

STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MIGRATION

A REVIEW OF SOURCES AND METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

Bureau of Statistics



Interdepartmental Project on Migrant Workers
1994-95

International Labour Office Geneva

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by

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Foreword

This report has been prepared as part of the Interdepartmental Project on Migrant Workers, implemented in 22 selected countries during the biennium 1994-95. The project was directed and coordinated by the Employment Department. An important objective of the project was to enhance national capacity to deal more effectively with the regulation of migrant flows and protection of the rights of migrant workers. Particular attention was given to the need for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of such policies to be based on sound statistics on the number, composition and circumstances of migrant workers, and how improvements can be made in the existing systems used to produce such statistics.

Experience has demonstrated that it is very difficult to get good statistics on international migration, both in general and in particular for the international labour migration. This is the case also in countries which otherwise have strong statistical capabilities and effective and relatively well funded agencies charged with the implementation of migration policies. This is despite the fact that in principle statistics on international migrants are of interest to both the sending and the receiving country, and that such statistics potentially could be collected by both countries for the same groups of person. This provides strong arguments for having international comparability of the available statistics in this area. However, this has yet to be achieved.

The present report, prepared by the Bureau of Statistics of the ILO, discusses the possibilities and problems faced by those responsible for the development of statistics on migrant workers; and by the users when they need to evaluate the quality of the statistical data which are available. Discussing the potentials and weaknesses, inherent and as function of operational considerations, of both a range of different administrative registration systems and statistical censuses and surveys, the authors provide guidance on the strategy which may be pursued by the authorities in countries of different capabilities if and when they want to develop statistics in this area. A presentation of sources for statistics on migrant workers for 19 of the 22 project countries is annexed to the report (3 countries did not provide any information). A second annex presents, in a summary form, the results of an exploratory request for information about the availability of such statistics in other countries.

The present report complements a manual which aims at strengthening national capacity in generating relevant and more meaningful data on international migration required for policy formulation.

The views and opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of the ILO. The authors apologize for any errors and omissions in the presentation of national practices and would welcome all comments and suggestions for improvements.

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1. OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE

1.1 Objective

The objective of this paper is to discuss some of the main possible sources for statistics to be used for describing and analysing the number, structure, situation, development and impact of **migrant workers**.¹ Those who have responsibility for these tasks must also evaluate the statistics coming from these sources with respect to their proper use, as well as to consider possibilities for their improvement. This discussion focuses on key, intrinsic features of the different sources, important for the understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and draws the reader's attention to features which may tend to undermine the quality of the statistics produced as well as ways in which the impact of such features can be evaluated and, if necessary, reduced.

In this discussion it is assumed that a statistical description and analysis of migrant workers is:

- (a) of interest in itself and for informed debates on the general economic and social policies and developments of a country, and in particular for discussion of those policies which directly affect the migration of workers to and from a country, as well as their situation and that of their families;
- (b) useful as a basis for determining the nature and scale of these policies and the administrative capacities needed to execute them, specifically as concerns policies directly related to international migrants in general and migrant workers in particular;
- (c) needed to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of existing policies; and
- (d) a useful input for the assessment of possible consequences of alternative policies, in particular those directly related to migrant workers.

The discussion is limited to sources for statistics which can be used to answer questions related to the number of migrant workers, their distribution by demographic and socio-economic characteristics such as 'occupation' and 'industry', and whether the number of such workers is changing. A more comprehensive discussion of the need for and use of statistical information on international migrants in general can be found in (Bilsborrow et al., (forthcoming)), another publication from the *ILO Interdepartmental Project on Migrant Workers* (INTERDEP). The present analysis is based on a combination of national experiences surveyed for the INTERDEP project and summarized in the country profiles in **Annex 1** of this paper, as well as on relevant experience from other countries and other areas of statistics, in particular from other areas of labour statistics, in addition to general statistical principles and methods.

1.2 Structure

This paper is organized around **five key groups** of migrant workers for which one needs statistics, because a quality evaluation of the possible sources should always start with an evaluation of their ability to provide information about the set of persons whom the users of the statistics want to cover in their description or analysis. Based on the policy concerns described in Oberai et al. (1995), it was decided to discuss possible sources for statistics regarding the following key groups:

- (a) Persons who are arriving in a country to work there, i.e. the **inflow** of foreign workers;
- (b) Persons who are leaving their country to find work abroad, i.e. the **outflow** of migrant workers;
- (c) Persons who are returning after having worked abroad, i.e. the **return flow** of migrant workers;
- (d) Stock of **foreign workers** in the country; and
- (e) Persons who are working abroad, i.e. the stock of **migrant workers abroad**.

¹ For the purpose of this report **migrant workers** are considered to be *all persons who, at a particular reference date or for a particular reference period, seek to work or were working in a country other than that of their citizenship*. More precise definitions are discussed in chapter 2.

The definitions of these groups are given in chapter 2. Chapters 3 to 7 review, for each key group, the main possible sources of statistics and the extent to which they can *cover* the group and *identify separately* important sub-groups. The discussion in each chapter distinguishes between *administrative registrations* and *statistical surveys*, and deals with the capacity of a source to provide estimates of the **size** of the group, and whether it can provide estimates of the **amount of change** in the group over time, or at least indications of the **direction** of such changes.²

In chapter 8 we outline problems related to other data quality dimensions, such as *frequency* and *timeliness* of the statistics as well as the *validity*, *reliability* and *consistency* of the registration of the main variables used to describe migrant workers and where they come from. Chapter 9 presents strategies for the development of statistics on migrant workers based on two model scenarios for "countries" of different geographic circumstances and institutional capacities. Summary recommendations on how to organize cooperation, for the production of statistics on migrant workers, between the relevant agencies and between them and the potential users are then proposed. Trying to piece together a coherent statistical picture of any of the five key groups is similar to trying to put together a large puzzle based on photographs of a rapidly changing reality, with important pieces missing and many of the available pieces out of focus.

² There will be a certain amount of repetition in these discussions, as sources and problems to some extent are common.

2. DEFINING THE KEY GROUPS

2.1 Definitions

In discussing the various sources for statistics on migrant workers the following definitions are used as reference points. They are not the operational definitions, which will depend on the particularities of the sources, but are intended to reflect the objectives referred to above concerning description and analysis of the number, situation and impact of migrant workers:

- (a) The **inflow of foreign workers** to a country can be defined as *those foreign citizens who during a particular reference period arrived in the country with the objective to take employment there.*
- (b) The **outflow of migrant workers** from a country can be defined as *those citizens of the country who during a particular reference period left the country with the objective to take employment in another country.*
- (c) The **return flow of migrant workers** to a country can be defined as *those citizens of the country who during a particular reference period returned to their country after having been economically active in another country, as employed or unemployed, according to the ILO guidelines for the measurement of the economically active population.*³
- (d) The **stock of foreign workers** in a country can be defined as *those foreign citizens who at a particular date or a during specific reference period would be counted as being economically active in the country, as employed or unemployed, according to the ILO guidelines for the measurement of the economically active population.*
- (e) A country's **stock of migrant workers abroad** can be defined as *those citizens of the country who at a particular date or during a specific reference period would be counted as economically active in another country, as employed or unemployed, according to the ILO guidelines on the measurement of the economically active population.*

The focus on the *citizenship* of persons reflects the expectation that the primary users of the statistics are concerned with policies directly related to and reflecting distinctions made on the basis of citizenship, in particular between the citizens of their own country and those of other countries. In addition, policies concerning foreign citizens, and their implementation, frequently differ with the country of citizenship, cf. that citizens of member countries of the European Union have mutual rights in e.g. the labour market which are denied to citizens of other countries, but are less than they have in their own countries. It should be noted, however, that for the description and analysis of more general social and economic issues with respect to employment and unemployment, "citizenship" may be seen as a less relevant variable than e.g. "ethnic origin", and "country of birth" of a person and/or at least one of his/her parents. These latter variables may be more significant in determining behaviour, social integration and discrimination than citizenship, which can be changed by the stroke of a pen. As a consequence, those variables are frequently preferred in demographic, social and economic analysis.

The above definitions do not include the references to a 'minimum period of (intended) stay' and/or 'change in place of residence' which are common in definitions of 'international migrants'. Such references are not necessary because persons who are visiting (or have visited) the country for a short period, whether for work, i.e. as an extension of employment in the country of origin, for example as sales representative, or during a period of temporary absence from work, e.g. on vacation, have already been excluded from the groups by the references to "take employment" (definitions (a) and (b)), to "been ..."

³ See the *Resolution on the measurement of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment* adopted by the 13th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1982.

(definition (c)) and "would be counted as economically active ..." (definitions (d) and (e)).⁴ However, the main reason for this departure from the conventional practices with respect to definitions of international migration is that the residence criterion and/or the minimum duration criterion are frequently specified in ways that leads to the exclusion of important groups of 'migrant workers', such as seasonal workers.⁵

It should be noted that the above definitions do not exclude any type of employment *a priori*, although some users of the statistics may want to exclude groups such as diplomatic representatives and military staff serving abroad, or seafarers working on ships registered in the country. Such persons are physically absent from their country, but they are to a large extent subject to its regulations and legislation. The ideal solution would be to make sure that they can be separately identified, making it possible to include or exclude them from the main groups of interest, according to descriptive and analytical needs.

2.2 General implications

It should be noted that in most countries the sources to be discussed will not be able to link together multiple departures and/or arrivals of the same person during the reference period, e.g. one calendar year. If duplicates cannot be eliminated, then such sources will provide the basis for statistics on departures for work abroad, on arrivals for work in the country and on returns from abroad of migrant workers, that is statistics where events rather than persons are the units of observation. This is relevant for the measurement of the groups defined in (a), (b) and (c) above.

It is also important to note that, when collecting information about them, all key groups may have to be observed as special sub-groups of larger groups, i.e. as sub-groups of all those who depart from or arrive in a country (groups defined in (a), (b) and (c)) or as sub-groups of all those who reside in the country or in other countries respectively (for groups (d) and (e)). This has important general implications for the difficulties and costs associated with using administrative registrations or statistical surveys as a basis for statistics for these groups, as well as for the consequences of registration errors on the quality of the statistics:

- (a) One implication is that the quality of the statistics about any of the five groups will depend totally upon the precision of the definitions and effectiveness of the procedures used to distinguish members of the group of interest from the rest of the larger population. This will be the case whether the distinction is made: (i) as part of a process which determines whether persons in the larger population should be included in the registration, and then proceeds to ensure that only those who should be are in fact registered; or (ii) as part of the registration of all persons belonging to the larger population, with the identification of the groups of particular interest to be made during the processing of the data.
- (b) It is generally easier to achieve specified levels of correct inclusions or exclusions of a group with type (ii) procedures than with type (i) procedures. However, it may be impossible or impractical, for technical or cost reasons, to design registrations of type (ii) which can provide statistics with the content, frequency and speed required by the users. This will particularly be the case if the number of non-relevant persons, e.g. tourists, is very large relative to the number of migrant workers.
- (c) If the sub-groups of interest are small relative to the larger group to which they belong, then it will be difficult to design sampling procedures which can provide statistics on the sub-group of interest with the degree of detail and reliability that is required by users. The consequent implication is that

⁴ The reference to the *ILO guidelines* ensures consistency with the guidelines of the *System of National Accounts (SNA)*. This also means, however, that persons commuting across international borders on a daily, weekly or monthly basis will also be included in the respective definitions. Any special problems associated with these groups will, however, be ignored in this paper, unless otherwise indicated.

⁵ It can be argued that the definitions of *inflow* and *outflow* should specify that there should have been a minimum period of presence in or absence from, respectively, the country of (intended) employment, or that the persons should be travelling there for the first time for this objective. This is to ensure that persons who are returning from their countries of citizenship after a short visit will not be counted as new arrivals.

only sample surveys with very large samples, or with sampling plans designed specifically to capture information about the five groups of migrant workers, may be able to provide more than simple, and not very precise, estimates of the total size of the groups.

3. IN-FLOW OF FOREIGN WORKERS

More comprehensive statistics are available for this group than for any of the other groups discussed in this paper, at least if 'comprehensive' refers to the number of countries who have at least *some* statistics available on a regular basis, and more frequently than once every ten years. This is probably because most governments find it important to restrict, or at least control closely, the entry to the country of (certain groups of) foreigners, as their presence is often regarded as having negative effects. In almost all countries the government is prepared to incur at least some of the substantial administrative costs involved in implementing policies for controlling the influx of (some groups of) foreigners, within the limitations set by their general administrative capacities and resources. For this reason the *coverage* and *consistency* of the statistics which can be produced for inflows, as well as the *validity* and *reliability* of the information registered, for most countries will be far better than corresponding registrations for e.g. the *outflow of migrant workers*, cf. chapter 4.

3.1 Possible administrative sources

(a) New entry or immigration visas

Most countries have instituted a system which requires that the citizens of certain other countries need an *entry visa* in order to enter the country. It is common to issue different types of visa as a function of the established relations between countries, the duration of the intended stay and the stated purpose, distinguishing for example between short visits for business or pleasure (up to a few weeks); longer visits for the same reasons, to work for a local employer or for a local representative of normal employer (up to a few years); for education or training (up to a few years); for longer periods of stay for family reunion, work or permanent settlement (for several years, or without a time limit)⁶ at least for short- and medium-term stays, and the guidelines on whether or not visas should be granted may differ with country of citizenship. For many countries this is the most important source for statistics on the *inflow of migrant workers*, however incomplete. The incompleteness is related to the problem that part of the total inflow consists of clandestine workers, i.e. persons who enter without any visa or with a visa which does not permit them to seek employment; and to the fact that a larger or smaller group of *migrant workers* may not need visa for entry: mostly because of their nationality but sometimes also because of the type of work in which they will be engaged or the type of employer for whom they will work. These problems of coverage will therefore in many countries limit the valid use of these statistics to serving as indicators of the direction of short-term changes in total inflows.

This system can in principle provide three types of statistics relevant to, or correlated with, the inflow to the country by type of foreign citizens to whom visa requirements apply: (i) statistics on new *applications*; (ii) statistics on new *visas granted* and (iii) statistics on newly *activated visas*. One can expect that (ii) and (iii) are highly correlated, with a short time lag, as the difference is likely to be related to factors of *force majeure* only, such as serious illnesses or decease of visa recipients or of persons in their families. The extent to which statistics on applications are correlated over time with those on visas granted and/or activated will depend upon the extent to which policies for granting entry or immigration visas change relative to the propensity of foreign citizens to apply.

The extent to which statistics based on these registrations can provide information relevant to the study of the *inflow of migrant workers* will depend on the extent to which: (i) visas are granted or not on the basis of "work" as a reason for the entry; or (ii) the reasons for granting visas are such that one can assume a good correlation between the demographic characteristics of those with granted or activated visas, e.g. age and sex, and the extent to which they actually will try to seek and obtain work while in the country. The assessment of information on the application form with respect to other reasons than "work" as the reasons for wanting to enter, must address a "Catch 22" situation: If giving "work" as the reason for wanting to enter the country will drastically reduce the probability that a visa will be granted or significantly increase the difficulties and costs in getting the visa, then the applicants have a strong incentive to misrepresent their reasons, and the information cannot be trusted. If this reason has little or no influence on the outcome of the application, then the relevant authority has little or no incentive to ensure that the information given in this respect is correct, or indeed has been given at all.

The assessment of the validity of the reasons given for entry on visa applications must also include consideration of the mechanisms instituted to control whether or not foreigners visiting the country do behave according to the conditions of their visa. The more effective such mechanisms are the more reliable will be the information generated by the visa application and granting process. In this respect the presence or not of effective mechanisms to discover and punish employers who employ clandestine foreign workers must be seen as important.

⁶ See table 6.3 in Hugo, 1995 for a description of the most common temporary entry work related visa classes used by the Australian immigration authorities.

Based on the factors outlined above it is clear why this source, depending on how the visa granting system is administered, can provide a basis for statistics relevant to the description of the inflow of migrant workers. Such statistics are likely to give a more reliable picture of *short-term* changes in the inflow of migrant workers, i.e. over a two to three year period, than on longer-term developments and actual levels of such inflows. The comparability of measured inflows for years which are further apart is likely to be more questionable, even if there have been no formal changes in the policies administered, or in the resources available to the executing agency. Changes in the morale and attitude of staff and the incentives for and ability of the foreigners to circumvent the regulations or misrepresent information given, is more likely to occur the longer the period of time. The extent to which the statistics from this source can provide a basis for reliable estimates for the size of the inflows will depend upon the extent and forms of clandestine inflows, e.g. whether clandestine inflows take the form of unauthorized border crossings or entry with valid, but misleading, documents. This will, in turn, depend on such factors as the effectiveness of the control mechanisms and severity of sanctions; the ease with which one can clandestinely enter the country, i.e. the number of points for border crossing; the size of the flow of 'visitors' among whom clandestine foreign workers can 'hide'; as well as the strength of the incentives for the foreign workers and those employing them.

(b) New permission to work in the country

Many countries supplement their systems of entry visas with a system whereby foreign citizens are required to have a special work permit in order to engage in employment. Such permits are normally required also for those persons who do not need a visa for short visits. The granted work permits may be more or less specific with respect to the permitted type of work and work period. Frequently the permits are only valid for work with a particular employer. This system can also, in principle, provide three types of statistics relevant to, or correlated with, the inflow of workers to the country: (i) statistics on new *applications*; (ii) statistics on new *work permits granted* and (iii) statistics on newly *activated permits*. One would expect that (ii) and (iii) will be highly correlated, with a short time lag, as the difference is likely to be related to factors of *force majeure* only, such as serious illnesses or the deaths of the persons granted the permits, or of persons in their families if the permit has been granted to a person still residing abroad. The extent to which statistics on applications are correlated over time with those on permissions granted and/or activated will depend upon the extent to which policies for granting the permissions change relative to the propensity of foreign citizens to apply for them.

In principle one might expect that the statistics on work permits granted or activated during a certain period may provide an accurate reflection of the number of workers actually taking up work in the country. However, this depends on: (i) the *incentives* for the would-be-workers in the country *to comply* with the regulations; (ii) the *cost involved* for them in doing so relative to the probability of getting the permit, e.g. related to factors such as need to have secured the sponsorship of an employer before applying; whether one has to present oneself in person at the office of the country's representative, normally located only in the capital; the type of documentation required; the time used by the authority to make a decision; and the official and non-official fees that have to be paid; (iii) the *risks of being found out* if one does (try to) take up work without a permit; (iv) the *consequences and costs following from being caught* working without a permit; and (v) the *terms of employment* for someone working clandestinely, i.e. the (relative) wages, lack of job security, exposure to harassment. If permits are required only for certain types of work, or it is easier or more difficult to get a permit for certain job categories, then there are incentives for the worker and/or the employer to misrepresent the corresponding information.

Thus the extent to which statistics on new work permits can provide reliable and relevant information on the *inflow of migrant workers* must be evaluated on the basis of a careful examination of how the system functions in practice. This examination must address the extent to which the system can in fact capture those workers which it is supposed to cover and the extent to which certain types of workers are particularly well or poorly covered. The extent to which changes to the formal rules and/or the operational capacity of the executing agency have resulted in problems of comparability

of the statistics over time should also be investigated. The nature of the incentives linked to a system of work permits for foreigners, combined with the operational problems of enforcing the system, will mean that statistics derived from the registrations of applications, permissions granted and/or permissions activated, in most countries at best will provide a basis for statements about the direction of short term changes in authorized inflows. Concerning the quality of the characteristics recorded about those applying for or having been granted work permits one is faced with the same type of "Catch-22" situation as the one referred to in 3.1 (a) above: e.g. if particular occupations are favoured with respect to the granting of permits, or being discriminated against, then the control with whether the corresponding relevant information has been given will be strict, perhaps also the control with the correctness of the information. However, the danger of misrepresentation will be significant. If the information is unimportant for the decisions to be made, the amount of missing information is likely to be substantial.

This source is important for statistics on the *inflow of migrant workers* in many countries. However, the problems of coverage limit the validity of these statistics as more than indicators of the direction of short-term changes in total inflows.

(c) Administrative entry registrations at the border

The administrative border controls upon entry to a country normally check that the required papers and permissions for travelling to the country have been obtained. The checks are often limited to a visual inspection of the travel documents, but it can also be extended to include a registration of the name of the persons entering the country, the type and serial number of the relevant visa and permits and the date of entry. These registrations can then be matched to the corresponding grants of entry visas and work permits, if they are granted ahead of entry, as a check on possible falsifications of documents and as a check on the extent to which permissions granted are activated. It should be noted, however, that the registrations and the thoroughness of the controls carried out at the border normally have to be limited, due to the need to avoid that they take much time at the moment of arrival.⁷ This means that not much information about arriving foreigners can be recorded at this time. The information about whether or not the persons will be working while in the country and at what kind of work, normally can only be captured through the information about the type of visa and/or work permit issued to the entrant. If the original grants of visa and permits have been registered on computers, and if the border posts are equipped either with stand-alone terminals for data registration there or with terminals which can access directly files with the granted visas or permissions, then the work of matching the entry registrations to the visa/permit will require much less work than if it has to be done manually. With linked up terminals, such matching can in principle be done in real time, i.e. while the entrant is waiting at the passport control post.

Administrative border registrations of arriving foreigners at the border will, seen in isolation, only play a marginal role as a basis for statistics on the inflow of migrant workers. They can provide statistics which supplement those based on the granting of new visas and work permits, but their main role will be to support the other systems and thereby enhance the statistics which can be derived from them.

(d) Apprehension of clandestine border crossers

Those who try to cross a country's borders at unauthorized points and/or without the proper papers run the risk of being apprehended at or close to the point of entry or when they disembark from their carrier. The border control authorities' records of such apprehensions at the points of entry should in principle provide a basis for estimating the extent to which clandestine entries are increasing or

⁷ However, it is certainly possible to combine such limited registrations with more comprehensive controls carried out on a sample of arrivals. Care should then be taken to distinguish between those who are selected at random for such controls and those selected mostly on suspicions which may be more or less well based. Information about the randomly selected ones can be used to make estimates for all who subject themselves to controls at the border, whereas those selected because they drew the attention of the border control officers cannot be used for such estimates.

decreasing. This assumes that the authorities manage to capture a proportion of those foreign citizens who try to enter illegally. Such records must, however, be used with great care, as it has been well documented in other areas of statistics based on police records that variations in the number of apprehensions often reflect an enhanced, or reduced, capacity and effectiveness of the police force and not variations in the incidence of crimes committed themselves. It is therefore necessary for the proper interpretation of such variations to establish that they were not preceded by changes in staffing or procedures.⁸ Another issue is whether it is possible to link apprehended clandestine entrants to the national labour market, or to particular parts of it: clandestine border crossings which may be motivated by flight from human rights or criminal justice persecutions; smuggling, which may partly be undertaken to finance an initial job search period; family reunion; seeking opportunities for education or medical treatment as well as search for employment. It is not clear that the authorities will find it warranted to spend resources establishing the reason for clandestine entry into the country. Immediate expulsion will frequently be seen as the most effective sanction, preventing the registration of more than the most basic facts concerning the apprehended persons.

(e) New applications for asylum and new grants of refugee status

The relevance of these registrations as a source for statistics on inflows of migrant workers should be considered: (i) because of the perception that many asylum applications represent efforts to escape from difficult economic and social circumstances rather than human rights related persecutions, war like situations or natural disasters; and (ii) because persons waiting for their applications to be processed or who have been granted refugee status will become, or could become, economically active in the country if they are residing there. The rules concerning the situation and activities of asylum seekers and refugees, and the way these rules are implemented and controlled will determine the extent to which statistics based on these sources can be considered useful.

(f) New reports to population registers

Many countries have established some sort of population registration system, administered by local authorities or by local representatives of central authorities. In the latter case the registration work may be carried out according to uniform guidelines, in the former case, however, the guidelines and procedures for up-dating the registers may vary significantly between authorities, adding to the lack of comparability between different regions or localities to the problems to be outlined below.

The primary objective of a local population register is to record as precisely as possible the number of births and deaths occurring in its region, and to keep a record of all its residents. To be able to satisfy the last objective it must also be informed about all those persons who take up residence in their region. If such reports include information about citizenship and where the persons move from, giving 'abroad' as a possible alternative, and if information is given about the reason for the move, giving 'work' as a possible alternative, then they may provide a basis for statistics on the inflow of those migrant workers who change their place of residence in order to take up (new) employment. However, there are important limitations to such statistics because of operational features of the population registers, some of which are alluded to with the two 'ifs' above. These features will often undermine the validity and reliability of inflow statistics based on this source.

The demographic focus of most population registers means that the rules for their operations will put priority on the household or the family as a unit, and they will only accept the report that a person is arriving if it is clear that the whole household is moving or if it is clear that the person is being permanently separated from the rest of the household. This means that many arrivals for reasons of work, whether from abroad or from somewhere else in the country, will not be regarded as a 'new resident' by the register and are therefore not registered.

⁸ The discussion in (Siegel, Passel and Robinson, 1980) and in (Passel, 1985) concerns the United States, but the general issues should be relevant also for other countries.

Experience from countries with well developed and effectively administered population registration systems demonstrates that the number of unreported "reportable" arrivals is relatively small, but that it may take some time before all reports on 'arrivals' during a particular period, e.g. a month, will have arrived and been registered. The extent to which there are positive incentives for such registrations is important.⁹ Organizing the registration work in a way which means that registrations are made for localities small enough for the registration officers to know all of the households in their districts, may speed up the registrations, make them more complete and improve the reliability of the registered information. However, it will probably also increase costs.

Even if arrivals are reported to the local population registers, the reports may not provide reliable information on where the persons are moving from or whether the move is work related. It must therefore be concluded that statistics reflecting changes in the reporting to local population registers of arrivals of foreign citizens from abroad in most cases can only signal directions of change in such moves, and that it is necessary to be very careful in concluding that the statistics can signal anything about changes in the inflow of workers. 'Be very careful' does refer to the need to know precisely how the reporting system functions in practice, and it is possible that such knowledge can lead to a much more positive conclusion, in particular with respect to the extent that the statistics can be informative about the arrival of foreign workers for permanent settlement in the country.

(g) New reports to tax and/or social security authorities

In countries where reasonably effective tax authorities administer a universal income tax system, there will be strong mechanisms to ensure that individuals starting a new job are registered with them. Such registrations will normally include a minimum of information about both the individual, including citizenship, and the employer. Similar mechanisms will also be in place with respect to the payment of social security contributions. However, only a limited number of countries have these systems and are able to consider them as source for statistics. The completeness and coverage of such statistics depends on the effectiveness of the tax authorities and the particular rules and agreements in place. Furthermore, the authorities are normally not able to, or interested in, obtaining reliable information of other characteristics of the workers in question than the employer for whom they will be working, their address and possibly their age and sex. Information about citizenship may only be reliably registered if it in some way influences the worker's tax situation. Much the same can be said about the registration systems of the social security authorities where the extent to which foreigners can be separately identified may depend on whether or not foreign citizens are, or will be, treated differently from workers who are citizens of the country, with respect to contributions to be paid or with respect to benefits to be received.

