

E c o n o m i c & S o c i a l A f f a i r s

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS
TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES:
THE 2008 REVISION**

CD-ROM DOCUMENTATION



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division

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DESA

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

Note

The designations employed in this report and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

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PREFACE

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and objective information on population and development. The Population Division provides guidance to the United Nations General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Population and Development on population and development issues and undertakes regular studies on population levels, trends and dynamics, including trends of international migration, changes in population policies and the interrelationships between population and development.

In the area of international migration, the Population Division estimates the global number of international migrants at regular intervals, monitors levels, trends and policies of international migration, and collects and analyses information on the relationship between international migration and development. As part of its monitoring activities, the Population Division maintains a database on international migration statistics covering most countries of the world. This database includes information on international migration flows as recorded by the few countries in the world that gather and publish such information.

This report is part of the Population Division's efforts to disseminate information resulting from its monitoring activities. It describes the contents of the dataset entitled *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2008 Revision*. This dataset includes time series data on the flows of international migrants to and from countries that gather this information systematically. The dataset is presented in Excel files which, together with this report, are available on CD-ROM.

Responsibility for *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2008 Revision* rests with the United Nations Population Division. The preparation of the dataset was facilitated by collaboration with other United Nations offices. In particular, the Population Division is grateful to the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for its continued cooperation. In addition, the Population Division acknowledges the support of the national institutes in charge of international migration.

For further information about *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2008 Revision*, please contact Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Director, Population Division, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA by telephone (+1 212) 963-3179, fax (+1 212) 963-2147 or email (migrationp@un.org). More information on the activities of the Population Division in the area of international migration can be found at www.unmigration.org.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The database makes use of the following symbols:

A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

A minus sign (-) before a figure indicates a decrease.

A zero (0) indicates that the value is zero, rounded to zero or that no data are available, unless otherwise indicated.

Two dots (..) indicate that the value is not reported.

Years given refer to calendar years, unless otherwise indicated.

Use of a hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1990-2000, signifies the full period involved.

Numbers in tables do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding or due to privacy regulations.

References to countries and areas:

In compiling and presenting the data on international migration flows an effort was made to preserve the information as contained in the original sources, especially when standardization of countries of origin or destination was not possible because of the different practices followed by the national institutions generating the data. Whenever possible, the data shown conform as closely as possible to current United Nations practices. That is, if possible, countries and areas are grouped geographically into six major areas: Africa; Asia; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; Northern America, and Oceania. The former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) is also shown as a major area when data on international migrants to or from that area are reported separately. The major areas are further divided into 22 geographical regions.

The designations “more developed regions” and “less developed regions” are intended for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgement about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process. The term “country” as used in this publication also refers, as appropriate, to areas.

More developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the former USSR, when data for international migrants to or from any of those countries or major areas are reported separately.

Less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

Countries or areas located in the more developed regions are designated by the term “developed countries” and countries or areas located in the less developed regions are designated by the term “developing countries”.

The names and composition of geographical areas follow, where possible, those presented in “Standard country or area codes for statistical use” available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>.

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FLOWS TO AND FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES:
THE 2008 REVISION

A. INTRODUCTION

The CD-ROM entitled *International Migration to and from Selected Countries: The 2008 Revision* contains time series data on the flows of international migrants as recorded by 29 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. These migrant receiving countries are among the few in the world having relatively complete data on international migration flows. Each file contained in the CD-ROM presents the data available for a given country. All files are presented in Excel format.

The *2005 Revision* of this publication had the title *International Migration to and from Selected Countries: The 2005 Revision*¹ and contained time series data on international migration flows for 15 countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. The increase in the number of countries covered by the *2008 Revision* shows that progress has been made in compiling and disseminating data on international migration flows.

