

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS
TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES:
THE 2015 REVISION**

CD-ROM DOCUMENTATION



United Nations

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES: THE 2015 REVISION

CD-ROM DOCUMENTATION



United Nations

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

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Notes

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This report is available in electronic format on the Division's website at www.unpopulation.org. For further information about this report, please contact the Office of the Director, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, 10017, USA, by Fax: 1 212 963 2147 or by e mail at population@un.org.

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PREFACE

In the area of international migration, the Population Division estimates the global number of international migrants at regular intervals, monitors levels, trends and policies of international migration, and collects and analyses information on the relationship between international migration and development. The Migration Section also convenes the interagency coordination meeting on international migration and organizes expert group meetings. As part of its monitoring activities, the Migration Section within the Population Division maintains the United Nations Global Migration Database, which contains the most complete set of statistics on international migrants enumerated in the countries or areas of the world and classified by country of birth or citizenship, sex and age. The Migration Section represents DESA in the interagency Global Migration Group (GMG). The Section also services the intergovernmental process on international migration and development at the General Assembly and acts within the Secretariat as the focal point for the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

This report provides the documentation for the dataset entitled *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2015 Revision*. This dataset includes time series data on the flows of international migrants to and from countries that gather this information systematically. The dataset is presented in Excel files which, together with this report, are available on CD-ROM. The publication and CD-ROM are part of the Population Division's efforts to disseminate information resulting from its monitoring activities.

The present report has been issued without formal editing. This CD-ROM was prepared by Pablo Lattes, Marilou Vicente and Bela Hovy of the Migration Section. Responsibility for this publication rests with the United Nations Population Division. The Population Division acknowledges the support of national institutions in charge of statistics on international migration in preparing this publication. In addition, the Population Division is grateful to the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for its continued cooperation.

More information on the activities of the Population Division in the area of international migration can be found at www.unmigration.org.

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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES: THE 2015 REVISION

A. INTRODUCTION

The CD-ROM entitled *International Migration to and from Selected Countries: The 2015 Revision* contains time series data on the flows of international migrants as recorded by 45 countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

These 45 countries have relatively complete sets of data on international migration flows. This is a significant increase from the *2008 Revision* of this publication which contained time series data on the flows of international migrants for 29 countries. The *2005 Revision* contained time series data on international migration flows for 15 countries only. The increase in the number of countries covered by these publications over time indicates the progress made in the compilation and dissemination of data on international migration flows.

B. DEFINITIONS

The *United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*¹ defines an international migrant as any person who changes his or her country of usual residence. An international migrant who changes his or her place of usual residence for at least one year is defined as a long-term migrant while a person who changes his or her place of usual residence for more than three months but less than one year is considered to be a short-term migrant. In practice, national definitions and methods of data collection vary, which present some challenges of comparability. In particular, countries collecting and publishing data on the flows of international migrants use different criteria to identify migrants and use different concepts to determine their origin and destination. The major differences in the identification of international migrants for statistical purposes arise because of variations in the definition of residence and duration of stay.

The minimum length of stay for a person to be counted as an international migrant varies considerably across countries. Out of the 45 countries with data on immigration flows, only 24 identify international migrants as persons who plan to stay for at least one year and, among them, 5 countries apply a different time criterion to identify sub-groups of migrants. Twelve countries describe migrants as persons establishing permanent residence, which usually implies having an open-ended permission to stay. For nine countries, a clear time criterion for the identification of migrants is not available. In eight countries, the intended length of stay for the identification of some migrant groups is three months or more, while in four countries the criterion for some international migrants is six months or more. In one country, the criterion for the identification of migrants is four months. In several European countries, the time criterion to qualify as an international migrant differs between foreigners originating from European

¹ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (1998). *Recommendations on Statistics on International Migration, Revision 1*. Sales No. E.98.XVII.14.

countries and those originating from other regions.

The time criterion used to identify emigrants varies equally. Among the 43 countries with data on emigration flows, twelve use an expected length of stay abroad of at least one year to identify emigrants in conformity with the United Nations definition. Four countries use an intended length of stay abroad of at least six months, while three countries use a stay abroad of at least three months. In seven countries, either a permanent stay abroad or the act of relinquishing permanent residence in the country is used as the criterion to identify emigrants. In at least twelve countries the criterion to identify emigrants is not well specified in terms of time.

