General report, section 5.2 and paragraph 126

- The International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) database
- The global and regional estimates on international migrant workers
The ILMS database
A unique global database on International Labour Migration Statistics

- Global annual data compilation since 2018 after endorsement of the Guidelines by ICLS
- Indicators in line with the ICLS guidelines
- **Annual questionnaire** sent to National Statistical Offices
- Important reporting and dissemination tool
- Input to Global estimates

https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/
Important growth in global data availability since 2018

- Until October 2018: **19 indicators** from ad hoc subregional data compilations
  - 27 countries
  - comparability issues across compilations

- In 2023: **64 indicators** covering stocks, inflows and outflows
  - 172 countries
  - 35 indicators reported by countries
  - 29 (mainly rates and ratios) computed by the ILO based

Country data is disseminated as reported, no adjustment is made
Improved data compilation process

- **Integration into the ILOSTAT system**: increased automation of processing and consistency checks

- **Additional data channel**: since 2019, harnessing the ILO household survey microdata repository

  *Quality assessment of LFS*: main indicators with acceptable precision (RSE<20%) if high-level disaggregation

- **Reduction of burden**: reduced-length questionnaire for some countries

- **Increased coordination at the national level** facilitated by the new ILOSTAT reporting platform (StaRS)
Strengthened collaboration with partners on the field

**African Union**: Joint ILMS data compilation since 2021 to avoid duplication of work, data inconsistencies and reduce burden

**ASEAN countries**:
- Annual workshop
- Annual report on ILMS data in ASEAN

**Statistics Korea**:
- Memorandum of Understanding since 2015. Annual workshop of focal points from 22 countries in Asia and Pacific
### Main indicators and disaggregation variables of the ILMS database

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main indicators</th>
<th>Disaggregation variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working-age population</td>
<td>Place of birth or citizenship, sex, education, age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Place of birth or citizenship, sex, education, age, economic activity, occupation, status in employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>Place of birth or citizenship, sex, education, age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour force</td>
<td>Place of birth or citizenship, sex, education, age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean nominal monthly earnings</td>
<td>Place of birth or citizenship, sex</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Migrant specific indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Migrant specific indicators</th>
<th>Disaggregation variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working-age migrant population</td>
<td>Sex, top 5 countries of origin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed migrants</td>
<td>Sex, top 5 countries of origin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflow of working-age migrants</td>
<td>Sex, education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflow of employed migrants</td>
<td>Sex, economic activity, occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflow of nationals returned from abroad</td>
<td>Sex, country of previous residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock of nationals abroad</td>
<td>Sex, country of residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outflow of nationals</td>
<td>Sex, country of destination, education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outflow of nationals for employment</td>
<td>Sex, country of destination, education, economic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>activity, occupation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Availability of recent data on ILMS database

Country data availability by topic, 2015-2022

- **160 countries** with recent data (2015-2022)
- Uneven availability across regions
- Stock indicators more widely available
- Low availability of inflow and Nationals abroad data in most regions
Countries report data based on a variety of sources (1)

Stock indicators are primarily available from household surveys

- **119 countries** report data from Labour Force Surveys (LFS), 30 countries from Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES)

- **33 countries** report data from Population Census, 28 from administrative records

- Use of administrative sources only in two regions
Countries report data based on a variety of sources (2)

Source of inflow data on international migrant workers

- Flow indicators are primarily available from administrative records
- Very few countries in Africa, Americas and the Arab States can report inflow data
Important data gaps remain

Basic STOCK indicators still missing for many countries

► Working age migrants by main country of origin: reported by 80 countries
► Employed migrants by main country of origin: 80 countries
► Mean earnings of migrants: 109 countries

Limited availability of FLOW indicators

► Only 86 countries reported at least one flow indicator
► Inflow of employed migrants: 45 countries
► Inflow of return migrants: 32 countries
► Outflow of nationals for employment: 26 countries
2020 Census as an opportunity to strengthen the database