(h) Reports from recruitment agencies

Certain types of workers are frequently recruited from abroad mainly by special recruitment agencies. These agencies will (a) need to keep records to control their own operations; and (b) frequently be subject to regulations and controls by the state. It would seem logical to make regular self-reports on their operations part of the control procedures, and these reports may be used as basis for statistics on inflows of workers. The quality and reliability of such self-reports can be reinforced by regular, but un-announced and un-predictable controls of the agencies' records; in particular if the regulations give precise and practical guidelines on how these records should be kept and the control mechanisms are effective and the sanctions credible and more costly than non-compliance with the rules.¹⁰ The coverage of the statistics based on these reports will be limited to the types of workers which these agencies recruit and to their share of the total inflow. However,

⁹ In some countries and localities, e.g. in some member countries of the *Commonwealth of Independent States* the rules have been that a person or household must be registered with the local population register in order to get a dwelling or take a job. Where adequately controlled such regulations will certainly contribute to the completeness and speed with which new arrivals will be registered.

¹⁰ Similar regulations can also be instituted for national companies which regularly import some workers for their own activities, e.g. workers with special types of skills, such as nurses.

for these groups the statistics should provide good indications on e.g. year to year changes in the size of the inflow.¹¹

3.2 Possible statistical sources

(i) Household surveys

Household surveys may, at least in principle, include questions on any experience, behaviour or information which the respondents can realistically be expected to be able and willing to answer. The sampling plan for a *general* household survey is, in addition, normally designed to cover all non-institutional households, including households where some or all members are foreign citizens. It therefore seems possible that such surveys may contain questions designed to capture information related to the inflow of workers, either directly from such workers themselves or indirectly through response to questions concerning possible knowledge about recent arrivals of foreign workers. However, the use of either of these approaches will face the problems that the size of the 'inflow' during a recent reference period is likely to be small, no matter how it is defined operationally. This means that there are likely to be few 'positive' observations and therefore a high degree of imprecision in all estimates because of sampling. Such imprecisions may to some extent be reduced if the survey could be *targeted*, through a significant degree of over-sampling of households with higher representation of foreign workers or information about such workers, e.g. because they are known to cluster in certain neighbourhoods. The extent to which such over-sampling is possible will depend on national circumstances, but consideration of the sampling imprecisions will lead to the conclusion that only broad order-of-magnitude estimates of inflows of migrant workers will be possible, even with large and targeted samples.

When trying to use the responses to questions related to the inflow of foreign workers in a household survey one will also face the following problems: (i) the persons who have recently arrived in the country may not have the language skills to understand the questionnaire or communicate with an interviewer; (ii) their experience and situation may be such that they are reluctant to give any type of information to a representative of the authorities, in particular if they are working clandestinely. They may therefore refuse to answer or place themselves beyond the reach of the interviewer from the statistical office, e.g. by never being at home, even if they can communicate with him/her. Significant non-response rates are therefore likely for these groups, with associated downward biases in the resulting estimates. It does not seem likely that adjustments can be made for this bias on the basis of answers to questions concerning knowledge about recently arrived foreign workers, both because of the difficulties in knowing how such adjustments could be made, and because those most likely to have such information, e.g. other foreign citizens, are also likely to have high non-response rates. Given this situation one would normally conclude that these types of surveys will give statistics which seem more likely to provide some indications of change of, rather than of levels of, inflows. However, in this case that seems almost excluded by the sampling considerations referred to above. It is therefore not easy to see that even the main receiving countries would be able to monitor the inflow of foreign workers with the help of such surveys. Consequently, they cannot be expected to become an important instrument for international information about such flows.

(j) Establishment surveys

Surveys of establishments are not well suited as basis for statistics on inflows. One cannot expect that those responding to an establishment survey on behalf of the establishments will have information about whether staff recently engaged by the establishment have just arrived from abroad, even if they know whether they are foreign citizens. The only exception to this would be establishments which themselves regularly recruit workers abroad. If they and the firms which act

¹¹ One may observe that the authorities' interest in controlling agencies 'importing' workers is quite different from the interest in controlling those 'exporting' workers. The latter control will, at least in principle, be to prevent exploitation of the workers and the risk that they may have to be brought home at the government's expense. The former controls are likely to focus on the prevention of clandestine imports of workers. The difference in objectives need not, however, lead to significant differences in required record keeping and inspection procedures.

as recruitment agents for workers from abroad are known, and do not have to report to a regulating agency in the way outlined in 4.2(h), then it may be worthwhile designing a special survey covering the activities of these firms, keeping in mind that the statistics which they can and will provide will be limited by the information which can be easily extracted from the records which they keep for their own use or because it is one of the requirements for their operation.

(k) Statistical border registrations

Countries to which most travel of interest will be on a limited number of common carriers (e.g. bus, train, ship or ferry, airplane) and/or through a limited number of entry 'ports', have significant advantages when setting up a system of border registrations of departures and arrivals, whether for control purposes or for statistical monitoring of international travellers. The passengers/border-crossers arriving to such 'islands' can be requested to complete a questionnaire to be handed in when passing the point of passport inspection. Examples of successful data collection systems of this type exist, but many countries seem to have significant problems in exploiting their potential.¹² Even if closely integrated with the border control procedures the costs of operating this type of system may be such that they may not be justified only by an interest in the inflow of foreign workers, who constitute a very small proportion of the total inflow of travellers to most countries. However, it is quite clear that statistics describing the size and composition of all travellers will be of interest to e.g. the carriers as well as the tourist and transportation authorities.

3.3 Inflow statistics: Concluding remarks

Realistically speaking, the most cost effective source of statistics on the inflow of foreign workers is likely to be the registrations linked to the issuing of visas and work permits, in combination with the border control registrations, including those relating to the apprehension of clandestine border crossers. In countries where the relevant institutions function effectively, these sources should be supplemented by, or coordinated with, records of new registrations in population registers and with tax and social security authorities. It also seems warranted to consider supplementary statistical border registrations in countries where the number of entry ports and the entry carriers, for the groups of interest, is limited and can be clearly identified. However, whenever clandestine entrants are a significant proportion of the total inflow, then the validity of inflow statistics based on the above sources are likely to be limited to indications of general changes in the inflow of foreign workers over short periods. They may also provide valid estimates of the size of the inflow of certain groups of foreign workers, i.e. those for which the regulatory mechanisms do not represent serious problems or costs and who therefore are not likely to enter the country or seek work without being registered.

4. OUT-FLOW OF MIGRANT WORKERS

The **outflow** of *migrant workers* is a difficult group to describe statistically in a satisfactory manner, mainly for three reasons which apply to efforts to describe statistically all outflows of persons from a country:

- (a) Most governments are reluctant to restrict or monitor closely the exit of persons from their territory, as this is regarded as having unfortunate side-effects, in addition to the substantial administrative costs;
- (b) the number of possible exit points from the country may be so large that covering them all, even on a sample basis, exceeds the willingness or the capacity of the regulatory or statistical agency to incur the costs of doing so;
- (c) the total number of persons exiting from the country during a particular period may be very large relative to the number of persons of interest to the regulatory agency or the users of the statistics.

These reasons influence the coverage and consistency of the statistics which can be produced for outflows, and may also influence the validity and reliability of the information registered. Many of the possible sources discussed in this chapter will suffer from these problems.

¹² As exemplified by the 'arrival cards' which international passengers on airplanes and ships have to complete and hand to the customs or passport control officers before boarding. Casual observations would seem to suggest that the problems with using these cards as basis for departure statistics are not with the procedures as such, but with the quality of the design of the cards and the procedures for handling and processing them once they have been collected. Australia has been able to establish a system whereby all arrivals to (and departures from) the country are being registered (see Hugo, 1994).

4.1 Possible administrative sources

(a) New exit or emigration visas

A few countries have instituted a system whereby citizens should have an *exit visa* in order to go to a foreign country.¹³ When present this type of system can in principle provide three types of statistics relevant to, or correlated with, the outflow of citizens from the country: (i) statistics on new *applications*; (ii) statistics on new *visas granted* and (iii) statistics on newly *activated visas*. One would expect (ii) and (iii) to be highly correlated, with a short time lag, as the difference is likely to be related to factors of *force majeure* only, such as serious illnesses or the deaths of the persons granted visa, or of persons in their families. The extent to which statistics on applications are correlated over time with those on visas granted and/or activated will depend upon the extent to which policies for granting exit or emigration visas change relative to the propensity of citizens to apply.

This system seems to have been in force only in countries where the governments gave high priority to controlling the lives of the citizens (as well as the lives of foreign visitors).¹⁴ For such countries statistics on 'exit visas granted' or 'activated exit visas' during a certain period can be expected to be an accurate reflection of the number of citizens who actually were leaving the country for a short or long duration with the intention of returning, if visas were required for all departures. If they were required only for certain types of departures, then the correlation between the number of "activated visas" and actual departures will be lower and less stable, as it is likely that there will be incentives to misrepresent the type of departure. The incidence of such misrepresentation is likely to have varied over time, as will the capacity and preparedness of the authorities to discover and punish them. Whether statistics on this basis could provide information on the *outflow of migrant workers* will depend on the extent to which: (i) visas were granted or not on the basis of "work abroad" as a reason for the exit; or (ii) the reasons for granting visas were such that one can assume a good correlation between the demographic characteristics of those with granted or activated visas, e.g. age and sex, and the extent to which they exit to work abroad.

Systems for issuing exit visas for the country's own citizens are not important as a source for statistics on the *outflow of migrant workers*, because very few countries are prepared to control the movements of their citizens in this manner. Where they exist, statistics from this source are not likely to be made available outside the agencies responsible for the administration of the system, as to do so would seem to counter the general ideological attitudes which led to its establishment.¹⁵ Based on the factors outlined above, it would seem reasonable that this source, even where in place and properly implemented, could mainly provide a basis for statistics on *short-term* changes in the outflow of migrant workers, i.e. over a two to three year period. For longer-term developments and actual levels of such outflows the comparability over time is likely to be more questionable, even if there have been no formal changes in the policies administered, or in the resources available to the executing agency. Changes in the morale and attitude of staff and the incentives for and ability of the public to circumvent the regulations or misrepresent information is more likely to differ the longer the period between the reference dates for the statistics.

¹³ One form that this system may take is that the citizens may have to apply for and be issued a (new) passport for every visit abroad, to be returned to the authorities upon return. This used to be the practice in e.g. Ethiopia and the former USSR. Other countries, which do not have systems of exit visas for nationals and which do issue passports for a limited time period, may ask the persons to state the objectives of their (first) visit abroad when applying for a new or renewed passport, e.g. whether it is for vacation, to visit relatives or to work. The information given on passport application forms, and the number of such applications, can possibly be used as an indication of changes in the extent to which nationals are travelling to other countries, or at least as an indication of whether that number is increasing or decreasing, including the direction in the tendency to go abroad for work. This would be more than nothing, but also very much less than what most users of statistics of outflows would like to have.

¹⁴ None of the 22 countries included in the INTERDEP project reported the existence in 1995 of exit visa systems.

¹⁵ This was for example the situation with the former USSR.

(b) New permission to work abroad

Some countries have instituted a system whereby citizens should obtain a *permission to work abroad* in order to take a paid job in a foreign country. This system can in principle provide three types of statistics relevant to, or correlated with, the outflow of workers from the country: (i) statistics on new *applications*; (ii) statistics on new *permissions granted* and (iii) statistics on newly *activated permissions*. One would expect that (ii) and (iii) will be highly correlated, with a short time lag, as the difference is likely to be related to factors of *force majeure* only, such as serious illnesses or the deaths of the persons granted permissions, or of persons in their families. The extent to which statistics on applications are correlated over time with those on permissions granted and/or activated will depend upon the extent to which policies for granting permissions change relative to the propensity of the citizens to apply for them.¹⁶

Systems of this type have normally been introduced to control the type of workers who work abroad, either: (i) to prevent the loss of certain types of skilled or highly qualified workers (including workers who possess secrets considered to be of military importance); (ii) to protect certain groups of workers from being exploited by foreign employers;¹⁷ and/or (iii) to provide a basis for the government to collect taxes, fees or insurance premiums. In principle one could expect that the statistics on permissions granted or activated during a certain period may be an accurate reflection of the number of workers actually leaving the country for work abroad. However, the extent to which this potential will be realized depends entirely on:

- whether or not would-be-workers-abroad know about the requirement to obtain permission to work abroad;
- what *incentives* there are for them *to comply* with the regulations;
- the *cost involved* in doing so, e.g. related to factors such as whether one has to present oneself in person at the office of the proper authorities, the documentation required, the time taken by the authority to make a decision and the official and non-official payments that have to be made;
- the *risks of being found out* if one does not comply, i.e. the *capacity* and *efficiency* of the authorities to *control* that the regulations are implemented;
- the *consequences and costs of being caught* working abroad without a permit.

If permission is required only for certain types of workers, or is easier or more difficult to get for certain categories, then there are likely to be clear incentives to misrepresent the corresponding information, whether that relates to the 'occupation', the type of employer or the country of employment, perhaps even the sex of the applicant. The incentives and opportunities for such misrepresentation are likely to vary over time, as is the capacity of the authorities to discover and their preparedness to punish misrepresentations.

The extent to which statistics based on this type of source can provide reliable and relevant information on the *outflow of migrant workers* from a particular country must be evaluated on the basis of a careful examination of how the system functions in practice. This examination must address the extent to which the system can in fact capture those workers which it is supposed to

¹⁶ Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland and Thailand are among the countries which have introduced a system of this type. In some countries, e.g. India and Poland, some types of workers are excluded from the requirement.

¹⁷ Depending on their age and, in some of the countries, on whether or not they are accompanied by their husbands, women from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and Pakistan are not given permission to take jobs abroad as domestic workers (Athukorala, 1993). In July 1995 the Philippine government announced that it would introduce policies which will prevent Filipina women to take jobs abroad as 'maids', housekeepers' or 'unskilled entertainment workers'. This was a response to the many reports of the serious mistreatment of such workers by their employers, and the difficulties in protecting them through the legal systems of their countries of employment. Efforts in the past to introduce similar measures had not been successful, however.

cover and the extent to which certain types of workers are particularly well or poorly covered.¹⁸ The extent to which changes to the formal rules and/or the operational capacity of the executing agency have resulted in problems of comparability of the statistics over time should also be investigated and documented.¹⁹

The nature of the incentives linked to a system of permissions to work abroad, combined with the operational problems of enforcing the system, probably means that the statistics derived from the registrations of applications, permissions granted and/or permissions activated at best will provide a basis for statements about the direction of short term changes in outflows. Concerning the quality of the characteristics recorded about those applying for or having been granted permissions to work abroad one is faced with the same type of "Catch-22" situation as the one referred to in 3.1(a) above: if particular countries or occupations are favoured with respect to the granting of permissions, or being discriminated against, then the control of whether the corresponding relevant information has been given will be strict, perhaps also the control of the correctness of the information. However, the danger of misrepresentation will be significant. If the information is unimportant for the decisions to be made, the amount of missing information is likely to be substantial.

This source has proved to be important for statistics on the *outflow of migrant workers* in the countries which have established a system of permits for work abroad, mainly because of the lack of easily established alternatives. However, the problems of quality limit the usefulness of these statistics in most cases, except for particular, easy to control groups of workers and as indicators of the direction of short-term changes in the outflows.

(c) New members of special insurance schemes

Some countries have established special insurance schemes for those of their citizens who are residing abroad, either to replace an insurance coverage which does not apply to citizens who are residing abroad or to provide coverage for risks which may be more acute when abroad. Provided that the rates charged by such schemes are affordable and give reasonable coverage of the costs in the event of illness, emergency repatriation, etc, then we should expect that statistics on new registrations with the schemes could provide a good basis for the description of the size of outflows, at least after the schemes have been in place long enough to ensure that knowledge about their existence and conditions can reach potential clients.²⁰ However, even when schemes are well known they may have two problems of coverage: (i) The terms and conditions of the schemes may be so advantageous that persons remaining in the country may try to join; or (ii) persons may obtain better coverage through other schemes, e.g. in their country of employment, or because it is compulsory to join a particular insurance scheme there, which is seen as adequate. Only knowledge about the specific documentation required from applicants and of the procedures used to control applications and claims for payments can determine whether 'over-registration' of non-migrants is likely to

¹⁸ Some countries, e.g. Belarus and Poland, have started to negotiate bi-lateral agreements with other countries, e.g. Germany, designed to ensure that their citizens will need permission from their own country in order to obtain a work permit for the host country, or at least making it easier to obtain a work permit in the host country with an official permission to work abroad from the home country. Depending on the particulars of the agreement this will reduce the screening necessary in the host country as well as providing the sending country with some control, or at least supervision, of the outflow. Obviously, the statistics derived from the permissions granted with these types of agreements in place for some receiving countries only, will be incomplete with respect to the total outflow and perhaps misleading with respect to the demographic and occupational structure of the total outflow.

¹⁹ The conclusion of those who have studied the operation of these systems, or who have tried to compare the number of workers covered by the systems with the actual number of persons who have gone abroad, is that only a proportion of the outflow will be covered by the systems. The proportion varies between countries and over time, and it is usually small, cf. e.g. Athukorala, 1993 and chapter 6 in Oberai et al. 1995.

²⁰ It has been reported from one country that the scheme takes the form of that recruitment agencies must insure themselves with the authorities against the economic risks which follow from their obligation to assist or repatriate 'their' workers in an emergency. This gives an agency the possibility of passing on to the worker not only the cost of this insurance, but of carrying the burden too, e.g. by under-reporting the number of workers placed abroad, and neglecting to meet its obligation in case of an emergency. This will be possible when there is inadequate control by the authorities and inadequate means by the workers, their organizations or the authorities to legally pursue a delinquent agency.

significantly inflate the number of (new) members. The extent of 'under-registration' will be difficult to estimate without alternative sources of statistics.

Deliberate misrepresentation of information requested upon joining a scheme like this is not likely to be a serious problem, unless the information will be used to discriminate among members with respect to type of coverage and rates to be paid based on factors such as whether or not they are working, type of job, etc. In such cases it is the quality of the control mechanisms which will determine the reliability of the information given. The problem referred to earlier that information may not be recorded or recorded in a way which makes it unreliable, when not required for decisions, may, however, be important and require the presence of adequate quality control procedures.

Governments concerned with the need to monitor the outflow of its citizens in general and workers in particular should consider carefully the potentials of these types of schemes to provide both protection for their nationals and valuable information for policy formulation and implementation, whether the schemes are entirely public, are state supported or are entirely private.

(d) Reports from recruitment agencies

Certain types of workers are frequently recruited for work abroad by special recruitment agencies. These agencies will: (i) need to keep records to control their own operations; and (ii) be subject to state regulations and controls. It would seem logical to make regular self-reports about their operations a part of the procedures used to control that these agencies operate according to the regulations, and to make these reports a basis for statistics on outflows of workers. The quality and reliability of such self-reports may be reinforced by regular, but unpredictable, controls of the agencies' practices and records, at their headquarters as well as in the countries where workers are placed. The regulations should give precise and practical guidelines on how to keep records. The control mechanisms need to be effective and the sanctions need to be credible and more costly than non-compliance with the regulations.²¹ The coverage of the statistics based on these reports is obviously limited to the types of workers recruited for work abroad through such agencies and to their share of the total outflow. However, statistics on this basis could provide good indications on year to year changes in the size of the outflow of the types of workers normally recruited by such agencies and enterprises, if the control procedures function effectively.

(e) Other administrative registrations

A number of other administrative registration systems should be considered as potential sources for statistics which may throw light upon the outflow of migrant workers, in particular on whether this outflow, or components of it, is changing. However, with the exception of reports to population registers, none of the sources briefly discussed below seems to have been developed as basis for outflow statistics on a regular basis in any of the 22 INTERDEP project countries, or elsewhere. Further investigation may show that this is because they have been judged to be inadequate, or because countries for which they might have provided some useful statistics have better sources or do not find it important to produce statistics related to outflows:

Border exit registrations will normally be to control that nationals have obtained the required permissions for travelling abroad, thus making the registrations part of the control procedures for the exit visa system discussed above, or for the permission system for work abroad. The controls can be extended to include a registration of the name of the persons leaving the country, the type and serial number of the relevant permission and the date of departure. It is, however, necessary to keep the controls simple in order to avoid that they take much time at the moment of departure. This means that very little information about the departing nationals can be recorded at this time, and that

²¹ Similar regulations can also be instituted for national companies which regularly employ some of their workers abroad, e.g. companies with construction or maintenance contracts in other countries.

the information relating to whether or not the persons will be working while abroad and at what kind of work, normally can only be captured through the matching of the border registrations with the records for the respective permissions. Such matching is, however, difficult, unless both the exit visas (or work permissions) and the exit registrations are registered on computers equipped with appropriate software.

Reports to population registers of change of residence to another country have been used as basis for statistics on emigration in several of the member countries in the *Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)*. However,

- even in countries with a highly developed and well supervised population registration system it has been observed that outflow reporting is much more deficient than other reportings.²² There is often a lack of positive incentives to report departures, and even specific disadvantages to do so;²³
- the demographic focus of most population registers means that the rules for their operations will put priority on the household or the family as a unit. Because many out-movements of migrant workers only involve one member of the household, many departures for reasons of work, whether to abroad or to somewhere else in the country are not regarded as a 'departure' by the register. In addition, departures which are reported to the local population registers may not provide reliable information on where the persons move or whether the move is work related.

It must therefore be concluded that in most cases statistics based on reports to local population registers about departures for abroad can only signal directions of change in such moves. It is also necessary to be very careful in concluding that the statistics can signal anything about the size of the outflow of workers or in changes to the outflow. However, knowledge about how the reporting system functions in practice can lead to a much more positive conclusion, in particular with respect to the extent that the statistics can be informative of the outflow of workers who depart for permanent settlement abroad.

Reports to tax and social security authorities: In countries where reasonably effective tax authorities administer a universal income tax system, there may be positive incentives for individuals to make sure that these authorities know that income from employment, or at least a significant part of it, has been, or will be earned in another country. This is particularly the case if there exist agreements between the two countries which will prevent payment of taxes to both countries on the basis of the same income. The same reasoning can be applied with respect to the payment of social security contributions. However, some persons may lose social security payments or qualifying years for future payments of old age pension if they report their departure to the social security authorities. These authorities may therefore have more problems in ensuring complete reporting departures from country than the tax authorities have.

New registrations of permissions for an individual to transfer or receive funds from abroad, or to hold foreign currency bank accounts: It seems worthwhile to investigate the extent to which new registrations with such systems can provide statistics indicating the size of the outflow of certain types of migrant workers, or at least whether the outflow is increasing or declining. While it seems clear that a significant proportion of the total transfer of funds to the sending country are not being made through official channels (see Oberai et al., chapter 11), there are advantages to making some

²² In the former USSR it was observed that the total number of reported out-movements to local population registers would consistently be 10-15 percent less than the total number of reported in-movements. The same pattern is valid for the reporting of movements within the Russian Federation. (Personal communication during visit to the *Federal Migration Service* and *GOSKOMSTAT*, Moscow, November 1994.)

²³ In some CIS countries and localities the rules have been that persons or households reporting that they were moving to another region or country would have to give up the right to their housing. As many departures initially are explorative rather than immediately permanent, it would be prudent not to report a departure.

of them in the authorized way. It often is more difficult for the authorities to prove that funds have been transferred without authorization if some transfers were made according to the rules than if none of them were. On the other hand registration may draw attention to oneself. Clandestine transfers may be more likely to be discovered if the authorities do know that you are in a position to make such transfers.

New registrations at national consulates: Some countries have instituted the obligation or possibility for their citizens residing abroad to register with the nearest consulate. The extent to which persons will actually register depends upon whether they know of the possibility/obligation, and on whether they feel it to their advantage to do so. Both these elements will depend on the activities of the consulate designed to reach and support their citizens when staying in the country or in case of emergencies, but may also depend on the attitude of the host country's authorities and employers towards contacts between foreign workers and representatives of their home countries. In some cases foreign workers may fear that regular contacts with representatives of their country of origin jeopardize their situation or chances for renewal of contracts or work permits. With these *provisos* it is clear that new registrations at consulates may provide a basis for statistics which can provide indications on whether there have been significant changes over a few years in the outflows from the home country to the destinations where the consulates are located.

4.2 Possible statistical sources

The term "statistical sources" is being used to refer to surveys of households, individuals or organizations for the purpose of collecting information to be used only for the production of statistics. This means that the information provided will not have any direct consequences for the responding person or organization or anyone described by the response.²⁴ It is useful to discuss the potentials of each main variant of these separately.

(f) Household surveys

Household surveys can include questions which are designed to capture information related to the outflow of workers. Surveys with such questions may either be general or targeted. A *general* household survey will be designed to capture a representative sample of the total population, with only limited over-sampling of groups of special interest. In a *targeted* household survey there will be a significant over-sampling of certain types of households on the expectation that the phenomenon of interest is more likely to be represented there. Thus the difference between the two types is mostly a question of degree of over-sampling for a particular purpose.

Any use of a household survey to capture information related to the outflow of migrant workers must face, and try to overcome, the following two problems: (i) the size of the 'outflow' is likely to be small, no matter how it is defined operationally;²⁵ (ii) the actual outflow cannot be observed in the survey, except retrospectively, as the persons are beyond the reach of the statistical office as long as they are abroad. The first problem means that a general survey, even one with a large sample, is likely to find only a few positive responses to questions related to the outflow. At best one may be able to estimate its size for the specified reference period, but information relating to the composition of the outflow, or to the change in the outflow between two surveys, cannot be obtained with a degree of precision which corresponds to the needs of users. The second problem means that the survey has to collect information related to: (i) plans which the respondents may have with respect to near future travels abroad for work; and to (ii) knowledge about whether family or

²⁴ It is possible, however, that there will be indirect consequences through the policy measures which may result from the information provided by the statistics. This consideration may in principle influence both whether persons will respond to statistical surveys and what their response will be, but is not likely to significantly influence response rates or response quality for the type of surveys discussed in this paper. Lack of confidence in the confidentiality of the information as well as communication problems will be much more important.

²⁵ Exceptions to this are known, e.g. the situation in Lesotho during the period when a significant proportion of the adult male population found its livelihood in the Republic of South Africa.

household members, neighbours, friends or colleagues recently have left to work abroad.²⁶ Relevant experience from using questions related to other types of plans indicates strongly that the answers to type: (i) questions cannot be taken as good predictors of the actual behaviour of the individuals responding: However, variations over time in statistics derived from these answers will provide a reasonably good indicator of actual developments, provided the questions concern the near future. Only limited relevant experience is available concerning how to estimate the number of persons who may have left for abroad on the basis of type (ii) questions. It may be that also these responses can provide more valid estimates of the direction and degree of change in the outflow than if the level of these outflows.

Given that the type of questions which can be asked give statistics which seem more likely to provide valid indicators of change than of levels of outflows, the best programme of household surveys for outflow relevant statistics would seem to consist of regularly repeated targeted surveys. Two approaches are possible to achieve the over-sampling for a targeted survey: (i) if information concerning family members or relatives working abroad was collected in a recent population census, then it could be possible to over-sample those households which responded positively to these questions, as further outflows would be more likely among such households; (ii) locate geographic areas where one knows, on the basis of a past census or from other sources, that it is more common than elsewhere to go abroad for work, and over-sample the households in these areas. However, it is clear that a survey programme of this kind would be both costly and complicated, and that these types of questions have to be made part of a programme of surveys which have broader objectives. The only examples of surveys with only these types of questions have been single surveys which have not been repeated.²⁷

The overall conclusion of this review of household surveys as a possible source for statistics on outflows of migrant workers is that the type of questions which have to be asked are such that they will provide, if repeated in a sequence of surveys, better indicators of the direction of change in outflows than estimates of the size of the outflows. However, sampling is likely to make the estimates quite imprecise, and this will mean that such change indicators will only reliably reflect fairly large changes in the outflows. Indicators showing a consistent picture over several successive surveys can, however, be regarded with more confidence than warranted by simple considerations of the estimated sample 'errors'. The most promising approach along these lines will therefore be to include a small sequence of relevant questions in the country's regular *Labour Force Survey*, which tends to have a sample large enough to make it possible to estimate a few key indicators to monitor the overall development in the outflow.