In addition to the lack of comparability in the time criterion used to identify immigrants and emigrants, it is important to remember that the intended duration of stay, a criterion used to identify migrants in some countries, may differ from the actual duration of stay. For instance, the duration of a residence permit may differ from the actual duration of stay of the migrant when the person does not leave the country after the permit has expired. Deriving migration statistics from administrative sources becomes particularly challenging when existing permits are being renewed or when the legal status of persons residing in the country changes. In these cases, the movements derived from the administrative sources may differ significantly from the actual movements of the migrant. A further challenge in compiling and analysing international migration flows between countries is that a considerable number of countries have changed their definitions to identify migrants over time. Changes in methodology, definitions and data sources may result in a lack of comparability over time for the respective time series included in this publication.

International migration statistics are collected through a variety of data collection systems. In 23 out of the 45 countries included in this dataset, the migration data were collected from a population register. In 15 countries, the data are based on the number of residence permits issued. In seven countries data are collected through statistical forms that are completed when persons change their place of residence. Border statistics are the main source of information on international migration flows for four countries. In one country, migration statistics are estimated based on a household survey. Many countries use a combination of data sources to derive international migration flows. In general, the type of data collection system generating the international migration data has important implications for data coverage. For instance, data derived from the issuance of residence or labour permits tend to refer only to foreigners.

Statistics of migrant inflows and outflows also differ according to the criteria used to identify the country of origin or destination of the migrant. For migrant inflows, time series information is available by country of previous residence for 43 countries, by country of citizenship for 36 countries, and by country of birth for 1. For migrant outflows, this dataset includes 44 countries where the data is based on the country of next residence and 37 countries where the emigration flows are estimated on the basis of country of citizenship.

The period for which annual immigration and emigration data was available varied considerably. Generally speaking, the number of countries reporting immigration and emigration data has significantly increased since the 1990s.

Lastly, among the 45 countries included in the dataset, there is considerable variation in the coverage of international in the migration statistics. In countries where the numbers of immigrants are based on the number of residence permits issued, the data are only available for foreigners. For most countries, however, the data on the inflows and outflows of international migrants cover both foreigners and citizens. For the countries that define international migrants on the basis of citizenship, the distinction between foreigners and citizens is by definition available. In most countries where international migrants are defined on the basis of country of residence, no distinction was made between foreigners and citizens.

C. DESCRIPTION OF THE DATASET

The CD-ROM provided with this publication contains a total of 45 Excel workbooks. These 45 workbooks have a file name that includes the name of the country concerned. The country workbooks contain at least two worksheets with the following content.

The first worksheet, or set of worksheets, of each country workbook contains the regional aggregates calculated from the inflows and, where available, the outflows at the country level. When the country collected international migration data according to more than one criterion, the workbook contains different worksheets with regional aggregates.

The second worksheet, or set of worksheets, of each country workbook contains data on migrant inflows by country of origin and, where available, outflows by country of destination. When the country collected migration data according to more than one criterion, the workbook contains different worksheets with data at the country level.

Where possible, the dataset makes a distinction between values that are zero, indicated by a “0”, and values that are not applicable or reported separately, indicated by two dots (“..”). However, many of the countries that report migration data fail to make a distinction between cells without migrants, cells where the number of migrants is very low or cells that were not tabulated explicitly in a given year. Depending on the reporting country and year, therefore, a zero in a given cell may indicate that the number was either zero, not available or not applicable.

Entries under “Type” indicate whether the data presented refer to immigrants or emigrants. Entries under “Coverage” indicate whether the data refer to foreigners, to citizens or to both groups combined. Entries under “OdName” indicate the name of the country of origin for immigrants or the name of the country of destination for emigrants. Entries under “AreaName” indicate the major area to which the country belongs. The numerical codes listed under “AREA” are based on the standard (“M49”) codes used by the United Nations Secretariat, which follow the ISO 3166 standard of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Entries under “RegName” indicate the region to which the country belongs. The numerical codes listed under “REG” follow the aforementioned ISO standard. Entries under “DevName” indicate the development group to which the country belongs. The numerical codes listed under “DEV” follow the standard M49 codes used by the United Nations Secretariat.

