateless person. This can be understood as a request under the 1951 Geneva Refugee Convention and Protocol or national refugee law. In the context of EU legislation on asylum (the Common European Asylum System (CEAS)), the term most commonly used is 'application for international protection'. This is defined as a request for refugee status or subsidiary-protection status made by a non-EU citizen or stateless person, who does not explicitly request another kind of protection. The number of first-time asylum applicants is a major indicator in asylum statistics, because it estimates the number of non-EU citizens arriving during a given reference period and seeking asylum for the first time in a Member State or an associated country.

ASYLUM STATISTICS

Asylum statistics count the number of asylum applicants at each stage of the asylum procedure, from the lodging of an asylum application to the final outcome of the asylum procedure (application withdrawn, or first and final decision). This differs from statistics on responsible for asylum applications (**Dublin statistics**), which count the number of asylum applicants subject to the Dublin procedure at each stage of this procedure to determine the Member State responsible for an asylum applicant. Dublin statistics could thus be considered a subset of the asylum statistics that focus on the redistribution between Member States of asylum applicants subject to the Dublin procedure.

The following box explains the main concepts and definitions in the field of asylum statistics:

KEY ASYLUM STATISTICS CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Asylum applications are applications made by a non-EU national or stateless person for international protection (refugee and subsidiary protection) as defined in Directive 2011/95/EU. The concept includes: (i) applications for refugee status under the Geneva Refugee Convention (for Member States not bound by the EU's legislation on this point); or (ii) applications for protection under national legislation (humanitarian reasons).

Applications for international protection in the EU context are requests for protection made by a non-EU citizen or a stateless person from a Member State, who can be understood to be seeking refugee status or subsidiary-protection status. In addition, the non-EU national or stateless person must not explicitly request another kind of protection that lies outside the scope of the EU Qualification Directive that can be applied for separately. Generally speaking, 'application for international protection' is equivalent to an asylum application.

International protection in the global context means action by the international community that is based on international law and aimed at protecting the fundamental rights of a specific category of persons outside their country of origin, who lack the national protection of their own countries. In the EU context, international protection includes refugee status and subsidiary-protection status.

Asylum applicants (or asylum seekers) are non-EU citizens who seek protection in a Member State from persecution or serious harm and who have lodged an asylum application under relevant EU, international and national instruments, in respect of which a final decision has not been taken.

Refugees are non-EU citizens who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, are: (i) outside their country of nationality; and (ii) unable, or owing to a such fear, unwilling to avail themselves of the

protection of that country. Recognition by an EU Member State of a non-EU citizen as a refugee entitles them to the enjoyment of a variety of rights associated with that status.

Subsidiary-protection status occurs when a Member State recognises a non-EU citizen as a person eligible for subsidiary protection. A person eligible for subsidiary protection is a non-EU citizen who does not qualify as a refugee; but in respect of whom substantial grounds have been shown for believing that they would, if returned to their country of origin (or, in the case of a stateless person, to their country of former habitual residence), face a real risk of serious harm. The person concerned is unable (or, owing to this real risk of suffering serious harm, unwilling) to avail themselves of the protection of that country.

Asylum decisions can be distinguished according to the stage in the procedure when they are taken:

- **First instance** decisions are decisions granted by a relevant authority acting as a first instance of the administrative/judicial asylum procedure in the receiving country.
- **Final decisions** are decisions on whether a third-country national or stateless person is to be granted refugee or subsidiary-protection status by virtue of Directive 2011/95/EU; and which can no longer be remedied within the framework of Chapter V of this Directive (irrespective of whether or not such a remedy would allow the applicant to remain in the Member States concerned pending its outcome). Asylum procedures and numbers/levels of decision-making bodies differ between Member States. The true 'final instance' may be (depending on national legislation and administrative procedures) a decision of the highest national court. However, it is not intended that these statistics should cover rare or exceptional cases determined by the highest courts. Statistics on the 'final decisions' should therefore refer to decisions against which there is no further possibility to appeal on the substance of the decision but only on procedural grounds.

Additional information related to asylum statistics can be found under Asylum Statistics Introduced.

KEY DUBLIN STATISTICS CONCEPT AND DEFINITION

A **Dublin request** is a request submitted by a Member State to another Member State to 'take back' or 'take charge' of an asylum applicant. The Member State making the request will record it as an outgoing request, whereas the Member State receiving the request will record it as an incoming request. If a request is refused, a re-examination request can be submitted, which results in the recording of an outgoing re-examination request and an incoming re-examination request. If a request involves more than two Member States, each submitting Member State records all requests it has sent and the receiving Member State records all incoming requests.

Additional information related to Dublin statistics can be found under Asylum Statistics Introduced.

Temporary protection

The term **temporary protection** means a procedure of exceptional character to provide – in the event of a mass influx or imminent mass influx of displaced persons from third countries who are not able to return to their country or origin – immediate and temporary protection to such persons (in particular, if there is also a risk that the asylum system will be unable to process this influx without adverse effects for its efficient operation) in the interests of the persons concerned and other persons requesting protection.

Temporary protection status and conditions of applications are defined by [Council Directive 2001/55/EC](#) of 20 July 2001. [Council Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/382](#) of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced

persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of [Directive 2001/55/EC](#) is the first case of such temporary protection being activated. Additional information on temporary protection can be found under [Temporary Protection Statistics Metadata](#).

Enforcement of immigration legislation

Enforcement of immigration legislation statistics provide information on irregular migration. They cover information on the control of the EU external borders and the data on unauthorised stays by non-EU citizens found in the EU countries.

ENFORCEMENT OF IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION

Irregular migration is the movement of persons to a new place of residence or transit that takes place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries.

Third-country nationals refused entry at the external border are people who are refused entry at the EU's external border because they do not fulfil all the entry conditions laid down in Article 6(1) of the Schengen Borders Code Regulation and do not belong to any of the categories of people referred to in Article 6(5). The reported third-country national should have made a concrete attempt to enter the Member State territory, meaning that rejected visa applications are not recorded. If a third-country national applies for international protection after having been refused entry, this person will be recorded under the statistics on refused entry since this asylum application will be considered as another attempt to enter. A refusal at the internal border of a Member State where border checks have been temporarily reintroduced is not included in the statistics on refusal of entry since it does not take place at the external border. Each person is counted only once within the reference period, irrespective of the number of refusals issued to the same person.

Third-country nationals found to be illegally present are third-country nationals who are detected by Member States' authorities and have been determined to be illegally present under national immigration laws. This category relates to people who have been found to have entered illegally (for example, by avoiding immigration controls or by using a fraudulent document) and those who may have entered legitimately but have subsequently remained on an illegal basis (for example, by overstaying their permission to remain or by taking unauthorised employment). Only people who are apprehended or otherwise come to the attention of national immigration authorities are recorded in these statistics. These are not intended to be a measure of the total number of people who are present in the country on an unauthorised basis. Those statistics include asylum applicants who have been rejected in final instance, who have withdrawn their application or who have applied for asylum after they were found to be illegally present. Each person is counted only once within the reference period.

Third-country nationals ordered to leave are third-country nationals found to be illegally present who are subject to an administrative or judicial decision or act stating that their stay is illegal and imposing an obligation to leave the territory of the Member State. These statistics do not include people who are transferred from one Member State to another under the mechanism established by the Dublin Regulation but who are collected by Eurostat under Dublin statistics. Each person is counted only once within the reference period, irrespective of the number of notices issued to the same person.

Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave are third-country nationals who have left the territory of the Member State after receiving an order to leave either to another EU or EFTA country or to a third country. Until the reference year 2020, Eurostat data collection for this category was annual. Since 2021 (first data collection in 2022), it has become quarterly and includes a breakdown by type of return and assistance. The EIL statistics include forced returns and assisted voluntary returns. Unassisted voluntary returns are also included where these are reliably recorded. They do not include people who are transferred from one Member State to another under the

mechanism established by the Dublin Regulation (see Dublin statistics). Each person is counted only once within the reference period. People who left the territory within a given reference period may have been obliged to leave in a previous reference period. The number of people who actually left the territory may therefore differ from the number that were obliged to leave in the same reference period.

Eurostat statistics on enforcement of immigration legislation concern non-EU citizens who have been refused entry at external borders; who have been apprehended because they were illegally present on the territory of an EU Member State; who have been issued an order to leave an EU country; or who have been returned from an EU country following an order to leave.

Note: statistics on the enforcement of immigration legislation exclude outgoing asylum seekers who are transferred from one EU Member State to another under the mechanism established by the Dublin regulations (EU regulation 1560/2003 and EU regulation 604/2013).

Residence permits

Residence permit statistics collected by Eurostat cover all authorisations valid for at least 3 months, issued by a Member State's authorities and allowing third-country nationals to legally reside on its territory.

In the context of residence permit data collection, a residence permit is any authorisation issued by the authorities of a Member State allowing the third-country national to stay legally on its territory. Residence permit statistics also cover some specific cases in which third-country nationals have the right to be moved to and stay in other EU Member States. All resident permits statistics refer to third-country nationals, who are defined as 'any person who is not a citizen of the European Union within the meaning of Article 20(1) of the [Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union \(TFEU\)](#), including stateless persons' (Article 2(1)(i) of the [Regulation \(EC\) No 826/2007](#)).

RESIDENCE PERMIT STATISTICS (RESPER)

The statistical definition of residence permits is the key principle applied in residence permit reporting. It involves counting the following.

- The residence permits issued to a specific person.
- All other persons covered by the same permit even if they are not mentioned in the formal document issued (i.e. they are covered implicitly). RESPER statistics should also cover people who receive an authorisation to reside via a formal residence permit issued to another person. For the purpose of statistics on the residence permits collected by Eurostat, this type of authorisation is called 'IMPLICIT' authorisation to reside. For example, this applies to:
 - children without a formal residence permit, who nevertheless have the right to reside via residence permits issued to their parents and who should therefore be reported in RESPER statistics;
 - all persons subject to a residence permit that has been issued to several family members; all subject persons should be covered by statistics provided under Article 6.
 - children who are third-country nationals and born in the EU after the issuance of the residence permits to parents (provided that these children are not citizens of the reporting Member State).

Additional information to RESPER is found under the [Technical Guidelines for Data Collection on Residence Permits Statistics](#).

DEFINITIONS OF SPECIFIC RESIDENCE PERMITS

Specific residence permits are defined in EU directives.

Single permit: based on the EU Single Permit Directive adopted in 2011, a single permit consists of a combined title that encompasses both residence and work permits within a single administrative act based on a common set of rights for third-country workers residing in a Member State.

A single permit is not a permit as such but rather a single procedure and a set of rights that apply to third-country nationals who:

- apply to reside in a Member State for work purposes;
- have been admitted to a Member State for a purpose other than work under EU or national law, but who are allowed to work and who hold a residence permit; and
- have been admitted to a Member State for work purposes under EU or national law.

Statistics on single permits have been collected since 2013 and are broken down by reasons, by types of decision (first permit, change of status and renewal) and by duration. First single permits are included in statistics on first residence permits. Single permit coverage also theoretically includes the EU Blue Card, since it consists of a single procedure for issuing both a residence and a work permit.

EU Blue Card: based on the EU Blue Card Directive (the first directive was adopted in 2009 but was later replaced by new legislation in 2021), the EU Blue Card is a work and residence permit for non-EU/EEA nationals who take up highly qualified employment. The EU Blue Card provides comprehensive socio-economic rights and a path towards permanent residence in Europe. Applicants must present a valid work contract or a binding job offer for highly qualified employment for at least 6 months in the Member State concerned. The standard period of validity for the EU Blue Card is at least 24 months. The EU Blue Card Directive is applied in all EU Member except Denmark and Ireland.

Seasonal workers authorisation: based on the EU Seasonal Workers Directive 2014, this refers to any authorisation for seasonal work. This entitles the holder to stay and work in the Member State that issued the authorisation for a period of no more than 90 days. It therefore means that a seasonal worker authorisation differs from a seasonal worker residence permit (more than 90 days).

Residence permit in connection with intra-corporate transfer: based on the EU Intra-corporate Transferees Directive adopted in 2014, this is an authorisation granted to third-country nationals as part of an intra-corporate transfer that entitles them to enter, reside and work in the EU. Intra-corporate transferees include managers, specialist and trainee employees. The maximum duration of a transfer to the EU (including mobility between Member States) should not exceed 3 years for managers and specialists, and 1 year for trainee employees. They should then leave for a third country unless they obtain a residence permit on another basis under EU or national law.

Long-term permit: based on the EU Long-term Permit Directive adopted in 2003, a Member State must grant long-term resident status to third-country nationals who have been legally and continuously on its territory for 5 years immediately before submitting the relevant application. Member States must issue a long-term EU residence permit to long-term residents. The permit is valid for at least 5 years and is, upon application if required, automatically renewable on expiry. Long-term residents enjoy equal treatment with nationals as regards access to employment and self-employment activity; education and vocational training; recognition of professional diplomas, certificates and other qualifications; social security; social assistance and protection; and tax benefits. A Member State may issue residence permits of permanent or unlimited validity on terms that are more favourable than those laid down by the Directive, but such residence permits do not confer a right of residence in other EU Member States.

2.2. Stakeholders in data compilation and dissemination

Reporting countries are responsible for compiling the European population, demography, migration and asylum statistics in line with the established rules and for sending them to Eurostat within the legal deadlines. The national statistical authorities (NSAs) responsible for population, demography, migration and asylum statistics are usually the national statistical institutes (NSIs) of the Member States, EFTA countries, candidate countries, potential candidate countries and other countries.

As the statistical office for the European Union, Eurostat is responsible for overseeing and developing work on population, demography, migration and asylum statistics; and for publishing demographic data and indicators at European, national and regional levels. Furthermore, Eurostat draws up proposals for legislation for adoption by the Commission, monitors the correct application of legislation adopted by the European Parliament and the Council, and provides methodological and technical assistance to the NSAs. The statistical cooperation work is carried out in close cooperation with the countries in working groups and task forces.

2.3. Legal background

Data on population, demography, migration and asylum are collected from the NSAs by Eurostat.

EU legislation obliges EU members to comply with agreed concepts and definitions, in order to ensure the comparability of the demographic and migration data they transmit to Eurostat.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

European statistics

- Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics, OJ L 087, 31.3.2009, p. 164, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2015/759 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2015, OJ L 123, 19.5.2015, p. 90.
- Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS), OJ L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 1.

European demographic statistics

- Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 on European demographic statistics, OJ L 330, 10.12.2013, p. 39.
 - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 205/2014 of 4 March 2014 laying down uniform conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council on European demographic statistics, as regards breakdowns of data, deadlines and data revisions, OJ L 65, 5.3.2014, p. 10.

European migration and asylum statistics

- Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection, OJ L 199, 31.7.2007, p. 23.
 - Commission Regulation (EU) No 216/2010 of 15 March 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection, as regards the definitions of categories of the reasons for the residence permits, OJ L 66, 16.3.2010, p. 1.
 - Commission Regulation (EU) No 351/2010 of 23 April 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection as regards the definitions of the categories of

the groups of country of birth, groups of country of previous usual residence, groups of country of next usual residence and groups of citizenship, OJ L 104, 24.4.2010, p. 37.

- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/431 of 10 March 2021 granting derogations to certain Member States from Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection (notified under document C(2021) 1490), OJ L 86, 12.3.2021, p. 5.
- Regulation (EU) 2020/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection, OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 1.
- Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person, OJ L 180, 29.6.2013, p. 31.
- Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) (codification), OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p. 1.

ADDITIONAL LEGAL ACTS

Asylum

- Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted (recast), OJ L 337, 20.12.2011, p. 9.
- Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (recast), OJ L 180, 29.6.2013, p. 60.
- Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast), OJ L 180, p. 96.
- Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof, OJ L 212, 7.8.2001, p. 12.
- Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC, and having the effect of introducing temporary protection, OJ L 71, 4.3.2022, p. 1.

Enforcement of immigration legislation

- Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals, OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 98.

Residence permits

- Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification, OJ L 251, 3.10.2003, p. 12.

- Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents, OJ L 16, 23.1.2004, p. 44.
- Directive 2011/98/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State, OJ L 343, 23.12.2011, p. 1.
- Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment, OJ L 155, 18.6.2009, p. 17.
- Directive 2014/66/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer, OJ L 157, 27.5.2014, p. 1.
- Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers, OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 375.
- Directive (EU) 2016/801 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing (recast), OJ L 132, 21.5.2016, p. 21.

3

Relevance

Relevance is an attribute of statistics that measures the degree to which statistics meet users' current and potential needs.

It examines whether all the statistics that are needed are produced and the extent to which the concepts used (definitions, classifications, etc.) reflect user needs.

3.1. User needs

Population, demography, migration and asylum statistics are among the most popular data that Eurostat produces. They are relevant to almost every area of policy. This chapter provides information on current user needs regarding population and migration statistics.

Users of population, demography, migration and asylum data constitute a diverse group, which includes institutional users that are directly involved in EU policymaking. At EU level, these are the actual policymakers; while at international and national levels, they support policymaking and contribute to it. Institutional users include EU bodies, international organisations, national ministries, and government research institutes. Other professional users also contribute occasionally and indirectly to policymaking processes at EU level (other professional users include universities, research institutes, professional organisations, advisory councils, NGOs, individual private companies and business associations; as well as the media and the general public). Furthermore, population estimates are needed to obtain per capita indicators in statistics. Population, demography, migration and asylum statistics provide the basis for preparing population projections for EU long-term economic and budgetary projections specifically, and for EU economic, social and cohesion policies more broadly.

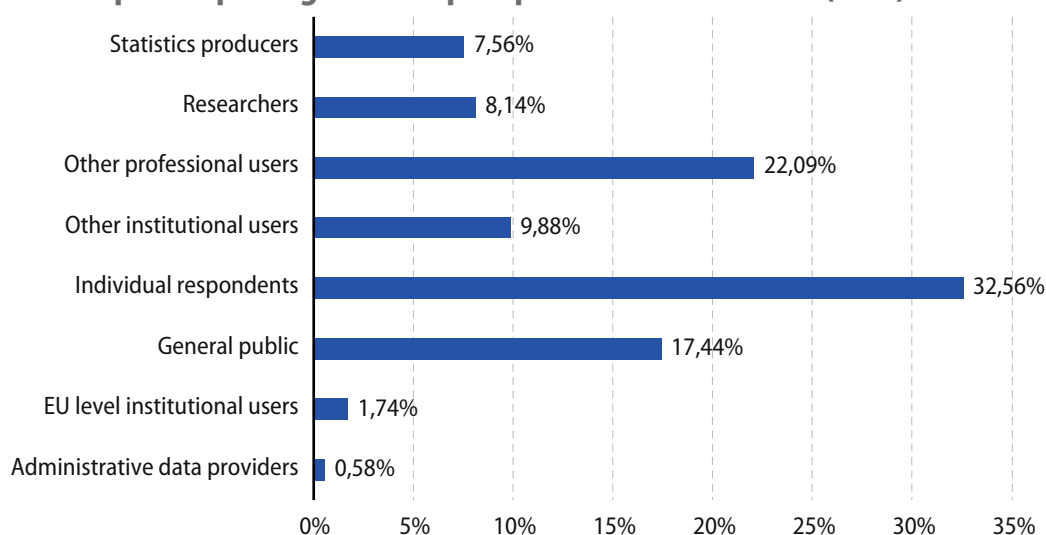
Between 30 September 2021 and 23 December 2021, Eurostat carried out a public consultation to gather input from stakeholders on population statistics. The consultation survey covered both a backward-looking evaluation of existing EU legislation and forward-looking modernisation options. The key questions were to what extent existing population statistics (the population and housing census, demography statistics and international migration statistics) continue to provide the evidence needed for EU policies in an efficient and proportionate way, and what were the most critical gaps (including new data needs).

The target audience of this public consultation was statistics users such as public bodies and policymakers at all levels; academics and researchers; non-governmental and international organisations; the media and the general public; statistics producers (including national statistical institutes and other relevant national authorities); institutional data providers (e.g. public authorities that provide administrative source data for population statistics); and individual data providers

(including citizens responding to census questionnaires). Figure 1 shows the stakeholders that participated in the open public consultation.

FIGURE 1:

Stakeholders participating in the open public consultation (OPC)



Source: Commission Staff Working Document: Impact assessment report–SWD(2023)11⁵.

The evaluation of the public consultation identified various gaps in detail that have significantly reduced the relevance of the current legal framework over time from a policy perspective. Most of the public consultation respondents from professional user groups believed that, overall, the statistics did not provide enough detail. The most crucial gaps identified concern (i) characteristics of politically relevant topics and groups such as migrants, migration and mobility within the EU, urban/rural populations; vulnerable groups for equality, non-discrimination and fundamental rights policies; and (ii) the geographic detail of the statistics (especially functional typologies and georeferenced data for urban/rural mobility and cross-border analysis). These gaps were confirmed by the targeted consultation with Commission departments, as well as by a majority of OPC respondents across almost all key stakeholder groups – for instance, professional users whose views are shown in Figure 2.

The relevant concept of migration used in European statistics is any change of residence at a given geographic level of detail, where the concept used for ‘residence’ links migration directly to the population base (or any change thereto) at the same geographic level. Changes of residence at any geographic level across the EU are therefore in principle considered to be migration flows that fall within the scope of European statistics. This includes international migration (between countries – both to/from the EU and within the EU) and internal migration (between regions or other geographic units within the same country). Moreover, migrant stocks relate to population subgroups with an immigrant background (typically identified by a country of birth and/or citizenship different from the country of residence).

