



UNITED NATIONS

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
POPULATION DIVISION

TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK: THE 2003 REVISION

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations has issued new estimates of the number of international migrants in each country or area of the world as of 1 July of 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000. These estimates, derived mostly from data on the foreign-born enumerated by censuses and presented for both sexes combined and by sex, are available in an Excel file that also contains the estimated population in each country or area for each reference year, the growth rate of the migrant stock for each ten-year period, the percentage of international migrants over the total population, the percentage of female migrants over all international migrants, and the percentage distribution of international migrants by major area or region. An order form for a diskette containing these data and the documentation is attached below.

The *2003 Revision* of the *Total Migrant Stock* indicates that the number of international migrants in the world increased from an estimated 75 million in 1960 to almost 175 million in 2000. In 1991, the break-up of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) gave rise to a discontinuity in the growth of the migrant stock as persons living in the newly independent successor States but born in another of those States became international migrants at the time of independence without having actually migrated then. This change resulted in the addition of some 27 million persons to the international migrant stock, an addition that was backdated to 1990 so as to make the 1990 figures comparable with those for 2000 in terms of the number of countries covered.

The estimates available indicate that the number of international migrants constituted 2.5 per cent of the world's population in 1960, 2.2 per cent in 1970, 2.3 per cent in 1980 and 2.9 per cent in both 1990 and 2000. In recent decades, the vast majority of the growth in the number of international migrants has been absorbed by developed countries. Between 1960 and 2000, the number of international migrants in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Europe, Northern America and the successor States of the former USSR increased by 78 million persons, whereas the number in less developed regions rose by 27 million. The United States is the largest recipient of international migrants, with 35 million migrants in 2000. It is followed by the Russian Federation (13 million), Germany (7 million), Ukraine, France and India.

To order *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision*, please complete the following order form and return it to the Population Division as indicated.



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**TRENDS IN TOTAL MIGRANT STOCK:
THE 2003 REVISION**

Diskette with Data and Documentation

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Order Form

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Trends in total migrant stock: The 2003 Revision, diskette	\$150.00 _____

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Notes

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2. The data are in MS-EXCEL 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. It is also possible to pay by bank transfer by requesting a bank-transfer form from the Director of the Population Division.