

**TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK:  
THE 2005 REVISION**

CD-ROM DOCUMENTATION



United Nations

**Department of Economic and Social Affairs**  
Population Division

# **TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK: THE 2005 REVISION**

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United Nations

# DESA

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This publication has been issued without formal editing.

## PREFACE

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and scientifically objective information on population and development.

International migration is one of the substantive areas of work of the Population Division. As part of its monitoring activities, the Population Division maintains a data bank on international migration statistics covering most countries of the world. In particular, the data bank includes information produced by censuses on the number of foreign-born or, in some cases, the foreign population living in a country. Also included are data from population registers on the same population groups. These data provide the basis for estimating the number of international migrants in the world at different points in time.

This report is part of the Population Division's effort to disseminate information resulting from its monitoring activities. It describes the set of estimates entitled *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision*. These estimates are presented in an Excel file which, together with this report, is available on CD-ROM. The estimates of the number of international migrants in each country or area of the world refer to 1 July of the years 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005.

Responsibility for the estimates presented in *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision* rests with the Population Division. Their preparation was facilitated by the collaboration of other United Nations offices. In particular, the Population Division is grateful to the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and to the Population Division of ECLAC for their continuing cooperation.

For further information about *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision*, please contact the office of Ms. Hania Zlotnik, Director, Population Division, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA, at telephone number (212) 963-3179, fax (212) 963-2147, or visit the Population Division's website at [www.unpopulation.org](http://www.unpopulation.org).



## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Preface .....	iii
Explanatory notes .....	vii
Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision, main findings .....	1
Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision, CD-ROM documentation .....	5
A. Contents of the worksheets in UNITED_NATIONS_MIGRANT _STOCK_2005.xls .....	5
B. Estimates presented in the worksheets .....	6
C. Methodology for the derivation of the estimates of the international migrant stock .....	8
Reference .....	10
Order form for CD-ROM .....	11



## Explanatory notes

The worksheets presented in this database make use of the following symbols:

A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.

Years given start on 1 July.

Use of the hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1990-2000, signifies that the full period is involved, from 1 July of the first year to 1 July of the second year.

Numbers and percentages in the worksheets do not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Countries and areas are grouped geographically into six major areas: Africa; Asia; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; Northern America; and Oceania. These major areas are further divided into 21 geographical regions. In addition, for statistical convenience, the regions are classified as belonging to either two regions: more developed or less developed. The less developed regions include all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan) and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The more developed regions comprise Australia/New Zealand, Europe, Northern America and Japan. In the worksheets MS-COUNTRIES-1960-2005 and MS-REGIONS-1960-2005, the more developed regions also include the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). In the worksheets MS-COUNTRIES-1990-2005 and MS-REGIONS-1990-2005, the newly independent countries of the former USSR are presented in their corresponding regions.

