

# Documentation of Eurostat's database on international migration: Labour data

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THEME 3  
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# DOCUMENTATION OF EUROSTAT'S DATABASE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: LABOUR DATA

## 1. Introduction

This working paper is one of a series which describes the contents, updating and documentation of the Eurostat database on international migration. The data described here are available on request from Eurostat. (see part 9 for further details about how and from where to request these data together with any or all of the relevant Eurostat publications).

The series of working papers has been produced to help users and providers of the revised database as it becomes available in its entirety on New Cronos, the on-line user interface to the database. Each individual paper describes the contents of one part of the database. This one provides an overview and detailed description of the data on labour migration. The text is the documentation provided by the MRU to accompany the revised and extended dataset on labour migration.

## **2 Uses of the Data**

The data are available for EU member countries. This is because they are collected as a result of an EU Regulation (311/76). Consequently, unlike other international migration data, they are not available for EFTA countries or those of Central and Eastern Europe or the Mediterranean. Furthermore, they are stock data only; no specific flow data foreign workers are collected. However, inferences may be made about flows from annual changes in stocks.

The data come from a variety of national sources. Some come from social security systems, others from taxation records, and population registers. A problem with this diversity is that concepts and definitions vary with the administrative systems used as a basis of collection. Hence, workers picked up in one country would not necessarily be so in another. Some countries rely on the sample Labour Force Survey (LFS). All of these sources have a number of drawbacks in that they do not allow a comprehensive count of foreign labour stocks. Their diverse nature also poses problems of comparison. For a variety of reasons, data for a number of countries are either unavailable or incomplete.

Despite these problems, the labour data provide the most complete source of data on the nature and activities of the foreign workforce in EU states. They provide the only breakdown by nationality with cross-tabulations by occupational type (NACE categories), and regional distribution (NUTS level 2 categories). Information is also available via the Joint Questionnaire with the UN and UNECE on the structure of the active population, including employed and unemployed by age, sex and citizenship.

## **3 Description of the Dataset**

### **3.1 Data Collection**

The dataset for foreign workers in the European Union contains tables for each of the 15 Member States: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The tables are based on two datasets:

#### **EU Regulation 311/76**

Tables on foreign workers (numbered 1 to 5 in the Regulation)

Relevant years: 1981-1995

#### **UN/UNECE/Eurostat Joint questionnaire on International Migration Statistics**

Tables on active population (numbered 22, 23 and 24 in the Joint Questionnaire)

Relevant years: 1985-1995

Eurostat collects the data annually. The Regulation obliges EU Member States to forward annual figures for foreign workers within nine months of the reference date, i.e. by the end of December of the same year. Countries were obliged to send data starting (at latest) with the year 1981 (5 years after the date of the Regulation).

The joint questionnaire of the United Nations Statistical Division, Eurostat and the United Nations Commission for Europe - that has been sent out since 1993 - requests annual data on international migration from the EU and EFTA Member States. The relevant part of the questionnaire for this project concerns the main characteristics of the active population, divided into employed population and unemployed population.

### **3.2 Breakdown of the variables**

The breakdowns requested for the Regulation tables have been amended three times at the Working Party on Employment Statistics. The first time was in 1990 when the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE) was modified<sup>1</sup>. The old NACE classification dated from 1970. The new codes are being referred to as NACE Revision 1.

Second, at the Working Party on Employment Statistics, 25-26 November 1991, Member States agreed to change the breakdown of the age groups in Table 2, by splitting the 25-54 category into 25-39 and 40-54, and the 60 and over category into 60-64 and 65 and over. Furthermore, a more detailed country classification was introduced. It was decided to increase the list of countries to the maximum possible.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 of 24 October 1990, amended by Commission Regulation No. 761/93 of 24 March 1993.

Further changes were agreed at the Working Party on Employment Statistics, 28-29 September 1993. Tables should be provided not only for workers but also for self-employed persons (despite the difficulty of obtaining such figures in certain cases).

Tables 3 and 5 should include a 'citizenship' dimension indicating totals, other EU citizens, and non-EU citizens. It was also explicitly stated that as the Regulation refers to persons working in the territory of the country, frontier workers should be included in the figures.

These changes became valid as from 1994. The most recent breakdown for Tables 1/2 to 5 as agreed in accordance with the Regulation and for Table 6 (the requirements of Questions 22-24 in the Joint Questionnaire), are presented in part 7 of this document.

### **3.3 General remarks on methods of collection**

*Inclusion of border workers:* Several countries report problems in counting border commuters. The effect of this could be: to over-count stocks in Regulation data from national insurance records (where employees work abroad but pay insurance in the country in which they live); or to under-count in the LFS where it is (as in most cases) a household, not individual, survey.

#### *Labour Force Survey:*

The small sample size of the LFS and the relatively small numbers of foreign employee respondents mean that often no reliable breakdown will be available.

The EC Labour Force Survey (LFS) has a common core of questions and should produce comparable data. With the exception of Germany, where many LFS questions are incorporated with the compulsory questions of the microcensus, it is voluntary, and that affects its accuracy from one country to another: in the UK response rate is about 80 per cent, but in the Netherlands it is not much more than 50 per cent, and those least likely to answer are foreign immigrants. In Italy before 1993 there was no question on nationality. In Portugal the data it produces are very unreliable. In Greece, those carrying out the survey deliberately exclude foreigners who do not speak Greek ('on the doorstep'). Countries put different emphases on the LFS as a source of data. For those in which there is no alternative (e.g. the UK and Ireland), it is more important. Where an alternative exists it has less significance.

### **3.4 Data Availability**

Table 1 gives a broad description of the availability of the data in the Eurostat database. It is indicative only. It implies that some information is available but does not give any indication of the quantity or the quality of the data contained within a specific table. For example, the degree of breakdown varies because not all countries can provide all of the data requested under a specific heading. Those countries which recently (1 January 1995) gained membership of the EU: Austria, Finland and Sweden, were only required, by regulation, to provide data from 1995 onwards.

**Table 1: Foreign Labour Data Availability by country, table and year**

Country	Table	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
AT	Table 1/2																x	x	x
	Table 3																x	x	x
	Table 4																x	x	x
	Table 5																		
	Table 6															x			
BE	Table 1/2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x							
	Table 3	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x							
	Table 4	x	x		x	x	x	x				x							
	Table 5																		
	Table 6													x	x	x			x
DE	Table 1/2		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Table 3		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Table 4			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Table 5			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	Table 6							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
DK	Table 1/2			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	Table 3											x	x	x	x	x			
	Table 4			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	Table 5												x	x	x				
	Table 6							x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x

x - Indicates that a table exists.

