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for Migration Research

Comparability of statistics on international migration flows in the European Union

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Central European Forum For Migration Research (CEFMR)

Workshop on the Estimation of International Migration in Europe: Issues, Models and Assessment

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Contents

Presentation based on info from:

- ***Annual International Migration Statistics*** **project (with NIDI)**
- **THESIM –** ***Towards Harmonised European Statistics on International Migration***

  (7 partners, co-ordinated by M. Poulain); involved meetings in all 25 EU countries)

Incomparability problems - empirical observations

Double-entry matrices

- **The idea: to present data reported by the receiving and sending countries in one table**
- **History: Kelly, Poulain**

  The first matrix - flows between ECE countries in 1972
- **Tables 1,2: Double-entry matrices for 2003 and 2002**
  source: Joint UNECE-Eurostat-CoE-UNSD-ILO Questionnaire on Migration Statistics
- **Flows from A to B shown in a pair of cells:**
  - Upper cell - data from the receiving country (R)
  - Lower cell – data from the sending country (S)

Double-entry matrix, 2003

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FROM \ TO		BE	CZ	DK	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK
BE	r	:	80	587	4 291	:	:	3 037	:	:	:	44	11	10	804	:	:	5 348	267	64	105	19	2	184	399	:
BE	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CZ	r	:	:	232	9 258	:	:	388	:	:	:	79	2	11	3	:	:	333	1 201	46	9	7	650	47	123	:
CZ	s	78	:	47	950	46	66	70	283	31	197	32	12	13	6	35	5	149	315	1 040	27	9	18 262	57	43	455
DK	r	:	65	:	2 693	:	:	764	:	:	:	14	22	81	14	:	:	474	203	17	58	5	0	371	4 603	:
DK	s	511	180	:	2 540	4 111	229	1 720	1 333	264	782	24	348	596	131	120	14	609	231	548	174	29	79	403	4 582	4 317
DE	r	:	1 228	3 221	:	:	:	13 746	:	:	:	195	79	257	436	:	:	7 921	12 239	2 261	645	242	106	807	2 872	:
DE	s	4 623	8 909	2 712	:	2 680	18 106	16 236	19 060	2 415	33 802	306	1 474	2 011	1 510	15 429	120	8 616	15 976	82 910	8 880	2 346	9 546	2 380	3 786	15 550
EE	r	:	4	169	947	:	:	60	:	:	:	0	69	53	2	:	:	53	37	0	2	0	0	1 292	311	:
EE	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	r	:	57	278	12 959	:	:	273	:	:	:	4 971	4	8	5	:	:	882	465	58	15	6	2	63	585	:
EL	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	r	:	103	1 665	14 647	:	:	:	:	:	:	38	2	85	28	:	:	2 794	615	85	743	6	2	608	1 234	:
ES	s	647	34	130	2 109	143	38	:	2 474	487	801	1	1	31	89	41	6	600	93	144	627	12	16	102	164	2 335
FR	r	:	462	1 488	18 133	:	:	8 847	:	:	:	99	12	40	987	:	:	2 919	741	191	458	23	9	312	931	:
