
A world map composed of a grid of dots, with the dots in the landmasses being larger and more densely packed than those in the oceans. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean.

DATA REVIEW: POPULATION

6th Meeting of the ICP Inter-Agency Coordination Group
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Outline

- **Data Requirement and Availability**
- **Observed Issues**
- **Data Comparisons with Data from International Organizations**
- **Data comparisons - examples**
- **Reasons for differences**
- **Observations and specific cases**
- **Next steps**

Data Requirement and Availability

DATA REQUIREMENT

- Mid-year population
- Total population consistent with the coverage of national accounts

DATA AVAILABILITY

Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
AFR [50]	49	49	49	49	49	15	10
ASI [22]	20	20	20	20	20	20	22
CIS [8]	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
EUO [50]	48	49	49	49	48	48	50
LA [14]	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
CAR [23]	20	20	20	20	20	20	23
WAS [13]	12	12	12	12	11	11	9

Extrapolation Data: Reporting & Other Issues

REPORTING ISSUES

- Scale of unit inconsistent or reported incorrectly
- Sparse data for recent years

DATA SUBMISSION FORMAT

- POP has different places for reporting – submission format would need to be updated



Data Comparisons with Other Databases

DATA COMPARISONS

- To identify any potential issues with the input data to ensure data quality
- To better understand differences between databases
- With NO short-term objective of harmonizing the data

DATA SOURCES

- Primary Data: ICP Regional Implementing Agency (RIA) submissions
- Secondary Data for comparison purposes:
 - World Bank: World Development Indicators (WDI)
 - IMF: International Financial Statistics (IFS)
 - UN Population Division (UNPD): World Population Prospects
 - UNSD: Population Censuses' Datasets (June/July) for de-facto/de-jure
- Timing/frequency of updates differs database by database

Total Population for GDP purposes (1)

TYPES OF TOTAL POPULATION

- De-facto population: consists of all persons who are physically present in the country or area at the reference date, whether or not they are usual residents¹
- De-jure population: consists of all usual residents, whether or not they are present at the time of the enumeration¹

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Concept of “domestic” accounts for all the people within the domestic territory, irrespective of their resident-ship or nationality
- If both de-facto and de-jure are available and reliable, de-facto population would fit better conceptually for GDP purposes
- However, in reality it depends on the availability and reliability of underlying census data

¹ UNSD demographic-social vital statistics technical notes

Total Population for GDP purposes (2)

WORLD POPULATION PROSPECTS (UN POPULATION DIVISION)

- Modeled estimate for population defined as “De facto population in a country, area or region as of 1 July of the year indicated”²
- WDI and IFS borrow population figures for many/most of the countries from World Population Prospects (with adjustment/replacement where needed)

DEFINITION/COVERAGE IN COUNTRY DATA

- Definition/coverage of official statistics differs country by country due to data availability, territorial issues, political situation, etc.
- UNSD’s country population data indicates that there are many cases where countries release either de-facto or de-jure only, not both
- Metadata are crucial to identify what kind of population data are provided

² <https://population.un.org/wpp/General/GlossaryDemographicTerms.aspx>

Data Comparisons – Examples (2013 data)

In thousands

Country name	ICP RIA	WDI	IMF/IFS	UNPD	UNSD defacto	UNSD dejure	CV	Notes
Bahrain	615	1,315	1,315	1,315		1,253	26.6	GIU will contact with RIA for confirmation
Equatorial Guinea	797	1,084	1,084	1,084			12.3	GIU will contact with RIA for confirmation
Cyprus	862	1,144	1,144	1,144		862	11.4	Exclusion of Northern Cyprus in line with GDP
Serbia	7,167	7,167	8,920	8,920		7,167		Exclusion of Kosovo in line with GDP
Somalia	10,268	13,132	13,132	13,132			10.0	GIU will contact with RIA for confirmation
Sint Maarten	45	37	36	36		37	9.8	GIU will contact with RIA for confirmation
Moldova	3,559	3,559	4,072	4,072		3,559	6.7	Exclusion of Transnistria
Qatar	2,004	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,004		4.9	Census data
Sierra Leone	6,179	6,922	6,922	6,922			4.8	
Lesotho	1,909	2,117	2,117	2,117	1,909		4.4	Census data
Angola	23,448	25,998	25,998	25,998	19,184		4.4	
Maldives	435	397	397	397	336		4.0	GIU will contact with RIA for confirmation

Reasons for Differences

REASONS OF DIFFERENCES

- Versioning or vintage issues
- Difference in definitions and concepts
- Methodology
- Data source (agency that provided data)
- Territorial inclusion/exclusion (Coverage should be consistent between national accounts and population estimates)

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

- Lack of metadata for ICP population data makes it difficult to understand the provided figures

Metadata

METADATA IS REQUIRED

- Metadata accompanying the value are crucial to verify that the population data is suitable for ICP purposes:

METADATA REQUIREMENT (PROPOSAL)

- Data source (agency and link to the source report)
- Name and year of underlying survey(s) (e.g. 2018 Census)
- Definition of the population (such as inclusion of non-resident alien, tourist, etc.; de-fact/de-jure)
- Any special notes on territorial inclusion/exclusion

Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- GIU will contact RIAs for update/confirmation where there are data gaps, reporting errors, or inconsistency
- GIU will update data submission format to include metadata section
- NIAs and RIAs to provide meta-data in the next submission
- RIAs, GIU and the Task Team to review metadata in the next submission
- The task team will continue checking the data discrepancies in the next rounds of submissions (and report where there are potential issues that can result in large discrepancies)
- Continue building relationship and mechanisms to cross check data between national, regional, and international organizations



THANK YOU