



הלשכה המרכזית לסטטיסטיקה
Central Bureau of Statistics
دائرة الإحصاء المركزية

CES Task Force on Measuring Labour Mobility

Mark Feldman

**Director of Labour Statistics Sector
Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (ICBS)**

feldman@cbs.gov.il

Background

- Labour mobility is a topic of growing policy interest and concern
- Measurement is challenging as it cuts across several statistical domains
- CES forums reviewed the subject in February and again in June 2015
- CES plenary session in June 2015 “*supported establishing a Task Force on Measuring Labour Mobility and Globalization*”

Objective of Task Force

- Develop practical guidance on the compilation of labour mobility statistics
- Review countries' practices in this area
- Areas of focus:
 - Preparing a collection of good practices
 - Establishing a framework with common definitions

Scope

- Focus is on cross-border labour mobility
- Intersection of many different domains including:
 - Labour statistics
 - Migration statistics
 - National accounts
 - Trade statistics
 - Enterprise statistics
 - Tourism statistics

Output of Task Force

- Report
- Aimed at producers of data
- Users of data will benefit from improved coordination between countries
- Structure of report:
 1. Introduction and Background
 2. Concepts
 3. Overview of Data Availability
 4. Country Case Studies
 5. Conclusions and Recommendations
 6. Future work

Members of Task Force

- Countries:

- Armenia
- Australia
- Germany
- Israel
- Italy
- Mexico
- Norway
- Turkey

- Academics from the ARITHMUS project

- UNECE acts as Secretariat to the Task Force

- Organizations:

- ILO - International Labour Organization
- IOM - International Organization for Migration
- OECD - Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
- WTO - World Trade Organization
- UNSD - United Nations Statistics Division

Coordination with ILO

- Task Force (TF) works in coordination with the ILO Working Group on this subject
- Goal is to produce complementary outcomes
- Task Force focuses on **practical examples** through case studies
- ILO Working Group focuses on **standardizing definitions** of labour mobility terms
- ILO has a representative on TF and TF chair is part of ILO group

Timetable

Establishment of Task Force	October 2015
1 st teleconference	7 March 2016
Division of labour between Task Force members	April 2016
1 st in-person meeting	May 2016
2 nd in-person meeting (ILO Labour Migrants)	November 2016
Preparing literature review	December 2016
Framework for Country Case Studies	January 2017
Country case studies – draft 1	February 2017
Country case studies – draft 2	June 2017
Writing report – not including Recommendations	October 2017
Writing report – Recommendations	November 2017
Submission of the full draft report to the CES Bureau	January 2018
Review of the draft report by the CES Bureau	February 2018
Electronic consultation among all countries in CES	Feb-April 2018
Revisions based on comments from the Bureau and from the electronic consultation	April-May 2018
Expected endorsement by the CES plenary session	June 2018

Country Case Studies

- Israel, Italy, Norway, Mexico
- Goal: Present best practices
- Main points:
 - Assessing coverage of 3 main groups of interest using a variety of data sources
 - Review of data sources and their relationship to accepted definitions
 - Light analysis of the effect on economy

Country Case Studies

Three groups of interest:

1. Stock of international migrants and migrant workers in the country – identified by country of birth and country of citizenship and broken down by length of stay
2. Workers who travel to and engaged in economic activity in a country other than their country of usual residence
3. In-flow of migrants and for-work migrants to the country – those who have not yet met the 12 month threshold to change their usual place of residence

Case Studies – Data Sources

	Israel	Italy	Mexico	Norway
Stock of international migrants and migrant workers	LFS, entered and not exited, macro estimate	LFS	Household Surveys (not LFS)	Registers, LFS
Workers who travel to country other than country of usual residence – in and out	Out: LFS (partial) In: Macro estimate – workers coming from Palestinian Authority	Out: LFS, Population Census In: EU-LFS, macro estimate by National Accounts	Out: Household Surveys (not LFS) In: Survey of Migration (South border)	Out and In: Data exchange with Sweden
In-flow of migrants	Border data and work permits	Residence permits	National Institute of Migration	Employment Register

Case Studies – Effect on Economy

- Israel
 - ~10% of GDP
 - Focused in low productivity industries: agriculture, construction, in-home caregiving, hotels
- Italy (2008-2013)
 - Immigrants are increasingly concentrated few occupations and in low-skilled jobs. Women in activities of households as employers, men are more frequent among blue collar.
 - There isn't competition between Italians and foreigners in professions. Employment falls mostly in skilled professions while for foreigners it grows in elementary occupations.

