Standardised statistics on immigrant inflows results, sources and methods

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1. Introduction

The 2007 edition of the *International Migration Outlook* includes, for the second time, statistics on long-term immigration flows that have been standardised across countries, to the extent possible. In so doing, the OECD Secretariat has had to deviate for many countries from the usual statistics on international migration that are used nationally and/or published by the OECD and other organisations. There are two main reasons for this. The first is that it is currently difficult if not necessarily impossible to harmonise the statistics of international migration flows according to the UN Recommendations on International Migration Statistics (United Nations 1998) using the standard national sources, for reasons which have been documented in Lemaître (2005). Secondly, these sources also do not generally include information on the nature of the migration flows, that is, whether they are for work, family, humanitarian or other reasons. Although most long-term immigrants can enter the labour market once they have been admitted into the receiving country, empirical results have shown that labour market outcomes vary by migration category. Thus the migration category is a matter of interest for policy and cross-country difference in the distribution of migration by category may in part explain differences in immigrant economic and social outcomes across countries. Thirdly, many of the standard national sources tend to group together some short-term movements with long-term flows and distinguishing between these two is also of interest for policy.

Three objectives have guided most of the choices made with respect to the statistics described in this report. They are: a) international comparability; b) the need for statistics on long-term migration (see below); and c) the possibility of disaggregating data by category of migration. These three objectives together have determined the choice of residence permit data as the main data source used. Had the aim been to develop measures of immigration flows compatible with population totals for use in demographic accounting, different choices might well have been made, and indeed there is a strong argument to be made for continuing the current efforts in that direction, despite the difficulties encountered up to now.\(^1\)

This report documents the approach taken in developing the series presented in the *International Migration Outlook* (2007), the sources used, the problems encountered, the estimates made where necessary and the limitations of the data. It has been updated since the previous release of the standardised statistics in 2006.

2. Definition of permanent migration

The aim of the OECD international migration data initiative is, ultimately, to obtain as full an accounting as possible of international migration flows, including both short- and long-term movements. In the first instance, attention is directed at inflows of foreign nationals, which tend to be the movements of most interest for policy. This is a choice dictated in part by data availability, because what is regulated tends to leave a “paper” trail and to be the object of statistical reporting. For this reason, inflows of nationals or outflows of any kind tend to be less well captured by available data sources, if at all. The possibility of making progress on comparable statistics of regulated flows needs not be hostage to the current difficulty of obtaining comparability for statistics on all flows.

\(^1\) There currently exists a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection (COM/2005/0375 final). The proposal states that “Although the aim of the legislation is to reduce the impact of [these] definitional and data source differences on the comparability of the statistics, it is understood that progress towards harmonisation must be gradual.” Although the proposed regulation includes an article concerning statistics on residence permits, these would seem to be viewed as an accessory source. The definition of immigration retained is the UN definition and the regulation reflects essentially a demographic perspective on migration, one which complements the approach presented here.
Since policy interest tends to be focused largely on long-term migration, this is the focus of the work undertaken here, which is an attempt at standardisation on the basis of a common definition and will require refinement as well as extension later to shorter term movements. The definition of long-term migration used is not that specified in the UN recommendations, however. The latter defines a long-term international migrant as a person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year. This definition has not been used for the reason, among others, that it is currently difficult to harmonise national migration statistics to satisfy this criterion. In addition, it is of interest to be able to compile separately flows that are generally considered different in nature, both by the receiving country and indeed, from the perspective of migrants themselves. For example, under the UN definition, for many countries international students would often be grouped together in statistics of long-term migration with persons entering for family reunification. In practice, however, most international students completing their studies in OECD countries intend to and indeed do return home while most family members tend to stay on. This difference tends to be reflected in the type and renewability of the resident permits granted to these persons by the receiving state. It is thus useful to have a statistic that defines the number of long-term immigrants in terms that reflect generally their stay or residence rights in the receiving country. A duration criterion, as noted in Lemaître 2005, is not necessarily the most appropriate way of achieving this.

To avoid confusion with the UN definition of long-term migration and to reflect the fact that the definition used is not quite the same as the UN definition, the term “permanent” or “permanent-type” migration will be used. The term “permanent” is applied essentially to reflect movements that the receiving country considers are for the long term, although they may not turn out to be so in practice, because of changes in intentions. It does not mean that the person is necessarily granted a permit of unlimited duration, but rather that he/she is on a “migration track” that normally leads to permanent residence in the host country.

Permanent or permanent-type migrants in this year’s edition of the International Migration Outlook include persons who have been granted the right of permanent residence upon entry, persons admitted with a permit of limited duration that is more or less indefinitely renewable plus some entering persons with the right of free movement (such as EU citizens within the European Union). Rephased in terms of persons excluded from the target population, permanent-type migrants as defined here exclude temporary visitors (for both tourist and business reasons) and persons who enter the country on a permit that is not renewable or renewable only on a limited basis, as well as persons under a free-movement regime who enter for reasons similar to those of persons with a limited-renewal permit. Persons in this category include tourists, business visitors, seasonal workers, international students, exchange academics and researchers, trainees, service providers, etc. These categories of entry, although they are of interest as well, will not figure in the statistics presented here, at least in the first instance.

Note also that the new statistics presented in the Outlook are not measures of permanent entries per se, because they include situations in which a person is allowed entry on a short-term basis but is subsequently granted a permanent-type status. If one is interested in measuring permanent immigration, then some allowance needs to be made for such situations. They are variously known in countries as changes in status, transformations, status adjustments, category switches, etc. and they exist in all countries. Indeed, in the statistics for many countries, they are routinely aggregated with permanent-type entries. Together, they reflect what might be called “entries into permanent status” or “additions to the permanent resident population”, rather than actual physical inflows of permanent immigrants, although in many cases the two coincide.

