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Experiences with using data from the 2010 round of censuses for measuring migration

Study of migration using the results of the 2010 population census round in CIS countries: analysis of results

Note by the CIS Statistical Committee

At present CIS STAT is summarizing the results of the 2010 population census round in CIS countries and is reviewing their methodologies.

1. 2010 round population censuses were conducted in nine out of eleven CIS countries¹. The difference between the dates when the 2010 round of national censuses was conducted was as much as five years.

Dates of conducting the 2010 population census round in CIS countries

2009	Azerbaijan	April 13 to 22
	Belarus	October 14 to 24
	Kazakhstan	February 25 to March 6
	Kyrgyzstan	March 24 to April 2
2010	Tajikistan	September 21 to 30
	Russia	October 14 to 25
2011	Armenia	October 12 to 21
2012	Turkmenistan	December 15 to 26
2014	Moldova	May 12 to 25

According to the estimates of CIS STAT approximately 80% of the total population of CIS countries was enumerated².

¹ As of August 2014, Ukraine and Uzbekistan have not conducted a population census for the 2010 round. Uzbekistan conducted in 2012 a sample social and demographic survey.

² Moldova and Turkmenistan have not yet published official results of population census.

**Estimated permanent population according to census rounds 2000 and 2010,
thousands of people**

	Round 2000	Round 2010	(+)/(-)
Azerbaijan	7,953.4	8,922.4	+969.0
Armenia	3,213.0	3,018.9	-194.1
Belarus	10,045.2	9,503.8	-541.4
Kazakhstan	14,981.3	16,009.6	+1028.3
Kyrgyzstan	4,822.9	5,362.8	+539.9
Moldova	3,383.3		
Russia	145,166.7	142,856.5	-2,310.2
Tajikistan	6,127.5	7,564.5	+1,437.0
Turkmenistan	4,437.6 ³		
Uzbekistan			
Ukraine	4,8240.9		

All CIS countries conduct population censuses on the basis of either laws on population census, or laws on statistics that contain legal norms for the population census. They are conducted in compliance with international recommendations, in consistency with the previous rounds and with the account for the national needs in information.

Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan conducted their censuses with a 10 year interval between each census, while the Russian Federation had a 8 year interval from the earlier census; Turkmenistan had a full count census for the first time in its new history in the 2000 round (in 1995 only a sample social and demographic survey was conducted).

All CIS countries conducted population censuses for the 2010 round using traditional method of questioning by interviewers. In some cases data from administrative sources were used. The countries did not use sampling for the purposes of taking their population census⁴.

In Soviet history population censuses traditionally estimated two categories of population: permanent population and present population. In the 2000 round most of the CIS countries switched to estimating only the permanent population; this approach has been preserved in the 2010 round. All countries used a single definition of the permanent population: that being in residence for 12 months and more.

In view of migration processes in their countries Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan estimated present population as well.

**Present and permanent population,
thousands of people**

	Year	Population		Difference between present and permanent population	
		present	permanent	total	as % of the permanent population
Armenia	2011	2,871.8	3,018.9	-147.1	4.9
Kyrgyzstan	2009	5,107.7	5,362.8	-255.1	4.8
Tajikistan	2010	7,099.3	7,564.5	-465.2	6.1

³ 1995

⁴ In the Russian Federation in the previous round of population census a sampling method was used: 75% were enumerated using short questionnaires (11 questions) and 25% by using long questionnaires (26 questions).

2. The programs of national population censuses included the most important issues of the social and demographic processes in CIS countries. They involved obtaining the geographical distribution of the population, demographic, socio-economic, ethno-linguistic and educational characteristics of the population, the structure of households and families, as well as their living conditions.

A population census provides information on external and internal migration, and on the citizenships of people. In accordance with the programs for national population censuses CIS countries paid much attention to the subject of migration (Annexes 1 and 2); the list of questions related to migration was expanded (e.g. many countries included questions on residence abroad and the year of arrival in the country and on commuting).

All CIS countries, in compliance with the recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians for conducting population and housing Censuses, included in their census programs questions on the place of birth, country of citizenship, previous place of permanent residence, and the date of arrival at the current place of residence. These questions relate to the main recommended variables.

Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Turkmenistan used an **expanded version** of the questionnaire and obtained data on the year and month of arrival to the current place of permanent residence, and of the previous place of permanent residence;

Azerbaijan, Russia, and Tajikistan used a **shorter version** asking questions on the place of permanent residence a year before the census dates.

Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova in addition asked questions on the reasons for changing place of permanent residence (an additional variable).