The data series in this publication generally do not contain an exhaustive list of countries of origin for immigrants or countries of destination for emigrants. In practice, many countries that report migration data combine data for countries of origin or destination when the number of migrants involved is small. Such data are then reported in a separate category often labelled as “Other”. The country nomenclature used in this dataset conforms as closely as possible to current United Nations practices.

D. DESCRIPTION OF COUNTRY DATA

Armenia: Immigration and emigration data are collected through statistical forms that are completed by citizens as well as by foreigners with valid residence permits at police offices once they register or deregister their residence. These forms are then forwarded to the national statistical office for further data processing. The immigration data cover citizens and foreigners who intend to stay for more than three months. The emigration data cover persons who deregistered their place of residence in Armenia.

Australia: Data on international migration are obtained from incoming or outgoing passenger cards

completed at the border. The data series by country of residence includes both long-term and permanent movements. For 1980 to 2003, data reflect overseas arrivals and departures showing the number of permanent and long-term arrivals to Australia and permanent and long-term departures abroad. For 1980 to 1984, the emigration data refer to the number of former settlers departing. From 1985 onwards, the emigration data refer to all residents departing for one year or more or permanently from Australia. Short-term movements and changes of status (in terms of residence permit held) are not included in the series. From 2004 onwards, migration data are based on a new estimation method introduced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in 2007, the net overseas migration (NOM). NOM reports the actual number of persons moving and not the number of movements (arrivals/departures) as did the overseas arrivals and departures statistics. Based on individual characteristics of travellers that are now captured in the Traveller's Characteristics Database, multiple movements of the same traveller are excluded from the statistics. ABS reported that in the financial year 2006-2007 there were over 10 million multiple movements accounting for 44 per cent of all movements. The new estimation method also refers to the travellers' actual stay or absence and not to the intended duration of stay or absence the traveller states on his or her passenger card. The individual's actual travel behaviour is measured using the '12/16 month rule' where the traveller can be added or subtracted from NOM if he or she has actually stayed in or has been absent from Australia for a period of 12 months or more over a 16-month period. The period of 12 months does not have to be continuous.

Austria: International migration data are derived from population registers and are available since 1996. The immigration data refer to the number of persons who register in order to establish their main place of residence in Austria. Emigration data refer to persons who leave the country in order to reside abroad. For the period 1996 to 2001, Austrian statistics did not specify a minimum length of stay for persons to be considered international migrants. From 2002 onwards, persons are considered international migrants if they intend to stay or leave for at least 90 days.

Azerbaijan: Immigration and emigration data are collected through statistical forms that are filled out during the process of registration at police offices and are submitted for processing to the national statistical office. Persons moving more than once a year are recorded as an international migrant multiple times. Immigrants refer to persons with permission to enter the country for permanent residence and emigrants refer to persons who leave the country and intend to establish their permanent residence abroad.

Belarus: Immigration and emigration data are collected through statistical forms at the point of registration by the ministry of interior for persons arriving or departing. Immigration data include citizens as well as foreigners with residence permits who registered their permanent residence in Belarus upon arrival. Emigration data refer to citizens and foreigners who deregister their permanent residence to move abroad.

Belgium: The main source of international migration statistics is the population register. The statistics on immigration refer to the legal entry of foreigners who intend to stay in the country for at least three months as well as citizens who intend to stay in the country for at least three months. The statistics on emigration include all persons departing with the intention to stay abroad for at least three months. Emigration data are subject to administrative corrections.

Bulgaria: International migration data for citizens are derived from the population register and for foreigners they are derived from residence permits. The data on international migration only include persons who have declared their change of residence to the administrative authorities. Immigration data refer to citizens who register their residence in Bulgaria and foreigners who receive a permanent residence permit for Bulgaria. Emigration data refer to persons who deregister their residence in Bulgaria to move abroad.

Canada: International migration data are derived from administrative sources recording foreigners who were

granted permission to reside permanently in Canada. Canada does not gather data on emigration. The number of immigrants is subject to administrative corrections made by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Croatia: International migration data are generated by the population register. The immigration data include citizens and foreigners who have established permanent residence in Croatia and whose previous place of permanent residence was outside the country. An emigrant is defined as a person who cancelled his or her permanent residence in Croatia with the intention of residing abroad.