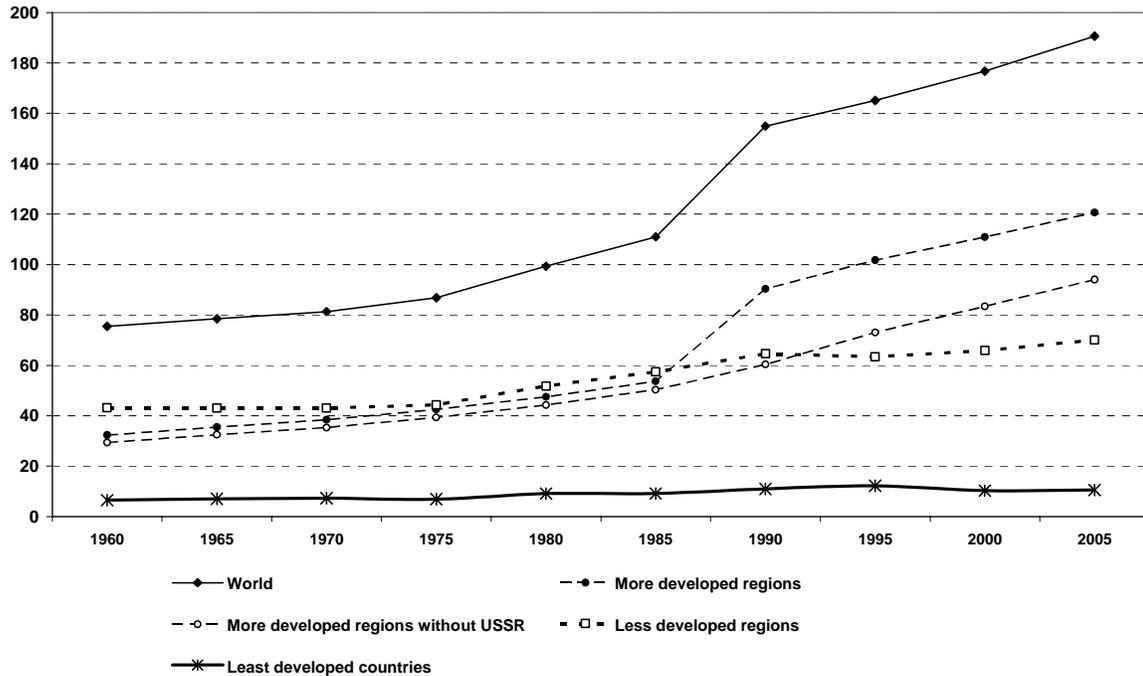
The least developed countries, as defined by the United Nations General Assembly in 2004, include 50 countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia. These countries are also included in the less developed regions.

## **TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK: The 2005 Revision**

### **Main findings**

- Between 1960 and 2005 the number of international migrants in the world more than doubled, passing from an estimated 75 million in 1960 to almost 191 million in 2005, an increase of 121 million over 45 years.
- About a fifth of this increase is the result of the transformation of internal migrants into international migrants when the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) disintegrated in 1991, the former Yugoslavia split in 1992 and the former Czechoslovakia divided in 1993. The estimates presented backdate the effects of these changes to 1990 and include two time series with comparable geographic units over time. The time series spanning 1960 to 2005, presents data for the former Czechoslovakia, the former USSR and the former Yugoslavia as single units. The time series referring to 1990-2005 presents data for each of their successor States separately.
- Because of the effect of the disintegration of major States, there is an unavoidable discontinuity in the global estimates. Between 1980 and 1990, the estimated number of international migrants increases by 56 million, rising from 99 million to 155 million. Yet 27 million of that increase stems from the reclassification of persons who had moved inside the USSR before 1990 as internal migrants and who became international migrants at the time of disintegration without moving at that time. This discontinuity needs to be taken into account in analyzing trends derived from the accompanying estimates.
- In 2005, international migrants constituted nearly 3 per cent of the world's population, up from 2.9 per cent in 1990. But between 1960 and 1980 the share of international migrants had been declining, dropping from 2.5 per cent in 1960 to 2.2 per cent in 1970 and 1980. The sharp increase between 1980 and 1990 owes much to the effects of the disintegration of the USSR.
- In 1960, the number of international migrants in developing countries (43 million) surpassed the number in developed countries (32 million) by 11 million. But whereas the number the international migrants in developed countries grew steadily between 1960 and 1975, the number in developing countries showed signs of stagnation. Nevertheless, in 1975 the number of international migrants in developing countries still surpassed those in developed countries by 2 million (44 million vs. 42 million).
- Between 1975 and 1985, the growth in the number of international migrants in developed countries paralleled that of the number in developing countries, so that in 1985 the 57 million migrants in the developing world still surpassed the 54 million in developed countries. Since 1985 the number of international migrants in developed countries has been growing rapidly, even if the USSR is excluded. By contrast, the migrant stock in developing countries has virtually stagnated, especially since 1990 (figure I). Consequently, in 1995 the number of international migrants in developed countries (excluding the USSR) surpassed that in developing countries for the first time and by 2005, the more developed regions without the USSR hosted 94 million international migrants, that is, 24 million more than the 70 million living in the less developed regions.