FR	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IE	r	:	45	306	2 046	:	:	1 649	:	:	:	64	6	39	3	:	:	615	138	12	37	0	1	146	230	:
IE	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	r	:	274	895	23 702	:	:	5 796	:	:	:	11	17	47	68	:	:	1 661	1 460	229	312	49	14	209	473	:
IT	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CY	r	:	35	33	260	:	:	19	:	:	:	:	0	2	:	:	:	32	21	3	4	1	0	22	44	:
CY	s	22	16	14	80	0	604	14	59	0	16	:	0	0	0	19	15	19	19	15	0	0	0	0	21	261
LV	r	:	17	381	1 966	:	:	207	:	:	:	12	:	177	:	:	:	74	68	4	11	0	0	63	182	:
LV	s	0	3	40	170	68	2	2	28	11	32	1	:	80	1	0	0	19	10	15	37	0	3	33	45	40
LT	r	:	27	701	3 457	:	:	1 401	:	:	:	15	146	:	1	:	:	173	120	60	11	0	1	44	232	:
LT	s	51	53	158	1 204	239	15	465	143	276	184	2	192	:	1	7	0	95	41	123	55	0	3	112	191	980
LU	r	:	3	196	1 728	:	:	89	:	:	:	0	0	1	:	:	:	166	57	3	10	2	0	34	78	:
LU	s	1 119	7	119	747	3	22	73	1 254	44	208	:	2	1	:	17	5	97	22	11	521	3	7	33	74	171
HU	r	:	58	170	14 965	:	:	271	:	:	:	125	2	5	8	:	:	498	2 595	20	17	6	25	76	244	:
HU	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	r	:	3	18	98	:	:	5	:	:	:	12	0	1	:	:	:	44	4	0	0	1	1	1	33	:
MT	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	r	:	245	820	13 015	:	:	3 567	:	:	:	65	8	40	25	:	:	:	655	72	264	8	11	239	707	:
NL	s	9 284	172	430	9 822	541	482	3 365	3 373	459	1 274	37	21	41	150	242	33	:	470	622	666	40	65	292	648	7 022
AT	r	:	339	262	13 456	:	:	554	:	:	:	17	4	14	7	:	:	510	:	140	33	55	48	92	333	:
AT	s	177	837	100	4 422	17	340	300	426	68	852	13	25	70	44	1 752	6	295	:	1 904	180	295	1 329	196	396	668
PL	r	:	1 653	995	104 924	:	:	3 498	:	:	:	123	15	113	10	:	:	2 106	2 974	:	36	2	36	89	1 134	:
PL	s	138	46	68	15 013	47	56	139	251	20	311	0	4	7	14	6	0	275	355	:	5	0	10	11	117	282
PT	r	:	31	170	7 699	:	:	5 505	:	:	:	0	2	13	512	:	:	1 619	330	13	1 850	3	2	56	143	:
PT	s	0	0	0	955	0	0	0	849	0	0	0	0	0	0	770	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 187
SI	r	:	16	31	2 053	:	:	71	:	:	:	0	2	1	:	:	:	60	372	1	1	:	1	6	22	:
SI	s	40	12	4	463	0	8	12	47	2	127	4	0	0	17	5	0	14	188	7	3	:	4	1	24	32
SK	r	:	24 385	84	10 684	:	:	324	:	:	:	63	5	5	5	:	:	191	2 330	19	1	5	:	12	56	:
SK	s	7	448	0	199	3	2	8	17	0	38	0	0	0	5	18	0	8	134	10	0	0	:	1	6	52
FI	r	:	55	421	2 204	:	:	802	:	:	:	11	38	32	2	:	:	362	251	6	15	0	0	:	3 395	:
FI	s	245	34	397	761	1 286	56	792	284	110	210	19	21	20	57	96	2	217	76	23	26	2	4	:	3 428	1 070
SE	r	:	83	2 705	3 397	:	:	1 537	:	:	:	46	40	58	11	:	:	638	474	91	31	18	7	3 438	:	:
SE	s	411	77	2 585	1 580	4 839	510	1 356	946	205	441	54	58	38	66	127	19	499	238	216	92	10	23	3 386	:	3 676
UK	r	:	488	3 707	13 197	:	:	34 177	:	:	:	2 870	35	122	37	:	:	5 872	1 180	261	947	16	33	914	3 022	:
UK	s	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Analysis of the double-entry matrices