(g) Establishment surveys

Surveys of establishments are not suited as a basis for statistics on outflows. One cannot expect that those completing questionnaires on behalf of the establishments will have information about whether staff recently separated from the establishment have taken up employment abroad, nor whether present staff members have plans to do so in the future. The only exception to this is establishments which send their own workers abroad, e.g. a few construction and consulting firms. If they and the firms which act as recruitment agents for employment abroad are known, and do not have to report to a regulating agency in the way outlined in 4.1(d), then a special survey can be designed to cover the activities of these firms. However, the information which they can and will provide will be limited by what can be easily extracted from the records which they keep for their own use or because it is one of the requirements for their operation.

(h) Statistical border registrations

²⁶ These approaches are used in special sections of the annual Portuguese *Employment Survey* 1993 following a trial in 1992, cf. the Portuguese sources 2 and 3 in Annex 1 of this paper. A larger, experimental survey was carried out in 1994, covering more aspects of the migration process, cf. source 4 listed for Portugal.

²⁷ Cf. for example the survey in Gabon described in Annex 1 of this paper.

Countries from which most of the travellers of interest will use a limited number of common carriers (e.g. bus, train, ship or ferry, airplane) and/or who will depart through a limited number of exit 'ports', have significant advantages when setting up a system of border registrations of departures and arrivals, whether for control purposes or for statistical monitoring of such travellers. The passengers/border-crossers departing from such 'islands' can be requested to complete a questionnaire to be handed in with the ticket for the trip or at the point of passport inspection. Examples of successful data collection systems of this type exist, but many countries seem to have significant problems in exploiting their potential.²⁸ The costs of operating this type of system are such that they cannot be justified only by an interest in the outflow of workers, who constitute a very small proportion of the total outflow. However, it is quite clear that statistics describing the size and composition of travellers will be of interest to e.g. the carriers as well as the tourist and transportation authorities.

The cooperation of the carriers and the border control authorities is needed for collection of departure questionnaires. Operating with a complete count may be simpler than using sampling procedures. Experiments at the various ports of departure should be carried out to determine whether it will be possible to design and implement sampling procedures for the collection of a sufficient amount of information from a sufficient number of persons to be able to produce the type of detailed statistics needed by the users, while avoiding that those selected for more detailed questioning and their carriers experience delays caused solely by the statistical data collection procedures. One possible strategy is to obtain some basic information from all those departing, and then draw the sample for more detailed questioning only among those who arrive at the ports of departure early enough to complete a more detailed questionnaire or an interview.

It is obvious, however, that very few countries are completely 'islands' in the sense indicated above. Thus there will always be some 'leakage' through unguarded 'ports' or by persons using private means of transport. This 'leakage' may, for many countries, be the numerically dominant form of travel between them and their neighbours, including work related travels, e.g. the travels between the United States and its neighbours to the north and south, whether authorized or clandestine. However, the travellers which it is interesting to monitor through regularly produced statistics, may in fact behave as if they were departing from an 'island', because the cost and convenience of travelling to their destinations, e.g. the countries in which they will (try to find) work, is such that they use a limited number of departure ports and carriers. Thus statistics based on registration of those travelling to these destinations and on those carriers provide valid indications of the short term changes in the outflows of important groups of migrating workers.

The reliability of the information given on 'departure cards' is an important concern warranting serious consideration, both when designing them and when using the resulting statistics. Persons travelling on a tourist/visitor visa to a country where a special, perhaps difficult to get, work permit is needed for taking a job, may feel that the prudent response on a departure card is 'tourist' or 'private visit', even if they intend to seek employment and even if they are promised that the information given is confidential and will only be used for the production of statistics. However, experience from other areas of statistics do suggest that it is possible to design quite simple questions which reduce the incidence of 'defensive' answering to levels which do not represent a serious problem for the use of the resulting statistics.²⁹

²⁸ As exemplified by the 'departure cards' which international passengers on airplanes and ships have to complete and hand to the customs or passport control officers before boarding. Casual observations suggest that the problems with these cards as basis for departure statistics are not with the procedures as such, but with the quality of the design of the cards and the procedures for handling and processing them once they have been collected. Australia has been able to establish a system whereby all departures (and) arrivals to the country are being registered (see Hugo, 1994).

²⁹ The linking of departure information from nationals with information from the arrival cards for those who return, will throw further light on the outflows by providing possibilities to analyse the structure of the actual absences, and of those who have not yet returned. However, this requires the use of sophisticated procedures and computer equipment, as well as coordination and cooperation between all authorities, local and central, involved in border controls and the production of statistics. The latter requirement may be more of an obstacle than the former.

(i) Statistics from receiving countries

It is quite clear that this is the cheapest source of statistics on outflows of workers. Those who leave one country have to arrive in another. In a well organized world it would logically not be necessary to collect statistics both at the point of departure and at the point of arrival. However: (i) some of the important receiving countries will not have developed the capacity to produce statistics on the inflow of workers by country of origin, and others may lack the willingness to share their statistics with others; and (ii) the country of origin has very little influence on the quality and timing of the statistics made available from the receiving countries, and the statistics coming from different receiving countries are not likely to be comparable, nor comparable with statistics available in the country of origin. Nevertheless, cost considerations may be more important than these inconveniences.

4.3 Outflow statistics: Concluding remarks

Other countries' inflow statistics are the cheapest and most promising source for statistics on the outflow of workers from a country. None of the possible administrative sources in the country can provide statistics with close to complete coverage, if the ambition is to estimate the total outflow of migrant workers. Nonetheless, administrative registrations which can provide some statistics on outflows of particular groups of workers do exist. If they are effectively supervised and/or administered, a big if, then the most promising among these are the reports from recruitment agencies and the records of special insurance schemes for nationals working abroad, or any other scheme with which persons going abroad for more than short visits, and only they, will have an incentive to register. Countries concerned with the outflow of migrant workers should also consider including relevant questions into their *Labour Force Surveys*, as this will provide a few general indicators on overall outflows at small extra costs. Another possible statistical source for groups where the 'island' parallel is appropriate are statistical border or 'departure point' registrations. The sources can provide valid and reliable statistics only if there is political will and administrative capacity to carry out well their broader objectives, as the production of statistics on the outflow of workers can only be a by-product of their operations. However, because such statistics will be important by-products, the relevant quality considerations should be seen as important in the design of the specific registration procedures.

5. RETURN FLOW OF MIGRANT WORKERS

The *return flow of migrant workers* is the least well described of the key groups of migrant workers on which this paper focuses. Very few, if any, governments have found it necessary to control the return flow of its citizens, and the group is small relative to all the groups of which it can be regarded to be a part, such as nationals who are returning from visits abroad. This makes it difficult in practice to reliably identify separately the members of this group from those in the larger group, even when it should be possible to do so in principle.

The possible **administrative sources** can be found among those discussed with respect to the outflow and inflow of migrant workers, cf. chapters 3 and 4. Some of these registrations, such as those concerning apprehensions of illegal border crossings, are not relevant. For others the specific type of information requested may be different, e.g. that the *reports from recruitment agencies and enterprises with foreign contracts* must concern those workers which they have brought home during a recent period. The operational issues which will determine the completeness of the coverage of the respective systems will, however, be the same as those already discussed. The problems involved in using *registrations at the border*, or *reports to population registers, tax or social security authorities* will also be the same as those already discussed in chapter 4. With *special insurance schemes*, cf. section 3(d), the question will be whether the members will have an incentive to report that they *withdraw* from the scheme, e.g. to avoid having to pay for a coverage which no longer is relevant or obtainable.

The possible **statistical sources** are also the same as those discussed with respect to the outflow and inflow of migrant workers. The *household surveys* discussed in sections 3(f) and 4(i) will need to include questions related to possible spells of work abroad, their timing and duration, the type of work involved and other circumstances thought to be relevant.³⁰ It should be recalled that a general household survey, even with a large sample, is likely to produce only a small number of relevant observations in most countries. This severely limits the types and usefulness of the statistics which can be produced, as the precision levels normally requested by users cannot be achieved.³¹ *Establishment surveys* are even less well suited for the measurement of return flows of migrant workers than for the measurement of outflows and inflows, with the possible exception for surveys targeted at establishments who recruit for or engage in work abroad. For the 'island' type situations discussed in sections 3(k) and 4(h) it will be logical to incorporate into the *border registrations of arrivals* elements which make it possible to distinguish returning migrant workers from other arrivals, i.e. through the questions included on the 'arrival cards' and through the possibilities for linking arrival cards with departure cards for the same persons.

The usefulness of household surveys as a source for statistics on return flows of migrant workers is clearly limited. It is also difficult to point to any one source of return flow statistics as clearly capable of providing statistics with satisfactory coverage and quality, especially if cost effectiveness is considered. Where they exist, and with suitable incentives for de-registration, the records of special insurance schemes for nationals working abroad may be the most promising source for indications of changes in such return flows. Another possible source in countries or for situations or groups where the 'island' parallel is relevant would be statistical 'arrival' registrations. The potential sources can only be established and maintained as instruments capable of providing valid and reliable statistics if there is political will and administrative capacity to allow them to serve their broader objectives. The production of statistics on the return flow of workers can only be a by-product of their administrative functions. However, because this could be an important by-product, considerations of statistical quality should have an important impact when designing the respective registration and survey procedures.

6. STOCK OF FOREIGN WORKERS

Two strategies are available for the estimation of the stock of a group of persons at a point in time: (i) one can estimate the stock at time T as the net effect of all movements into and out of the group since a previous stock estimates at time T-1 (or over a time period long enough to mean that all original members of the group can be assumed to have left it); or (ii) by establishing for all, or a representative sample of, members of a larger group (which includes all possible members of the target group) whether or not they actually satisfy the criteria for being included in the target group. The main disadvantage with the first strategy is that there may be errors and biases in the measurements of each of the components: thus the quality of the available estimates of the starting stock, of the entrants to and of the leavers from the group, must be known in order to evaluate the quality of the resulting stock estimates, i.e. the likely size and type of biases. The main disadvantage with the second strategy is that it may not be possible to cover the total population on a complete count or sample basis. It may also be that when sampling the total population the number of observations for the target population will not be large enough to permit estimates to be made with the required precision. The best strategy for any particular target group will depend upon the quality of the respective sources, the cost of using them, the frequency with which the stock estimates are needed and the size of the flows relative to the stock. Cost considerations may, for example, make it preferable to estimate the stock at time T using poor flow estimates and a good estimate of the stock at time T-1, if the flows can be assumed to be relatively small. However, if they are large, or if the time period between T-1 and T is long, then it may be preferable to use the strategy of direct stock estimates.

³⁰ Section 4 of the questionnaire used for Botswana's Labour Force Survey 1995/96 concerns returned migrant workers.

³¹ The situation will normally be somewhat better with a properly *targeted* household survey.

6.1 Possible administrative sources

(a) Accumulated entry or immigration visas

Visas are usually issued by a representative of the receiving country located in or near the sending country, and based on a completed application form and accompanying documentation. If a report on the visa issued and its recipient is forwarded to the responsible agency in the home country, it may be used as a basis to create a *central register of foreigners (CRF)*. If the records of the CRF are well kept, then it should be possible to make a direct estimate of the currently valid or active entry or immigration visas. The technically simplest case is to make the estimation on the assumption that everyone with an expired visa either left the country or died. A more satisfactory basis for the estimates would be if the border control procedures update the CRF. It may be necessary to apply some type of time limit criterion as well, to account for those who will have died while in the country, unless the procedures for capturing information about those who die while in the country function satisfactorily, or it is clear from the demographic characteristics that very few will have died.³²

(b) Accumulated permission to work in the country

Work permits are usually issued by an agency in the receiving country, even if the applications are dealt with by local representatives of the sending country. In the receiving country, however, the granting of work permits may be delegated to local labour market authorities, who then report to the central office at regular intervals. If the records of the (central office of the) issuing agency are well organized, then it will be possible to make an estimate of the currently valid or active work permits issued to foreigners. The simplest assumption is that everyone with an expired permit has left the country, or at least stopped working, if they did not die or become citizens. A more satisfactory basis for the estimates would be if the border control procedures outlined in section 3(c) and 4.1 (e) made possible estimates based on actual registrations of arrivals and departures. It may be necessary to apply some time limit criterion as well, to account for those who will have died or acquired citizenship, unless it is clear that very few will have done so or that the procedures for capturing information about them is functioning very satisfactorily.

(c) Apprehension of clandestine foreign citizens

Those who have overstayed the time limits of their permission to work in the country, or who have crossed the borders at unauthorized points and/or without the proper papers, run the risk of being apprehended. The police's records of such apprehensions should in principle provide a basis for estimating the extent to which the number of clandestine foreigners is increasing or decreasing, on the assumption that the authorities manage to capture a relatively constant, even if unknown, proportion of the clandestine foreign citizens. Statistics based on police records must, however, be used with great care, as it has been well documented from other areas of statistics based on such registrations, that variations in the number of apprehensions often reflect an enhanced, or reduced, capacity and effectiveness of the police force itself, and not variations in the incidence of offenses. It is therefore necessary for the proper interpretation of such registrations to establish that they do not coincide with changes in staffing or procedures. Another issue is whether it is possible to link apprehended clandestine residents to the national labour market, or to particular parts of it. It is not evident that the police authorities will find it warranted to spend extra resources to establish reasons motivating clandestine residencies in the country. Immediate expulsion is frequently seen as the most cost effective sanction, preventing the registration of more than the most basic facts concerning the apprehended persons.

³² Switzerland is an example of a country which keeps a central register of foreigners although the general population registration system is completely decentralised. There are central registers for diplomats and officials at the international organizations, asylum seekers and refugees, and other foreign residents and workers. Statistics on foreign residents and workers are frequently produced, most frequently on the basis of the last of these registers.

(d) Accumulated applications for asylum and grants of refugee status

The relevance of these registrations as a source of statistics for the stock of certain types of migrant workers should be considered: (i) because of the perception that many applications for asylum represent efforts to escape from difficult economic and social circumstances rather than human rights related persecutions, war like situations or natural disasters; and (ii) because persons in the country waiting for their applications to be processed or who have been granted refugee status are, or could be, part of the labour force. Knowledge about the regulations concerning their status and possible activities, and about the control with their implementation, will determine the outcome of such considerations.

(e) Population, tax and social security registers

Some of the basic features and problems of population registers have been outlined in section 3(f) and 4.1(e). These are of course also relevant when considering whether valid and reliable statistics on the stock of foreign workers can be produced from this source. Particular importance must be given to the problems of capturing those who leave the district covered by a local register, because foreign workers, even those who qualify as residents, are generally more mobile than the rest of the population. Compilation of statistics on the stock of foreigners from local population registers is, therefore, likely to include a substantial number of double counts as well as a number of persons who have left the country.³³ Even if moves are reported to the local population registers, the reports may not provide reliable information on the economic activity of the persons. It must be concluded that statistics on the stock of foreigners registered in local population registers in most countries with such registers can only signal directions of change in such stocks, and that it is necessary to be very careful in concluding that such statistics can signal anything about changes in the stock of foreign workers. This is dependent on how the reporting system functions in practice and it is, of course, possible that knowledge about it may lead to a much more positive conclusion.

Some of the basic features and problems of registers kept by tax and social security services have been referred to in section 3(g). These are of course also relevant when considering whether valid and reliable statistics on the stock of foreign workers, or on particular groups of such workers, can be produced from these sources. The main advantage of these registration systems is that they normally relate directly to the employment situation of persons. The main disadvantage is that they need to be effective, both in catching those who should be covered and in excluding those who should not. Thus, again it is necessary to have a good knowledge of how the registration procedures function in practice to be able to conclude whether and how these registrations can be used as a basis for statistics on employment in general and on the employed stock of foreign workers in particular.

(f) Reports from recruitment agencies

The possibility of using as a basis for statistics reports from recruitment agencies of foreign workers and enterprises which themselves recruit workers abroad, was discussed in section 3(h). Such agencies and enterprises should be required to keep records of those of 'their' workers who are currently in the country and to regularly report on their numbers according to characteristics such as sex, age, receiving country, occupation and industry of their employer. The quality and reliability of such self-reports may be reinforced by regular, unpredictable controls of the agencies' records; in particular if the regulations give precise and practical guidelines on how these records should be kept. The controls need to be effective and the sanctions credible and more costly than non-compliance. The coverage of the statistics based on these reports will of course be limited to the types of workers recruited for work abroad through such agencies and to their share of the total stock

³³ In some countries the leavers for other parts of the country will be reported upon from the place they move to, either through a central, national population registration system, e.g. in the Nordic countries, or through direct communication between the localities, e.g. in Switzerland. With the exception of the Nordic countries, very few countries have established such direct communications between their national population registration systems.

of foreign workers recruited. However, statistics on this basis should provide good indications of year to year changes in the total stock of workers abroad administered by such agencies and enterprises.

6.2 Possible statistical sources

The possible statistical sources are the same as those discussed with respect to the outflow and inflow of migrant workers. The estimates coming from *household surveys* need to be based on the same type of questions used for estimation of recent arrivals in the country, cf. section 3(j), but without regard for the timing of the arrival.³⁴ Imprecision due to sampling will impose important limitations on the type of statistics which can reliably be produced, but this problem is less serious than for statistics on inflows.³⁵ The big advantage of *population censuses* as a source of statistics on foreign workers is that special efforts are made during the census operations to capture 'marginal' groups which may be too small, even when added together, to warrant special attention and effort in a sample survey. This means that the problem of non-response from 'foreign workers' should be less in the population census than in regular surveys. However, in both household surveys and censuses one must expect that the non-response problem is likely to vary significantly between groups of foreigners, depending on the regularity of their residence or work status. Those in the least regular situation are most likely to make the most effort to avoid being counted.

Household surveys and population censuses represent very important sources for statistics on stocks of foreign workers. Carefully designed and implemented with particular concern for the difficulties of collecting information from persons who may not communicate well in the main language(s) of the country or who have reasons to feel that their position in the country may be precarious, household surveys could be the best instrument available to obtain broad information about the size and structure of the stock of foreign workers and about general trends in its development over time. From a cost effectiveness perspective the best strategy is to include appropriate modules in the existing general *labour force survey (LFS)*, and occasionally extend it through specially targeted supplementary samples and more detailed questions. In most countries the relatively small proportion of the population that are foreigners means that it is particularly difficult to obtain reliable change estimates. The population censuses provide the best possible set of statistics for the structure and long-term changes in the stocks, if they are carefully designed to do so.

Establishment surveys can be used as a basis for incomplete statistics on the employment of foreign workers. The incompleteness will be a function of several factors: (i) the usual exclusion of agricultural establishments and establishments in the informal sector from the effective scope of such surveys; (ii) establishments included in the survey are not likely to report that they employ clandestine workers, even if confidentiality has been promised by the statistical agency; (iii) some establishments will not include 'citizenship' in their personnel files and therefore cannot give separate numbers for foreign workers. A separate survey may be warranted for establishments which are known to employ workers from abroad or which are in sectors where this is common, in particular if reports to the regulating agency cannot be used as a basis for statistics or if such statistics need to be supplemented.

6.3 Statistics on the stock of foreign workers: Concluding remarks

Realistically speaking, the only cost effective strategy for generating reliable statistics on the stock of foreign workers on a regular, i.e. annual, basis is through the exploitation of the records in a coordinated

³⁴ The frequent exclusion of 'institutional households' from the scope of such surveys may undermine their potential as a source for these statistics, if such 'households', in addition to e.g. prisons, hospitals and military compounds, will include the kind of collective 'households' in which many foreign workers typically live - in particular if they have short-term or otherwise precarious contracts. (The special problems of sampling and estimation which they represent make it tempting to exclude such households, even when they include a significant number of economically active persons.)

³⁵ See (Salt et al., 1993) for a review of the possibilities for using the LFSs of the European Union member countries to provide statistics on the stock of foreign workers. See also footnote 12.

system of general population registration, entry visas and work permits, with appropriate control mechanisms both for compliance and for proper implementation by the respective local offices. However, it is also clear that very few countries, if any, have been able to establish the necessary institutional infrastructures, capacities and procedures.³⁶ The only realistic alternative is to incorporate relevant questions into the regular household survey, and supplement them at intervals with targeted household surveys containing more detailed questions. Both administrative and statistical sources have to be supplemented and calibrated with the help of the decennial population census, provided that special care has been made in its design to capture 'marginal' groups such as migrant workers, including those whose work situation may be described as 'irregular'.

7. STOCK OF WORKERS ABROAD

The first of the two strategies outlined in section 6 can also be applied to the estimation of a stock of workers abroad at a point in time: one can estimate the stock at time T as the net effect of all movements into and out of the group since a previous stock estimate at time T-1 (or over a time period long enough to mean that all original members of the group can be assumed to have left it). However, the information which can be obtained from all, or a representative sample of, persons in the country of origin, can only relate to their knowledge about fellow citizens who are residing abroad, as they cannot be reached. The main disadvantages with the first strategy are the same as those outlined in section 6, with an added concern for the quality of the stock estimate at time T-1. The main disadvantages with the second strategy are the same as those outlined in section 6, with the added concern with the reliability of estimates based on indirect knowledge about other persons' situation and behaviour.

Because persons who have obtained citizenship in a new country will not always lose the citizenship of their country of origin, any effort to obtain estimates of the number of workers abroad must consider the following question: When do the citizens who have left a country to take up work in another cease to retain the link to the original country which defined them as belonging to its stock of workers abroad? Three types of answers to this question are reasonable, depending on the issues one would like to address with the help of the resulting statistics: (i) until they die or return home, whichever comes first; (ii) until they obtain citizenship, or equivalent legal rights, in the host country, return home or die, whichever comes first; (iii) until X years have passed, they return home or die, whichever comes first.

7.1 Possible administrative sources

If the records of the agency issuing *emigration visas or permissions to work abroad* are well organized, then it would logically be possible to make an estimate based directly on the currently valid or active exit or emigration visas or permissions to work abroad. The technically simplest form for the estimation is to assume that everyone whose visa/permission has expired has either returned or has died abroad, and that none of those with still valid visas/permissions are back or have died. Then the stock of workers abroad can be estimated by the number of currently valid visas. A more satisfactory estimation procedure would be if the border controls make possible the use of the registrations of those who actually departed and returned. In either case it may be necessary to apply some type of time limit criterion, as a simple way of 'writing off' those who died while abroad or who have overstayed there for a long period. The estimated stocks will of course only refer to the number of authorized departures.

Special insurance schemes for workers abroad which are based on one-off subscriptions valid for a specific time period, do not need a continuously updated membership register. They only need a register of persons to whom they have sold coverage which is still valid. The number of valid policies should, however, provide a rough estimate of the stock of workers abroad. This estimate can be refined with supplementary information and assumptions concerning rates of return and deaths. Schemes which

³⁶ Even the 'ideal' administrative system would only capture those groups which correspond to the rules being administered. This means for example that short term visitors who do not need a visa to enter the country may engage in economic activities, i.e. seek seasonal or other short term work, which can only be discovered through police investigations or special controls.

are financed partly or wholly by continuous collection of contributions from their members will need to maintain updated membership registers. These registers should therefore provide a good source for statistics on workers abroad, to the extent determined by whether they are in fact kept up-to-date, that they do cover all workers abroad (or a known subset of them).³⁷

The possibility of using *reports from recruitment agencies and enterprises with contracts for work abroad* as a basis for statistics on the outflow of workers was discussed in section 4(d). Such agencies and enterprises should also be required to keep records of those of 'their' workers who are currently abroad, and to regularly report on their numbers according to characteristics such as sex, age, receiving country, occupation and industry of their employer. The quality and reliability of such reports will depend on the same control systems as those discussed earlier. The same limitations to their coverage will also apply. However, statistics on this basis should provide good indications on e.g. year to year changes in the total stock of workers abroad administered by such agencies and enterprises.

Section 4(e) discussed a number of other administrative registration systems which should be considered as potential sources for statistics to throw light upon the outflow of migrant workers. For some of them it may be worthwhile to consider whether they can also provide a basis for estimates of the stock of migrant workers abroad, or of the direction of change in this stock. Two types of considerations are important: (i) Does the responsible agency need to maintain accumulated registrations for its operations? (ii) Are there effective mechanisms to ensure that persons are removed from the files when they cease to belong to the group or upon death? A positive answer to the first of these questions can be given for the *permissions for an individual to transfer or receive funds from abroad, or to hold foreign currency bank accounts*. If the answer is negative to the second question, then it may be possible to use the difference in the number of persons who executed a transaction over the last x months this year and over the corresponding months last year as an indicator of the direction of change in the stock of workers abroad. Obviously this indicator is a fairly approximate one, in particular as it cannot reflect those transfers done by persons who are avoiding official channels for transferring funds.

The responsible agencies will normally not have operational need to accumulate the other registrations discussed in section 4(e), with the possible exception of *registrations at national consulates*. (It is possible, but not likely, that their contacts with the citizens of the country they represent will enable them to answer positively to both questions posed above.) The main function of the reports about outflows to the *population registers, the tax authorities and social security authorities* is to remove people from their active files. The records of those removed in this way may be stored in 'passive' files, but their quality and accessibility are likely to be very poor as a consequence of the lack of estimates based on indirect knowledge about other persons' situation and behaviour.

7.2 Possible statistical sources

The possible statistical sources are the same as those discussed with respect to the outflow and inflow of migrant workers. The estimates based on *household surveys* will have to be based on the same type of questions used for estimation of recent outflows, cf. section 4(f), but without regard for the timing of the departure for those family members, relatives, former neighbours or colleagues who have not returned or died. Uncertainties due to sampling imprecision will impose important limitations on the type of statistics which can reliably be produced, but this problem will not be as serious as for estimates of outflows. *Establishment surveys* cannot be used as basis for statistics on this group. The only exception is with respect to establishments who are recruiting for or engaged in work abroad, cf. the discussion in section 7.1. A statistical survey of such establishments can supplement the reports they have to submit to the agency regulating them, or it may be used because those reports do not exist or are thought to be totally inadequate.

³⁷ The records must be able to distinguish workers from other members if the scheme is designed to include also students and accompanying members of the workers' families.

Countries with the 'island' type situations discussed in sections 3(k) and 4(h), and the necessary administrative and statistical capacity will in principle be able to develop estimates of the number of their citizens who are residing abroad through the use of their *border registrations of departures and arrivals*. Making use of information on the departure and arrival cards about the duration of the absence (expected and actual, respectively), sex, age and place of residence in the country, it will be possible to make reasonable estimates about return rates by intended period of absence and thereby also estimates of those who remain abroad. These estimates can be made more precisely, both for totals and for particular groups of interest if the arrival cards can be matched with the corresponding departure cards for the same persons, and if age/and sex specific mortality rates are used in generating the estimates.