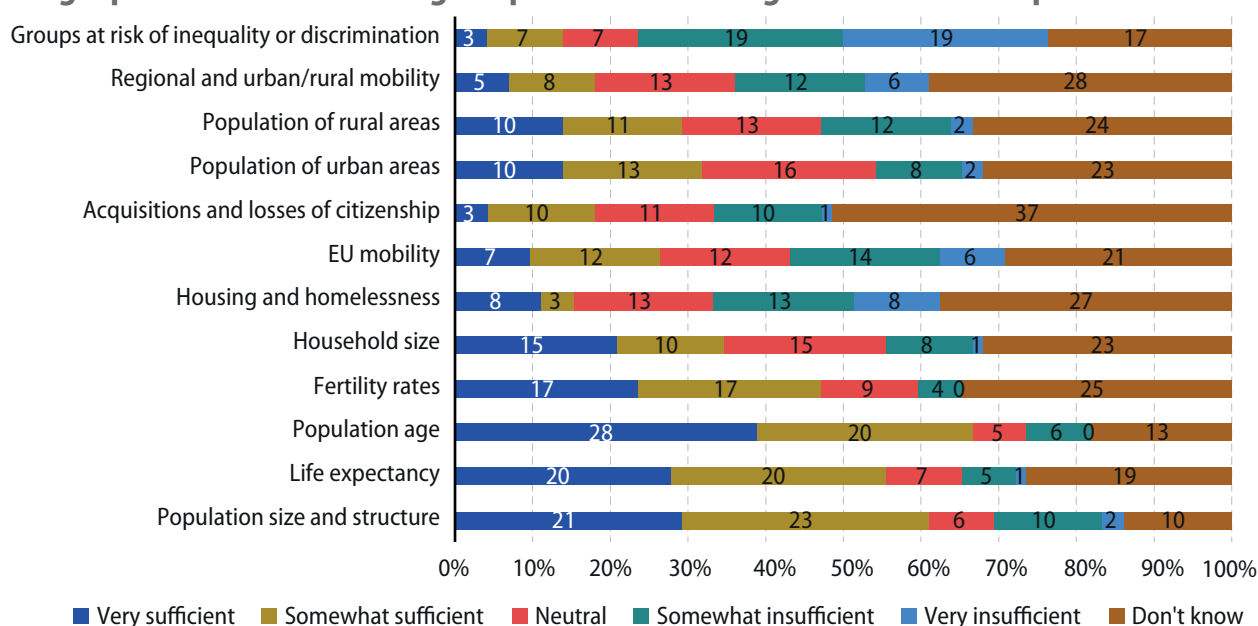
European equality statistics in population statistics currently exist for the basic demographic characteristics (sex and age). More detailed information is available in other areas of European statistics on disability, but significant gaps persist for race/ethnicity, religious affiliation, gender identity and sexual orientation. The targeted consultation of Commission departments therefore confirmed that there is a significant need for European equality data for all grounds for discrimination for EU policies on fundamental rights and non-discrimination, especially in the context of the ‘Union of equality’. Moreover, public

(⁵) Impact assessment report–SWD(2023)11: [Data collection – European statistics on population \(ESOP\) \(europa.eu\)](#).

consultation respondents from professional user groups believe that equality is the topic with the most insufficient available data (see Figure 2 – only 18% of the group that expressed an opinion felt that the current data are sufficient).

FIGURE 2:

Views of open public consultation respondents from all professional user groups (institutional, researchers and other) on the sufficiency of current data, by demographic or societal change topic and excluding 'don't know' responses



Source: Commission Staff Working Document: Impact Assessment Report, 2023⁽⁶⁾.

Currently, mandatory annual statistics on demography and international migration are mostly only collected at national level, with some less detailed demographic breakdowns at regional level (NUTS⁷ 2 and 3). This annual picture is complemented by mandatory decennial population and housing census outputs with very detailed breakdowns, including at local administrative unit (LAU) level and – for the 2021 round – some key population indicators georeferenced to a pan-European 1 km square grid. The evaluation and stakeholder consultation found that most key users of the data believe the current situation is inadequate, due to a complete lack of subnational data on migration (stocks and flows). For instance, insufficient geographic detail was the second most frequent critical gap (after insufficient detail of characteristics) noted for any statistical topic by OPC respondents across all stakeholder groups.

Even though increased availability of regional data at NUTS 3 is widely acknowledged by users, the perspective of the urban/rural disaggregation often remains underexposed. This is because data for NUTS 3 regions are often still too coarse to accurately capture urban/rural patterns according to functional characteristics (mostly related to local population density). The targeted consultation with Commission departments therefore resulted in the identification of policy needs for cohesion and the integration of urban and rural areas, notably for the Commission's long-term vision for rural areas. These policy areas require any relevant population data to be cross-tabulated against the degree of urbanisation (DEGURBA) classification

⁽⁶⁾ Impact assessment report–SWD(2023)11: [Data collection – European statistics on population \(ESOP\) \(europa.eu\)](#).

⁽⁷⁾ NUTS: Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics, abbreviated NUTS (from the French version *Nomenclature des Unités territoriales statistiques*) is a geographical nomenclature subdividing the economic territory of the European Union (EU) into regions at three different levels (NUTS 1, 2 and 3 respectively, moving from larger to smaller territorial units): Glossary: Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS)–Statistics Explained ([europa.eu](#)).

defined in Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 based on clusters of local administrative units (LAUs). In addition, population data on cities and their functional urban areas (FUAs) are needed to shed further light on urban/rural patterns. Figure 2 shows that professional user groups cited urban (47%) and rural (44%) populations as areas for which the current data are not sufficient. Additional information about the open public consultation is available under Data collection – European statistics on population (ESOP).

3.2. Data completeness

Completeness is the extent to which all statistics that are needed are available. If certain data items and/or segments of the populations specified in applicable legislation, regulations or guidelines are not covered, the statistics are considered to be incomplete.

This section presents assessment results on data completeness, namely the nature of data transmitted between 2020 and 2022 and how data availability evolved over time.

3.2.1. Population and demography

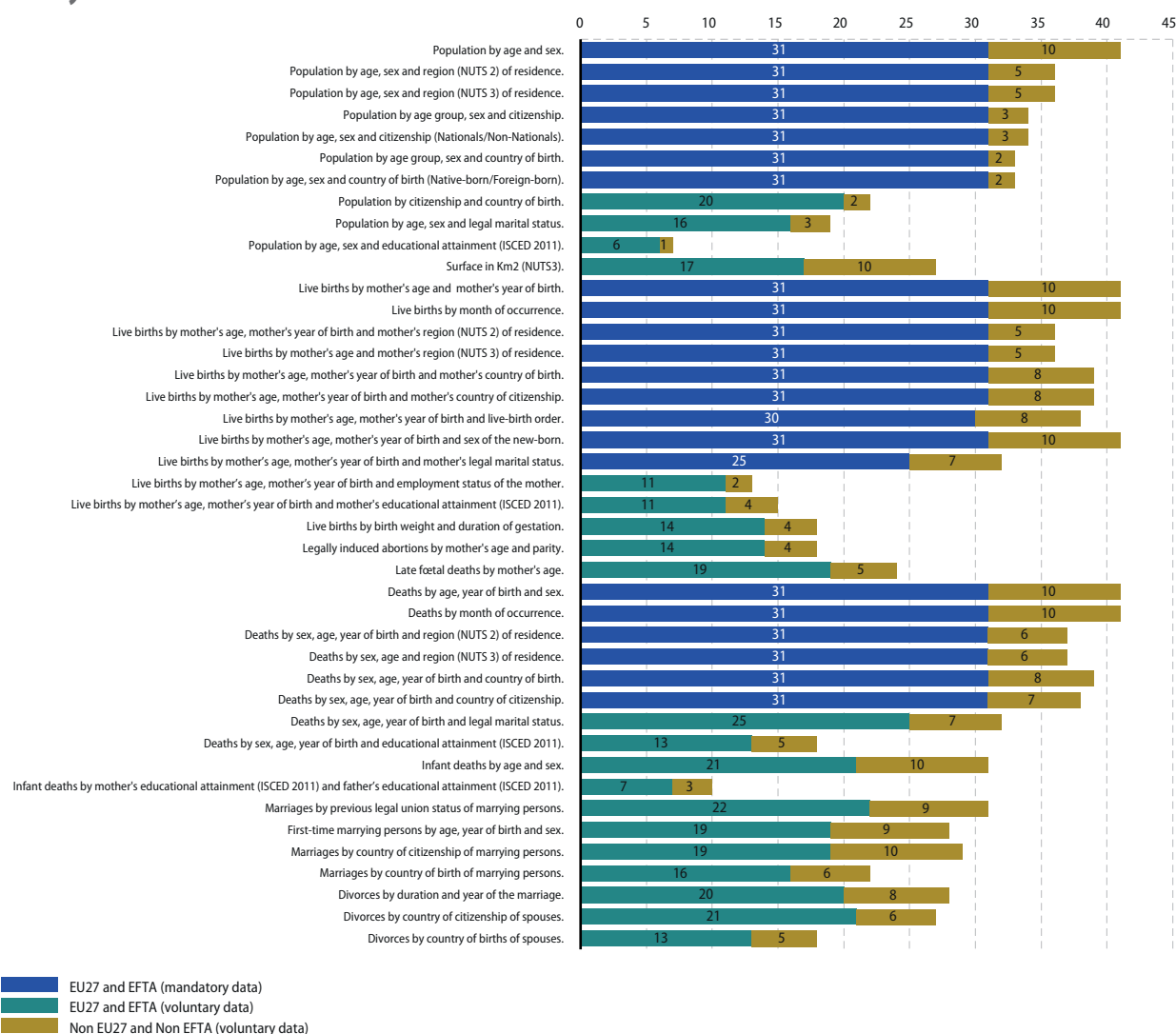
All countries bound by [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) and [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) (EU Member States and EFTA) provided all mandatory data. The exact number of countries is shown in Figure 3 for population and demography statistics 2021 for each Eurobase table (either mandatory or voluntary); including in blue the number of countries among EU candidate countries, potential candidate countries and other countries (Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Monaco and San Marino) that transmit data on a voluntary basis.

Figure 3 summarises the population and demography dataset received in 2021, showing the number of countries that submitted the data. Figure 3 also specifies which datasets are mandatory or voluntary for specific countries. It is evident from Figure 3 that the mandatory tables for 2021 were transmitted by all countries under the above-mentioned regulations. In addition, the text provides information on the data transmitted by EU Member States, EFTA countries and non-EU non-EFTA countries on a voluntary basis.

Eurostat welcomes the fact that most data providers are continuing to supply voluntary data on population stocks and on migration flows disaggregated by individual country of birth/citizenship – in addition to the data that Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 requires them to supply. As stated in the guidelines for data collection, detailed data by individual country of birth/citizenship allows EU aggregates to be computed, to meet users' needs and to provide further elements for the evaluation of data accuracy. Eurostat hopes that the remaining countries will also invest in compiling such data, including with a view to the expected new framework regulation on European statistics on population.

FIGURE 3:

Number of countries providing population and demography data for the reference year 2021



3.2.2. Migration and asylum

Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

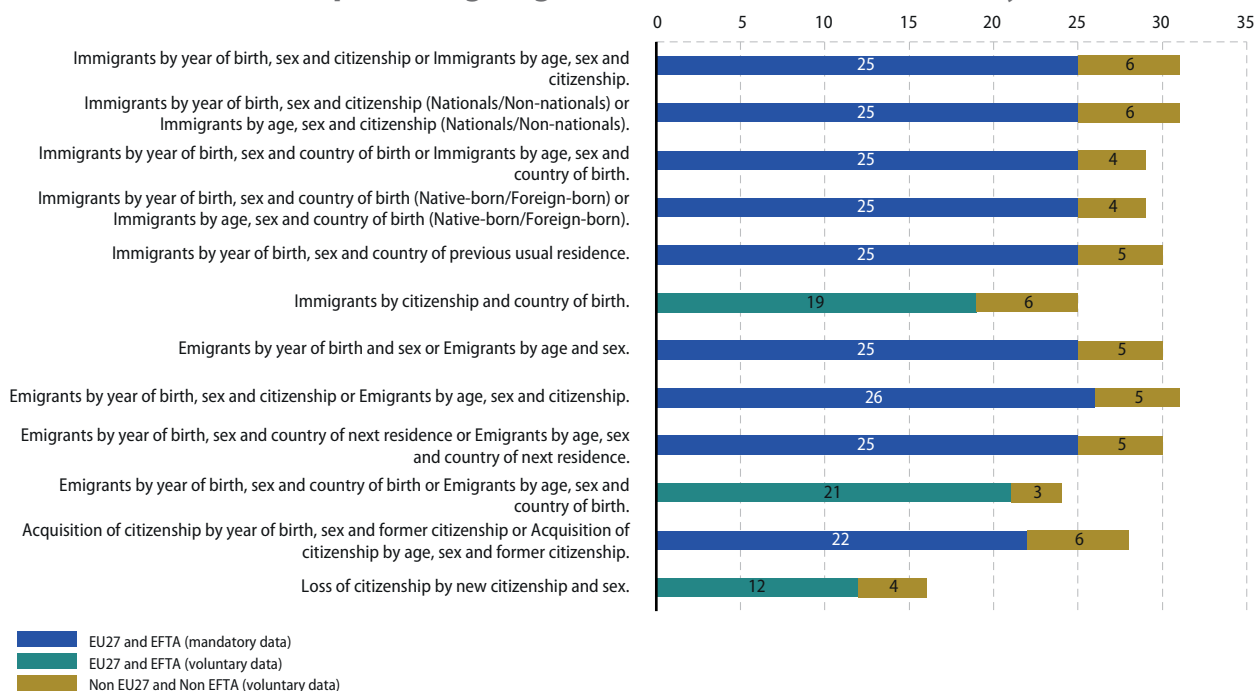
Eurostat currently publishes some mandatory data on international migration flows and migrant stocks under the Migration Regulation (flows and stocks by core demographic characteristics and broad groups of countries of origin/destination), complemented by a variety of voluntary data breakdowns of increasing policy relevance (including migration patterns at subnational level, more detailed and ideally single-country information on origin or destination, and socio-economic characteristics). However, as the evaluation has shown, most of these voluntary data are affected by a lack of EU completeness and comparability.

Figure 4 gives an overview of the mandatory and voluntary data on migration – more precisely on immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship for the reference year 2021. For this topic, the mandatory datasets were not submitted

by all EU Member States and EFTA countries. Some non-EU and non-EFTA countries transmitted migration data on a voluntary basis. In addition, Table 1 summarises the countries that provide mandatory and voluntary data, by the level of detail in the 'country of birth/citizenship' breakdown for the reference years 2020 and 2021.

FIGURE 4:

Number of countries providing migration data for the reference year 2021


TABLE 1:

List of countries providing mandatory and voluntary data, by the level of detail in the 'country of birth /citizenship' breakdown, reference years 2020 and 2021, EU Member States, EFTA and candidate, potential candidate countries and other countries

Eurobase table	2020			2021		
	Individual country	Country groups	No data	Individual country	Country groups	No data
Population by citizenship (migr_pop1ctz/ migr_pop2ctz)	BE BG CZ DK DE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH TR (29)	CY EE MT (3)	ME MK AL RS AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK (14)	BE BG DE IE HR NL DK HU RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CZ ES FR IT PT LV LT LU IS AT PL (26)	EL CY EE MT CH (5)	ME MK BA RS UA AL AD AZ AM GE XK MD SM MC (14)

Eurobase table	2020			2021		
	Individual country	Country groups	No data	Individual country	Country groups	No data
Population by country of birth (migr_pop3ctb/ migr_pop4ctb)	BE BG CZ DK ES FR IT LV LT LU HU NL AT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH TR (23)	DE IE EE EL HR CY MT PL PT (9)	ME MK AL RS AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK (14)	BE BG HR NL DK HU RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CZ ES FR IT LV LT LU IS AT PL (23)	DE IE EL CY EE MT PT CH (8)	ME BA MK RS UA AL AD AZ AM GE XK MD SM MC (14())
Immigration by citizenship (migr_imm1ctz/ migr_imm2ctz)	BG CZ DK ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU NL AT SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK GE (24)	BE DE EE IE EL CY MT PL PT RO (10)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA MC MD SM UA XK (12)	BG HR NL DK HU RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CZ ES FR IT MK LV LT LU IS AT GE ME (24)	BE DE IE EL CY EE MT PT CH PL (10)	BA RS UA AL AD AZ AM XK MD SM MC (11)
Immigration by country of birth (migr_imm3ctb/ migr_imm4ctb)	CZ ES FR IT LV LT LU CH MK SI SK (10)	BE BG DK DE EE IE EL HR CY HU NL AT PL PT RO FI SE IS LI NO ME MK (23)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK9(13)	BG HR NL DK RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CZ ES FR IT MK LV LT LU IS AT ME (22)	BE DE IE CY HU EL EE MT PT CH PL (10)	BA RS UA AL AD AM AZ XK GE MD SM MC (13)
Immigration by country of previous residence (migr_imm5prv/migr_imm12prv)	BG DK ES FR HR IT NL AT SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK (18)	BE CZ DE EE IE EL CY LV LT LU HU MT PL PT RO (15)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK (13)	BG HR NL DK RO SI SK FI SE LI LT NO ES FR IT MK IS AZ ME (19)	BE DE IE CY EL CZ EE MT PT CH LV LU HU PL (13)	BA RS UA AT AL AD AM XK GE MD SM MC (13)
Emigration by country of next usual residence (migr_emi3nxt/ migr_emi5nxt)	BE BG DK ES FR HR IT LT NL AT SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK UA (20)	CZ DE EE IE EL CY LV LU HU MT PL PT RO LI (14)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM XK (12)	AT BG HR NL DK RO SI SK FI SE LI NO ES FR IT MK LT IS UA AZ ME (21)	BE DE IE CY EL CZ EE MT PT CH LV LU HU PL (13)	BA RS AL AD AM XK GE MD SM MC (11)

Asylum and Dublin

TABLE 2:

Percentages of completeness of all the datasets (TOTAL), monthly, quarterly, and annual asylum and Dublin data (data from July 2021 to June 2022)

Country	Total	Asylum			Dublin
		Monthly	Quarterly	Annual	Annual
Belgium	100	100	100	100	100
Bulgaria	100	100	100	100	100

Country	Total	Asylum			Dublin
		Monthly	Quarterly	Annual	Annual
Czechia	100	100	100	100	100
Denmark	100	100	100	100	100
Germany	100	100	100	100	100
Estonia	100	100	100	100	100
Ireland	100	100	100	100	100
Greece	100	100	100	100	100
Spain	100	100	100	100	100
France	100	100	100	100	100
Croatia	100	100	100	100	100
Italy	100	100	100	100	100
Cyprus	84	99	100	100	0
Latvia	100	100	100	100	100
Lithuania	100	100	100	100	100
Luxembourg	100	100	100	100	100
Hungary	100	100	100	100	100
Malta	100	100	100	100	100
Netherlands	100	100	100	100	100
Austria	100	100	100	100	100
Poland	100	100	100	100	100
Portugal	100	100	100	100	100
Romania	100	100	100	100	100
Slovenia	100	100	100	100	100
Slovakia	100	100	100	100	100
Finland	100	100	100	100	100
Sweden	100	100	100	100	100
Iceland	85	100	100	100	0
Liechtenstein	100	100	100	100	100
Norway	99	100	100	89	100
Switzerland	100	100	100	100	100
Montenegro	100	100	100	100	-

Table 2 shows the percentage of completeness of all asylum and Dublin datasets (total), monthly datasets for the period July 2021 to June 2022, quarterly datasets for the period Q3 2021 to Q2 2022 and annual datasets for 2021. All required datasets were validated for almost all of the EU Member States and EFTA countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Liechtenstein and Switzerland) as well as for Montenegro. 3 countries (1 EU Member State and 2 EFTA countries) did not submit corrected data or did not submit data at all (Cyprus, Iceland and Norway). The datasets for which countries requested a derogation (Belgium, Germany, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, Romania and Sweden) or for which data are not applicable (Denmark and Ireland) are not included in the evaluation.

For the monthly data from July 2021 to June 2022, most of the EU Member States and all EFTA countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) as well as Montenegro, have all required datasets validated. One EU Member State (Cyprus) did not provide data for the dataset (persons subject of asylum applications pending at the end of the month) for June 2022. The datasets for which countries have requested a derogation (Belgium, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, Romania and Sweden) or for which data are not applicable (Denmark and Ireland) are not included in the evaluation.

For the quarterly data from Q3 2021 to Q2 2022, all countries have passed the validation for all required datasets. Datasets on persons granted temporary protection at first instance by age, sex, citizenship and type of applicant for the period Q3 2021 to Q4 2021 is not included in this evaluation since its provision is only required under specific conditions. Dataset on persons granted authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons at first instance by age, sex, citizenship and type of applicant, for which data are not applicable (Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Latvia, Luxembourg, Portugal and Slovenia) is not included in the evaluation.

For the annual asylum data for 2021, 31 countries have passed the validation for all datasets (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Montenegro). One country (Norway) did not provide data for the dataset (disaggregation by reason). Datasets on persons granted temporary protection status, final decisions by age, sex, citizenship and type of applicant is not included in this evaluation since its provision is only required in specific conditions. Dataset on persons granted authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons, final decisions by age, sex, citizenship and type of applicant, for which data are not applicable (Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Latvia, Luxembourg, Portugal and Slovenia) is not included in this evaluation.

Disaggregation by explicit and implicit withdrawal in asylum applications withdrawn dataset is missing for three countries (Belgium, Italy and Romania). Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all monthly statistics is missing for three countries (Cyprus, France and Poland). For the annual Dublin data for 2021, 26 of the EU Member States and EFTA countries have all datasets validated (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland). Two countries did not send corrected data or did not send data at all (Cyprus and Iceland).

Completeness of asylum data

The completeness of the data in the individual datasets and the calculation of the EU aggregates is affected not only by the number of countries providing data for each dataset, but also by whether countries send all the required disaggregations.

For the monthly asylum data for the period July 2021 to June 2022, 10 EU Member States did not provide some data (Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, France, Italy, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, Romania and Sweden).

Table 3 shows the missing monthly datasets and disaggregations. The 'persons subject of asylum applications pending at the end of the month' dataset is missing for one country for June 2022 (Cyprus). The 'applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure' dataset is missing for five countries which have a derogation (Belgium, Cyprus, Malta, Romania and Sweden) and is not applicable for one country (Ireland). The 'subsequent applications for international protection' datasets are missing for two countries which have a derogation (Cyprus and Sweden) and is not applicable for one country (Denmark).

TABLE 3:**Missing monthly datasets and disaggregations**

Country	Missing monthly datasets and disaggregations	Period	Comment
Belgium	Disaggregation by explicit and implicit withdrawal	July 2021 – September 2021	Derogation
Belgium	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – December 2021	Derogation
Denmark	Subsequent applications for international protection	July 2021 – June 2022	Not applicable
Ireland	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – June 2022	Not applicable
France	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all monthly statistics	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Italy	Disaggregation by explicit and implicit withdrawal	July 2021 – December 2021	Derogation
Cyprus	Persons subject of asylum applications pending at the end of the month	June 2022	Missing data
Cyprus	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Cyprus	Subsequent applications for international protection	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Cyprus	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all monthly statistics	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Malta	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Poland	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all monthly statistics	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Romania	Disaggregation by explicit and implicit withdrawal	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Romania	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Sweden	Applications for international protection processed under the accelerated procedure	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation
Sweden	Subsequent applications for international protection	July 2021 – June 2022	Derogation

For the quarterly asylum data for the period Q3 2021 to Q2 2022, six countries did not provide some data (France, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, Poland and Sweden).

