

ECE Work Session on Migration Statistics
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STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON EMIGRATION (METHODS AND RESULTS)

Submitted by the National Statistical Institute of Portugal

Statistics on Emigration – New Methodology

1. PRESENTATION

From 1941 to 1988 the Portuguese National Statistical Institute (INE) published the statistics for official Portuguese emigration, using an administrative act – the emission of the emigrant passport – as the source for the statistical notation of this migratory flow. As a result of the abolition of the emigrant passport, which was determined by the publication of Executive Law n° 438/88 of 29th November 1988, INE ceased to be able to produce the statistical information on Portuguese emigrants on the basis of an administrative act.

With a view to overcoming the absence of statistical information on emigration, INE decided to create (1990) the Working Group on Statistics concerning International Migration, made up of representatives of the Ministry of Internal Administration, the Fiscal Guard (the authority responsible for controlling the frontiers prior to 1993), the Institute for the Support of Emigration and the Portuguese Communities, and the National Statistical Institute. The Working Group's final report presented a number of possible solutions for obtaining statistics on the migratory departure flows. The absence in Portugal of administrative files which could be used to produce statistical data on emigration led to the consideration of a **survey of family dwellings**, as being the most just and methodologically valid solution in the current context.

The emigratory movement has been quite a significant phenomenon in Portugal for many years. A great need for statistical information on emigration has always existed and will always continue to exist. Thus, making good the existing omission in the National Statistical System became essential and of the highest priority. There is a high demand for statistical information on emigration at a national level, both on the part of central and regional elements of public government, and on the part of private bodies. At an international level, the European Union, in the shape of its Statistical Service (EUROSTAT), and the United Nations both have access to joint programmes on demographic statistics, and give particular emphasis to statistics concerning international migration.

2. DEFINITION OF THE SAMPLE

The current Emigration Survey uses the sample from the Employment Survey (Workforces), whose sample unit is the family dwelling. This sample was taken from the parent sample, which was in turn made up from the results of the General Population and Residence Census of 1991, as updated in 1996. The size of the sample was calculated in such a way as to allow a maximum error of 15% for the variables with a weight in excess of 1% of the sampling frequencies. In geographical terms, according to the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes (NUTS), the distribution of the sample from the Employment Survey for each quarter essentially gives the following values up to NUTS II level (which is termed a “region” in Portugal).

1. Employment Survey – Sample Size (NUTS I and II)

Region	Family Dwellings		
	1 st Quarter	2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th Quarters	Annual
Portugal	22 218	11 109	33 327
Continent	19 159	9 580	28 739
North	5 650	2 825	8 475
Centre	3 100	1 550	4 650
Lisbon and Tagus Valley	5 900	2 950	8 850
Alentejo	2 050	1 025	3 075
Algarve	2 459	1 230	3 689
Azores	1 578	789	2 367
Madeira	1 481	741	2 222

The frequency with which the information from the Emigration Survey is gathered is quarterly, at the same time and with the same executive structure (local interviewers) as the Employment Survey. All the dwellings in the sample are surveyed in the first quarter; only the new dwellings in the sample (1/6 of the total sample) are surveyed in the second quarter, with the same methodology being used in the third and fourth quarters. In this way it is possible to reinforce the sample from the first quarter with 50% more statistical units, which means that the Emigration Survey’s annual sample is composed of around 33,000 family dwellings, regionally distributed according to a proportion which is identical to that in the sample referred to above.

1. INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION

The current Emigration Survey contains some limitations as regards the volume of information about the emigrant to be surveyed. The respondents are not the individuals who want to emigrate (as was the case in the old Emigration Survey, which was based on the issue of the emigrant passport), but rather those persons who live with the emigrant, or even his neighbours in the event that the dwelling is found to be unoccupied because of the emigration. The question which the interviewee is asked is the following: *“Is there anyone who normally lives in this dwelling on the 31st of December of n-1, and who left to live or work abroad during the year n? How many people?”*.