7.3 Statistics on the stock of workers abroad: Concluding remarks

It is quite clear that the cheapest source for statistics on stock of migrant workers abroad will be *estimates from receiving countries*. This cost consideration may be more important than the inconveniences: (i) Some of the important receiving countries may not have developed the capacity to produce statistics on the stock of foreign workers by country of origin, or they may not be willing to share such statistics with others. (ii) The country of origin will have very little influence on the quality and timing of the statistics made available from the receiving countries, they are not likely to be comparable or consistent across countries, nor comparable or consistent with statistics available from the country itself. Possibilities for exploiting national sources for statistics on the stock of workers abroad exist, if the systems generating them can be established and properly administered, as discussed earlier.

8. DESCRIPTIVE VARIABLES: DATA QUALITY ISSUES

The above review of possible sources for statistics relevant to the description and analysis of the five different key groups of migrant workers have focused on their capacity to cover these populations. However, the users of the statistics are concerned also with the capacity of the various sources to provide statistics which include necessary *descriptive variables*, including the required degree of geographic details; and whether the statistics are produced with the required *frequency and timeliness*.

8.1 Validity and reliability

The issue of the **validity** of descriptive variables is related to whether or not these variables are recorded and, if recorded, whether the categories used, i.e. the value sets, can provide answers to the questions posed by users of the statistics. The question of **reliability** of the recorded variable values is related to whether the recorded information is the correct representation of the characteristic it is intended to reflect. That problem should be split into two issues: has the correct information been given and is the recorded value a correct and complete reflection of the information given? Neither of these questions can be answered easily. A positive answer to either of them can normally only be given if certain well-defined procedures are being followed in the collection and processing of the information and if the officers carrying out these tasks have received the necessary training and tools.

Descriptive variables which should be expected for all the five key groups discussed in this paper include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:³⁹

³⁸ Matching of arrival cards with the corresponding departure cards can be done with high accuracy on the basis of name, date of birth and address of the traveller, but will be much simpler on the basis of the *Unique Personal Identification Numbers (UPIN)* of the type used in e.g. the Nordic countries. Australia is one country which has been able to establish a system based on the matching of arrival and departure cards without the use of UPINs, cf. (Hugo, 1994).

³⁹ To analyse the data collection process of administrative registrations, and the quality of the resulting statistics, it is in addition important to register both the date that the information was provided by the respondent and the date at which the data became available or were first being used for the production of statistics. Information about these dates are needed when evaluating the extent to which all records concerning a particular reference period, and only those, were in fact used when producing statistics for that period. Without these dates for important steps in the data registration process it will be impossible to say whether the information does refer to a particular reference period or only represents the information available at a particular point in time.

- (a) Age (group);
- (b) Sex;
- (c) Address/locality;
- (d) Citizenship;
- (e) Educational attainment;
- (f) Marital status.

For the *inflows* and *outflows* the following descriptive variables are expected in addition to the variables (a) through (f):

- (g) Occupation of last main job in home country;
- (h) Occupation of job recruited (or looking) for in receiving country;
- (i) Industry of last main employer in home country;
- (j) Industry of employer in the receiving country;
- (k) Type of work contract (status in employment) in last main job in home country;
- (l) Type of work contract in receiving country;
- (m) Length of previous work periods in receiving country;
- (n) Capacity to use language of receiving country;
- (o) Date of (expected) arrival in receiving country.

For the *return flow* of migrant workers, in addition to variables (a) through (f), one would expect to have the following variables:

- (p) Occupation of last main job in the receiving country;
- (q) Industry of the last main job in the receiving country;
- (r) Length of last stay in the receiving country;
- (s) Expected length of stay in home country.

For the *stock of foreign and migrant workers*, in addition to variables (a) through (f), and (n), one would want these further descriptive variables:

- (t) Activity status (employed/unemployed/outside the labour force);
- (u) Occupation of current job (or last job, if not employed);
- (v) Industry of current job (or last job, if not employed);
- (w) Type of work contract (status in employment) in current job (or last job, if not employed);
- (x) Length of current stay in country, and total length of employment periods;
- (y) Type of family situation in home country;
- (z) Type of living situation in receiving country.

Several of the administrative registrations discussed in this paper cannot be expected to capture reliably the information needed for a number of the above variables, because of their limited relevance to the main objectives of the administrative systems. Not included in these lists are a number of variables which are important for many types of analysis and description, but where the necessary information is extremely difficult to obtain reliably from routine data collection programmes, e.g. information about incomes gained and fees paid.

To capture the information needed for each variable one or more questions must be included on the registration form. These questions must be formulated in ways which makes it easy for the respondents to understand the type of answer which they should provide. Pre-coded response alternatives should be labelled to make it easy for the respondents to relate the alternatives to their situation. Where a written response is required, e.g. for country of citizenship, type of educational attainment, type of industry or type of occupation, enough space must be made available on the form to make it possible for the

respondent to give the pertinent information.⁴⁰ The following sections address specific issues with respect to some of the variables listed above:

(a) Age (item (a) in the above list)

The most commonly used information to define age is 'date-of-birth', which controlling agencies often use as an important element to identify individuals. In some cases age is also important to determine eligibility for different types of visa or permissions.⁴¹ Thus there is a real danger that the information might be incorrect for many persons on the 'wrong' side of a lower or upper age limit. It is also possible that the administrative agency may not bother registering any other age information than whether or not the person is within the authorized age limit(s).

For statistical description and analysis, the *age* variable can be derived from the date-of-birth information either by using the year of birth or by subtracting the date of birth from the date of registration or date of arrival or departure. The former method is preferable because it does not rely on precise information about the day and month of birth and it permits statistics to be produced for cohorts, making it much easier to calculate age-group specific rates and to follow persons from the same 'generation' over time.

(b) Educational attainment (item (e))

Information about 'educational attainment' by level and type of specialization, or about 'training completed', 'formal qualifications' or 'certificates' is frequently collected by the migration control agencies to determine whether or not the potential migrant worker satisfies the standards set for (different types of) visas and/or work permits. Recruitment agencies often need the same type of information for their job placement function which may require that quite detailed distinctions be made, although between a limited number of possible categories, because of the tendency of recruitment agencies to specialize according to type of worker or type of employer. Both the control and the recruitment agencies tend to use their own classification systems for educational attainment, normally unrelated to any national standard classification of 'education' used by the sending or the receiving countries for their educational statistics or for statistics on the educational attainment of their populations. Special procedures are therefore needed to convert the information given to, and checked by, the reporting agencies into a classification system which will be consistent with that used for other areas of statistics.

To code the educational attainment of foreign citizens is complicated because a national classification of education is normally constructed to reflect the current system of education in the country, whereas foreign migrants may have been educated over a period of up to 20 years in another country's educational system.⁴² The most reliable transformation of information given on the registration form to codes according to the national classification of education can be best assured if there is: (i) a set of questions designed to obtain the highest level of education attained and a separate (set of) question(s) designed to determine the field of specialization; and (ii) a pre-coded list of alternatives specified for the levels. In addition (iii) coding of the specialization should be done with as much detail as possible from the information provided by the written responses; and (iv) coding should be done with the help of strict coding rules and a coding index constructed from previous experience with such responses. Computer algorithms should be used to construct the appropriate educational attainment category during the tabulation process. The fact that only

⁴⁰ These observations may seem like simple common sense, but they are ignored in many registration systems, causing inconvenience and uncertainty to those giving the information, long-term extra costs to the responsible agency and unnecessary deficiencies in the quality of the resulting registrations.

⁴¹ Cf. that e.g. India, Indonesia and Pakistan will not give permissions for women below certain ages to work abroad as domestic workers.

⁴² The registration of the educational attainment for outflows faces the same problems, but at a lesser scale. For a more detailed discussion see (Hoffmann, 1992).

a few countries have national classifications of education based on or linked to the *International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)* will further complicate the exchange and comparison of statistics on the educational attainments of migrant workers.

(c) Occupation (items (g), (h), (p) and (u))

Information about the occupation of past, current or future jobs, reflecting the 'type of work (to be) performed' by the migrant worker, is frequently collected by the migration control agencies to determine whether or not the potential migrant worker satisfies or not the requirements for (different types of) visas and/or work permits. These may frequently be expressed with reference to certain (types of) occupations only, without other detailed distinctions. Recruitment agencies often make use of the same type of information for their job placement function, which may require that quite detailed distinctions be made, but normally between a limited number of different occupations because of the tendency of recruitment agencies to specialize according to type of worker or type of employer. Both the control and the recruitment agencies therefore tend to use their own classification systems for 'occupation', or a 'collapsed' version of the respective national standard classification of occupations of the sending or receiving countries, used for their national statistics or for job placements by national employment services. Special procedures may therefore be needed to convert the information given to, and checked by, these agencies into a classification system which will be consistent with that used for other areas of statistics.

The most reliable coding of occupation according to the national classification of occupations normally results if: (i) there are one or two questions designed to obtain information which correspond to an occupational title and the main tasks and duties of the job; and (ii) coding is done with as much detail as possible from the information provided, with the help of strict coding rules and a coding index constructed from previous experience with such responses.⁴³ The fact that many of the national standard occupational classifications are based on or linked to the *International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88)* will facilitate the exchange and comparison of information about the occupations of migrant workers.

(d) Industry (items (i), (j), (q) and (v))

Agencies concerned with the control of migrant workers will often ask for information about the future (sponsoring) employers of the workers for control purposes. However, information about the sector of those employers will normally only be of interest to the controlling agency in the receiving country to the extent that only employers in certain sectors, e.g. agriculture, food processing or tourism, are allowed to hire migrant workers, e.g. to cope with seasonal peaks in work loads. Recruitment agencies need precise information about the type of industry of their employer clients only as help to determine the type of experience and skills needed by the workers they recruit, and there is a tendency of recruitment agencies to specialize according to type of worker or type of employer. Both the control and the recruitment agencies therefore tend to use their own classification systems for employer's activity, i.e. industry, or to use a 'collapsed' version of the national standard classification of industrial activities, used by the sending or receiving countries respectively for their national statistics. Much less detailed information can therefore be expected concerning 'industry' than for 'occupation' or 'educational attainment', and probably also less detailed statistics than most users would like to have.

Reliable coding of industry according to the national classification will normally result if: (i) there are one or two questions designed to obtain information which corresponds to the title of an industrial sector and the main products and services provided by the establishment to which the job belongs; and (ii) coding is done with as much detail as possible from the information provided, with the help of strict coding rules and a coding index constructed from previous experience with such

⁴³ See (Hoffmann et al, 1995) and Chapter 9 in (Hussmanns, Mehran & Verma, 1990) for further details on how to capture and code occupational information.

responses.⁴⁴ The fact that many of the national standard industrial classifications are based on or linked to the *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC, rev. 3)*, or its European Community's parallel, *NACE, rev.2*, should facilitate the exchange and comparison of information about the industrial sectors of migrant workers when such information is available.

(e) Type of work contract (status in employment) (items (k), (l) and (w))

The types of visas or work permits under which migrant workers are allowed to take up work in a country often limit the type of contract which can be established between the employer and the worker, e.g. with respect to its duration, the type of work to be done and the respective possibility for the worker and the employer to terminate the contract and to seek other employment/employee. For migrant workers the type of visa may therefore provide a good classification of the type of their contract they have. However, that classification may not correspond to any classification of contracts or employment situations used to produce statistics for national workers. Such limitations do frequently not correspond to the terms of contract between the same employers and nationals.

National statistical collections on employment may use a classification of *status in employment* which is designed to reflect the type of authority and economic risk which the work contract establishes for a job. This classification will normally only distinguish between 'employees', 'employers', 'own account workers', 'members of producer's cooperatives' and 'contributing family workers'. The terms of the visas/work permits can frequently be seen as specifying particular sub-categories of 'employees', but one of the short-comings of most national labour statistics systems is that there have been no efforts to reflect the type of contractual situation with which migrant workers frequently are faced in the national 'status in employment' classifications. The *International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93)* tries to provide a basis for doing so by exemplifying some sub-groups of 'employees' which can correspond to some of the contract situations specified by visas or work permits for foreign workers. However, this effort is tentative and needs to be further developed on the basis of systematic analysis of specific work contract implications of various visa and work permit requirements from a range of countries.

(f) Geographic location (item (c))

Most problems and opportunities associated with the international migration of workers are local, in the sense that their concrete manifestations are found in specific localities (i.e. they are more important in some districts, villages, towns or cities than in others), whether we are considering the sending or the receiving countries. It is therefore important to be able to answer to the questions "Where do the migrant workers come from?" and "Where do the foreign workers work?" with the name of a geographic location. Geographic context is important in formulating as well as implementing policies, and for the analysis which can provide the basis for an evaluation of those policies and related developments.

Various mechanisms can be used to determine the geographic references: (i) home address of the migrant, and employer's address, respectively for the sending and receiving country, are frequently collected to facilitate identification of and communication with the workers and/or the employers. (ii) The initial reception of the visa or permit application may be handled by a local (representative of the national) authority. Depending on the type of geographic references which these mechanisms provide and on the degree of detail and compatibility with other data which can be obtained, statistics on migrant workers by geographic region of origin or destination can be linked to other types of relevant information about these geographic areas.

(g) Activity status (item (t))

⁴⁴ See Chapter 9 in (Husmanns, Mehran & Verma, 1990) for further details on how to capture and code industry.

While the activity status in the country of origin will be of interest for those describing the inflow of foreign workers and the outflow of migrant workers, and the activity status in the receiving country will be of interest to those describing the return flow of migrant workers and the stock of migrant workers abroad, it seems clear that the most commonly expressed concern is with the activity status of the foreign citizens currently present in a country. In particular, concern will be with the number of unemployed foreigners and the unemployment rate among foreign citizens. As discussed in section 6(f), tax and/or social security registers may provide the basis for estimating the stock of 'employed' foreign citizens, but they may not include non-employed persons. If a social security register did include non-employed persons for its own purposes, it might be in a way which makes it difficult to reliably distinguish the unemployed from among those persons.⁴⁵

The main administrative source for estimating the number of 'unemployed' foreign citizens would be registrations by local employment services. The factors determining the coverage of 'unemployed' foreigners in such registrations will be the same as those determining their coverage in general: (i) the rules which determine who may qualify as clients of the employment service, and (ii) the extent to which particular groups of job seekers find that the employment services do provide a service which will be of help to them, either with respect to finding suitable employment or training, or with respect to unemployment compensation or other forms of financial support; (iii) the effectiveness of updating the registrations at the employment services, in particular with respect to the removal of persons who should no longer be registered.

However, the effects of these factors may be different for foreigners than for citizens: (i) in some countries foreigners may not qualify as clients; foreigners may more frequently not have the necessary work experience to qualify as recipients for unemployment benefits or training possibilities; or some groups may be referred to these services upon admission to the country, e.g. refugees and asylum seekers; (ii) the employment services tend to have a large 'market share' of placements for elementary and lower skilled jobs than for the more skilled ones, and the former type of jobs tend to be those to which foreigners are more easily admitted. On its own the effect of this may be that foreign job seekers may make use of the employment services to a larger extent than nationals, if they qualify as clients; (iii) persons should be removed from the unemployment registers when they find a job or when they stop being available for a job for other reasons, e.g. because they leave the area, which foreigners may tend to do more frequently than nationals. Procedures to ensure that persons are in fact removed are, however, underdeveloped in many employment services' registration systems.

The problems related to measuring the number of 'unemployed' foreigners with population censuses and household surveys are, in principle, no different from the problems of measuring the number of 'unemployed' nationals. However, in practice many countries experience significantly higher non-response rates for foreigners than for nationals, e.g. because of language problems. In household surveys it may also be difficult for the sampling frame and procedures to ensure that foreigners are in fact represented in the original sample to the same extent as nationals, and, as with nationals, it is particularly those groups which tend to have a difficult employment situation which it may be problematic to cover adequately. Thus statistics based on population censuses and household surveys may tend to underestimate both the number of employed persons and the number of unemployed persons among foreign residents.⁴⁶

8.2 Frequency and timeliness

⁴⁵ An 'unemployed person' is here understood in the conventional way of meaning someone who is without work, who has recently taken steps to find work and who would be available for work if a job was offered him/her.

⁴⁶ If they are underestimated to the same extent then the unemployment rate for foreigners will be correctly estimated. However, there are good reasons to believe that the underestimation of the number of unemployed will be relatively more serious than the underestimation of the number of employed foreigners, thus there will be an underestimation also of the unemployment rate.

To be useful for policy formulation and implementation statistics should be available with a frequency which corresponds to administrative patterns or time-frames for policy decisions, and with a timeliness which ensures that such decisions relate to a current situation rather than to an historical one. The actual frequency and timeliness of the statistics depends on some inherent features of the registration procedures, the organization of the processing of registrations for the production of statistics and the resources available for that work.

Most of the *administrative procedures* discussed earlier as possible sources for statistics on the flows of migrant workers are continuous processes, i.e. new applications are received every working day and decisions with respect to them are also made every day. Statistics based on positive decisions to grant exit or entry visas, work permits abroad or in the country, permissions to hold foreign currency accounts and membership in special insurance schemes, as well as registrations at the borders and with consulates can therefore in principle be produced on a daily or weekly basis, if this serves work management needs. Organizational arrangements normally make it more convenient to compile monthly summary reports. Even that may be with higher *frequency* than is warranted by policy needs.⁴⁷ In general national statistics are based on contributions from several offices, so that the *timeliness* depends on the delay in receiving the last contribution at the central office, and the time required to control and consolidate them all.⁴⁸

The *recruitment agencies* can be asked to report on their operations, as part of the licensing conditions. Such reporting may be done for each worker, or it may be on a summary basis by filling out questionnaire/tables on the basis of information in the agency's files.⁴⁹ The frequency for such reports should again be determined from the needs of the decision making process which will be using the data, as also these can be produced on a daily or weekly basis if needed that frequently. However, depending upon the circumstances of the country it will be more realistic to demand monthly, quarterly or half-yearly reports. The relevant regulations should make failure to report in a timely fashion punishable by a fine so that the resulting timeliness of the statistics from this source would depend mainly on the time needed for the processing of the reports by the regulating authority, including the period used to carry out off-site controls and consistency checks.

Statistical surveys of households and enterprises which have to be identified and approached in order for the data to be collected, are in principle much more complex, costly and time consuming operations than the registration of information about persons who present themselves at a border or take the initiative to register or apply for something. This means that the potential frequency for such surveys is much lower than the potential frequency for statistics based on administrative registrations. Whether the surveys try to measure stocks or flows, or both, is of no consequence in this connection. Countries which can include questions designed to capture information about migrant workers in their regular continuous or monthly labour force surveys will be best placed to obtain some data on these groups with reasonable frequency and timeliness. How frequent and with what timeliness depends on the particulars of the size of the groups and the sampling procedures, as it may be necessary to merge the results from several survey rounds to obtain the necessary number of observations.⁵⁰ Such statistics will describe the 'average' situation over a fairly long time period. Even though the results may become available fairly shortly after the last interviews, depending on the priorities and capacity of the statistical agency, the long waiting period may mean that the estimated flow data will be of limited interest.

⁴⁷ However, it may well be that it will be useful to have observations for every month, or with even shorter time intervals, in order to understand e.g. the weekly, monthly or seasonal pattern of arrivals and departures of migrant workers.

⁴⁸ It should be noted that the principles of this process are independent of whether any stage of this work is done with the help of computers. However, the speed whereby the work can be performed, and the amount and type of staff required, will be influenced by their use.

⁴⁹ The latter procedure normally requires more work by the recruiting agency than the former. It may still be preferred by the agency, because it gives the control authorities less insight into the particulars of the workers and the operation of the recruitment agency.

⁵⁰ The problem of selective non-response has been mentioned before and may undermine completely the LFS as a source for certain groups, cf. (Salt et al, 1993).

Population censuses are only carried out once every 5 or, in most countries, 10 years. The size and complexity of the operation means that the results are only available at best 18 to 24 months after the census reference period, and the process takes much longer in many countries. The census is therefore an instrument for the description and analysis of structures which can be assumed to be fairly stable over time, and which require the observation of fairly small groups. It is not useful for monitoring shorter term changes.

Reference was made in section 6.1 (d) to the possibility of making *stock estimates from accumulated flows*, making use of the various administrative registrations of flows. In a receiving country the most ambitious procedures would involve linking individual records of inflows and outflows, deaths and apprehensions, to determine the number of persons still present in the country at a certain point in time. Making use of information about the type of visa involved one can distinguish between those with still valid papers and those who remain as clandestine workers, recognizing that among both groups there will be persons who have been left unobserved. Similar estimates can also be made in sending countries for those who left with the proper authorizations, provided that people are registered when re-entering the country. However, such estimates can only be made with considerable time lags, and may therefore be of interest mainly to historians and to social scientists trying to estimate stable patterns or mechanisms linked to the economic and social conditions of migrating workers. The frequency and timeliness of such estimates will depend entirely on how frequent and timely the flow data are, and upon the capacity to make the calculations and evaluate the results.

9. STRATEGIES TO DEVELOP STATISTICS ON THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OF WORKERS

The type of statistics of relevance to the international migration of workers which a country can be expected to be able to produce is a function of many factors which must be carefully considered when developing a strategy for the development or improvement of such statistics. Two factors relate to the general capacity to produce statistics: (i) 'Rich' countries can use more resources for statistics than 'poor' ones. (ii) Countries with honest, competent, effective and well coordinated public administrations can produce more and better statistics than countries struggling with largely untrained staff and inexperienced and uncoordinated administrations. Two factors relate to the production of statistics on migrant workers in particular: (iii) Countries with a large number of possible ports of entry/exit need to operate more observation posts than countries with a limited number of such ports. (iv) Countries with 'large' flows of travellers across their borders will have a larger total 'population' to cover by data collection operations than countries with 'small' flows of travellers.

The most difficult situation is obviously that of a country with limited resources and an inexperienced administration, with large numbers of entry/exit ports through which a large number of international travellers pass. The best situation is obviously that of a well to do country, with experienced and well coordinated administrations and a limited number of ports through which a limited number of travellers pass. Almost all countries will find themselves somewhere in between these two extremes. Iceland may be an example of a country close to the 'best' situation. The reality for many countries in Africa and some in Asia and Latin America is that they find themselves close to the most difficult situation, in which it is virtually impossible to produce statistics which will give a reasonably complete picture of the stock and flows of migrant workers. To clarify the main options and issues involved the following discussion will focus on the two extreme situations. Throughout a general assumption will be that there is a political will to develop or improve the statistics in this area.

9.1 Strategy for a poor, low capacity, high border crossing volume country A

Statistics are not needed to identify those countries which will receive most of country A's migrant workers. Some of those countries may have reasonably good statistics on the inflow of foreign workers, and in particular the authorized inflow. For country A one pillar in the statistical strategy should therefore be to establish a mechanism whereby it will receive regularly statistical publications and special tabulations from those countries concerning its citizens in general, and on migrant workers in particular.

This material should also include statistics on persons apprehended without proper papers. If necessary the mechanism should involve a formal agreement with the other countries, and the responsibility for its implementation should be given to the national statistical office and its representatives in the countries in question.

The second pillar of the programme of statistics on migrant workers should be the inclusion of an appropriate component in the regular household sample survey (HS).⁵¹ With this pillar one can provide estimates of the total number of migrant workers, both those in our country and those who have left for work abroad. This would be a major achievement even though the estimates will be imprecise because of the sampling, problems of non-response and the generalized low capacity of the country's institutions which, in most cases, will influence the timeliness of all results from the survey, but not necessarily their reliability. To include a component on migrant workers in the survey means that, in addition to the relevant questions, particular attention must be paid to defining the population to be included in the scope of the survey and to the definition and selection of households, cf. the discussion of these issues in (Husmanns et al. 1990, chapter 11). The survey questionnaire must make it possible to compile estimates for both the *de jure* and the *de facto* populations. Household selection must be such that enterprise compounds for foreign workers would be included in the survey and properly weighted in the estimation procedures. The population census should, of course, cover the same issues as the HS, to serve as a reference point for future HS sampling and estimates, and to provide details which the HS cannot provide, in particular with respect to geographic distribution, age groups, occupations and industries.

The third pillar should be border registrations carried out at the main ports of exit and entry used for long distance international travels, because a major concern of the government is the 'export' and 'import' of skilled and highly qualified workers who are likely to be recruited to and from countries located far away, and who tend to travel with proper documentation. Statistics based on these registrations will therefore be useful. It should be accepted, however, that these registrations cannot cover 'local' exchange of workers with neighbouring countries, even though these flows may very well numerically and economically represent the dominant part of the movement also of migrant workers. Strong administrative capacity is needed to register all such crossings, or a representative sample of them. Even order-of magnitude estimates of the number of crossings through staffed crossing points will also be quite difficult to produce for a poor country. Statistics which can throw some light on the size of such flows, and their net impact in terms of the stock of international migrant workers at a point in time, will therefore have to be derived from the household survey.

The fourth pillar of the statistical programme for migrant workers should be the reports from agencies licensed to recruit nationals for work abroad. The authorizations issued to the agencies should specify the type of information records about each recruited worker should contain, as well as the types of summary reports which must be prepared for the licensing authorities on a regular basis, e.g. quarterly. The need for a system of regular, but unpredictable, inspections and controls of the agencies by the authorities, designed to discover inadequate or fraudulent record keeping as well as malpractice in the treatment of workers, with corresponding, credible sanctions sufficiently severe to act as disincentives, will represent a major challenge to a poor country. However, those inspections will have much broader objectives than ensuring the production of good statistics.⁵²

9.2 Strategy for a rich, tightly controlled country with few ports of entry

⁵¹ Reference is made to a *regular* HS as there are many reasons why this type of survey, covering employment, unemployment and under-employment should be given high priority in the statistical programme of any country, even a poor one; the possibility to obtain some statistics on migrant workers is only one of them.

⁵² No system of licensing, inspections and possible sanctions works perfectly, even though that is the objective. However, it should be possible to establish checks and balances which can ensure that most agencies, most of the time, will not exploit and harass workers or their families or keep false records, and that most inspectors, most of the time, will not overlook irregularities in exchange for bribes. If that is not possible, then neither the regulating system, nor the reports coming from it, are worth preserving.

A country in this situation can afford to use all the data sources and collection mechanisms which have been discussed in the previous chapters. However, as none of them alone can provide a basis for statistics which are sufficient to give answers for all concerns with respect to the international migration of workers to and from the country, a combination of selected sources needs to be exploited:

The first pillar of the statistical programme for migrant workers are the work permits issued and later linked to registrations at the times of arrival and departure. With the right equipment those registrations can be almost completely automatic,⁵³ allowing checks against visas and work permits to take place during the passport and customs control procedures. The investments in computer equipment and software will, however, have to be substantial for such procedures to operate in real time. The type of information requested of foreigners at departure will depend on the possibilities which they have had for changing employer while in the country and for obtaining or changing work permits while in the country.⁵⁴ Statistics indicative of the number of clandestine foreign workers can be produced on the basis of those who have overstayed the duration of their permits, supplemented with statistics on apprehensions of clandestine border crossings or residence in the country. Registration of departing and returning nationals may be linked to a system of permissions to work abroad, but is more likely to be motivated by the need for statistics than the desire to control population or worker movements.

The second pillar of the statistical programme for migrant workers should be the reports which employers have to make about their employees to the tax and social security services. Such reporting requirements may include all employees who work for more than a specified minimum period or total pay, i.e. as part of a compulsory health insurance scheme for all workers regardless of nationality.⁵⁵ If foreign workers are discriminated against with respect to the extent they are covered by such schemes, the reporting requirements on an individual basis may alternatively only include national employees, with the reporting requirement for foreign workers being limited to their total number, the total wage sum paid to them during a reporting period, e.g. as a basis for tax payment on the use of such workers.⁵⁶ The latter type of reports will obviously provide a less rich basis for statistics on foreign workers, but may nevertheless be a useful supplement to the first pillar, because those systems may not adequately cover foreigners who do not need work permits. The type of special insurance scheme for migrant workers, discussed in section 4(c), can be seen as an additional element in this pillar.