**Table 1: Foreign Labour Data Availability by country, table and year (continued)**

Country	Table	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
ES	Table 1/2											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 3											x	x	x	x	x			x
	Table 4											x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 5											x	x	x	x	x			
	Table 6													x	x	x	x	x	
FI	Table 1/2															x	x		
	Table 3															x	x		
	Table 4															x	x		
	Table 5															x	x		
	Table 6											x			x	x	x	x	x
FR	Table 1/2	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	
	Table 3	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x							
	Table 4			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x							
	Table 5																		
	Table 6							x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
GR	Table 1/2		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
	Table 3														x	x	x		
	Table 4									x			x						
	Table 5													x	x				
	Table 6									x	x	x		x		x			

**x - Indicates that a table exists.**



**Table 1: Foreign Labour Data Availability by country, table and year (continued)**

Country	Table	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
IE	Table 1/2					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
	Table 3					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
	Table 4																	x	x
	Table 5													x					
	Table 6							x						x					
IT	Table 1/2												x	x	x	x	x		
	Table 3																	x	
	Table 4													x	x	x			
	Table 5													x	x	x	x	x	
	Table 6												x		x				
LU	Table 1/2					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 3					x							x	x	x	x			
	Table 4														x				
	Table 5														x				
	Table 6															x			
NL	Table 1/2		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 3			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 4		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 5		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 6													x	x	x	x	x	x

**x - Indicates that a table exists.**

**Table 1: Foreign Labour Data Availability by country, table and year (continued)**

Country	Table	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
PT	Table 1/2							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	Table 3							x				x	x	x					
	Table 4																		
	Table 5																		
	Table 6															x	x	x	
SE	Table 1/2																		x
	Table 3												x			x			x
	Table 4																		x
	Table 5																		x
	Table 6												x			x			
UK	Table 1/2					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 3					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 4					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Table 5														x	x	x	x	
	Table 6							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

**x - Indicates that a table exists.**

## **4 Data Checking**

The data were checked using “hard criteria” consistency checks, for internal consistency and “soft criteria” consistency checks using the expertise and knowledge of the research teams. Comparisons were also made with data published by the individual reporting countries and those collected by the OECD.

Further detail on the process of data checking may, if required, be obtained from the Migration Team at Eurostat.

## **5 Compilation of Documentation**

The structure of the documentation is common to that of the other parts of the Eurostat database on international migration. It describes, on a country by country basis: the availability of data on labour migration; the sources and definitions used in each reporting country; information (where available and relevant) on legislation; methodologies of data collection and processing. This documentation is translated and exists in French, German and English for users of New CRONOS.

Information included here was collected from the correspondence between reporting countries and Eurostat, from the information resources of the MRU and NiDi and from the OECD’s SOPEMI system of reporting international migration.

## **6 Documentation on Foreign Labour by Reporting Country**

### **6.1 Austria (AT)**

#### *Regulation and Active Population:*

The data include occupations (‘Beschäftigungsverhältnisse’) and unemployed persons. This means that persons with more than one employer are counted more than once. Not included are persons in part-time employment, self-employed and contract-workers (‘Personen mit Werksverträgen’).

The data refer to January 1994 and December 1995. The Central Organisation of Austria’s Social Insurance Institutes publishes monthly register data on foreign workers.

Some naturalised persons could have been included in the figures, when they are still registered under their former nationality. This is possible if they did not change employers after the naturalisation.

The regional figures are based on place of work, not on place of residence of the worker. Place of residence is used only when there is no permanent place of work.

The economic activity classification is linked to the businesses, not to the occupation of the workers.

The Central Statistical Office (Österreichisches Statistisches Zentralamt - ÖSTAT) produces data on foreign workers on the basis of the quarterly microcensus, but these data are not available in all the required Eurostat categories.

**Source:**

*Regulation:* Social security data

*Active Population:* Social security data

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation:* Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS)

*Active Population:* Labour Market Service (AMS) until mid-1994 then the Central Organisation of Austria's Social Insurance Institutes (Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger) from mid-1994.

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation:* Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS)

*Active Population:* Labour Market Service (AMS) until mid-1994 then the Central Organisation of Austria's Social Insurance Institutes (Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger) from mid-1994.

**Legislation**

Law on Residence of Foreigners, July 1993

**Procedures**

The Ministry of Labour is responsible centrally for quotas of foreign workers in the different Federal States.

Permits to stay are usually granted for one year. Residence rights are tied to employment status. The police can allow unlimited stay after five years of holding a permanent work permit.

Foreign workers needing a work permit have a special obligation to register in the local Population Register.

Before 1993 there was an official foreign worker quota limit of 10% which was subject to the decision of the Ministry of Labour. From 1993 the quota is 9%. There are different types of permissions to work. The initial work permit (Beschäftigungsbewilligung) is for one year, given to the employer. The employer has to prove that an Austrian worker could not fill the job. After one year the foreigner may apply for a personal work permit. During the first five years, foreigners have restricted rights to move across the national borders of Austria. After 5 years employment or if married to an Austrian, the foreigner may apply for an exemption from the requirement to hold a work permit, although they are still normally required to hold one.

The practice whereby foreigners may enter as tourists, then apply for jobs, is continued under the 1993 law (par. 7).

**Information on the Data by Year**

Austria became a member of the EU on 1 January 1995.

The data refer to January 1994 and December 1995.

For Table 2, the category 'Other' includes people who have overstayed their visas.

For Table 6, the breakdown of the 'over 40s' does not equal the sub-total of 'over 40s'. The difference has been placed into a category 'Other'.

## **6.2 Belgium (BE)**

### *Regulation:*

The data for Tables 1/2, 3 and 4 concern foreign workers who are included in the social security and pension system. Following the different types of pension schemes three categories are discerned in the data sources: workers, employees and miners. Recipients of disability pensions or unemployment benefits are included in the statistics.

The figures do not include self-employed, apprentices, employees of European and other international institutions, persons working less than 2 hours a day, sailors under the Belgian flag, workers who are totally inactive as a result of a work accident or work-related illness, and civil servants.

Because of the way the data are collected (the General Savings and Pension Fund receives the data from different social security offices) a certain statistical inaccuracy and substantial delays in the data transmission to Eurostat are unavoidable.

### *Active Population:*

Data for Table 6 are derived from the Labour Force Survey.

The LFS uses a two-stage sampling procedure, the first stage being a sample proportional to the square root of the number of households at each division at NUTS2 level. The second sampling unit is the household.

There is a question in the survey on country of nationality, but it is not a very accurate source of data on the foreign working population. This is because the weighting procedures (which were based on the population structure on 1st January 1986) take into account sex and age and not the characteristic of nationality. Hence there is a bias in the results which cannot be accurately determined. This problem is to be tackled by the methodological service of the National Institute of Statistics (INS).

### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Social security data

*Active Population:* Labour Force Survey

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation:* General Savings and Pension Fund (Caisse Générale d'Épargne et de Retraite)

*Active Population:* National Statistical Institute (Institut National Statistique - INS)

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation:* Ministry of Employment and Labour (Ministère de l'Emploi et du Travail)

*Active Population:* National Statistical Institute

### **Legislation**

Employment of foreigners is based on the law of July 1967 governing the issue of work permits by the Ministry of Labour.

### **Principles**

Aliens, except for certain exempt categories (notably EEA nationals and diplomats), have to be in possession of a work permit before engaging in an economic activity, and the potential employer has to have permission to employ.

### **Procedures**

Until 1987 the Ministry of Employment and Labour produced estimates of the foreign labour force by nationality, based on the number of work permits issued. For methodological reasons these estimates were abandoned, and replaced by estimates of the number of wage earners by nationality on the basis of individual pension accounts held by CGER. Those unemployed for long periods during the year were omitted. Problems of compiling pensions data collected locally into national figures led to difficulties and delays in producing aggregate statistics, resulting in none after 1989.

Non-EU employees must hold a residence permit and a work permit.

Applications for work permits are made to the Ministry of Employment and Labour. There are two types of work permit, issued to non-EU citizens who are employees. Type A is permanent, is applied for by the worker, and allows the individual to work for any employer. Types B and C are temporary and restricted to a single branch of industry.

### **Information on the Data by Year**

No Regulation data are available after 1989 because of problems in the data transmission from the General Savings and Pension Fund to the Ministry of Employment and Labour. Apart from problems in data collection which lead to substantial delays anyway, the main problem seems to be a budgetary one. The Ministry suggested in 1989 that the Labour Force Survey be used as an alternative source for the Regulation data. The LFS has been used as a data source for Table 6 as from 1990, but no LFS data have been sent for Tables 1/2 to 5. The LFS sample size varies from year to year (normally between 0.5 and 3 per cent of households).

