

**Documentation of statistics for  
Migration to and from Denmark 2016**

## **1 Introduction**

The purpose of the statistic is to describe the total immigration to Denmark and emigration from Denmark which have occurred during the period.

## **2 Statistical presentation**

The statistic describes immigration to Denmark and emigration from Denmark. A newsletter is published when the statistic is ready. The statistic is published each quarter. With the dissemination of the 4th quarter statistics an annual statistic for entire year is also published.

At the same time tables in the Statbank are updated. Immigration and emigration can be broken down by age, sex, municipality, citizenship and country of origin or country of destination.

### **2.1 Data description**

The statistic describes immigration to Denmark and emigration from Denmark in the period.

### **2.2 Classification system**

Not relevant for these statistics.

### **2.3 Sector coverage**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## 2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Immigration: The numbers for immigration comprise persons, who took up residence in Denmark during the year and who had residence abroad before. Asylum seekers who obtain residence permits are included in the number for immigration, when they have their residence permit and are registered in the Danish population register. In Denmark persons who come to Denmark from abroad are required to register in the population when they intend to stay for at least 3 months. Only persons registered in the population register are counted in the numbers for immigration. In the numbers for immigration and emigration the same person can be counted several times. For example a person can immigrate in February, emigrate in June and reimmigrate in November. In a case like that the person's migration counts as 2 in the number for immigration and 1 in the number for emigration.

The Eurostat regulation 862/2007, which Statistics Denmark also report data for, has another definition regarding when immigration and emigration should be included. In both cases 12 months is used. That means only immigrants who come to Denmark and intend to stay for at least 12 months should be counted as immigrants and only persons who move abroad and intend to stay abroad for at least 12 months should be counted as emigrants. Therefore Eurostat's numbers for immigration and emigration are as far as Denmark is concerned lower compared to the numbers published by Statistics Denmark.

Emigration: The numbers for emigration comprise persons, who have given up their residence in Denmark during the year and moved abroad. In Denmark persons who intend to move abroad for at least 6 months are required to report it to the population register, where they will be deregistered. Only deregistered persons are counted in the number for emigration. In the numbers for immigration and emigration the same person can be counted several times. For example a person can immigrate in February, emigrate in June and reimmigrate in November. In a case like that the person's migration count as 2 in the number for immigration and 1 in the number for emigration

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## 2.5 Statistical unit

Persons.

## 2.6 Statistical population

For immigration the population is immigrated persons during the period. For emigration the population is emigrated persons during the period

## 2.7 Reference area

The statistic can be broken down to the municipal level.

## **2.8 Time coverage**

Time series from 1980 to 2013 is available in the Statbank.

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

Persons.

## **2.11 Reference period**

01-01-2016 - 31-12-2016

## **2.12 Frequency of dissemination**

Quarterly and annually.

## **2.13 Legal acts and other agreements**

The statistics is based the Danish CPR system, which can be used for statistical purposes in accordance with "Lov om Danmarks Statistik §6 (jf. lovbekendtgørelse nr. 599 af 22. juni 2000)".

There is a EU regulation 862/2007 regarding migration statistics. In order to fulfill the requirements of this regulation special calculations are made. The results of these do not correspond to what we publish on a National level.

## **2.14 Cost and burden**

There is almost no cost associated with the collection of data, since all data comes from administrative registers.

## **2.15 Comment**

For further information contact Statistics Denmark.

## **3 Statistical processing**

CPR (central population register) is the source for information about migration.

Data is processed 30 days after the end of the reference year and published shortly after. For 2013 the statistic was published 11 February 2014.

### **3.1 Source data**

The Danish population register (CPR) is the source for information about migration to and from Denmark.

### **3.2 Frequency of data collection**

Statistics Denmark receives update from the CPR on a daily basis.

### **3.3 Data collection**

Daily updates from the Population register (CPR) is the only data collection.

### **3.4 Data validation**

None. The information from the Population register (CPR) is used without further corrections. The published numbers are thus in accordance with the information in the CPR.

### **3.5 Data compilation**

Statistics Denmark receives data from the CPR. The statistic is made in Statistics Denmark and disseminated by Statistics Denmark.

The registration of immigration and emigration is often delayed somewhat. Therefore it is allowed that the registration has taken place up to 30 days after the end of the year.

### **3.6 Adjustment**

No correction of data is made apart from what has already been described in data validation and data compilation.

## **4 Relevance**

Municipalities, regions, ministries, organizations, research institutions, private enterprises, news media and individuals are among the users.

### **4.1 User Needs**

Municipalities, regions, ministries, organizations, research institutions, private enterprises, news media and individuals are among the users.

### **4.2 User Satisfaction**

No collection of information about user satisfaction is currently taking place regarding this statistic.

### **4.3 Data completeness rate**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **5 Accuracy and reliability**

Emigration numbers are systematically underestimated. This is due to the fact that many people move abroad without telling the authorities. It is the municipalities who are responsible for the maintenance of the CPR. The correct numbers for emigration is estimated to be about 15-20 percent higher than the published.

A similar problem is not an issue for immigration where the underestimation is about 1-2 percent.

Therefore it is not possible to have a correct measure for net migration simply by subtracting emigration from immigration. That would overestimate net migration.

Persons who take up residence in Denmark without being registered in the CPR are not included among immigrated in the statistic.