B. DEFINITIONS

The compilation and dissemination of data on international migration flows is useful for analytical purposes, but also serves to raise awareness about the problems of comparability among available statistics. Countries collecting and publishing data on the flows of international migrants use different definitions to identify migrants and use different concepts to determine their origin and destination. The major differences in the identification of international migrants for statistical purposes arise because of variations in the definition of residence and duration of stay. The *United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*² define an international migrant as any person who changes his or her country of usual residence. An international migrant who changes his or her place of usual residence for at least one year is defined as a long-term migrant while a person who changes his or her place of usual residence for more than three months but less than one year is considered to be a short-term migrant.

In practice, the minimum length of stay for a person to be counted as an international migrant varies among countries (see table I and Annex I). Out of the 29 countries with data on migrant inflows, only 11 identify international migrants as persons that plan to stay for at least one year and, among them, at least one applies a different time criterion to identify a sub-group of migrants. Nine countries describe migrants as persons establishing “permanent residence”, which, in the case of foreigners, usually implies having an open-ended permission to stay. At least two of these countries apply a different criterion for particular groups of migrants. For three countries, a clear time criterion for the identification of migrants is not available. In five countries, the intended length of stay for the identification of most migrant groups is three months or more, in two countries, while in four countries it is six months or more. In the Netherlands, the criterion for the identification of migrants is four months. In several European countries,

¹ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2006). *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: The 2005 Revision* (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/FL/Rev.2005).

² United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (1998). *Recommendations on Statistics on International Migration, Revision 1*. Sales No. E.98.XVII.14, page 17.

the time criterion to qualify as international migrant differs between foreigners originating from the European Economic Area (EEA)³ and those originating from other countries.

The time criteria used to identify emigrants are equally varied. Among the 25 countries with data on migrant outflows, seven use an expected length of stay abroad of at least one year to identify emigrants. Three countries use an intended length of stay abroad of at least six months, while a further countries use a stay abroad of at least three months.

Table 1
Countries by type of time criterion used to distinguish migrants from other travelers

Migrant Inflows	
<i>Time criterion</i>	<i>Country</i>
Establishment of permanent residence	Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic ^a , Israel ^b , New Zealand, Poland, Slovakia, United States
Expected stay of at least one year	Czech Republic ^a , Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom
Expected stay of at least six months	Denmark ^c , Iceland ^d , Lithuania, Norway
Expected stay of at least three months	Austria ^e , Belgium, Czech Republic ^a , Denmark ^c , Slovenia
Other time criterion	Israel ^b , Netherlands ^f
No time criterion specified	Germany, Luxembourg, Spain

^a For citizens: permanent residence; for non-EEA citizens: at least one year; for EEA citizens: at least three months.

^b “Potential immigrants” obtain a residence permit for up to three years.

^c Citizens from EEA and Switzerland: at least six months; citizens from other countries: at least three months.

^d Registration is optional for persons staying for three to six months for the purpose of work or study.

^e Since 2002. No time criterion specified before 2002.

^f Four months

Migrant Outflows	
<i>Time criterion</i>	<i>Country</i>
Establishment of permanent residence abroad	Australia, Croatia, Czech Republic, New Zealand, Poland, Slovakia
Expected stay abroad of at last one year	Estonia, Finland, Italy, Latvia, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom
Expected stay abroad of at least six months	Denmark, Lithuania, Norway
Expected stay abroad of at least three months	Austria ^a , Belgium, Slovenia
Other time criterion	Netherlands ^b
No time criterion specified	Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland

^a Since 2002. No time criterion specified before 2002.

^b Eight months.

Notes: No data on migrant outflows are available for Canada, France, Israel and the United States. The time criterion applied for emigration from a Nordic country to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country.

³ On the basis of the European Economic Area (EEA) agreement between the European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA), citizens of one EEA country have the right to work in another EEA country on the same conditions as that Member State’s own citizens. For the new Member States who joined the EU in 2004, certain restrictions apply to freedom of movement for a period of up to seven years. As of 2009, the following 30 countries were members of the European Economic Area (EEA): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

In six countries, either a permanent stay abroad or the act of relinquishing permanent residence in the country is considered to identify emigrants. Lastly, in at least six countries the criterion to identify emigrants is not well specified in terms of time.