« Status changes » are considered an integral part of international migration statistics in the UN recommendations.
Such status changes will include, for example, situations in which a person claims asylum and is recognised as a refugee according to the Geneva Convention or as a person in need of protection. The statistics for all countries shown thus do not include asylum seekers among permanent migrants, but only persons whose request for asylum has been accepted in some way and who have been granted the right of long-term residence. For obvious reasons, the statistics also do not include unauthorised movements.

On the other hand, regularisations of persons who entered illegally or who have entered and stayed beyond the duration of their visa are not covered either. The latter in theory could be included in the statistics, in the year or years in which the regularisation takes place. However, this has not been done in the data presented here, in order to give a more transparent reading of the change in “usual” in-migration. In practice, it would be useful to account for them separately and it is intended to do this in the future.

The term “permanent” here does not necessarily mean a permit of unlimited or even long duration, such as five or ten years. In some countries, the normal entry permit for eventual settlers can be of relatively short duration (e.g. one year) but the eventual long-term status may be recognised or implicit at the time of entry by virtue of the fact that the permit is more or less indefinitely renewable. Notwithstanding the ambiguity in the term “permanent immigrant” for the target population considered here (that is, including status changers as well as persons on permits which cannot always be described as being of long duration), in what follows it will nevertheless be used in the interests of brevity.

3. Data Quality

The data published in this year’s issue of the International Migration Outlook are a second attempt at standardisation on the basis of residence permits and take into account comments provided by the SOPEMI national correspondents and contacts in national statistical offices. The outcome undoubtedly continues to suffer from an imperfect knowledge of national permit data sources and definitions. The objective was to put some basic statistics into the public domain, adjusted for some of the more glaring sources of non-comparability across countries. The differences in the standardised series relative to the usually published ones vary considerably across countries. For the reasons given above, for many countries it has been necessary to deviate from what are often considered the best sources by national statisticians, in particular population registers. This disadvantage needs to be weighed against the gains in inter-country comparability and in the additional information obtained on migration categories.

Deficiencies in permit data

Data on residence permits have some well-known deficiencies when used for statistical purposes. Firstly, not all persons may need a residence permit to enter a country. Secondly, the reference period for data on permits may be the time when the permit was granted rather than the time of entry. Thirdly, the data may describe permits granted rather than actually used. Fourthly, it may be possible for persons to cumulate permits, for example a person entering for family reunion may also receive a work permit allowing him/her to work part-time.

However, none of the above caveats reflects inherent deficiencies in permit data; often they simply mean that the data need to undergo some processing in order to produce appropriate statistics. This is generally the case for data taken from administrative sources.

For the components of the data series presented here, however, it is not certain that national administrations have actually carried out the necessary processing on the permit data. Generally, one may be confronted with data that reflect administrative decisions concerning grants or refusals (of permits) rather the number of persons entering the country with a particular type of permit. On the whole, however, “residence permits give an approximate indication of the type and level of immigration” (see DIS 2004),
while allowing for the possibility of a reasonable degree of standardisation for at least one part of international migration flows, namely the inflows of foreign nationals subject to regulatory control.

**Status changes**

It is not certain that changes in status have been included in the permit data for all countries. The extent of these can be important, as evidenced from recent data for the United States, in which green cards awarded to persons already in the country on another status accounted for over 65 percent of the 1,120,000 green cards granted in 2005. This may be an extreme case, but status changing is a growing phenomenon in all countries and needs to be tracked closely. In cases where it is suspected or known that these may or have been missed, this has been indicated in the country documentation (see annex).

**Free-movement regimes**

One part of the migration inflows considered in the statistics of long-term migration does pose a problem in some countries, namely persons moving under a free-movement regime, such as that prevailing within the European Union or between Australia and New Zealand. The granting of free movement tends to be associated with relaxed migration control, so that distinctions between short- and long-term inflows or by migration category are no longer always made. In some cases, permits are still granted, but they are nominal, while in others, they are foregone completely.

As a result, inflows from countries involved in a free-movement union have often had to be estimated or obtained from surveys. In most cases the number of work migrants was estimated by the number of entering persons from the free movement region or country who were in the labour force in the reference year. This may tend to overstate the importance of worker migration for these countries because it may take into account spousal participation, which is generally ignored when considering only the principal applicant in settlement countries or the immigrating worker elsewhere as being work-based immigrants.

Given the difficulties associated with measuring free-movement accurately, there is an argument to be made for keeping the statistics for such movements separate from those for regulated movements, as is done in a certain number of countries. This is envisaged for next year’s release.

4. A comparison of levels and change between the usually published and the standardised statistics

Table 1. shows the difference between the OECD’s usually published statistics of international migration (which are generally based on standard national sources) and the standardised series based essentially on residence permits. There are only four countries for which the standardised series show higher numbers: Australia and New Zealand, because they take account of free movement between Australia and New Zealand, in contrast to the usually published statistics, Sweden because they include estimations of the number of persons from Nordic countries, in contrast with usually published statistics, France, where the national series since 2004 no longer include inflows from other EU countries. For the standardised series, the latter are included.4

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3. This was generally estimated for EU countries by multiplying the labour force participation rate from the European Union Labour Force Survey (EULFS) for entering persons with EU nationality by the population count of EU working-age inflows obtained from the national population register.