Cyprus: Migration statistics are based on a passenger survey conducted among airline passengers upon arrival in Cyprus and before departure abroad. For sea passengers, basic information is collected from passenger manifests using systematic sampling. Immigrants include persons who enter Cyprus with the intention to settle for one year or more. Emigrants include Cypriots and foreigners who have left Cyprus with the intention to settle abroad for one year or more. Emigration data include persons who depart from Cyprus after having stayed for more than one year after their employment contract has expired and international students having completed their studies in Cyprus and returning home.

Czech Republic: International migration data are obtained from the population register and permit data. Immigration data report the number of persons who register their permanent or long-term residence in the Czech Republic. Foreigners from the European Economic Area (EEA) who stay for a period of at least three months and citizens of other countries who have been granted a one-year permit are also included. Emigration data refer to persons who cancel their permanent residence in the Czech Republic in order to move abroad as well as foreigners whose residence permits have expired.

Denmark: International migration statistics are derived from the central population register. Citizens from the EEA and Switzerland who move to Denmark are counted as immigrants if their stay in Denmark is to last at least six months. Citizens from countries outside the Nordic region, the EEA and Switzerland are counted as immigrants if they intend to stay for at least three months and hold a valid residence permit. Data on emigration include all foreigners and citizens leaving Denmark for a period of at least six months. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country. The emigration data are subject to administrative corrections.

Estonia: The population register is the source of data on international migration. Immigration data include persons who have changed their country of permanent residence for a period that is expected to last at least one year and who have registered their arrival in Estonia. Emigration data cover all persons who change their country of residence for a period that is expected to last at least one year and who have registered their departure from Estonia.

Finland: International migration data in Finland are derived from the population register and cover all persons who change their country of permanent residence. The statistics on immigration include all foreigners who have obtained a residence permit for at least one year as well as Finish citizens who have returned after having resided abroad. The statistics on emigration include all residents departing who intend to stay abroad for at least one year. For Nordic citizens who move to another Nordic country, the time criterion for being counted as an emigrant depends on the registration criterion applied by the immigration country.

France: The statistics are based on the number of residence permits issued for one year or more.

Germany: International migration data in Germany are derived from the population register. The data before 1991 refer to the former Federal Republic of Germany. The data on immigration refer to persons arriving from abroad who register their dwelling as their only or main place of residence in Germany. The immigration data include all foreigners who hold a residence permit. The emigration data refer to persons leaving the country to establish their only or main residence abroad. The data on immigrating citizens include

persons of German descent who moved to Germany and who have the right to German citizenship (*Aussiedler*) as well as citizens from the former Democratic Republic of Germany who moved to the former Federal Republic of Germany (*Uebersiedler*). Because there is no minimum residence requirement, persons moving more than once a year are recorded multiple times as an international migrant.

Greece: The source of immigration data are residence permits. The immigration data reflect the number of residence permits issued to foreigners. Greece does not publish data on the migration of citizens and on the emigration of foreigners.

Hungary: International migration data for foreigners are derived from the number of residence or settlement permits issued to foreigners. Foreign immigrants are defined as persons who have applied for a residence or settlement permit. Residence permits are usually valid for one year. Foreigners can apply for a settlement permit after having legally and continuously resided in the country for at least three years. A foreigner emigrating is defined as a person who has a residence permit or settlement permit and who has left Hungary without intending to return, a foreigner whose permit has expired and has not applied for extension or someone whose permit was invalidated by the authorities. For Hungarian citizens data are derived from a centralised population register. Immigrating citizens cover persons who register their residence in Hungary with the intention to stay in Hungary for three months or more. Data on emigrating citizens cover persons who deregister their residence with the intention to live abroad for three months or more.

Iceland: Statistics on international migration are derived from the population register. Persons staying or intending to stay for six months or more must register their permanent residence in Iceland. Registration is optional for persons staying or intending to stay between three and six months because of work or study. Data on emigration refer to persons intending to move their permanent residence abroad. The Nordic Treaty on Public Registration stipulates a minimum period of stay of six months in order to qualify as an immigrant and a minimum period of absence of six months in order to qualify as an emigrant. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country.