Figure I. Trends in the number of international migrants for the world and major development groups, 1960-2005



- These trends have resulted in a growing concentration of international migrants in developed countries. In 1960, 57 per cent of all migrants lived in the less developed regions but by 2005, just 37 per cent did so.
- In 2005, Europe was hosting the largest number of international migrants (64 million), followed by Asia (53 million), Northern America (44 million), Africa (17 million), Latin America and the Caribbean (close to 7 million) and Oceania (5 million). Relative to the total population, international migrants constitute the largest share in Oceania (15 per cent) and Northern America (13 per cent). In Europe, international migrants account for nearly 9 per cent of the total population. By contrast, international migrants account for less than 2 per cent of the population of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Refugees are an important component of the migrant stock in some regions. In 2005, the estimated number of refugees stood at 13.5 million and they accounted for 7 per cent of the world's migrant stock. However, they constituted almost 18 per cent of the number of international migrants in Africa and 15 per cent of those in Asia. Particularly large populations of refugees were present in Western Asia (4.7 million refugees) and in South-central Asia (2.3 million).
- The number of countries that host a significant number of migrants has increased during the period. In 1960, 30 countries hosted more than 500,000 migrants each; the number of such countries had increased to 64 by 2005. The United States is the largest recipient of international migrants, with 38 million migrants in 2005. It is followed by the Russian Federation (12 million), Germany (10 million), Ukraine, France and Saudi Arabia (with over 6 million international migrants each).

- A relatively small number of countries host most of the international migrants in the world. In 1990, the 30 countries with the largest migrant populations accounted for 75 per cent of all migrants worldwide and in 2005, 28 countries sufficed to account for that proportion. The United States headed the list in both instances, hosting 15 per cent of all migrants in 1990 and 20 per cent in 2005 (table 1). Between 1990 and 2005, 17 countries accounted for 75 per cent of the increase in the migrant stock. The United States gained 15 million migrants, Germany and Spain followed, with gains above 4 million each. By contrast, the number of international migrants decreased in 72 countries. The largest reductions occurred in Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan as a result of the repatriation of refugees from Afghanistan.

TABLE 1. THE TWENTY COUNTRIES OR AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS, 1990 AND 2005

Rank	Country or area	1990		Country or area	2005	
		Number of migrants (millions)	As percentage of total		Number of migrants (millions)	As percentage of total
1	United States of America	23.3	15.0	United States of America	38.4	20.2
2	Russian Federation	11.5	7.4	Russian Federation	12.1	6.4
3	India	7.4	4.8	Germany	10.1	5.3
4	Ukraine	7.1	4.6	Ukraine	6.8	3.6
5	Pakistan	6.6	4.2	France	6.5	3.4
6	Germany	5.9	3.8	Saudi Arabia	6.4	3.3
7	France	5.9	3.8	Canada	6.1	3.2
8	Saudi Arabia	4.7	3.1	India	5.7	3.0
9	Canada	4.3	2.8	United Kingdom	5.4	2.8
10	Australia	4.0	2.6	Spain	4.8	2.5
11	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	3.8	2.5	Australia	4.1	2.2
12	United Kingdom	3.8	2.4	Pakistan	3.3	1.7
13	Kazakhstan	3.6	2.3	United Arab Emirates	3.2	1.7
14	Hong Kong, SAR China	2.2	1.4	Hong Kong, SAR China	3.0	1.6
15	Côte d'Ivoire	2.0	1.3	Israel	2.7	1.4
16	Uzbekistan	1.7	1.1	Italy	2.5	1.3
17	Argentina	1.6	1.1	Kazakhstan	2.5	1.3
18	Israel	1.6	1.1	Côte d'Ivoire	2.4	1.2
19	Kuwait	1.6	1.0	Jordan	2.2	1.2
20	Switzerland	1.4	0.9	Japan	2.0	1.1