After obtaining information on the length of residence it was possible for countries to publish data on the numbers of people who arrived at the place of permanent residence during various time intervals, including those who resided in the place which was not their place of birth. .

**Migrants who changed their places of permanent residence within 5 or more years
(by previous place of residence, thousands of people)**

	Total population	Arrived at the place of permanent residence	of which:				
			Changed place of residence within the country		Arrived from CIS and other countries		
			total	% of the population	of which:		% of the population
				from CIS countries	from other countries		
Changed place of residence during life time							
Azerbaijan	8,922.4	1,196.5	955.4	10.7	235.6	5.5	2.7
Armenia	3,018.9	769.5	520.3	17.2	191.8		6.3
Kyrgyzstan	5,362.8	1,340.9	1,093.3	20.4	215.0	15.2	4.3
Tajikistan	7,564.5	594.0	549.9	7.9	37.8	6.3	0.6
Changed place of residence during the 10 years between censuses							
Kazakhstan	16,009.6	5,976.2	2,381.2	14.9	542.8	107.9	4.1
Changes place of residence during the 5 years before the census							
Belarus	9,503.8	457.7	406.1	4.2	32.1	7.1	0.4

It is interesting to compare data on the intensity of internal migration occurring during the one year before the census, the so called active migration. However it is necessary to take into account different census dates and different social and economic conditions as factors impacting the migration mobility of populations

**Migrants who changed places of permanent residence within one year before the census
(by previous place of residence, thousands of people)**

	Total population	Arrived to the place of permanent residence	of which:				
			Changed place of residence within the country		Arrived from CIS and other countries		
			total	% of the population	of which:		% of the population
				from CIS countries	from other countries		
Azerbaijan	8,922.4	67.1	60.9	0.7	6.2		0.1
Kazakhstan	16,009.6	426.1	344.6	2.2	66.2	15.3	0.5
Russia	140,960.1 ⁵	3,095.3	2,618.7	1.9	202.5	32.4	0.2
Tajikistan	7,564.5	103.5	95.8	1.2	6.3	1.4	0.1

The results of the censuses demonstrate that the percentages of non-citizens permanently residing in respective CIS countries are insignificant. As the number of migrants who are citizens of other countries is predominately those of CIS countries; their share varies from 58% in Tajikistan to 89% in Belarus.

Percentage of Non-CIS citizens in the permanent populations

Azerbaijan	Armenia	Belarus	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyzstan	Russia ⁶	Tajikistan
0.13	0.74	1.33	0.63	0.57	0.48	0.1

Usually questions on migration are aimed at estimating immigration as it is more difficult to estimate emigration within a population census. Emigration can partially be estimated with the help of questions on duration and reasons for absence of some of the household members reported by the available household members at the time of enumeration. As sometimes all household members go abroad and there is no one to provide information on them, it is difficult to ensure comprehensive information on emigration on the basis of census results.

All countries (with the exception of Russia) included questions on individuals who are temporarily absent at the place of their permanent residence on the date of the census, as well as on the duration and reasons of their absence (Annex 2). In Russia, marks of temporary absence, duration and reasons for absence were inserted when filling out the list of residents which was a non-machine readable document and was not used in automated data processing for generating census results.

In all countries temporary residents were interviewed. A special question was used including the reason for the arrival (except for Tajikistan). In Russia, to interview temporary residents (less than 12 months) a special enumeration form with small number of questions was used. This form was used to enumerate 489 thousand people, of which 65% reported that work was the reason for their arrival.

⁵ Private households. Besides, 901.2 thousand people did not indicate the territory.

⁶ Percentage of those who answered the question on citizenship; 4.1 million people did not answer this question

It should be noted that it is very difficult to enumerate labor migrants, especially short-term ones, as many of them are without work permits and try to avoid enumeration.

3. In general, CIS countries used common approaches to enumerating migrants using the population census. However, such basic definitions as what is “migration” and a “migrant” (Annex 3) are not consistent, and although they are close, there are still some differences in the meaning.

To study migration on the basis of the results of the 2020 round of the population census it will be necessary to bring the census dates in CIS countries closer together, and to agree on common definitions of “migration” and “migrant”. This is important for migration analysis within the countries and between CIS countries; the latter is a key activity of interstate cooperation. It is likely this could be undertaken within the framework of the Single Economic Space of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia.

In view of rather intensive migration flows between some CIS countries, it appears especially important to compare the results of censuses. This will make it possible to estimate migration flows between partner countries, in particular labor migration.