- **Matrices: R-S, ratios R/S, S/R**
- **There is a large number of empty cells**
- **Large differences (relative and absolute) between R and S**
- **Diffs especially for flows to/from DE, but not only**

PL→DE	R-S = 90 thousand	R/S = 7 (R=104924,S=15013)
SK→CZ	R-S = 24 thousand	R/S = 54 (R=24385, S=448)
ES→DE	R-S = 12.5 thousand	R/S = 7 (R=14647, S=2109)
DE→SK	R-S = -9 thousand	S/R = 90 (R=106, S=9456)
DE→PL	R-S = -81 thousand	S/R = 37 (R=2261, S=82910)

- **R<S for 40% of non-zero cells in 2003 (41% in 2002)**

Analysis of the double-entry matrices (cont.)

- **Immigration statistics**
  - The least effective (in terms of R/S): PL, SK, then PT, LU, LV, SI
  - The most effective: DE, DK, ES
- **Emigration statistics**
  - The least effective: SK, PT, PL, then ES, IT, LV
  - The most effective: DE, DK, AU
- **PT – zero emigration to many countries,**
  Non-zero immigration from PT to PT

Incomparability problems - empirical observations

Evolution of migration flows over time

- **Graphs presenting evolution of flows between pairs of countries over time, as reported by the receiving and the sending countries**
- **2 x 25 x 24 = 1200 possible graphs in the system of 25 countries**
- **56 graphs presented in the paper**

  (reasonable number of data points, significant level of flows, typical or interesting observations)

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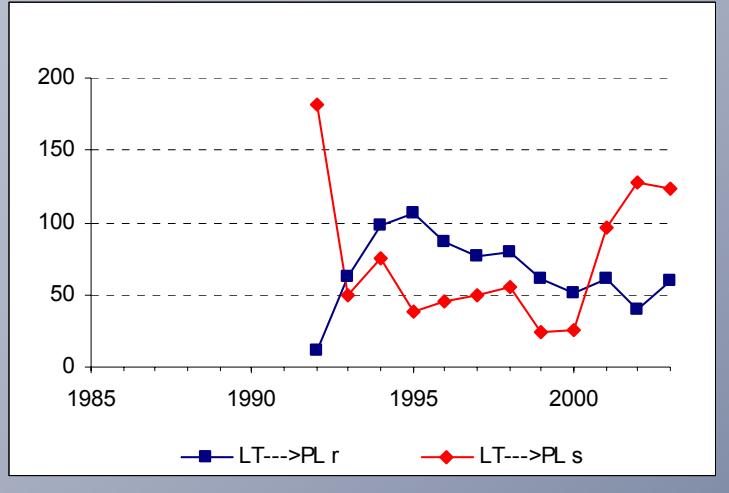
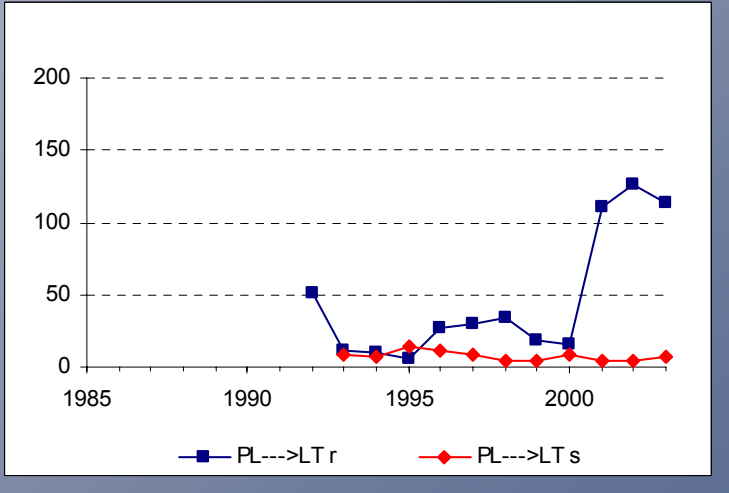
Are the flows increasing or going down?





Migration flows between Lithuania and Poland

Comparability of data IS possible!

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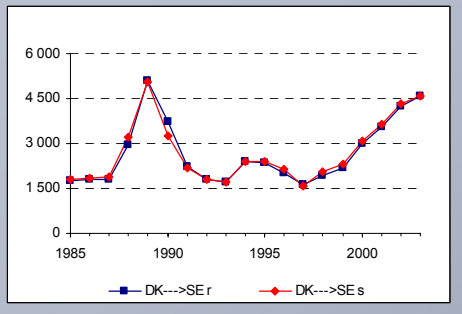
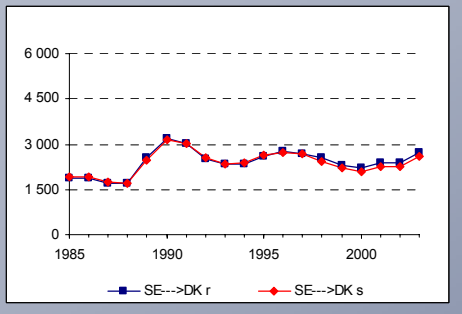
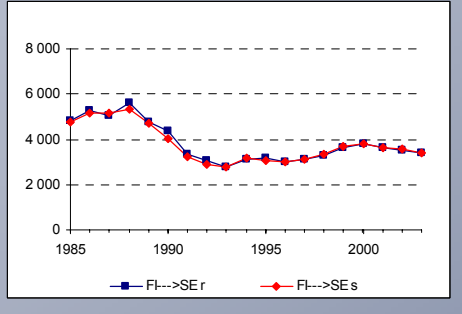
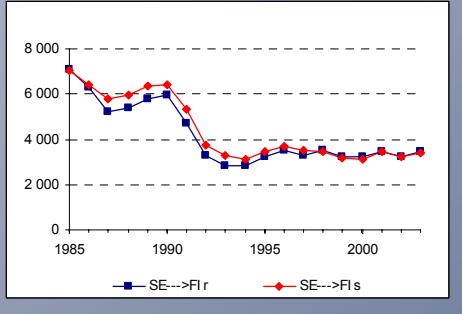