- At the world level, the number of female international migrants is today nearly equal to the number of male migrants. In 2005, female migrants constituted almost 50 per cent of all migrants, up from 47 per cent in 1960. Female migrants have been better represented among those in more developed regions and by 2005 they outnumbered male migrants in developed countries. In developing countries, female migrants constituted about 46 per cent of all migrants and that proportion had remained fairly stable since 1960. At the regional level, the number of migrant women exceeded that of men in Europe, particularly in Eastern and Northern Europe, and in Oceania. Migrant women were as numerous as men in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Northern America. The proportion of female migrants was lowest in Asia, especially in Western Asia (39 per cent in 2005).



## **TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK: The 2005 Revision**

### **CD-ROM documentation**

The Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat maintains a data bank on international migration statistics covering most countries of the world. The data bank includes information on the number of international migrants enumerated by population censuses or population registers. Those data have been used as basis for estimating the number of international migrants in each country or area of the world as of 1 July of the years 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005. The number of international migrants, also called the international migrant stock, generally represents the number of persons born in a country other than that in which they live. The file `UNITED_NATIONS_Migrant_Stock_2005.xls` contains the estimated number of international migrants for both sexes combined and by sex for each country, geographical region, major area and development group. The file has seven worksheets whose contents are described below. Although the quality of the estimates varies from country to country, they are probably fairly robust at the aggregate level, particularly for the regional subdivisions presented in the file.

To understand the contents of the different worksheets, one must note that the number of international migrants in the world changed dramatically when the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), disintegrated in 1991. Discontinuities, albeit of a smaller magnitude, also accompanied the disintegration of the former Yugoslavia in 1992 and thereafter, as well as that of the former Czechoslovakia in 1993. In all three cases, large numbers of international migrants appeared, literally from one day to the next, as persons who had moved within each of those countries and were born in a successor State different from that in which they resided at the moment of independence, became international migrants without necessarily having moved at that time. For purposes of estimation, the effects of disintegration were backdated to 1990 in all cases.

The reverse process also took place, when the Federal Republic of Germany with the German Democratic Republic reunified. Although German reunification occurred in October 1990, its effects were also backdated to mid-1990 for purposes of estimation.

Because it was not possible to derive estimates for the successor States of the former Czechoslovakia, the former USSR and the former Yugoslavia for periods before 1990, the long-term series of estimates for the period 1960-2005 is presented only in terms of the geographical units that existed before disintegration. In that series, estimates for the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic are presented separately from 1960 to 1990, but jointly thereafter.

To permit analysis of trends since 1990 in terms of the current geographical configuration of countries, a series of estimates for the period 1990-2005 is presented in terms of the 228 countries and areas in existence as of 2005.

#### A. CONTENTS OF THE WORKSHEETS IN `UNITED_NATIONS_MIGRANT_STOCK_2005.XLS`

**MS-COUNTRIES-1960-2005:** This worksheet contains a complete set of estimates of the international migrant stock per country or area for 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005. In this worksheet, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the USSR are presented as single units while the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic are shown as two separate countries until 1990.

The former USSR is presented as a separate major area. Hence, in order to provide a comparable data series by geographical region and major area between 1960 and 2005, the regions of South-central Asia, Western Asia, Eastern Europe and Northern Europe exclude the successor States of the former USSR. For a comparison of the composition of regions in this worksheet and that in **MS-COUNTRIES-1990-2005**, see the table in **Regions USSR**.

**MS-COUNTRIES-1990-2005**: This worksheet contains estimates of the international migrant stock per country or area for 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005 according to the political division of States in 2005. In particular, it includes estimates of the number of international migrants in each of the two successor States of the former Czechoslovakia (the Czech Republic and Slovakia), the five successor states of the former Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and the 15 successor States of the former USSR (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan). Note that the estimates of the international migrant stock for the former Czechoslovakia, the former Yugoslavia and the former USSR as a whole from 1990 to 2005 included in worksheet **MS-COUNTRIES-1960-2005** are the sum of those for their respective successor States.