4. The 2003 estimate for this group was carried over to 2004 and 2005.
For all other countries except Canada, the United States and Finland, the standardised series are lower, sometimes substantially so. For certain countries, the reasons are fairly clear, because the usual national data source is itself based on permits and the standardised series involve excluding certain short-term movements that are explicitly identified. This is the case, for example, in Japan, where the large excluded categories are entertainers (99K), trainees (83K) and international students (41K). Likewise, for the United Kingdom, although the usual national data source (International Passenger Survey) is not permit-based, it does identify international students (127K), as well as a category “other” (65K) which consists largely of shorter term movements (working holiday makers, asylum seekers, visiting friends and family, long holiday, looking for work and religious reasons). These are the categories that are not included in the entry statistics. For Germany, the usual national data are from the population register and, in principle, would include persons moving into a private dwelling from abroad for more than one week; for the permit data, on the other hand, short-term movements such as seasonal workers (320+K) and new international students (58K) have not been taken into account.\(^5\)

As is evident from Table 1, the level of immigration in 2005 is about 850 000 lower for the standardised series than for the usually published one, but the change is about 100 thousand higher on a total change of 168 thousand for 2004-2005. Germany and the United Kingdom in particular show a significant difference in the recorded change, compared to the usually published series. For Germany, the decline observed is across-the-board, being observed in all migration categories except for work purposes. For the United Kingdom, on the other hand, the International Passenger Survey in 2005 shows a decrease in the flows for a category (“other”, covering asylum seekers, working holidaymakers, au pairs, students etc.) which includes migrants of a type that is not counted in the standardised series on permanent-type inflows.

**Table 1. Inflows of foreign nationals in selected OECD countries, 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Standardised flows 2005</th>
<th>Usually published statistics 2005</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Percent difference relative to usually published statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>81 300</td>
<td>372 300</td>
<td>-291 000</td>
<td>-78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>198 600</td>
<td>579 300</td>
<td>-380 700</td>
<td>-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>35 900</td>
<td>77 400</td>
<td>-41 500</td>
<td>-54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>13 300</td>
<td>28 100</td>
<td>-14 800</td>
<td>-53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>56 800</td>
<td>101 500</td>
<td>-44 700</td>
<td>-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>362 400</td>
<td>473 800</td>
<td>-111 400</td>
<td>-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>25 800</td>
<td>31 400</td>
<td>-5 600</td>
<td>-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>78 800</td>
<td>94 400</td>
<td>-15 600</td>
<td>-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>60 700</td>
<td>63 400</td>
<td>-2 700</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>262 200</td>
<td>262 200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>12 700</td>
<td>12 700</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1 122 400</td>
<td>1 122 400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>53 800</td>
<td>51 300</td>
<td>2 500</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>179 800</td>
<td>167 300</td>
<td>12 500</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>59 400</td>
<td>54 100</td>
<td>5 300</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>168 600</td>
<td>134 800</td>
<td>33 800</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>184 300</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>18 000</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^5\) The population registers are administered at the municipal level and the registration requirements regarding seasonal workers may not differ from Länder to Länder.
Table 2. A comparison of the change 2004-2005 in the levels of international migration
usually published and standardised statistics
selected OECD countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Usually published statistics</th>
<th>Standardised statistics</th>
<th>Percent difference relative to usually published level of 2005 inflows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>3 500</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>16 600</td>
<td>12 500</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>17 900</td>
<td>17 700</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>-1 900</td>
<td>-2 000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>-5 200</td>
<td>-5 200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1 200</td>
<td>1 200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>26 400</td>
<td>26 400</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>164 500</td>
<td>164 500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6 000</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>-22 900</td>
<td>-13 800</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>3 700</td>
<td>4 700</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>-7 500</td>
<td>-3 000</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>-1 700</td>
<td>3 800</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>-6 000</td>
<td>-2 500</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>-20 300</td>
<td>55 100</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>1 700</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>31 200</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>5 000</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>168 600</strong></td>
<td><strong>269 000</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: “na” means not available.

5. Sources, estimates and general approach

The sources used and estimates made are documented in the Annex. Most of the sources are available on the World-Wide Web, although it has been necessary to make special requests to some countries in order to account for certain subcategories. Every attempt has been made to be complete, so that interested readers can reproduce the estimates, if they so wish. This of course may not be possible for data obtained by special request or from the national SOPEMI report.6

In general, the aggregate estimates of permanent or permanent-type immigration have been constructed from the ground up, covering the following categories: work-related migration, accompanying family of worker migrants, family reunification and formation, humanitarian migration including protection, accompanying family of humanitarian migrants, other. In some countries, the accompanying family of worker migrants is grouped with persons entering for family reunification and formation and there is no way to disaggregate the two categories. Although the accompanying family of humanitarian migrants is identified separately for some countries, in practice persons in this category have been grouped with humanitarian migrants in the statistics. Finally, the “other” category is somewhat heterogeneous and includes ancestry-based migration as well as retirees and persons of independent means.

6 Interested persons can contact the author at georges.lemaitre@oecd.org to obtain the special request table(s).
Generally, five categories of international migration have been identified:

- Work-related
- Accompanying family of workers
- Family reunification and family formation
- Humanitarian and accompanying family
- Other (including ancestry-based, retirees, persons of independent means, etc.).

The references to sources and the methodological description in the Annex apply to data for 2005. Similar sources and procedures were used retrospectively for 2004.
References


Annex

Sources and methods used in producing statistics on long-term migration

Australia

Data for Australia are taken from the publication Immigration Update November 2006 (see http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/pdf/Update_June06.pdf), in particular Table 1.1, Permanent additions by eligibility category, and Table 2.2, Settler Arrivals. A third table was obtained by special request from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) and gives a breakdown of skilled migration by principal/secondary applicants (Migration Programme Outcomes, financial years 1990/1991-2004-2005). A pivot table was obtained by special request from DIMA splitting permanent additions data into principal applicants and dependants was used for 2003 to 2005. Permanent additions to the population include both persons arriving in Australia and persons receiving the right of permanent residence “onshore” (i.e. while already in Australia on a temporary status). The latter may actually have entered Australia in a previous year. Both are included in the long-term immigration statistics for Australia.

The figure for Australia is obtained by considering entries of New Zealand citizens, who have the right of free movement, and non-New-Zealand citizens separately.

The work migration total for non-New Zealand citizens was obtained by taking the skill stream for 2005 from the DIMA pivot table on permanent additions by visa type applicants for principal applicants.