Table 4 shows missing quarterly disaggregations. The 'disaggregation by revocation, ending, refusal to renew of the protection status in decisions withdrawing status granted at first instance decision' dataset is missing for one country with a derogation (Sweden) and for three countries without a derogation (France, Italy and Hungary). Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all quarterly statistics is missing for two countries with a derogation (Cyprus and Poland).

TABLE 4:

Missing quarterly disaggregations

Country	Missing quarterly datasets and disaggregations	Period	Comment
France	Disaggregation by revocation, ending, refusal to renew of the protection status	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Missing data
Italy	Disaggregation by revocation, ending, refusal to renew of the protection status	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Missing data
Hungary	Disaggregation by revocation, ending, refusal to renew of the protection status	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Missing data
Cyprus	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all quarterly statistics	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Derogation
Poland	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all quarterly statistics	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Derogation
Sweden	Disaggregation by revocation, ending, refusal to renew of the protection status	Q3 2021 – Q2 2022	Derogation

For the annual asylum data for 2021, 10 EU (Belgium, Germany, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Sweden) and 3 EFTA (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) countries did not provide some data.

Table 5 shows the missing annual dataset and breakdowns. Disaggregation by country of previous residence for resettled persons is missing for two countries (France and Switzerland). Disaggregation by decision for resettled persons is missing for one country (Italy). Disaggregation by resettlement framework for resettled persons is missing for four countries (Belgium, France, Lithuania and Iceland).

Disaggregation by reason in the decisions withdrawing status granted as final decision dataset is missing for one country with a derogation (Sweden) and one country without a derogation (France). Data for the dataset disaggregation by reason in the decisions withdrawing status granted as final decision is missing for one country (Norway). Data for 'persons benefiting from material reception conditions providing an adequate standard of living for applicants' are missing for four countries with a derogation (Germany, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania).

Disaggregation by 'unaccompanied minors for all annual statistics' is missing for two countries with a derogation (Cyprus and Poland). Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for final decisions is missing for one country (France). Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for resettled persons is missing for one country (Germany).

TABLE 5:

Missing annual datasets and disaggregations

Country	Missing annual datasets and disaggregations	Period	Comment
Belgium	Disaggregation by resettlement framework	2021	Missing data
Germany	Persons benefiting from material reception conditions providing an adequate standard of living for applicants	2021	Derogation
Germany	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for resettled persons	2021	Missing data

Country	Missing annual datasets and disaggregations	Period	Comment
France	Disaggregation by country of previous residence	2021	Missing data
France	Disaggregation by resettlement framework	2021	Missing data
France	Disaggregation by reason	2021	Missing data
France	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for final decisions	2021	Missing data
Croatia	Persons benefiting from material reception conditions providing an adequate standard of living for applicants	2021	Derogation
Italy	Disaggregation by decision	2021	Missing data
Cyprus	Persons benefiting from material reception conditions providing an adequate standard of living for applicants	2021	Derogation
Cyprus	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all annual statistics	2021	Derogation
Lithuania	Disaggregation by resettlement framework	2021	Missing data
Poland	Disaggregation by unaccompanied minors for all annual statistics	2021	Derogation
Romania	Persons benefiting from material reception conditions providing an adequate standard of living for applicants	2021	Derogation
Sweden	Disaggregation by reason	2021	Derogation
Iceland	Disaggregation by resettlement framework	2021	Missing data
Norway	Decisions withdrawing status granted as final decision	2021	Missing data
Switzerland	Disaggregation by country of previous residence	2021	Missing data

Completeness of Dublin data

For the annual Dublin data for the year 2021, only 3 countries provided all datasets and requested disaggregations (Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands). 23 EU (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden) and 3 EFTA countries (Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) provided all datasets but with no missing disaggregations or totals. However, two countries did not provide data for all 19 datasets, or their data has not been validated (Cyprus and Iceland).

Table 6 shows missing annual Dublin datasets and disaggregations. The data for all 19 tables is missing for two countries (Cyprus and Iceland). The new breakdown by sex is missing for two countries with a derogation (France and Lithuania) and seven countries without a derogation (Belgium, Bulgaria, Ireland, Poland, Sweden, Norway and Switzerland). The new disaggregation by type of applicant (adult, unaccompanied minor, accompanied minor or unknown) is missing for four countries with a derogation (France, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden) and five countries without a derogation (Belgium, Bulgaria, Ireland, Norway and Switzerland).

The disaggregation by legal provision decisions on incoming and outgoing Dublin requests is missing for one country (Portugal). The disaggregation by legal provision for incoming and outgoing Dublin transfers is missing for two countries (Portugal and Finland). The disaggregation by duration of process for incoming and outgoing responses to Dublin requests for information is missing for four countries (Poland, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland). The disaggregation by duration

of process for incoming Dublin transfer is missing for two countries (Bulgaria and Portugal). The breakdown by duration of process for outgoing Dublin transfer is missing for one country (Portugal). The data for pending incoming Dublin transfers is missing for one country (Bulgaria).

TABLE 6:

Missing Dublin datasets and disaggregations

Country	Missing Dublin datasets and disaggregations	Comment
Belgium	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Missing data
Bulgaria	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Missing data
Bulgaria	Disaggregation by duration of transfer	Missing data
Bulgaria	Pending incoming Dublin transfers	Missing data
Ireland	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Missing data
France	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Derogation
Cyprus	All 19 Dublin datasets	Missing data
Lithuania	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Derogation
Poland	Disaggregation by sex	Missing data
Poland	Disaggregation by type of applicant	Derogation
Poland	Disaggregation by duration of response	Missing data
Portugal	Disaggregation by legal provision	Missing data
Portugal	Disaggregation by legal provision	Missing data
Portugal	Disaggregation by duration of response	Missing data
Portugal	Disaggregation by duration of transfer	Missing data
Finland	Disaggregation by legal provision	Missing data
Sweden	Disaggregation by sex	Missing data
Sweden	Disaggregation by type of applicant	Derogation
Sweden	Disaggregation by duration of response	Missing data
Iceland	All 19 Dublin datasets	Missing data
Norway	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Missing data
Switzerland	Disaggregation by sex and type of applicant	Missing data
Switzerland	Disaggregation by duration of response	Missing data

Other problematic cases concern data for which the total value is equal to zero. There are ambiguities where data are not applicable or not available, or where real zero represents zero cases. Eurostat invites the countries concerned to confirm this fact and to mention it in their national metadata.

Table 7 shows datasets for which the re-examination request equals zero. 3 countries have a derogation for the number of re-examination requests for taking back or taking charge of an asylum seeker (Belgium, Czechia and Lithuania). 13 EU countries (Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Finland) and one EFTA country (Liechtenstein) have for some datasets data for re-examination requests equalling zero.

TABLE 7:**Dublin data with re-examination request equalling zero**

Country	Datasets	Comment
Belgium	<p>Incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request;</p> <p>Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request;</p> <p>Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.</p>	Derogation
Czechia	<p>Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.</p>	Derogation
Estonia	<p>Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request;</p> <p>Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision;</p> <p>Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.</p>	Re-ex = 0

Country	Datasets	Comment
Ireland	Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Greece	Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision; Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Re-ex = 0
Spain	Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request; Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
France	Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request; Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Latvia	Outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request; Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request; Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision; Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision; Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Re-ex = 0
Lithuania	Outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision; Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Derogation

Country	Datasets	Comment
Luxembourg	Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Hungary	Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Re-ex = 0
Malta	Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Poland	Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request; Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Portugal	Incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision; Decisions on outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Re-ex = 0
Slovakia	Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0
Finland	Incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Pending 'Dublin' incoming requests by submitting country (PARTNER) and type of request; Pending 'Dublin' outgoing requests by receiving country (PARTNER) and type of request.	Re-ex = 0

Country	Datasets	Comment
Liechtenstein	Incoming 'Dublin' requests by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Outgoing 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by receiving country (PARTNER), type of request and legal provision; Decisions on incoming 'Dublin' requests based on EURODAC by submitting country (PARTNER), type of decision, type of request and legal provision.	Re-ex = 0

Temporary protection

Table 8 shows the percentage of completeness of temporary protection monthly datasets for the reference periods March 2022 to September 2022. This includes late submission of the data (data sent more than 1 month after the reference period).

- For decisions granting temporary protection, excluding unaccompanied minors:
27 countries (87%) provided data for all reference periods. 3 countries did not provide data for at least one reference period (Germany, Hungary and Austria). Czechia did not provide any data.
- For decisions granting temporary protection, unaccompanied minors only:
16 countries (52%) provided data on unaccompanied minors for all reference periods. 15 countries did not provide data for at least one reference period, including 10 countries which did not provide any data for any reference period (Czechia, Germany, Ireland, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Hungary, Poland and Portugal).
- For beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month, excluding unaccompanied minors:
25 countries provided data for all reference periods. 5 countries did not provide data for at least one reference period (Czechia, Germany, Italy, Austria and Slovakia) and only one country (Hungary) did not provide any dataset for any reference period.
- For beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month, unaccompanied minors only:
18 countries (58%) provided data for all reference periods. 15 countries did not provide data for at least one reference period, including 10 countries which did not provide any data for any reference period (Czechia, Germany, Ireland, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Hungary, Poland and Portugal).

TABLE 8:

Completeness rates of all the datasets for monthly temporary protection (data reference period from March to September 2022).

Number of missing datasets/total number of reference period*100)

Country	Data completeness			
	migr_asytpfm	migrs_asyumtpfm	migr_asytpsm	migr_asyumtpsm
Belgium	100	100	100	100
Bulgaria	100	100	100	100
Czechia	14	0	14	0

Country	Data completeness			
	migr_asytpfm	migrs_asyumtpfm	migr_asytpsm	migr_asyumtpsm
Denmark	100	100	100	100
Germany	29	0	29	0
Estonia	100	100	100	100
Ireland	100	0	100	0
Greece	100	100	100	100
Spain	100	0	100	0
France	100	0	100	0
Croatia	100	100	100	100
Italy	71	14	71	14
Cyprus	100	0	100	0
Latvia	100	0	100	0
Lithuania	100	100	100	100
Luxembourg	100	100	100	100
Hungary	100	0	0	0
Malta	100	100	100	100
Netherlands	100	0	100	0
Austria	57	57	43	57
Poland	100	0	100	0
Portugal	100	0	100	0
Romania	100	86	100	100
Slovenia	100	100	100	100
Slovakia	100	71	86	100
Finland	100	100	100	100
Sweden	100	100	100	100
Iceland	86	86	86	86
Liechtenstein	100	100	100	100
Norway	100	100	100	100
Switzerland	100	100	100	100

Eurostat encourages countries with completeness gaps to send complete datasets including all breakdowns. This would make it possible to assure consistency of disseminated data. Providing this data is voluntary, but these data are extremely relevant for policymaking and are much prized by their users.

Enforcement of immigration legislation

Since 2021, data providers have been sending quarterly data on returns (this is compulsory) and annual data (this is voluntary). Eurostat has observed possible discrepancies between the annual and quarterly data. These discrepancies could be explained by the following reasons.

- If a third-country national returns several times in the same year (in different quarters of the year), this would be counted only once in the annual data but would in principle be counted several times in the quarterly data. This would explain why the sum of the quarterly values could be higher than the annual value.
- The annual data are transmitted later than the quarterly data, so cases that are registered late in the quarterly returns are more likely to be registered in the annual data returns. This would explain why the annual value could be higher than the sum of the quarterly values.

The first reason is due to the methodology of the data collection and is unavoidable, but the second one can be avoided with subsequent data revisions (of quarterly tables). Even though the annual data collection has become voluntary, Eurostat strongly encourages data providers to continue to send annual data on returns because these can be the most robust and reliable data on counts of persons returned.

Residence permits

Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 obliged 31 countries to submit resident permits statistics to Eurostat by the deadline of 30 June 2022. In addition to this RESPER data collection, related statistics are collected under specific legal instruments in the area of legal migration: statistics on EU blue cards collected on the basis of Article 20 of Directive 2009/50/EC; and statistics on single permits based on Article 15(2) of Directive 2011/98/EU. Since 2017, datasets have been collected on: intra-corporate transfers (under Article 24 of Directive 2014/66/EU) and seasonal workers (under Article 26 of Directive 2014/36/EU). Statistics on students and researchers (and other categories) are based on Article 38 of Directive (EU) 2016/801.

Statistics collected on voluntary basis are also collected under the RESPER framework: statistics on residence permits issued for family reunification with beneficiaries of protection status. For the 2021 reference period, 17 Member States transmitted voluntary data on first permits issued for family reunification with a beneficiary of protection status, by sponsor status, legal framework and citizenship: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden. For additional information on completeness by country for residence permits statistics, please consult the following link:

[completeness residence permits](#).

4

Accuracy

Accuracy of statistical outputs is, in the general statistical sense, the degree of closeness of computations or estimates to the exact or true values that the statistics were intended to measure.

The quality of population and migration statistics has improved significantly in recent years. Many countries have provided data to Eurostat coming from new sources such as health insurance registers, tax registers and Census 2011. They have also obtained data from mirror flows reported by partner countries. Member States and EFTA countries have used three strategies to improve the quality of their data: exchanging data with other national statistical institutes, employing estimation techniques and using additional administrative sources. This work has been monitored by Eurostat through in-depth discussion and by facilitating the exchange of aggregated data and best practices between countries.

Improvements have been made in the area of Article 3 of [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#), but it remains difficult to measure the following:

- persons living in a country on an unauthorised or irregular basis;
- persons who do not register/de-register.

4.1. Overall accuracy

The overall accuracy of population and migration data has significantly improved in recent years in terms of the quality and availability of additional datasets. However, the following specific accuracy problems have been noted during the analysis of data transmitted for the reference years 2020 and 2021 (these errors were also noted in past analysis of transmitted data):

- misclassification of vital events (live births) and migrations (immigrants), leading to a situation where around 58% of immigrants holding the immigration country's citizenship are aged under 5;
- evident discordance between the immigration figure into and the sum of emigration figures towards the same country (and vice versa) when migration is limited to migration between EU Member States;
- lack of metadata on the reasons for the unknown' category 'in the different breakdowns in population stock, vital events and migration flows;
- different policies for inclusion/exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in the migrant population stocks and migration flows shown in Tables 9 and 10.

4.1.1. Population and demography

Tables 9 and 10 summarise the inclusion and exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in population and migration statistics. For the reference years 2020 and 2021, asylum seekers were included in the population and migration statistics in 15 EU Member States and EFTA countries, while refugees were included in 26 EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries.

TABLE 9:

EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries by inclusion/exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in data on population reported to Eurostat in the framework of the POPSTAT data collection, reference years 2020 and 2021

Population on 1 January (reported by 31 December of the previous year)	Included	Excluded
Asylum seekers usual residents for at least 12 months	BE DE EE IE EL ES FR IT CY LU NL AT PT NO ⁽¹⁾ CH	BG CZ DK HR LV ⁽²⁾ LT HU MT PL RO SI SK FI SE IS LI ME MK UA
Refugees usual residents for at least 12 months	BE BG DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI FI SE IS LI NO ⁽¹⁾ CH TR	CZ SK ME UA

⁽¹⁾ Asylum seekers and refugees without residence permit are not included.

⁽²⁾ No cases observed as the request is reviewed in less than 3 months.

No information on refugees in MK, on asylum seekers in TR, and on both in RS and AL.

TABLE 10:

EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries by inclusion/exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in data on migration reported to Eurostat in the framework of the POPSTAT data collection, reference years 2020 and 2021

Migration	Included	Excluded
Asylum seekers usual residents for at least 12 months	BE DE EE EL IE ES FR IT CY LU NL AT PT NO ⁽¹⁾ CH	BG CZ DK IE HR LV LT HU MT PL RO SI FI SE IS LI MK SK ME UA
Refugees usual residents for at least 12 months	BE BG DK DE EE IE ⁽²⁾ EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI FI SE IS LI NO ⁽¹⁾ CH	CZ ME SK UA

⁽¹⁾ Asylum seekers and refugees without residence permit are not included.

⁽²⁾ Refugees who do not live in a private household are not included.

No migration flows in AL. No information on refugees in MK; on asylum seekers in TR; and on both in ME and RS.

Table 11 summarises the changes (improvements and deteriorations) in data transmitted in the POPSTAT 2021 collection compared with the reference years 2020 and 2021. The table highlights the changes that occurred for the datasets 'population on 1 January by age, sex and educational attainment', 'legal marital status', 'live births' and 'deaths statistics'.

TABLE 11:**List of countries by table and provision of data in two demographic data collections, 49 countries**

Eurobase table	Table sent for eference year 2020		Table sent for reference year 2021	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Population on 1 January by age, sex and educational attainment level (demo_pjanedu)	BE BG CZ DE IE EE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO IS LI CH ME MK AL RS AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM XK UA	DK EE LT SI SK FI SE NO TR	AT LU HU PL AL XK AZ MD GE AM RO SK TR BE BG DE IE EL HR NL CY ME CZ EE ES FR IT MT PT CH MK RS	LV LT IS UA NO DK FI SE SI LI
Population on 1 January by age, sex and legal marital status (demo_pjanmarsta)	BE DK EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT MT AT PL PT RO FI SE IS LI NO ME MK AL TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK	CZ BG DE LU HU NL CZ IT CH SI SK RS	UA IS LV LT AT PL NO AL MD AM GE XK DK SE FI LI TR BE IE EL CY HR ME EE ES FR MT PT CH MK	LU HU AZ RO CZ IT BG DE NL SI SK RS
Live births by birth weight and duration of gestation (demo_fweight)	LU AD BA MC SM XK IS LV UA BE DE IE EL HR NL ME CY EE FR IT	BG CZ DK EL ES LV LT HU MT AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CH MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD	NO MD AZ LV LU IS UA AM XK TR BE DE IE HR NL ME CY EE FR IT CH	RS LT AT PL AL GE DK HU FI RO SI SK SE LI NO BG ELCZ ES MT PT MK
Live births by mother's age and activity status (demo_faemplyc)	CZ ES LU LV LT PL IS AD BA MC SM XK UA BG BE DE IE NL ME CY CZ EE ES FR IT MT CH	DK EL HR IT CY HU AT PT RO SI SK FI SE LI NO MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD UA	PL LT LV LU AT NO MD AL AZ IS UA AM GE XK TR BG BE DE IE NL ME CY CZ EE ES FR IT MT CH	RS DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI EL HR PT MK
Live births by mother's age and educational attainment level (demo_faeduc)	LU AD BA MC SM XK LT LU IS UA BG BE DE IE NL ME CY	CZ DK EE EL ES FR HR IT LV HU MT AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD UA	EE FR IT MT CH LT LU UA IS AT NO MD AL AM GE XK TR BG BE DE IE NL ME CY	CZ ES LV RS AZ DK HU PT PL RO SI SK SE FI LI EL HR MK
Live births by mother's age and legal marital status (demo_fagec)	AD BA CY MC SM XK IS UA	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD	CY NO MD AL IS XK TR AM IE	CZ ES LV LT LU UA RS AT PL AZ GE DK HU PT RO SI SK SE FI LI EE FR IT MT CH MK DE BE NL ME HR
Live births by mother's age/ year of birth and legal marital status (demo_fager)	AD BA MC SM XK IS UA BE IE CY ME EE MT	BG CZ DK DE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD UA	IS NO MD AL XK TR AM BE IE CY ME EE MT CH	LV LT LU UA RS AT PL AZ GE DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI BG DE EL HR NL CZ ES FR IT PT MK

Eurobase table	Table sent for eference year 2020		Table sent for reference year 2021	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Deaths by age, sex and educational attainment level (demo_maeduc)	CZ LU LT TR AD BA MC SM UA XK LV IS DE IE CY NL ME CZ EE FR MT CH	BG DK EL ES HR IT LV LT HU AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO MK AL RS AM AZ GE MD	LT LU IS UA MD AL GE XK AT TR AM BE DE IE CY NL ME CZ EE ES FR MT CH	LV RS AZ DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO BG EL HR IT PL PT MK
Deaths by age, sex and legal marital status (demo_marstac)	BE BG DK DE EE IE EL FR IT CY LV LT MT AT PL PT RO FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AD BA MC SM UA XK	CZ ES LT LU HU PT AM AZ GE MD BG EL HR NL CZ ES IT MT PT MK CH SI SK	UA LT LV IS RS MD AM GE XK TR BE DE IE CY ME EE CH	AZ AL AT DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI LU NO BG EL HR NL CZ ES FR IT MT PL PT MK
Infant mortality (demo_minf)	EE IT TR AD BA MC XK	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK AL RS AM AZ GE MD SM UA	IS MD AT LI NO TR AM IE EL CY EE IT CH	LT LV LU UA AZ AL GE XK DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE BG DE HR NL ME CZ ES FR MT PT MK RS
Infant mortality by age and sex (demo_minfs)	CY TR AD BA MC XK IS	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CH ME MK AL RS AM AZ GE MD SM UA	MD IS AT LI NO TR AM IE EL CY	CZ ES LU LV LT UA AZ AL RS GE XK PL DK HU PL PT RO SI SK SE FI BE BG DE HR NL ME EE FR IT MT CH MK
Infant mortality by mother's educational attainment level (ISCED11f) and father's educational attainment level (ISCED11) (demo_minfedu)	CZ ES LU LV LT TR AD BA MC XK UA IS BE BG DE HR NL ME IE EL CY CZ EE ES FR IT MT CH	BG DK EE EL FR IT LV LT HU MT AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH MK AL RS AM AZ GE MD SM UA	LU LV LT IS UA MD AL AM GE XK AT PL LI NO TR BE BG DE HR NL ME IE EL CY CZ EE ES FR IT MT CH	AZ DK HU RO SI SK SE FI PT MK RS
Late foetal deaths by mother's age (demo_mfoet)	BE DK DE EE IE FR IT CY MT NL AT LI ME TR AD BA MC MD XK UA	BG CZ EL ES HR LV LT LU HU PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH MK AL RS AM AZ GE SM UA	MD AZ AL XK AT DK LI NO TR AM BE DE NL ME IE EL CY EE FR IT MT CH	LV LT LU RS IS GE PL HU RO SI SK SE FI BG HR CZ ES PT MK
Legally-induced abortions by mother's age (demo_fabort)	BE DK EE IE EL FR CY LU MT NL AT PL SE IS LI NO ME MK TR AD BA MC MD XK UA	BG CZ DE ES HR IT LV LT HU PT RO SI SK FI CH AL RS AM AZ GE SM UA	LU IS MD AZ LV AM XK AT DK SE LI NO TR BE, NL ME IE EL CY EE FR MT CH MK	LT UA RS AL PL HU RO SI SK FI GE BG DE HR CZ ES IT PT
Legally-induced abortions by mother's age and number of previous live births (demo_fabortord)	BG BE DK EE IE EL FR CY LU MT NL AT SE IS LI NO ME MK TR AD BA MC MD XK	BG CZ DE ES HR IT LV LT HU PL PT RO SI SK FI CH AL RS AM AZ GE SM UA	IS LT LU LV UA MD AZ AM GE XK AT DK RO SE LI NO TR BG BE NL ME IE EL CY EE FR MT CH MK	RS AL PL HU SI SK FI DE HR CZ ES IT PT