Re-organisation and computerisation of the records have disrupted the supply of Regulation data. There are in addition, according to the Institut National de Statistique 'serious fluctuations' in data from the LFS on the characteristics of nationality, sex and age.

Table 6 contains minor rounding errors.

## **6.3 Denmark (DK)**

*Regulation and Active Population:*

Table 4 is identical to Table 1/2 and Table 5 to Table 3 because Denmark has only one region in Eurostat's NUTS classification.

The data refer to the number of foreigners with a work permit. The statistics are based on three different sources: the Tax Authorities Register, the Register of Companies and the Central Population Register.

The data do not include Nordic nationals (Norwegians, Swedes, and Finns), since they do not need a work permit as a result of the Agreement in 1954 on the common labour market of the Nordic countries.

The economic branch classification is based on local economic units rather than business units. Frontier workers living outside of Denmark are not included in the figures.

**Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Different public administrations: Central Population Register; Central Register of Enterprise Registers; State Tax Directorate's Registers.

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Danmarks Statistik

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Danmarks Statistik

**Legislation**

1954 Agreement on the common Nordic labour market

**Procedures**

*Central Population Register:* Denmark has a computerised central population register (CPR) which is, effectively an aggregation of the local municipal registration system and an integrated civil registration system. There are 275 local population registers. Information on individuals is updated in a single process in the local as well as the Central Population Register.

The CPR is administered by the Secretariat for Personal Registration at the Ministry of the Interior. Every citizen has a personal identification number - the Person Number (citizens identity number) and a personal identity card.

Danmarks Statistik is responsible for producing statistics from the CPR. Stock data including the characteristics of nationality, sex, date of birth, employment status, and industry are published annually. Data on regional distribution are also available. The CPR is used as the basis for extracting the Labour Force Survey sample.

*Work permits:* The rule is that foreigners must have a work permit. Exceptions are:

- 1) Citizens from the Nordic countries Finland, Norway and Sweden, since the 1954 Agreement on the common Nordic labour market.
- 2) Citizens from EU countries
- 3) Foreign citizens with permanent residence permits

The permits are usually given for short periods, but can be renewed. It is not possible for foreigners, with the exceptions mentioned, to work legally in Denmark without a work permit.

## **Information on the Data by Year**

The data for Tables 1/2 to 5 refer to the end of November each year, but as recommended by Danmarks Statistik are published by Eurostat as data for the next year, e.g. data of November 1992 are being published as 1993 data. This is because ideally Eurostat requires annual Regulation data for the month of April. November is closer to April the following year than to April last year.

Industrial action taken by the computer staff in Danmarks Statistik in 1987 caused a delay in the provision of data.

For Table 6, for 1985-88 and 90, 91 and 95, the breakdown of the categories provided for those aged under 40 does not sum up to the sub-total of 'Under 40'. The difference has been placed in a separate category, 'Other'. These data may refer to an 'Under 16' group.

Table 5 for 1990, 91 and 92: The NACE sub-totals sum to less than the overall total with residuals of 42, 65 and 80 respectively. These residuals have been placed in an 'Other'/'Unknown' category.

### **6.4 Finland (FI)**

*Regulation and Active Population:*

Tables 1/2 distinguish between employees and independent workers.

**Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Register-based Employment Statistics

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Statistics Finland

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Statistics Finland

**Legislation**

Aliens Act and Aliens Decree, March 1991

**Principles**

Nordic and other EEA nationals do not require work permits.

**Procedures**

The 1991 Law introduced new regulations governing the arrival, departure, residence and work of aliens, although the basic principles of Finnish immigration policy are considered to have remained unchanged.

*Register-based Employment Statistics:* The data are taken from a combination of registers, including: the Population Information System of Population Register Centre (which also includes data on buildings and dwellings; registers maintained by the tax authorities;



employment registers maintained by the Central Pension Security Institute, the State Treasury and municipal pension insurance programmes; Statistics Finland business register and the register of the non-corporate public sector; the National Pensions Institute's and Central Pension Security Institute's pensioner registers; student registers; Ministry of Labour registers of job applicants; Statistics Finland register of degrees and examinations; and the conscript register.

The units are linked to one another through personal ID codes and domicile codes. In addition, where data on people's workplace are linked to data on companies' establishments, use is also made of company trade registration codes as well as addresses. All units singled out in the employment statistics and the data describing those units can be tied down to a system of coordinates. With this system it is possible to generate printouts for marked-out areas, for population centres and for map grids as well as various calculations of distances between units.

If a foreigner wishes to be employed, s/he must have a residence permit and a work permit. People holding permanent residence permits are not required to have a work permit. Work permits are only issued if the individual has found employment. Application for the continuation or alteration of a work permit in Finland is made to the local police authorities.

### **Information on the Data by Year**

Finland became a member of the EU on 1 January 1995.

The data refer to 31 December of each year.

Authority to issue work permits was transferred in March 1994 from the Ministry of Labour to the local Employment Offices, which now give their decisions on first work permit applications to the Aliens Centre in the Ministry of Interior. Work permits cover only a part of the immigrant labour force.

UK - Citizenship of the UK does not include persons from Hong Kong.

Table 6, 1996 contains provisional data.

## **6.5 France (FR)**

### *Regulation and Active Population:*

Not all of the data provided under the Regulation are accurate. This is due to sampling errors in the LFS. This means that variations in the figures for two consecutive years cannot easily be interpreted, and also that the creation of representative regional tables (Tables 4 and 5) is problematic. Those Tables 4 that have been created include only those regions with the highest concentrations of foreign workers. INSEE indicates that the LFS cannot be used to analyse short-term developments concerning foreign workers.

The 1990 census has been used to create a new system of weighting for the LFS. The penultimate census took place in 1982. The 1990 Census results provide information on the 'active foreign population', by age, sex, nationality, socio-professional category and employed/unemployed.

The LFS is an annual area sample survey of ordinary households (1/300). The sample is 65 000 households, two-thirds of which are used for 2 consecutive years. Persons living in temporary accommodation, hostels, etc., are excluded from the LFS. Since most of the persons living in this kind of housing are foreigners, this results in an under-representation of foreign workers in the LFS. However, ongoing family reunification diminishes the under-representation.

Small, internally heterogeneous area clusters are used to overcome the disadvantages of the multi-stage area sample.

The Labour Force Survey includes a question on country of residence one year before the survey is carried out. EU countries are listed individually, as are Norway, Turkey, Austria, Poland, Yugoslavia, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia. All other countries are included in 'Others'.

**Source:**

*Regulation:* Labour Force Survey of INSEE (sample of 1/300 of the Survey)

*Active Population:* Census (with use of the LFS for the intermediate years)

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques - INSEE)

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* INSEE

**Legislation**

Law on Residence of Foreigners in France, 17 July 1984, effective from 7 December 1984

**Principles**

There are three categories of inflows: (a) permanent immigration of foreigners obtaining an initial residence permit of at least a year's duration (excluding students); (b) temporary immigration of foreigners obtaining a permit valid for 3-12 months (including students); (c) immigration of seasonal workers under employment contracts valid for a maximum of 6 months. As a general rule, once approved by the employment services such contracts serve as work and residence contracts.

**Procedures**

The recruitment of foreign workers, reuniting families and health control come under the jurisdiction of Office de Migration International (OMI). There are two types of residence permits: a temporary residence permit mentioning 'worker' and a resident permit which gives unrestricted right of employment. Few permanent work permits are issued to foreigners who do not already have temporary residence or refugee status.