**MS-REGIONS-1960-2005**: This worksheet presents the estimates of the number of international migrants by region, major area, development group and the world as a whole according to the definition of regions that existed prior to 1990 (see **Regions USSR**) and presenting the former USSR as a separate major area. The data presented in this worksheet coincide with those for the regional groups also listed in **MS-COUNTRIES-1960-2005**. They have been extracted and presented in a separate worksheet to facilitate inter-regional comparisons.

**MS-REGIONS-1990-2005**: This worksheet presents the estimates of the number of international migrants by region, major area, development group and the world as a whole according to the definition of regions in 2005, that is, including the successor States of the former USSR in their respective regions (see the worksheet named **Regions USSR** whose description is given below). The estimates presented in **MS-REGIONS-1990-2005** coincide with the regional estimates included in **MS-COUNTRIES-1990-2005**. They have been extracted and presented in a separate worksheet to facilitate inter-regional comparisons.

**Regions USSR**: This worksheet contains a table comparing the composition of selected major areas and regions before and after the disintegration of the former USSR. That is, it makes plain the reason for displaying different subtotals for these regions in the worksheets containing the estimates.

**Type of data**: This worksheet provides a table indicating the meaning of the symbols used to code the type of data used in producing the estimates of the international migrant stock (see the “type of data” column in the worksheets displaying the estimates).

**Notes**: This worksheet displays the notes relative to the composition of development groups or to the coverage of the data displayed.

## B. ESTIMATES PRESENTED IN THE WORKSHEETS

The worksheets presenting estimates have generally the same major headings for the columns displaying the data available. The meaning of each heading is described below.

*Sort order*: This column contains numbers indicating the position of each region, country or area in the standard listing used by the Population Division. Note that the position of countries, regions and major areas in the list indicates the composition of regions and major areas in terms of the countries they include.

*Major area, region, country or area:* The names of each of the geographical groupings used and of countries or areas are listed under this column. Definitions of the development groups in terms of constituent regions or countries can be found in the Notes worksheet.

*Notes:* The entries in this column indicate the entry in the Notes worksheet that provides additional information on the data presented.

*Country code:* The International Standards Organization (ISO) three digit alpha-code for each country or area. For geographical groupings, the codes presented are those used by the Population Division.

*Type of data:* This column contains the codes indicating the type of data used to derive the estimates of the international migrant stock. For the meaning of each code, see the worksheet named "Type of data".

*If least developed country:* A "1" indicates that the country is categorized as least developed country by the United Nations General Assembly. This column is not included in the worksheets on regions.

*Estimated number of international migrants at mid-year (both sexes):* The columns under this heading show the estimates of the number of international migrants in each country, area, region, major area or development group as of mid-year for each of the years indicated. The estimates refer to both sexes combined.

*Estimated number of refugees at mid-year:* The columns under this heading show the estimated refugee population of each country, area, region, major area or development group as of mid-year of each of the years indicated. The data presented for the years 1960 to 2000 were obtained from unpublished tabulations received from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and from tabulations published by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The data presented for 2005 are estimates by the United Nations Population Division (see section C below).

*Population as of 1 July (thousands):* The columns under this heading show the estimated population of each country, area, region, major area or development group as of mid-year of each of the years indicated. The data presented were obtained from the *2004 Revision of World Population Prospects* (United Nations, 2005).

*Estimated number of female migrants at mid-year:* The columns under this heading show estimates of the number of female migrants in each country, area, region, major area or development group.

*Estimated number of male migrants at mid-year:* The columns under this heading show estimates of the number of male migrants in each country, area, region, major area or development group.

*Growth rate of the migrant stock (percentage):* The columns under this heading show the estimated exponential growth rate of the international migrant stock for each period indicated, expressed in percentage terms.

*International migrants as a percentage of the population:* The columns under this heading show the outcome of dividing the estimated number of international migrants by the total population, expressed as a percentage.