In the course of preparations for the 2010 population census rounds in CIS countries, the Council of the Heads of Statistical Services of the CIS made a decision to establish a Coordination Council for conducting the 2010 population census in CIS countries with the participation of representatives from national statistical services. As a result, the tabular layouts for interstate data exchange and the publication of the results of the 2010 population census round were approved.

At present, on the website of the CIS Statistical Committee (<http://www.cisstat.org>) the following data on the 2010 population census round are presented and can be compared with previous rounds:

- The permanent population (starting from the 1959 census);
- The permanent population of the countries' capitals (starting from 1989 census);
- The permanent population by sex and age (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Number of households and their average size (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Number of households with children under 18 (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Population by education level (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Ethnic composition of CIS countries (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Permanent population by citizenship (2000 and 2010 rounds);
- Migrants by duration of stay in the place of permanent residence and by previous place of residence (2000 and 2010 rounds).

CIS STAT is preparing proposals for layouts of publication tables to enable an interstate exchange of census data for the 2020 round. Draft tables are given in Annex 4. It is planned to carry out a detailed discussion of these tables at the seminar conducted under the joint project of UNECE/Rosstat/CIS STAT on improving migration statistics and population censuses in the CIS region (September 22, 2014).

References:

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Kazakhstan	http://www.stat.gov.kz/ Migration of population, Results of the National Population Census 2009 in the Republic of Kazakhstan, Astana 2010 http://www.stat.gov.kz/ Population census in the Republic of Kazakhstan 2009. Summary
Kyrgyzstan	Census of population and housing of Kyrgyz Republic 2009. Book II (part III), tables Migration of the population in Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, 2010
Moldova	http://www.statistica.md/ Population Census 2004 (Migration of the population)
Russia	All-Russia Population Census 2010, vol. 4, book 2 “Ethnic composition and command of languages, citizenship”, Moscow, 2012 All-Russia Population Census 2010, vol. 8. “Duration of stay in the place of permanent residence”, Moscow, 2012
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On methodological guidelines for the 2010 round of population census in CIS countries, CIS STAT, Moscow, 2012	

Annex 1

Geographic and Migration Characteristics in the 2010 Round of Population Censuses

		Azer- baijan	Arme- -nia	Bela- -rus	Kaza- kh- stan	Kyrgyz -stan	Mol- dova	Russia	Tajikis- tan	Turkme- -nistan
1.	Permanent residence in this settlement	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
2.	Since when living in this settlement	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
3.	Temporary residence	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	- aim of arrival, of which for work	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●
4.	Temporary absence	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
5.	Was the previous place of residence within the territory of this state?	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	●
	If not, then									
	- indicate the country from which you came to this state for permanent residence	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
	- aim of arrival in the country for permanent residence	●	●	●	○	●	○	○	○	○
6.	Name of region, city or other state, in which you were living for a certain period of time before the conduct of the census	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	- one year before the census	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	- longer period	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	●
7.	Location of work (name of city, region, country)	●	○	●	●	●	○	●	●	○
8.	Reason for migration	●	●	●	○	●	●	○	○	○

Annex 2

Information on the people temporarily absent from the territory of state
(information was registered by means of inquiry of members of the households)

		Azer- baijan	Arme- -nia	Bela- -rus	Kaza- kh- stan	Kyrgyz -stan	Mol- dova	Russia	Tajikis- tan	Turkme- -nistan
1.	Persons temporarily absent from the place of their permanent residence	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
	- period of absence	●	●	●	○	●	●	○	●	●
	- reason of absence, of which work	●	●	●	○	●	●	○	●	●

●- the question is envisaged in the census questionnaire

○- the question is not envisaged in the census questionnaire

Definitions of “migration” and “migrant” used in the 2010 round of national population censuses