Another limiting issue is due to the fact that the survey is carried out by means of sampling, with a sample which is dimensioned and characterised by the Employment Survey. Thus, only the types of information (which are mainly of a demographic nature) about the emigrants which are considered to be the most common and frequent ones, and which satisfy the most pertinent needs – such as the estimation of the resident population of Portugal, and the minimum programmes of

international organisations like the European Community and the United Nations – are subject to questioning. The variables concerning the emigrants that are observed are the following: *age, sex, marital status, month and year of emigration, country of destination, previous place of residence, type of emigration (permanent or temporary) and nationality*. The conceptualisation of the variables was based on international recommendations, particularly those of the United Nations.

2. CARRYING OUT THE SURVEY

As has already been mentioned, the Emigration Survey is carried out in four survey periods over the course of the year, with a quarterly frequency. The Emigration Survey is carried out simultaneously with the Employment Survey, and consequently uses the same body of local interviewers to collect the information. The collection of the information is carried out by means of interviews of the occupants of the family dwelling selected for the sample. A difference in relation to the Employment Survey collection method is that the local interviewers for the Emigration Survey try to find out the reasons why a dwelling is not occupied, and if the motive is the emigration of the people who live there, the survey must be carried out with the co-operation of the residents of the dwellings which are contiguous or near to the emigrant's residence. The survey's observation period is the civil year prior to that in which the survey is carried out.

The local interviewers use a portable computer to collect the desired information. As the interviewee replies to the questions put during the survey, his answers are immediately registered and validated with respect to their content and coherence. The software which is installed for the collection possesses this type of characteristics, so that any eventual incorrect replies can be corrected at the time of the interview. Each survey period lasts approximately six weeks; at the end of that time the diskettes with the information which has been collected are sent to INE's Central Services by the Regional Statistical Directorates.

3. CLASSIFICATION

The classification of the results of the Emigration Survey is subject to certain limitations which are inherent in the methodology that has been adopted (survey by sampling). The greater the dispersion of the information that has been classified, the smaller the number of samples taken, resulting in higher margins of error.

The classification plan designed for this operation is made up of ten statistical tables, identified as follows:

Permanent (long-term)/temporary (short-term) emigrants by age group (five-year periods) and sex, according to nationality (Portuguese, non-Portuguese – EU, non-Portuguese non-EU);

Permanent/temporary emigrants by country of destination and sex, according to nationality (Portuguese, non-Portuguese – EU, non-Portuguese non EU);

Permanent/temporary emigrants by country of destination and sex, according to the month in which they emigrated;

Permanent/temporary emigrants by country of destination and sex, according to matrimonial status;

Permanent/temporary emigrants by country of destination and sex, according to geographical origin (region/NUTS II).

The results of the survey refer to the emigratory movement of persons resident in Portugal existing in a given civil year, independently of whether or not they hold Portuguese nationality. In this matter it differs from the previous Emigration Survey (statistical notation based on the issue of the emigrant passport), which only included persons of Portuguese nationality. The extrapolation of the database resulting from the collection of data in the four survey periods is carried out according to estimated values for the population at mid-year, by sex, age groups and geographical distribution (NUTS II).

The results of the Emigration Survey are made available as follows:

- Provisional data (referring to the survey in the first quarter);
- Definitive data (referring to the completed collection of information: the whole of the sample of dwellings from the first quarter, plus the new dwellings selected in the following quarters).

The dates on which the statistical results of the emigration process will be made available are as follows:

- Provisional data: at the end of the first quarter of year $n+1$;
- Definitive data: at the end of the first quarter of year $n+2$.

The year n is considered to be the period of observation of the emigratory movement in Portugal.

1. ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS (both new and previous series)

The Period from 1941 to 1975

Between 1941 – year in which INE started to publish statistical data on official emigration – and the year of 1975, the information was not separated into permanent (*long-term*) emigration (period in excess of one year) and temporary (*short-term*) emigration (period equal to or less than one year). However, during this period the type of emigration which existed was basically characterised as being permanent.