When one compares the time criterion used to identify migrants in inflows and migrants in outflows, there is a tendency for countries to use the same time criterion for both, but the number of countries using a given criterion for migrant outflows is usually smaller than that using that criterion for migrant inflows.

In addition to problems of comparability regarding the time criterion used to identify migrants, it is important to remember that when the identification of migrants is based on declared intentions, those intentions may change. For instance, the date of issuance of a residence permit may or may not coincide with the date of arrival of a migrant in the country. When permits can be issued to persons already living in the country, the discrepancy between the date of issuance of the permit and the date of arrival of the migrant may be significant.

International migration statistics are collected through a variety of data collection systems. In 18 out of the 29 countries included in the dataset contained in the CD-Rom, the data are collected via a population register. In four countries—Canada, France, Hungary and the United States—, the data are based on the number of residence permits issued. Three countries derive flow statistics from a combination of data from the population register and from permits or registers of foreigners (the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland). Border statistics are the main source of information for four countries (Australia, Israel, New Zealand and the United Kingdom). The type of data collection system generating the data has important implications for data coverage. Thus, data derived from the issuance of permits refer only to foreigners.

Statistics of migrant inflows and outflows also differ on the criterion used to identify country of origin. For 21 countries, information classified by country of previous residence in the case of migrant inflows and country of next residence in the case of migrant outflows was selected for the dataset. In seven of the remaining eight countries, country of citizenship was used to classify migrants and in one country, the United States, country of birth was used (see table 2 and Annex II).

Table 2

Countries according to the criterion used in defining country of origin

Migrant Inflows	
<i>Criterion for definition of country of origin</i>	<i>Country</i>
Country of previous residence	Australia, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
Country of birth	United States
Country of citizenship	Belgium, France, Hungary, Luxembourg ^a , Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland
Migrant Outflows	
<i>Criterion for definition of country of origin</i>	<i>Country</i>
Country of next residence	Australia, Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
Country of birth	-
Country of citizenship	Belgium, Hungary, Luxembourg ^a , Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland

^a Data before 1990 are classified by country of residence.

Note: No data on migrant outflows are available for: Canada, France, Israel and the United States.

The period for which annual migration data are available for the 29 countries included in this publication varies considerably (see table 3). Countries having migration data for periods prior to 1980 include: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States. Countries with time series starting in the 1980s are Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway and Spain. The time series for the Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia start in the early 1990s, after the fall of Berlin Wall. For Austria, France, Israel and Switzerland, annual statistics on migration flows are also available since the 1990s. For Estonia the time series presented starts in 2004 and for Lithuania in 2001.

Table 3

Countries according to period covered by the statistics available

<i>Country</i>	<i>Immigration</i>	<i>Emigration</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Immigration</i>	<i>Emigration</i>
Australia	1976-2008	1976-2008	Latvia	1995-2008	1995-2008
Austria	1996-2008	1996-2008	Lithuania	2001-2008	2001-2008
Belgium	1970-2007	1970-2007	Luxembourg	1980-2007	1980-2007
Canada	1970-2008	-	Netherlands	1970-2007	1970-2007
Croatia	1992-2008	1992-2008	New Zealand	1979-2008	1979-2008
Czech Republic	1993-2007	1993-2007	Norway	1980-2008	1980-2008
Denmark	1980-2008	1980-2008	Poland	1999-2008	1999-2008
Estonia	2004-2007	2004-2007	Slovakia	1993-2008	1993-2008
Finland	1980-2008	1980-2008	Slovenia	1996-2007	1996-2007
France	1994-2007	-	Spain	1983-2008	2002-2008
Germany	1970-2007	1970-2007	Sweden	1970-2008	1970-2008
Hungary	1995-2007	1995-2007	Switzerland	1991-2007	1991-2007
Iceland	1986-2008	1986-2008	United Kingdom	1970-2007	1970-2007
Israel	1995-2008	-	United States of America	1970-2008	-
Italy	1986-2006	1986-2006			

C. WORKSHEET CONTENT

The CD-ROM provided with this publication contains 29 separate country files. Each country file contains four worksheets, each having a consistent format across country files.