Ireland: The principal source of information for the estimation of the annual migration flow data is a quarterly national household survey. The migration estimates are compared with information from other sources, including the personal public service number allocated to non-Irish citizens, work permits that have been issued and asylum applications that have been lodged. The migration flows represent movements over a twelve months period starting in mid-April. Immigrants are defined as individuals who are usual residents of Ireland and did not usually live in the country twelve months ago. Emigrants are defined as individuals who usually lived in the household in the previous year but are now living abroad.

Italy: International migration data are generated from the population register. The statistics on immigration include Italian citizens who move into a dwelling after having resided abroad. Foreigners from EEA member countries are included in the statistics if their intended stay is one year or more. Citizens from non-EEA countries holding a residence permit of at least one year should also register. The statistics on emigration refer to all residents departing with the intention of establishing their residence abroad for one year or more.

Kazakhstan: Data on international migration are based on tabulations of statistical forms filled out by government offices upon arrival and departure of migrants. Immigration data refer to citizens as well as to foreigners holding a residence permit who register their place of residence in Kazakhstan and intend to stay for six months or more. Emigration data cover citizens and foreigners who deregister their place of residence in Kazakhstan to move abroad.

Kyrgyzstan: Data are derived from statistical forms collected by the ministry of interior when migrants register or deregister their place of residence. Immigration data refer to citizens and foreigners holding a

residence permit who register their place of residence in Kyrgyzstan and intend to stay for six months or more. Emigration data cover citizens and foreigners who cancel their registration at their place of residence in Kyrgyzstan to move abroad.

Latvia: The source of international migration data is the population register. Data on immigration and emigration refer to persons who intend to change their country of residence for one year or more.

Lithuania: International migration data are derived from the population register. Immigration statistics refer to persons who arrive from abroad with the intention to reside in the country for a period of at least six months. In addition, foreigners should hold a residence permit valid for one year or longer. Emigration statistics refer to persons who have declared — at the time of their departure— that they intend to stay abroad for at least six months or more. The official emigration statistics are based on the number of persons who have declared their intention to emigrate, which underestimates actual emigration.

Luxembourg: International migration data are generated by the population register. Immigration statistics include foreigners entering the country with the intention of establishing residence. Emigration statistics cover all foreigners who leave the country with the intention of establishing residence abroad. The international migration statistics do not distinguish between permanent and temporary immigrants or emigrants. However, the figures exclude visitors, that is, non-residents who intend to stay in the country for up to three months without exercising a remunerated activity as well as border workers, that is, persons residing in border regions who need to cross the border frequently in order to exercise a remunerated activity.

Netherlands: International migration data are derived from the municipal population register. Until September 1994, the statistics on immigration included foreigners who held a residence permit and intended to stay in the country for more than 180 days as well as citizens who intended to stay in the country for at least 30 days. Statistics on emigration included all citizens and foreigners who intended to leave the Netherlands for a period exceeding 360 days. Since October 1994, persons who wish to stay in the country for at least four months are considered immigrants, while persons leaving the country for at least eight months are considered emigrants. The emigration data include administrative corrections. Asylum-seekers who are not staying in reception centres are included.

New Zealand: International migration statistics are derived from arrival and departure cards completed at the border. The immigration data refer to persons arriving from overseas who intend to stay for a period of one year or more, or permanently, including residents from New Zealand who are returning after an absence of one year or more. Emigrants include residents departing for an intended period of stay abroad of one year or more, or permanently, as well as overseas visitors departing from New Zealand after a stay of one year or more. Immigration data include students and those on working and holiday visas or permits who stay for more than one year, although they initially did not intend to stay for one year or longer.

Norway: International migration data are obtained from the population register. Statistics on immigration refer to all persons who wish to stay in the country for at least six months. The statistics on emigration include all residents leaving Norway for at least six months. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country.

Poland: Immigration data are collected through forms that are completed when persons register or deregister their permanent residence in Poland. Since 2006, data are captured directly from the population register. Immigration refers to persons arriving from abroad who establish their permanent residence in the country, while emigration refers to persons who are leaving the country in order to establish their permanent residence abroad.

Portugal: Immigration data are derived from permit data. Immigration data cover foreigners who, in a given year, have applied for a resident permit. Foreigners submitting their first application for residence permits are considered as long-term immigrants. Residence permits can be temporary (valid for one year and renewable for periods of two years) or permanent (for those having a temporary permit for at least 5 years; it has no validity limit but should be renewed every 5 years).