Asylum seekers are not included among immigrated in the statistic. It is only when they get a residence permit and are registered in the CPR that they will counted as immigrated.

### **5.1 Overall accuracy**

Emigration numbers are underestimated by about 15-20 percent due to registrations occurring later than 30 days after the end of the reference period. Immigration number are underestimated by about 1-2 percent for the same reasons.

Net migration calculated using published number for immigration and emigration are therefore too high and not accurate.

### **5.2 Sampling error**

Not relevant for these statistics.

### **5.3 Non-sampling error**

These statistic are based on the Central Person Register.

The statistic is based on the date of registration for immigration and emigration instead of actual date of occurrence. Experience shows that delays are a big issue especially concerning emigration reported to CPR. It causes that the level for migration will be more correct, but some migrations can be shown in the wrong year.

### **5.4 Quality management**

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

## 5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

## 5.6 Quality assessment

An important strength is the possibility to break down immigration and emigration by municipality, sex, age and citizenship.

A important weakness is that emigration is systematically underestimated due to late registrations.

The sum of the quarterly published statistics is not equivalent to the annual statistic. It is due to the fact that the annual statistic is processed later than 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarter and therefore more updated in terms of later registrations.

The statistic is based on registrations in the CPR. Illegal immigrants' immigration and emigration are not included. Neither are asylum seekers. Only when they are given a residence permit will they be able to register in the CPR. People who move to Denmark with an intended duration of less than 3 months are not required to register in the CPR. The same goes for persons who moves abroad with the intention of staying abroad for less than six months.

## 5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

## 5.8 Data revision practice

No revisions are made.

## 6 Timeliness and punctuality

These statistics are published approximately 6 weeks after the end of the reference period. These statistics have always been published as planned.

### 6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

These statistics are published approximately 6 weeks after the end of the reference period. No revisions are made.

### 6.2 Punctuality

No difference between planned and actual publication.

## **7 Comparability**

There is a break in the series in 2007, where a new way of calculating the annual immigration and emigration was introduced. The changes are particularly relevant for emigration where the new method results in lower numbers.

### **7.1 Comparability - geographical**

Eurostat publishes migration statistics for Denmark in connection with regulation 862/2007. Eurostat's figures are lower due to different time criteria regarding duration of stay. In Eurostat the time criteria is 12 months for both immigration and emigration. That means only immigrated person with an intended duration of stay of at least 12 months should be counted as immigrated. In Statistics Denmark's national publications it is 3 months for immigration and 6 months for emigration.

The numbers for Eurostat are calculated looking at actual duration of stay of 12 months or more. For 2013 the immigration number for Eurostat was 60.312. The corresponding for this statistic was 78.259.

### **7.2 Comparability over time**

Time series from 1980 are available.

In 2007 a change was made, so that only movements within the reference year were included. Prior to that all registrations in the reference year were included. Including these where the movement took place in a year prior to the reference year. The effect of the changes was felt the most for emigration where the new method result in lower numbers.

### **7.3 Coherence - cross domain**

Quarterly statistics about migration to and from Denmark are also published.

### **7.4 Coherence - internal**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **8 Accessibility and clarity**

Statistic is published in newsletter and tables in the Statbank.

### **8.1 Release calendar**

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

### **8.3 User access**

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.



## 8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

## 8.4 News release

A news letter from Statistics Denmark is published quarterly.

The news letter is only available in Danish. News letters can be accessed from Statistic Denmark's news letters [overview](#) by selecting Befolkning og Ind-og udvandring.

## 8.5 Publications

In [Statistical Yearbook](#) the latest migration number are shown in the section Population and elections.

## 8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject [Migrations to and from Denmark](#) in the following tables:

- [INDVAN](#): Immigration by sex, age, citizenship, country of last residence and time
- [UDVAN](#): Emigration by sex, age, citizenship, country of destination and time
- [VAN1AAR](#): Immigration by region, sex, age, country of last residence, citizenship and time
- [VAN1KVT](#): Immigration (provisional data) by region, sex, age, country of last residence, citizenship and time
- [VAN2AAR](#): Emigration by region, sex, age, country of destination, citizenship and time
- [VAN2KVT](#): Emigration (provisional data) by region, sex, age, country of destination, citizenship and time

## 8.7 Micro-data access

Micro-data can be accessed via Statistics Denmark's data for research for approved institutions with approved research projects.

## 8.8 Other

Not relevant for these statistics.

## 8.9 Confidentiality - policy

No confidentiality measures are taken regarding this statistic. The published tables in the Statbank is not considered to contain sensitive information.

## 8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

No discretionary measures are taken.

### **8.11 Documentation on methodology**

On our website there is a [document](#) which describes the underestimation of emigration (only in Danish).

### **8.12 Quality documentation**

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

## **9 Contact**

The administrative placement of these statistics are in the division of Population and Education. The person responsible is Dorthe Larsen, tel. +45 39 17 33 07, e-mail: [dla@dst.dk](mailto:dla@dst.dk)

### **9.1 Contact organisation**

Statistics Denmark

### **9.2 Contact organisation unit**

Population and Education, Social Statistics

### **9.3 Contact name**

Dorthe Larsen

### **9.4 Contact person function**

Responsible for the statistics

### **9.5 Contact mail address**

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N/A