Accompanying family of workers (secondary applicants) for non-New Zealand citizens was obtained from the same table by taking the skill stream for secondary applicants.

The work migration total for New Zealand citizens was obtained by adding to the sub-total employed for New Zealand citizens in Table 2.2, the number of persons not in employment (i.e. with an occupation but unemployed) and distributing the “not stated” category in the obvious fashion, that is, in proportion to the number of persons in the various response categories.

The number of accompanying family for New Zealand citizens is estimated by taking the not-in-the-labour-force total and adding to it the not-in-the-labour-force share of the “not stated”.

The family migration number is obtained from the family total line of Table 1.1.

The humanitarian figure is obtained from the humanitarian program total of Table 1.1.

Finally “Other” consists of the “special eligibility” and the “other non-program” lines of Table 1.1.

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Austria

The sources used for Austria were as follows:

- Statistics on work permits provided by the Austrian Labour Market Service (http://www.ams.at/neu/1400.htm; special request)
- Demographisches Jahrbuch, Statistics Austria
Statistics on immigration of new foreign students in the summer and winter semester of the respective year; data provided by statistics Austria (special request)

Work migration:
Newly issued permanent residence permits (p. 74-75 in first reference) for the following worker categories:
- key worker in the quota system – self-employed
- key worker in the quota system – employed
- outside the quota system – self-employed
- media workers with permanent residence permit outside the quota system
- artists with permanent residence permit outside the quota system
- employed and not covered by the law on the work of foreigners
- key-worker agreement
- key worker permits for nationals of the new EU member states (data provided by the Austrian Labour Market Service upon request)
- first-time work permits above six months for nationals of the new EU member states (data provided by the Austrian Labour Market Service upon request)

Entries of EEA + Swiss workers are estimated by taking entries of EEA + Swiss citizens (third source) less entries of students (fourth source) from the same countries time the participation rate of EEA + Swiss persons from the EULPS.

Accompanying family of workers:
- Newly issued permanent residence permits (p. 74 in first reference) for family members of key workers (employed and self-employed) within the quota system.
- Entries of family members of EEA + Swiss workers are estimated analogously to those of workers.

Family migration:
Newly issued permanent residence permits (p. 74-75 in first reference)
- family reunification within the quota system
- family reunification to Austrian, EEA or Swiss national

Humanitarian
Newly issued permanent residence permits (first reference)
- asylum grants and protection under asylum law of 1997 (p. 17)
- asylum grants and protection under asylum law of 2003 (p. 37)
- non-refoulement under asylum law of 1997 (p. 34)
- non-refoulement under asylum law of 2003 (p. 54)
- residence permits on humanitarian grounds outside the quota system – all residence purposes (p. 75)

Humanitarian-accompanying family:
Newly issued permanent residence permits (p. 75 in first reference), in particular residence permits for family members on humanitarian grounds outside the quota system

Other:
Newly issued permanent residence permits (p. 74-75), in particular, residence permits on “private” grounds, within and outside the quota system

Belgium

Data were obtained by special request.

Work migration:
Work migration consists of first time B permits excluding seasonal workers, invited researchers, sportsmen, artists, au-pair and trainees from the Direction Général Emploi et Marché du Travail. Data refer to third countries including EU-8.

Entries of EU15 are estimated by taking the foreign population having arrived over the past year from the EULFS (estimated using a 3-year moving average) times its participation rate.

Accompanying family of workers:
Entries of EU15 are estimated by taking the foreign population having arrived over the past year from the EULFS (estimated using a 3-year moving average) times 1 minus its participation rate.

Family migration:
Data refer to visas issued for family reunification, visas for marriage, adoption and cohabitation.

Humanitarian
Data refer to recognized refugees from the Commissariat général aux réfugiés et aux apatrides (CGRA).

Canada

The source used is Facts and Figures 2005 at http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pub/facts2005/index.html, with the glossary. (Citizenship and Immigration Canada)

Work migration consists of principal applicants and provincial nominees among economic immigrants.

Accompanying family of workers consists of spouses and dependents of economic immigrants.

Family migration is simply the family class category.

Humanitarian migration consists of refugees, DROC's (“deferred removal orders”) and PDRCCs (“post-determination refugee claimants”) and humanitarian and compassionate cases.

Other consists of temporary resident permit holders.

Denmark

The sources used were as follows:
- Positive decisions on other residence permits at.
  http://www.nyidanmark.dk/resources.ashx/Resources/Statistik/statistik/uk/seneste_tal_udlaendinge
  omraadet_en.xls#Work_Study(WS)!A1
- Statbank, Population and elections, Immigration and emigration, VAN21A at
  http://www.statbank.dk/statbank5a/default.asp?w=800.
Work migration consists of:

- Wage-earners and independent businessmen within the traditional labour market (Overview)
- Workers from new EU member countries were estimated based on register data on immigrants from new EU member countries and assuming that the distribution between workers, family and other is the same as that of residents of EU15 countries (from residence permit data).
- Missionaries (Table on positive decisions)
- Specialists etc./job-card scheme (Overview)
- EU/EEA residence certificates for employed (Table on decisions on EU/EEA residence certificates)
- Self-employed EEA (see Table on decisions on EU/EEA residence certificates note).

Persons from Nordic countries are not included in these numbers. They were estimated by taking the number of inflows of non-Danes from Nordic countries from the population register and multiplying it by the percent of persons from EU/EEA countries granted residence certificates for employment reasons.

Accompanying family of workers consists of:

- Family ties to persons granted a residence permit or work/education permit (Table on decisions on EU/EEA residence certificates)
- Family members EEA (Table on decisions on EU/EEA residence certificates)
- Family members from Nordic countries estimated analogously to workers (see above).
- Family members from new EU member countries were estimated based on register data on immigrants from new EU member countries and assuming that the distribution between workers, family and other is the same as that of residents of EU15 countries (from residence permit data).