- The first worksheet (“Regional aggregates”) contains the regional aggregates calculated from the data on immigration and on emigration and net migration when available. Net migration is calculated as the difference between immigration and emigration.
- The second worksheet (“Country data”) contains data on migrant inflows (immigrants) classified by country of origin; on migrant outflows (emigration) classified by country of destination, and on net migration by country. Four countries lack data on emigration and net migration: Canada, France, Israel and the United States.
- The third worksheet (“Notes”) describes the nature of the data presented and provides other relevant information.
- The fourth worksheet (“Sources”) presents the various sources from which the data were obtained.

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

reporting country, therefore, a zero in a given cell may indicate that the number was either zero, not available or not applicable. When known, the meaning of a zero for each particular country is described in the sheet entitled “Notes” of each country file.

1. Lay-out of the worksheet “Regional aggregates”

Column A: Entries under “Type” indicate whether the data presented refer to immigrants or emigrants or to net migration, that is, the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants.

Column B: Entries under “Coverage” indicate whether the data refer to foreigners, to citizens or to both groups combined.

Column C (hidden): Entries under “AGG” indicate the numerical codes used for identifying the regional aggregates.

Column D: Entries under “RegAggName” include the global aggregate (Total) as well as aggregates by development group, by major area and by region. In the case of immigrants, this column refers to regions of origin. In the case of emigrants, the column refers, to the extent possible, to regions of destination (see table 2 for exceptions). For net migration, this column indicates the region recording a net inflow or outflow of migrants, depending on the sign of the data in the cells that follow to the right. Each worksheet shows first the global aggregate (Total), followed by the sub-totals by development group, major area and region. The same order is followed for emigrants and for net migration if the data are available.

While an effort has been made to aggregate all countries and areas reported by the 29 countries according to the standard development groups, major areas and regions used by the United Nations Population Division/DESA, this was not possible in all cases because the majority of countries provide data on international migration flows disaggregated by a limited number of countries and use categories such as “Other Africa” to group the data pertaining to countries that are not listed separately. In general, migrants in those generic categories have been assigned to the major areas they belong to, but could not be included in any of the smaller regions. That is, migrants originating in “Other Africa” were included in the sub-total for “Africa”, but not in any of the regional sub-totals within Africa, such as “Northern Africa” or “Eastern Africa”. When countries reported residual categories that did not correspond to the major areas used by the United Nations Population Division/DESA, such as “Other America” or “Other Middle East”, these sub-totals were assigned to the major area they corresponded most closely to.

Migrants reported under the category “Former USSR” have been included in the more developed regions, but listed separately under the geographical regions. Migrants reported as “Other”, “Stateless” or “Unknown” are not included in the regional aggregates, but have been listed separately. After the break-up of the former USSR or earlier in some cases, the category “USSR (former)” has become a residual category, as most migrants from and to the successor States of the former USSR are shown separately under their countries of origin or destination. Therefore, for recent periods, migrants listed under that category are a fraction of all migrants from that region.

2. Lay-out of the worksheet “Country data”

Column A: Entries under “Type” indicate whether the data presented refer to immigrants or emigrants or to net migration, that is, the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants.

Column B: Entries under “Coverage” indicate whether the data refer to foreigners, to citizens or to both groups combined.

Column C: Entries under “OdName” indicate the country of origin for immigrants or the country of destination for emigrants (for the exact definitions used by each country, see table 2). For net migration, this column indicates the country recording a net inflow or outflow of migrants, depending on the sign of the data in the cells that follow to the right.

The data series contained in this publication generally do not contain an exhaustive list of countries of origin for immigrants or countries of destination for emigrants. In practice, many countries that report migration data combine countries of origin or destination having only a small number of migrants into a residual category usually reported under the label “Other”.