During this period, as has already been noted, the statistical data on emigration only covered Portuguese nationals, and did not include the departure of foreigners resident in Portugal. As far as emigration is concerned, another more significant omission concerns the departures for the purpose of establishing residence in the former Portuguese overseas territories, namely Angola and Mozambique. These represented quite considerable numbers of people.

As regards the countries of destination, during the first part of this period, from 1941 to 1960, they were mostly located on the American continent, with Brazil being the main destination. The United States of America and Venezuela were also favoured by Portuguese emigrants.

The decade of the 1960's and the first years of the 1970's prior to the fall of the former regime (25th April 1975) were years of an explosion of emigration. The lack of modernisation in the economy - especially in the countryside, the war in Africa, and the isolation of the former regime, all contributed to this enormous increase in emigration. The destination of the Portuguese emigrants was almost exclusively Western Europe, with an emphasis on France. Clandestine emigration

gained strength. It was easier to enter France clandestinely than to be a stowaway on a transatlantic voyage. 1,400,000 Portuguese emigrated between 1960 and 1973 – never had so many Portuguese emigrated in so short a time.

2. Emigrants by year of departure and country of destination (the three most important) Official Emigration

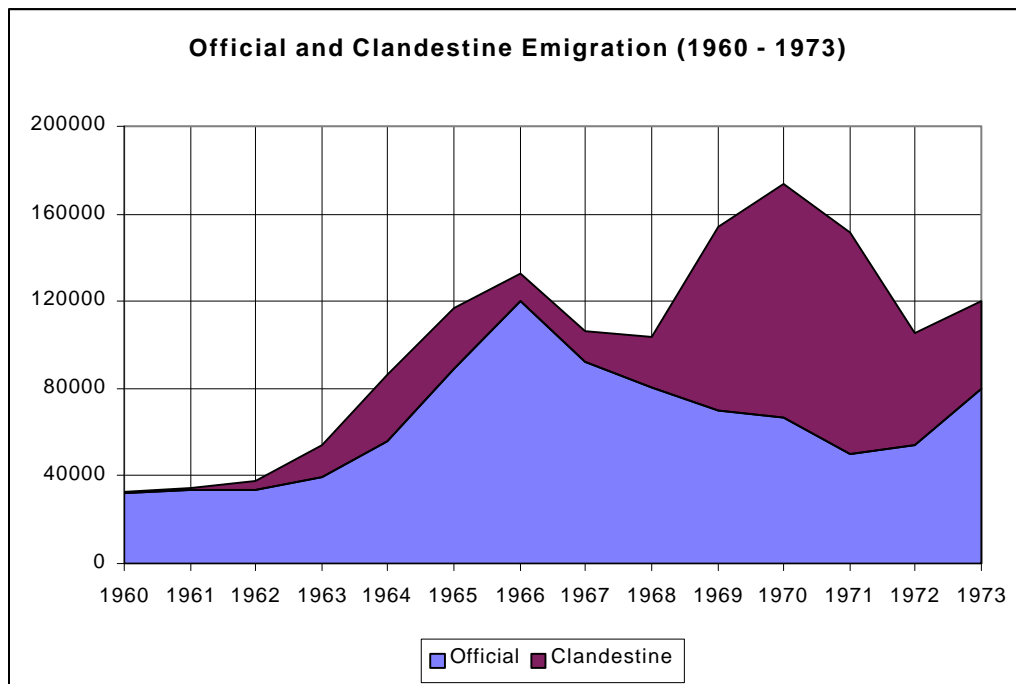
Year	Total	Country of destination								
		Brazil	Argentina	U.S.A	Venezuela	Dutch Guiana	France	Fed.Rep Germany	Canada	Other Countries
1941	6 260	5 891	175	125						69
	100%	94%	3%	2%						1%
1945	5 938	1 206			2 493	1 328				911
	100%	20%			42%	22%				15%
1950	21 892	14 143		938	3 077					3 734
	100%	65%		4%	14%					17%
1955	29 726	18 486		1 328	5 718					4 194
	100%	62%		4%	19%					14%
1960	32 318	12 451		5 679	4 026					10 162
	100%	39%		18%	12%					31%
1965	89 056						57 319	11 713	5 197	14 827
	100%						64%	13%	6%	17%
1970	66 360			9 726			21 962	19 775		14 897
	100%			15%			33%	30%		22%
1975	24 811			8 975			2 866		5 857	7 113
	100%			36%			12%		24%	29%