Family migration consists of family reunification (Overview) + adoption (Table on decisions on EU/EEA residence certificates).

Humanitarian migration consists of refugee and other statuses (A12).

Other:

- Pensioners (A15)
- Sufficient means (A15)
- Other reasons than marriage / Danish minority in Germany / Danish descent / other (from the table on “Positive decisions on other residence permits” WS).

Note: Inflows of Nordics are foreigners from Nordic countries rather than persons of Nordic nationality. The latter was unavailable, online. Inflows of new EU Member states in 2005 are likely to be overestimated because they may include more short-term movements than for nationals of other EU countries.

Finland

Finland is the only country for which the national population register figures are used for the standardised statistics. The reason is that the criteria for registration correspond closely to the concept of permanent-type migration. The population register in Finland covers permanent residents.
A person can be considered to be living in Finland immediately from the day he/she moves there if the intention is to live in Finland on a permanent basis and the person in question has a residence permit for one year or more (if required).

Whether residence is considered to be on a permanent basis or not is determined by reference to the purpose of entry to Finland. If he/she moves to Finland as a

- return migrant,
- refugee or
- asylum seeker

and has been granted a residence permit valid for at least a year, then a person is usually considered to be moving to Finland permanently.

The move is also considered to be permanent if the person comes to Finland for family reasons or has either a permanent work contract or one for at least two years. If the move to Finland is for a short period of time the mover is not considered to be moving permanently, nor if he/she is a student who is in Finland for the sole purpose of studying. This means that the mover would not be entitled to social security benefits.

Under special circumstances, even those with residence permits valid for less than a year can be considered to be living in Finland provided that there are no reasons that would preclude renewal of the permit. Such special circumstances include family reunification and limited passport validity (due, for example, to conditions in the bearer's home country).

Persons seeking asylum in Finland are not considered to be living in Finland while their case is pending. If, however, they have been issued a residence permit valid for at least a year, they are considered to be living in Finland from the date the permit was issued. Quota refugees are considered to be living in Finland starting immediately from when they actually move to Finland.

A breakdown by migration category is not yet available.

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**France**

The data for France are from the publication *Immigration et présence étrangère en France en 2005* from the Direction de la population et des Migrations. The relevant table in the 2005 report is Table A11, “Mesure de l’immigration à caractère permanent de ressortissants de pays tiers en 2005 » : Since permit data are no longer available for EU nationals, statistics for this group have been obtained simply by repeating those for 2003. This is clearly not entirely satisfactory and alternative methods will be examined for next year.

**Work migration:** Permanent wage-and-salary workers and non-wage workers in the labour force, both EEA and third countries.

**Family migration:**
• Family reunification (third countries)
• Family members of French nationals (third countries)
• Personal and family links (third countries)
• All corresponding categories for EEA nationals repeated from 2003.
• Accompanying family of humanitarian: Family members of refugees and stateless persons, including holders of a VPF card.

Humanitarian:
• Statutory refugees
• Beneficiaries of territorial asylum and of subsidiary protection

Other:
• From EEA countries (repeated from 2003)
  o retirees and pensioners
  o other visitors
  o other holders of a residence card delivered by right
• From third countries
  o visitors
  o other holders of a VPF card
  o holders of a work accident pension
  o sick foreigners
  o other persons with a residence permit delivered by right.

The statistics for France coincide with those published nationally, with the exception of movements of EEA nationals, for whom no permits are required as of 2004 and which no longer figure in the national statistics. The statistics for this group for 2005 are those for 2003.

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Germany

Sources for Germany are as follows:
• Statistics on work permits for IT specialists, Federal Employment Agency (IT ArGV data file – special request).
• Statistics on newly inscribed foreign students (without secondary education in Germany) from EEA countries in the summer and winter semesters, Federal Statistical Office (special request).
• Statistics on immigration of nationals of EU-15 (excluding German nationals) and EFTA nationals, Federal Statistical Office (data available via http://www.ec.destatis.de/csp/shop/sfg/bpm.html.cms.cBroker.cls)

Work migration consists of:
• work permits on the basis of the Ordinance on Exceptions of the Recruitment Stop (ASAV), Articles 5 and 8 plus "other work permits" for countries mentioned in Article 9 (from the first reference above, Tables 22 and 25. Since the figure for 2005 was not yet available, that for 2004 was carried over. The Article 5 workers covered include:
- Scientists in research and education
- Professionals with a university or college education or equivalent
- Executives and specialists in a foreign-owned company who have nationality of that country
- Executives in a German-foreign joint venture
- Professionals for foreigners' social advice
- Priests for foreign employees and their families
- Nurses
- Artists and their auxiliaries

The Article 8 workers are persons are special individual cases of special public interest.

- new work permits for newly-arrived nationals from the new EU member states (EU-Osterweiterung: Arbeitserlaubnis EU – Arbeitnehmer, neu eingereist) : These have been estimated for 2005 based on the 2004 figure plus the 2004-2005 growth rate of the new EU member state foreign population residing in Germany for less than one year, taken from the EULFS.
- work permits for IT professionals (from second reference above). The figure for 2005 being not yet available, that for 2004 was carried over.
- estimate of EU-15 and EFTA immigration, taken from the EULFS estimate of non-German nationals of these countries who were not resident in Germany one year prior to the survey and were in the labour force.

Accompanying family of workers
- EU-15 and EFTA countries: Estimated from the EULFS estimate of citizens of these countries not resident in Germany one year previously who were not in the labour force.
- A10 countries: Estimated by taking the number of new work permits for citizens of these countries and multiplying it by (1-r)/r, where r is the participation rate estimated from the EULFS.

Family migration consists of family reunionification visas (from third reference above, Table 24, p. 70).