Case Studies – Effect on Economy

- Mexico

- Since the end of the 20th century, migration to US has been gradually falling, both, in terms of volume and as a percentage of the Mexican population
- Men made up 78% of emigrants to the US. Half of the men entered without documents (women 25%).
- Households with at least one person working out of the country obtain in average a 50% more income than regular households
- Outgoing commuters from Mexico are mostly subordinated and do not have a contract nor social benefits
- Incoming commuters from the south are mostly men (92%) with a median age of 33 years-old. They have little to no education and work in agriculture, forestry and fishing

Case Studies – Effect on Economy

- Norway

- In the years 2003-2014 there was a ~20% increase in employed persons. ~70% of the increase was by immigrants and commuters.
- Immigrants from nearby countries with similar languages (Denmark, Sweden) often find work in services
- Many immigrants came as employees in foreign companies that won subcontracts under Norwegian enterprises
- Long distance commuters are suited to work in the oil field with schedules of 2 weeks on and 4 weeks off
- A large part of the immigration to Norway has traditionally been refugees

ILO Questionnaires

- Questionnaires were circulated by Working Group
- The UNECE Task Force received permission to analyze the ILO questionnaires
- Data was shared with the TF to promote the work of both groups
- Data was shared to limit the burden on countries caused by sending another questionnaire

Draft - Conclusions and Recommendations - General

- Change in place of usual residence is key in defining migrants, including labour migrants. Whether a change in place of usual residence occurs depends on a change in location and the length (or intended length) of stay.
- Not all migration is through formal border crossings or with formal documentation. Nevertheless the goal is to produce statistics including irregular migrants.

Draft - Conclusions and Recommendations - General

- Particular attention must be paid to the place of work and type of work as migrants often participate in the labour force differently from the native born population
- Local focuses and needs should be taken into account and documented in the production of statistics e.g. regional agreements, specific population structure

Draft - Recommendations - Population

Data should be collected for these 3 groups:

1. Stock of international migrants and migrant workers in the country – identified by country of birth and country of citizenship and broken down by length of stay
2. Workers who travel to and engaged in economic activity in a country other than their country of usual residence
3. In-flow of migrants and for-work migrants to the country – those who have not yet met the 12 month threshold to change their usual place of residence

Draft - Recommendations - Variables

	Variable	Comments
Variables that Identify Migrants		
1	Country of birth	Possible answers may be: a) list of all countries, b) regionally relevant countries and "other", c) country collecting data yes/no. Country should be country at time of investigation in order to account for changes in borders. Further aggregation is possible if necessary e.g. identifying foreigners as foreign-born with foreign-born parents.
2	Country of citizenship	
3	Date of entrance	Main aggregation: up to 3 months, 3-11 months, 12 months and more

Draft - Recommendations - Variables

	Variable	Comments
Variables that relate to Labour Force and/or National Accounts (1)		
4	Labour force characteristics	ILO definitions
5	Industry	ISIC Rev.4
6	Location of work – country	Possible answers may be: a) list of all countries, b) regionally relevant countries and "other"
7	Frequency or cyclicalness of commute	Every day/month/season
8	Type of enterprise – resident or non-resident employer	

Draft - Recommendations - Variables

	Variable	Comments
Variables that relate to Labour Force and/or National Accounts (2)		
9	Occupation	ISCO-o8
10	Status at work	ICSE-93
11	Hours usually worked per week	
12	Hours actually worked per week	

Draft - Recommendations – Improvements (1)

- **Changes in existing surveys (e.g. LFS)**
 1. Broadening the investigation to persons who do not belong to the survey population (e.g. in the country a short time)
 2. Adding questions regarding those who work and/or commute abroad (country of work, whether the enterprise is resident or a non-resident employer)
 3. Changes in the survey plan to include coverage of workplaces that serve as irregular residences

Draft - Recommendations – Improvements (2)

- Administrative sources should be examined for potential to supplement or replace questions in LFS. For example, it may be possible to use social security data to identify whether an employer is resident or non-resident.
- Administrative data on border crossings and visas and permits is the main source for measuring the **flows** of migrants and migrant workers. This source may be limited for countries that belong to areas with freedom of movement (e.g. EU).

Draft - Recommendations – Improvements (3)

- Exchange of data between countries is encouraged in order to build a more complete and holistic picture of labour mobility and can be particularly helpful when dealing with areas with freedom of movement that do not require permits.
- Countries having access to and possibility to link a broad set of relevant administrative registers can cover both stock and flow data.



Thank you for your attention!

Progress of Task Force (1)

- Teleconferences – to jump-start work and keep up collaboration
- Work Session and Workshop on Migration Statistics in Geneva and Turin
- Defining tasks, timetable, division of labour
- Writing chapters on concepts and sources of information - review by members, updates based on comments

Progress of Task Force (2)

- Country Case Studies – creating a common framework, writing case studies, review by members, updates based on comments
- Analysis of other sources of data i.e. ILO questionnaires and ILO module on migration
- Writing Recommendations based on work of the TF
 - review by members, updates based on comments

Analysis of ILO Questionnaires

- Seven questionnaires were circulated
- Each focused on a specific source of information
- Data was received from 128 countries