Source: Demographic Statistics

3. Official and Clandestine Emigration for the years from 1960 to 1973

Years	Total Emigration	Official Emigration		Clandestine Emigration	
		Number	%	Number	Total
Total	1 409 152	897 323	64%	511 829	36%
1960	32 732	32 318	99%	414	1%
1961	34 796	33 526	96%	1 270	4%
1962	38 210	33 539	88%	4 671	12%
1963	53 970	39 519	73%	14 451	27%
1964	86 282	55 646	64%	30 636	36%
1965	116 974	89 056	76%	27 918	24%
1966	132 834	120 239	91%	12 595	9%
1967	106 280	92 502	87%	13 778	13%
1968	104 079	80 452	77%	23 627	23%
1969	153 536	70 165	46%	83 371	54%
1970	173 267	66 360	38%	106 907	62%
1971	151 197	50 400	33%	100 797	67%
1972	104 976	54 084	52%	50 892	48%
1973	120 019	79 517	66%	40 502	34%

Source: Demographic Statistics



Source: Demographic Statistics

The Period from 1976 to 1988

Following the peak in the number of emigrations which occurred during the decade of the 1960's and the early 1970's, a progressive decline in the number of emigrants can be seen during the second half of the 1970's and especially in the 1980's.

From 1976 onwards the statistical information on Portuguese emigration becomes separated into permanent and temporary categories. Thus it is possible to observe the evolution of the two types of emigration. A substantial fall in permanent emigration may be noted between 1976 and 1988, while temporary emigration rose, especially to Europe. However, this compensation was only partial, and the overall emigration numbers gradually diminished.

At the same time as the Portuguese economy grew and created jobs, there was a lesser degree of receptivity for Portuguese labour on the part of the Western European countries between 1976 and 1988, especially in France. Portuguese emigrants started preferring to choose other countries: United States of America, Canada and Australia. This intercontinental emigration is of an exclusively long-term nature (permanent).