Humanitarian and accompanying family:
- accepted asylum seekers (from third reference, Table 14, p. 49)
- non-refoulment (Geneva Convention) (idem, Table 14 on p. 49)
- non-refoulment (further protection) (idem, Table 14 on p. 49)
- Jewish resettlers from the former Soviet Union (from third reference, Table 31 on p. 68)

Other:
- Ethnic German resettlers (Spätaussiedler) (from third reference, Table 23, p. 65)

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Italy

The sources for Italy were as follows:
- [http://www.emnitaly.it/down/ev-16-06.pdf](http://www.emnitaly.it/down/ev-16-06.pdf) Extracts from the 2006 Caritas/Migrantes Dossier Statistico Immigrazione
- [http://www.esteri.it/doc/5_32_183b.pdf](http://www.esteri.it/doc/5_32_183b.pdf), typology of visas
The data for Italy are taken from entry visas and thus by definition exclude changes in status from student or other temporary statuses to permanent-type immigrant as well as persons who received work and residence permits under the 2002 regularisation procedure. Note that some visa categories can be both short- and long-term (e.g. labour) and the data usually published by the Foreign Ministry data do not disaggregate along this dimension.

Work migration:
- 1st paragraph of summary of the Extracts from the 2006 Caritas/Migrantes Dossier Statistico Immigrazione mention the entry of 79,500 non EU-citizens for employment of whom 25,000 were seasonal which makes 54,500 persons.
- For EEA members: The population that was registered from these countries in 2003 (Table 7 for 2003, data repeated for 2005 because of non-availability of 2005 data) times the participation rate for EU+EFTA+A10 nationals from the EULFS.

Accompanying family
- Familiare al seguito from Table 2.44
- For EEA countries: The population that was registered from these countries in 2003 (Table 7 for 2003, see above) times one minus the participation rate for EU+EFTA+A10 nationals from EULFS.

Family: migration: Ricongiungimento familiare + adozione from Table 2.44

Humanitarian: Refugee status granted + humanitarian permit (From 2006 SOPEMI report Table 8, UNHCR given as source).

Other:
- Religious motives – Table 2.44
- Residenza elettiva – Table 2.44

Generally, the data for Italy need to be examined more closely. As noted above, because the data are based on visa statistics, there is no information on long-term permits that may have been granted to persons already in the country on another status. Ideally one would like to have long-term permits awarded during the year to persons not already in possession of one, disaggregated by category of entry.

Japan

Data and information are from the following sources:
- SOPEMI Report 2006, Table 9 for flows, Table 17 for stocks, Table 21 for humanitarian, Table 38 for the number of permissions for students to change into the status of residence which enable them to work
Data for Japan are disaggregated by category of migration for both stocks and flows. It is not obvious what is long-term, however, because there is no obvious correspondence between a “long-term” visa and its duration. The approach taken in estimating long-term immigrants is an empirical one which takes advantage of the fact that the category of migration is identified in both the flows and the stocks. Under conditions of stationarity (that is, the inflows equal the outflows), the stock divided by the annual outflow gives the average duration of stay in the country (in years). This was calculated for each migration category by taking the average from 2000 to 2005 and a cut-off of five years used as the criterion for long-term migration, essentially because the average duration for “college students” was just under this value.

By this criterion, long-term work migration included the categories of investors/business managers, engineers, specialists in humanities/international services, skilled labour. Although its calculated average duration of stay was about seven years, the category “persons with designated activities” has not been included, because the estimated high duration figure for this category largely reflects an increase in the stocks due, not to past entries, but to persons having changed from trainee to employee status.

Changes from student to work status have been included as work migrants.

Family migration includes the categories of spouses or children of Japanese nationals, spouses or children of permanent residents. For the “dependent” category, which includes both long-term and short-term migration, only a fraction of the category was included in family migration. The fraction was estimated as the proportion of total migration represented by excluding from the total, diplomats, officials, entertainers, persons entering for cultural activities, temporary visitors, students and trainees.

The “other” category includes long-term residents (ethnic Japanese). The humanitarian category normally included here was subtracted out.

The humanitarian category includes the groups “approved”, “humanitarian permission to stay” and “Indochina refugees”(Table 21).

Netherlands

The data sources and documentation for the Netherlands come from the following:

- A glossary of migration terms translated into English in the annex to http://www.justitie.nl/Images/begrippenlijst_tcm74-36999.pdf;
  &HDR=T,G3&STB=G1,G2&LYR=G4:9

The table supplied by the CBS includes four “motives”: labour, family reunion, family formation and other. According to the CBS, the 'other motives' in the table (which exclude asylum and study) cover au pairs, trainees, people who immigrate for a medical treatment and so on, all of whom can be considered temporary. However, according to the CBS except for humanitarian migrants (see below), persons who migrated on a temporary basis and who later switched to long-term status cannot be identified in the data at
their disposal. As the distribution by reason of migration was not yet available for 2005, labour and family migration for 2005 was estimated using the same distribution between work and family as in 2004.

The figure for humanitarian migration is taken from the publication “Rechtspraak in nederland 2005” on Table 3.10 p 55 for Verblijfsvergunning asiel (bepaalde tijd) (temporary) and Verblijfsvergunning asiel (onbepaalde tijd) (permanent). According to the document on asylum procedures cited above, in principle an asylum residence permit is always issued for a fixed period. After this period has ended, an application may be submitted for conversion into a permanent residence permit. For the purposes of this document, both temporary and permanent have been counted as long-term migrants. In practice, it is not entirely clear to what extent they are indeed long-term migrants, according to the definition specified above.

New Zealand

Data for New Zealand are from two sources:
- Residence Applications Decided (Table R2)
  (See http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/generalinformation/statistics/)

Work migration:
- Principal applicants from business/skilled (Table R2)
- Arrivals of non-New-Zealand citizens from Australia (assumed to be Australians): Persons with an occupation plus the with-an-occupation share of the “not stated” category (Table 9.02)

Accompanying family of work migrants:
- Secondary applicant from business/skilled (Table R2)
- Arrivals of non-New-Zealand citizens from Australia (assumed to be Australians): Persons “not applicable” plus the not-applicable share of the “not stated” category (Table 9.02)

Family migration:
- Family-sponsored migration, principal and secondary applicants (Table R2).

