Measurement of emigration from Norway: the main issues and challenges

Kåre Vassenden, Statistics Norway
UNECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics
Chişinău, 10-12 September 2014
Causes, consequences and responses

Root causes:
- The public
- The legislation
- The (technical) system

Pop. reg. system:
- Consequences
- Responses

Statistics Norway:
- Consequences
- Choices
- Result
Three factors influencing the registration of emigration in the Population register

A. The public
   1. Do not notify their intention to emigrate
   2. Notifying – but the notification is rejected because of strict rules

B. The legislation
   1. The Nordic agreement on population registration
   2. Regulations to the act of population registration
   3. Directives and guidelines from the Population registry

C. The system
   Continuously correcting data and revising the history
Time difference (days) between official date of event and recording in the CPR. First 31 days

Events 2005-2010, transactions received -2013, max number of days: 3 years
Two kinds of over-coverage of population

A continuing, but relatively stable over-coverage

A. Due to missing or delayed notifications from the public
   1. Totally missing stays abroad
   2. Emigration event is not missing, but recording is delayed

B. Due to strict rules for registration of emigration
Two grounds for registration of emigration events

1. Notification
   1. From the emigrant
   2. From a Nordic population registry (online)

2. Administrative decision
   1. Expired residence permit
   2. Received information (tips) on a resident living abroad
   3. Has had an unknown place of residence for at least two years
Legal authority for the deregistration

• 1. Expired residence permit
  – § 4-7 no. 1 second paragraph: “Foreign citizens who do not any longer have the permission to stay in Norway are considered as emigrated”.

• 2. Received information that a person has moved abroad
  – § 7-9: “If the tax office gets information that someone has moved abroad it shall without any unjustified delay investigate the case. If the tax office concludes that the person shall be considered as emigrated, it shall immediately make a decision thereon”.

• 3. Unknown place of residence
  – § 4-7 no. 2 first paragraph: “Persons who have not had a known place of residence the recent two years are considered as emigrated. This does not apply if the case should be decided after § 8-2”.

Increased efforts to deregister

- Better tools and more activity
  - Better legal authorities
  - Efficient systems and routines have been developed
  - Extended use of “unknown place of residence”
  - Statistics Norway has assisted in several ways

- Control actions based on
  1. Returned mail may lead to the status “unknown place of residence”
  2. More than 7 residents on an address
  3. No income, etc.
Emigration events by source of information to the population registry
Emigration decisions, by main type of decision

- Unknown place of stay
- Other/ unspecified
- Expired residence permit
Number of weeks between immigration and emigration for two distinct emigration categories
Consequences for the quality of the data received by Statistics Norway

1. Missing some immigration and emigration events
2. Emigration events that are delayed
   – (But better late than never)
3. Over-coverage of the population
4. Low accuracy of the date of event/length of stay
5. Too high percentage unknown ‘country of next residence’
Choices for the production of statistical data and statistics

1. A wait before extraction of data
2. Including the lag in the statistical figures
3. Attempts to improve the coverage of ‘country of next residence’?
4. Data files for research purposes should be based on up-to-date data = deviating from the statistical data
5. Learning more about the population coverage problems
The lag ≈ the aftermath (1). Emigration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official year of event</th>
<th>Reference year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Lag</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2296</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>20952</td>
<td>4505</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>21554</td>
<td>5618</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>25021</td>
<td>3658</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>27611</td>
<td>1543</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>29 256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>29281</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>31 304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>33405</td>
<td>33 405</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23 615</td>
<td>26 549</td>
<td>31 506</td>
<td>32 466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lag</td>
<td>2 663</td>
<td>4 995</td>
<td>6 485</td>
<td>4 855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>11,3</td>
<td>18,8</td>
<td>20,6</td>
<td>15,0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The lag ≈ the aftermath (2). 2007
A low statistical adjustment is a quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Norway</th>
<th>Sweden</th>
<th>Denmark</th>
<th>Finland</th>
<th>Iceland</th>
<th>Grønland</th>
<th>Netherlands</th>
<th>Slovenia</th>
<th>Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-58.3</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>-13.7</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>-10.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>-100.7</td>
<td>31.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>-11.3</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>-2.1</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>-29.8</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>-4.2</td>
<td>-1.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-21.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>-25.2</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>12.32</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-46.3</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>-38.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>-32.7</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>-35.2</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Increasing percentage unknown country of next residence
Matching data files from different sectors to identify the active/inactive people on Norwegian soil

• For assessing the size of the over- and under-coverage

• Individual level data may be used in research projects

• Unthinkable that the result will be used as input in the production of official statistics
Conclusions (1)

1. The field of emigration statistics is a part of bigger pictures. However, emigration data have some distinctive features

2. The Nordic agreement on population registration is an asset for the registration of emigration

3. The basic administrative system provides the necessary data, and possibilities to exploit them
Conclusions (2)

5. SN dependant on the administrative system for further improvements

6. The Population registry should consider solutions for getting more emigrants to notify themselves

7. Necessary to identify inactive people to have a better grasp of the quality of the statistics
Thank you!

Kåre Vassenden
Statistics Norway
Division for Population Statistics
kva@ssb.no
+47 62 88 52 94