4. Emigrants (permanent and temporary) by year of departure and country of destination (the three most important)

Official Emigration

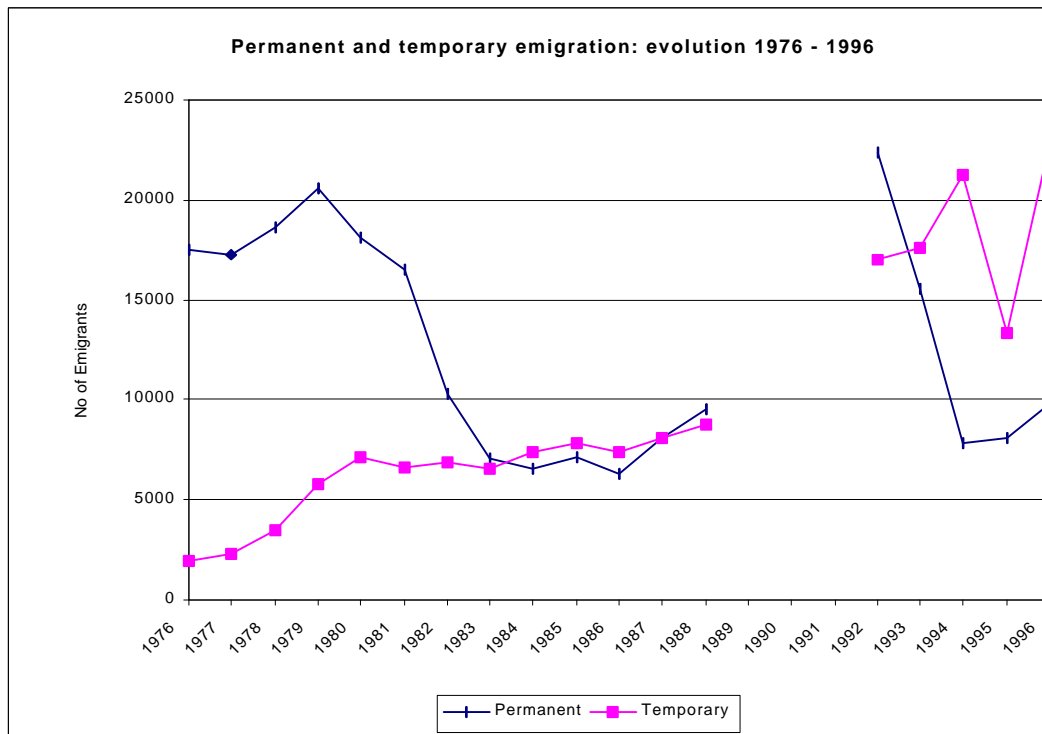
Year	Total	Country of destination											
		France		U.S.A.		Canada.		Australia		Switzerland		Other Countries	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1976													
Total	19 469	2 637	14%	7 496	39%	3 599	18%					5 737	29%
Permanent	17 493	1 779	10%	7 494	43%	3 594	21%					4 626	26%
%	90%	67%		100%		100%						81%	
Temporary	1 976	858	43%	2	0%	5	0%					1 111	56%
%	10%	33%		0%		0%						19%	
1980													
Total	25 207	5 772	23%	5 000	20%	3 334	13%					11 101	44%
Permanent	18 071	1 867	10%	4 999	28%	3 334	18%					7 871	44%
%	72%	32%		100%		100%						71%	
Temporary	7 136	3 905	55%	1	0%	0	0%					3 230	45%
%	28%	68%		0%		0%						29%	
1985													
Total	14 944	4 566	31%	2 786	19%			1 121	8%			6 471	43%
Permanent	7 149	1 180	17%	2 783	39%			1 121	18%			2 065	29%
%	48%	26%		100%				100%				32%	
Temporary	7 795	3 386	43%	3	0%			0	0%			4 406	57%
%	52%	74%		0%				0%				68%	
1988													
Total	18 302	4 886	27%			5 646	31%			2 960	16%	4 810	26%
Permanent	9 540	370	4%			5 646	59%			112	1%	3 412	36%
%	52%	8%				100%				4%		71%	
Temporary	8 762	4 516	52%			0	0%			2 848	33%	1 398	16%
%	48%	92%				0%				96%		29%	

Source: Demographic Statistics

5. Permanent and temporary emigration (1976 – 1996)

Year	Total	Permanent		Temporary	
		No.	%	No.	%
1976	19 469	17 493	89.9%	1 976	10.1%
1977	19 543	17 226	88.1%	2 317	11.9%
1978	22 112	18 659	84.4%	3 453	15.6%
1979	26 318	20 574	78.2%	5 744	21.8%
1980	25 207	18 071	71.7%	7 136	28.3%
1981	23 147	16 513	71.3%	6 634	28.7%
1982	17 135	10 276	60.0%	6 859	40.0%
1983	13 680	7 096	51.9%	6 584	48.1%
1984	13 963	6 556	47.0%	7 407	53.0%
1985	14 944	7 149	47.8%	7 795	52.2%
1986	13 690	6 253	45.7%	7 437	54.3%
1987	16 228	8 108	90.9%	8 120	50.0%
1988	18 302	9 540	52.1%	8 762	47.9%
1989					
1990					
1991					
1992	39 322	22 324	56.8%	16 998	43.2%
1993	33 171	15 562	46.9%	17 609	53.1%
1994	29 104	7 845	27.0%	21 259	73.0%
1995	22 579	8 580	37.7%	13 999	62.3%
1996	32 515	9 815	30.2%	22 700	69.8%

