

# Population and Housing Census in Republic of Moldova, round 2020

Workshop on Population and Housing Censuses (Geneva, Switzerland 16-17 September 2019)

# Census round 2020 - plans

- 2023
- Approved Governmental Decision nr.862/2017 on National Comision on censuses, round 2020, headed by prime-minister
- Elaborated draft of law

# PHC 2023 - Innovations

- GIS - Geo-spatial technologies
- Administrative data sources
- CAWI (Internet)
- Collection using mobile devices (tablets - CAPI)
- Collecting IDNP – personal identification number



# Use of the geographical information system

- ✓ Delineation of enumeration sectors
- ✓ Real-time monitoring of the enumerators and solving of problems during collection - much faster
- ✓ Ensuring a high degree of coverage
- ✓ Dissemination of the census data to a high degree of spatial detail (including on grid of 1 km<sup>2</sup>)
- ✓ Computation SDG indicators containing spatial component
- ✓ Dissemination of dynamic maps through services WEB

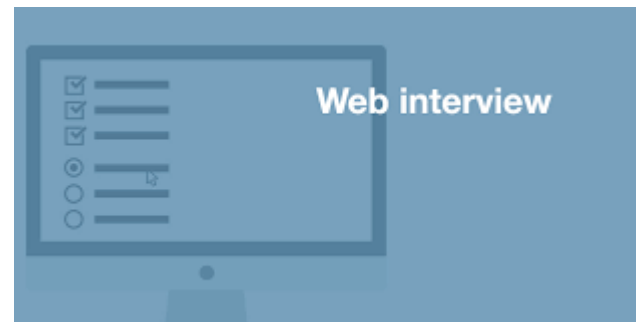


# Use of administrative data sources

- reducing the burden on the respondent (taking of data from administrative sources)
- the activity of using the administrative sources is mentioned in art. 44 of the Association Agreement of the Republic of Moldova - European Union



- NBS image emprovement
- reducing the costs of a census, conditioned by the share of the people who will use this method, the level of internet penetration and computer literacy of people, the success of the communication campaign



# Data collection with tablets

- optimization of the period between data collection and dissemination, due to the exclusion of the data entry stage in electronic format (either scanning or manual)
- improving the quality of the data, by including a reasonable number of rules, which will allow at the collection stage to solve the inconsistencies

**but it involves higher costs (purchase of tablets) and higher risks**

- critical role of software development for tablets
- need outsourcing of software development
- very tight schedule – recommend considering 2023 as more adequate census year
- lack of experience of NBS in collecting data through tablets



# Collection of personal numeric code - IDNP

- will allow the validation of information with data from administrative sources/registers, increase the accuracy of the census data, decrease the number of questions in the questionnaire and the costs of the census respectively.
- a traditional census, where the IDNP was collected, can serve as a basis for a combined census or through registries





# Topics

- All core topic are included
- Non core-topic included:
  - Ethno-cultural characteristics (ethnicity, language, religion)

# High level view of Census Action Plan

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning enumeration procedures and questionnaires</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tenders preparation and administration</li><li>• Systems development - CAPI, CAWI, Systems development - field operations monitoring</li><li>• System development - HR and logistics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pilot census field operations</li><li>• Pilot census evaluation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Systems final tuning</li><li>• Modular testing of systems final tuning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Census field operations</li><li>• PES</li><li>• Data processing</li><li>• Preliminary results release</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final Census evaluation</li><li>• Main Census products release</li><li>• Last census products release</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Census analytical program</li></ul>

# PHC data used for new estimates of population

## - UR

- *National Bureau of Statistics align population estimates with European norms and standards, based on concept of usual residence, used on Population and Housing Census 2014. It will follow the revise of other statistical series that are linked to the population estimates (e.g. employment, income, National Accounts, etc.).*
- NBS used 124 mln. crossboarding, 2.5 mln. records, excluding residents of Transnistria for period 2013-2018 from Border Police & Agency of Public Services, for migration estimates.