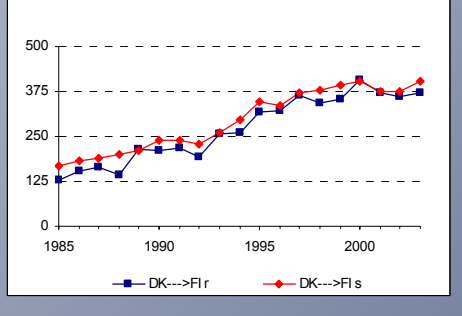


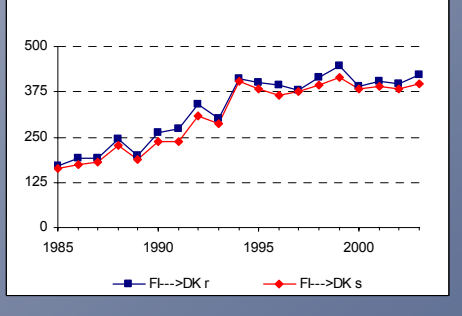
Flows between Denmark and Sweden





Flows between Finland and Sweden





Flows between Denmark and Finland

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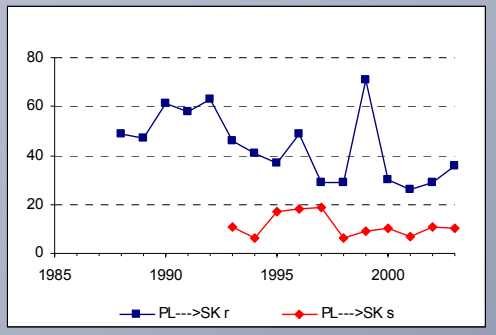
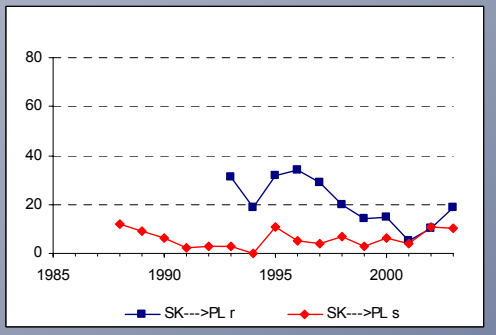
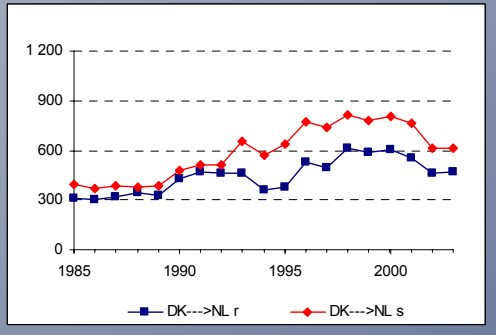
Less frequently: figures from the receiving country larger than those from the sending country

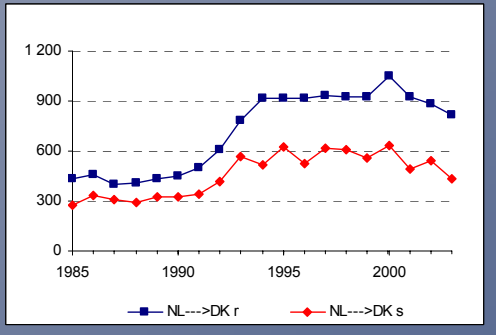




Flows between Poland and Slovakia

More frequently: the figures from one country larger than those from the other country, in both directions