**Information on the Data by Year**

Data are provided by the Labour Force Survey. The sample of 65 000 households, includes a question on country of residence one year before the survey is carried out, and detailed questions on employment status and economic activity. The LFS does not include collective households, resulting in a lower proportion of foreign employees being identified.

The data normally refer to March of each year. The 1990 data for Table 6 refer to January. This is an exception because the census was used as the data source.

A revision of the age groups used in the Labour Force Survey resulted in a gap between 1989-1990. The calculation of weighting was altered, but this had no immediate effect on the figures of foreign workers.

In 1995 and 1996 a series of circulars was issued, designed to ease the employment of skilled workers.

Regularisation programmes in 1982 and 1995 may have affected the statistics in the following years; that in 1982 led to an estimated 140,000 workers receiving regular status.

Table 2, 1995, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam are included in OTHER. 1983-86, OTHER includes 'Stateless'.

Table 3, 1979, the following NACE codes are amalgamated: N13-14; N41-42; N64-65; N71-72; N73-75; N76-77; N84-85; N91-92 and 98; N93-94.

Table 3, 1987-89, NACE codes N41-42 and N64-65 are amalgamated.

## **6.6 Germany (DE)**

### *Regulation:*

Table 1/2 for 1995 includes the new 'Bundesländer' and East Berlin, all of the other Tables refer to the territory of the former FRG only. There are particular legislative and administrative problems with sources of data for Germany. These result mainly from the (re)unification of Germany on 3 October 1990.

The statistics on foreign workers comprise all employees and apprentices who are recorded in the compulsory Social Insurance system. This excludes civil servants and employees working less than 50 days a year or 15 hours a week.

The data include frontier workers (living outside Germany but working in Germany), because they are based on the place of work, not place of residence of the worker. Self-employed are not included in the tables, because the data are derived from Social Insurance records. The Statistisches Bundesamt has not yet found a solution for this problem.

Labour statistics should show a higher coverage rate in the new Länder because of the lower proportion of self-employed, civil servants and those working less than 2 hours per week.

Employers are obliged to complete and deliver to local insurance offices computer readable forms for people who are subject to this compulsory social insurance. Some inaccuracies may result from non-reporting of changes in job-title or transfers within companies. After the forms are processed at the insurance offices, the data are sent to the Federal Institute of Employment (Bundesanstalt für Arbeit). The integrated registration system includes data on nationality, year of birth/ age, sex, status of employment, economic branch, occupation/ profession, and full-time/ part-time employment.

### *Active Population:*

The LFS is conducted annually together with the microcensus. Most LFS questions are integrated within the questionnaire of the microcensus. Questions, which are common to the LFS and the microcensus, must be answered if compulsory under the Mikrozensus law regulating the microcensus. The response rate differs regionally. There is no double counting, and the group of people who have several places of residence, will be recorded only once. It is considered to be a good source for data on the numbers of foreigners by different nationalities.

The microcensus has been conducted since October 1957. It is a sample survey based on the enumeration districts of the census. An annual survey with 1% fraction takes place in April.

Since 1992, the LFS sampling fraction has been 0.45% (federal average). Consequently, 45% of the households interviewed in the microcensus receive questionnaires including LFS questions, and 55% do not. This means that 55% of the households in the survey answer only microcensus questions, and 45% have to answer LFS questions as well. The same interviewer asks both sets of questions. In 1992, additional voluntary questions were added to the LFS. These are on an additional LFS form.

All the questions in the microcensus are written into the Mikrozensus law. This law also regulates whether a question has to be answered on a compulsory or on a voluntary basis. Most microcensus questions are compulsory. There is a question which asks for citizenship in the passport (self-declaration).

### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Social Insurance Records ('Beschäftigtenstatistik')

*Active Population:* Microcensus/Labour Force Survey

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Federal Statistical Office (Statistisches Bundesamt)

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation:* Federal Institute for Employment (Bundesanstalt für Arbeit)

*Active Population:* Statistisches Bundesamt

### **Legislation**

Law on the Microcensus (Mikrozensusgesetz), amended 1985 and 1991

Foreigners Act, 1 January 1991 (work permits)

### **Principles**

Foreigners require work permits to engage in dependent employment in the FRG unless they are nationals of an EEA state. Work permits safeguard the precedence of Germans and other EEA nationals and of foreign workers of equal standing (privileged workers) when placements are effected. A legal claim to a work permit may be acquired by: five years of lawful employment as a worker in the FRG during the last eight years, such employment being subject to the granting of a work permit; an uninterrupted stay in the FRG of six years if the foreigner holds a residence permit; marriage to a German national; four years of marital cohabitation in the FRG with a foreigner who holds a residence permit or enjoys the right of

unlimited residence; recognition of a right of asylum; exercise of the right of return in accordance with certain sections of the Foreigners Act.

### **Procedures**

Questions which are common to the LFS and the microcensus must be answered if compulsory under the Mikrozensus law regulating the microcensus.

All the questions in the microcensus are written into this law. This law also regulates whether a question has to be answered on a compulsory or on a voluntary basis. Most microcensus questions are compulsory. There is a question, which asks for citizenship in the passport (self-declaration).

*Foreign workers:* There are three new schemes of recruitment of foreigners:

- 1) Under the framework of contracts for work and services
- 2) as guest workers entering under bi-lateral agreements (maximum period of 18 months)
- 3) as seasonal workers (maximum period of 3 months)

Non-EC workers are required to register with the police on arrival.

The basis of work permit legislation from 1st January 1991 was altered by the Foreigners Act. Rights of foreigners with consolidated residence status and the families were strengthened.

Approximately 80% of the economically active population are included in the legal health insurance, the legal old-age insurance and/or the unemployment insurance schemes. Employers are obliged to complete and deliver to local insurance offices computer readable forms for people who are subject to this compulsory social insurance. The information includes nationality. After the forms are processed at the insurance offices, the data are sent to the Federal Institute of Employment (Bundestalt für Arbeit). The data sets are processed for statistical purposes periodically by the Federal Institute of Employment, the Federal Statistical Office and the Statistical Offices of the Länder.

### **Information on the Data by Year**

*Regulation:* The data refer to 31 March of each year. Up to 1994 data comprise the territory of the former FRG only because the Social Insurance records in the former GDR did not include the variable 'citizenship'. For 1995 only Table 2 includes the new 'Bundesländer' and East Berlin.

*Active Population:* The Labour Force Surveys are integrated across the whole territory of the united Germany as from 1991.

A number of original tables for a number of years contained data that are not available due to possible inaccuracy. They are represented by 'NA'. The checking process identified a few errors resulting from these gaps and so a residual category of "Unknown" has been added to account for the discrepancies.

In Table 2, EUR\_OTHER includes: for 1980 any citizens of European countries outside EEC9; for 1981-83 any citizens of European countries outside EEC10; for 1985-91 any citizens of European countries outside EEC12.

In Table 3 the following NACE sub-groups are combined: N11-12; N41-42; N64-65; N83-85; N93-94.

For Table 5, 1982, the breakdowns for both region (NUTS level 2) and economic activity (NACE) add up to less than the total. It is possible that the totals or the breakdowns wrong or that there a residual category missing from each. In consequence, an “Unknown” category has been created for each breakdown.

In Table 6, 1992, NEUR\_EC=Non-EC12, and Totals do not include Stateless.

In Table 6, all years, there are minor errors due to rounding.