The country nomenclature used in this dataset conforms as closely as possible to current United Nations practices. However, an effort has been made to preserve the information contained in the original sources when it does not conform to current practice. Thus, whenever standardization was not possible, the original nomenclature was maintained. In the case of the United Kingdom, for instance, the grouping “Commonwealth countries” has been used as a regional aggregate although it does not conform to United Nations practices. In addition, given that the data shown span a long period, changes in the names of countries needed to be accommodated. Consequently, some entries show countries that no longer exist or names that have changed.

Columns D through I (hidden): Entries under “AREA”, “AreaName”, “REG”, “RegName”, “DEV” and “DevName” indicate the major area, the region, and the development group for the countries listed in column C. The numerical codes were used to create the sub-totals in the worksheet “Regional aggregates” and generally follow the standard M49 codes used by the United Nations Secretariat. For countries and areas these codes coincide with those set by the International Organization for Standardization as part of the ISO 3166 standard.

D. DESCRIPTION OF COUNTRY DATA

Australia: Data on international migration are obtained from incoming or outgoing passenger cards completed at the border. The data show the number of permanent arrivals in Australia and permanent departures abroad. Permanent arrivals (settlers) include persons holding a permanent visa, a temporary (provisional) visa with a clear intention to settle, citizens from New Zealand who indicate an intention to settle, and persons who are otherwise eligible to settle, for instance children of Australian citizens who were born abroad. For the period 1976 to 1984, the emigration data refer to the number of former settlers departing. From 1985 onwards, the emigration data refer to all residents departing permanently from Australia. Long-term movements, short-term movements and changes of status (in terms of residence permit held) are not included in the series.

Austria: International migration data are derived from population registers and are available since 1996. The immigration data refer to the number of persons who register in order to establish their main place of residence in Austria. Emigration data refer to persons who leave the country in order to reside abroad. For the period 1996 to 2001, Austrian statistics did not specify a minimum length of stay for persons to be considered international migrants. From 2002 onwards, persons are considered international migrants if their intended stay or absence is at least 90 days. Due to the high number of unknown countries of previous or next residence for Austrian citizens, the *2008 Revision* includes only data on the immigration and emigration of foreigners.

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

Canada: International migration data are derived from administrative sources recording foreigners granted permission to reside permanently in Canada. Canada does not gather data on emigration. Since 1997, the annual number of immigrants is subject to administrative corrections made by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

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

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

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

Estonia: The population register is the source of data on international migration data. Immigration data include persons who have changed their country of permanent residence for a period that is expected to last at least one year and who have registered their arrival in Estonia. Emigration data cover all persons who change their country of residence for a period that is expected to last at least one year and who have registered their departure from Estonia. For quality reasons, Statistics Estonia only publishes data from 2004 onwards.

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

France: Since 1994, the immigration data in France are derived from a centralized register of residence permits. The statistics refer to the number of foreigners who obtain a residence permit for one year or more and are classified by country of citizenship. The data were estimated by the Institut national d'études démographiques (INED) in order to conform to the definition of long-term migrant recommended by the United Nations. The estimates include minors who are admitted under family reunification provisions, but who do not receive an individual residence permit. The estimates also include the number of foreigners from EEA countries who do not require a residence permit. France does not collect data on emigration.

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

leaving the country to establish their only or main residence abroad. The data on immigrating citizens include persons of German descent who moved to Germany and who have the right to German citizenship (*Aussiedler*) as well as citizens from the former Democratic Republic of Germany who moved to the former Federal Republic of Germany (*Uebersiedler*). Because there is no minimum residence requirement, persons moving more than once a year are recorded multiple times as an international migrant.

Hungary: International migration data are derived from the number of residence or settlement permits issued to foreigners. Foreign immigrants are defined as persons who have applied for a residence or settlement permit. Residence permits are usually valid for one year. Foreigners can apply for a settlement permit after having legally and continuously resided in the country for at least three years. A foreigner emigrating is defined as a person who has a residence permit or settlement permit and who has left Hungary without intending to return, a foreigner whose permit has expired and has not applied for extension or someone whose permit was invalidated by authorities.