Eurobase table	Table sent for eference year 2020		Table sent for reference year 2021	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Divorces by citizenship of wife and husband (demo_divcz)	DE EE IE EL FR CY AT LI AD BA MC SM XK LV LT IS UA IT MT	BE BG CZ DK ES HR IT HU MT NL LU PL PT RO SI SK FI SE NO CH ME MK AL TR AM AZ GE MD UA RS	IS, UA MD AL XK AT LI NO TR AM DE IE EL CY FR IT MT CH	LT LV LU RS AZ GE DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE BG HR NL ME EE CZ ES PL PT MK
Divorces by country of birth of wife and husband (demo_divcb)	CZ DE EE IE EL ES FR CY LU AT PL PT LI AD BA MC SM XK UA IS LU	BE BG CZ DK ES HR IT LV LT HU MT NL RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD UA	IS UA LU MD AL AM XK AT PL LI NO TR BG DE IE EL CY ME CZ EE ES FR IT MT PT CH	LT LV RS AZ GE DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE HR NL MK
Divorces by duration of marriage (reached during the year) (demo_ndivdur)	DE EE IE EL FR CY IT MT AT LI LV AD BA MC SM XK UA	BE BG CZ DK ES HR ITLV LT LU HU MT NL PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD	IS UA MD AL XK AT LI NO TR AM BG DE IE EL CY EE FR IT MT CH	LV LT LU RS AZ GE PL DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE HR NL ME CZ ES PT MK
First-time marrying persons by age, year of birth and sex (demo_nsinagec)	DE EE IE CY MT AT LI AL AD AM AZ BA MC MD SM XK UA	BE BG CZ DK EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU NL PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK RS TR GE UA	IS UA MD AL XK AT LI NO TR AM DE IE EL CY EE FR MT CH	LT LU LV RS AZ GE PL DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE BG HR NL ME CZ ES IT PT MK
Marriages by citizenship of bride and groom (demo_marcz)	IS DE EE IE CY MT LI AD BA MC SM XK UA	BE BG CZ DK EE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD UA	IS UA XK AT LI NO TR MD AM BG DE IE EL CY EE FR MT CH	LT LU LV RS AZ AL GE DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE HR NL ME CZ ES IT PL PT MK
Marriages by country of birth of bride and groom (demo_marchb)	IS CZ EE MT DE IE HR CY LI AD BA ME MC SM XK UA	BE BG CZ DK EE EL ES FR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH MK AL RS TR AM AZ GE MD	IS UA AL AM XK AT LI NO TR MD BG DE IE EL CY HR ME CZ EE FR MT CH	LV LT LU RS AZ GE DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE NL ES IT PL PT MK
Marriages by previous legal union status of bride and groom (demo_nmsta2)	IS IE LV LT UA CY LI AD BA MC SM XK DE	BE BG CZ DK EE EL ES FR HR IT HU LU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE NO CH ME MK AL TR AM AZ GE MD RS	IS LV LT UA AL XK AT LI NO TR MD AM BG DE IE EL CY EE FR MT CH	CZ ES AZ GE PL DK HU LU PL PT RO SI SK SE FI BE HR NL ME IT MK RS
Marriages by sex and previous marital/legal union status of bride and groom (demo_nmsta)	DE IE EE MT CY LI AD BA MC SM XK	BE BG CZ DK EE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS NO CH ME MK AL TR AM AZ GE MD UA RS	IS LI NO TR MD AM AL BG DE IE EL CY EE FR MT CH	LT LU LV UA RS DK HU RO SI SK SE FI BE HR NL ME CZ ES IT PT MK

4.1.2. Migration and asylum

Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

Table 12 summarises the changes (improvements and deteriorations) in data transmitted in the 2021 collection compared with the reference year 2020.

TABLE 12:

List of countries by table and provision of data in two immigration, emigration and citizenship data collections, 49 countries

Eurobase table	Table sent for reference year 2020		Table sent for reference year 2021	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Immigration by broad group of country of previous residence (migr_imm12prv)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK	RS UA XK TR GE MD AM AL	IS LV LU LT DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO AZ PL AT BG BE DE IE EL HR CY NL CZ EE ES FR IT MT PT CH MK ME
Immigration by sex, citizenship and broad group of country of citizenship and group of countries of birth (migr_imm6ctz)	CY CZ EE FR MT PT AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK	CY RS UA XK TR AZ GE MD AM AL CZ EE FR MT PT CH	IS LV LU LT DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO PL AT BG BE DE IE EL HR NL ES IT MK ME
Immigration by sex, country of birth and broad group of citizenship (migr_imm7ctb)	CY PT AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM IS UA XK DE BE	BG CZ DK EE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CH ME MK	CY CZ PT RS UA IS XK TR AZ GE MD AM AL EE FR MT CH DE BE	ES LV LU LT DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO PL AT ME MK IT IE NL HR
Emigration by age group, sex and country of birth (migr_emi4ctb)	PT AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM XK DE IE EL CY FR EE MT IS	BE BG CZ DK EE IE EL ES FR HR IT LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL RO SI SK FI SE LI NO CH ME MK UA	RS XK TR AZ GE MD PL AM AL DE IE EL CY FR PT EE MT CH UA	LV LU LT IS DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO AT BE BG HR NL ME ES IT CZ MK
Emigration by broad group of country of next usual residence (migr_emi5nxt)	AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM XK	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH ME MK UA	RS XK TR GE MD AM AL	LT LU LV IS UA DK HU RO SI SK SE FI LI NO AZ PL AT BE BG DE IE EL HR CY NL CZ EE ES FR IT MT PT CH MK ME

Eurobase table	Table sent for reference year 2020		Table sent for reference year 2021	
	No	Yes	No	Yes
Loss of citizenship by sex and new citizenship (migr_lct)	CZ DK DE EL ES FR IT CY LV LU LT HU MT AT RO FI IS LI NO CH ME MK AL RS TR AD AM AZ BA GE MC MD SM UA XK	BE BG EE IE HR MT LT NL PL PT SI SK SE GE	LU LV LT RS UA IS XK DK HU RO FI LI NO TR AZ MD AT AM AL DE ME CY CZ ES FR IT MT CH MK	SI SK SE GE PL BE BG IE EL HR NL EE PT

Asylum and Dublin

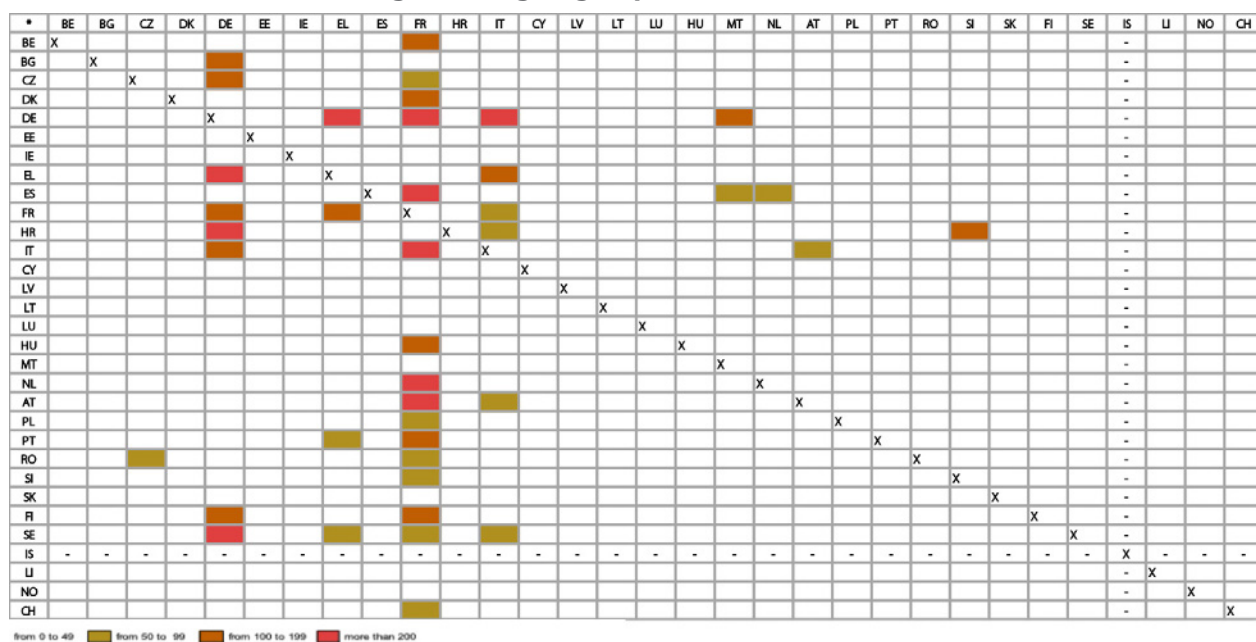
Figure 5 shows the result of using mirror statistics for Dublin requests for 2020 data, the difference between the number of incoming Dublin requests by submitting country and the number of outgoing Dublin requests by receiving country. Most countries reported receiving a similar number of requests as the countries that sent the requests (asymmetry ranging from 0 to 49 requests). In 16 cases, the asymmetry ranged from 50 to 99 requests. In 14 cases, the asymmetry ranged from 100 to 199 requests. In 11 cases, the asymmetry was more than 200 requests.

Table 13 shows the results of mirror statistics for Dublin requests using data for the reference year 2021, the difference between the number of outgoing Dublin requests by receiving country (RO) and the number of incoming Dublin requests by submitting country (RI). The total asymmetry in absolute value was 15 490. The percentage of asymmetries in absolute value in total outgoing flows was 12%.

FIGURE 5:

Mirror statistics for Dublin requests for 2020

Differences between incoming and outgoing requests



* GEO/PARTNER -asymmetries between incoming requests by submitting country and ongoing requests by receiving country

TABLE 13:

Mirror statistics for Dublin requests for 2021 – differences between outgoing and incoming requests

Geo/ Partner	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	IS	LI	NO	CH	TOTAL	
BE	0	-1	7	0	-161	1	0	27	-71	-59	-13	157	:	0	4	-20	-1	-6	-48	-28	-8	:	-43	-5	-3	14	31	:	0	3	2	-221	
BG	1	0	0	0	-13	0	0	0	0	-7	0	-1	:	0	0	0	0	-9	-4	-6	0	:	0	0	0	5	0	:	1	-3	1	-35	
CZ	-6	-76	0	-3	-36	-1	0	-35	-3	0	-4	-2	:	0	0	-1	-2	0	-5	-11	-6	:	-301	0	-6	0	-1	:	0	-2	0	-501	
DK	0	-1	0	0	-2	-4	0	-4	-6	3	0	-14	:	0	0	0	-10	0	0	-2	-4	:	2	-1	0	9	-6	:	0	-1	2	-39	
DE	74	227	113	2	0	14	1	2615	-71	418	15	265	:	1	77	-12	21	20	14	133	55	:	78	112	0	128	289	:	2	0	53	4644	
EE	0	0	0	0	1	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	1	0	:	0	0	0	-4	
IE	-1	0	4	6	0	0	0	47	-1	0	0	-3	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-17	:	5	1	0	4	3	:	0	0	0	48	
EL	151	43	0	-2	-49	0	30	0	10	-38	11	334	:	0	1	-3	0	-37	4	17	0	:	0	0	0	11	36	:	0	-3	-10	506	
ES	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	5	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	:	0	2	0	0	0	:	0	0	-1	16	
FR	-25	19	34	-27	-969	-6	0	23	-454	0	-65	-1620	:	-9	5	-18	-31	-17	-270	-88	-30	:	-3	-68	-11	91	-4	:	-2	-13	-96	-3654	
HR	2	21	-1	0	2	0	0	144	1	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	3	0	1	0	:	0	0	3	177	
IT	7	29	19	6	263	0	0	131	108	201	39	0	:	3	1	1	0	1	1	198	-2	:	156	59	5	25	25	:	0	-4	17	1289	
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
LV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	-1	-1	
LT	-1	0	0	0	-10	0	0	-4	0	-1	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	-3	:	-1	0	0	1	1	:	0	0	0	-18		
LU	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	4	5	0	25	:	:	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-1	:	1	-1	0	0	:	1	0	0	44		
HU	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	-1	1	
MT	0	0	-1	0	28	0	7	4	0	41	0	25	:	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	1	112	
NL	5	1	14	-8	-64	0	0	50	-60	-13	-16	-163	:	1	4	1	1	-3	0	10	5	:	2	9	0	7	7	:	1	0	-12	-221	
AT	5	134	15	1	9	0	0	-13	4	3	4	-80	:	0	-1	1	2	1	8	0	2	:	40	-1	2	8	6	:	0	-2	4	152	
PL	2	7	6	0	5	0	0	2	-1	1	0	-1	:	3	-15	0	0	0	2	-6	-1	:	35	0	0	3	0	:	0	0	1	43	
PT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0
RO	1	35	-2	0	-1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	:	0	-4	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	:	0	0	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	31	
SI	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	19	1	0	96	-4	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	5	0	0	3	0	:	1	0	0	126	
SK	1	-6	1	0	-1	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	:	-3	0	0	1	0	:	0	0	-1	12	
FI	0	-4	0	-13	-30	-1	0	-39	-12	-8	-9	-60	:	-3	-1	-1	-1	0	-13	-10	0	:	-3	-4	0	0	-31	:	0	-3	0	-246	
SE	1	0	1	-7	-15	-5	0	11	-7	-2	-2	-98	:	0	5	0	0	0	-1	-3	-2	:	0	1	0	28	0	:	0	0	3	-92	
IS	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0
LI	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	-5	0	-1	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	:	0	-1	0	0	0	:	0	0	-1	-11	
NO	0	0	0	-1	-15	0	0	3	2	-2	0	1	:	0	1	-1	0	0	-1	2	-2	:	-1	0	0	3	-7	:	0	0	0	-18	
CH	-5	2	6	-1	-38	-3	0	-26	-328	-131	-22	-497	:	-1	-1	-1	-10	-3	-2	21	-25	:	4	19	-13	4	0	:	1	-2	0	-1052	
TOTAL	213	435	219	-47	-1088	-12	38	2978	-884	408	36	-1731	:	-5	81	-54	-29	-53	-313	227	-39	0	-27	125	-26	347	350	0	5	-30	-36	1088	

Note: data for Cyprus and Iceland are not available. Data for Portugal were not available at the time of the analysis.

Table 14 shows the top asymmetries between the number of outgoing Dublin requests by receiving country and the number of incoming Dublin requests by submitting country. The greatest asymmetries occurred between Germany and Greece, France and Germany, Switzerland and Italy, France and Spain, Germany and France, Greece and Italy, Switzerland and Greece, Czechia and Romania, Germany and Sweden.

TABLE 14:

Top 10 asymmetries between the number of outgoing Dublin requests by receiving country and the number of incoming Dublin requests by submitting country

Outgoing request	Incoming request	Value	Absolute value
Germany	Greece	2 615	2 615
France	Italy	-1 620	1 620
France	Germany	-969	969
Switzerland	Italy	-497	497
France	Spain	-454	454
Germany	France	418	418

Outgoing request	Incoming request	Value	Absolute value
Greece	Italy	334	334
Switzerland	Spain	-328	328
Czechia	Romania	-301	301
Germany	Sweden	289	289

Table 15 shows the results of using mirror statistics for Dublin transfers in 2021 data and the difference between the number of outgoing Dublin transfers by receiving country and the number of incoming Dublin transfers by submitting country. The total asymmetry in absolute value was 3 056. The percentage of asymmetries in absolute value in total outgoing transfers was 24%.

TABLE 15:

Mirror statistics for Dublin requests 2021 – differences between outgoing and incoming transfers

Geo/ Partner	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	IS	LI	NO	CH	TOTAL
BE	0	0	0	0	-88	0	0	0	4	-7	0	12	:	0	0	0	0	0	-11	2	4	:	1	0	0	0	3	:	0	0	-3	-83
BG	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	6
CZ	0	0	0	0	-3	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	4	:	2	0	0	0	1	:	0	0	1	7
DK	2	0	0	0	-21	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	:	0	1	0	0	0	-4	-1	0	:	0	0	0	-1	23	:	0	1	0	5
DE	61	7	5	18	0	0	0	0	94	27	-3	18	:	0	15	6	0	1	-50	29	35	:	2	0	0	-1	200	:	0	2	-18	448
EE	0	-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	-7
IE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-2	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	-1
EL	-1	0	0	5	-64	0	-1	0	29	-16	0	-70	:	0	2	0	0	-4	-14	-10	0	:	0	0	0	-43	27	:	0	8	-13	-165
ES	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	-3
FR	30	1	0	0	-384	1	0	0	222	0	0	49	:	0	0	3	0	2	-69	-2	0	:	1	-4	0	1	62	:	0	0	-2	-89
HR	1	0	0	0	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	-1	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	-3	-8
IT	2	0	0	1	14	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	:	0	-6	0	5	11	:	0	-1	-3	32
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0
LV	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	1
LT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	16
LU	7	0	0	0	-7	0	0	0	0	-1	0	2	:	0	0	0	0	1	-8	0	1	:	0	0	0	0	2	:	0	0	0	-3
HU	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	1	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	4
MT	0	0	0	0	45	0	21	0	76	69	0	9	:	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	4	:	0	0	1	229
NL	3	0	-1	4	117	0	0	0	36	-34	1	22	:	-4	2	5	0	-1	0	1	-4	:	-4	-5	-1	0	-15	:	0	0	-1	121
AT	6	-7	3	2	-48	0	0	0	9	2	2	39	:	0	-1	0	0	1	7	0	-4	:	-10	0	1	0	11	:	0	0	-4	9
PL	2	-2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	-3	0	-2	:	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	:	1	-1	0	-1	2	:	0	0	0	-2
PT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0
RO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	2
SI	0	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	1	:	0	0	0	-1
SK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	1	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	1
FI	-2	0	0	-2	-24	-1	0	0	-4	-7	-1	-20	:	-5	-1	0	0	0	-6	-1	-5	:	-2	0	0	0	-1	:	0	-1	0	-83
SE	0	1	9	-5	-8	0	0	3	1	-1	0	18	:	-1	-1	0	0	0	-4	0	8	:	-1	-1	-1	-3	0	:	0	6	0	20
IS	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0
LI	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	:	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	0	3
NO	0	0	0	1	-9	0	0	-1	5	-1	0	-9	:	-1	-1	0	0	-1	-8	-1	2	:	0	0	0	0	3	:	0	0	0	-21
CH	2	-1	-1	3	9	0	0	0	-34	-10	1	-22	:	-1	0	-1	0	0	-6	4	-5	:	0	-2	0	0	1	:	0	-1	0	-64
TOTAL	114	-8	15	28	-470	0	20	2	444	31	-1	49	0	-12	18	15	0	-1	-175	20	52	0	-9	-19	-1	-43	336	0	0	14	-45	374

Note: data for Cyprus and Iceland are not available. Data for Portugal were not available at the time of the analysis.

Table 16 shows the top 10 asymmetries between the number of outgoing Dublin transfers by receiving country and the number of incoming Dublin transfers by submitting country. The greatest asymmetries occurred between France and Germany, France and Spain, Germany and Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany, Germany and Spain, Belgium and Germany, Malta and Spain, Greece and Italy, France and the Netherlands, and Malta and France.

TABLE 16:

Top 10 asymmetries between the number of outgoing Dublin transfers by receiving country and the number of incoming Dublin transfers by submitting country

Outgoing request	Incoming request	Value	Absolute value
France	Germany	-384	384
France	Spain	222	222
Germany	Sweden	200	200
Netherlands	Germany	117	117
Germany	Spain	94	94
Belgium	Germany	-88	88
Malta	Spain	76	76
Greece	Italy	-70	70
France	Netherlands	-69	69

Cooperation with the countries has decreased the level of asymmetries in the recent years, but Eurostat will continue to work on further reducing asymmetries. National data providers may expect Eurostat to contact them in the course of 2024 to discuss this issue. This may also include organising a trilateral meeting with the concerned countries with the largest asymmetries.

Temporary protection

The accuracy of statistical outputs in the general statistical sense is the degree of closeness of estimates to the true values. The assessment determined the accuracy of the voluntary monthly data on decisions granting temporary protection, as good overall. The inaccuracy of these data may be due to an acute situation requiring the rapid creation of a database, late registration in the system, repeated registration, termination of temporary protection or other reasons. In general, revisions were sent for each reference period by Member States.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection may move to other Member States, but Eurostat does not collect any information on this. Member States must adjust the figures on valid decisions (stocks) if such information is available and if, in such a case, the temporary protection status was withdrawn. Explanatory notes by countries and concepts can be provided, if available, in the annexes at the bottom of the metadata page.

Countries are encouraged to provide revised data in the case of known subsequent improvements in the completeness of administrative sources used for the reporting of temporary protection statistics. This can be particularly applicable in the case of the high administrative workload of national authorities leading, for example, to delays in registration of administrative decisions. Such revisions can therefore be expected in the current circumstances. Eurostat would appreciate advance notice of significant revisions or corrections.

Enforcement of immigration legislation statistics

Decisions vs returns

Eurostat collects statistics on third-country nationals who are ordered to leave (decisions) and on third-country nationals who are returned following an order to leave (returns). For various methodological reasons, the figures reported in the returns can be higher than the decisions. This issue could be noted with the annual data collection on rare occasions and is

likely to be observed in quarterly figures. The users' strong interest in comparing the returns with the decisions prompted Eurostat to investigate the why more orders are reported than returns.

- Effective returns can take place several years after the date of issuance of decisions. It is rare for more total returns than total decisions to be reported in a given year, but this is common in quarterly disaggregated data.
- Citizenship by age and sex is likely to change between the time of decision and return.
- A child may be born after an order to leave is issued.

Eurostat invites data providers to send comments or questions on these reasons and to double-check whether their methodology complies with the technical guidelines.