## **6.7 Greece (GR)**

### *Regulation and Active Population:*

The data for Tables 1/2 to 5 refer to foreign workers with a work permit. Seasonal workers are included in the statistics and it is not possible to separate them from the total.

As from 1985 Greece could submit data for Table 4 (by region). Before 1987 it was not possible to create Tables 3 and 5 (by NACE) because the authorities responsible for the work permits did not correctly complete the forms concerning profession and branch of activity.

The only records of foreign employees in Greece are those from the work permit system. Available variables are country of origin, sex, branch of activity (occupation), industry and region (13). Annual statistics are calculated for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter of the previous year and the first quarter of the current year.

### **Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Work permits

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* National Statistical Service of Greece

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Ministry of Employment

### **Legislation**

Law 1975/1991 regulates the flow of foreign workers.

### **Principles**

A non-EEA foreigner seeking work in Greece can enter the country only on condition of prior approval which specifies the employer, the type of work that will be undertaken and the location of the work.

## **Procedures**

The only records of foreign employees in Greece are those resulting from the work permit system, issued by the Ministry of Public Order. From these, data are compiled quarterly by the Ministry of Labour, which show the numbers of persons working in Greece by citizenship and industry.

A work permit is granted only if the vacancy cannot be filled by a Greek worker, a citizen of the EEA, by ethnic Greeks, or by a recognised political refugee with a work permit, in that order. To those who enter Greece following prior approval for work, the government also grants a residence permit. Both residence and work permits are valid for one year but may be reviewed annually for a period of up to five years.

The maximum number of work permits granted each year to foreign migrants by country (citizenship), occupation and duration of work and for the various regions of the country is determined by a joint decision of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Labour and Public Order after consultation with the Manpower and Employment Organisation and representatives of Trade Union and Employer organisations.

It is known that legal foreign workers constitute only a small proportion of the total population of foreign workers.

## **Information on the Data by Year**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Work permit statistics are collated quarterly. The data here refer to the end of the fourth quarter (December) each year.

For Table 6, for 1993, the breakdown of the categories provided does not sum up to the total. The difference has been placed in a separate category, 'Other'. These data may refer to an 'Under 16' group.

### **6.8 Ireland (IE)**

*Regulation and Active Population:*

Table 4 is identical to Table 1/2 and Table 5 to Table 3 because Ireland has only one region in Eurostat's NUTS classification.

The annual Labour Force Survey is the source. Overall response to the LFS is good, 95%. About 2000 foreign nationals are recorded annually, the sampling fraction for them being about 1:25. At present the sampling error for foreign nationals is unknown, though the CSO is working on it. Hence there is no information on the levels of accuracy for foreign nationals (beyond comparison with the census), nor of knowing if some nationals are better represented than others. A majority of the foreign nationals recorded are from the UK; however, Northern Ireland is a loophole, respondents frequently reporting themselves to interviewers as 'Irish', despite the evidence of Northern Irish accents.

From 1992 the LFS has a question on the year of entry into Ireland as well as questions on nationality and country of previous residence.

**Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population: Labour Force Survey*

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population: Central Statistics Office (An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh)*

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population: Central Statistics Office*

**Legislation**

The basic legal framework covering foreign nationals in Ireland with regard to rights of residence and employment is the 1935 Aliens Act.

**Principles**

Non-EU nationals arriving in Ireland are required to register with the immigration authorities. Initially they may be allowed to stay for three months, permission to remain for a year being subsequently granted on application to the Minister of Justice if it can be demonstrated that the applicant will not be a burden on the State.

**Procedures**

*Work permits:* Non-EC nationals, without exception, are not allowed to take up employment unless their employer is in possession of a valid work permit. The issue of a work permit only occurs if the employer can show that despite all reasonable efforts there is no suitably qualified Irish or other EEA labour available, unless there are special circumstances. Enforcement of the rules is rigorous.

Issue of a work permit in respect of a named non-EEA national does not in itself authorise entry and residence. The Department for Enterprise and Employment issues work permits.

Permits are renewed annually for 5 years after which an unlimited period is granted provided the employee stays with the same employer.

**Information on the Data by Year**

Figures are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Table 2, 1993, EUR\_OTHER is a combination of two groups, called “Non-EU Western Europeans” and “Central and Western European”.

Table 3, 1983, NACE codes N64-65 have been amalgamated.



## 6.9 Italy (IT)

### *Regulation:*

The data source for the Regulation tables is permits of stay for reasons of work. This concerns permits of stay for both self-employed and employed workers. The nature of the permits of stay limits the scope of the statistics to workers with a regular position on the labour market. It is not possible to provide data by economic activity. There is no other data source available.

ISTAT cannot provide any data on foreign workers before 1990, because it had no responsibility for the processing of residence permit data before 1989. The only useful data source before 1989 is the population register, but the data include a high percentage of not-indicated nationality (around 20%). Figures on foreign workers derived from the LFS are too small to be accurate and no citizenship question was asked before 1992.

The data are stocks at the end of each year but they include flow data which cannot be differentiated. This is because it is not known whether expired permits are included and how often they are cleared from the records. It is thought that the checks made by the Ministry of the Interior are carried out on a sporadic basis. Clearing of the records creates new problems because of the problems of comparing data before and after a check. For example, until 1989 expired residence permits were included and since 1990 they are presumably not included. Regularisations in 1987 and 1990 resulted in adjustments to the figures, whilst revisions took place in 1989 and 1991 (the records were "cleaned up" according to unknown criteria). It is not possible to compare data before and after the October 1989 'clean-up' when the total numbers registered fell by 30%.

*Citizenship:* Permits to stay issued before a foreigner enters the country are recorded according to the country in which the applicant is living at the time of issuance. Nationality data from permits to stay include, therefore, a mixture of citizenship as defined in the passport (for permits issued in Italy), and country in which an applicant is living before entering Italy.

### *Active Population:*

Table 6 for 1990 is based on two different sources: the Labour Force Survey (average data of 1990) for data on the resident population (total working population) and permits of stay of reasons of work (valid at 31 December 1990) for data on the foreign population. Therefore, the different categories do not necessarily sum up.

The LFS is based upon a sample of the resident population, national or foreign. The Labour Force Survey is only taken from the population register. The sample size is 280,000.

Because no citizenship question has been asked before 1992, the 1990 data do not discern between nationals and foreigners. Data on unemployed foreigners are not available.

### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Permits of stay for reasons of work

*Active Population:* Labour Force Survey and permit data

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* National Statistical Institute (Istituto Nazionale di Statistica - ISTAT)

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Ministry of Interior and ISTAT

**Legislation**

Law 943, 30 December 1986 (Regularisation of non-EC citizens); Law 39 (Martelli Law), 28 February 1990.

**Principles**

*Authorisation to work:* Non-EU citizens must have permission to work from the provincial employment office/organisation. The employer who must also ensure that there is adequate accommodation requests permission.

**Procedures**

*Residence permits:* Every non-EU foreign citizen who intends to stay in Italy for any length of time is, in law, supposed to ask for a permit to stay within 8 days of arriving in Italy. In practice this does not always happen. Permits to stay are issued by the offices of the Ministry of the Interior at police stations. The criteria used in making a decision to issue a permit are in effect different from office to office. They may be issued for work purposes, family reunification, study or 'other' reasons. Children are not included in the numbers. EU citizens are usually issued with a permit to stay for five years.

*Regularisations of illegal workers:* In 1986, 100,000 illegal workers were regularised. A second regularisation on 1st January 1990 resulted in the regularisation of a further 218,000 during the first 6 months of the year.

**Information on the Data by Year***Regulation:*

The data refer to 31 December of each year.