# Why revising population estimates?

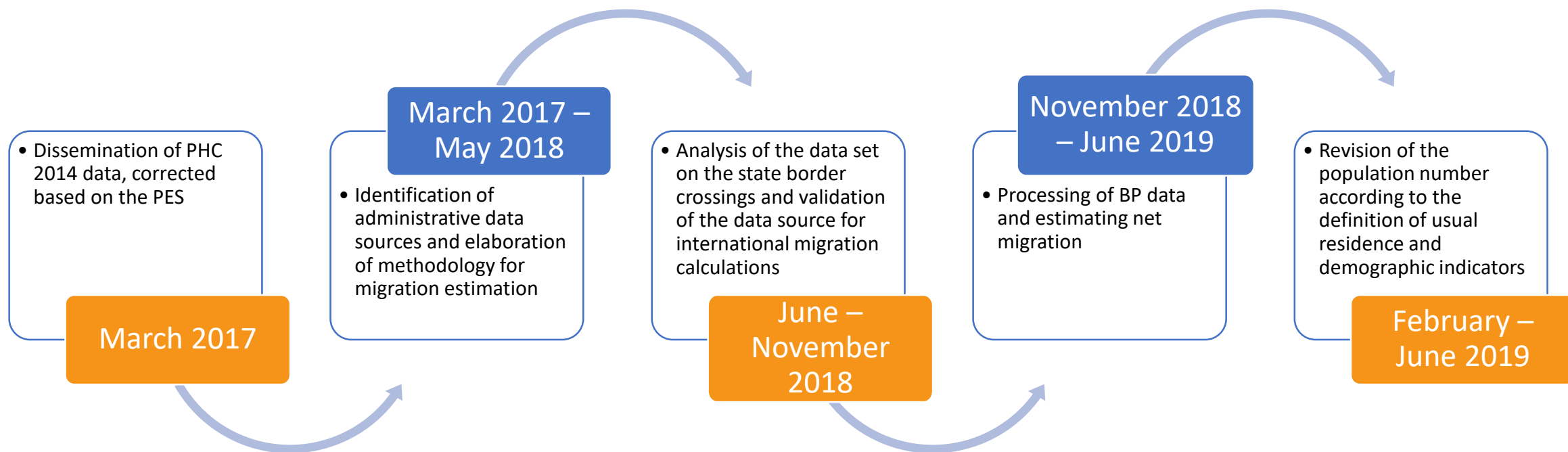


High flow of unregistered international migration

Implementation of the concept of *usual residence* in official statistics

Aligning the national statistical system with European standards

# Realized activities



# High reliability of revised estimates

- **Reliable basis:** estimates from the 2014 Census properly corrected using state of the art statistical methodology
- **Updated definitions:** population estimates are now based on internationally agreed definitions (place of usual residence)
- **Accurate and realistic estimates of international migration** developed based on a solid basis
- **Improved birth and death statistics**

# The basis: 2014 census corrected estimates

- The 2014 census suffered from high undercount in Chisinau and light undercount in the rest of the country
- A Post Enumeration Survey that was properly implemented provided the tool to correct the undercount, using state of the art statistical methodology
- The results are **highly reliable estimates of the population at the time of the census** to replace the “overinflated” previous RM population estimates