Questionnaire	Total		ECE	
	Obs	Countries	Obs	Countries
Q1 Population Census	120	120	44	44
Q2 Household Surveys	122	86	71	42
Q3 Border/Admission Statistics	47	46	20	19
Q4 Establishment Census	19	19	4	4
Q5 Establishment Surveys	20	18	11	9
Q6 Administrative Sources	126	70	83	36
Q7 Estimation of International Migrant Workers in Country	28	27	11	10

Questionnaires with many responses per country

Questionnaire	Observations	ECE
Household surveys (Q2) - total	122	71
Labour force survey	53	33
Income/Expenditure/Living conditions	33	23
Migration specific	12	8
Other	24	7
Administrative sources (Q6) - total	126	83
Continuous population register	23	16
Social security registration system	22	11
Register of international migrants	16	13
Register of work permits issued to foreign workers	16	13
Data from government/public employment services	11	8
Register of nationals issued work permits to work abroad, by country of work	5	2
Register of migrant (foreign) workers	3	3
Data from private employment services	2	0
Other	28	17

Content of Questionnaires

- Core questions – common to most subjects:
 - Identification of relevant population groups
 - Variables relating to country (birth, citizenship etc.)
 - Variables relating to work
 - Demographic variables
- Questions specific to the data source

Identification of Relevant Population Groups

	Number of Observations						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
TOTAL	120	122	47	19	20	126	28
Citizens in country	115	114	-	-	-	47	17
Citizens employed in country	114	112	-	-	-	45	17
Citizens living abroad	29	20	-	-	-	22	5
Citizens living and working abroad	30	22	-	-	-	18	-
Non-citizens living in country (even if arrived recently)	106	75	-	-	-	63	21
Foreign Workers	105	85	-	-	-	80	21
Refugees	54	18	25	-	-	40	7
Asylum seekers	35	7	16	-	-	30	6

Variables relating to Country

	Number of Observations						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
TOTAL	120	122	47	19	20	126	28
Country of birth	114	88	21	5	5	68	15
Country of citizenship	96	84	36	5	8	11	3
Second country of citizenship	45	21	-	-	-	60	-
Country of previous residence:			24	1	1	36	2
Foreigners	78	31					
Citizens that lived abroad but returned	69	27					
Nationality	-	-	-	15	12	-	-

Variables related to Work

	Number of Observations						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
TOTAL	120	122	47	19	20	126	28
Employment status	115	114	12	11	7	40	17
Occupation	111	107	15	10	12	58	19
Industry/Economic sector	114	108	9	17	16	21	10
Hours actually worked	37 (usually)	96	-	4	6	-	2
Wage rate (per day, month etc.)	-	53	-	5	14	-	15
Status in employment	114	111	7	-	-	59	7

Demographic variables

	Number of Observations						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
TOTAL	120	122	47	19	20	126	28
Age	120	119	41	10	13	115	21
Sex	120	119	42	15	16	118	24
Marital status	118	114	13	-	-	61	14
Household size	120	113	4	-	-	-	9
Household composition	-	-	5	-	-	-	8
Educational attainment	119	114	7	8	11	45	14

Household members who left to live, work or study abroad*

- Asked in population censuses (Q1) and household surveys (Q2) only
- Name and sex – main characteristics asked
- Other characteristics focus on person at present (rather than at time of leaving)

* for at least 6 months

Migration specific questions

- Asked only in Migration Specific household surveys, never in LFS
- Examples:
 - Whether person intends to return
 - Knowledge of language of destination country

Remittances

- More household surveys (Q2) asked about remittances received than remittances sent
- More than half of those who asked also ask about amount sent/received
- Estimation of migration workers in country (Q7) – only 2 deal with remittances (received only)

ILO Sources and Questionnaires

Source	Questionnaire
S1 - Population census	Q1
S2 - All household surveys, including LFS	Q2
S3 - Population and social security registers; other administrative sources	Q6 – partial
S4 - Establishment census and surveys	Q4 + Q5
S5 - Private and public employment services	Q6 – partial
S6 - Registers of international migrants, migrant workers, work permits issued	Q6 – partial
S7 - Border/admission statistical sources	Q3
S8 - Register of nationals issued work permit for abroad	Q6 – partial
S9 - LFS	Q2 – partial
S10 - Questionnaire on the Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country	Q7

Number of countries reporting a source, as percentage of all responding countries in a region

	Any Q'aire (no.)	S1	S2	S1 &/or S2	S3	S6	S3 &/or S6	S4	S5	S4 &/or S5	S7	S8	S9	Any Q'aire (%)
Africa	31	100	65	100	13	19	32	32	13	45	45	3	29	100
Americas	15	73	60	100	27	7	33	7	0	7	33	7	40	100
Arab States	5	100	100	100	40	0	40	40	0	40	20	0	80	100
Asia & the Pacific	19	100	32	100	5	21	26	11	11	16	37	5	11	100
Europe & Central Asia	44	95	91	100	55	39	73	18	23	34	41	5	77	100
Other small territories	14	100	43	100	43	29	64	14	7	21	21	0	29	100
% of respondents	100	95	67	100	32	25	49	20	13	30	38	4	46	20