The third pillar for the statistical programme for migrant workers is a suitable component of the regular household survey (HS), designed to supplement the administrative information obtained from the first two pillars. This component will serve as a mechanism for calibrating the extent to which those administrative sources can produce comparable statistics over time.⁵⁷ The implications for the design of the HS with a special component on migrant workers are the same as those outlined in section 9.1, including the role of the population census. The need to establish clear guidelines for the treatment of special housing compounds for foreign workers is particularly important in countries where these represent a significant group.

⁵³ e.g. the passport, work permit and entry/departure card can be photographed in the passport control booth, scanned for data entry, linked and compared with previously recorded information in the time needed at an airport for passengers to collect their luggage and arrive at the customs control desk.

⁵⁴ Information about the last job and employer may e.g. give the basis for useful statistics on job changes and stability of employment relationships for foreign workers.

⁵⁵ If the employer is supposed to report each hiring and separation, then the quality of the resulting register as a basis for statistics on the stock of workers and the changes over time will depend directly upon how quickly such reports arrive and are processed after the event, and not only upon whether they ever arrive.

⁵⁶ A combination of the two variants may also be possible, with the citizens of some countries being treated in the same way as nationals.

⁵⁷ Reasons why they may not be able to include: changes in formal rules, regulations and procedures; changes in workloads; staff turnover; changes in staff morale; changes in the public's capacity to exploit the systems. It may be possible to make adjustments for the formal, clearly dated changes, but the others may go unobserved although their impact may be significant. Data from an independent survey may help to establish the degree of adjustment needed.

The fourth pillar for these statistics (as well as for other statistics on persons and households) is the system of *Unique Personal Identification Numbers (UPIN)* allocated to all residents, and a supplementary special, random number UPIN-F, allocated to all foreigners with valid documents for entering the country but who do not qualify as residents. UPIN-F should be issued together with the entry visa, work permit or upon entry into the country with another form of valid document. It should be used throughout their stay, for example in all the registrations referred to above.⁵⁸ Use of UPINs and UPIN-Fs will greatly facilitate both the control procedures and the combination of various administrative and statistical sources to make quality checks and produce richer statistics.

9.3 Concluding remarks

Neither of the above two programmes for statistics related to migrant workers are 'realistic' if the test of realism is that they have been established in any of the world's poor, low capacity or rich, tightly administered countries, respectively. However, elements of these strategies can be realized in many countries where statistics on migrant workers are currently missing completely or are even less satisfactory than they need to be, **provided** that there is both a general concern for adequate statistics and a specific concern with statistics on the international migration of workers. Elements already in place and the experience already gained can be mobilized to create the capacity to produce statistics relevant for the description and analysis of the international migration of workers. The specifics of the needs for such statistics will vary with the economic, social and geographic circumstances of the countries. These circumstances will also determine the range of possibilities which can be realized in the short as well as in the longer run. Political priorities will determine whether and which of these possibilities are to be realized.

Collecting and processing information to produce statistics is a labour intensive activity, which requires planning, organization and discipline from the responsible agencies as well as from the persons who are doing the work. The production of valid and reliable statistics on migrant workers specifically requires cooperation between the agencies responsible for the various elements which are involved in the formulation, implementation, description and analysis of policies related to international migration, labour markets and the enterprises, households and individuals affected.

Such cooperation should be formalized through an *International migration statistics coordinating committee (IMSCC)* with members from the visa and permits issuing agencies, the border control agency, the labour market, population registration, tax and social security agencies, and the travel industry, as well as the producers and users of statistics on international migration. IMSCC should be jointly chaired by the authority responsible for migration policies and the statistical agency. The role of IMSCC should be to: (i) provide a forum for discussions of and decisions on existing data collection and processing procedures and initiatives which may lead to changes in them, in light of the implications for the resulting statistics; and (ii) ensure that the responsible officers in the different agencies communicate closely and exchange technical advice and information with respect to e.g. the design of registration forms and questionnaire to ensure that they are easy to understand and process; the types of information to be collected; the types of control to be made of the information collected, on the spot and during the further processing; the treatment of errors and inconsistencies in the information provided; data registration procedures; the storage of registered data for easy retrieval and further processing; procedures for sending data from local to central offices; types of tabulations and ways to present the resulting statistic.

⁵⁸ Persons encountered during the HS who do not have a valid UPIN or UPIN-F, should be considered within the scope of the survey, and may provide a basis for estimating the number of clandestine residents.

⁵⁹ It is possible to imagine that the various functions could, at least in principle, be made the responsibility of one agency. However, these functions would range from negotiating agreements with foreign governments to the implementation of employment and social policies with regard to the implications for education and training policies as well as net foreign exchange earnings. They would involve police related activities as well as the production and compilation of statistics for analysis and description. As a result the within-agency coordination problems would be the same as the problems of coordination between different agencies, and not necessarily easier to resolve.

10. CAN WE GET BETTER STATISTICS ON MIGRANT WORKERS?

Demographic imbalances in both rich and poor countries. Large and increasing differences in economic and social conditions and opportunities between rich and poor countries. Continued social strife within countries. Wars between countries. Lower costs of travel between countries. These are factors which will ensure that international migration in general and international migration of workers in particular will continue to be an important policy concern and lead to important social and practical problems in many countries. Information is needed to cope with problems as well as to formulate and implement policies, and the information must be updated continuously as the nature and scope of the problems evolve. Systematic statistics constitute an important part of the information needed. In most countries users of the existing statistics have to piece together a statistical picture where many of the important pieces are missing or out-of-date, and many of the available pieces are unreliable or 'out-of-focus'. In a rational world this would seem to call for a systematic effort to improve the relevant statistics. This paper has attempted to present major problems which must be faced and some possibilities for doing so.

There do not seem to be any simple shortcuts to improved statistics, but there are many instruments available which can be improved and much relevant experience with respect to how such improvements can be made. Most of the improvements can only be introduced gradually, i.e. over several years, and must be closely linked to general improvements in the administrative and statistical capacities of countries. Improved statistics on migrant workers can only be achieved through improvements in data collection programmes with wide coverage and objectives: population registration systems, social security and tax registrations, border registration of travellers, general household surveys and population censuses. Components of these programmes can be improved for them to provide better statistics on migrant workers and other international migrants, but that is not sufficient. Good statistics on the key groups of interest in this paper can only be achieved if they can be products of good general data collection programmes. Improved statistics will only emerge gradually, because even if the necessary improvements can be implemented quickly, they will only give results over a long time period, as coherent time series are needed by most users.

It is clear that in order to obtain adequate statistics to describe and analyse the size, structure and development of international migration and groups of international migrants, the elements needed to produce them must be incorporated into all the relevant areas of social and demographic statistics, labour statistics and economic statistics. Statistics on migrant workers must be seen as an integral part of labour statistics, not as an added complication for demographic statistics which are compiled primarily for objectives other than analysing and describing labour markets and their developments. Both the data collection instruments traditionally used as a basis for statistics on 'international migration' and data collection systems which had never before been concerned with them must be re-examined in light of the broader demand for statistics relevant for understanding the role of migrant workers and their situation, with respect to a much wider range of issues than in the past.

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ANNEX 1

Country profiles of existing sources of statistics on international migrant workers

BACKGROUND AND STRUCTURE

Background

The following country profiles of statistical sources were prepared mainly on the basis of replies to a specially designed questionnaire which was sent in mid-1994 to the national authorities of 22 countries dealing with international migration (migration authorities, employment departments, ministries of labour, national statistical offices). Not all countries and in some countries not all relevant authorities replied. Further information was obtained from exploratory and advisory missions to several of the countries. National publications available to the ILO were also consulted. In view of the many different authorities responsible for the sources and statistics described, the contents of the profiles have not been systematically verified with the originating offices.

For each country, the methodological descriptions are presented by source. Sources may be administrative registrations such as those carried out at border crossings or by employment placement agencies, as well as statistical sources such as population censuses and surveys. Information on methods, procedures and the availability of reference materials and the descriptive variables which define the different categories or concepts of "international migrant" used by the source is given.

An effort was made to obtain statistics of employment and where possible unemployment of international migrant workers from the sources presented. Although it was expected that the data, if available, would cover regulated flows and stocks of migration statistics, rather than unregulated flows and stocks on which it is extremely difficult to obtain statistics, it turned out to be difficult for the majority of sources to provide similar types of information.

The concrete examples of national sources which follow have served our efforts to analyse and portray the methodological issues examined. By comparing how sources of a similar nature function in different countries with different administrative systems and capacities and with their own approaches to documenting similar phenomena, should add to the evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the different types of sources, the accuracy of concepts and definitions used and help to identify further needs and issues to be researched.

Structure

The countries reviewed and their classification as migrant receiving (R), migrant sending (S), or mixed (R/S or S/R):

Argentina	R	Korea, Rep.	S	Senegal	S
Belarus	R/S	Kuwait	R	South Africa	R/S
Côte d'Ivoire	R	Lebanon	S	Sri Lanka	S/R
Dominican Rep.	S/R	Morocco	S	Switzerland	R
Gabon	R	Pakistan	S	Thailand	S/R
Indonesia	S	Poland	S/R	United States	R
Jamaica	S/R	Portugal	S/R		
Japan	R	Russian Fed.	S/R		

Country and Source

The title of the data source used to compile international migration statistics and its periodicity or starting date where relevant. When information is available for more than one data source in a country, the profiles are presented as Country (1), (2), (3) etc. No ranking of the sources is implied by their order of presentation.

Responsible agency

The name and address of the national authority responsible for collecting, processing and publishing the data.

Operational basis

In the case of administrative registrations: the specific reporting system, its means of implementation, and the relevant regulatory basis (i.e. law, agreement).

For a census: its population and geographical coverage, including the concept of enumeration used (*de jure*: usual residents whether or not they were physically present / *de facto*: all persons physically present), the time-reference period to determine international migration. Where sampling techniques were used to obtain data on specified characteristics, information is provided.

For a labour force sample survey or special migration survey: its coverage, reference period, sample size and design.

Population covered

The type of population encompassed by the data source with specific mention of international migrant categories and/or characteristics.

Descriptive variables

Demographic and socio-economic variables requested of persons by the data source, with a distinction made according to whether the variable refers to immigration or emigration, where relevant.

Concepts and definitions

Source-specific definitions of the relevant concept(s) of migrant, and conditions of registration or inclusion/exclusion qualifications where applicable.

Statistics on stocks and flows

List of types of stock and flow statistics which are or could be produced from the data source.

Agency cooperation

Existence of inter-agency or international exchanges of statistical information drawn from the data source.

References

The title(s) of national publications, their periodicity and date of the most recent issue. The agency responsible for publishing the information if different from the data source.

Access to information

Availability of special data tabulations and/or computerized dissemination of statistics and any restrictions on the access to statistics.

COUNTRY PROFILES BY SOURCE

Argentina (1) *Administrative Register on Foreigners*, operational since 1970, not continuously.

Responsible agency:

National Migration Office (Dirección Nacional de Migraciones, DNM), Subsecretaria de Población, Ministerio del Interior, Avenida Antartida Argentina, 1355 CP. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Operational basis:

Reports from the administrative register of entry permits for temporary (maximum 10 years) or permanent residence for foreigners. An initial entry visa request must be made to Argentinean consulates abroad or by 3rd persons in Argentina directly to DNM on an applicant's behalf. The authority of DNM and the legal basis for maintaining the register are contained in Decree 1023/94: Rules for Migration. The register centralizes all information on foreigners legally entering the country through its normal ports of entry.

Population covered:

Foreign citizens entering the country for temporary or permanent residence, in the country on a permit basis who change permit status, already legally in the country but not previously registered, holding an Argentinean identity card issued under special agreement not initially covered by the register.

Descriptive variables:

Sex, date and country of birth, country of previous residence, citizenship, marital status, educational attainment, current occupation, whether accompanied by family members, country of residence of other family members, first date of entry into the country, visa or residence permit type, duration of stay permitted, local address, migrant category, admission criteria.

Concepts and definitions:

Foreign worker or foreign contract worker: person of foreign nationality hired under written contract by a person or establishment in the country,

Temporary migrant: foreigner obtaining from DNM an entry permit for temporary residence to carry out work remunerated or not,

Asylum seeker: foreigner requesting and obtaining admission (excluding diplomatic asylum) into the country due to fear for life or liberty due to race, nationality, religion, social condition or political opinion,

Refugee: foreigner having been granted refugee status and who may reside as temporary or permanent residents to whom restrictions related to duration etc. are not applicable.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of residents born abroad, of legal foreign residents, asylum seekers, refugees.

Agency cooperation:

With the Statistics and Census Institute in its capacity to coordinate the national statistical system.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Special tabulations may be requested from the Computer Data System Department, DNM.

Argentina (2) *Administrative Register of Entries and Exits*, operational since 1982 on a continuous basis.

Responsible agency:

National Migration Office (Dirección Nacional de Migraciones, DNM), (address: see Source (1)).

Operational basis:

Monthly Migration Movements forms are used for basic statistics on entries and exits of persons obtained from various other forms such as passenger lists, entry/exit cards, etc. completed at all ports of entry for both Argentineans and foreigners. The authority of DNM, the legal basis to collect data and maintain the register are contained in Law 22439/81 and Decree 1023/94 on Rules for Migration. The register centralizes the detailed

information collected on foreigners, and records the total number of nationals entering or leaving the country, through its normal ports of entry.

Population covered:

All persons entering or leaving the country. This includes Argentines (only total numbers), foreigners entering the country with temporary or permanent residence permits, temporary workers, persons in transit, tourists, crews, persons on medical treatment, precarious residents, political refugees, special visa holders.

Descriptive variables:

Sex, date and country of birth, citizenship, first and latest date of entry into the country, visa or residence permit type and duration, "entry" category, date of exit.

Concepts and definitions:

Permanent entrant: foreigner entering for the first time with a permanent residence permit or visa,

Permanent re-entrant: foreigner reentering with a permanent residence permit or visa,

Temporary entrant: foreigner entering for the first time with a temporary residence permit or visa, including workers covered by the Argentina-Chile Convention,

Temporary re-entrant: foreigner reentering with a temporary residence permit or visa, written contract by a person or establishment in the country,

Temporary worker: foreigner entering as a worker or labourer, including those covered by the Argentina-Chile Convention,

Specific definitions not provided for: transit person, tourist, foreign crew member, foreigner with medical treatment visa, foreigner with precarious residence status being repatriated, special visa holder, asylum seeker.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of all persons, citizens including returning tourists, foreigners including tourists, immigrating foreigners, foreign migrant workers, asylum seekers.

Outflow of all persons, citizens including tourists, foreigners, foreign temporary workers, foreign deportees, asylum seekers.

Agency cooperation:

With the Statistics and Census Institute in its capacity to coordinate the national statistical system.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Unpublished tabulations may be requested from the Computer Data System Department, DNM. Special tabulations are not available.

Argentina (3)

National Population and Housing Census 1991 (Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda 1991), every 10 years. First census 1869, last census 1980.

Responsible agency:

Statistics and Census Institute, INDEC, J.A. Roca 609 - 3RD 302, 1067 Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Operational basis:

The 1991 Census was based on the de jure population concept with a reference period of the previous 5 years to define migrants. A sample of 10 per cent of localities above 500,000 inhabitants, 20 per cent of localities from 100,000 to less than 500,000 with complete enumeration for all other localities.

Population covered:

All usual residents of Argentina.

Descriptive variables:

Place of birth was recorded for everyone. The following variables were asked of a sample of persons only: current place of residence, previous residence (5 years earlier and rest of life), country of citizenship, date of birth, sex, marital status, number of children ever born and surviving, number of immediate family members, educational attainment, current school attendance, current labour force participation, current employment status, occupation and sector of economic activity, first entrance into the country.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant, immigrating foreigner, migrant worker, foreign worker, returning citizen.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of foreign-born residents, foreign-born persons present, resident foreigners and foreigners present.

Agency cooperation:

Agreement with the Secretariat for Population, Argentina, and CELADE.

References:

Censo '91, Resultados Definitivos - Características Seleccionadas, Serie B No. 25.
1980 Census results were also published.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; the 1991 Census tabulations with respect to place of residence 5 years before, were being processed during 1995. Those and special tabulations may be requested from the Director, Social and Population Statistics, INDEC.

Belarus (1) *Border and Internal Registration Reports***Responsible agency:**

State Labour Committee, Republic of Belarus, 23 Masherov Avenue, 220050 Minsk, Belarus.

Operational basis:

Border registrations of movements across the borders, of unprocessed foreigners found inside the country, and of refugee applicants. These are mainly carried out by regional and local authorities or by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Summary reports are sent to the Ministry of Statistics and Analysis (MinStat).

Population covered:

Foreigners moving across the national borders and residing (legally or illegally) inside the country, citizens registering their intention to take up short or long-term employment abroad.

Descriptive variables:

Registrations contain standard demographic characteristics, including nationality, educational attainment and previous residence.

Concepts and definitions:

See population covered.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Statistical tables have been designed but details are not available.

Agency cooperation:

The data from primary registration cards being developed in 1995 will be collected under the responsibility of MinStat.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Statistics are not published but could be made available upon request.

Belarus (2) *State Migration Service Reports***Responsible agency:**

State Labour Committee, Republic of Belarus, 23 Masherov Avenue, 220050 Minsk, Belarus.

Operational basis:

Registrations of persons subject to the authority of the State Migration Service (SMS) which focuses on policy and legislative issues related to international migration. SMS is responsible for preparing bilateral work agreements with governments and for the regulation and supervision of emigration. The outcome of work in 1995 on draft Laws on Refugees and on Immigration under discussion in Parliament and on new regulations concerning recruitment of foreign workers to Belarus and recruitment of citizens to work abroad will affect this data source.

Population covered:

Foreigners inside the country, persons with labour contracts established through some 40 authorized employment agencies, persons sent to work abroad or recruited by employers registered with the SMS.

Descriptive variables:

Registrations contain standard demographic characteristics, including nationality, educational attainment and previous residence.

Concepts and definitions:

See population covered.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Statistical tables have been designed but details are not available.

Agency cooperation:

Flow of information and data between SMS and the Ministry of Statistics and Analysis.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Statistics are not published but could be made available upon request.

Côte d'Ivoire (1) *Migration Survey*, 1993 (Enquête ivoirienne sur les Migration).

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Institute (Institut National de la Statistique, INS), B.P. V 55 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Operational basis:

The survey covered the whole country, using a sample of 13,200 households based on a sample frame taken from the 1988 General Population Census. The reference period to identify migration was the past six months. Information on internal and international migration was collected.

Population covered:

Resident household members in the sample.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, country of birth, of citizenship and of previous residence, type of citizenship (naturalized or not), educational attainment, current school attendance, current labour force participation, occupation, employment status and economic activity. Reason for immigrating, whether accompanied by immediate relatives, labour force participation, occupation and employment status before migration.

Concepts and definitions:

Resident: person who usually (for the past 6 months at least) lived in the household. New household members (e.g. daughter-in-law, student returning from school) not yet having resided for 6 months but intending to reside there for more than 6 months were also considered residents.

International migrant: person who moved from one national territory to another.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

The stock of resident foreigners. Inflow of immigrating foreigners, inflow of return-migrating citizens.

Agency cooperation:

The INS carried out this survey as part of a network of national surveys covering eight West African countries: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal. The programme is coordinated by the Centre d'Etude et de Recherches sur la Population et le Développement (CERPOD) in Mali. A regional study will be carried out based on the results of the national surveys.

References:

Statistics were not yet published in 1995.

Access to information:

Data were collected on computer but not yet tabulated. Special tabulations could be purchased through the INS.

Côte d'Ivoire (2) **General Population Census 1988** (Recensement général de la Population 1988).
Previous census was in 1975.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Office, INS (address: see Source (1)).

Operational basis:

The 1988 Census was based on the de jure population concept with complete enumeration and a reference period of 6 months residence to define migrants.

Population covered:

All persons in Côte d'Ivoire were enumerated.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, country of previous residence in 1987, country of citizenship, date of birth, sex, marital status, number of children ever born and surviving, educational attainment, current school attendance, current labour force participation, current employment status, occupation and sector of economic activity.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant, immigrating foreigner, migrant worker: no definitions provided.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of foreign-born resident. Inflow of immigrating foreigners in 1987 by countries of origin.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Répartition spatiale de la population et migration and *Quelques aspects des migration en Côte d'Ivoire*, INS.
Analyse quantitative de la migration en Côte d'Ivoire, Demographic Institute (Institut de Démographie de Paris), Paris, France.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; special tabulations may be requested from the Director, INS.

Dominican Republic (1) **International Migration Entries, Exits and Characteristics** (Entrada, Salida y Características de los Migrantes Internacionales), in existence since 1963.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Office (ONE), México, esq. Leopoldo Navarro, Edificio de Oficinas Gubernamentales, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Operational basis:

Registrations of individuals collected at the various ports of entry into the country are compiled by ONE, which has responsibility for collecting, analysing and processing all statistics relevant to international immigration and emigration.

Population covered:

Immigrants and emigrants of Dominican and foreign nationality.

Descriptive variables:

Age, date of birth, sex, marital status.

For immigrants: current occupation, occupation before migration, first entry into the country, country of previous residence, citizenship (through naturalization or not), country of birth, reason for migrating, local address, type of visa.

For emigrants: intended country of destination, departure date, occupation, sector of economic activity before departure, type of exit visa.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant: person who legally or illegally enters the country through one of its land, sea or air borders;
Immigrating citizen: anyone of Dominican nationality residing abroad who enters the country;
Returning citizen: any Dominican who returns to the country after staying some time abroad;

Immigrating foreigner: any person not of Dominican nationality who enters, or legally or illegally, resides inside the country;

Migrant worker: any national or foreigner who migrates (enters or departs) for work to another country;

Foreign worker: any person not of Dominican nationality who enters the country to work for paid employment;

Returning migrant worker: citizen who returns to the country of origin after exercising paid employment abroad;

Temporary worker: any citizen or foreigner who migrates for temporary paid employment to another country;

Emigrant: person who legally or illegally leaves the country through one of its land, sea or air borders;

Emigrating citizen: anyone of Dominican nationality residing in the country who leaves the country for an unspecified amount of time;

Emigrating foreigner: any person not of Dominican nationality, residing or not inside the country, who goes abroad after having stayed for some time in the country.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Some stock and flow data exist for certain years and variables, not specified.

Agency cooperation:

Cooperation with the Central Bank.

References:

Dominicana en Cifras, 1991 (occasional periodicity).

Access to information:

Data are not computerized. Special assistance would be necessary to obtain any tabulations.

Dominican Republic (2)

Control of Entries and Exits of International Migration (Control de Entrada y Salida de Migrantes Internacionales), in existence since 1940.

Responsible agency:

General Directorate for Migration (DGE), "El Huacal", Edificio de Oficinas Gubernamentales, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. DGE is responsible for migration policy and affairs which entails administering foreigners in the country.

Operational basis:

Registrations of international embarkment/disembarkment forms, tourist forms, passenger lists from seaports and other border crossing authorizations used to collect personal data or to issue residence/exit permits, to register entries and exits of nationals and foreigners, and to identify migrants amongst the foreign population in the country, based on National Law 4380 and Decree 1489 of 1968.

Population covered:

All foreigners and citizens entering, leaving or inside the country for whom information from the forms and permits described above is obtained.

Descriptive variables:

Date and place of birth, sex, marital status.

For immigrants: current occupation, occupation before migration, first entry into the country, country of previous residence, citizenship (through naturalization or not), country of birth, reason for migrating, local address, type of visa or work permit.

For emigrants: intended country of destination, departure date, occupation and sector of economic activity before departure, type of exit visa.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant: person who legally or illegally enters the country through one of its land, sea or air borders;

Immigrating citizen: anyone of Dominican nationality residing abroad who enters the country;

Returning citizen: any Dominican who returns to the country after staying some time abroad;

Immigrating foreigner: person not of Dominican nationality who enters, or legally or illegally, resides inside the country;

Migrant worker: any national or foreigner who migrates (enters or departs) for work to another country;

Foreign worker: any person not of Dominican nationality who enters the country to work for paid employment;

Returning migrant worker: citizen who returns to the country of origin after exercising paid employment abroad;

Temporary worker: any citizen or foreigner who migrates for temporary paid employment in another country of destination;

Emigrant: person who legally or illegally leaves the country through one of its land, sea or air borders;

Emigrating citizen: anyone of Dominican nationality residing in the country who leaves;

Emigrating foreigner: person not of Dominican nationality residing or not in the country, who goes abroad after staying sometime in the country;

Temporary migrant: any citizen or foreigner who temporarily migrates from the country of residence or origin.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of non-immigrant foreigners, stock of foreign residents in the country, stock of Haitians regularized from illegal residency.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of travellers and tourists arriving by land from Haiti, inflows and outflows of Haitian border crossers, outflows of deported and repatriated illegal Haitians.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

The DGE Department for Foreigners gathers substantial information but does very little processing itself, which is the responsibility of the ONE. Data are not computerized and special assistance would be necessary to obtain tabulations through ONE.

Dominican Republic (3) *Statistics of Foreign Workers* (Trabajadores Extranjeros) in existence since 1956.

Responsible agency:

State Secretariat for Employment (Secretaría de Estado de Trabajo, SET), Av. Jiménez Moya, Centro de los Héroes, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. SET executes the Government's labour policy and is responsible for labour relations, amongst which labour related migration.

Operational basis:

Reports on work contracts for foreigners and on subsequent residence visas with work permissions issued under the responsibility of SET, which deals with migration movements affecting the formal labour market, i.e. legal immigration for work purposes (Haitian sugar-cane workers) and resident immigrants.

Two units in SET deal with international migration:

- 1) the General Directorate for Labour authorizes and registers work contracts for foreigners, based on which residence visas with work permission are issued. It also regulates the proportion of foreigners allowed to work in national establishments and ensures application of contract-related inspections for foreigners employed in the country;
- 2) the General Directorate for Employment and Human Resources' Labour Migration Division serves as intermediary between SET and all government and private agencies concerning the administration, evaluation and control of international migration.

Law 16-92 of 29 May 1992 and Decree 1019 of 29 April 1983 form the basis for the Labour Code establishing the National Employment Commission and helping to define national migration policy.

Population covered:

Foreigners who are the subject of requests/approvals for labour contracts inside the country and foreign immigrant workers illegally contracted.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, occupation, academic qualifications, nationality, contracting establishment, post to be occupied, type, starting date and duration of contract, conditions of employment, wages, etc.

Concepts and definitions:

Migrant worker: any foreigner who immigrates to work in the country under contract legally (or illegally);

Foreign worker: person not of Dominican nationality who enters the country to work for paid employment under contract legally (or illegally).

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of foreign workers; inflow of foreign migrant workers.

Agency cooperation:

With international organizations and other governments.

References:

Memoria, 1994, annual, Dirección Técnica Laboral.

Notas Periódicas, 1994, published with varying periodicity by Oficina de Relaciones Públicas y Prensa.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; special unpublished tabulations may be requested.

Dominican Republic (4) **Immigration Visas of Foreigners** (Inmigración de Extranjeros), in existence since 1956.

