Results of the NSOs survey in UNECE countries in 2021

OCTOBER 2021
UNECE MIGRATION STATISTICS MEETINGS

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26 countries, online survey, October 8-21, 2021

Armenia

Austria

Belarus

Canada

Czech republic

Estonia

France

Georgia

Hungary

Iceland

Israel

Latvia

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Moldova

Montenegro

Netherlands

Portugal

Russian Federation

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Tajikistan

Turkey

Ukraine

The survey studied methods of collecting migration data and measuring migration in 2021, specifically:

Data sources used for compilation of international migration statistics - surveys and administrative data;

Methods of data collection and methods of statistics compilation;

Demand and supply of data reflecting the COVID-19 impact on migration and migrants;

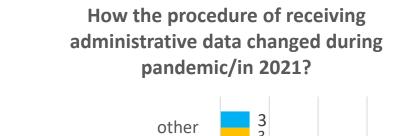
Difficulties faced by NSOs, operational and methodological, and solutions applied;

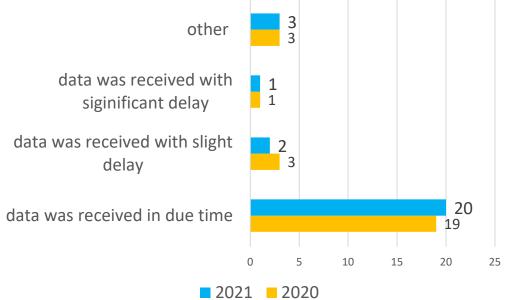
Changes compared to 2020.

Access and use of administrative data sources in 2021

Administrative data was received in due time in most countries, NSOs relying on the population registers reported *no* problem with data access... but not use.

Timeliness is less a challenge, other issues with administrative data highlighted





What can be improved?

Communication w data producers for better alignment with statistical needs and context;

More coherent definitions;

Exploitation of data on integration of foreigners, migration reasons/motives; second generation.

Using alternative data sources, e.g. big data;

right to combine different sources of data; access to individual data;

Single source of administrative data (register).

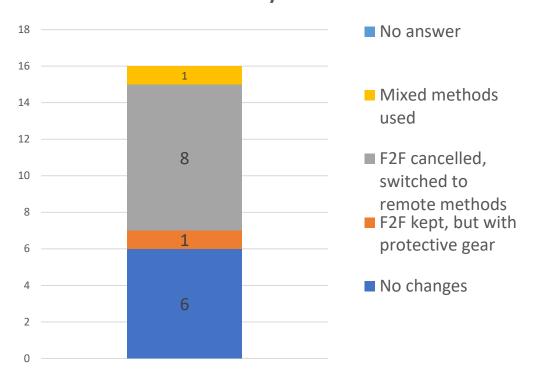
Methods of data collection and statistics compilation

Pre-pandemic methodology for compiling migration statistics was applied in most UNECE countries in 2021: some countries explore alternative data sources, including big data

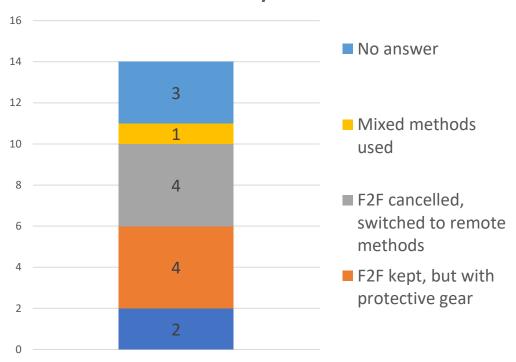
While EECCA returned to F2F survey methods, other surveyed UNECE NSOs keep using remote methods: CATI and CAWI

14 UNECE countries conducted migration-related surveys in 2021 (16 countries in 2020 survey), F2F methods prevail in EECCA