**1986** - There is a break in the series in 1986 due to a regularisation of non-EC citizens.

**1990** - There is a break in the series in 1990 due to a regularisation of non-EC citizens, which took place between January and June.

**1995** - These are LFS data, not permit data.

There was no citizenship question in the LFS before 1992. Therefore Tables 22, 23 and 24, 1990 have no citizenship breakdown.

In 1993 the government began issuing temporary work permits for six-month stays to seasonal workers; these are renewable and, following two consecutive renewals, foreign workers are eligible to apply for a one-year permit.

In 1994 more stringent controls were placed on the issue of work permits in an effort to eliminate multiple registrations. As a result, 88,000 work permits were cancelled.

Table 5, 1995: Originals of this table numbered columns 1 to 20 in place of the twenty NUTS 95 Level 2 column headings. After comparison with other Table 5s, it has been assumed that the columns as numbered are the NUTS 95 Level 2 codes.

## **6.10 Luxembourg (LU)**

### *Regulation:*

Table 4 is identical to Table 1/2 and Table 5 to Table 3 because Luxembourg has only one region in Eurostat's NUTS classification.

The data are extracted from the administrative files of the General Inspection of Social Security (IGSS) of the Ministry of Social Security. Numbers are totals, not a sample. The data include information from employers on part-time and full-time workers; each worker counts as one irrespective of the number of hours worked. Every employment contract between an employer and an employee is recorded. People working in Luxembourg and living in Belgium are included in the figures. These border workers are estimated to be about one quarter of the total workforce. The numbers exclude: independent workers (liberal professions and non-employed); people of uncertain status.

Self-employed persons are registered at the 'Caisse de Maladie des Professions Indépendantes'. It is not clear whether these data are similar to those of the Social Security administration.

The NACE-classification used is based on NACE by employer, not on NACE by production unit.

STATEC has no possibility to compile statistics based on Social Security files.

### *Active Population:*

For data on the working population a combination of two different sources is required. The Social Security records provide information on the employed population and the Employment Office on the unemployed population. Data on the unemployed are available as from 1993.

### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Social Security records

*Active Population:* [Social Security records and records of the Employment Office?]

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation:* General Inspection of Social Security

*Active Population:* Social Security records

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation:* Ministry of Social Security

*Active Population:* Social Security records

## **Legislation**

## **Principles**

## **Procedures**

The data do not include frontier workers. There is no distinction between newly arrived foreign workers and those already resident who change their employment.

## **Information on the Data by Year**

The data refer to 31 March of each year.

**1983** - data refer to 1 October

Improvements have been made to the methods of statistical exploitation of the social security records. These have produced some variations of the total numbers for the years 1987-1991, but the nationality breakdown is not thought to have been disproportionately affected.

### **6.11 Netherlands (NL)**

#### *Regulation:*

The regulation data include both employees and the self-employed. Figures are estimated using the LFS, population statistics and work permit data.

Work permits: this source is limited because it excludes refugees, people with permanent residence permits, dependent residence permits (unlimited duration), EU nationals, and others covered by treaties.

The figures are rounded to the nearest thousand.

#### *Active Population:*

The data refer to persons aged 15-64. The figures are rounded to the nearest thousand. Figures lower than 5,000 are not included because of statistical inaccuracy. It is unclear to which dates precisely the tables refer.

Since January 1987, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) has been conducted continuously. The survey covers about 60,000 households (most information is on people aged 15-65 years). The annual response is just over 1% of the population aged 16-64 years and the overall non-response rate is 40%. The response rate of foreigners is lower than that for the Dutch population because the questionnaire is conducted only in the Dutch language. From 1992 a new LFS has been introduced: data are no longer presented by nationality but by combination of nationality and/or country of birth.

#### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Population register, health insurance statistics (for border workers), work permits and Labour Force Survey. Data refer to employees only.

*Active Population: Labour Force Survey*

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Central Bureau of Statistics (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek - CBS)

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Central Bureau of Statistics

**Legislation**

Foreign Workers Employment Act (Wet Arbeid Buitenlandse Werknemers - WABW), 1 November 1979. New Law on Foreign Labour (Wet Arbeid Vreemdelingen - WAV), 1 September 1995.

**Principles**

Regulation of the labour market for non-EEA nationals. A work permit is only given if no other person, Dutch, other EEA, or permanently residing foreigner, is available for the job. Information on jobs filled by aliens and foreign-born nationals is mainly derived from the LFS.

**Procedures**

*Work Permits:* These are the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. Employers and employees must apply for work permits. Refugees, people with permanent residence permits, dependent residence permits (unlimited duration), EU nationals, and others covered by treaties, are exempt. Permits are issued initially for a temporary period of up to three years. After three years a permanent permit may be issued by the Ministry. An individual may be covered by more than one permit if (s)he works for more than one employer.

*Declarations:* These are mainly given to children or partners of legal foreign residents with establishment permits. While work permits go mainly to non-traditional immigrant categories in the Netherlands, declarations concern mostly traditional immigrant categories.

After 1995 foreigners who are free to enter the labour market will receive a note on their stay or residence permit from the Ministry of Justice stating that they are free to take up employment.

**Information on the Data by Year**

*Regulation:*

The data refer to 31 March of each year.

**1990 onwards** - Excluded from the figures are foreigners residing in the Netherlands and working in a foreign country. In 1990 these amounted to approximately 3,000 persons, mainly Germans.

*Active Population:*

The figures in Table 6 are yearly averages.

1984-5, Table 5, NACE groups N1-N5 have been amalgamated. 1992-6, Table 5, NACE groups N1-N4 have been amalgamated.

Table 3, all years, NACE sub-group N23 is included in-group N1.

## **6.12 Portugal (PT)**

### *Regulation:*

In 1990 the competence of providing statistics on foreign workers moved from the Ministry of Employment and Social Security to the National Statistical Institute. Therefore data before 1990 have been disseminated by the Ministry, but are based upon the same sources as data for 1990 onwards.

Table 3 for 1991 is based upon the Population and Housing Census of 1991.

The data refer to legal foreign residents in regular employment only.

### *Active Population:*

The method used to compile statistics on the main characteristics of the working population is the combination of the rate of unemployment amongst the foreign population - which is known from the LFS conducted by Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) - and data on the active foreign population obtained from Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras do Ministério de Administração do Território (SEF/MAI). The resulting estimates are not completely satisfying (e.g. no breakdown is possible by NUTS and NACE because of statistical inaccuracy) and INE is studying the development of a new methodology using the results of the 1991 census.

### **Source:**

*Regulation:* Estimates based on figures of the Ministry of the Interior, Service of Foreigners and Frontiers (Ministério da Administração Interna, Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras - SEF/MAI);

*Active Population:* Figures of SEF/MAI and Labour Force Survey

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE)

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Ministry of the Interior, Service of Foreigners and Frontiers (Ministério da Administração Interna, Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras - SEF/MAI);

INE (for LFS)

### **Legislation**

Law 97/77, 17 March 1977 regulates foreign workers in Portugal. Enterprises employing more than 5 persons are limited to a foreign component of not more than 10 per cent of their total workforce.

Law 264-B/81, 3 September 1981, regulates the entry and stay of foreigners in Portugal.

## **Principles**

Since 1974 the Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras (SEF) has been the main institution controlling immigration and the issue of residence permits. All foreigners wishing to reside in Portugal must legalise their situation with SEF. Until 1993, a distinction was made between EC and non-EC nationals in the residence permits required. Employers are required to declare details of numbers and characteristics of foreign workers to the Ministry of Employment and Service to Foreigners. Certain nationalities are exempt, notably those of ex-colonies.