Annual vs quarterly data

Since 2021, data providers have sent quarterly data on returns by obligation (third-country nationals returned following an order to leave/ accompanied minors) and have voluntarily sent annual data (third-country nationals who have left the territory for a third country by type of agreement procedure and citizenship). Eurostat has observed possible discrepancies between the annual and quarterly values. These could be explained by the following reasons.

- If a third-country national returns several times in the same year (in different quarters of the same year), this would be counted only once in the annual data but would theoretically be counted several times in the quarterly data. This would explain why the sum of the quarterly values could be higher than the annual value.
- The annual data are transmitted later than the quarterly data, so cases that are registered late in the quarterly returns are more likely to be registered in the annual data returns. This would explain why the annual value could be higher than the sum of the quarterly values.

The first reason is due to the methodology of the data collection and is unavoidable, but the second one could be corrected with subsequent data revisions (of quarterly tables). Even though the annual data collection has become voluntary, Eurostat strongly encourages data providers to continue to send annual data on returns because these can be the most robust and reliable data on counts of persons returned.

4.2. Data revision and revision policy

4.2.1. Population and demography

Eurostat's policy is to make updates as soon as data are received and at any time during the year.

In conformity with [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EC\) No 205/2014](#), Member States must inform the Commission (Eurostat) of any planned revision of the data supplied no later than 1 week before the release of the revised data in the Member State concerned.

Population, deaths, live birth, and marriages and divorce statistics are revised continuously on the basis of the most recent data released and transmitted to Eurostat by the national statistical institutes. The geographical aggregates and the demographic indicators are revised accordingly.

Revised data follow the same validation process and demographic indicators are re-computed. Data are disseminated as soon as possible.

The online weekly deaths data are expected to be revised according to the most recent data released and sent to Eurostat by the national statistical institutes.

Revised data follow the same validation process and demographic indicators are re-computed. Data are disseminated as soon as possible.

Contrary to the generic rules described above, the usually resident population for the purpose of the qualified majority voting at the Council is not revised ([see the specific metadata](#)).

4.2.2. Migration and asylum

Eurostat's policy is to make updates as soon as it receives data and at any time during the year. International migration and acquisition/loss of citizenship statistics are continuously revised according to the most recent data released and sent to Eurostat by the national statistical institutes.

In March 2014, the Asylum and Managed Migration Working Group adopted a revision policy for asylum statistics.

Asylum applicants' data are revised continuously according to the most recently updated data provided by the reporting countries. Dublin statistics are revised continuously in accordance with the most recently updated data provided by the reporting countries.

Decisions on asylum applications and resettlement data are revised continuously according to the most recently updated data provided by the reporting countries.

Temporary protection data are revised continuously according to the most recently updated data provided by the reporting countries.

Data are revised continuously on the basis of the most recently updated data provided by the countries. Most of the revisions are related to the improvement of the statistics provided (new and better information could become available after the submission of the statistics to Eurostat).

Data are revised continuously according to the most recently updated data provided by the countries. Most of the revisions are related to the improvement of the statistics provided.

Residence permit statistics

Sending provisional data

There have been some requests to send the data with 'P' (flagging provisional data) or 'B' (flagging a break in time series) flags in the context of planned data improvements. As a rule, corrections of errors must be sent as soon as the errors are identified.

Eurostat recently noted two issues:

- The provisional data can be flagged with a 'P' flag if (i) there is a revision policy in place at national level; (ii) this is communicated to Eurostat; and (iii) information is included in the national metadata. For example, France has applied a national revision policy for several years, sending provisional data (with a 'P' flag) within the legal deadline and later, at the beginning of the following year, sending revised final data (deleting the 'P' flag). This type of policy can be accepted because the difference between the provisional and final data is not expected to be significant. If the difference between the provisional and final data is significant, however, the question arises whether the provisional data were sufficiently accurate to have merited being published in the first place. However, any revision with more accurate data is welcome (even significant revisions). A recommendation was therefore sent to France to assess the provisional data it had sent to Eurostat.
- A significant change in data sources and methodology should be flagged with a 'B' flag in order to identify issues in comparison with previous years. However, Eurostat strongly advocates the option of revising the entire time series with the improved methodology.

5

Timeliness and punctuality

Timeliness is the length of time between data becoming available and the event/phenomenon that they describe.

Punctuality is the time lag between the actual delivery of data and the target date on which they were scheduled for release (as announced in an official release calendar, set by regulations or previously agreed among partners).

5.1. Population and demography

5.1.1. Population, deaths, live births, marriages and divorces

The collection of population and demography data for the reference year 2020 was launched in October 2021. The transmission deadline for the countries was 31 December 2021. The collection of population and demography data for the reference year 2021 was launched in October 2022. The transmission deadline for the countries was 31 December 2022. The collection of population data is regulated by [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) and Article 3 of [Regulation \(EU\) No 862/2007](#).

The punctuality of the data and metadata supplied has been assessed based on the deadlines set by [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) (31 December 2021 for the reference year 2020 and 31 December 2022 for the reference year 2021).

TABLE 17:

Punctuality of data and metadata for population and demography

Delivery of data	2020		2021	
	Population and demography	Metadata	Population and demography	Metadata
EU-27				
on time	24	25	27	23

Delivery of data	2020		2021	
	Population and demography	Metadata	Population and demography	Metadata
within 2 weeks of the deadline	DK RO	-	-	DK FI
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	MT	MT AT		EL RO
EFTA				
on time	IS CH	IS LI CH	IS NO CH	
within 2 weeks of the deadline	NO	-	-	IS
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	LI	NO	LI	LI CH NO
EU candidate countries⁸				
on time	ME MK	AL ME RS TR	AL MK ME TR UA	AL MK ME RS TR UA
within 2 weeks of the deadline	TR	-	-	-
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	-	-	-	-
missing	AL RS	MK	RS BA MD	BA MD
EU potential candidate countries and other countries⁹				
on time	GE SM UA	GE UA	AZ GE	GE
within 2 weeks of the deadline	-	-	-	-
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	-	-	-	-
missing	AD BA XK MD MC AM AZ	AD BA XK MD MC SA AM AZ	AD XK MC SM AM	AS XK MC AS AM AZ

EU Member States and EFTA countries are bound by the Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013, while candidate countries and other countries participate on a voluntary basis.

Of the EU Member States and EFTA countries, for population and demography 2020:

- 24 EU Member States and 2 EFTA countries transmitted all or part of the required data (population and demography templates, and the corresponding hypercubes) before the deadline; and 2 EU Member States and 1 EFTA country transmitted them within 2 weeks of the deadline.
- 25 EU Member States and 3 EFTA countries transmitted all or part of the required metadata before the deadline; and 2 EU Member States and 1 EFTA country transmitted them more than 2 weeks after the deadline.

⁽⁸⁾ BA, UA and MD have changed status and have been candidate countries since June 2022. They are therefore included in this group for RY2021 but not for RY2020. GE changed status and has been a potential candidate country since June 2022.

⁽⁹⁾ BA, UA and MD have changed status and have been candidate countries since June 2022. They are therefore included in this group for RY2021 but not for RY2020. GE changed status and has been a potential candidate country since June 2022.

FIGURE 6:

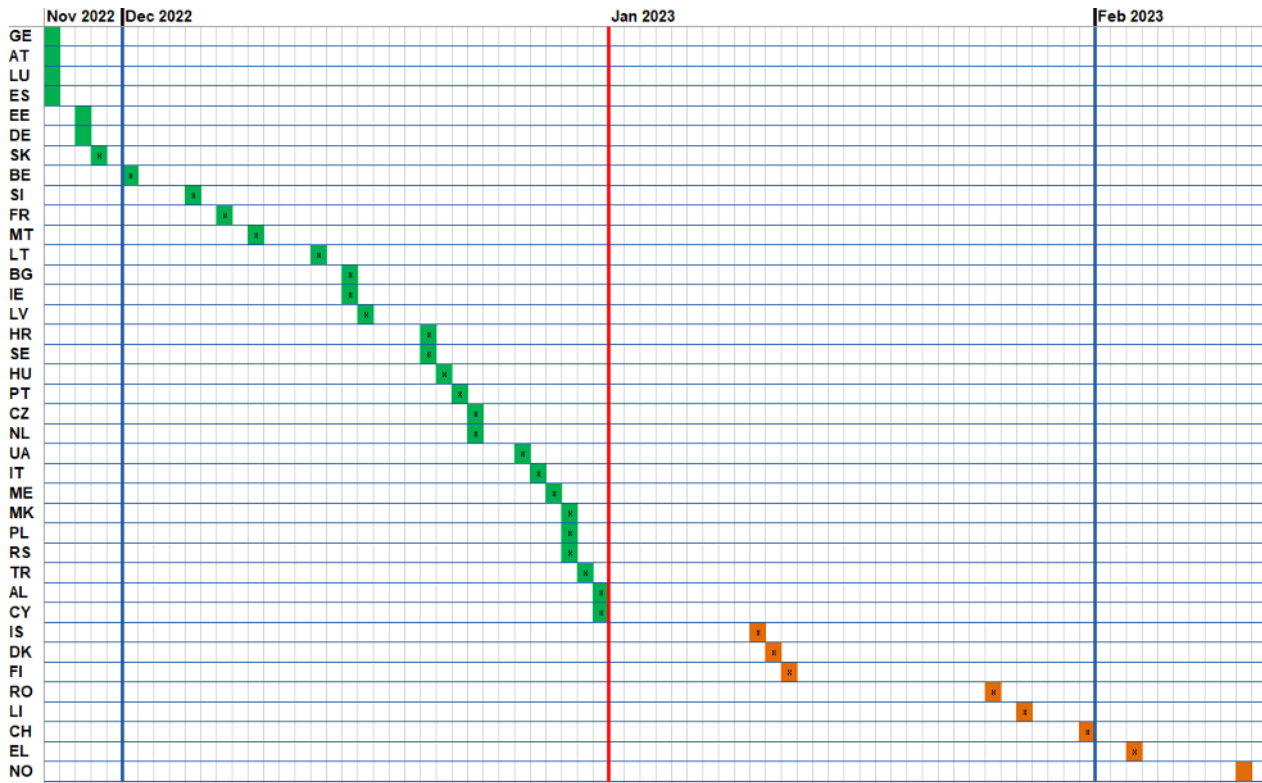
Date of first transmission of population and demography data for the reference year 2021, by country



Note: Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Monaco and San Marino are not shown because they have not yet submitted population data for the reference year 2021.

FIGURE 7:

Date of first transmission of the demography metadata for the reference year 2021, by country



Note: Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Monaco, San Marino and Serbia are not shown because they have not yet submitted metadata for the file for the reference year 2021.

5.2. Migration and asylum

5.2.1. Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

The collection of immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship data for the reference year 2020 was launched in October 2021. The transmission deadline for the countries was 31 December 2021. The collection of population and demography data for the reference year 2021 was launched in October 2022. The transmission deadline for the countries was 31 December 2022. The data collections are regulated by [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) and its accompanying implementing measures.

The punctuality of the data and metadata supplied has been assessed on the basis of the deadline set by [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) (31 December 2021 for the reference year 2020 and 31 December 2022 for the reference year 2021).

TABLE 18:

Punctuality of data and metadata for immigration, emigration and citizenship

Delivery of data	2020		2021	
	Immigration, emigration and citizenship	Metadata	Immigration, emigration and citizenship	Metadata
EU-27				
on time	24	25	26	23
within 2 weeks of the deadline	DK RO	-	-	DK FI
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	MT	MT AT	EL	EL RO
EFTA				
on time	IS CH	IS LI CH	IS NO CH	
within 2 weeks of the deadline	NO	-	-	IS
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	LI	NO	LI	LI CH NO
missing	-	-	-	-
EU candidate countries¹⁰				
on time	ME MK	AL ME RS TR	AL MK ME TR UA	AL MK ME RS TR UA
within 2 weeks of the deadline	TR	-	-	-
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	-	-	-	-
missing	AL RS	MK	RS BA MD	BA, MD
EU potential candidate countries and other countries¹¹				
on time	GE SM UA	GE UA	AZ GE	GE
at least 2 weeks after the deadline	-	-	-	-
missing	AD BA XK MD MC AM AZ	AD BA XK MD MC SM AM AZ	AD XK MC SM AM	AD XK MC SM AM AZ

⁽¹⁰⁾ BA, UA and MD have changed status and have been candidate countries since June 2022. They are therefore included in this group for RY2021 but not for RY2020. GE changed status and has been a potential candidate country since June 2022.

⁽¹¹⁾ BA, UA and MD have changed status and have been candidate countries since June 2022. They are therefore included in this group for RY2021 but not for RY2020. GE changed status and has been a potential candidate country since June 2022.

FIGURE 8:

Date of first transmission of immigration, emigration and citizenship, reference year 2021, by country



Note: Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Monaco, San Marino and Serbia are not shown because they have not yet submitted population data for the reference year 2021.

5.2.2. Asylum and Dublin

Article 4 of [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) requires monthly and quarterly asylum data to be supplied to Eurostat within 2 months after the end of the reference period. The deadline for the annual asylum and Dublin datasets is set at 3 months from the end of the reference year. The statistics for applicants that have benefited from the material reception conditions must be supplied within 6 months of the end of the reference year (from 2021).

Table 19 shows the percentages of the punctual transmissions of all asylum and Dublin data transmissions. Monthly datasets are for the reference period July 2021 to June 2022. Quarterly (Q) datasets are for the reference period Q3 2021 to Q2 2022. The annual asylum and Dublin datasets are for the reference year 2021. Only the first versions of transmissions are used.

The punctuality of transmission during this period was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the introduction of new templates for data transmission and the increase in the number of datasets (including the introduction of the voluntary monthly data on temporary protection). Since January 2021, 6 datasets have been used for monthly data, 6 datasets for quarterly data and 9 datasets for annual data.

7 EU Member States (Greece, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Slovenia and Slovakia), one EFTA country (Switzerland) and Montenegro have complied with the requirement for timely data transmission. 11 countries sent at least 80% of the datasets on time (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Spain, Luxembourg, Poland, Sweden and Norway).

12 countries (Czechia, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, Finland, Iceland and Liechtenstein) sent only 24-75% of the datasets on time.

For the monthly data from July 2021 to June 2022, 15 EU Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden), 2 EFTA countries (Norway and Switzerland) and Montenegro sent all datasets on time. 4 EU Member States (Czechia, Croatia, Lithuania and Romania) and 1 EFTA country (Liechtenstein) sent less than 75% of the datasets on time.

For the quarterly data from Q3 2021 to Q2 2022, 19 EU Member States (Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden), 3 EFTA countries (Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and Montenegro sent all datasets on time. Less than 75% of the datasets were sent on time by 4 EU Member States (Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania and Romania).

For the annual asylum data for 2021, 13 EU Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia), 2 EFTA countries (Iceland and Switzerland) and Montenegro sent all datasets on time. Less than 75% of the datasets were sent on time by 7 EU Member States (Germany, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania and Romania) and 1 EFTA country (Norway).

For the annual Dublin data for 2021, 15 EU Member States (Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, Croatia, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden) and 1 EFTA country (Switzerland) sent all datasets on time. 1 EU Member State (Bulgaria) and 1 EFTA country (Norway) sent less than 75% of the datasets on time. 11 EU Member States (Denmark, Estonia, France, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Portugal, Romania and Finland) and 2 EFTA countries (Iceland and Liechtenstein) did not send any datasets on time. This data collection is not applicable for 1 country (Montenegro).

TABLE 19:

Punctual transmissions of asylum and Dublin data (% of data from July 2021 to June 2022)

Dataset/country	TOTAL	ASYLUM			DUBLIN
		Monthly	Quarterly	Annual	Annual
Belgium	97	100	83	100	100
Bulgaria	86	100	67	100	53
Czechia	77	63	100	89	100
Denmark	85	100	100	100	0
Germany	96	100	100	44	100
Estonia	85	100	100	100	0
Ireland	99	100	100	89	100
Greece	100	100	100	100	100
Spain	94	90	100	89	100
France	72	85	100	44	0
Croatia	60	57	50	22	100
Italy	75	93	100	22	0
Cyprus	73	92	83	56	0
Latvia	100	100	100	100	100

Dataset/country	TOTAL	ASYLUM			DUBLIN
		Monthly	Quarterly	Annual	Annual
Lithuania	24	22	50	22	0
Luxembourg	85	100	100	100	0
Hungary	76	92	83	89	0
Malta	100	100	100	100	100
Netherlands	100	100	100	100	100
Austria	100	100	100	100	100
Poland	93	93	83	100	100
Portugal	79	92	100	89	0
Romania	54	68	67	22	0
Slovenia	100	100	100	100	100
Slovakia	100	100	100	100	100
Finland	79	92	100	89	0
Sweden	99	100	100	89	100
Iceland	71	82	83	100	0
Liechtenstein	68	72	100	89	0
Norway	86	100	100	67	26
Switzerland	100	100	100	100	100
Montenegro	100	100	100	100	-

Delays in the transmission of asylum and Dublin statistics have a significant impact on the punctuality of the dissemination of the data on Eurobase and consequently on users' access to the statistics. Delays in transmission have a direct impact on the publication of various Eurostat dissemination products including news items and 'Statistics Explained' articles.

5.2.3. Temporary protection

Countries are encouraged to send their data to Eurostat no later than 1 month after the end of the reference period.

Table 20 shows the percentages of the punctual monthly transmissions of temporary protection data. For the dataset decisions granting temporary protection, 6 countries (Bulgaria, Denmark, Ireland, Greece, Sweden and Switzerland) complied with the requirement of timely data transmissions each month. 8 countries sent at least 80% of the datasets on time (i.e. one dataset was sent with delay between March and September) (Belgium, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Finland and Liechtenstein). 1 country did not provide any dataset (Czechia). The other countries sent less than 66% of the datasets on time.

TABLE 20:

Data punctuality for decisions granting temporary protection per month (from March to September 2022)

Temporary protection – data punctuality							
	2022-03	2022-04	2022-05	2022-06	2022-07	2022-08	2022-09
Belgium							
Bulgaria							
Czechia							
Denmark							
Germany							
Estonia							
Ireland							
Greece							
Spain							
France							
Croatia							
Italy							
Cyprus							
Latvia							
Lithuania							
Luxembourg							
Hungary							
Malta							
Netherlands							
Austria							
Poland							
Portugal							
Romania							
Slovenia							
Slovakia							
Finland							
Sweden							
Iceland							
Liechtenstein							
Norway							
Switzerland							
Percentage	32%	55%	55%	68%	77%	71%	90%
Number of countries	10	17	17	21	24	22	28

■ Data submitted at latest on the last day of the month after the end of the reference period (March data submitted on 30 April or earlier)

■ Data submitted with delay (2 to 3 days on average after the end of the reference period. March data submitted on 1 May or after)

For the dataset beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month, 4 EU Member States (Denmark, Ireland, Greece and Sweden) and 1 EFTA country (Switzerland) complied with the requirement of timely data transmissions each month. 2 EU Member States (Belgium and Finland) sent at least 80% of the datasets on time (i.e. one dataset was sent with a delay between March and September). 2 EU Member States (Czechia and Hungary) did not provide any dataset. The other countries sent less than 66% of the datasets on time (Table 21).

TABLE 21:

Data punctuality for beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month (from March to September 2022)

Temporary protection (end of month) – data punctuality							
	2022-03	2022-04	2022-05	2022-06	2022-07	2022-08	2022-09
Belgium							
Bulgaria							
Czechia							
Denmark							
Germany							
Estonia							
Ireland							
Greece							
Spain							
France							
Croatia							
Italy							
Cyprus							
Latvia							
Lithuania							
Luxembourg							
Hungary							
Malta							
Netherlands							
Austria							
Poland							
Portugal							
Romania							
Slovenia							
Slovakia							
Finland							
Sweden							
Iceland							

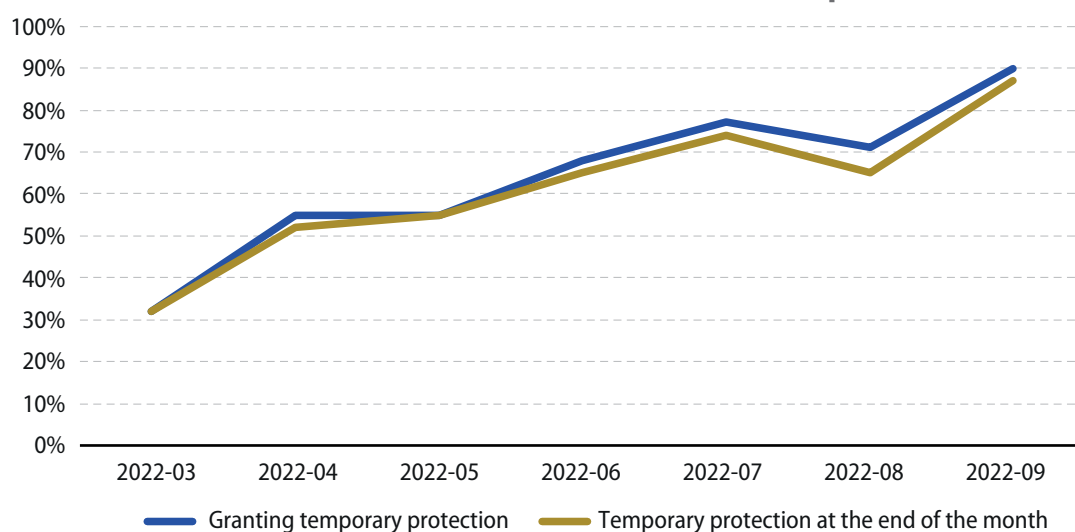
Temporary protection (end of month) – data punctuality							
	2022-03	2022-04	2022-05	2022-06	2022-07	2022-08	2022-09
Liechtenstein							
Norway							
Switzerland							
Percentage	32%	52%	55%	65%	74%	65%	87%
Number of countries	10	16	17	20	23	20	27

■ Data submitted at latest on the last day of the month after the end of the reference period (March data submitted on 30 April or earlier)
 ■ Data submitted with delay (2 to 3 days on average after the end of the reference period. March data submitted on 1 May or after)

Punctuality has significantly increased since the first data collection in April 2022 (see Figure 8) and can be assessed as good or very good.

