Measuring international labour mobility: publication by a UNECE task force

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UNECE Group of Experts on Measuring Quality of Employment
Geneva, 6-8 November 2019
• Task force 2015-2018
• Members:
  Israel (Mark Feldman, chair),
  Germany, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Turkey, ILO, IOM, OECD,
  UNECE, UNSD, WTO, Goldsmiths University of London
• Content:
  • Introduction and background
  • Concepts
  • Overview of data availability
  • Practices of measuring labour mobility in Israel, Italy,
    Mexico, Norway
  • Conclusion and recommendations
  • Issues for future work
• Printed in English and Russian
Conceptual frameworks

- International migration. Population
  - 1998 UN recommendations for statistics on international migration
  - 2015 CES census recommendations

- Labour
  - 2013 ILO resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization
  - 2018 ILO guidelines concerning statistics on international labour migration

- National accounts, trade in services, balance of payments, tourism
  - 2008 System of National Accounts
  - 2008 UN recommendations on tourism statistics
  - 2009 IMF balance of payments manual
  - 2010 UN manual on statistics of international trade in services
  - 2011 UNECE guide on the impact of globalization on national accounts
Usually resident population, international migration, labour force and labour mobility
Groups of labour mobility in relation to the usually resident population and residence of employer
Non-resident foreign workers/residents working abroad

• Non-resident service suppliers, posted workers, business travellers - if staying less than 12 months; otherwise residence in destination

• Seasonal workers, cross-border workers – if staying less than 3 months; otherwise short-term migrant with residence in destination

*Follows from the 1998 UN recommendations for statistics on international migration*

• Residence of employers: 1 year of "predominant centre of economic interest" (BPM6)
Groups of labour mobility in relation to the usually resident population and residence of employer

- Seasonal/cross-border worker 3+ mo
- Seasonal/cross-border worker 0-2 mo
- Posted worker/business traveller 12+ mo
- Posted worker/business traveller 0-11 mo
## Data sources in Israel, Italy, Mexico and Norway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Israel</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Mexico</th>
<th>Norway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migrant workers</td>
<td>LFS</td>
<td>LFS</td>
<td>1: Intercensal survey; 2: Survey on Demographic Dynamics</td>
<td>registers; LFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Externally displaced persons</td>
<td>1: Population and Immigration Authority; 2: LFS</td>
<td>Residence permits</td>
<td>1: Survey on Demographic Dynamics; 2: Commission for Refugee Assistance</td>
<td>registers; LFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-resident foreign workers</td>
<td>Palestinian LFS</td>
<td>LFS</td>
<td>Survey of Migration on the South Border</td>
<td>registers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents working abroad</td>
<td>LFS</td>
<td>LFS; census</td>
<td>1: Intercensal survey; 2: Survey on Income &amp; Expenditure; 3: Survey of Occupation and Employment</td>
<td>LFS; Swedish registers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-flow of migrants including for-work migrants</td>
<td>Population and Immigration Authority</td>
<td>Residence permits; municipality registers</td>
<td>1: National Institute of Migration</td>
<td>registers; LFS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Cells representing administrative sources are highlighted. Numbers refer to a source of primary, secondary or tertiary importance, respectively.
Recommendations

• Main groups for measurement
  • Stock of international migrants and migrant workers
  • Non-resident foreign workers and residents working abroad
  • In-flow of migrants including for-work migrants

• Variables for measurement
  • Defining status (5)
  • Labour (7)
  • Quality of employment (8):
    • Hours usually/ actually worked per week, Hourly earnings, Fatal/ Nonfatal occupational injuries, Exposure to physical/ mental health risk factors, Formal contract
  • Employers (3)

• Integration of data from different sources
• Data exchange
Thank you for your attention!

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