Republic of Moldova: International migration data are derived from the population register. Immigration data refer to foreigners who obtain the right for permanent or temporary residence in the Republic of Moldova and register their residence. Emigration data refer to citizens of the Republic of Moldova who move permanently or temporarily abroad.

Romania: The source of international migration data is the population register and the foreigner register. Immigration data refer to persons arriving from abroad who take up their residence in Romania with a intended duration of stay of at least one year. Emigration data refer to persons who establish their residence abroad and intend to stay abroad for one year or more.

Russian Federation: Data on international migration are collected primarily through statistical forms that are completed while person register or deregister at the place of residence. Officially reported international migration overestimates actual migration as the same person may change his or her place of residence more than once during a given year. Immigration data refer to arrivals of persons who register their place of residence in the Russian Federation. In order to deregister, foreigners must hold temporary or permanent residence permits. Emigration data refer to departures of person who establish their residence abroad.

Slovakia: The foreigner register of the ministry of interior is the administrative source of data on migration of foreigners. Migration data for citizens are collected when persons register or deregister for the purpose of changing their country of residence. The registration forms are sent directly to the national statistical office. Permanent immigration data include all persons arriving from abroad who register their permanent residence in the country. Permanent emigration data include all residents who deregister as permanent residents in Slovakia in order to move abroad. Long-term immigrants are defined as persons who register their usual residence for a period that is, or is expected to be, at least one year, having previously resided in another country. Long-term emigrants are defined as persons who have cancelled their usual residence in Slovakia for a period that is, or is expected to be, of one year.

Slovenia: Data on international migration are derived from the population and the foreigner register. Since 2008, data on immigration refer to persons who register their usual residence in Slovenia and intend to stay for at least one year. Data on emigration are based on persons who deregister their residence and intend to stay abroad for at least one year. Before 2008, data on immigration included all persons arriving from abroad who intend to reside in the country for at least three months. Before 2008, data on the emigration of foreigners were estimated by the national statistical office on the basis of the number of foreigners present at the beginning and at the end of the calendar year.

Spain: Data on international migration are obtained from the municipal population register. The statistics on immigration include foreigners and citizens intending to establish residence in Spain. Since 2000, all immigrants, regardless of their legal status, are allowed to register. Data on emigration refer to persons leaving Spain with the intention of establishing residence abroad. Since 2006, the emigration data include foreigners from outside the EU who do not hold permanent residence permits and who fail to re-register every two years. Because there is no minimum residence requirement, persons moving more than once a year are recorded multiple times as international migrants.

Sweden: International migration data are derived from the population register. The statistics on immigration

include citizens and foreigners arriving from abroad intending to stay in the country for a year or longer. Foreigners must hold a valid residence permit. The statistics on emigration include all foreigners and citizens leaving the country with the intention of staying abroad for one year or longer. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country.

Switzerland: International migration data are derived from the population and foreigner register. Since 1991, the Swiss federal statistical office has compiled statistics on foreigners using various data sources. The immigration data cover all persons arriving from abroad to establish permanent or temporary residence in Switzerland, including citizens and permanent, temporary and short-term foreign residents holding a residence permit valid for at least one year. Emigrants are persons departing from the country in order to establish permanent or temporary residence abroad.

Ukraine: Data are derived from statistical forms processed by the ministry of interior at the time a migrant registers or deregisters his or her place of residence. Immigration data cover all citizens and foreigners holding a residence permit who take up residence in the Ukraine for more than six months. Emigration data include all persons leaving the Ukraine for six months or more to establish residence abroad.

United Kingdom: Migration flows are estimated on the basis of the International Passenger Survey (IPS), a sample survey of passengers arriving at and departing from the main United Kingdom air and sea ports and the Channel Tunnel. The data on immigration include persons who have resided abroad for one year or more and who state on arrival their intention to stay in the United Kingdom for one year or more. The data on emigration include persons who have resided in the United Kingdom for one year or more and who state on departure their intention to stay abroad for one year or more.

United States of America: Immigration data are based on the number of foreigners granted permanent residence status and are reported by fiscal year. The United States does not collect data on immigrating citizens or on emigration. Persons legalized under the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) are included in the statistics presented.

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Department of Economic and Social Affairs
POPULATION DIVISION

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES:
THE 2015 REVISION
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