FIGURE 9:

Data punctuality for granting temporary protection and beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month (from March to September 2022)



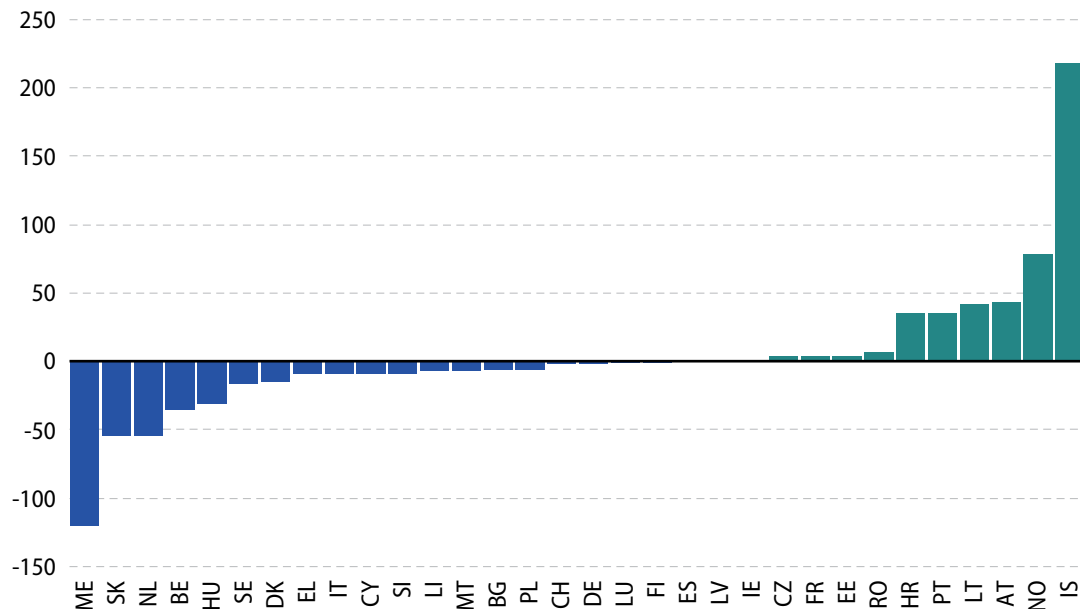
5.2.4. Enforcement of immigration legislation

Annual data collection

Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 requires 31 countries to submit the data for enforcement of immigration legislation statistics. Montenegro does this voluntarily. 32 countries sent at least one 2021 dataset to Eurostat.

FIGURE 10:

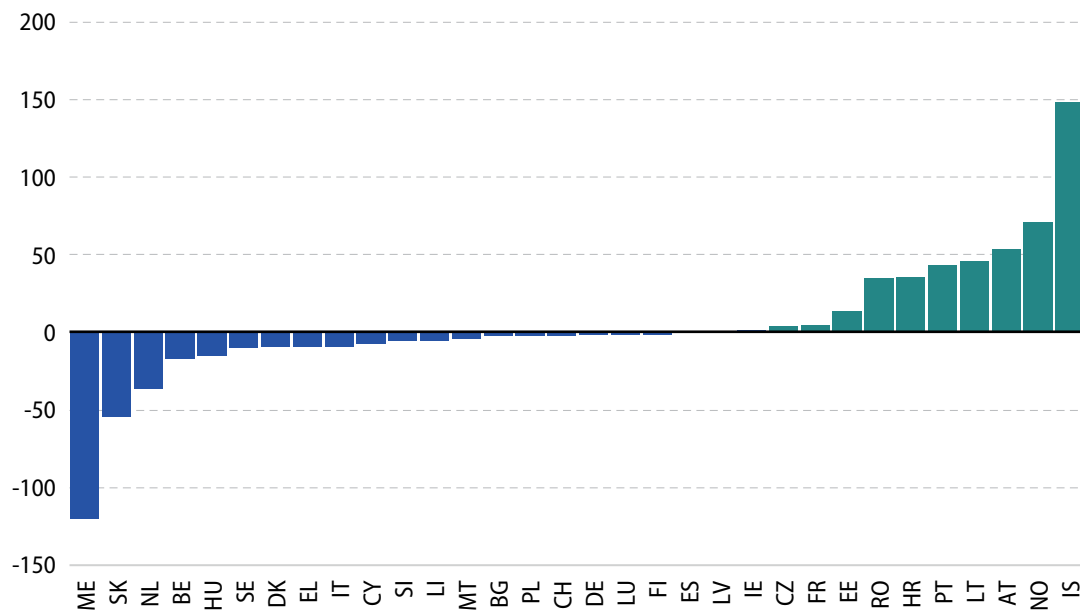
Punctuality of data on refusals of entry of third-country nationals for the reference year 2021



Note: a negative value means that the countries sent the data before the official deadline and a positive value means that the countries sent the data after the official deadline.

FIGURE 11:

Punctuality of data on apprehensions of third-country nationals for the reference year 2021



Note: a negative value means that the countries sent the data before the official deadline and a positive value mean the countries sent the data after the official deadline.

For the statistics on 'refusals', all the datasets were received by Eurostat (21 Member States sent the data on time and 11 with a delay). The situation is similar for statistics on 'apprehensions', for which 21 Member States sent the data on time and 11 with a delay.

Figures 10 and 11 show the timeliness of Enforcement of Immigration Legislation EIL annual data file transmissions, for which 21 countries transmitted all the mandatory data on time and 11 countries sent the data with a delay.

Quarterly statistics on returns

The need for more frequent official statistics on returns was very strongly emphasised by the policymakers and led to the inclusion of the legal provisions for collecting quarterly data on returns in [Regulation \(EU\) 2020/851](#). The provision of quarterly data on returns has been mandatory since the reference period Q1 2021.

Table 22 shows the average transmission delay over the first two quarters of 2022 (in days, and by country and dataset); along with the number of datasets that were transmitted late (the total number of datasets to be transmitted varies depending on the Member States because of derogations).

TABLE 22:

Punctuality of quarterly data on enforcement of immigration legislation, Q1-Q2 2022

	Q1/2022				Q2/2022			
	Third-country nationals ordered to leave	Third-country nationals ordered to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals ordered to leave	Third-country nationals ordered to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave / unaccompanied minors
Belgium	8	8	-11	-11	-57	-57	-28	-28
Bulgaria	-14	-14	-14	-14	-8	-8	-8	-8
Czechia	-1	Derogation	-1	Derogation	-19	Derogation	-19	Derogation
Denmark	-6	-6	-6	-6	-1	-1	-1	0
Germany	0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0
Estonia	-15	-15	-15	-15	-30	-30	-30	-30
Ireland	-1	-1	-1	-1	-6	-6	-6	-6
Greece	-44	-44	-44	-44	-29	-29	-29	-29
Spain	-11	Derogation	-11	Derogation	-26	Derogation	-26	Derogation
France	22	22	22	22	0	2	0	2
Croatia	-15	-15	-15	-15	-13	-13	-13	-13
Italy	-32	-32	-32	-32	-15	-15	-15	-15
Cyprus	10	Derogation	10	Derogation	12	Derogation	12	Derogation
Latvia	3	3	3	3	15	15	15	15

	Q1/2022				Q2/2022			
	Third-country nationals ordered to leave	Third-country nationals ordered to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals ordered to leave	Third-country nationals ordered to leave / unaccompanied minors	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave	Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave / unaccompanied minors
Lithuania	9	10	10	10	9	9	9	9
Luxembourg	-4	-4	-4	-4	-2	-2	-2	-2
Hungary	-26	-26	-26	-26	1	1	1	1
Malta	10	10	10	10	-47	-47	-47	-47
Netherlands	-7	Derogation	-7	-7	-16	Derogation	-16	Derogation
Austria	-18	-18	-18	-18	-42	-42	-42	-42
Poland	-35	-35	-32	-32	-19	-19	-19	-19
Portugal	20	Missing	20	Missing	-1	Missing	-1	Missing
Romania	3	Derogation	6	Derogation	0	Derogation	0	Derogation
Slovenia	-39	-39	-39	-39	-50	-50	-50	-50
Slovakia	-28	-28	-28	-28	-30	-30	-30	-30
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	-18	-18	-18	-18	-9	-9	-9	-9
Iceland	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing	Missing
Liechtenstein	-33	-33	-33	-33	-15	-15	-15	-15
Norway	17	122	17	Missing	23	23	26	26
Switzerland	8	28	10	10	-43	-43	-43	-43
Montenegro	-42	-42	-42	-42	-1	-1	-1	-1

Note: a negative value means that the countries sent the data before the official deadline and a positive value means the countries sent the data after the official deadline.

5.2.5. Residence permits

Residence permits data should be delivered to Eurostat within 6 months after the end of the reference year. For the 2021 reference period, the deadline for data transmission was 30 June 2022.

Considering recent developments and the topics of the statistics, the resident permit datasets were, for the purpose of this document, grouped into the following three categories:

- initial 2008 data collection;
- new mandatory datasets (starting with the 2021 reference period, they are either transformed from previous voluntary data collection or they are completely new datasets);
- datasets linked to EU directives.

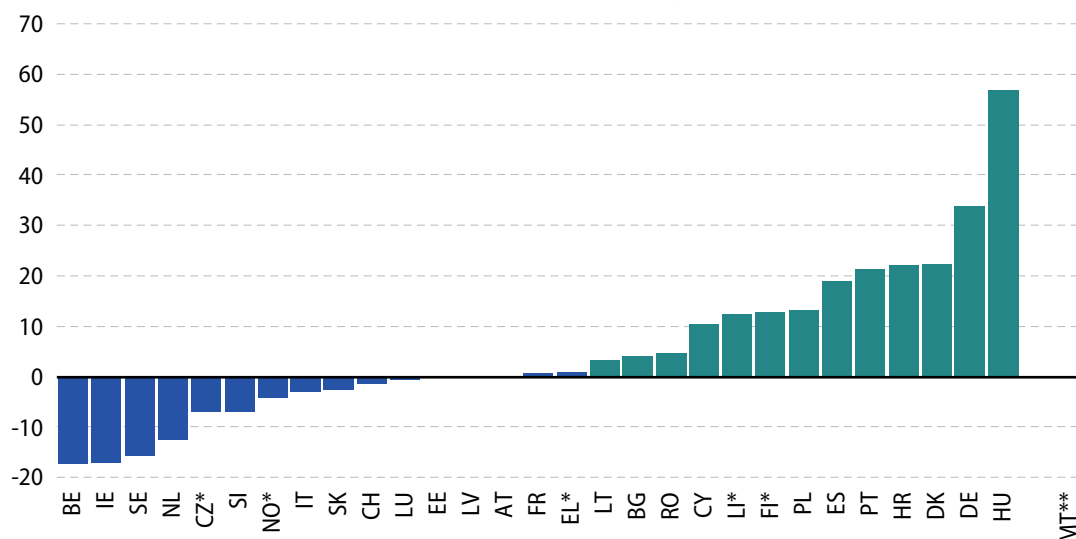
Regulation (EU) 2020/851 amending Regulation (EU) No 862/2007 changed the transmission of several datasets from voluntary to mandatory for: LTR, LTRAS, RP1AS, RP2AS, RP3AS, RP4AS, RP6AS, and RP7AS. Data availability was greater than in previous years, but some issues remain to be solved.

- 14 countries sent the data on time and 4 countries sent the data more than 10 days in advance (Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands and Sweden). Figure 11 shows the average delay for these datasets.
- Significant delays in 2021 data transmission were recorded for Denmark, Germany, Croatia, Hungary and Portugal.
- Iceland did not send any data.
- For table LTR, mandatory data were not transmitted by Czechia, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Malta.
- For table LTR_AS, mandatory data were not delivered by Czechia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta and Norway.
- For table RP5_AS, mandatory data were not delivered by Greece and Finland.

A positive development is that Poland, Slovakia and Sweden started sending datasets with age and sex categories, even though they had valid derogations for these tables.

FIGURE 12:

Average delay of transmission of residence permit data that became mandatory for transmission in 2021 after an initial voluntary data collection



* Czechia, Greece, Malta, Finland, Liechtenstein and Norway have one or more missing datasets.

** Malta has derogations for tables with age and sex breakdowns, but still failed to transmit the data for long-term permits issued during the year.

A negative value means that the countries sent the data before the official deadline and a positive value means that the countries sent the data after the official deadline.

There are several residence permit data collections based on the implementation of EU directives in legal migration: EU blue cards (BCs), single permits (SPs), intra-corporate transfers (ICTs), seasonal workers (SWs) and student and researchers (SRs). There are 15 datasets collected for RESPER statistics for this purpose.

In general, these data collections are not applicable to Denmark, Ireland and EFTA countries. Ireland does nevertheless send the data, albeit only for students and researchers data collection and using comparable definitions. These data collections have issues regarding data availability and the obligation to provide data. In addition, some of the breakdowns are required 'as far as possible', which means that data must be sent if they are available at national level.

Data availability has increased in the last year, but some issues still exist.

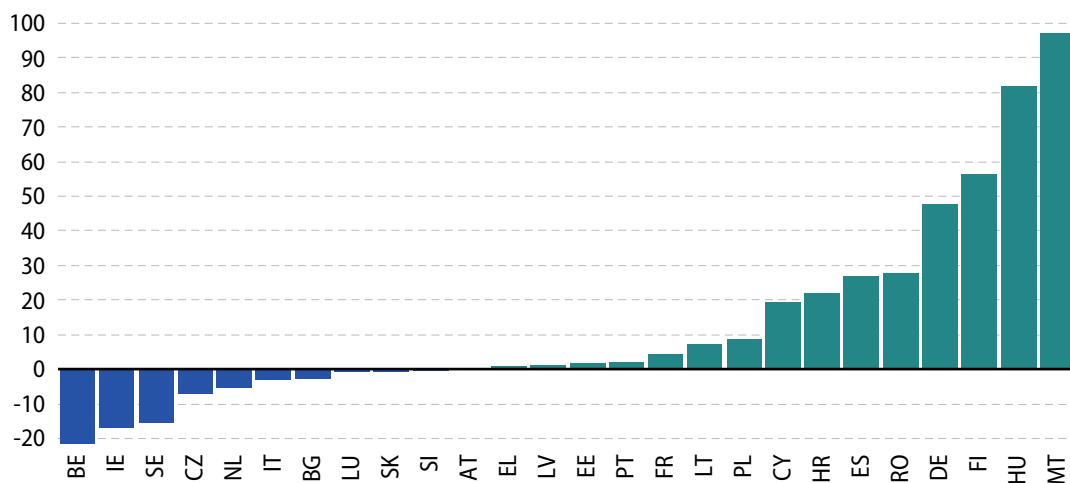
- Only 11 countries sent data on time while 3 of them even sent more than 10 days in advance: Belgium, Ireland and Sweden. Figure 12 refers to the average delay for these datasets.
- Significant delays in 2021 data transmission were recorded for Germany, Malta, Hungary and Finland.
- For 2021 BC data collection, mandatory data were not delivered by Malta and Finland.
- For 2021 SP data collection, mandatory data were not delivered by Greece and Malta.
- For 2021 ICT data collection, mandatory data were not transmitted by Czechia and Greece.
- For 2021 SW data collection, mandatory data were not sent by Belgium, Czechia, Greece and Latvia.
- For 2021 SR data collection, mandatory data were not sent by Czechia, Greece, Italy, Malta and Finland. Only the SR1 dataset is missing for Romania and only the SR2 dataset is missing for France.

For the 2021 reference period, 17 Member States voluntarily transmitted FRPS tables: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden.

For the voluntary data transmitted as required by EU directives, the situation differs between the tables and the categories concerned. In general, about 20 countries sent voluntary datasets for the reference year 2021: 19 countries sent data for BC3 and ICT3 referring to previous country of residence or for SW2 table on authorisations issued for the purpose of seasonal work by economic sector; about 20 countries sent data for voluntary ICT tables (ICT1.2 and ICT1.3 tables).

FIGURE 13:

Average delay for the group of RESPER tables on EU directives in 2021



6

Accessibility and clarity

Accessibility of statistical outputs is the measure of how easily users can obtain the data. It is determined by the physical conditions in which users obtain data: where to go, how to order, delivery time, pricing policy, marketing conditions (copyright, etc.), availability of micro or macro data, and various formats.

Clarity of statistical outputs is the measure of how easily users can understand the data. It is determined by the information environment within which the data are presented, whether the data are accompanied by appropriate metadata, whether use is made of illustrations such as graphs and maps, whether information on data accuracy is available (including any limitations on use) and the extent to which additional assistance is provided by the producer.

6.1. Data dissemination channels

Eurostat disseminates European population, demography, migration and asylum data online. The data are accessible via predefined tables and extractions from Eurostat's database, and through 'Statistics Explained' articles. The key indicators for [population and demography](#), [migration and asylum](#) are also published on Eurostat website in the 'latest news' and 'in focus' sections. Eurostat implements a policy of free dissemination to allow users the widest possible access.

In 2021, the population and demography section had 147 124 external views and the migration and asylum section had 49 827 external views¹².

DISSEMINATION CHANNELS

'Statistics Explained' articles:

Population and demography

- Population and population change statistics
- Mortality and life expectancy statistics
- Fertility statistics

⁽¹²⁾ Source: User Analytics 2020-2022, Unit B4: Digital Dissemination.

- Marriage and divorce statistics

Migration and asylum

- Migration and migrant population statistics
- Acquisition of citizenship statistics
- Annual asylum statistics
- Asylum applications–monthly statistics
- Asylum statistics introduced
- Statistics on countries responsible for asylum applications (Dublin Regulation)
- Temporary protection for persons fleeing Ukraine – monthly statistics
- Enforcement of immigration legislation statistics
- Residence permits–statistics on first permits issued during the year
- Residence permits – statistics on stock of valid permits at the end of the year
- Returns of irregular migrants – quarterly statistics

Statistical publications:

Population and demography

- Demography of Europe – 2023 interactive edition
- The life of women and men in Europe – 2022 interactive edition

Migration and asylum

- Asylum and managed migration statistics – 2020 edition

Methodological publications:

Population and demography

- Demographic statistics: a review of definitions and methods of collection in 44 European countries
- Demographic outlook 2010
- Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators

Migration and asylum

- Residence permits – a methodological and analytical overview
- International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (IRIS)
- Technical report on statistics of internally displaced persons

Other links:

- 'Statistics Explained' articles on Eurostat website
- Eurostat yearbook
- Eurostat regional yearbook
- domain-specific publications

7

Coherence and comparability

The coherence of two or more statistical outputs refers to the degree to which the statistical processes by which they were generated used the same concepts – classifications, definitions and target populations – and harmonised methods. Coherent statistical outputs can be validly combined and used jointly. Examples of joint use are statistical outputs that refer to the same population, reference period and region but comprise different sets of data items (e.g. employment data and production data) or comprise the same data items (e.g. employment data) but for different reference periods, regions or domains.

Comparability is a special case of coherence and refers to the second example above, where the statistical outputs refer to the same data items and the aim of combining them is to make comparisons over time, across regions or across other domains.

7.1. Methodological soundness

7.1.1. Population and demography

Population

TABLE 23:

Source for estimating population data as reported in 2020-2022 ¹³

	Date of most recent population census	Source for estimating population		
		Population register(s)	Census-based	Other
Belgium	01-01-2021	x		

(¹³) Data from 2020 and 2021 may refer to the previous censuses.

	Date of most recent population census	Source for estimating population		
		Population register(s)	Census-based	Other
Bulgaria	07-09-2021		x	
Czechia	26-03-2021		x	
Denmark	01-01-2021	x		
Germany	31-12-2021		x	
Estonia	31-12-2021		x	
Ireland	03-12-2021		x	Survey
Greece	20-10-2021		x	
Spain	01-01-2021		x	
France	01-01-2021		x	
Croatia	31-08-2021		x	Survey
Italy	31-12-2021	x		Survey
Cyprus	01-10-2021		x	
Latvia	01-01-2021	x	x	Mathematical methods; several registers
Lithuania	01-01-2021	x	x	Foreigners' Register
Luxembourg	08-11-2021 ¹¹		x	
Hungary	31-12-2021	x	x	
Malta	21-11-2021	x	x	Survey
Netherlands	01-01-2021	x		
Austria	31-10-2021	x		
Poland	31-03-2021		x	
Portugal	19-04-2021		x	
Romania	01-12-2021	x	x	Survey; Econometric models
Slovenia	01-01-2021	x		
Slovakia	01-01-2021		x	
Finland	01-01-2021	x		
Sweden	31-12-2021	x		
Iceland	01.01.2021			
Liechtenstein	01-01-2021	x		
Norway	01-01-2021	x		
Switzerland	31-12-2021	x		

Source: Census 2021 round.