Responsible agency:

State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs (Secretaría de Estado de Relaciones Exteriores SERE), Zona Universitaria, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. SERE generally approves policy and programmes concerning resident immigrants and immigrant workers, repatriation and deportation (including programmes organized through the International Migration Organization).

Operational basis:

Number of visas issued to foreigners by type of status, authorized by SERE which receives and approves visa requests through Dominican Consulates abroad, delivers refugee status to illegal foreign residents and examine cases of asylum-seekers. The information is compiled from Residence Request forms, international embarkment and disembarkment forms and the Register of Refugee Requests.

Population covered:

All foreigners subject to immigrant visas including foreign workers, asylum-seekers and refugees. Tourists and other travellers entering the country are excluded.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, number of immediate family members, of children born, country of residence of all children under 15 years, country of birth, of previous residence or of intended destination, citizenship (whether by naturalization or not), previous citizenship, educational attainment, employment status, current or intended occupation and sector of economic activity, type of visa, permit etc., duration of contract, date of initial entrance into the country or departure date, reason for migration.

Concepts and definitions:

Migrant worker: foreigner who immigrates to work in the country under contract legally (or illegally);

Foreign worker: person not of Dominican nationality who enters the country to work for paid employment under contract legally (or illegally);

Illegal migrant: national or foreigner found trying to travel through any port without documents or with false documents;

Repatriate or deportee: person expelled from (or to) the Dominican Republic for committing a serious offense against state security or travelling without documents or with false documents;

Extradited person: someone sent back to (or from) the country to be judged for a serious crime.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of valid visa holders, visa overstayers, legally resident foreigners, foreign workers, refugees and asylum-seekers.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of all persons, of foreigners (including tourists), immigrant foreigners, migrant foreign workers, refugees and asylum-seekers. Outflow of deported foreigners and repatriated refugees.

Agency cooperation:

Information is shared between SERE units and with other agencies within the Government.

References:

None.

Access to information:

No systematic registration or statistical data collection process exists within this institution. Existing data are not computerized or published. Special assistance would be necessary to obtain any tabulations.

Dominican Republic (5) **VIIth National Population and Housing Census, 1993** (VII Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda 1993). Last census was in 1981.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Office (ONE), (address: see Source (1)).

Operational basis:

The 1993 Census was based on the de facto concept of population with complete enumeration. Suspicion of the authorities may not have ensured absolute enumeration of foreigners actually in the country.

Population covered:

All persons of all ages. Unoccupied dwellings or dwellings with absent households were not interviewed.

Descriptive variables:

Date of birth and age at last birthday, sex, marital status (12 years and above), number of children ever born and surviving, educational attainment, current school attendance. For all persons 5 years and above, place/country of residence in 1988.

Economic activity variables were collected for persons 10 years and above: current labour force participation, current employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity.

Information on international migration is derived from the variables: country of birth, country of previous residence, number of children living abroad.

Concepts and definitions:

International migration is composed of Dominicans who leave the country to reside abroad (emigrants) and foreigners who enter the country to reside (immigrants).

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Statistics were not processed; in 1981 tabulations were made on the stock of persons born in the country, stock of persons residing abroad and stock of resident Haitians.

Agency cooperation:

Not available.

References:

Censo Nacional de Población y Vivienda 1981, Resultados preliminares obtenidos por muestra, ONE.

Access to information:

Results were not available by 1995. ONE had difficulties processing the 1993 Census results. 1981 Census results relating to international migration were not published.

Gabon (1) *1994 Employment and Unemployment Survey - Adults residing in Libreville* (Enquête emploi-chômage - Adultes résidant à Libreville, 1994), expected to have a yearly frequency. Second survey was planned for Autumn 1995.

Responsible agency:

National Employment Office (Office national de l'Emploi, ONE), B.P. 9610, Libreville, Gabon.

Operational basis:

A sample survey based on a sample of 1,611 households living in the capital Libreville, selected using a quota system established by age group, sex, and groups of African nationalities.

Population covered:

All adult persons living in the selected households.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, date of first entry into Libreville, length of residence, age, sex, marital status, educational attainment (level and diploma), age on leaving school, household size, number of adults, proportion of stable workers in the household, relationship to head of household for all household members, household amenities.

For persons with work: hours of work per week, earnings per month, length of time in the job, current occupation, sector of economic activity, status in employment, type of employer (private, public, parapublic sector).

For the unemployed: length of unemployment, monthly earnings considered acceptable, job seeking activities, occupation in last job, date (month/year) of last job.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrating foreigner: resident of non-Gabonese nationality;

Worker: person having worked at least one hour during the past (reference) week;

Temporary worker: person without stable work (for the past 3 months or more).

The following categories of international migrant were derived from the variables listed above: immigrant, migrant or foreign worker, temporary foreign worker.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born residents, foreign residents, foreign workers.

Statistics on flows:

Total inflow of adults to Libreville (citizens and other Africans), inflow of immigrating foreigners, inflow of migrant foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Data are computerized. Special and unpublished tabulations may be requested from ONE.

Gabon (2): *General Population and Housing Census* (Recensement général de la Population et de l'Habitat), 1993. Frequency of the census is every ten years; the first one took place in 1960.

Responsible agency:

Central Census Bureau (Bureau Central du Recensement), Direction Générale de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques (DGSEE), B.P. 2119, Libreville, Gabon.

Operational basis:

The 1993 Census was carried out according to the Census Law 3/92 of 10 August 1992, using the de facto population concept with complete enumeration.

Population covered:

All persons in Gabon were enumerated.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, number of children ever born and surviving, educational attainment, current school attendance, current labour force participation, employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity, country of birth, citizenship (or naturalization).

Specifically for migrants: date of first entry into the country, country of previous residence, reason for migrating, accompanying household members, literacy.

For migrant women 12 years and above: number of children born and surviving in the past 12 months.

Concepts and definitions:

International immigrants are defined by country of birth and citizenship.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of foreign-born persons present, stock of foreigners present. Inflow of immigrating foreigners.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Recensement général de la population et de l'Habitat - Résultats préliminaires, 1994.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; only published tables are available on request to DGSEE.

Gabon (3) *Population Count in Libreville, Port-Gentil and Moanda, 1992* (Dénombrement de la Population de Libreville, Port-Gentil et Moanda, 1992)

Responsible agency:

DGSEE, Income and Expenditure Section, B.P. 2119, Libreville, Gabon.

Operational basis:

This unique census of households in the 3 cities was a one-time survey carried out to provide the basis for a future household income and expenditure survey.

Population covered:

Only heads of households were enumerated.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, citizenship, age, sex, marital status, current labour force participation, current employment status, occupation, type of employer (private or public sector).

Specifically for migrants: date of first entry into the country, accompanying household members, household amenities.

Concepts and definitions:

International migrant: head of household with non-Gabonese citizenship.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

The stock of resident foreigners; total inflow of persons (citizens and foreigners), inflow of immigrating foreigners.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Dénombrement de la Population de Libreville, Port-Gentil et Moanda, Premiers Résultats, Etudes et analyses No. 1, October 1992.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; only published tables are available on request to DGSEE, Income and Expenditure Section.

Indonesia *Residence and work permit registrations***Responsible agency:**

Directorate of Domestic Manpower Placement, Ministry of Manpower, Jl. Gatot Subroto Kav. 51 A, Jakarta Selatan 12950, Indonesia.

Operational basis:

Registrations of residence and work permits authorized by the Directorate of Domestic Manpower Placement, mandated by Law No. 3/1958 concerning the employment of foreigners in Indonesia and Decision No. Kep 208/MEN/1992, Minister of Manpower.

Population covered:

Immigrating and emigrating foreigners, foreign workers and temporary workers subject to permit issuances.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth and of previous residence, citizenship, marital status, reason for migrating, intended length of stay or length of contract, sector (public/private) of employment, sector of economic activity, occupation, time taken to find first job, educational attainment on arrival, local address, visa, residence or work permit type and duration.

Concepts and definitions:

Not available.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of foreign workers in Indonesia by industry and occupation, stock of valid residence permits. Inflow of migrant foreign workers, by country of origin.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized. Special tabulations may be requested from the Directorate although their access is restricted.

Jamaica

Information not available.

Japan (1) The quinquennial *Population Census*, 1990.**Responsible agency:**

Population Census Division, Statistics Bureau, Management and Coordination Agency, 19-1 Wakamatsu-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162, Japan.

Operational basis:

The 1990 Census applied the de jure population concept with enumeration at the place usually lived in, or were going to live in for 3 months or more, on 1 October 1990. Persons with "no usual" or "unknown" places of living were enumerated where present at census time (e.g. crews aboard ships, except Self-Defence Forces ships, were

enumerated at residences on land if any, or on board ship under certain circumstances). Neighbours were interviewed about absent households. The whole territory of Japan (excluding 7 islands) was covered.

Population covered:

All persons in Japan including foreigners, except for foreign diplomatic corps, their suites and dependents, foreign military personnel (corps and civilians) and their dependents.

Descriptive variables:

Year/month of birth, sex, marital status, nationality, place of residence 5 years ago, address in the country, current labour force participation, current employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity. Summary information (excluding the variable nationality) about absent households was obtained through neighbours.

Concepts and definitions:

The concept of immigrant is defined with the terms *resident foreigner* and *foreign worker*, derived from the variable nationality, in combination with the information from regular questions on economic activity in reference to the week preceding census day, for all persons 15 years of age and over.

Age refers to age at last birthday before 1st October.

Nationality refers to the country of citizenship and is classified into various country, region and 'other' categories.

Dual citizens having Japanese and another nationality are counted as Japanese. Two or more foreign nationalities are counted according to the nationality entered on the census questionnaire.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of resident foreigners, of foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Report of the Population Census, 1990, (Vol. 8 Results of Special Tabulations on Foreigners), July 1994.
Foreigners and their Households (Reference Report Series No. 6).

Access to information:

Tabulated results or computer printouts are available from the Statistics Bureau. Access to individual data is restricted.

Japan (2) Reporting System on Employment of Foreigners, established in 1993.

Responsible agency:

Foreign Workers' Bureau, Ministry of Labour, 1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku Tokyo, Japan.

Operational basis:

Registrations of reports on foreign workers mandatorily made by employers at June 1st, according to the Employment Security Law Enforcement Regulation.

Population covered:

Foreign workers reported by their employers to the Foreign Workers' Bureau.

Descriptive variables:

Type of job (sector of economic activity, occupation), "native place", resident status.

Concepts and definitions:

Foreign worker: person whose "native place" is not Japan and who is reported by the employer as of 1st June of each year.

Excluding: persons who have acquired permanent resident status, foreign trainees under the Technical Intern Training Program, persons working under the bilateral agreement "Working Holiday Program" established with Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Basic count of the number of employed foreign workers, by industry and occupation.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Annual Results of Reporting System on Employment of Foreign Workers, 1994.

Access to information:

Data in machine-readable form are processed by the Foreign Workers' Affairs Division, Employment Security Bureau. However, access to or use of the data beyond the range of its publication by the Ministry of Labour is limited.

Japan (3) Record of Entry and Departure, operational since 1950.**Responsible agency:**

Immigration Policy Division, Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice, 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Operational basis:

Registrations of entries and departures in Japan mandated by the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Article 1), whose purpose is to provide for equitable control of the movements of all persons and to consolidate procedures for the recognition of refugee status.

Population covered:

All persons who enter and depart from Japan including temporary visitors and returning citizens. For the production of migration statistics, only entrances of foreign nationals, classified according to 27 different statuses of residence, are used.

Descriptive variables:

Citizenship, date of birth, sex, "status of residence" type, are collected for publication. Date of first entry into Japan, most recent admission, duration of status of residence, length of absence from the country, intended country of destination and departure date are not published.

Concepts and definitions:

No legal definition of "immigrant" exists in Japan; for the purposes of migration statistics, immigrants would be entrants of foreign nationality except for those having the residence status of temporary visitor.

Foreign worker: foreign national with a residence status which includes a permit of employment, excluding diplomats and "officials".

Refugee: person falling within the provisions of the Refugee Convention or the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of visa overstayers, refugees, can be produced.

Statistics on flows:

Total inflow of all persons, all citizens (including returning tourists), all foreign nationals, by country of origin, foreign workers with "status of residence" with a work permit.

Outflow of all persons, all citizens (including tourists), emigrating citizens for permanent residence, citizens who transfer to work in branch offices abroad, outflow of all foreigners, deported foreigners.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Annual Report of Statistics on Legal Migrants, 1993.

Access to information:

Special tabulations of unpublished data in non-machine-readable form may be requested from the Governmental Publication Centre.

Japan (4) Alien Registration, in existence since 1947.**Responsible agency:**

Immigration Policy Division, Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice, 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Operational basis:

Registrations of applications from foreign nationals (aliens) for residence (permanent, special, etc.) status made by local mayors under obligation according to the Alien Registration Law, Article 4, Paragraph 2 and Article 16.

Population covered:

Foreign nationals applying for residence status in Japan over 90 days after arrival, or over 60 days after birth in Japan.

Descriptive variables:

Date of birth, place of birth, sex, nationality, domicile or residence in the country of nationality, occupation, date of landing permission in Japan, residence status -defined in the Immigration Control Act (ICA) and permanent residence as a special permanent resident, period of stay -provided for in the ICA, names, dates of birth and nationality of household members, of parents and spouse if not household members, address of employment.

Concepts and definitions:

Alien: Any person not having Japanese nationality. Diplomats, "officials", temporary visitors, persons covered under the Status of Forces Agreement are excluded.

Statistics on stocks:

The stock of resident aliens, stock of foreign workers by residence status.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Statistics on Foreign Nationals in Japan, 1993, published every two years.

Access to information:

Published tabulations may be obtained from the Japan Immigration Association. The detailed statistics published every two years do not include the information collected concerning date of first entry into Japan, country of birth, duration of residence or work permit.

Republic of Korea *Annual Immigration Statistics*, continuous since 1984.

Responsible agency:

The Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice, Bldg. #1, Government Complex TL, Kwachon City, Kyonggi-Do, Korea 421-760.

Operational basis:

Reports made by chiefs of Korean missions abroad and local immigration offices on various categories of persons to the Justice Minister mandated in the Korean Immigration Law.

Population covered:

Korean citizens who depart from or return to Korea, foreigners applying for entry or departing from Korea, foreigners sojourning in Korea subject to alien's registration, foreigners who have violated the Immigration Law.

Descriptive variables:

For immigrants: date of most recent (or expected) admission into Korea, country of citizenship, whether accompanied by immediate relatives.

For emigrants: intended country of destination, departure date, occupation in country of destination, whether first-time migration.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrating Foreigner: foreigner staying beyond residence registration at the immigration office. Permanent immigration status is not admitted.

Foreign Worker: foreigner granted a work permit having finished residence registration in Korea.

Alien registrant: foreigner in the country for over 90 days from the date of entry, excluding staff of foreign diplomatic or consular offices, international organizations and dependents; persons enjoying privileges and immunities specially agreed upon; aliens invited by the Government.

Emigrating Citizen: Korean citizen departing from Korea for the purpose of actually living in another country.

Returning citizen: Korean citizen who once emigrated but returned for good, giving up residency in the foreign country.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born residents/persons present in Korea, legally resident foreigners, foreigners present, foreign workers, visa overstayers, valid residence permits, returnees (former emigrants).

Statistics on flows:

Total inflow of persons (citizens and foreigners), inflow of all citizens including returning tourists, citizens returning after emigration, all foreigners including tourists.

Total outflow of persons (citizens and foreigners), outflow of all citizens including tourists, all emigrating citizens, citizens intending to work abroad, all foreigners including tourists, foreigners being deported.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Annual Immigration Statistics, 1993, Ministry of Justice.

Access to information:

Statistics are restricted. Application must be made to the Ministry of Justice.

Lebanon

Statistical collection systems not yet functional.

Morocco

Information not available.

Pakistan (1) *Emigration Statistics*, established in 1971.

Responsible agency:

Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment (BEOE), Block 14-C, F-8 Markaz, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Operational basis:

Registrations of persons going abroad for employment having secured emigration clearance from BEOE which was established to regulate and control labour emigration and to protect the welfare of emigrants abroad. BEOE functions according to the Emigration Ordinance and Emigration Rules, 1979.

Population covered:

Emigrant workers, contract or temporary migrant workers, who prior to departure must obtain emigration clearance from the Government which verifies the genuineness of the offer or contract of employment abroad and certifies that the intended occupation or person's sex-age group are not restricted.

Descriptive variables:

Age, date of birth, sex, marital status, educational attainment, intended country of destination, length of stay abroad, departure date, occupation prior to departure, expected occupation abroad, expected employer, recruitment channel, whether spouse and children remain in Pakistan.

Concepts and definitions:

Emigrant: person who emigrates or has emigrated or who has been registered as an emigrant under the Ordinance, including any dependents.

Emigration: the departure by sea, air or land out of Pakistan of any person for the purpose or with the intention of working for hire or engaging in any trade, profession or calling in any country beyond the limits of Pakistan.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of employed emigrants by certain occupations, outflow of citizens by intended country of destination.

Agency cooperation:

Statistics are shared with the Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (see Pakistan (2) below).

References:

Emigration Statistics of Pakistani Manpower Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment, 1992, annual.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized and access to them is restricted although permission to consult unpublished tabulations may be granted by BEOE, Ministry of Labour.

Pakistan (2) Overseas Pakistanis Foundation, started in 1979.**Responsible agency:**

Overseas Pakistanis Foundation, P.O. Box 1470, Islamabad, Pakistan. OPF is a welfare fund for migrant workers created by the Federal Government, under the Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis.

Operational basis:

OPF keeps records of all workers approved for emigration under the Emigration Ordinance, from whom it collects a mandatory contribution for the welfare fund and for whom it arranges compulsory State life insurance coverage. It also has access to the statistics collected and produced by the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment (BEOE, see Pakistan (1) above) and by the Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC, established in 1976).

Population covered:

All emigrating workers registered by one of the agencies above (OPF, BEOE, OEC).

Descriptive variables:

In addition to the variables collected by BEOE, OPF registers the expected sector of economic activity, type and duration of visa/work permit/employment contract held.

Concepts and definitions:

Emigrant: person who emigrates, has emigrated or has been registered as an emigrant under the Emigration Ordinance, including any dependents.

Emigration: the departure by sea, air or land out of Pakistan of any person for the purpose or with the intention of working for hire or engaging in any trade, profession or calling in any country beyond the limits of Pakistan.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of employed emigrants. Outflow of registered emigrant citizens by intended country of destination and by socio-economic characteristics.

Agency cooperation:

The OPF Board of Governors is comprised of members from several Government ministries, the National Assembly and the Senate.

References:

Not available.

Access to information:

OPF has established the capacity to computerize the statistics it records and receives from BEOE and OEC, which could be made available on request.

Pakistan (3) Statistics of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**Responsible agency:**

United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Pakistan (UNHCR), 4 Khayaban-E-Iqbal, Islamabad F 6/3, Pakistan.

Operational basis:

Population counts in refugee villages with universal coverage within recognized, established refugee villages on a de facto, house-to-house basis. Border reports on asylum seekers at principal crossing points monitored along the Pakistan/Afghanistan border. Both operations are based on an Agreement signed in 1990 between the Government of Pakistan and UNHCR.

Population covered:

Afghan refugees previously registered by the Government on their arrival during the periods 1979 to 1988 and 1992 to 1994. In 1990, UNHCR undertook a massive revalidation exercise to enumerate those registered in the

1980s. Re-enumeration subsequent to 1990 has been attempted due to known overestimates of the refugee population, repatriation and migration movements.

Afghans repatriated to Afghanistan, new Afghan arrivals identified at the borders as seeking refuge in Pakistan, non-Afghans (mostly Iraqis, Iranians and Somalis) given mandate refugee status by UNHCR following individual status determination, and non-Afghan asylum seekers whose cases are under review.

Descriptive variables:

Age or date of birth, sex, country of birth, citizenship, marital status, number of accompanying children, date of first entry or admission into the country, name of assigned refugee village, country of previous residence, previous occupation, any prior migration of immediate relatives (if available), country of residence of immediate relatives. Indicative, community-wide information on refugees' labour force participation and sector of economic activity are collected during periodic surveys.

Concepts and definitions:

Refugee: Afghan arrival in Pakistan fleeing from the effects of the 1979 occupation of Afghanistan and the ensuing civil war; post 1992 Afghan arrival fleeing the civil war between rival Mujahadin factions; new Afghan arrival fleeing the hostilities in Kabul; non-Afghan arrival given individual mandate refugee status by UNHCR.

Asylum seeker: non-Afghan foreigner whose case is under review.

Excluded are persons living in proximity of the border, commuters, traders, commercial travellers and seasonal migrants.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of refugees and asylum-seekers. Inflow of refugees and asylum-seekers. Outflow of repatriating refugees.

Agency cooperation:

Between UNHCR, World Food Programme and Pakistan Government departments there is a constant exchange concerning numbers of arrivals, registrants and population to improve existing estimates and for planning purposes. Statistics are also shared with donor governments to advise them of movements and trends and for funding implications.

References:

The monthly *Afghan Digest*, UNHCR, September 1994.

Access to information:

Some unpublished tabulations are confidential, others consist mainly of numerical assessments of refugee village populations. Both UNHCR and the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees are responsible for gathering the data. Requests can be made to UNHCR Headquarters, Pakistan Desk, Geneva, Switzerland.

Poland (1) Work Permits

Responsible agency:

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, 1/3, Nowogrodzka Street, 00-513 Warsaw, Poland. The Warsaw Central Labour Office is responsible for approximately 50% of legal foreign workers in Poland.

Operational basis:

Information on work permits processed by local Labour Offices monthly, sent quarterly through regional offices to the National Labour Office, transmitted to the central Ministry on a 6 monthly basis, as stipulated in the 1989 Act on Employment and Counteracting Unemployment.

Local Labour Offices issue short and long-term work permits to employers seeking to hire foreigners. The process commences after a job offer (including a description of the terms of employment and the employee profile) posted for 3 weeks has had no local person (Pole) applying.

Population covered:

Foreigners including tourists, in the country who wish to work can request work permits, although employers are generally required to initiate the process, and persons covered by work contracts organized by the Ministry of Labour for public and private establishments.

Descriptive variables:

Country of citizenship, country of residence immediately preceding the date of work permit application, current job/occupation (based on a national list of groups of workers), economic activity (certain branches), sector of employer (public/private/mixed), type of ownership (foreign/national/mixed), type of export services, size of establishment, duration of current work permit.

Sex and date of birth are collected but not tabulated manually.

Concepts and definitions:

Migrant worker, foreign contract worker and temporary worker. Migrant type is determined by the time-span of the legal work permit.

Short-term work permit is up to 3 months. The bulk of issued permits are short-term and represent seasonal (construction and horticultural) employment filled by workers from neighbouring countries, or professional/technical employment mainly recruited from Western countries.

Long-term work permit is up to 12 months. Permit renewal can take place any number of times, especially for white collar workers, so a clear distinction between temporary/permanent migration from this source is not possible. Employers must return unexpired, expired work permits to the Labour Office but no time limit is specified.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of work permit holders by all variables listed above (excluding demographic variables).

Agency cooperation:

Based on executive regulations concerning statistical information and the Act Concerning the National Statistical Office (GUS), the Ministry of Labour (Statistics and Analyses Department, National Central Labour Office) regularly forwards these statistics to GUS.

International sharing of statistics takes place under bilateral cooperation with other countries and international organizations.

References:

Quarterly Information on Structure of Legal Employment of Foreigners, National Labour Office, 1994.

Access to information:

Available data may be consulted in the National Labour Office. Data were not completely computerized in 1995.

Poland (2) Authorizations for Poles to work abroad**Responsible agency:**

Voivodship Central Labour Office, Warszawa Czerniakowska 44, Poland.

Operational basis:

Records of approvals for work abroad maintained by the VCLO, stipulated in the 14.12.1994 Act on Employment and Counteracting Unemployment, which also confers on VCLO the authority to act as unemployment office and serve a labour market regularization function.

Population covered:

Polish citizens going abroad for work under the framework of bilateral agreements concluded by the Government of Poland with countries such as France, Belgium, Switzerland, Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania and Germany. In 1994 some 130,000 Poles went to Germany for seasonal work for maximum 90 days; 1,000 as guest workers for up to 18 months.

Concepts and definitions:

Contract worker, guest worker.

Main characteristics:

Occupation, economic activity, country of destination.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of citizens working abroad.

Agency cooperation:

VCLO transmits statistics to the Ministry of Labour. International sharing of data takes place within the framework of bilateral cooperation with countries and international organizations.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Requests to consult the computerized information may be made to the VCLO Director.

Poland (3) Registrations of foreigners**Responsible agency:**

Office for Migration and Refugees, Ministry of Home Affairs (also translated Ministry of the Interior), ul. Koszykowa 16, Warsaw, Poland.

Operational basis:

Reports on permanent stay-card holders, visa holders and refugee and asylum-seeking applicants from local labour offices and collected by the Ministry itself. A centralized computer registration system of foreigners in the country based on stay-visa applications, permanent residence requests and their outcome was being set up within the Ministry in 1995. Entry visas were not required from border states, but local labour offices supply information on the number of visas issued, by country of origin for the register. No central structure within Voivodships (regions) monitors all requests made for residence permits, nor verifies the legality of stays. Registrations of foreigners were based on Act No. 7 Concerning Foreigners of 1992 and Convention on the Status of Refugees No. 119 of 1991. The legal system dealing with international migration, refugee and asylum affairs was under revision in 1995. Employers employing foreigners were not checked and no legal link between stay and work permits existed. A draft Aliens Law being coordinated with the new Employment Law will include a chapter on employment of foreign workers.

Population covered:

Legally residing foreigners with permanent stay-cards, visitors whose permit has expired, refugee applicants and asylum-seekers (an apparently small number of persons).

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, citizenship (not nationality), country of previous residence.

Concepts and definitions:

Legally residing foreigner: person not of Polish citizenship holding a permanent stay-card.

Illegally residing foreigner: visitor whose permit has expired.

Refugee applicant: person whose application for refugee status is being processed.

Statistics of stocks:

Stock of permanent stay-card holders, stock of refugee applicants by country of origin, asylum-seekers, visa overstayers.

Agency cooperation:

Information is exchanged with the Group for Migration of the Central European Initiative, International Organization for Migration, Council of Europe, United Nations Agencies.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Upon request.

Poland (4) Border Registrations**Responsible agency:**

Headquarters of the Frontier Guard, Ministry of Home Affairs (also translated Ministry of the Interior), al. Niepodleglosci 100, Warsaw, Poland.

Operational basis:

Border registrations based on Act No. 78 concerning the Frontier Guard, Text 462 and Protection of the State Border Act, Text 461, of 12 October 1990.

Population covered:

All persons crossing through the Polish borders except Polish citizens who are not registered. Statistics for migration purposes cover all foreigner movements in and out of Poland with: work visas 06, invitations to visit or other visas. Foreigners trying to illegally cross the border (an offence) are registered and turned away.

Descriptive variables:

Date of birth, sex, place of residence, reason for migration, visa, residence or work permit type and duration, intended length of stay, citizenship (for foreigners seeking employment in Poland), sector of economic activity, date of first entry or first admission as a migrant, date of most recent entry, local address.

Concepts and definitions:

Border crossing: movement of a foreigner across a Polish border for reasons of residence and/or work.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of persons by citizenship excluding tourists, inflow of all foreigners holding a visa, inflow of migrant foreign workers, outflow of persons by citizenship including tourists, departing migrant workers, deportees.