Humanitarian:
- Principal and secondary applicants of International / Humanitarian (Table R2)

Norway

The data for Norway were obtained from Facts and Figures 2005 of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, to be found at:
http://www.udi.no/upload/17592/factsandfigures.pdf

The number of long-term work-based immigrants consists of the following five categories:
- Specialist and other permits (“constitutes ground for settlement permits”) (Annex Table 1)
- Receivers of services, or of periodic benefits.
- EEA work-related permits granted for 36 months or more available upon request.
• Estimates of Nordic countries workers for 2005 have been calculated based on register data using the same distribution between work and family for Nordic citizens as the one in 2004 provided upon request.

Family migration consists of the following categories:
• Family migration from Annex Table 4 (includes accompanying family of humanitarian migrants, and arrivals of persons reunited with family members granted protection)
• Estimates of Nordic countries families for 2005 have been calculated based on register data using the same distribution between work and family for Nordic citizens as the one in 2004 provided upon request.

Humanitarian migration includes the following categories:
• Annex Table 6
  o First instance: asylum + res. hum. grounds
  o Appeals Board: asylum + res. hum. grounds
  o Resettlement refugees
  o Strong humanitarian considerations available upon request

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Portugal

Data for Portugal are taken from the following NSO site: http://www.ine.pt/prodserv/quadros/public.asp?Tema=C&subtema=02&ver=en. Demographic Statistics, População estrangeira, Table 12 “População estrangeira que solicitou estatuto de residente, por nacionalidade e sexo, segundo o motivo de entrada” which gives the foreign population requesting residence status by reason for entry. For 1999 to 2004, the categories include “Outro”, that is “other”, which is essentially non-response and accounted for about 40 percent of all entries in either year.

Demographic Statistics, Table 6, População estrangeira que solicitou estatuto de residente, por país da última residência, segundo o sexo, with Nasceram e residiram sempre em Portugal which refer mostly to minor children of foreigners resident in Portugal since birth who have asked for a resident permit.

It is not known precisely how the non-response is distributed. To assess this, the non-response was distributed over the other categories in proportion to the number of persons in each. The same procedure was then carried out by origin continent of nationality and sex and the results then aggregated. The outcomes were compared, with the result that non-response in the aggregate seemed to be only weakly associated with geographical origin and sex. Since the distribution of residence permit categories, however, does depend on nationality and sex, with more work migration among men, more family migration among women and among non-EU citizens and virtually all student and retirement permit requests among EU citizens, the implications would seem to be that non-response is likely also to be independent of entry category. The data incorporating the detailed non-response adjustment was therefore used for Portugal, which provides estimates for migration for work, family reunification. For 2005, it was not necessary to apply this methodology, because all entries in the statistics were assigned a specific category.

The “Other” category in the standardised data include entries for retirement from the above mentioned table as well as Nasceram e residiram sempre em Portugal (see above).
Sweden

Swedish data are from http://www.migrationsverket.se/english.jsp (the “Statistics” link leads to a list of tables on residence permits).
Table on immigrants from Nordic countries from Statistics Sweden at: http://www.scb.se/templates/Publikation162433.asp

Work-based migration:
- Table 5: “Residence permits by cause of labour market”, total.
- Table 8 “Residence permits to persons from EU-countries”, workers and self-employed persons.
- Workers from Nordic countries were estimated based on register data on immigrants from Nordic countries and assuming that the distribution between workers, family and other is the same as that of residents of EU-countries (from residence permit data).

Family migration
- Table 4: “Residence permits to relatives (family ties)”, total.
- Table 8: “Residence permits to persons from EU-countries)”, permits for spouse and children, parents’ permits, other close relatives
- Table 7: “Residence permits to adopted children”, total.
- Family from Nordic countries was estimated based on register data on immigrants from Nordic countries and assuming that the distribution between workers, family and other is the same as that of residents of EU-countries (from residence permit data).

Humanitarian
- Table 3: “Residence permits to Convention Refugees, De-facto refugees, in need of protection and refugees by Humanitarian grounds”, total.

Other:
- Table 8: “Persons not economically active (e.g. pensioners, 5-year permits)”. In the published data, this was mistakenly grouped with family migration.
Persons not economically active from Nordic countries were estimated based on register data on immigrants from Nordic countries and assuming that the distribution between workers, family and other is the same as that of residents of EU-countries (from residence permit data).

Note: Supplementary source (in Swedish)

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Switzerland

Data for Switzerland are based on an unpublished table labeled Table II p60 « Entrées en Suisse de la population résidante permanente étrangère » of the 2006 SOPEMI report, where the individual categories of immigrants are identified by a numeric code. The numbers in parentheses refer to these codes. Note that these codes are uninformative without the table in hand. Changes in status (“transformations”) are included.
A table on inflows in Switzerland has been provided by the Registre central des étrangers, RCE.

Work migration consists of foreigners with paid remunerated activity,
- subject to numerical limits (2) or
Family migration consists of persons under the rubric of family reunion (1).

Humanitarian consists of recognised refugees (7) and hardship cases (8).

The «other» category consists of foreigners without a remunerative activity (4), returns to Switzerland (6), other entries into Switzerland (9).

Persons in education or on professional training are excluded from the ranks of long-term immigrants.