Country	Definition
Azerbaijan	<p>Migration of population – movement of population through the borders of the territory (country, region, district) connected with the change of the place of permanent residence for the period of more than one year. Depending on the place of the previous residence the flows of external and internal migrants are marked out. Internal migrants refer to the respondents who have changed the place of permanent residence within the bounds of the Republic of Azerbaijan; the external migrants refer to the respondents who have come to the Republic of Azerbaijan for permanent residence from the foreign countries.</p> <p>Not referred to the migrants during the population census were the respondents who have changed the place of their permanent residence within the bounds of the urban settlement or between the rural settlements within the bounds of administrative district, as well as all persons who traveled away from given settlement for a mission, job, study for the period up to 1 year and also for vacations, treatment, on a visit, etc. regardless of the period.</p>
Armenia	<p>Migrant – a person moving through the borders of the territory (country, district, former administrative regions) in connection with the change of the place of his permanent residence. Not referred to the migrants during the population census were the persons who have changed the place of permanent residence within the bounds of administrative district, as well as all persons who traveled away from given settlement on urgent service, for a mission, study for the period up to 1 year and also for vacation, treatment, on a visit, etc.</p>
Belarus	<p>Migration of population – movement of population through the borders of the territory (country, region, district) connected with the change of the place of permanent residence for the period of more than one year. Depending on the place of the previous residence the flows of external and internal migrants are marked out. Internal migrants refer to the respondents who have changed the place of permanent residence within the bounds of the Republic of Belarus; the external migrants refer to the respondents who have come to the Republic of Belarus for permanent residence from the foreign countries.</p> <p>Not referred to the migrants during the population census were the respondents who have changed the place of their permanent residence within the bounds of the urban settlement or between the rural settlements within the bounds of administrative district, as well as all persons who traveled away from given settlement for a mission, job, study for the period up to 1 year and also for vacations, treatment, on a visit, etc. regardless of the period.</p>
Kazakhstan	<p>Migrant – a person, who entered the Republic of Kazakhstan and who left the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as a person who resettled within the Republic of Kazakhstan regardless of the reasons and duration.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>Migrant – a person who participates in the process of migration. Each migrant is considered to be withdrawn in relation to the territory of withdrawal and arrived in relation to the territory of arrival.</p>
Russia	<p>Migrant – a person who at the moment of the census was living in a given settlement not from birthday.</p> <p>During the census short-term migrants were taken account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for the accounting of external migration registered were persons who temporarily (up to 1 year) were on the territory of Russia as of the date of the census, but whose place of permanent residence was abroad; - for the accounting of internal migration the permanent residents of Russia who changed the place of residence were asked about the place of their residence 1 year ago.
Tajikistan	<p>Migrant – a person crossing the state borders for the change of place of permanent residence.</p>
Ukraine (intended to be used)	<p>Migrant – a person who at the moment of the census was living in a given settlement not from birthday.</p>

Tables layouts for the comparison of the results of the 2020 round of population censuses in the CIS countries, characterizing migration of population

Table 1. Population registered during the 2020 round of population censuses
(thousand persons)

	Total registered population	<i>Total population, males, females</i>			
		of which			
		resident population of the country	including		persons temporarily present on the territory of the country at the moment of the census, but permanently residing abroad*
resident population being on the territory of the country at the moment of the census-	resident population being absent on the territory of the country at the moment of the census*				
Наименование государства					

* For the states intending to receive such information.

Table 2. Distribution of population by citizenship
(thousand persons)

	Total population	<i>Total population, males, females</i>			Not having citizenship	Not indicated
		of which have the citizenship:				
		of own state	of other state	including the CIS states		
Name of the state						

Table 3. Duration of population living in the place of permanent residence
(thousand persons)

	Total population	<i>Total population, males, females</i>				
		of which living continuously in the place of permanent residence:				
		since birthday	not since birthday	including persons coming from:		
				territories of a given state	CIS countries	other countries
Name of the state						

Table 4. Migrants by duration of living in a place of permanent residence and previous place of residence
(thousand persons)

	Arrived for permanent place of residence	<i>Total population, males, females</i>		
		of which continuously living		
		less than 1 year	1-5 years	5 years and more
All migrants of which: changed the place of residence within the bounds of the country arrived from the CIS countries of which arrived from: <i>list the states of the Commonwealth</i> arrived from other countries				

Table 5. Distribution of international migrants by level of education
(persons)

		<i>Total population, males, females</i>							
	Persons arrived for a permanent residence	of which having education							
		higher	incomplete higher	post-secondary	vocational primary	general secondary (complete)	basic general	primary general	not having primary education or not indicated
		<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 0;"> } Given are levels customary in the state </div>							
International migrants at age 15 and older-total, of which those arrived from: the CIS countries- total, including <i>(indicate 5 countries with highest number of migrants)</i> Other countries Not indicated									

Table 6. Migrants temporarily being on the territory of the country with the purpose of work, by country of permanent residence and age groups*
(thousand persons)

		<i>Total population, males, females</i>				Age is not indicated
	Total	of which at the age of:				
		younger than 15	15-29	15-64	65 and older	
Migrants – total of which, permanently living in: the CIS countries <i>list the states of the Commonwealth</i> Other countries Country is not indicated						

- For the states intending to receive such information.