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

Israel: Immigration data are derived from forms filled out at border checkpoints, which are transferred to the population register. Immigration data cover foreign immigrants entering the country with the intention to take up permanent residence as well persons who are entitled to an immigrant visa or certificate who want to stay in Israel up to three years to examine the possibility of settling (“potential immigrants”). Changes in visa status from tourist to immigrant or potential immigrant are recorded in the year in which the status was changed. International migration data classified by country of previous residence are available for the period 1995-2008. Emigration data are not available.

Italy: International migration data are produced by the population register. The statistics on immigration include Italian citizens who move into a dwelling after having resided abroad. Foreigners from EEA member countries are included in the statistics if their intended stay is one year or more. Citizens from non-EEA countries holding a residence permit of at least one year should also register. The statistics on emigration refer to all residents departing with the intention of establishing their residence abroad for one year or more. Since relatively few countries of origin or destination are shown in the tabulations prior to 1995, sub-totals at the regional level markedly underestimate the number of migrants from or to those regions. Tabulations by citizenship status are available since 1995.

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

Lithuania: International migration data are derived from the population register. International immigration statistics refer to persons who arrive from abroad with the intention to reside in the country for a period of at least six months. In addition, foreigners should hold a residence permit valid for one year or longer. Emigration statistics refer to persons who have declared at the time of their departure that they intend to stay abroad for at least six months or permanently.

Luxembourg: International migration data are generated by the population register. Statistics on

international immigration include foreigners entering the country with the intention of establishing residence. Emigration statistics cover all foreigners who leave the country with the intention of establishing residence abroad. Data are classified by country of residence up to 1989 and by country of citizenship since 1990.

Netherlands: International migration data are derived from the municipal population register. Until September 1994, the statistics on immigration included foreigners who held a residence permit and intended to stay in the country for more than 180 days as well as citizens who intended to stay in the country for at least 30 days. Statistics on emigration included all citizens and foreigners who intended to leave the Netherlands for a period exceeding 360 days. Since October 1994, persons who wish to stay in the country for at least four months are considered immigrants, while persons leaving the country for at least eight months are considered emigrants. The emigration data include administrative corrections. Asylum-seekers who are not staying in reception centres are included. Dutch citizens include persons from Suriname who opted for Dutch nationality when their country became independent in 1976 and who migrated subsequently to the Netherlands. Regional aggregates for 1970 to 1972 are significantly underestimated owing to the limited number of countries of origin and destination used in classifying migration statistics.

New Zealand: International migration statistics are derived from arrival and departure cards completed at the border and are reported by fiscal year, which runs from 1 April of the year shown to 31 March of the following year. The immigration data refer to persons arriving from overseas who intend to stay for a period of one year or more, or permanently, including residents from New Zealand who are returning after an absence of one year or more. Emigrants include residents departing for an intended period of stay abroad of one year or more, or permanently, as well as overseas visitors departing from New Zealand after a stay of one year or more. The immigration data include students and those on working and holiday visas or permits who stay for more than one year, although they initially did not intend to stay for one year or longer. International migration data by country of previous and future residence are available since 1978.

Norway: International migration data are obtained from the population register. The statistics on immigration refer to all persons who wish to stay in the country for at least six months. The statistics on emigration include all residents leaving Norway for at least six months. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country. Tabulations by citizenship status are available since 1986.

Poland: The international migration data are collected when persons register or de-register for purpose of changing their country of permanent residence. Immigration refers to persons arriving from abroad who establish their permanent residence in the country, while emigration refers to persons who are leaving the country in order to establish their permanent residence abroad.

Slovakia: The source of migration data are collected when persons register or de-register for purpose of changing their country of permanent residence. Immigration data include all persons arriving from abroad who register their permanent residence in the country. Emigration data include all residents who de-register as permanent residents in Slovakia in order to move abroad.