*Female migrants as a percentage of all international migrants:* The columns under this heading show the percentage of female migrants among all international migrants.

*Percentage of international migrants by major area or region:* The columns under this heading show the percentage distribution of international migrants by major area or region. This panel is available only on the worksheets presenting regional estimates.

*Refugees as a percentage of international migrants:* The columns under this heading show the percentage of refugees among all international migrants.

### C. METHODOLOGY FOR THE DERIVATION OF THE ESTIMATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT STOCK

**Type of basic data used.** The basic data used to estimate the international migrant stock at particular points in time were obtained mostly from population censuses corresponding to the decennial rounds of censuses from 1950 to 2000. In the majority of cases, the censuses available gathered information on the place of birth of the enumerated population and thus allow the identification of the foreign-born population. As far as possible, international migrants have been equated with the foreign-born. However, in some countries information on place of birth was not recorded. Instead, the citizenship of those enumerated (that is, their legal nationality) provided the basis for the identification of international migrants, who have been therefore equated with foreigners. In the file named UNITED\_NATIONS\_Migrant\_Stock\_2005.xls, the entry presented under the heading "Type of data" indicates whether the information used as basis for estimation was classified by place of birth or by citizenship. A "B" indicates that the data refer to the foreign-born, whereas an "N" indicates that the basis for identification of international migrants is citizenship or legal nationality and that the international migrant stock estimated for a particular country is the number of foreigners rather than the number of foreign-born persons. For the few countries where population statistics are routinely derived from population registers or registers of foreigners, data on the stock of foreign-born persons or on the number of foreigners, as the case may be, were obtained from those registers. Countries for which no information from censuses or population registers was available are marked by an "E". Table 2 presents the distribution of countries according to whether the basic data used for estimation purposes were classified by place of birth or citizenship. It shows that data on place of birth were used for 72 per cent of the countries or areas considered. Data on citizenship were used for 22 per cent of those countries or areas. Only 6 per cent of all countries or areas (13 units in all) did not have the relevant data on which to base the estimates made.

TABLE 2. DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTRIES BY TYPE OF DATA FOR THE ESTIMATION OF THE MIGRANT STOCK

Region	Number of countries				Percentage		
	Number of countries	Place of birth <sup>1</sup>	Nationality	No data	Place of birth	Nationality	No data
Africa	57	35	18	4	61	32	7
Asia	50	24	20	6	48	40	12
Latin America and the Caribbean	46	45	1	0	98	2	0
Northern America	5	5	0	0	100	0	0
Europe	46	36	8	2	78	17	4
Oceania	24	20	3	1	83	13	4
Total	228	165	50	13	72	22	6

<sup>1</sup>: For two of these countries data on both place of birth and citizenship were used in the estimation of the migrant stock.

**Refugees.** In principle, persons granted refugee status by a country become part of that country's population and there is no reason to expect that they would be explicitly excluded from census enumerations. Thus, the census of the United States includes all foreign-born persons present in the country at the time of enumeration and makes no distinction between persons admitted as refugees and other international migrants. However, in countries where refugees are kept in camps or where they remain largely isolated from the local

population, it is not certain that censuses include them. Furthermore, in many of the developing countries hosting sizeable numbers of refugees, censuses have not been carried out as regularly as in other countries. Consequently, in order to make adequate allowance for the presence of refugees, mid-year averages of the number of refugees for the end of each year as reported by UNHCR or by UNWRA were added to the estimates of the international migrant stock for developing countries where they were likely not to have been included in the census data available. No such adjustment was made in the case of developed countries where censuses and population registers usually reflect already any refugees present. Similarly, no special adjustment was made to include asylum-seekers. At the time this dataset was issued, UNHCR and UNRWA had not reported the number of refugees for either 1 July 2005 or the end of 2005. The number of refugees for mid-2005 was estimated by the Population Division by extrapolation on the basis of the growth rate of the refugee population in each country between the end of 2003 and the end of 2004. Countries for which the number of refugees was added to the estimated number of international migrants to obtain the total migrant stock for some or all years were marked by an "R" in the column labeled "Type of data".