# International migration estimates

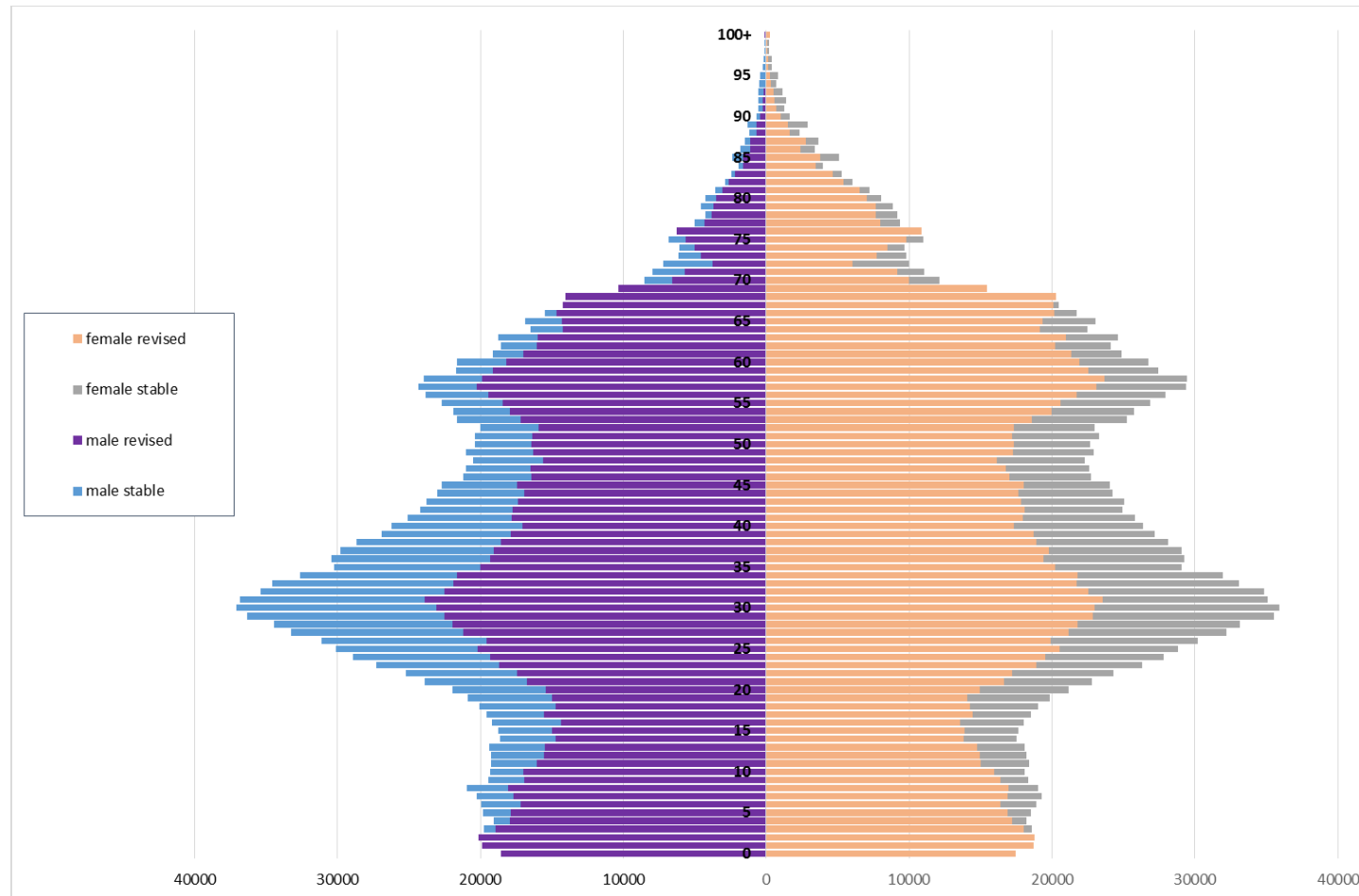
- Based on a solid basis: the border-cross recording of entrances and exits to/from RM
- For each individual it was possible to calculate accurately how much time was spent abroad/in-RM
- Migration estimates calculated using international recommended definitions
- **For the first time in many years RM has a full and realistic picture of the migration flows in and out the country**



## Improved births and deaths statistics

- Births and deaths statistics now calculated on the basis of date of occurrence (and not date of registration)
- Births taking place in RM but not directly registered (only **transcribed**) in the civil registration to mothers declaring to live in RM **have been added** (after it was discovered their number increased lately –resulted in increasing the yearly number of births by about 5%).

# Stable population vs population with usual residence (2018)



## Revised fertility and mortality

- The revised fertility rates show (at difference with previous estimates) that **RM fertility rates rank among the highest in Europe**, even though still under replacement levels
- The revised expectancy of life calculations show that **RM mortality is indeed relatively high but a major improvement has been registered in last years**

## The results: highly reliable statistics

**From now on NBS will be able to provide much better and reliable statistics for policy design, planning and research**

In the next months NBS will gradually update remaining social and economic indicators that depend on the revised population estimates

## Main remaining challenges

- Calculate **additional social and economic indicators** based on the revised population estimates
- Further **improve international migration calculations**
- Calculate **disaggregated net international and internal migration** estimates at detailed geographic resolution
- **Reconstruct backwards statistical time series** by revising previous population estimates (before 2014)



**RECENSĂMÂNTUL**  
POPULAȚIEI ȘI AL LOCUINȚELOR  
**2014**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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