

**UNECE Online Meetings on Migration Statistics, 26–28 October 2021****ABSTRACT**

<b>Title</b>	Using administrative records to estimate foreign-born immigration to the United States
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<b>Session</b>	Improvements in use of administrative data for migration statistics (27-28 October)

The International Migration Branch at the U.S. Census Bureau produces annual estimates of foreign-born immigration to the United States with demographic detail (age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin) at national, state, and county-level geographies. These estimates are created using the American Community Survey as a primary data source. Using survey-based data for estimates comes with limitations such as increased variance, particularly at subnational geographies, and lagged measurement of migration events. In this paper, we mitigate these issues by combining anonymized Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service administrative records to create an Integrated Database for International Migration. This database is used as a primary data source to create alternative estimates of foreign-born immigration to the United States, which we compare with the Bureau's survey-based estimates.