## **Procedures**

*Residence Permits:* These are issued by the Service of Foreigners and Frontiers of the Ministry of the Interior. Every immigrant requires a visa from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the agreement of the Ministry of the Interior. This visa may be changed into a permit to stay. Each immigrant has 3 months to obtain their permit to stay or live, according to the 5 different "directions" of the Service of Foreigners and Frontiers. These permits are valid for one year up to the age of five, then for five years up to the age of twenty. They are given for life after that.

The LFS is used to provide data for Table 6, but the sample size is small and there are problems of geographical bias resulting from the geographical concentration of certain important nationalities (mainly ex-colonies). Improvements in the LFS methodology resulted in more accurate data after 1992.

Data from the SEF provided to Eurostat include where possible information on legalisation of residence.

## **Information on the Data by Year**

**1985** - Data refer to the end of the year.

**1989** - No Regulation data are available.

**1991** - Table 3 is based upon the Population and Housing Census of 1991.

Table 2, 1986-88, AFR\_OTH refers to Portuguese-speaking countries.

Table 3, NEUR\_EC is calculated from TOTAL-EUR\_EC-UNK. For 1989, N7-N9 NACE codes are amalgamated. For 1991, NACE codes N1-N5 and N7-N9 are amalgamated.

There was a regularisation in 1992 which may have affected numbers.

## **6.13 Spain (ES)**

### *Regulation:*

Data are based on numbers of valid work permits. Self-employed persons are not included in the figures.

The number of work permits is not equal to the number of foreign workers, despite the fact that they are issued to individuals, because on the one hand one person may have several temporary work permits, and on the other hand a person with a valid work permit may have left Spain after ending their job voluntarily or involuntarily.

Citizenship is based on citizenship as recorded on the work permits.

The regional data refer to the place of work. There are no data available for the autonomous province of Catalonia for Table 4.

As from 1992 EU nationals are not included in the Regulation tables because they do not need a work permit. For the same reason nationals of Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden are excluded from the tables as from 1994.

*Active Population:*

Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE) carries out the Labour Force Survey in Spain as part of the quarterly Encuesta de Población Activa (a wider survey than required for the LFS). Since the second half of 1987 the Encuesta includes the variable 'nationality'. Persons with the Spanish nationality and another nationality are recorded as Spanish. Foreigners intending to stay less than one year in Spain are not considered as resident in Spain.

The LFS underestimates the numbers of foreigners because it only includes persons living in 'viviendas familiares'. The LFS therefore does not include: people living in hotels, pensions and similar accommodation (a relatively high proportion of foreigners live in these types of accommodation); foreign military and diplomatic personnel.

**Source:**

*Regulation:* Work permits

*Active Population:* Labour Force Survey

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation:* Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Office of Statistics

*Active Population:* Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE)

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation:* Ministry of Labour and Social Security

*Active Population:* INE

**Legislation**

Real Decreto 1.119/1986, 26 May; Ley Orgánica 7/1985, 1 July

**Principles**

Non-EEA foreigners wishing to work in Spain, either self-employed or as employees, must obtain prior approval in the form of a combined work and residence permit from the Ministries of Labour and Interior. Prior to 1992 citizens of the EC were subject to a different permit regime. As from 1 January 1992, the starting date of free movement of workers within the EU, EU nationals in Spain do not need a work permit. Nationals of Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden do not need a work permit as from 1 January 1994, as a result of Protocol adopted by the Agreement on the European Economic Area of 17 March 1993.



## **Procedures**

The Ministry of Employment and Social Security issues work permits to foreigners. Different types of work permits are issued according to the following categories: employed and self-employed.

**Type A** permits are for temporary or seasonal work (up to nine months; not renewable).

**Type B** permits are issued for one year (renewable once) for a specific employment in a specific geographical area.

**Type C** permits are for five years (renewable) for any employment without geographical restrictions.

**Type D** are for self-employed - one year (renewable once), valid for a specific activity in a specific geographical area.

**Type E** are issued to self-employed foreigners for any activity in any geographical area. These are for five years (renewable).

**Type F** permits are issued to employed or self-employed frontier workers for 3 years maximum (renewable).

## **Information on the Data by Year**

### *Regulation:*

The data refer to 31 March of each year.

**1991-92** - Spain regularised a large number of foreign workers in these two years.

*Active Population:* The data are mid-year figures.

Table 2, 1989, 1992, BE includes Belgium and Luxembourg.

Table 3, 1989-90, NACE codes N11-12; N76-77; N93-94 have been amalgamated. 1992, NACE codes N11-12; N41-42; N64-65; N76-77 have been amalgamated. 1993, NACE codes N10-11; N25-26; N41-42; N64-65; N76-77; N93-94 have been amalgamated.

Table 4, 1994-95, OTH is a category given as "Interprovinciales". It has no NUTS code.

## **6.14 Sweden (SE)**

### *Regulation and Active Population:*

The figures are derived from the regional employment register system which covers the whole population, all jobs and all enterprises/establishments.

### **Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Regional Employment Register System

### **Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Statistics Sweden (Statistiska centralbyrån -SCB)

### **Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Statistics Sweden

## **Legislation**

Aliens Act, 1989. Aliens Ordinance, 1989.

## **Principles**

There have been no restrictions for Nordic citizens to settle and work in Sweden since the creation of the Nordic common labour market in 1954. Since the early 1970s labour immigration restrictions have led to small annual numbers of non-Nordic (and now EEA) citizens granted permanent residence on labour market grounds.

Swedish immigration policy, through the National Labour Market Board, has adopted the principle that immigrants and refugees should obtain employment and become economically self-sufficient as quickly as possible. They are taken care of within the framework of general labour market policy, supplemented by special, targeted inputs.

## **Procedures**

Citizens of non-EEA countries wishing to work in Sweden must have a work permit which must be obtained before entering Sweden. After entry, a work permit can only be obtained by a person coming to Sweden as a refugee or, in some cases, to be reunited with a close member of his or her family, or if there are other special reasons involved. The holder of a permanent residence permit does not need a work permit. An applicant for a work permit not pleading a close personal link with Sweden must have a written offer of employment in Sweden. The application is sent to the Immigration Board (SIV) which usually consults the county labour board before making a decision.

Temporary work permits are used to deal with temporary shortages of qualified labour, and are restricted to a specific occupational branch and employer. The Immigration Board in consultation with the National Labour Market Administration issues them. After four years of temporary stay the Immigration Board may grant a permanent residence permit. Seasonal work permits, for the agricultural and horticultural sector only, are available for periods of up to three months during the summer.

The Regional Employment Register System is a denomination of registers that together give a comprehensive picture of conditions in the labour market. The following registers are all part of the system: the Register of Regional Employment; the Register of Other Activities than Employment; the Register of Income Verifications, the Register of Enterprises; and the Register of Establishments.

## **Information on the Data by Year**

Sweden became a member of the EU on 1 January, 1995.

The data are based on the total population.

Table 3, 1990, NACE codes N3 and N4 have been amalgamated.

## **6.15 United Kingdom (UK)**

### *Regulation and Active Population:*

The first LFS in the UK was conducted in 1973, was biennial until 1983 and has been annual since 1984. During the 1980s it became widely used as a source of information on the labour force generally, and on the characteristics of ethnic minority groups in particular. These do not constitute the same group as foreign employees, although in some cases there may be an overlap. The Labour Force Survey suffers the common problems of small sample size, although it is considered to have unrealised potential as a source of data on stocks of foreign population and labour.

