REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY

Statistics of International Migration of Population for 2025

Organisational unit: Demographic and Social Statistics Directorate / Population Statistics Department

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November 2026

0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal and subject of the survey

  Migration statistics collects, processes and releases data on the movement of people. International migration of population is the change of a country of usual residence. The international migration statistics collects and processes data on international migration flows, that is, the data on the number and characteristics of persons who changed their country of usual residence in a given calendar year.

- Reference period

  Calendar year

- Legal acts and other agreements

  At the national level:

  - Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20, 155/23, 124/25 – corr. and 69/26)
  - Annual Implementation Plan of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia 2025 (NN, No. 29/25)
  - Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia 2021 – 2027 (NN, No. 29/22).

  At the European level:

  - Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers
  - Regulation (EU) 2020/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection
  - Commission Regulation (EU) No 351/2010 of 23 April 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection as regards the definitions of the categories of the groups of country of birth, groups of country of previous usual residence, groups of country of next usual residence and groups of citizenship.

- Classification system

  Code List of Countries

  Code List of Citizenship

  Classification of territorial units for statistics

- Statistical concepts and definitions

  Immigrants from abroad and emigrants to foreign countries are persons who have changed their country of usual residence for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least one year.

  Place of permanent residence, according to Article 2 of the Permanent Residence Act (NN, Nos 144/12, 158/13 and 114/22), is a place and address in the Republic of Croatia where a person settled with an intention of staying permanently in order to exercise their rights and commitments related to life interests such as family, professional, economic, social, cultural and other interests.

  Place of temporary residence, according to Article 2 of the Permanent Residence Act (NN, Nos 144/12, 158/13 and 114/22), is a place and address in the Republic of Croatia where a person resides temporarily but without an intention of settling there.

Citizenship is defined as person's permanent legal relation with a state, which admits a special legal status to a person. Croatian citizenship can be obtained according to the Croatian Citizenship Act (NN, Nos 53/91, 70/91, 28/92, 113/93, 4/94, 130/11, 110/15, 102/19 and 138/21) by origin, birth on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, naturalisation and on the basis of international contracts. Citizenship of the Republic of Croatia terminates: by discharge, renouncement and in accordance with international agreements.

Alien, according to Article 3 of the Aliens Act (NN, Nos 133/20, 114/22, 151/22 and 40/25), is any person who is not a Croatian national.

Net migration of population (migration balance) is the difference between the number of immigrants and emigrants of a particular area or country in a given period of time. The contribution of migration to overall population growth or decline is due to positive or negative net migration (net migration is positive when the number of immigrants exceeds the number of emigrants, or net migration is negative when the opposite is true).

Total net migration of population of the county is the difference between the total number of immigrants from another county and abroad and the total number of emigrants to another county and abroad.

Age of migrants is presented as an age reached at the moment of migration. Each age group includes persons who reached an age within the limits of an interval. For example, the age group from 15 to 19 years includes all persons who have reached 15 years of age and more but have not yet turned 20.

- Statistical units

  Immigrants from abroad and emigrants to foreign countries.

- Statistical population

  The statistical definition of migrant is based on the concept of usual residence. According to this concept, immigrants from abroad and emigrants to foreign countries are persons who have changed their country of usual residence for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least one year.

  Data on migration encompass Croatian citizens and aliens who have been granted temporary or permanent stay in the Republic of Croatia.

  The Permanent Residence Act (NN, Nos 144/12, 158/13 and 114/22) lays down the conditions governing the registration and deregistration of permanent and temporary residence of Croatian citizens. The Aliens Act (NN, Nos 133/20, 114/22, 151/22 and 40/25) lays down the conditions of entry, movement, stay and work of aliens who are third-country nationals in the Republic of Croatia. The Act on Nationals of the European Economic Area Member States and Their Family Members (NN, Nos 66/19, 53/20, 144/20 and 114/22) regulate conditions for the entry, movement, stay and work of nationals of the European Economic Area Member States and their family members.

1. Relevance

1.1 Data users

Data users in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics: Population Statistics Department (for calculating population projections and population estimates).

External data users (national and/or international): ministries, state organisations and institutes, scientific organisations, individual users, international organisations.

1.1.1 User needs

Migration statistics monitor the quantitative and demographic aspects of population migration. Migration or mechanical movement of population is an area of demographic research and, together with natural change, an integral part of the total population change.

Statistics on migration are fundamental for the study, formulation and evaluation of a wide range of policies, for conducting various research and analyses.

1.1.2 User satisfaction

The first user satisfaction survey of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics was carried out in 2013, and since 2024, the survey has been conducted annually. The survey results are available on the Croatian Bureau of Statistics website under User satisfaction surveys.

1.2. Completeness

Since 2011, international migration statistics have been processed according to the methodology based on the UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration and the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers.

1.2.1 Data completeness rate

Not applicable.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable.

2.1.1 Sampling error indicators

Not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

Not applicable.

2.2.1. Coverage error

Not applicable.

2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

Not applicable.

2.2.3. Measurement error

Not applicable.

2.2.4. Non-response error

Not applicable.

2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

Not applicable.

2.2.6. Item non-response rate

Not applicable.

2.2.7. Processing error

Not applicable.

2.2.8. Imputation rate

Not applicable.

2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not applicable.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, on the link – General Revision Policy of the CBS.

2.3.2. Data revision – practice

Provisional data are not published in the survey; therefore, there are no regular data revisions.

2.3.3. Data revision – average size

Not applicable.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Not applicable.

3. Timeliness and Punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

The first release of final results: 30 June for the previous year.

3.1.1. Time lag – first results

Not applicable.

3.1.2. Time lag – final results

Timeliness of final results is T + 6 months.

3.2. Punctuality

Migration data are published according to the Publishing Programme and the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues.

3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication

Delivery and publication is 1.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Data and Notes on Methodology are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics https://podaci.dzs.hr/en/statistics/population/migration-of-population/. All additional information regarding the results and the survey can be found at the e-mail address stat.info@dzs.hr.

4.1. News release

Data are released in the First Release "Migration of Population of the Republic of Croatia, 2025" at the following link STAN-2026-2-1 Migration of Population of the Republic of Croatia, 2025 | Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.2. On-line database

Data are available in the PC-Axis databases at the link PX-Web - Select table.

4.3. Micro-data access

The conditions under which certain users can access microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on Conditions and Terms of Access and Use of Confidential Statistical Data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for Scientific Purposes (NN, No. 5/23).

4.4. Documentation on methodology

Notes on Methodology are available in the First Release "Migration of Population of the Republic of Croatia, 2025".

5. Comparability over time

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

The indicator is not computed.

5.2. Comparability - over time

The data are fully comparable in the period from 2011 to 2025.

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is 15.

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

Since 2011, international migration statistics have been processed according to the methodology based on the UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration and the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers. Due to the implementation of the Permanent Residence Act (NN, Nos 144/12., 158/13. and 114/22.), data from 2013 onwards have included persons who were absent for more than a year from their permanent residence for temporary stay outside the Republic of Croatia and reported their absence to the Ministry of the Interior. According to the methodology that was used until 2010, the international migration statistics included the citizens of the Republic of Croatia and aliens with the granted permanent stay in the Republic of Croatia who registered or cancelled their place of permanent residence in the Republic of Croatia.

5.3. Coherence – subannual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

5.4. Coherence – national accounts

Not applicable.

5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

Not applicable.

6. Cost and burden

6.1. Cost

Not applicable.

6.2. Burden

Not applicable.