Agency cooperation:

Border guard statistics are transmitted to the National Statistical Office (GUS) for publication of summary statistics. International exchanges of statistics take place with the frontier guards of neighbouring countries.

References:

Statistical Yearbook, GUS.

Access to information:

Only published data can be made available.

Poland (5) *Labour Force Survey*, begun in May 1992.

Responsible agency:

Department of Labour and Population Incomes, National Statistical Office (GUS), al. Niepodleglosci 208, 00-925 Warsaw, Poland.

Operational basis:

The LFS is a quarterly, two-stage, representative panel survey with probability of selection proportional to size in regions drawn from Voivodships, using census districts from the 1988 Census. Total sample size is approximately 20,000 households. The panel survey has 50% rotative change of the sample in the year.

Population covered:

The LFS covers all persons 15 years and above living in private households, excluding persons temporarily staying abroad and members of collective households. As of the May 1993 quarter survey, a new series of questions was included on people absent from the household for work abroad.

Descriptive variables:

Individuals identified as absent from the household for over two months for work abroad: age, sex, country of destination, (intended) period of stay abroad (less than/more than one year), country of birth, education, reason for migration.

Concepts and definitions:

Temporary migrant: person absent from the household for work abroad for more than two months.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of temporarily absent citizens (i.e. household members), stock of persons absent for work (temporary migrants).

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Due to the representative character of the survey, access to data is restricted. Unpublished computerized tabulations exist. These and special tabulations may be requested from GUS.

Poland (6) *Immigration and Emigration to Permanent Stay and to Temporary Stay*, in existence since 1951.

Responsible agency:

Department of Demographic Studies, National Statistical Office, GUS address: see Poland (5).

Operational basis:

Records of arrivals and departures on computerized central register of foreigners, Ministry of Home Affairs, and registrations of Pu:E-4 Forms kept by local registration offices, as part of a survey of Registrations of Announcement of Departure Abroad for Temporary Stay Exceeding 2 Months, conducted on 31 December 1992, repeated on 31 December 1994 and expected to be carried out annually as from 1995 by GUS.

Population covered:

Persons subject to the above registrations.

Descriptive variables:

All persons: age, sex, employment status, sector of economic activity, occupation, broad levels of education.

Emigrants: country of birth, country of destination, departure date.

Immigrants: country of previous residence, educational attainment.

Concepts and definitions:

Temporary emigrant: person absent due to departure abroad for a period exceeding two months.

Temporary immigrant: arrival from abroad for temporary stay.

Permanent immigrant: foreigner residing in the country with a permanent stay card.

(Announcements of permanent emigration abroad on Form Pu:E-4 are rare occurrences).

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of immigrants by country of origin, age, level of education, employment status. Total inflow of persons by country of origin, total outflow by country of destination.

Agency cooperation:

Cooperation with the Ministry of Home Affairs concerning the acquisition of information on permanent and temporary migrants. Cooperation and data exchanges with international institutions, United Nations Agencies, European Economic Community, Eurostat, Council of Europe.

References:

Statistical Yearbook of Demography, 1994 (contains 1993 data).

Access to information:

Data are computerized. Unpublished tabulations may be consulted.

Portugal (1) *General Population Census 1991* (Recenseamento Geral da População, 1991), at ten year intervals. The first census took place in 1864.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Institute (Instituto nacional de Estatística, INE), Av. António José de Almeida, 1000 Lisbon, Portugal.

Operational basis:

The 1991 Census enumeration was universal and based on the de facto population concept. The whole territory at 0 hours on 15 April 1991.

Population covered:

All persons residing in Portugal, including foreigners having resided there for one year or more. This excludes foreign diplomatic and military personnel and their families; tourists and commuters, passengers aboard ships anchored in national ports and other civilian foreigners in the country for less than one year on Census Day.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, date of birth, place of birth, nationality, place of mother's residence at birth, place of previous residence on 31 December 1985 and 1989, marital status, number of children born, educational attainment, current school attendance, labour force participation, employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrating foreigner: individual of foreign nationality who resides works in Portugal.

Foreign worker: individual of foreign nationality who works in Portugal.

Nationality: person's citizenship as recorded in the passport, residence permit or nationality certificate at Census time.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born residents, of resident foreigners, of foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Censos 91: Resultados Definitivos, 1993.

Access to information:

Census data are released in 4 stages. The most complete figures are in the final results (see References above). Special tabulations may be obtained from the Marketing Department, INE. Access to individual data is restricted.

Portugal (2) Employment Survey (Inquérito ao Emprego, IE) quarterly, begun in 1974.**Responsible agency:**

National Statistical Institute, INE address: see Portugal (1).

Operational basis:

The Employment survey is a multi-stage, area sample survey with probability of selection proportional to size, which used the 1991 Census results as its sample frame in 1995. Total sample size was approximately 22,000 family dwellings. One-sixth of the sample changes every 3 months. The reference period for migration was the previous twelve months.

Population covered:

IE covered all persons residing in selected dwellings.

Descriptive variables:

Date and country of birth, nationality, sex, marital status, educational attainment, current school attendance, length of contract, current labour force participation, employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity.

For persons having resided abroad previous to their period of residency in Portugal: country of former residence, nationality.

Since 1992, a question was introduced asking residents whether anyone who would normally reside at that address was currently living or working abroad. For each absent person identified, sex, date of birth, matrimonial status, nationality, month/year of departure, intended length of time abroad and country of destination were requested. As this question was asked of residents about other residents rather than relatives, its formulation may have resulted in a higher incidence of partial responses.

Concepts and definitions:

Residency: living in the country for 3 months or more, or less than 3 months, without maintaining another residence abroad on a permanent basis.

Migrant: person having resided in the selected dwelling for more than one year whose last (previous) residence was abroad.

From the variables collected, the categories immigrant, returning citizen, immigrating foreigner, contract, foreign or returning migrant workers can be approximated, although no specific definitions exist.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born residents, resident foreigners, foreign workers.

Statistics on flows:

Total inflow of citizens and foreigners, inflow of returning citizens after emigration or working abroad, inflow of immigrating foreigners or migrant foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

No special institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Inquérito ao Emprego, Boletim Trimestral (quarterly).

Access to information:

Special tabulations of computerized data may be requested from INE.

Portugal (3) *Survey of Outgoing Migratory Movements* (Inquérito aos Movimentos Migratórios de Saída, IMMS) pilot survey in 1992 became annual from 1993.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Institute, INE, address: see Portugal (1).

Operational basis:

IMMS uses the Employment Survey (Portugal (2)) sample; a multi-stage, area sample of family dwellings with probability of selection proportional to size, using the 1991 Census results as its sample frame. The IMMS sample is the total first-quarter sample of the regular Employment Survey, with a sample size of approximately 33,000 dwellings. Data are collected quarterly but analysed annually. The reference period for emigration is the previous twelve months, or less than one year if the reason for emigration was gainful employment. The aim of the survey is to identify how many individuals left Portugal to live or work abroad during the 12 months preceding the survey.

Population covered:

All persons residing in or next to selected dwellings. All persons were asked whether in the previous 12 months they or any of the usual residents had left Portugal to live or work abroad.

Descriptive variables:

Citizenship, sex, age, date of birth, marital status, departure date, intended (actual) country of destination, intended (actual) length of residence abroad.

Concepts and definitions:

Temporary emigrant: individual who left the country with the intention of staying abroad for a period of one year or less, to work in gainful employment (excluding business trips and cross-border commuters). Family and accompanying members are also considered temporary emigrants.

Permanent emigrant: individual who left the country with the intention of residing abroad for a period of more than one year.

Emigration was identified if one or more usual residents of the dwelling left the country during the year of the survey, irrespective of whether that person was still abroad or back in Portugal at the time of interview.

Statistics on flows:

Total outflow of persons (citizens and foreigners), all emigrating citizens, citizens intending to work abroad, emigrating foreigners or foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

No special institutional arrangements exist.

References:

Estatísticas Demográficas, 1993, annual.

Access to information:

All available data are computerized and published and may be requested from INE. Special tabulations are not available.

Portugal (4) *National Emigration Survey, 1994* (Inquérito Nacional á Emigração)

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Institute, INE address: see Portugal (1).

Operational basis:

The national emigration survey was a one-time experimental sample survey of family dwellings, using a systematic sample of different size clusters, selected from districts and municipalities with populations of more than 100,000.

Total sample size was 73,000 dwellings. The reference period for emigration was the previous twelve months, or less than one year if the reason for emigration was to work.

Population covered:

All persons residing in or next to selected dwellings.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, citizenship, whether leaving dependents in Portugal, language knowledge of country of destination, possession of residence permit for destination, level of earnings prior to emigration, labour force participation, employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity in (intended) country of destination, whether first-time emigration, description of last five migratory moves (country(ies) of destination and departure dates).

Concepts and definitions:

Temporary emigrant: individual who left the country with the intention of staying abroad for a period of one year or less, to work in gainful employment, including family and accompanying members.

Permanent emigrant: individual who left the country with the intention of residing abroad for a period of more than one year.

Statistics on flows:

Total outflow of persons (citizens and foreigners), outflow of emigrating citizens, of emigrating citizens intending to work abroad, of emigrating foreigners.

Agency cooperation:

No special institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

In 1995, computerized data were subject to analysis by INE and therefore not accessible. The availability of results was dependant on their comparability with results from other data sources.

Portugal (5) *Administrative Immigration Control* (Verbete para Imigração VE), since 1992 in its current form.

Responsible agency:

The Foreigners and Frontiers Service, Ministry of Interior is responsible for data collection while the National Statistical Institute administers the statistics produced from this source. INE address: see Portugal (1).

Operational basis:

Registrations of immigration forms established to control the movements of foreigners under a new regime of entry, residence, exit and expulsion from the national territory through air and sea ports of entry. This control is mandated by Decree-Law No. 59/93, under the authority of the Ministry of Interior (Ministério da Administração Interna). INE was instrumental in redesigning the immigration forms to best capture information about migrants.

Population covered:

Foreigners (non-European Community) entering the country with valid visas who must declare themselves to the Foreigners and Frontiers Service within 3 days. Refugees, asylum-seekers, special categories of persons accepted for humanitarian or other reasons, seasonal workers permitted to stay up to 8 months, are excluded.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, country of citizenship, of previous residence, date of first entry into the country, local address, presence of relatives or friends in the country before arrival, whether accompanied by spouse and children.

Concepts and definitions:

Permanent immigrant: non-Portuguese national requesting a residence permit for a period of one year from the competent official service for the first time, independently of the year of arrival in Portugal.

The concept *Immigrating foreigner* is derived from information in visas and travel documents showing proof of entries and exits from the national territory.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of permanent immigrating foreigners by country of origin and by citizenship.

Agency cooperation:

Between INE and Ministry of Interior.

References:

Estatísticas Demográficas, 1993, annual.

Access to information:

Data are computerized; special tabulations may be requested from INE.

Portugal (6) *Record of Legal Foreign Residents* (Residentes Estrangeiros - estrangeiros com residência legalizada.)

Responsible agency:

The Foreigners and Frontiers Service, Ministry of Interior, is responsible for data collection, while INE administers the statistical information produced from the source. Statistics exist since 1975.

Operational basis:

Registrations of legal residence permits issued by the Ministry of Interior under Decree-Law No. 59/93, which established a new regime of entry, residence, exit and expulsion of foreigners from the national territory through its sea and airports of entry.

Population covered:

Legal foreign residents in the country.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, country of citizenship, local address, current labour force participation, employment status, occupation.

Concepts and definitions:

Legal foreign resident: non-Portuguese national who has been granted a residence permit from the competent official services.

Statistics of stocks:

Stock of legally resident foreigners (holding valid residence permits) by citizenship and by occupation.

Agency cooperation:

Between INE and Ministry of Interior.

References:

Estatísticas Demográficas, 1993, annual.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized; access is restricted.

Russian Federation (1) *Federal Migration Service Statistics***Responsible agency:**

Federal Migration Service (FMS), Analytical Department, Boyarski Pereulok 4, Moscow, Russian Federation, in existence since July 1992. Within the Government FMS has overall responsibility for implementation of policies related to international migration, including the regulation and supervision of Russians working abroad (this function was not operational). The division of tasks between FMS and other institutions concerning border controls, visa issuance, handling of unregularized foreigners, etc. was under discussion in 1995.

Operational basis:

Initial registrations through FMS regional offices of persons arriving in Russia from abroad, who are subject to scrutiny under the Law on Refugees and the Law on Forced Population Movements. The examination process of individual cases takes approximately three months; persons refused the granting of refugee status are in principle deported.

Population covered:

Forcibly displaced persons (FDPs), refugees.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, number of children, country of previous residence and source of livelihood there, educational attainment, nationality.

Concepts and definitions:

Forcibly displaced person: person with (the right to) Russian citizenship who is recognized as having left the place of residence due to civil strife or natural disaster.

Persons who have the *right to Russian citizenship:* anyone with valid identity papers from the Federation of the Soviet Union which are not marked to signify that citizenship of another FSU country has already been granted.

Refugee: foreign citizen or stateless person who arrives on Russian territory seeking asylum.

Statistics of stocks:

Stock of displaced persons, stock of refugees.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

"*Forcibly Displaced Persons*", *Information-Statistical Bulletin*, (No. 4), quarterly.

Extracts of FMS publications are reproduced in the International Organization for Migration's Moscow Bureau: *Newsletter on Migration Issues*, also available from IOM Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland.

Access to information:

Data are partially computerized; special tabulations are not available. Access may be requested from the Director, FMS.

Russian Federation (2) *Registered unemployed FDPs and refugees***Responsible agency:**

Federal Employment Service (FES), Statistical Division, 1-st Basmanny pereulok, 3, Moscow 107078.

Operational basis:

Local employment offices register persons seeking work and/or obtaining unemployment benefits. These registrations can distinguish *FDPs* and *refugees*, see source (1), from other clients. Other 'immigrants' with the right to Russian citizenship may be registered but cannot be separately identified. Foreign citizens other than *refugees* may not seek work through FES.

Population covered:

See under **Operational basis**.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, nationality, local authority, occupation.

Concepts and definitions:

FDP, Refugee: See under Russian Federation (1).

Statistics of stocks:

Stock of registered unemployed.

Agency cooperation:

FES provides data to FMS.

References:

Not available.

Access to information:

By request to the Director, FES.

Russian Federation (3) *Russians registered for work abroad*

Responsible agency:

Federal Migration Service (FMS), address: see Russian Federation (1).

Operational basis:

Agencies authorized to recruit Russian workers for employment abroad, employers registered with FMS as undertaking work abroad with Russian workers, and local FSM offices are expected to keep registrations of all workers who have gone abroad on contracts (brokered) with them. Sets of statistical reporting tables were drawn up in late 1994, but reporting had not yet started.

Population covered:

All persons registered as having obtained work abroad through: a regional migration office; an authorized employment agency; or a Russian employer registered as employing Russian workers on contracts abroad.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, region of residence, occupation.

Concepts and definitions:

See under **Population covered**.

Statistics of stocks:

Not available.

Agency cooperation:

Between FSM and operators under **Operational basis**.

References:

Information-Statistical Bulletin, FMS.

Access to information:

By request to the Director, FSM.

Russian Federation (4) *Local population registers*

Responsible agency:

GOSKOMSTAT, Department of Population Statistics, M. Cherkassky pereulok 2/6, Moscow 103616.

Operational basis:

Local population registers record all persons whose identity papers they stamp showing intention of staying for more than one month in the local registration's area of authority. Statistical reports based on these registrations are regularly transmitted to GOSKOMSTAT, specifying where recorded persons came from. Similarly, the local registers keep records of and prepare tabulations for persons who have reported that they intend to leave the area to settle elsewhere.

Population covered:

All persons reporting movement to and from a local authority.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, country of previous/intended residence, educational attainment, nationality.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant: person who reported movement into the local territory from abroad. *Emigrant*: person who reported movement out of the local territory to a place abroad.

Statistics of stocks:

Stock of registered resident population by variables described above.

Agency cooperation:

Between GOSKOMSTAT and local authorities.

References:

International Organization for Migration's Moscow Bureau: *Newsletter on Migration Issues*, also available from IOM Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland, publishes English translations and summaries of statistical reports which have appeared in Russian media.

Access to information:

By request to the Director, GOSKOMSTAT.

Senegal *Survey of Migration and Urbanization in Senegal* (Enquête Migration et Urbanization au Sénégal, EMUS), carried out in 1995 and processed subsequently.

Responsible agency:

Statistical and Forecasting Directorate (Direction de la Prévision et de la Statistique), B.P. 116, Boulevard de l'Est Point E, Dakar, Senegal.

Operational basis:

The survey was a household sample survey covering the whole country, using a self-ponderable sample of 7,431 households (consisting of 40,000 persons 15 years of age and above present at survey time). It was based on a sample frame taken from the 1988 Census districts. The reference period to identify a migrant was 'absence for six months or more', covering migration which took place any time within the past 5 years. Information on internal and international migration was collected.

Population covered:

Resident household members in the sample. A total of 5,673 migrants and returning migrants were interviewed and 17,664 "migration biographies" established.

Descriptive variables:

Age, date of birth, sex, marital status, country of birth, of previous residence, educational attainment, current labour force participation, occupation, employment status, economic activity, reason for migrating.

Concepts and definitions:

Resident: person who usually lives in the household (for at least 6 months). Presence was established if the person had spent the night preceding the interviewer's visit there.

Migrant: household member (15 +), who migrated at least once since 1988 (internal or international).

Returning migrant: household member (15 +), born in the place of residence where currently residing, who had resided abroad for at least 6 months during the past 10 years.

Emigrant: absent household member (15 +) who was away or had left with the intention of staying away for at least 6 months.

Citizen: person who declares s/he has the nationality of the country.

Worker: person who exercises a gainful activity.

Foreigner: person of foreign nationality (non-Senegalese).

International Immigrant: foreigner within the country having come from abroad.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Statistical tabulations were under preparation in 1995.

Agency cooperation:

This survey was held as part of a network of national surveys covering eight West African countries: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal. The programme is coordinated by the Centre d'Etude et de Recherches sur la Population et le Développement (CERPOD) in Mali. Once the results of all the national surveys were available, a regional study was to be carried out.

References:

Not available in 1995.

Access to information:

Data were collected on computer, but not tabulated. Special tabulations could be requested through the Directorate.

Sri Lanka (1)***Bureau of Foreign Employment Reports*****Responsible agency:**

Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE), Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, 97 Jawatte Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka.

Operational basis:

Registrations of applications for contracts abroad issued by the Bureau, whose overall function is to plan and evaluate policy decisions related to labour migration. Act No. 21 of 1985 empowers it to "establish and maintain an Information Data Bank to monitor the flow of Sri Lankans for employment outside Sri Lanka and their return after such employment", Section 15 (L). These reports do not seem to form the basis for statistics on returning workers.

Population covered:

Applicants for contractual employment abroad. The Act covers emigrants, migrants and contract workers.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, "manpower" groups, i.e. high level, middle level, skilled and unskilled, intended country of destination, length of stay abroad, expected departure date, expected occupation, sector of economic activity abroad, expected employer, recruitment channel, type of exit visa, type and duration of exit work permit granted.

Concepts and definitions:

SLBFE-approved emigration of Sri Lankans for contractual employment abroad means that citizens hold a certainty of employment opportunity at the time of departure.

Statistics of stocks and flows:

Stock of citizens working abroad by the above variables, outflow of citizens intending to work abroad.

Agency cooperation:

Statistics are shared with the Central Bank, Department of Census, and other research organizations periodically.

References:

Statistical Hand Book on Migration 1994, annual, Research Division, SLBFE.

Access to information:

Unpublished tabulations (on Foreign Employment Placements by Agency of Recruitment) and special tabulations may be obtained on request. Data are computerized. General outflow data, individual and agency details are restricted.

Sri Lanka (2)***Departmental Administration Documents*****Responsible agency:**

Statistics Unit, Department of Immigration and Emigration (DIE), Galle Buck Road, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka. DIE is a law enforcement agency in existence since 1949 which has undergone many changes. It is responsible for collecting, analysing and processing statistics relevant to international immigration and emigration.

Operational basis:

Registrations of application forms for residence and other visas, travel documents, citizenship requests and grants to stateless persons of Indian origin, repatriation of persons granted Indian citizenship back to India, etc. DIE functions by mandate of the Immigration and Emigration (Amendment) Act No. 16, 1993; Citizenship (Amendment) Act No. 15, 1993; and Citizenship (Amendment) Act No. 43, 1993. The authority to grant these various statuses is conferred on DIE under the Special Resident Guest Scheme administered by the Board of Investment, the Indo-Ceylon Agreement (Implementation) Act No. 14 of 1967, and the Grant of Citizenship to Stateless Persons, Acts Nos. 5 of 1986 and 39 of 1988.

Population covered:

Nationals and foreigners applying for any of the official documents (visa, permit, travel document, etc.) issued under DIE's authority.

Descriptive variables:

Age, date of birth, sex, marital status, citizenship, educational attainment, current employment status, occupation, sector of economic activity.

For immigrants only: first entry into the country or admission as migrant, country of previous residence, citizenship, country of birth, reason for migrating, local address, type of visa or residence permit and duration, length of contract, type of employer (public/private sector), number of accompanying immediate relatives.

For emigrants only: whether spouse and children are leaving with the migrant or remain in the country.

Concepts and definitions:

Residence visa holder: non-Sri Lankan national granted specific residence facilities for a first period not exceeding one year. Further extensions are issued on the merits of each application.

Visit visa holder: foreign national receiving an entry permit signifying the Government's consent to enter the country for any period not exceeding 6 months.

When a residence visa is issued following a visit visa, this fact is registered.

Citizenship applicant: foreign national applying for Sri Lankan citizenship certificate.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of valid residence and visit visas by nationality, stock of former emigrants (returnees), stock of citizenship applications, stock of illicit immigrants, overstays.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of arrivals by port of entry including returning tourists, inflow of citizens returning after working abroad, of immigrating foreigners or migrant foreign workers.

Outflow of persons including tourists, outflow of citizens intending to work abroad, of emigrating foreigners or migrant foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

Between Government Departments.

References:

Annual Administration Report, 1993 and *Bulletin of Immigration and Emigration Statistics*, 1990 and 1993, previous years not available. The *Bulletin* contains statistics prepared by the Foreign Employment Bureau.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized and are in principle restricted. All tabulations are prepared for publication. Special tabulations could be requested.

Switzerland (1) *Central Aliens Register*, continuous since 1971.**Responsible agency:**

Federal Office for Foreigners (also translated Federal Office for Alien Affairs) (Office fédéral des Etrangers), Taubenstrasse 16, 3003 Bern, Switzerland.

Operational basis:

Local (Commune) registrations and computer on-line system entries by Cantonal authorities of the Aliens Police into a Central Aliens Register authorized by Ordinance RCE of 23 November 1994 which stipulates that the register be maintained in order to regulate relevant authorities' activities, effect legal controls and provide statistics on foreigners in the country.

Population covered:

Persons who come under the scope of the Federal Law of 1931 on stays and establishment of foreigners, i.e. all foreigners residing or working in Switzerland, whether resident foreigners, border workers or seasonal workers. This excludes asylum-seekers, members of diplomatic missions, international civil servants and members of their families and private staff.

Descriptive variables:

Name, place and date of birth, nationality, religion, marital status, departure/destination addresses, labour force participation, occupation, sector of economic activity, employment status, date of migration, date of declaration, date of all changes made to the register, permit type and duration.

Information is supplied to RCE by three administrative levels: Communes report arrivals, departures, changes in personal data; Cantons report first permits/prolongations of seasonal and annual stays and transborder workers, permit conversions, changes of occupation or employer, new establishment permits, naturalization; Federal agencies report facilitated naturalization, repatriations, refugee asylums granted.

Concepts and definitions:

Foreigners must register with the aliens police within 3 months of arrival in Switzerland. Those intending to settle or work must register within 8 days and before they start work.

Emigrating foreigner: foreign national whose stay in Switzerland has ended.

Foreign worker: foreign national whose conditions of stay are covered by law and who exercises gainful employment.

Refugee: foreigner who is exposed or fears exposure to serious prejudices on the basis of race, religion, nationality, etc. in the country of origin or of last residence to whom Switzerland has granted asylum.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of legally resident foreigners, of foreign workers by residence status, stock of recognized refugees.

Statistics on flows:

Inflow of immigrating foreigners, of foreign migrant workers. Outflow of emigrating foreigners, of foreign workers, of deported foreigners.

Agency cooperation:

RCE publishes a catalogue of data and levels of accessibility within Government agencies.

References:

Mouvements de la Population, 1994, annual.

Les Etrangers en Suisse, Effectifs, December 1994, and *Effectifs: Résultats Rétrospectifs*, August 1994. Both are published three times a year.

Access to information:

RCE was fully computerized in 1988. Direct tabulations are made from the register 3 times a year and on a partial basis each month. Unpublished and special tabulations are prepared at the request of the authorities and individuals based on selected criteria and may be requested specifying desired variables. Each request is examined in relation to relevant legislation concerning data protection.

Switzerland (2) *Register of Asylum-Seekers and Refugees*, continuous since 1985.

Responsible agency:

Federal Office for Refugees (Office fédéral des Réfugiés, OFR), Taubenstrasse 16, 3003 Bern, Switzerland.

Operational basis:

Reports on applications for asylum received at registration and transit centres in Switzerland are transmitted to an automatic registration system of persons maintained in common with the Central Aliens Register and in cooperation with several Federal and Cantonal authorities. The AUPER Ordinance of 18 November 1992 established this Register to facilitate administrative activities concerning asylum and acquisition of Swiss nationality, as specified in the Asylum Law (1979) last amended in 1990; to aid Swiss citizens abroad; and to maintain a statistical database concerning asylum in the country.

Population covered:

All persons who apply for asylum, including recognized refugees.

Descriptive variables:

Name, sex, place and date of birth, nationality, marital status, date of most recent admission, labour force participation, occupation, type of employer (public/private sector), residence/work permit type and duration (if applicable), local address.

Concepts and definitions:

Asylum-seeker: applicant seeking asylum in Switzerland.

Initial claims are classified into 3 categories: 'refusal after one interview', 'requiring further investigation', 'well-founded'. Asylum-seekers are allocated to cantons under a quota system and have limited access to jobs. Non-recognition can result in: deportation, temporary admission, humanitarian stay permit or other permit.

Refugee: foreigner who is exposed or fears exposure to serious prejudices on the basis of race, religion, nationality, etc. in the country of origin or of last residence to whom Switzerland has granted asylum.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Stock of asylum-seekers. Inflow of asylum-seekers, outflow of repatriated refugees.

Agency cooperation:

The AUPER catalogue of data by Articles and by levels of accessibility within Government agencies contributing to the system is published. Depersonalized statistics on asylum are transmitted to the Federal Statistical Office. Certain AUPER variables are transmitted regularly to the Swiss Organization for Aid to Refugees. Statistics are also shared with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

References:

Not available.

Access to information:

AUPER is fully computerized; data are restricted.

Switzerland (3) **1990 Federal Population Census** (Recensement fédéral de la Population, 1990)
held at ten year intervals.

Responsible agency:

National Statistical Office (Office fédéral de la Statistique, OFS), Schwarztorstrasse 96, 3003 Bern, Switzerland.