Before 1992, about 80,000 addresses were surveyed, with a response rate of 80-90 per cent. The new quarterly survey from 1992 consists of five 'waves', each containing about 12,000 households. The survey includes all UK and foreign citizens. The nationality question means that all foreigners are included. The application of grossing factors means that one sample interviewee is aggregated up to about 300 people in total. This constitutes a major problem when dealing with foreign nationals. Figures may be below this threshold for individual nationalities, particularly when any further disaggregation into characteristics is attempted. Data are available on nationality, age, sex, occupation, industry, and region of destination and ethnicity. Because of small sample size breakdowns showing the characteristics of individual nationalities are frequently impossible. For only the major national groups (such as Irish) are total numbers of immigrants available.

Furthermore, the method of sampling tends to underestimate the number of migrant workers due to residential segregation.

As the UK LFS is a sample survey all estimates should be rounded to the nearest thousand in any publications and those of less than 10,000 should not be used or quoted as they may be subject to high sampling variability and so could be unreliable.

Because of this sampling variability no reliable estimates of the numbers in self-employment can be produced. Therefore there are two sets of tables, one for all in employment (including employees and self-employed) and one for all employees only. The new age breakdown (25-39 and 40-54 instead of 25-54, 60-64 and 65+ instead of 60 and over) gives many cells which are below the 10,000 limit and which are therefore unusable, so the old age breakdown is used instead.

The economic activity classification used is the UK classification SIC, which is close but not identical to NACE. Separate figures for NACE industries 72 and 73 are not available for Table 3.

The estimates have been derived from the sample surveys results grossed up to the private household population. Persons living in institutions, e.g. hostels and hotels, are not included.

Those in employment include employees, the self-employed, those on Government employment and training schemes, family workers and those who did not state their employment status.

The figures only include those who state their nationality.

Frontier workers not resident in the UK are included as the surveys cover only persons resident in the UK for six months or over.

Seasonal workers are not separately identified but those who were working at the time of the surveys will be included.

**Source:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Labour Force Survey

**Disseminating/Processing Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Office for National Statistics

**Competent Authority:**

*Regulation and Active Population:* Office for National Statistics

**Legislation**

Immigration Act 1971, British Nationality Act, 1981.

**Principles**

The employment of people who are subject to immigration control is regulated by the granting of work permits from the Department for Education and Employment's Overseas Labour Service. Under the 1971 Immigration Act a work permit is granted to a specific employer for a named person for a specific job.

**Procedures**

*Work permits:* All foreign nationals who are not EEA citizens, and who wish to work in the UK, must obtain a work permit. Some people do take up work illegally, without a permit. Their number is not known, but they are likely to be concentrated in labour intensive and low-paid occupations such as catering and cleaning. Work permits are granted to employers, not workers. There is no check on whether the nominated worker actually enters the UK, nor whether he/she stays for the full duration of the permit.

Not requiring Overseas Labour Service approval are certain permit-free categories (e.g. clergy), working holidaymakers, young Commonwealth citizens between 17 and 27 and dependants of work permit holders. These miscellaneous groups may, in fact, be quite significant in the short-term labour market.

Permits are issued for varying periods, but effectively they are either short-term (under one year) or long-term (one year or more).

*Labour Force Survey:* The LFS was biennial 1973-83, and has been annual since 1984. Before 1992 about 80,000 addresses were surveyed, with a response rate of 80-90 per cent. Since 1992 the survey consists of five waves, each containing 12,000 households. The statistics relate to the spring quarterly survey.

The nationality question in the LFS means that all foreigners are potentially included. It provides the only source on foreign nationals working in the UK

### **Information on the Data by Year**

The data are based on the Spring Labour Force Surveys. The surveys are carried out between March and May each year.

**1983-90** - Finland and Sweden are not separately identified.

**1988 onwards** - Spain and Portugal have been separately identified within the EC grouping. Previously they were included as non-EC countries.

**1983-1993** - The economic activity classification used is the UK Standard Industrial Classification - SIC 80 (which is close but not identical to NACE).

**1992** - A new LFS methodology was introduced which had the effect of reducing dramatically the number of 'don't know' responses to the nationality question. Data for the prior and subsequent periods are not comparable.

**1994 onwards** - The economic activity classification used is the UK classification SIC-92.

Table 2, all years, 'OTHER' includes 'Stateless'; for 1983-88, 'Other British Subjects' are coded as 'OTHER'.

Table 5, the category 'Workplace outside the UK' is included in 'OTHER'.

Table 3, 'Self-employed' are constructed from Total-Employed.

## 7. Description of Tables on Foreign Labour

### From EU Regulation 311/76 on Foreign Working Population:

#### **Table I: Foreign workers by citizenship and sex**

- Variable 1: Workers (Total, Employees, Independent/Self-Employed)
- Variable 2: Citizenship (All country detail)
- Variable 3: Sex (Total, Males, Females)

#### **Table II: Foreign workers by citizenship, age group and sex**

- Variable 1: Workers (Total, Employees, Independent/Self-Employed)
- Variable 2: Citizenship (All country detail)
- Variable 3: Age (Total, 0-19, 20-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55-59, 60-64 and 65 and over)
- Variable 4: Sex (Total, Males, Females)

#### **Table III: Foreign workers by economic activity and sex**

- Variable 1: Workers (Total, Employees, Independent/Self-Employed)
- Variable 2: Citizenship (Total, Nationals, Other EU citizens, non-EU citizens)
- Variable 3: Economic Activity (2-digit NACE, Rev 1)
- Variable 4: Sex (Total, Males, Females)

#### **Table IV: Foreign workers by citizenship and region**

- Variable 1: Workers (Total, Employees, Independent/Self-Employed)
- Variable 2: Citizenship (All country detail)
- Variable 3: Region (NUTS II)

#### **Table V: Foreign workers by economic activity and region**

- Variable 1: Workers (Total, Employees, Independent/Self-Employed)
- Variable 2: Citizenship (Total, Nationals, Other EU citizens, non-EU citizens)
- Variable 3: Economic Activity (1-digit NACE, Rev 1)
- Variable 4: Region (NUTS II)

**From the UN/UNECE/Eurostat Joint Questionnaire on International Migration Statistics (All named in the project as Table VI):**

**Table 22: Main characteristics of the active population by citizenship, age group and sex**

Variable 1: Active Population (Total, Employed, Unemployed)  
Variable 2: Citizenship (Total, Nationals, Other EU citizens, non-EU citizens)  
Variable 3: Age (Total, 0-19, 20-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55-59, 60-64 and 65 and over)  
Variable 4: Sex (Both sexes)

**Table 23: Main characteristics of the active population by citizenship, age group and sex**

Variable 1: Active Population (Total, Employed, Unemployed)  
Variable 2: Citizenship (Total, Nationals, Other EU citizens, non-EU citizens)  
Variable 3: Age (Total, 0-19, 20-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55-59, 60-64 and 65 and over)  
Variable 4: Sex (Males)

**Table 24: Main characteristics of the active population by citizenship, age group and sex**

Variable 1: Active Population (Total, Employed, Unemployed)  
Variable 2: Citizenship (Total, Nationals, Other EU citizens, non-EU citizens)  
Variable 3: Age (Total, 0-19, 20-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55-59, 60-64 and 65 and over)  
Variable 4: Sex (Females)

## **8 Statistics in Focus and Rapid Reports**

**1993/6**

Population by citizenship in the EC - 1.1. 1991

**1993/8**

Female population by citizenship in the European Community

**1993/12**

International migration flows in selected EC countries - 1991

**1994/1**

Asylum-seekers in the EU: better data needed

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Non-nationals form over 4% of total population in the European Union – 1.1.1992

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