Slovenia: Data on international migration are derived from the population and foreigner register. Data on immigration include all persons arriving from abroad who intend to reside in the country for at least three months. Data on the emigration of foreigners are estimated by the national statistical office on the basis of the number of foreigners present at the beginning and at the end of the calendar year and taking into account the number of births, deaths, arrivals and citizenship acquisitions of foreigners during each year. The emigration statistics are corrected using information on the expiration of residence permits that are not renewed. Citizens are included in the emigration statistics if they give notice of leaving the country with the intention of residing abroad for more than three months. Before 1998, the emigration

data excluded citizens who emigrated for more than three months, but not permanently, while the immigration data excluded citizens who returned to Slovenia after temporarily residing abroad.

Spain: Data on international migration are obtained from the municipal population register. Spain has produced immigration data by country of previous residence since 1983. Emigration data by country of next residence is available since 2002. The statistics on immigration include foreigners and citizens intending to establish residence in Spain. Since 2000, all immigrants, regardless of their legal status, are allowed to register. Data on emigration refer to persons leaving Spain with the intention of establishing residence abroad. Before 2004, the international migration statistics did not include migrants whose country of residence was unknown. Since 2006, the emigration data include foreigners from outside the EU who do not hold permanent residence permits and who fail to re-register every two years. Because there is no minimum residence requirement, persons moving more than once a year are recorded multiple times as international migrants.

Sweden: International migration data are derived from the population register. The statistics on immigration include foreigners holding a residence permit and intending to stay in the country for a year or longer as well as citizens intending to stay for a year or longer. The statistics on emigration include all foreigners and citizens leaving the country with the intention of staying abroad for one year or longer. The time criterion applied for emigration to another Nordic country depends on rules established by the receiving country.

Switzerland: International migration data are derived from the population and foreigner registers. Since 1991, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office has compiled statistics on foreigners using various data sources. The immigration data cover all persons arriving from abroad to establish permanent or temporary residence in Switzerland, including citizens and permanent, temporary and short-term foreign residents holding a residence permit valid for at least 12 months. Emigrants are persons departing from the country in order to establish permanent or temporary residence abroad.

United Kingdom: Migration flows are estimated on the basis of the International Passenger Survey (IPS), a sample survey of passengers arriving at and departing from the main United Kingdom air and sea ports and the Channel Tunnel. The IPS samples between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent of all passengers, depending on the route and time of year. It does not include migration between the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and the rest of the world. Prior to 1991, the IPS excluded certain migrant categories, such as movements between the United Kingdom and Ireland, persons seeking asylum after having entered the country, and short-term visitors granted extensions of stay. The data on immigration include persons who have resided abroad for one year or more and who state on arrival their intention to stay in the United Kingdom for one year or more. The data on emigration include persons who have resided in the United Kingdom for one year or more and who state on departure their intention to stay abroad for one year or more. In 2005, the Office for National Statistics revised the migration estimates retrospectively from 1991 onwards. Since the regional groupings used to classify the origin and destination of international migrants could not be harmonized with United Nations practices, the original groupings have been maintained.

United States of America: Immigration data are based on the number of foreigners granted permanent residence status in the United States and are reported by fiscal year. Before 1976, the fiscal year started on 1 July of the year shown and ran until to 30 June of the following year. Since 1976, the fiscal year starts on 1 October of the year shown and runs until to 30 September of the following year. Because of the transition, fiscal year 1976 includes an extra quarter. The United States does not collect data on immigrating citizens or on emigration. Persons legalized under the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) are included in the statistics presented.