Source: Demographic Statistics



Source: Demographic Statistics

The Period from 1992 to 1996

Following Portugal's entry into the European Community and in the context of the Community legislation that resulted from it, the Portuguese government decreed the adoption of a uniform model of passport as of the 1st of January 1989, and the emigrant passport was consequently abolished. In addition to this, Portugal's entry into the European Community resulted in a greater ease in the movement of people between the member States, and it ceased to be obligatory to show a passport at their respective borders.

As has already been mentioned, the new methodology for obtaining statistical data on emigration is based on the carrying out of a survey by means of the sampling of families, called *Survey of Departing Migratory Movements*.

The first results obtained using this new methodology relate to 1992. From this year onwards INE is annually making the statistical information on emigration available, in accordance with the classification plan mentioned in point 5. The latest available data (provisional) refer to 1996.

During the decade of the 1990's, with the exception of 1992, the numbers relating to temporary emigration exceeded those of permanent emigration. For 1996 these proportions represent 62% and 38% respectively. The overall numbers (permanent and temporary) from the 1990's are greater compared to those of the 1980's. This is especially true of temporary emigration, but can also be noted in respect of permanent emigration, albeit to a lesser extent.

Between 1992 and 1996 the three main countries of destination were in Europe: France, Switzerland and Germany. However, in 1992 Spain appears for the first time as the third most attractive country for Portuguese emigrants.

**6. Emigrants (permanent and temporary) by year of departure and country of destination
(the three most important)**

Year	Total	Country of destination									
		France		Spain		Germany		Switzerland		Other Countries	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1992											
Total	39 322	11 586	29%	3 040	8%			8 940	23%	15 756	40%
Permanent	22 324	7 130	32%	1 127	5%			5 012	22%	9 055	41%
%	57%	62%		37%				56%		57%	
Temporary	16 998	4 456	26%	1 913	11%			3 928	23%	6 701	39%
%	43%	38%		63%				44%		43%	
1993											
Total	33 171	5 453	16%			4 309	13%	7 379	22%	16 030	48%
Permanent	15 562	1 257	8%			2 345	15%	2 853	18%	9 107	59%
%	47%	23%				54%		39%		57%	
Temporary	17 609	4 196	24%			1 964	11%	4 526	26%	6 923	39%
%	53%	77%				46%		61%		43%	
1994											
Total	29 104	7 395	25%			6 611	23%	5 867	20%	9 231	32%
Permanent	7 845	2 598	33%			1 647	21%	1 702	22%	1 938	25%
%	27%	35%				25%		29%		21%	
Temporary	21 259	4 797	23%			4 964	23%	4 165	20%	7 293	34%
%	73%	65%				75%		71%		79%	
1995											
Total	22 579	5 433	24%			6 968	31%	4 309	19%	5 869	26%
Permanent	8 580	2 336	27%			1 425	17%	1 724	20%	3 095	36%
%	38%	43%				20%		40%		53%	
Temporary	13 999	3 097	22%			5 543	40%	2 585	18%	2 774	20%
%	62%	57%				80%		60%		47%	
1996											
Total	32 515	7 395	23%			6 611	20%	5 867	18%	12 642	39%
Permanent	9 815	2 598	26%			1 647	17%	1 702	17%	3 868	39%
%	30%	35%						29%		97%	
Temporary	22 700	4 797	21%			4 964	22%	4 165	18%	8 774	39%
%	70%	65%						71%		3%	

Source: Demographic Statistics