***Extent of coverage of the basic data.*** Out of the 228 countries or areas that constituted the world in 2005, 215 (94 per cent) had at least one source of information on the international migrant stock. For 165 of them (72 per cent) the data used as the basis for estimation were the number of foreign-born persons (B). For a further 50 countries or areas, census data were based on citizenship (N). These numbers include two countries (Côte d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of the Congo) whose estimates were based on a combination of the two types of data. The 13 countries with no information include large countries such as China, but also several smaller countries or areas, most of which have not been major destinations for international migrants. With respect to the availability of data classified by sex, information was available for 202 countries, constituting 94 per cent of the countries with at least one source of information on the number of international migrants.

***Main method of estimation: interpolation and extrapolation.*** Given the nature of the data available and the extent of their coverage, a straightforward method of estimation was used. For countries having information on the international migrant stock for at least two points in time, interpolation or extrapolation was used to estimate the international migrant stock on 1 July of the reference years, namely, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005. Information on the international migrant stock for at least two points in time was available for 174 of the 228 countries or areas constituting the world in 2005, that is, for 76 per cent of all countries or areas in the world. However, coverage varied regarding specific periods. Thus, 111 countries had information from both the 1960 and the 1970 rounds of censuses; 122 had information from both the 1970 and the 1980 rounds; 104 had information for both the 1980 and 1990 rounds, and 66 had information for the 1990 and 2000 rounds. The availability of data also varied significantly from one region to another, with the Americas and Europe having better coverage than Africa, Asia or Oceania.

***Estimates for countries with only one data point.*** For 41 countries only one observation was available. These countries include nine of the 15 successor States of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). In the case of these nine successor States, estimates for 2000 and 2005 were derived by taking account of the migration flows reported to have occurred among them during 1990-2000 and 2000-2005 and by considering the number of persons enumerated in the different republics of the former USSR but born in other republics of the former USSR or abroad according to the 1989 census of the USSR. For all other countries with only one observation as well as for the former USSR until 1990, estimates for the reference years were derived assuming rates of growth or decrease for the migrant stock in the years preceding or following the only observation available. For countries such as Cambodia or Lebanon, the likely effects of conflict were taken into account.

***Estimates for countries with no data.*** As noted earlier, there were 13 countries or areas with no information about the international migrant stock. This group included China and several countries that had been affected by conflict, most of which were not expected to attract large numbers of international migrants. Assuming that in these countries, as in countries with data available, the proportion of international migrants in the total

population would tend to be higher the smaller the total population, a model relating the latter to the former was used to estimate the international migrant stock. Specifically, the following equation was used to estimate the number of international migrants in countries lacking information altogether:

$$F = 0.345(P)/\exp(\log_{10} P - 2)$$

where  $P$  is the total population in the country and  $F$  is the foreign-born population.

In the 26 countries with no information by sex, the proportion of females was assumed to equal the regional average. However, in the successor States of the former USSR lacking data classified by sex (11 countries), the proportion of female migrants among all migrants was assumed to equal the proportion obtained in the four successor States with information classified by sex.

***Estimates of the total population.*** Estimates of the total population of each country or area as of 1 July of each reference year were obtained from *World Population Prospects. The 2004 Revision* (United Nations, 2005).

#### REFERENCE

United Nations (2005). *World Population Prospects. The 2004 Revision. Volume I* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E. 05.XIII.5).



**United Nations**  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
 POPULATION DIVISION

**TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK:  
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2. The data are in EXCEL readable files.
3. The Order Form should be accompanied by a Cheque or an International Money Order in **United States Dollars drawn on a United States Bank** for the correct amount, made payable to the UNITED NATIONS POPULATION DIVISION, and mailed to:

The Director, Population Division/DESA, United Nations, DC2-1950, New York, NY 10017, USA.