ANNEX I
OVERVIEW OF CRITERIA AND SOURCES

<i>Country</i>	<i>Criteria used for migration statistics</i>	<i>Data source</i>
Australia	Immigration: Permanent arrivals (settlers)	Border statistics
	Emigration: Permanent departures	
Austria	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least three months	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least three months	
Belgium	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least three months	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least three months	
Canada	Immigration: Grants of permanent residence status	Permit data
	Emigration: No data available	
Croatia	Immigration: Registration for permanent residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of permanent residence	
Czech Republic	Immigration: For EEA citizens, registration for at least three months; for non-EEA citizens, registration for at least one year when holding a residence permit; for citizens, registration for permanent residence	Population register / Permit data
	Emigration: Deregistration of permanent residence or expiration of permit.	
Denmark	Immigration: For citizens from the EEA and Switzerland, registration for an intended stay of at least six months. For other citizens, registration for an intended stay of at least three months.	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with intended stay abroad of at least six months	
Estonia	Immigration: Registration for an intended stay of at least one year	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
Finland	Immigration: Registration for an intended stay of at least one year	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
France	Immigration: Grants of long-term residence status (one year or more)	Permit data
	Emigration: No data available	
Germany	Immigration: Registration of main or only residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of main or only residence	
Hungary	Immigration: Grants of residence and settlement permits	Permit data
	Emigration: Expiration or cancellation of residence or settlement permits	
Iceland	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least six months	Population register
	Emigration: Change of permanent residence	
Israel	Immigration: Registration for permanent residence or a three-year residence permit	Border statistics
	Emigration: No data available	
Italy	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least one year	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
Latvia	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least one year	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
Lithuania	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least six months	Population

<i>Country</i>	<i>Criteria used for migration statistics</i>	<i>Data source</i>
	Emigration: Deregistration with intended stay abroad of at least six months	register
Luxembourg	Immigration: Registration of residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of residence	
Netherlands	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least four months	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least eight months	
New Zealand	Immigration: Arrivals with an intended stay of at least one year or permanently	Border statistics
	Emigration: Departures with an intended stay abroad of at least one year or permanently	
Norway	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least six months	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least six months	
Poland	Immigration: Registration of permanent residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of permanent residence	
Slovakia	Immigration: Registration for permanent residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of permanent residence	
Slovenia	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least three months	Population register / Foreigner register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least three months	
Spain	Immigration: Registration of residence	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration of residence	
Sweden	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least one year	Population register
	Emigration: Deregistration with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
Switzerland	Immigration: Registration with an intended stay of at least one year	Population register / Foreigner register
	Emigration: Deregistration of permanent or temporary residence	
United Kingdom	Immigration: Arrivals with an intended stay of at least one year	Border statistics
	Emigration: Departures with an intended stay abroad of at least one year	
United States	Immigration: Grants of permanent residence status	Permit data
	Emigration: No data available	

ANNEX II
CONTENT OF THE DATASET

Criterion: B = Country of birth; C = Country of citizenship; R = Country of residence
Coverage: C = Citizens; F = Foreigners; B = Both (citizens and foreigners combined)

Country	Period	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net migration	Criterion	Coverage
Australia	1976-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Austria	1996-2008	X	X	X	R	F
Belgium	1970-2007	X	X	X	C	F, C
Canada	1970-2008	X	-	-	R	F
Croatia	1992-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Czech Republic	1993-2007	X	X	X	R	B
Denmark	1980-2008	X	X	X	R	F, C
Estonia	2004-2007	X	X	X	R	B
Finland	1980-2008	X	X	X	R	B
France	1994-2007	X	-	-	C	F
Germany	1970-2007	X	X	X	R	F, C
Hungary	1995-2007	X	X	X	C	F
Iceland	1986-2008	X	X	X	R	F, C
Israel	1995-2008	X	-	-	R	F
Italy	1986-2006	X	X	X	R	F, C ^a
Latvia	1995-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Lithuania	2001-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Luxembourg	1980-2007	X	X	X	C ^b	F
Netherlands	1970-2007	X	X	X	C	F, C
New Zealand	1979-2008	X	X	X	R	F, C
Norway	1980-2008	X	X	X	R	F, C ^c
Poland	1999-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Slovakia	1993-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Slovenia	1996-2007	X	X	X	C	F, C
Spain	1983-2008	X	X ^d	X	R	F, C
Sweden	1970-2008	X	X	X	R	B
Switzerland	1991-2007	X	X	X	C	F, C
United Kingdom	1970-2007	X	X	X	R	B
United States	1970-2008	X	-	-	B	F

^a The distinction between foreigners and citizens is available since 1995.

^b Data before 1990 are classified by country of residence.

^c The distinction between foreigners and citizens is available since 1986.

^d Data on emigration and net migration are available since 2002.



United Nations
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
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