TABLE 24:

Population definition by country

	Details of the definition	Time criteria?
Belgium	Usually resident population.	No
Bulgaria	People usually living in the country and who have not left it officially by 31 December of the reference year for a period more than 12 months.	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence
Czechia	Registered resident population: data refer to citizens of Czechia and foreigners permanently resident in Czechia; third-country nationals temporarily resident in the territory of Czechia based on a long-term visa (over 90 days) or a permanent residence permit; nationals of the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and their dependants with notified temporary residence in the territory of Czechia; and foreigners with valid asylum status in Czechia.	No
Denmark	A person must have a permanent address in Denmark to be counted as a resident.	3 months
Germany	Persons at the place where they should be registered with a single or main residence in Germany according to the German federal law on registration (BMG–Bundesmeldegesetz). Members of diplomatic services and their families are exempted from registration and are not included in the population. The same applies to persons who are exempted from registration by international agreements. Asylum seekers and refugees have to register and are included in the population.	No
Estonia	Population statistics are based on population censuses and registered changes in population – births, deaths and changes of residence (migration).	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence
Ireland	Usually resident concept.	12 months
Greece	‘Usually resident population’. The usual residence is the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences, for a period of at least 12 months.	12 months

	Details of the definition	Time criteria?
Spain	<p>‘Usually resident population’ means all persons that have their usual residence in a Member State at the time of reference. ‘Usual residence’ means the place where a person normally spends their daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences (for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage).</p> <p>Only the following persons should be considered as usual residents of a specific geographical area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; or – those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year. <p>Spanish law states: ‘Everybody who resides in Spain is obliged to register in the municipal register in which they habitually reside. Anyone who lives in several municipalities should be registered only in the place where they spend more time during the year.’</p>	12 months
France	Usually resident population.	12 months
Croatia	<p>The concept of place of usual residence is used to define the total population. The place of usual residence is considered to be a place where a person spends most of their daily time, irrespective of a short-term absence from it (e.g. due to going on vacation, a trip, medical treatment, visit, etc.). In line with the definition of the place of usual residence, the total population includes the following persons: (i) those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months; and (ii) those who have not lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months but intend to stay there for at least 1 year.</p>	12 months
Italy	<p>Population figures are obtained from the census results of the permanent population census. It is based on a combination of sample surveys and data from administrative sources; it is carried out every year and included in the integrated system of statistical registers managed by the Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT). The core of the whole system is the basic register of individuals (the RBI), which is the basic infrastructure for the production of demographic statistics and the universe for the extraction of the surveys’ samples envisaged for the permanent census (see the Census Law and the General Census Plan) and all sample surveys on families. The RBI is ‘consolidated’ annually, using 31 December as a reference date. This consolidation is carried out using a demographic accounting model (MIDEA – micro-demographic accounting), which is based on microdata (data on births, deaths and internal and international migration).</p> <p>The alignment with census data occurs following an adjustment of the RBI’s over- and under-coverage using weighting derived from the permanent census. The corrected RBI ensures the alignment of census data with those of demographic statistics and makes it possible to provide timely estimates of the main outputs from population statistics.</p>	No

	Details of the definition	Time criteria?
Cyprus	Persons who have resided in the country for at least 12 months or who came to the country with the intention of residing for at least 12 months.	12 months
Latvia	Usually resident – all inhabitants whose permanent place of residence is Latvia.	12 months
Lithuania	<p>‘Usually resident population’ means all persons that have their usual residence in the Republic of Lithuania at the time of reference.</p> <p>‘Usual residence’ means the place where a person normally spends their daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage.</p> <p>Only the following persons should be considered as usual residents of a specific geographical area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; or – those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year. 	12 months
Luxembourg	All persons resident in Luxembourg and included in the population register.	stay (or intended stay) of 12 months
Hungary	<p>Population is defined using the concept of usual residence. It therefore includes all persons usually resident in the national territory of Hungary at the time of reference. The size of the usually resident population at the end of the reference year is calculated as the sum of two subgroups: Hungarian citizens and foreign citizens.</p> <p>1) The number of resident Hungarian citizens at the end of the reference year is calculated as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (0) the resident population of Hungarian citizens according to the 2011 census; (+) live births of resident Hungarian citizens until the reference date; (-) deaths of resident Hungarian citizens until the reference date; (+) the migration balance of Hungarian citizens until the reference date. <p>2) The number of residing foreign citizens at the end of the reference year is calculated using the administrative data for resident foreign citizens as at 31 December each year.</p>	Stay (or intended stay) 12 months
Malta	Population is calculated on the basis of the concept of usual resident population (as stipulated in Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013) and is the number of inhabitants on 31 December of the year in question. The population figures can be based on data from the most recent census adjusted by the components of population change since the last census.	12 months minimum duration or intention of stay of 12 months.

Details of the definition		Time criteria?
The Netherlands	The population in the register is counted on 1 January of year x, counted as known on 15 February of that year x. The population includes all children born in the Netherlands and abroad to at least one parent registered in a Dutch municipal population register plus all persons who intend to stay in the Netherlands for a period of at least 4 months.	At least 4 months
Austria	People registered with an active main residence in Austria for more than 90 days (including the reference date).	90 days of registration with main residence
Poland	<p>The usual residence population is prepared for the reference date – the end of the reference period (31 December).</p> <p>Usual residence population means, according to the definition in Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013, all persons who reside or intend to reside in Poland for 12 months and longer.</p> <p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – persons staying or intending to stay in Poland for a period of 12 months and longer are included; but – persons (registered for permanent stay in Poland) staying or intending to stay abroad for a period of 12 months and longer are excluded; but <p>The following are excluded from the total usual residence population: foreign military and naval personnel; asylum seekers; and diplomatic personnel and their families temporarily located in Poland.</p>	12 months or more
Portugal	‘Resident population’ means the set of persons who have, whether present or absent in a given housing unit at the moment of observation, lived in the place of their usual residence for a continuous period of 12 months before the moment of observation; or who have arrived in the place of their usual residence during the period of 12 months before the moment of observation, with the purpose of living there for at least 1 year.	12 months
Romania	<p>‘Usually resident population’ includes all persons who have their usual residence in Romania for a period of at least 12 months on 1 January of a given year.</p> <p>Resident population means all persons of Romanian nationality and foreign or stateless individuals who have their usual residence in Romania for a period of at least 12 months.</p>	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence
Slovenia	Usually resident population.	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence

	Details of the definition	Time criteria?
Slovakia	Slovakia assesses usual residence as a place of permanent residence (i.e. registered residence). The permanent resident population (the <i>de jure</i> population) includes residents who have, on the census reference date, permanent residence in Slovakia and intend to live in Slovakia for 12 months or longer. Place of permanent residence is a person's permanent place of abode. It is the municipality in which a citizen of Slovakia or a foreign citizen resides according to official registration (i.e. registering for permanent residence).	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence
Finland	<p>The main source for Finnish population statistics is the population information system of the digital and population data services agency. Changes in the data on the vital events of the resident population are updated in the population information system continuously by local population register authorities.</p> <p>Population includes Finnish citizens and foreigners living permanently in Finland at the turn of the year, even if they are temporarily resident abroad.</p> <p>Foreign nationals are domiciled in Finland if their stay is intended to last or has already lasted at least 1 year. The statistics do not include persons temporarily staying in Finland or asylum seekers, who only have a temporary residence permit or whose application for a residence permit is still being processed. Asylum seekers are only included in Finland's official population and other statistics if, in addition to a positive residence permit decision, they are granted a personal identity code and a municipality of residence. A person is not included in statistics if they do not have a personal identity code and/or a municipality of residence.</p>	In principle, a 12-month rule. If necessary, local register offices can grant a right to permanent residence to third-country nationals, the law states that it could be admitted after 2 years intended stay.
Sweden	The population consists of all registered persons in Sweden. Newborn children of registered parents are registered.	12 months duration of stay
Liechtenstein	Persons who have lived in Liechtenstein for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the time of reference; and persons who arrived in Liechtenstein during the 12 months before the time of reference with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year (permanent resident population).	12 months duration of stay
Norway	Resident population in the population register, with a 1-month waiting period for delayed notifications.	No
Switzerland	Permanent resident population (i.e. persons that live or are expected to live in the place of enumeration for a continuous period of at least 12 months).	12 months
Montenegro	Persons with their usual place of residence in Montenegro.	At least 1 year continuously
North Macedonia	The concept of place of usual residence is used when defining of the total population. The place of usual residence is considered to be a place where a person spends most of their daily time, irrespective of a short-term absence from it (for a vacation, trip, medical treatment, visit, etc.). In line with the definition of the place of usual residence, the total population includes the following persons: those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months; and those who have not lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months but intend to stay there for at least 1 year.	

	Details of the definition	Time criteria?
Albania	The definition used is the 'usual resident population', which is the number of inhabitants of a given area on 1 January.	
Serbia	Population estimates are based on data from the most recent census, adjusted for the components of population change that have occurred since the last census.	12 months and more
Türkiye	<p>In ABPRS, Turkish citizens and foreign nationals residing within Türkiye's boundaries are covered.</p> <p>'Foreign population' means individuals who on the day of residence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold a valid residence/work permit; • hold an identity document equivalent to a residence permit (international protection, etc.) with a valid address declaration; • have renounced their Turkish citizenship and are residing in the country with a valid address declaration. <p>Syrians under temporary protection and foreigners holding visas or residence permits for a period shorter than 3 months for the purpose of training, tourism, scientific research, etc. are not covered.</p>	Time criteria is not mentioned explicitly, but residence address is defined as the place where the person intends to live continually.
Ukraine	'Resident population' is the population that regularly resides at the census moment on the territory. This includes those who are temporarily absent if their absence in the place of regular residence does not exceed 12 months.	
Georgia	<p>'Usually resident population' means all persons usually resident in Georgia. This means i) those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; and ii) those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year.</p> <p>The reference time is the time when the census was conducted. The population during an inter-census period is calculated by adding the natural increase and net migration.</p>	
Armenia	Estimated population statistics are currently produced on the basis of the latest population census figures. These are revised during an inter-census period on the basis of registered population changes – births, deaths and changes of residence (migration).	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Usually resident population	12 months minimum duration of stay for usual residence
Kosovo	According to the national legislation on the population and housing census, the resident population means persons who have been usually resident for a continuous period of time longer than 12 months before the reference date of the census; or who have arrived during the 12 months before the reference date of the census with the intention of staying there for over a year.	12 months

Details of the definition		Time criteria?
Moldova	‘Usually resident population’ means the number of people who have lived mainly on the territory of Moldova for the last 12 months, regardless of temporary absences (for recreation, vacation, visits to relatives and friends, business, medical treatment, religious pilgrimages, etc.). The size of the usually resident population is estimated on the basis of the population of usual residence corrected from the 2014 population and housing census plus the number of live births and minus the number of deaths (together making up the natural increase/decrease), as well as the migratory increase (net migration). Additional information on Moldova’s population and demography metadata can be found here .	No
Azerbaijan	‘Resident population’ means the number of people habitually resident in the given territory on the census day. This includes residents who are temporarily absent. Between censuses, the resident population is estimated on the basis of census data and taking account of current demographic events registration data.	minimum 12 months

Source: national metadata, which are available [here](#).

TABLE 25:

Obligations to register and to de-register, by country

	Obligation to register when arriving in the country		Obligation/incentive to de-register when leaving the country	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Belgium	x			x
Bulgaria	x		x	
Czechia	x			x
Denmark	x		x	
Germany	x		x	
Estonia	x		x	
Ireland		x		x
Greece	x			x
Spain	x		x	
France		x		x
Croatia	x		x	
Italy	x		x	
Cyprus	x			x
Latvia	x		x	
Lithuania	x		x	
Luxembourg	x		x	
Hungary	x		x	

	Obligation to register when arriving in the country		Obligation/incentive to de-register when leaving the country	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Malta	x			x
Netherlands	x		x	
Austria	x		x	
Poland	x		x	
Portugal		x		x
Romania	x			x
Slovenia	x		x	
Slovakia	x		x	
Finland	x		x	
Sweden	x		x	
Liechtenstein	x		x	
Norway	x		x	
Switzerland	x		x	
Montenegro	x		x	
Serbia	x		x	
Türkiye	x			x
Albania	x			x
Bosnia and Herzegovina	x		x	
Kosovo	x		x	
Moldova	x			x
Ukraine	x		x	
Armenia		x		x
Azerbaijan	x			x
Georgia		x		x

Source: Eurostat, Demographic statistics: A review of definitions and methods of collection in 44 European countries, 2015 edition.

For additional information on population and demography concepts and methodology, see: [demographic statistics: a review of definitions and methods of collection in 44 European countries](#).

7.1.2. Migration and asylum

Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

TABLE 26:

Countries by time criteria used for the definition of migration and typology of flow for 2020-2021 ¹⁴

		Actual	Intended	Actual and intended	Other
		12-month	12-month	12-month	
Nationals	Immigrants	BE CZ DK IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	DE HU FI SE UK MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI ME	
	Emigrants	BE CZ DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU UK MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	FI SE
EEA citizens	Immigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU FI SE UK MK	BG CZ EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI ME	
	Emigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	CZ HU UK MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	FI SE
Non-EEA citizens	Immigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU FI SE UK MK	BG CZ EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI ME	
	Emigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	CZ HU FI UK MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	SE

TABLE 27:

Source of migration data by country

Source of migration data	
Belgium	Population registers.
Bulgaria	Population registers, Ministry of the Interior, the National Revenue Agency and the National Social Security Institute.
Czechia	Register of foreigners (non-nationals), Database of health insurance (nationals) for usually resident/Information System of Inhabitants Records of the Ministry of Interior (nationals).
Denmark	Population registers.
Germany	Local population registers Central Register of Foreigners.
Estonia	Census records, the Population Register and 17 other Estonian administrative registers and sub-registers.
Ireland	Migration estimates are obtained from the Labour Force Survey. Immigration in a census year will eventually be based on census results. For emigration, the Department of Justice.

(¹⁴) Source: [immigration metadata](#).

Source of migration data	
Greece	<p>For immigration: data statistical estimation methods are applied. Regression analysis models using economic indicators are used. People related to refugee crisis are added separately (these data are collected by the Coordination Board for Refugees and Asylum Services).</p> <p>For emigration: data statistical estimation methods are applied. The main sources are immigration data from Greece other countries (since 2019, the main sources have been immigration data from Germany).</p>
Spain	Migration Statistics are obtained from the residential variations recorded in the municipal register database.
France	<p>For immigration: the census.</p> <p>For emigration: census and population estimates.</p>
Croatia	Migration statistics are calculated using data collected by the Ministry of the Interior (the database on permanent and temporary residence and the database on foreigners).
Italy	The basic register of individuals aligned with the census.
Cyprus	Passengers Survey, Cyprus Flight Pass, Social Insurance Data and Other surveys available from the Statistical Service.
Latvia	Mathematical method: the Population Register and data from other administrative sources.
Lithuania	The main data source is data from the Population Register administered by the State Enterprise Centre of Registers. Statistical information on the migration of EU citizens is produced using data from the central database of the Register of Aliens on permanent and temporary residence permits in the Republic of Lithuania issued to EU citizens.
Luxembourg	Population Register.
Hungary	The source of migration data are administrative registers: the Ministry of the Interior's Population and Address Register, the register of the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing Register and social security database of the National Health Insurance Fund.
Malta	Compilation of demographic statistics is carried out mainly using administrative data, but mathematical models and survey-based estimates are used for the compilation of some migration flows.
Netherlands	Population registers.
Austria	Central Residence Register since 1 January 2002.
Poland	<p>For Regulation (EC) No 1260/2013: administrative data.</p> <p>For Regulation (EC) No 862/2007: estimated data based on administrative data, mirror statistics and national statistical surveys.</p>
Portugal	Labour Force Survey annual estimates and data on the issue of residence permits from the Immigration and Borders Service. The Labour Force Survey's emigration survey module.

Source of migration data	
Romania	<p>Data on immigrants' flows were estimated based on multiple data sources. These were mainly the national statistical offices of Italy and Spain; the 'mirror statistics' on international migration (emigrants to Romania declared by other countries); administrative sources and other national statistical institutes' websites. Mirror statistics were used to evaluate the general trend for immigrants' figures for 2019.</p> <p>Data on emigrants' flows were estimated based on multiple data sources. These were mainly the national statistical offices of Italy and Spain; the 'mirror statistics' on international migration (emigrants/immigrants to/from Romania declared by other countries representing immigrants/emigrants in Romanian statistics); administrative sources and other national statistical institutes' websites. Mirror statistics are used to evaluate the general trends for immigration and emigration figures for 2019.</p> <p>An additional source for emigration flows was an econometric model based on small area estimation (SAE) techniques.</p>
Slovenia	Central Population Register.
Slovakia	An exhaustive monthly survey that covers all cases of migration in terms of the change of address of permanent residence (including both foreign and internal migration). The Statistical Report on Migration.
Finland	Population Information System of the Digital and Population data services agency.
Sweden	The Total Population Register.
Iceland	Population Register(s).
Lichtenstein	Central Population Register. No major changes since the first reference year.
Norway	National Register for the stock. Additional sources for 'country of birth'.
Switzerland	Cantonal and communal population registers; and federal registers.
Montenegro	The data source is administrative – the Ministry of the Interior's registers of temporary and permanent residents.
North Macedonia	The source of data for this statistical survey is administrative (i.e. the data are obtained from records or from registration of the forms registering or notifying resettlement or removal, which are completed by competent offices in the Ministry of Interior).

TABLE 28:

Countries by definition of acquisition of citizenship EU/EFTA

Acquisition of citizenship by people living in the country
BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH

Note:

- (1) The national statistical definition of citizenship acquisition of UK included some people not living in the country, but the impact is considered negligible.
- (2) Data by individual former citizenship are not reliable for Romania for 2017-2021 and are not circulated.
- (3) Data have been rounded to the nearest multiple of five for Germany on a provisional basis since 2018 for confidentiality reasons.

The recommended definition of population, in line with Regulation (EC) No 862/2007, is the 'usually resident population', which means all the people usually resident in a Member State on the reference date. On the basis of this definition, only the following are considered to be usual residents of a geographical area: (i) those who have lived in their place of usual residence continuously for at least 12 months before the reference date; and (ii) those who arrived in their place of usual

residence during the 12 months before the reference date with the intention of staying there for at least 1 year. If it is not possible to determine whether or not either of these criteria has been met, 'usual residence' can be taken to mean the place of legal or registered residence.

Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 requires national statistical institutes that send citizenship acquisition statistics to Eurostat to use the same definition as the one they use for population. For example, if population is defined according to usual residence, the number of acquisitions of citizenship should be the number of persons who establish their usual residence on the territory of a Member State for a period that is (or is expected to be) at least 12 months and who have previously been usually resident in another Member State or a non-EU country.

The metadata provided by the countries in question confirms that citizenship acquisition statistics are compiled according to the harmonised definition mentioned above¹⁵.

TABLE 29:

Methodology on international migration statistics by country¹⁶

Documentation on methodology – international migration statistics	
Belgium	https://statbel.fgov.be/fr/themes/population/migrations#documents
Bulgaria	https://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/metadata/Pop_5_Metodology_migration_en.pdf
Czechia	https://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci/methodology-of-number-of-foreigners
Denmark	https://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/dokumentation/documentationofstatistics/the-population
Germany	https://www.destatis.de/DE/Methoden/WISTA-Wirtschaft-und-Statistik/2019/03/bevoelkerung-aufenthaltort-032019.pdf
Estonia	https://andmed.stat.ee/vana/pub/I_Databas/Population/03Vital_events/14Migration/POR_01.html
Ireland	https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-pme/populationandmigrationestimatesapril2021/
Greece	http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SPO15/2019
Spain	http://www.ine.es/en/metodologia/t20/t2030277_en.pdf
France	For immigration: https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/1381143 . For emigration: not available.
Croatia	http://www.dzs.hr/Eng/Publication/subjects.htm Notes on methodology are available in First Release on Migration of Population of the Republic of Croatia.
Italy	http://siqua.istat.it/SIQual/sintesi.do?id=0019400
Cyprus	https://www.cystat.gov.cy/en/PublicationList?s=46
Latvia	https://stat.gov.lv/en/statistics-themes/population/migration and https://stat.gov.lv/en/metadata/5911-population-and-key-demographic-indicators
Lithuania	https://osp.stat.gov.lt/gyventoju-migracija (in Lithuanian)
Luxembourg	http://www.statistiques.public.lu/fr/methodologie/methodes/population-emploi/Population/index.html
Hungary	http://www.ksh.hu/apps/meta.menu?p_lang=EN&p_menu_id=110

⁽¹⁵⁾ For additional information on the acquisition and loss of citizenship, see the available metadata.

⁽¹⁶⁾ Source: see the section in the Annex: documentation on methodology on migration statistics for 2020.

Documentation on methodology – international migration statistics

Malta	https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C5/Population_and_Migration/Pages/Migration-Statistics.aspx
Netherlands	http://www.cbs.nl/nl-NL/menu/themas/bevolking/methoden/dataverzameling/korte-onderzoeksbeschrijvingen/bevolkingsstatistiek.htm (in Dutch)
Austria	https://www.statistik.at/fileadmin/shared/QM/Standarddokumentationen/B_en/engl_std_b_wanderungsstatistik.pdf
Poland	https://stat.gov.pl/en/topics/statistical-yearbooks/statistical-yearbooks/demographic-yearbook-of-poland-2021,3,15.html (Chapter III Migration of population, page 402)
Portugal	http://smi.ine.pt/DocumentacaoMetodologica/Detalhes/1077 (in Portuguese) http://smi.ine.pt/DocumentacaoMetodologica/Detalhes/1080 (in Portuguese)
Romania	http://colectaredate.insse.ro/metadata/viewStatisticalResearch.htm?locale=en&researchId=4060
Slovenia	http://www.stat.si/statweb/File/DocSysFile/9519/05-3020-ME.pdf
Slovakia	Concepts dictionary: Vocabulary Methodological notes: Population and migration
Finland	https://tilastokeskus.fi/til/muut/laa_en.html
Sweden	https://www.scb.se/contentassets/9299bfcd87ba4c828a8d46b4db49d67a/be0101_kd_2020_amp_210222.pdf https://www.scb.se/contentassets/9299bfcd87ba4c828a8d46b4db49d67a/be0101_staf_2021_tj_210305.pdf
Iceland	http://www.statice.is/publications/metadata?fileId=19578
Liechtenstein	Each publication has a chapter C on methodology and quality, which also contains information about divergences from European definitions. 'Immigrants' and 'Emigrants' are defined in Migrationstatistik: https://www.llv.li/files/as/migrationsstatistik-2019.pdf (in German)
Norway	https://www.ssb.no/en/befolkning/flytting/statistikk/flyttinger
Switzerland	https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/en/home/statistics/population/migration-integration.html
Montenegro	Not available
North Macedonia	http://www.stat.gov.mk/Publikacii/2.4.16.07.pdf

TABLE 30:

Member States and EFTA countries by inclusion/exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in the data on population reported to Eurostat in the framework of the unified demographic data collection for the reference year 2021¹⁷

Population on 1 January 2022	Included	Excluded
Asylum seekers usually resident for at least 12 months	BE CZ DE EE IE EL ES FR IT CY LU MT NL AT PT NO CH	BG DK HR LV LT HU PL RO SI SK FI SE IS LI
Refugees usually resident for at least 12 months	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SL FI SE IS LI NO CH	

TABLE 31:

Member States and EFTA countries by inclusion/exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in the data on migration reported to Eurostat in the framework of the unified demographic data collection for the reference year 2021¹⁸

Migration for 2021	Included	Excluded
Asylum seekers usually resident for at least 12 months	BE CZ DE EE IE EL ES FR IT CY LU MT NL AT PT NO CH	BG DK HR LV LT HU PL RO SI SK FI SE IS LI
Refugees usually resident for at least 12 months	BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SL FI SE IS LI NO CH	

Additional information regarding asylum and Dublin can be found here: [methodological aspects](#).

Temporary protection

Based on Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382, temporary protection applies to the following categories of persons displaced from Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022 as a result of Russia's military aggression.

- Ukrainian nationals residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- stateless persons and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who benefited from international protection or equivalent national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- family members of persons referred to in points a) and b).
- stateless persons and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who (i) can prove that they were legally resident in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law; and (ii) cannot return in safe and durable conditions to their country or region of origin. Member States may extend temporary protection to all persons who meet the second of these two criteria. Such persons could include third-country nationals who were studying or working in Ukraine on a short-term basis at the time Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022.

⁽¹⁷⁾ Source: [population metadata](#).

⁽¹⁸⁾ Source: [population metadata](#).