United Kingdom

The data situation with respect to the United Kingdom is a complex one. The source for national statistics is the International Passenger Survey (IPS), which counts persons entering the country with the intention of staying for more than one year. Adjustments are made for “visitor switchers” or “migrant switchers”, that is, persons who entered without stating this intention or unsure about it, but who eventually stayed on for longer. This was a potential source for the standardised data series, because of the possibility of excluding certain categories such as students, working holiday makers, asylum seekers, etc. However, the IPS data are based on the intentions of respondents, without reference to the duration allowed under the residence permit held by the respondent. For example, it counts asylum seekers as long-term immigrants, whereas the standardised series only includes them when they are granted refuges or special protection status.

In addition, the adjusted series from the IPS are not disaggregated by reason for migration. Obtaining such a disaggregation was of course one of the main objectives of the exercise.

The United Kingdom data are taken from Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2005 (See http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm69/6904/6904.pdf , Tables 2.2, 2.5 ,5.4, 2.6) and from a special table supplied by the Office of National Statistics taken from the International Passenger Survey and giving estimates of international migration, broken down by citizenship and reason for migration. The estimate is constructed from the ground up, on the basis of passengers given leave to enter by purpose of journey. Some of the entries are not arrivals, but rather changes in status on the part of persons in the country on a short-term basis.

Table 6.2 p 81 on Highly Skilled Migrant Programme (applications approved) was taken from the 2006 Sopemi report (source: Work permits (UK)).

A source of changes in status consist of so-called “first permissions”:

Table 5.1 p 67 on work permits was taken from the 2006 Sopemi report (source: Overseas Labour Service/ Work permits (UK)).

The work-related migration estimate is obtained by adding the totals for the following:

Table 2.2: Ministers of religion (admissions)
Table 2.5: Employment for 12 months or more (excluding Accession States) (admissions)
Table 5.1: First permissions (approved)
Table 5.4: Grants of settlement to permit-free employment, businessmen, persons of independent means
IPS Table: Inflows of EU25 citizens for work reasons (See http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=507 for IPS estimates. Data for 2005 have been estimated from the total figure using the same distribution between work and family than in 2004.)

Table 6.2: Highly Skilled Migrant Programme (applications approved)

Accompanying family of workers
Table 2.5: Dependents of work permit holders (these are assumed to be all long-term)
Table 5.4: Spouses and dependents of permit-free employment, etc.
IPS Table: Accompany/join estimate for European Union 25. Data for 2005 have been estimated from the total figure using the same distribution between work and family than in 2004.)

Family
Table 2.6: Husbands, male fiancés, wives, female fiancés, children
Table 5.4: Grants of settlement to “parents and grandparents” and to “other and unspecified dependents”

Humanitarian
Table 5.4: Refugees and persons given exceptional leave to remain, spouses and dependents

Other
Table 2.2: UK ancestry
Table 5.4: Other grants on a discretionary basis, category unknown

For the United Kingdom it was assumed (see Table 2.2) that a number of categories of entries were temporary, namely domestic workers, postgraduate doctors or dentists (trainees), working holiday makers, diplomats and persons on government assignment and au pairs. One large (186K in 2005) but ill-documented category is labeled “others given leave to enter” in Table 2.2 and includes children seeking settlement; persons of independent means, investors, in business, self-employed persons, writers and those coming for permit-free employment; unmarried partners; and, dependants. This is a mixture of ‘temporary’ and ‘permanent’ migration under the OECD methodology. The available data cannot be provided disaggregated, however settlement data for many of these categories is available and has been used in the OECD estimate. Of these, grants of settlement for persons on permit-free employment have been counted in the total of long-term immigrants (as status changes).

Home Office sources indicated that the category “accepted for settlement on arrival” in Table 2.2 is included in the grants of settlement for parents, grandparents and other and unspecified dependents (Table 5.4). The number of the latter is larger than the number of persons “accepted for settlement on arrival” (Table 2.2), so may include other persons either currently or previously in the category “others given leave to enter”. The “surplus” has therefore also been included among the counts of immigrants (as status changes here as well).

Certain other categories in Table 2.2 (e.g. “work permit holders” or “admitted as a spouse or fiancé”) are taken from other tables for which the figures are said to be more accurate (Tables 2.5 and 2.6, respectively). The category “other grants on a discretionary basis” (Table 5.4) has been included among “immigrants” because it covers, among others, persons granted settlement under a regularisation scheme for overstayers, which qualifies as a change in status. The “category unknown” in Table 5.4 has been included under the assumption that these are largely changes in status from a temporary situation. The explanatory note indicates that this category includes “students, visitors and others”. Since these situations are not explicitly identified anywhere among the “grants of settlement”, it has been assumed that in general, the “category unknown” group generally includes persons in the country on a temporary status.
For work permit holders, it has been assumed that persons entering with permits for 12 or more months are long-term and that the dependents of work permit holders, which in principle also cover dependents of persons with employment for less than 12 months, are exclusively long-term. This is undoubtedly an overestimate which needs to be corrected. Finally, the 2005 data covers grants of first permission work permits to persons already in the country on a temporary status.

To estimate long-term entries of EEA nationals, the IPS has been used, in particular the estimates for the work-related and accompany/join categories for these persons. This, however, omits persons who after enlargement registered in the UK but had already been present before May 2004. This amounts to a regularisation but has not been counted in the inflows of immigrants; the number of these who are long-term is not known.

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**United States**


A glossary of terms can be found at: [http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/shared/statistics/standards/stdfdef.htm#c](http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/shared/statistics/standards/stdfdef.htm#c)

Worker migration: Total, employment preferences, Table 6.

Accompanying family: Spouses and children under employment preferences, Table 7.

Family preferences: Family-sponsored immigrants, immediate relatives of US citizens, Table 6.

Humanitarian: Asylees (subject to limit), refugees and other asylees not subject to limit, Table 7.

Accompanying family of humanitarian: spouses and children of refugees and asylees, Table 7.

Other: Diversity, IRCA legalization dependents, children born to alien residents abroad, other cancellation of removal (NACARA Section 203), NACARA section 202, HRIFA, Parolees, Soviet and Indochinese, other, Table 7.