Operational basis:

The 1990 census applied the de facto population concept with universal enumeration on the 4th of December.

Population covered:

All persons residing in Switzerland or possessing Swiss papers on Census day, including seasonal workers, foreigners with stay permits and asylum-seekers, excluding transborder workers, tourists, visitors, business travellers, diplomats and international civil servants.

Descriptive variables:

In addition to the normal census socio-demographic variables: nationality, place of mother's residence at birth, country of birth, type of permit for foreigners (A, B, C or asylum-seeker or "other" if status is unknown or could not be established).

Concepts and definitions:

The Census uses the concept of *economic domicile*: where a person lives most of the week and uses the local infrastructure; as distinct from *legal domicile*: where legal papers are registered and taxes paid. For foreigners domicile is established as the commune where their stay permit was issued.

Origin and country of origin are used to define Swiss citizens from foreigners.

Dual national: holding a Swiss and another passport, counted as a Swiss national.

Short-term residence: maximum 18 months.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born residents, of resident foreigners, of foreign workers.

Agency cooperation:

Not available.

References:

Resultats du Recensement fédéral de la Population.

Access to information:

Not available.

Thailand (1) **Foreign Workers**

Responsible agency:

Alien's Occupational Control Division, Department of Employment, Mitmaitree Road, Bangkok, 10400, Thailand.

Operational basis:

Reports on work permits granted to foreign workers under the Alien Working Act B.E. 2521 of 1978.

Population covered:

Aliens legally working in Thailand. This excludes diplomatic and consular corps, international organizations' representatives, their families and personal servants, persons who perform a duty of mission or benefit under special agreement with the Government.

Descriptive variables:

Age, date of birth, sex, country of birth, citizenship (naturalized or not), marital status, number of children, intended length of stay, length of contract, sector of employment (public/private), educational attainment, date of first entry into the country, local address, visa, residence/work permit type and duration, current/previous occupation, employment status.

Concepts and definitions:

Foreign worker (alien worker): natural person not of Thai nationality engaged in work by exerting energy or using knowledge whether or not in consideration of wages or other benefits.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign workers in Thailand by type of alien status, by work permit, by nationality and by occupation.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None published.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized. Special tabulations may be supplied.

Thailand (2) Labour Office Statistics

Responsible agency:

Overseas Employment Administration Office (OEAO), Mitmaitree Road, Bangkok, 10400, Thailand.

Operational basis:

Registrations of work contracts or exit visas granted by OEAO, mandated in the Recruitment and Job-Seekers Protection Act B.E. 2528 of 1985, empowering the Labour Office to maintain information on migrant labour.

Population covered:

Thai workers who go to (or return from) work abroad, i.e. migrant, contract and returning migrant workers.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, number of children ever born, educational attainment, current occupation, sector of economic activity, intended country of destination, expected departure date, expected occupation, sector of economic activity abroad, expected employer, recruitment channel, type of exit visa, reason for migration, length of stay abroad.

Concepts and definitions:

Migrant workers: Thai workers who obtain a job abroad on their own.

Contract workers: Thai workers who obtain jobs abroad through contract agencies.

Returning migrant workers: Thai workers who return home but who intend to go back to work abroad again.

Statistics on flows:

Outflow of citizens intending to work abroad, by country of destination. Availability of statistics on return migration not known.

Agency cooperation:

No institutional arrangements exist.

References:

None.

Access to information:

Data are not computerized. Special tabulations may be supplied.

United States (1) *National Agricultural Workers Survey*, started in 1989.

Responsible agency:

United States Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210, USA. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy (ASP) does the survey work and analysis of the supply of agricultural workers.

Operational basis:

The sample survey covers some 72 counties in the country selected by area sampling, representing 12 different agricultural regions. For each cycle some 30 counties and Seasonal Agricultural Service (SAS) employers are selected randomly, from which a random sample of approximately 2,500 workers is yielded for personal interviews. In the second year, workers from the first year's sample are sought for re-interview and a fresh sample is also drawn. The main purpose of the survey is to describe the demographic and employment characteristics of farm workers for Federal programmes.

Population covered:

Workers performing seasonal agricultural services in perishable crops at the time of interview. Approximately 60% of the workers in the sample are foreign-born.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, country of birth, immigration status and work authorization, family composition, income, health, English language ability, social services used, occupation, work history and work patterns.

Concepts and definitions:

Foreign-born Seasonal Agricultural Service migrant worker: person working on selected SAS work sites with a work authorization in the country with immigration status.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

The stock of foreign-born workers in seasonal agricultural services, by country of origin.

Agency cooperation:

With the Secretaries of Agriculture and Labor as concerns the Immigration Reform and Control Act.

References:

Research reports are released by the Office of Program Economics.

Access to information:

Public data files are not available; the agency can receive special data requests.

United States (2) *Legalized Population Survey*, LPS1 (1989) and LPS2 (1992). No further surveys are planned.

Responsible agency:

United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20536 (for LPS1). Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210 and Department of Agriculture, Division of Immigration Policy and Research, (for LPS2).

Operational basis:

Both surveys were sample surveys covering the whole country. LPS1 had a 2-stage stratified cluster sample design, using Legalization Offices (LOs) as first-stage units and sub-samples of applicants within LOs as second-stage units. LOs were selected with probabilities proportionate to a measure of size which reflected their size and their composition with respect to nationality. Non-Mexican aliens were sampled 2.6 times the rate of Mexican aliens so as to obtain adequate sample sizes for the former. The samples for the two surveys consisted of approximately 7,000 and 5,000 individuals respectively, of which the majority were interviewed in person (a small number of interviews was done through proxies or by telephone). The main purpose of these surveys was to obtain a profile of aliens legalized under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA, Section 404 (b)) at the time of legalization (LPS1) and five years later (LPS2).

Population covered:

All persons selected for the sample 18 years and above, legalized under IRCA or approximately 6,193 and 4,012 persons personally interviewed.

Descriptive variables:

Both surveys: date and country of birth, sex, marital status, language proficiency, educational attainment, immigration and migration history, family composition (including some details on household members and relatives living abroad), US health insurance and social services coverage, employment, income and remittances.

LPS1: employment history prior to arrival, at entry, prior to the legalization application, current employment status, industry and occupation.

LPS2: employment history from January 1991 to survey date (spring/summer 1992).

Concepts and definitions:

Legalized alien: foreign-born person who obtained immigrant status in the USA through IRCA, 1986 based on continuous residence since January 1, 1982.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

The stock of the legalized population, by country of origin, method of entry, education, work status, occupation, income.

Agency cooperation:

Survey results are provided to Congress as mandated.

References:

Immigration Reform and Control Act: Report on the Legalized Alien Population, March 1992 (LPS1 results).

Access to information:

Department of Labor public data files are available.

United States (3) *INS Central Index*, started in 1972 for immigrant data.

Responsible agency:

US Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Statistics Division, 425 I Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20536.

Operational basis:

Registrations of admissions of new arrivals or adjustments of aliens in the country. These registrations are established on a central index covering essentially two categories: immigrants and nonimmigrants, mandated in the Immigration and Nationality Act. Immigrant visa and adjustment forms are processed by the INS Immigrant Data Capture (IMDAC) facility which generates records that are the source of these statistics.

Population covered:

In theory all foreign-born persons of all ages admitted to the country, excluding tourists. Specifically: immigrants, non-immigrants other than tourists, asylum-seekers, holders of border-crossing cards.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, marital status, country of birth, nationality and how it was obtained, immigration status (visa type, work authorization), occupation, country of previous residence, date of first entry into the country, date of first admission as a migrant, date of most recent admission.

Concepts and definitions:

Immigrant: alien admitted as a lawful permanent resident who may have been issued an immigrant visa overseas by the Department of State or adjusted to permanent resident status by INS in the country.

Nonimmigrant: alien who seeks temporary entry for a specific purpose, who must have a permanent residence abroad (for most admission classes) and who qualifies. The major categories having permission to work are temporary workers and trainees, exchange visitors, intracompany transferees.

Refugee: any person outside his/her country of nationality unable or unwilling to return there because of persecution or a well-founded fear of such, which may be based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. A person with no nationality must be outside his/her country of last habitual residence to qualify.

Refugees are eligible to adjust to lawful permanent residence after one year of continuous presence. Although considered nonimmigrants when initially admitted, they are not included in nonimmigrant admission data.

Data on *emigrants* (discontinued in 1957) and on US citizens who lived abroad and are *returning migrants* are not collected in the United States.

Statistics on flows:

Inflows: all immigrants, employment-based immigrants and asylum-seekers by various characteristics including occupation, refugees for resettlement, all nonimmigrants, nonimmigrants by admission classes (temporary workers and trainees by occupation) and various characteristics.

Agency cooperation:

Data are exchanged routinely with the US Census Bureau and United Nations and provided upon request to other US agencies, international organizations and governments.

References:

Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1993 (latest year), US Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C., 1994.

Access to information:

Public use data files may be purchased or special tabulations requested from Statistics Division. Access to other data is highly restricted due to the Privacy Act and computer security requirements.

United States (4) *1990 Census of Population* held at ten year intervals.**Responsible agency:**

U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

Operational basis:

The 1990 census referred to a person's usual residence on the 1st of April. Data collection was universal for a "short form" questionnaire containing basic population and housing questions. A "long form" questionnaire was applied to a sample of housing units in the nation. The sampling fraction varied depending on the subject and data collection procedures. When all sampling rates across the US were taken into account, approximately one out of every six housing units or approximately 17.7 million housing units, was enumerated with the long form. Special questionnaires were administered for institutional and other special places which contained the same population questions as the other two forms.

Population covered:

All population groups except for national residents abroad.

Descriptive variables:

Country of birth, citizenship (US or not), arrival years in the US, country of residence 5 years before, language spoken at home, in addition to the normal census socio-demographic variables. Current economic activity status (with a past week reference period), hours of work, industry, occupation, status in employment, usual economic activity, income.

Concepts and definitions:

Legal Immigrant: person not of US citizenship, granted permanent resident status.

Foreign born immigrant: person born outside of the USA, Puerto Rico or one of the Outlying Areas (i.e. American Samoa, Guan, US Virgin Islands, Northern Marianas or Other US Territory) not holding US citizenship by birth or naturalization.

Statistics on stocks:

Stock of foreign-born population by country of birth, age, sex, marital status, fertility, labour force status, occupation in industry, class of worker.

Inflow of immigrants admitted by country or region of birth, by sex and age-group.

Agency cooperation:

Census Bureau must provide certain population counts to the President of the USA by 31 December of Census year and thereafter to all States and the District of Columbia as mandated by Public Law 94-171, the Legislative Redistricting Program.

References:

1990 Census of Population, The Foreign-Born Population in the United States, July 1993.

Access to information:

Specialized needs not met by the 1990 standard data products (printed or machine-readable form) or the User-Defined Areas Program can be handled through the Special Tabulations Program, prepared by the Census Bureau on a user-fee basis.

United States (5) *Annual Survey of Refugees*, started in 1984.

Responsible agency:

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C., USA.

Operational basis:

Up to 1992, this sample survey covered all refugees entering the United States from Southeast Asia. Beginning in 1993, the survey included other nationalities as well, i.e. Cuban/Haitian entrants and Amerasian immigrants. Each year some 150 arrivals are randomly selected. The households in which they live are telephone-interviewed annually (in September/October) for five years in a rotating panel design so that each survey is comprised of about 750 households. The purpose of this survey is to allow the Refugee Resettlement Program to meet the 1980 Refugee Act's requirement for an annual report to be produced containing updated employment and labour force statistics for refugees entering the country within the five years immediately preceding the year of the report.

Population covered:

Selected refugees of all ages and all other members of the household where they live. If the person sampled is a child, a replacement adult in the household is interviewed.

Descriptive variables:

Sex, age, nationality, English language ability, current employment status or job search activity, past work history, income for all adults, household composition, use of welfare and social services received.

Concepts and definitions:

Refugee: any person outside his/her country of nationality unable or unwilling to return there because of persecution or a well-founded fear of such, which may be based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. A person with no nationality must be outside his/her country of last habitual residence to qualify.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Not available.

Agency cooperation:

Annual reports to the Congress.

References:

Annual Report, Refugee Resettlement Program, summary.

Access to information:

Some detailed analyses are available from ORR, but no public data file exists.

United States (6) *Survey of Income and Program Participation*, started in 1983.**Responsible agency:**

United States Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233-0001.

Operational basis:

This sample survey covers the entire non-institutionalized population. Sample size was initially 21,000 households; from 1996 it became 50,000 households or first-wave respondents. Later survey waves interview household members, every four months for four years, using proxy respondents where necessary. Low-income households are over-sampled. The survey serves to obtain detailed information on labour force activity, income levels and sources and eligibility and participation in government "transfer programs". It is designed to measure short spells of "need" and use of relevant programmes.

Population covered:

All persons aged 15 years and above living in selected households at the time of the first interview.

Descriptive variables:

Age, sex, earnings, assets and liabilities, taxes, disability and receipt of government program benefits, economic activity, migration history including country of birth, since 1986. Different survey rounds contain special modules, some are fixed i.e. migration history, employment history, fertility, others are variable.

Concepts and definitions:

Not available.

Statistics on stocks and flows:

Not available.

Agency cooperation:

Not available.

References:

Household Economic Studies, Census Series P-70 regularly disseminates the survey results.
For further analysis of foreign-born persons from this survey (see: M. O'Connell, Census Bureau).

Access to information:

Public data files are available through the Data User Services Division, Census Bureau.

ANNEX 2**Statistics on international migrant workers:
Results from an exploratory survey of availability
of national statistics, 1995****and****Analysis of questionnaire results with replies
from 110 countries**

(See annex 1 for information about the 22 countries
included in the INTERDEP projet)

STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS
Results from an Exploratory Survey of Availability of National Statistics, 1995

Country	PC	LFS	MS	AR	OE	Other	TE	PE	ILO/Avail.	Plans
Albania#	no	no	n.h.	no	n.e.	n.e.	no	no	n.e.	Employment Offices
Antigua & Barbuda	yes	=	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	PC	Soc.Sec. Labour Records
Argentina*	yes	yes	=	yes	no	=	yes	yes	yes	LFS, Adm. Records
Armenia	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	no	no	=	no
Australia	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	yes	=	'78-95 by Ind./Occ.	Doing
Austria	yes	yes	n.h.	yes	=	yes	yes	yes	MicC, Adm.Rec '94->	Doing
Bahamas	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	PC'90	no
Bahrain#	yes	=	=	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	PC, Soc.Ins.'76->	Doing
Bangladesh	no	no	no	=	no	no	no	no	n.e.	no
Barbados	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	n.e.	1/96 LFS
Belgium#	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	PCs, Paid Employ't	Doing
Belize	yes	yes	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	Biennial LFS	Annual LFS
Bermuda	yes	yes	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	yes
Bolivia#	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	'90->	yes
Botswana	yes	yes	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	LFS, Adm. Rec.s	LFS every 6 Years
Brazil#	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	n.e.	yes	yes	PC'80->, LFS '92/3	UNFPA project plans
Brunei Darussalam	yes	=	=	=	=	=	no	no	yes	no
Burkina Faso#	yes	yes	yes	no	n.e.	=	yes	yes	MSurvey, Adm.Rec.	Migration survey results
Burundi*	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	'85-90	no
Canada	yes	no	n.h.	no	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	PCs	PC'96
Cayman Islands	yes	yes	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	no	Biannual LFS
Central Afr. Rep.*	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no
Chad	yes	=	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	PC'93	no
China*	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	=	'96 Labour Law Non-Natls
Colombia*	=	=	=	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	Estab. survey	Study % foreigners
Congo*	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	yes	no
Costa Rica*	yes	=	yes	=	yes	=	no	no	n.e.	Add LFS Migration Module
Croatia	yes	=	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	PC'91	'96 LFS
Cyprus	yes	no	no	no	yes	n.e.	yes	no	yes	Comply EEC Regulation
Czech Republic#	no	yes	n.h.	yes	no	=	yes	yes	yes	PC 2000
Country	PC	LFS	MS	AR	OE	Other	TE	PE	ILO/Avail.	Plans
Denmark	=	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	'92-94	Doing
Ecuador	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	yes	yes	'88-94	no
Egypt*	yes	=	yes	yes	=	=	yes	yes	PCs, Adm. Rec.s	Doing
Eritrea*	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	'94->	Doing
Estonia	yes	yes	n.h.	=	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	LFS '95->
Ethiopia#	no	no	n.h.	yes	no	no	no	yes	Estab. survey	no
Faeroe Islands	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	no	n.e.	n.e.	no	yes	Register'd paid E.	=
Fiji	=	=	=	=	=	yes	no	yes	'86-90 + '93	Doing
Finland	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	PCs + '87->	Doing
France	yes	yes	yes	n.e.	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	PCs + '68->	Spec'l establishment survey
French Guiana	yes	yes	=	=	no	=	yes	yes	E. surv. '93, '95	no
French Polynesia*	=	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	Annually	no
Gambia#	yes	yes	yes	n.e.	n.e.	=	yes	yes	PCs	no
Germany	yes	yes	yes	yes	=	=	yes	yes	yes	Doing

Guatemala	yes	yes	n.h.	n.e.	no	=	yes	yes	'86/7, '89	PC'94 Migration module
Haiti	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	no	no	=	no
Honduras*	yes	=	=	yes	=	=	no	yes	Legal work permits	yes
Hong Kong	yes	no	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	=	yes	yes	PC + Bi-Census	Doing
Iceland	n.h.	yes	n.h.	no	no	n.e.	yes	yes	yes	no
Israel	no	yes	=	yes	n.e.	yes	no	yes	'97->	CBS
Jamaica	yes	=	=	=	=	=	no	no	=	no
Jordan	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	no	no	=	no
Kazakstan#	no	n.h.	n.h.	yes	n.e.	=	yes	yes	Adm. Rec.s -> '94	no
Korea, Republic*	=	=	=	=	yes	=	no	no	=	no
Kuwait	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	n.e.	yes	yes	PCs '65-85, LFS	PC'95
Liechtenstein	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	=
Lithuania#	no	n.h.	n.h.	yes	n.e.	=	no	yes	yes	'96-> Labour Exchanges
Luxembourg	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	PC, Soc.Sec.	Doing
Macau	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	LFS 89-> , Migration Service
Macedonia	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	4/96 Establishment survey

Country	PC	LFS	MS	AR	OE	Other TE	PE	ILO/Avail.	Plans
Madagascar*	=	no	n.h.	yes	n.e.	=	no	=	no
Malaysia	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	PC'91	Foreign workers database
Maldives*	yes	n.h.	n.h.	yes	no	no	yes	Work permits	Computerise LMIS
Marshall Islands	yes	n.h.	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	no	n.e.	no
Mauritius	=	=	=	yes	yes	yes	yes	Work permits	Computerise records
Mexico #	yes	no	no	no	no	no	yes	PCs	PCs
Morocco	yes	=	=	=	=	=	yes	PC'94	no
Myanmar*	n.h.	no	n.h.	yes	n.e.	=	no	=	no
Namibia*	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	no	no	Data collection 4/96
Nauru	yes	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	yes	no
Nepal	no	no	n.h.	=	=	=	no	=	no
Netherlands	n.h.	yes	n.h.	yes	n.e.	=	yes	LFS, Adm. Recs.	Doing
Netherl. Antilles	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	LFS '92-> Curaçao	Employment status by natl'ty
New Caledonia	yes	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	PC'89	PC'96
New Zealand	yes	yes	no	n.e.	n.e.	=	yes	LFS + PCs	Doing
Nicaragua*	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	=	no
Nigeria #	no	=	no	no	no	no	no	=	no
Oman	=	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	'80->	no
Panama	yes	no	=	=	=	=	yes	PC'90	no
Papua New Guinea*	yes	yes	yes	yes	=	=	yes	yes	Ind'strl.Rels.Dept. database
Paraguay	yes	no	n.h.	yes	yes	=	yes	PCs + '92->	Only PCs
Peru	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	Existant data not used
Poland	=	yes =	yes	=	yes	yes	yes	no	
Puerto Rico	yes	no	yes	n.e.	no	=	yes	PCs	no
Romania	=	=	=	=	yes	=	no	no; uninformative	no
San Marino #	yes	=	=	yes	=	=	yes	=	no
Seychelles*	yes	yes	yes	yes	=	=	yes	1/95->	yes
Sierra Leone*	no	no	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	'96 LFS, Labour Dept. Rec.s
Slovakia	=	=	yes	yes	=	=	yes	LFS '93-95	Doing
Slovenia	no	no	n.h.	yes	yes	n.e.	yes	yes	no

Country	PC	LFS	MS	AR	OE	Other TE	PE	ILO/Avail.	Plans
South Africa	yes	yes	=	=	no	=	yes	HS '10/94	=
Spain	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	'87->	Doing
St.Helena*	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	no	=	no
St.Vincent & Gren.	yes	n.h.	n.h.	no	n.e.	no	yes	PC'91	Only PCs
Suriname#	n.h.	no	n.h.	yes	no	no	yes	Work permits '86->	no
Swaziland	=	n.h.	=	=	=	yes	yes	'93->	Employment/Wages survey
Sweden#	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	LFS	Doing
Tanzania	yes	yes	yes	=	=	=	no	'96 LFS	'96 LFS
Tonga	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	n.e.	no
Trinidad & Tobago	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	PCs+ LFS	Doing
Turkey	yes	=	=	=	=	=	yes	Ten yearly	Only PCs
Tuvalu	yes	n.h.	n.h.	no	n.e.	=	yes	PC'91	Only PCs
Uganda#	yes	yes	n.h.	yes	=	=	yes	yes	Work permits, Manpower survey
Ukraine*	=	=	=	yes	=	=	=	=	PC'96, Administrative records
Uruguay	yes	yes	=	=	=	=	no	=	yes
Uzbekistan	n.h.	n.h.	n.h.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	=	=	no
Vanuatu	yes	n.h.	n.h.	yes	n.e.	n.e.	no	n.e.	Administrative records mid'96
Venezuela	yes	yes	=	no	no	no	yes	'67-95	LFS
Zambia	yes	yes	=	yes	=	=	yes	PC'90, LFS'86	LFS '96
Zimbabwe	no	no	no	no	no	=	no	=	no

Explanation of Abbreviations Used

Column Headings:

Country	Country or territory
PC	Population Census
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MS	Special Migration Survey
AR	Administrative Registers
OE	Official Estimates
Other	Other type of source
TE	Total Employment Available
PE	Paid Employment Available
ILO/Avail.	Could send statistics to ILO and type of statistics available
Plans	Source or Statistics planned to be developed.

Responses:	
Reply from Statistical Office:	Country
Reply from Labour Ministry (or equivalent):	Country#
Reply from both agencies:	Country#
not held:	
do not exist:	n.e.
not applicable:	
statistics currently being collected:	doing
no answer given:	=

Country*

n.h.

n.a.

=

*International Migrant Workers: Analysis of Questionnaire Results
December 1995*

STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS

International migration for work and the number of foreign-born or non-nationals who form part of the labour force is increasingly important in many countries. The ILO has explored the existence of data collection of statistics on international migrant workers on a worldwide basis. The results from this inquiry concerning the availability and sources of such statistics are presented below.

Replies from 110 Countries

1. Can employment statistics on non-nationals or foreign-born persons be obtained from any of the following sources over the past ten years?:

<i>Frequency and Percentage of Responses</i>			
Population census:	<i>yes</i>	71	65 %
	<i>no</i>	15	14 %
	<i>n.h.</i>	10	9 %
	<i>blank</i>	14	13 %
Labour force survey:	<i>yes</i>	45	41 %
	<i>no</i>	24	22 %
	<i>n.h.</i>	14	13 %
	<i>blank</i>	27	25 %
Special migration survey:	<i>yes</i>	13	12 %
	<i>no</i>	16	15 %
	<i>n.h.</i>	34	31 %
	<i>blank</i>	47	43 %
Administrative registers:	<i>yes</i>	55	50 %
	<i>no</i>	16	15 %
	<i>n.e.</i>	11	10 %
	<i>blank</i>	28	26 %
Official estimates:	<i>yes</i>	13	12 %
	<i>no</i>	23	21 %
	<i>n.e.</i>	28	26 %
	<i>blank</i>	46	42 %
Other: <i>mainly</i> <i>Establishment</i> <i>Surveys</i>	<i>yes</i>	13	12 %
	<i>no</i>	16	15 %
	<i>n.e.</i>	18	16 %
	<i>blank</i>	63	57 %

continued

- 1a. Sources which could relatively easily have provided employment statistics for non-nationals or foreign-born persons if additional questions or variables were introduced, or if the registration process were modified slightly:

population census:	<i>12 countries</i>
labour force survey:	<i>12 countries</i>
special migration survey:	<i>4 countries</i>
administrative registers:	<i>12 countries</i>
establishment survey:	<i>1 country</i>

2. If you carried out at least one labour force survey in the past ten years, could the sample and response rates have enabled reliable estimates to be obtained for the number of employed non-nationals or foreign-born persons?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 37 | 34 % |
| <i>no</i> | 40 | 36 % |
| <i>n.a.</i> | 26 | 24 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 7 | 6 % |
3. Are statistics on total employment available for non-nationals or foreign-born persons?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 72 | 66 % |
| <i>no</i> | 35 | 32 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 3 | 3 % |
- 3a. If "yes", can a breakdown be made by:
- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----|-------------------------|
| industry?: | <i>yes</i> | 61 | 91 % (excluding blanks) |
| | <i>no</i> | 6 | 9 % |
| | <i>blank</i> | 43 | |
| occupation?: | <i>yes</i> | 56 | 86 % (excluding blanks) |
| | <i>no</i> | 9 | 14 % |
| | <i>blank</i> | 45 | |
4. Are statistics available for non-nationals or foreign-born workers in paid employment?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 78 | 71 % |
| <i>no</i> | 29 | 26 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 3 | 3 % |
- 4a. If "yes", can a breakdown be made by:
- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----|-------------------------|
| industry?: | <i>yes</i> | 64 | 93 % (excluding blanks) |
| | <i>no</i> | 5 | 7 % |
| | <i>blank</i> | 41 | |
| occupation?: | <i>yes</i> | 57 | 84 % (excluding blanks) |
| | <i>no</i> | 11 | 16 % |
| | <i>blank</i> | 42 | |
- continued
5. If the statistics on employment of non-nationals or foreign-born persons are collected on a regular basis, from whatever source, could you provide them to the ILO?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 80 | 73 % |
| <i>no</i> | 4 | 4 % |
| <i>n.e.</i> | 8 | 7 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 18 | 16 % |
6. Does your Office already provide such statistics to other organisation(s), international or regional?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 28 | 26 % |
| <i>no</i> | 42 | 38 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 40 | 36 % |
7. Are there concrete plans to collect and produce employment statistics for non-nationals or foreign-born persons in the near future?:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| <i>yes</i> | 41 | 37 % |
| <i>no</i> | 44 | 40 % |
| <i>blank</i> | 3 | 3 % |

doing 22 20 %

Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Bureau of Statistics
International Labour Office
CH-1211 Geneva 22
Switzerland
Fax: + 4122 799/6957
Phone: + 4122 799/6384 or /8076

Explanation of response abbreviations:

<i>n.h.</i>	<i>not held</i>
<i>n.e.</i>	<i>do not exist</i>
<i>n.a.</i>	<i>not applicable</i>
<i>blank</i>	<i>no answer given</i>
<i>doing</i>	<i>statistics are collected</i>