The following persons should be considered as family members, if the family was already present and residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:

- a spouse of a person referred to in point a) or b) above; or an unmarried partner in a stable relationship, if the legislation or practice of the Member State concerned treats unmarried couples similarly to married couples under its national law relating to aliens;
- minor unmarried children of a person referred to in point a) or b) above; or of that person's spouse, regardless of whether they were born in or out of wedlock or adopted;
- other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the time of the circumstances surrounding the mass influx of displaced persons, and who were wholly or mainly dependent on a person referred to in point a) or b) at the time.

For additional information regarding temporary protection, please consult the [reference metadata on temporary protection](#).

Enforcement of immigration legislation

Statistics on enforcement of immigration legislation are based entirely on administrative sources. Member States compile data in compliance with (EC) 862/2007 as amended by [Regulation 2020/851](#), and following guidelines and instructions provided by Eurostat. Before publishing the data, consistent validation checks are performed.

Additional information for enforcement of immigration legislation methodology by country can be found here: national quality reports on enforcement of immigration legislation.

Residence permits

TABLE 32:

Categories of third-country nationals covered by EU directives in the area of legal migration

Third-country nationals (TCNs) categories & directives	SPD *	LTR *	FRD *	S&RD, SD, RD *	BCD *	SWD *	ICT *
Highly-skilled TCNs	x	x	x	x	x		x
Family members of TCNs	x (if allowed to work)	x	x	x (only if researchers)	x		x
Students	x (if allowed to work)			x			
Researchers	x (if allowed to work)	x		x	x		
Pupils (taking part in an exchange)				x			
Unremunerated trainees				x			
Remunerated trainees							x

Third-country nationals (TCNs) categories & directives	SPD *	LTR *	FRD *	S&RD, SD, RD *	BCD *	SWD *	ICT *
Volunteers				X			
TCNs (other than highly-skilled TCNs) entering and residing in the EU for work purposes	X	X	X (under certain conditions)				
TCNs (other than highly-skilled TCNs) admitted for other purposes, but who are allowed to work	X	X		X (only if students)			
Seasonal workers						X	
Self-employed (with restrictions)		X	X	X			

* SPD: Single Permit Directive; LTR: Long-term Permit Directive; FRD: Family Reunification Directive; S&RD, SD, RD: directives on students and researchers; BCD: EU Blue Card Directive; SWD: Seasonal Workers Directive; ICT: Intra-Corporate Transfer Directive.

The availability of various types of flow data on residence permits differs for the various types of residence permits. The main topics dealt with in the following paragraphs are: (i) overlap in coverage between the various available flows; (ii) issues related to possible double counting; (iii) possible confusion between some apparently similar concepts used for classifying flows; and (iv) consistency rules.

Residence permit statistics include all authorisations to reside that are valid for at least 3 months. All types of permits mentioned in Table 33 are therefore included in the total number of residence permits if they are valid for at least 3 months. This rule means that both authorisations for seasonal work that are not valid for at least 3 months and short-term ICT mobility permits are not to be included in the total number of residence permits. The same applies for renewal/extension of those permits.

The 'first permit' concept applies to residence permits and single permits. However, it differs from the 'first time issued' and 'granted permit' concepts, which are used for EU blue cards, seasonal workers authorisation, ICT permits and long-term residence permits. Figure 3 illustrates how the classification of flows depends on both the existence and the expiry time of the previous permit. This classification rule applies at the individual Member State level, so residence permits issued in other Member States may not be taken into consideration when applying the rule.

TABLE 33:

Residence permit flows – categories available in the Eurostat database

Residence permits	Single permits	EU Blue Card	Seasonal workers authorisation	ICT permits	Long-term residence permits
first permits	first permits	first permits	issued for the first time	first ICT	long-term permits issued during the year (excluding renewals)

Residence permits	Single permits	EU Blue Card	Seasonal workers authorisation	ICT permits	Long-term residence permits
change of status	renewal	granted	extended/ renewed	renewal/ extension	
	change of status	renewal	withdrawn	ICT mobility:	
	withdrawn permits	withdrawn permits		short-term long-term	
		associated flow: family members of EU Blue Card holder		associated flow: family members of ICT permit holder	
		mobility of EU Blue Card holders and their family members			

Additional information regarding the methodological aspects of residence permits statistics can be found here: [residence permits – a methodological and analytical overview](#).

7.2. Coherence

7.2.1. Population and demography

The population figures transmitted by the national statistical institutes to Eurostat in the framework of the demography domain may differ from those available in other domains (e.g. national accounts, the Labour Force Survey and the Survey on Income and Living Conditions). For example, mortality statistics in population and demography relate to all causes of death. The difference is given by the population coverage (see metadata specific to each domain). For social surveys, [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1700](#) states that the statistical population must consist of all persons that have their usual residence in private households in each Member State. Unlike demographic statistics, surveys only provide population figures for specific age brackets (e.g. those aged between 15 and 65 in the Labour Force Survey). National accounts measure the population using the 'centre of economic interest' concept. In national accounts, the total population of a country on a given date consists of all persons, national or foreigners, who are permanently settled in the economic territory of the country, even if they are temporary absent from it. An annual average of head counts is the basis for estimating national accounts variables or for use as a denominator in comparisons and indicators. The population variables between national accounts and demographic statistics should therefore be compared carefully.

Post-Census population statistics revision: enhancing data quality

Many countries have tended to use census data to revise and update population statistics from the previous decade. European coordination has in the past guided this process, so that Member States can revise their data in a synchronised manner. This coordination ensures consistency in the adoption and publication of updated data at both national and European levels. This document outlines Eurostat's plans for coordinating the 2021 round of censuses to ensure the highest data quality. These post-census revisions have broad implications for various statistical areas, necessitating consultations with numerous thematic working groups.

Population estimates significantly impact household surveys, because they are the basis for survey results. Changes in total population and age/sex distribution can particularly affect survey outcomes. It is therefore crucial to use the most accurate and current population estimates for major social surveys, such as the LFS and EU-SILC.

Moreover, population data play a pivotal role in regional statistics, and census outcomes are likely to cause changes in this context. National accounts can also be affected because demographic and census statistics influence not only annual population estimates, but also employment and other national accounts estimates. These revisions may involve adjustments for the informal economy and other macroeconomic indicators.

Some Member States might consider post-census revisions to be unnecessary or impracticable. Traditionally, the rationale behind these revisions was to be able to use the census, which was often regarded as a 'gold standard', to rectify accumulated errors in demographic estimates. While births and deaths data were typically considered to be accurate, migration data accumulated errors over time, diminishing the accuracy of demographic estimates between censuses. However, changing approaches in producing population statistics (with administrative sources used for annual population statistics being also used for censuses) might eliminate the need for a separate statistical exercise that underpinned post-census revisions.

7.2.2. Migration and asylum

Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

Since 2008, the annual migration data have fallen under the requirements of [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#). This means that these statistics are collected by countries according to harmonised definitions listed in statistical concepts and definitions.

For the annual demographic balance data collection, Eurostat computes net migration figures by taking the difference between total population change and natural change. This is referred to as the net migration plus statistical adjustment.

Net migration plus statistical adjustment (T-1) = population change (T-1) – natural change (T-1), where:
Population change (T-1) = population as of January T – population as of 1 January (T-1)
Natural change (T-1) = live births (T-1) – deaths (T-1)

The statistics for 'net migration plus statistical adjustment' might therefore be affected by statistical inaccuracies or by methodological differences in both components of this equation. From one country to another, 'net migration plus statistical adjustment' may cover (besides the difference between inward and outward migration) other changes observed in the population figures between 1 January in 2 consecutive years that cannot be attributed to births, deaths, immigration or emigration.

This explains the difference between the calculation of net migration by the user, using harmonised definitions, and 'net migration plus statistical adjustment' presented in the dataset 'Population change–Demographic balance and crude rates at national level' using the national definition and the difference between the population and natural change. (See the reference metadata population change – demographic balance and crude rates at national level.)

7.3. Comparability

7.3.1. Population and demography

Eurostat requires data providers to send specific metadata for the population data collection, which describe the definitions used and the quality of the statistical outputs so that Eurostat can assess whether appropriate standards are being applied.

Regarding the definition of population, Article 3(2) of [Regulation \(EU\) 1260/2013](#) states: 'Member States shall provide the Commission (Eurostat) with data on their vital events that occurred during the reference period. Member States shall use the same population definition that they use for the data on usually resident population.'

Comparability over time could be disturbed by breaks in data series. The breaks in population series due to methodological data-processing changes or revisions in population counts reported by the countries are flagged in Eurostat's database with a 'B' flag (indicating a break in a series).

The population data for the year 2021 and after are taking into account the results of the latest population census (held in 2021-2022). Some countries will revise the time series of populations between the previous census (held in 2011) and 2021 by the end of 2023, taking into account Eurostat's recommendation.

The following geographical changes for certain countries and changes in the methodology for producing population figures have occurred over time:

- FX stands for metropolitan France, including Corsica but excluding the overseas departments (the 'DOMs').
- FR stands for the whole of France, including the overseas departments. Data on Saint-Barthélemy have been excluded since 1 January 2012. Data on Mayotte are included, starting with the statistics on vital events for the reference year 2014 and with the statistics on population on 1 January 2015.
- The European geographical aggregates (EU, EA and EEA) included FX until 1997 and have included FR since 1998. This change is indicated by a 'B' flag (indicating a break in series) in the EU statistics for 1998.
- The time series for Germany (DE_TOT) refers to the Federal Republic within its frontiers after 3 October 1990.
- Data for Cyprus since 1 January 1975 refer to the government-controlled area.
- Until 1 January 2000, population data for Malta refer to the Maltese population only. Starting in 2001, data also include foreign residents. This is indicated by a 'B' flag in the figures for 2001.
- Starting on 1 January 2010, the statistics on the permanent resident population of Switzerland include all persons in the asylum process who have been residing in Switzerland for 12 months or more. The change appears in Eurostat population figures starting with population reported for 1 January 2011.
- Starting on 1 January 2010, Poland has been using a revised methodology to estimate the usually resident population. This is indicated by a 'B' flag in the figures for 2010.
- Starting on 1 January 2011, Belgium population figures at national level have been referring to all registered persons, including asylum seekers.
- Starting on 1 January 2012, the reported Estonian population includes the migration component.
- Data for Georgia refer to the government-controlled area.
- Data for Moldova refer to the government-controlled area.
- Data for Ukraine exclude the illegally annexed Crimea (including Sevastopol).
- For Croatia, the population estimate for 2022 (1 January) was calculated on the basis of the 2021 census and was substantially lower than population estimates for the period from 2011 to 2021 (1 January) which were calculated on the basis of the 2011 census. Figures for 2011-2021 will be revised after the processing of the 2021 census data is finished.

The population figures transmitted by the national statistical institutes to Eurostat in the framework of the demography domain may differ from those available in other domains, such as national accounts, the Labour Force Survey or the Survey on Income and Living Conditions. The difference is given by the population coverage (see metadata specific to each domain).

All EU Member States and EFTA countries applied the same population definition for vital events and population. The information on population definition reported by the countries in their metadata is summarised in Table 34.

TABLE 34:

Countries by definition used for population, vital events and migration statistics for the reference years 2020 and 2021, EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries¹⁹

1. Using the same population definition for data on population, vital events and migration flows	2. Other cases
BE BG DK EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI CH MK UA	CZ DE NO ME TR

TABLE 35:

Countries by 'population of reference' for data on population and vital events for the reference years 2020 and 2021, EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries²⁰

	Usually resident population ¹	Legal residence population ²	Registered residence population ³	Other
Population	BE BG CZ ⁴ DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT HU MT PL PT RO SI SK ⁵ FI AL MK ME RS UA	FI LI CH TR	CZ DK DE ES LU NL AT SE IS NO	---
Live births	BE BG DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT HU MT PL PT RO SI SK ⁶ FI AL RS TR UA	FI LI CH MK	CZ DK DE ES LU NL AT SE IS NO ME	---
Deaths	BE BG DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT HU MT PL PT RO SI SK FI AL RS TR UA	FI LI CH MK	CZ DK DE ES LU NL AT SE IS NO ME	---

(1) 'Usually resident population' as stated in Article 2 of [Regulation \(EU\) 1260/2013](#).

(2) 'Legal residence population' is composed of those persons who are entitled to be settled in the country at the reference date, because they hold either national citizenship or other authorisation issued by national authorities.

(3) 'Registered residence population' is composed of those persons who are listed in one or more registers administered by national authorities on the reference date. Each registered person should be counted only once.

(4) For non-nationals.

(5) Permanent residence.

(6) Misclassification of vital events (live births) and migrations (immigrants).

As in every year, the metadata reported by the countries for the population and demography data collection for the reference year 2021 have been published on the Eurostat website, replacing the metadata reported for the reference year 2020. The national metadata are linked to the Eurostat metadata file on [population \(demo_pop\)](#) in the data navigation tree (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>).

(¹⁹) Source: [population metadata](#).

(²⁰) Source: [population metadata](#).

7.3.2. Migration and asylum

Immigration, emigration, and acquisition and loss of citizenship

To ensure that the statistics produced are comparable, Eurostat verifies whether the data received are consistent internally and over time, and whether they are comparable between regions and countries. Regarding comparability between countries, [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) establishes harmonised definitions for the data supplied to Eurostat.

Focusing on the definitions of migration flows and acquisitions of citizenship:

- 26 EU Member States and the 4 EFTA countries applied the 12-month time criterion while 1 EU Member State reported that the time criterion applied was different. This is because the national statistical definition of emigration was based on a 6-month criterion for some countries of next residence (Nordic agreement). However, the impact is declared as negligible.
- All 27 EU Member States and the 4 EFTA countries provided data for acquisitions of citizenship by persons living in the country.

TABLE 36:

Countries by time criteria used for the definition of migration and typology of flow for the reference years 2020 and 2021, EU Member States, EFTA countries and candidate countries²¹

		1. Actual 12-month	2. Intended 12-month	3. Actual and intended 12-month	4. Other
Nationals	Immigrants	BE CZ DK IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	DE HU FI SE MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	ME TR UA
	Emigrants	BE CZ DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU MK SE	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	FI ME TR UA
EEA citizens	Immigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU FI SE MK	BG CZ EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI ME	TR UA
	Emigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	CZ HU MK SE	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	FI ME TR UA
Non-EEA citizens	Immigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	HU FI SE MK	BG CZ EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI ME	TR UA
	Emigrants	BE DK DE IT NL AT RO IS NO CH	CZ HU FI SE MK	BG EE IE EL ES FR HR CY LV LT LU MT PL PT SI SK LI	ME TR UA

(²¹) Source: migration metadata.

TABLE 37:

Countries by definition of acquisitions of citizenship for the reference years 2020 and 2021, EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries²²

1. Acquisitions by persons living in the country	2. Other cases
BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR IT CY LV LT LU HU MT NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE IS LI NO CH MK TR UA	-

Breaks in data series could compromise comparability over time. Breaks in citizenship acquisition series due to methodological changes, data-processing changes or revisions in acquisitions counts reported by the countries in question are documented in Eurostat's database with the 'B' flag.

The reason why citizenship acquisition/loss of citizenship flows data available between the reference years 2008 and 2009 are flagged as a break in the series is because production methods changed. This is a first shift from national definitions to a harmonised definition of those usually resident in the territory of the country in question.

Improvements in, and changes to, the administrative systems and statistical methodology may also cause breaks in the time series.

Asylum and DublinThree separate datasets – A01 (asylum applicants for international protection), A18 (first-time asylum applicants for international protection) and A20 (subsequent applicants for international protection) – are grouped into one Eurobase table 'asylum applicants by type of applicant' (migr_asyappctzm).

The expected relationship between these three tables should be $A01 \geq A18 + A20$ (i.e. the number of asylum applicants is greater than or equal to the sum of the number of first-time asylum applicants and the number of subsequent applicants). The difference between the total number of applicants and the sum of the number of first-time applicants and the number of subsequent applicants should include due to other types of recurring applications.

Table 38 shows the difference between the number of asylum applicants, first-time applicants and subsequent applicants ($A01 - (A18 + A20)$) for the period July 2021 to June 2022.

Negative values appeared in the data for 5 Member States (Bulgaria, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovenia) and 2 EFTA countries (Norway and Switzerland). These countries are encouraged to kindly requested to explain this inconsistency.

TABLE 38:

Differences between the number of asylum applicants and the number of first-time and subsequent applicants

Country	2021						2022					
	M07	M08	M09	M10	M11	M12	M01	M02	M03	M04	M05	M06
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bulgaria	0	8	0	0	-1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Czechia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denmark	7	8	9	10	5	8	4	6	20	15	4	2
Germany	-5	-7	-13	-7	-12	-7	-8	-4	-9	-4	-7	-10

(²²) Source: acquisition and loss of citizenship metadata.

Country	2021						2022					
	M07	M08	M09	M10	M11	M12	M01	M02	M03	M04	M05	M06
Estonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	16	24	22	13	21	29	48	30	20	27	33	29
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	133	0	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyprus	32	32	41	54	66	53	43	14	43	21	36	40
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malta	3	10	24	4	191	2	0	1	6	4	1	6
Netherlands	1	0	0	-16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austria	0	0	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poland	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Portugal	8	21	26	33	7	36	-1	18	-2	6	9	32
Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0
Slovenia	-3	7	4	14	3	24	4	37	20	8	10	6
Slovakia	1	3	5	1	1	4	1	2	1	0	0	0
Finland	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sweden	325	304	320	321	366	417	360	403	436	323	354	455
Iceland	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	3	0	2	1
Liechtenstein	0	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	3	1
Norway	3	-5	-5	1	-2	-3	0	-2	6	-2	6	1
Switzerland	-3	-2	-2	-2	-4	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

8

Overall quality assessment and recommendations

This chapter summarises the results of the quality assessment of population and migration data submitted by the EU Member States, and EFTA and other countries to Eurostat between 2020 and 2022.

Population, demography, migration and asylum statistics are highly significant and widely-used data produced by Eurostat. They are relevant for different policy areas and therefore important in policymaking and decision-making.

The diverse users of these data include institutional users, professional users, universities, research institutes, professional organisations, advisory councils, NGOs, private companies, business associations, the media and the general public. Each of these plays a different role in policymaking, research and data use

Eurostat conducted a public consultation in order to gather input from various stakeholders (including public bodies, policymakers, academia, non-governmental and international organisations, the media and the general public). One purpose of this consultation was to assess user satisfaction and to determine whether existing population statistics efficiently and proportionately meet the evidential needs of EU policymaking. A second purpose was to obtain input on modernisation options, including identifying critical gaps and new data needs. This reflects the ongoing commitment to improving and adapting population statistics to meet evolving requirements.

According to [Commission Staff Working Document SWD\(2023\) 13 final \(evaluation accompanying the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics on population and housing, amending Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007 and repealing Regulations \(EC\) No 763/2008 and \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#), there were significant overall improvements in European population statistics. The current legal framework has significantly increased EU value added. The overall completeness, comparability, coherence, consistency and timeliness of the regulated datasets at EU level have improved overall. However, this evaluation has also revealed significant and persisting gaps in the EU's legal framework for population and demography, migration and asylum statistics. More precisely, the current legal framework does not fully ensure sufficiently complete, coherent and comparable statistics (particularly when voluntary datasets covering relevant policy needs are factored in) and this may lead to suboptimal statistical evidence to support decision-making. The current legal framework does not ensure that population data are sufficiently available in terms of the frequency and timeliness of data publication; and fails to capture characteristics and details of topics or groups that have become politically and societally relevant in recent years. Furthermore, the evaluation concluded that the population statistics are not flexible enough to adapt to evolving policy needs and to enable use of data from administrative and other new sources in the Member States and at EU level.

The evaluation indicates that the most significant quality gap is due to the lack of harmonisation of the population base. More precisely, there are three conceptually different definitions (usual residence, registered residence and legal residence), which are currently allowed and applied by Member States, which sometimes use different definitions for different datasets. The does not define in sufficient detail what is o be in the population and what is excluded from it. This gap leads to issues of relevance, statistical coherence and comparability.

This quality report shows that there is an issue with the misclassification of vital events (live births) and migrations (immigrants). This misclassification results in a situation where a significant proportion (around 58%) of immigrants who hold their immigration country's citizenship are aged under five. This suggests that there are errors in recording and categorising data related to births and migrations, which can impact the accuracy of demographic statistics.

Furthermore, there is a tangible discrepancy between the reported immigration figures and the sum of emigration figures to the same country when migration is limited to EU countries (and vice versa). This discrepancy indicates that there are inconsistencies in data reporting, possibly due to differences in data collection methods or definitions of immigration and emigration.

This quality report identifies a lack of metadata information to explain the category labelled 'unknown' in various breakdowns of population stock, vital events and migration flows. This lack of information makes it difficult to understand the composition and characteristics of this category, thus potentially making it difficult to interpret the data.

In addition, this quality report reveals differences in national approaches related to the inclusion or exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in population stocks and migration flows (see Tables 10 and 11). This indicates that there may be varying definitions or criteria used by different sources or countries when reporting data on asylum seekers and refugees. Such inconsistencies can affect the accuracy and comparability of migration statistics.

This quality report shows that the EU Member States and EFTA countries bound by [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) and [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) have generally provided almost all the mandatory data. Eurostat appreciates that most data providers are voluntarily supplying additional data on population stocks and migration flows that are specifically disaggregated by individual country of birth/citizenship. This additional data goes beyond what is obligatory under the existing legislation. The voluntary collection of monthly data on temporary protection of persons fleeing Ukraine as a result of Russia's military aggression was a timely response of the European Statistical System and is now established.

Regarding accessibility and clarity, all Member States and EFTA countries publish online documentation on population and demography, migration and asylum methodology and compilation methods. Member States and EFTA countries providing population and demography statistics are required to submit the specific metadata for data collection. These metadata should describe the definitions used and the quality of the statistical outputs so that it is possible to assess whether standards are being properly applied. Some data collections are still not well covered with national reference metadata.

In terms of comparability, migration and international protection statistics falling within the scope of [Regulation \(EC\) No 862/2007](#) are generally comparable across countries thanks to the harmonised definitions for the data supplied to Eurostat. However, the definition of population in [Regulation \(EU\) No 1260/2013](#) means that demographic statistics are only partly comparable (except for the total population figure that is used for the purpose of qualified majority voting in the Council). There is also some concern that the comparability of asylum and Dublin statistics for different countries may be affected when an applicant files a request with more than one country within the same reference period.

Overall, while the quality of population and migration statistics has improved significantly in recent years, there are still quality gaps and areas for further improvement.