Switch in survey taking methods in UNECE NSOs surveyed in 2020



Switch in survey taking methods in UNECE NSOs surveyed in 2021

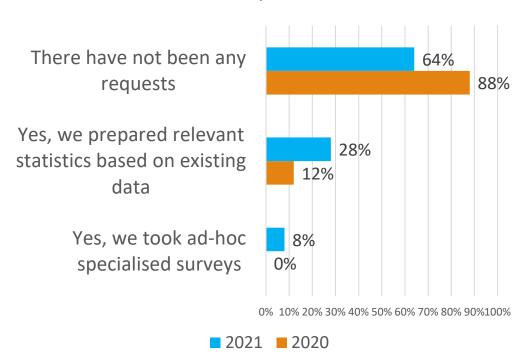


Demand and supply of data on COVID-19 impact on migration

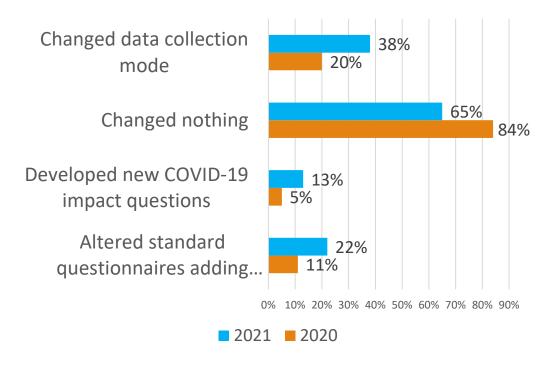
More countries started studying COVID-19 impact through surveys, adding COVID related questions, or adding thematic modules

Interest to the pandemic impact on migration and migrants increased in UNECE countries:

HAVE THERE BEEN ANY REQUESTS FROM THE GOV AGENCIES TO PRODUCE STATISTICAL INFO ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON MIGRANTS AND/OR MIGRATION?



HOW DID YOU REFLECT THE PANDEMIC CONTEXT AND ITS IMPACT IN THE QUESTIONNAIRES?



Operational challenges faced by NSOs in 2021

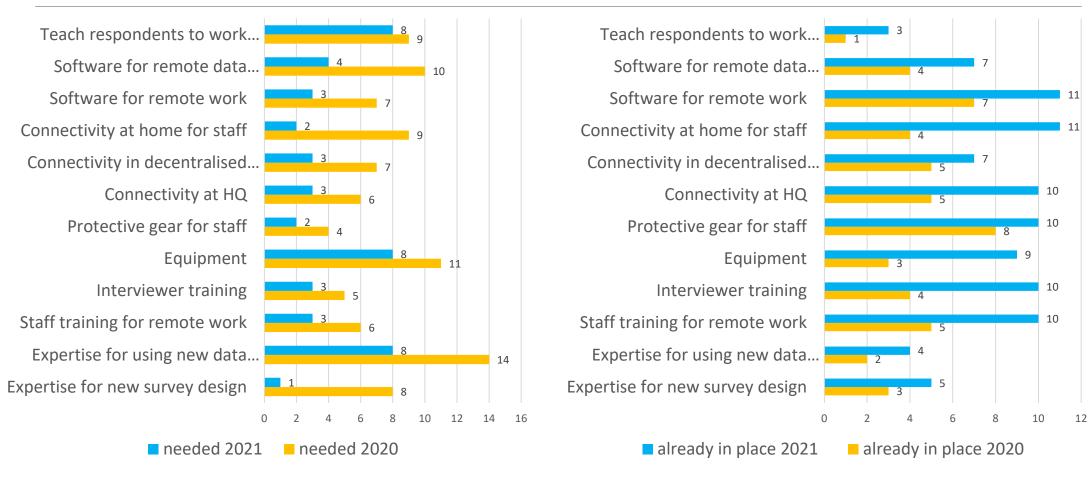
Fewer urgent needs reported, most often cited included 'expertise for using new data sources' (the same as in 2020), 'equipment' (increased) and "teaching respondents to work online' (increased)

More countries learnt developing new survey data and use new data sources compared to 2020, making a way for knowledge exchange in this area

What kind of support would your agency need to tackle the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic? (all UNECE surveyed)



Already in place, in 2020 and 2021



Conclusions

- 1. Remote survey taking became more proliferated across UNECE countries, but not in EECCA;
- 2. Some NSOs (covered by our survey), did make some methodological innovations pushed by the pandemic or searched for alternative data collection/compiling methods
- 3. Disruptions in producing/compiling migration statistics due to the pandemic appeared to be less sensitive to the NSOs relying on the population registers data;
- 4. Interest to the data reflecting COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and migration increases, motivating NSOs exploring alternative data sources and expanding the list of variables on international migration.