➢ Usually better coverage of international migrants

➢ Opportunity to collect relevant information not available in other data sources (living quarters, country of residence in previous year, etc)

➢ Current efforts underway to compile new stock data from the 2020 round of population and housing censuses:
  ▪ Potential to greatly expand the geographic coverage of the data available
  ▪ Potential to fill the stock indicator gaps
The global and regional estimates on international migrant workers
Unique set of estimates on international migrant workers

- Inform on magnitude and characteristics of international labour migration at global and regional levels
- Produced regularly by ILO, three editions: 2015, 2018 and 2021
- Advance knowledge base on international labour migration, support global level advocacy
- Widely recognized and used
- Next edition to be published in 2024
Estimated number of international migrant workers (2021 report)

International migrant workers:

- 62% of international migrants
- 4.9% of the global labour force
- Higher labour participation rate compared to non-migrants

58% of international migrant workers are men
Main characteristics of international migrant workers (2021 report)

- **Age 15 - 24**: 10.0%
- **Age 25 - 64**: 86.5%
- **Age 65+**: 3.5%

**Services**: 66.2%

**Industry**: 26.7%

**Agriculture**: 7.1%

- **Northern America**: 22.1%
- **Northern Southern and Western Europe**: 24.2%
- **Latin America and the Caribbean**: 3.5%
- **Central and Western Asia**: 5.6%
- **Eastern Europe**: 8.0%
- **Eastern Asia**: 2.8%
- **South-Eastern Asia and the Pacific**: 7.2%

- **Northern Africa**: 0.7%
- **Sub-Saharan Africa**: 7.4%
- **Arab States**: 14.3%
- **Southern Asia**: 4.2%
A combination of data to produce the estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark data</th>
<th>National data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ILO POP</strong> Population by sex and age based on UNDESA, World Population Prospects, 2019 Revision</td>
<td><strong>ILMS</strong> Labour force participation rate by migrant status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UN MIGR</strong> International Migrant Stock, UNDESA, 2019 Revision</td>
<td>ILOSTAT International Labour Migration Statistics database, latest period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ILO LFPR</strong> Labour force participation rate by sex and age, ILO modelled estimates, July 2019</td>
<td><strong>Other</strong> Other national data sources, latest period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 124 countries with national data in 2021
- Imputation of LFPR of migrants if missing national data

**Update of estimation methodology for 2024 edition**
Rationale for updating the estimation methodology

- Moving towards a more established methodology, mainstreaming the estimates production after experimental methodology in the first 3 editions
- Estimation method not stable over the past three editions
- More demand for disaggregated estimates
- Alignment to the extent possible with other ILO estimates: model-based approach
Data requirements for the 2024 edition

Key tables:
- Employment by sex, age and place of birth / citizenship
- Unemployment by sex, age and place of birth / citizenship
- Working-age population by sex, age and place of birth / citizenship

For estimates at regional level:
- Employment by sex, economic activity and place of birth / citizenship
- Employment by sex, occupation and place of birth / citizenship
- Employment by sex, status in employment and place of birth / citizenship
- Employment by sex, education and place of birth / citizenship

For estimates of migrants in care economy:
- Employment by sex, main care occupations and place of birth / citizenship
- Employment by sex, care sector and place of birth / citizenship
Importance of the 2023 ILMS data compilation

➢ To increase the number of countries with empirical data in the Global estimation
➢ Focus on census to allow more granularity, especially in countries with small share of migrants

2023 data compilation launched on 28 September
Submission deadline on 27 October 2023
Please submit your (Census) data!
Contact us at ILMS_QUEST@ILO.ORG
Points for reflection

Participants in the Conference are invited to:

- express their views on the progress achieved in establishing a global ILMS database
- express their views on the type of support their country requires to reduce gaps and improve the quality of International Labour Migration Statistics
- contribute to improving the availability of official national data by replying to the ILO’s 2023 ILMS questionnaire