Flows between Denmark and the Netherlands

Comparison of flow data for the countries with good migration statistics

- Germany
- Sweden
- Denmark
- Finland
- The Netherlands

Flows to/from Germany

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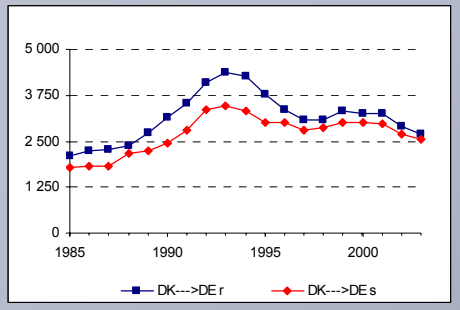
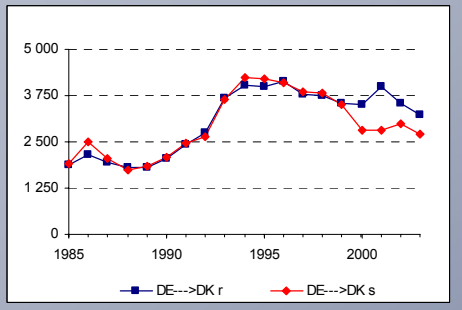
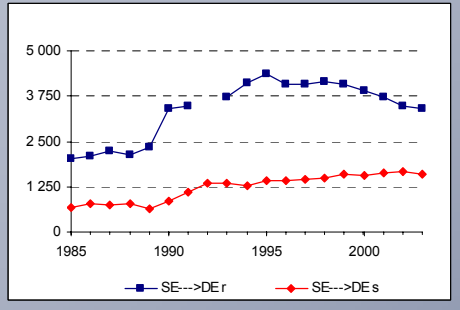
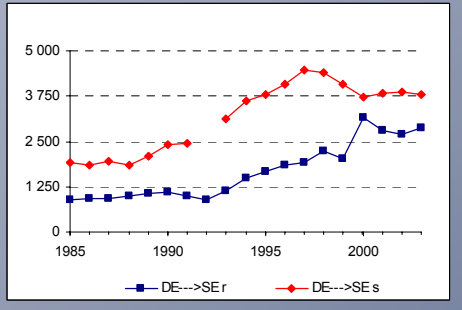


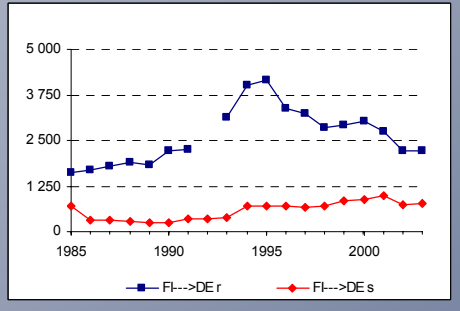


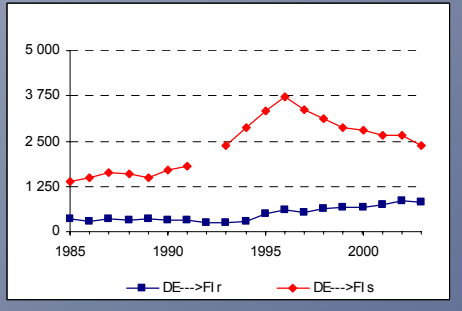
Germany ↔ Denmark





Germany ↔ Sweden





Germany ↔ Finland

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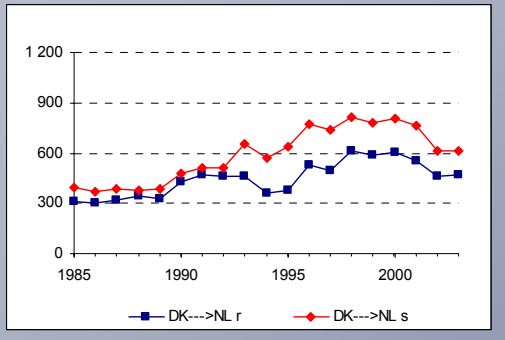
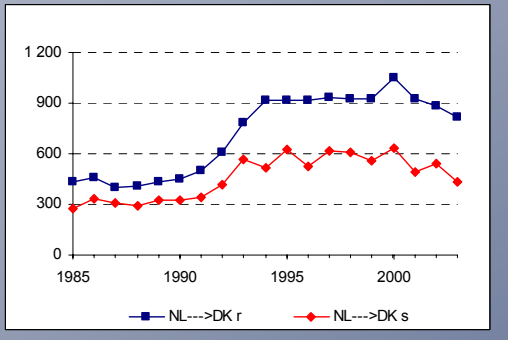
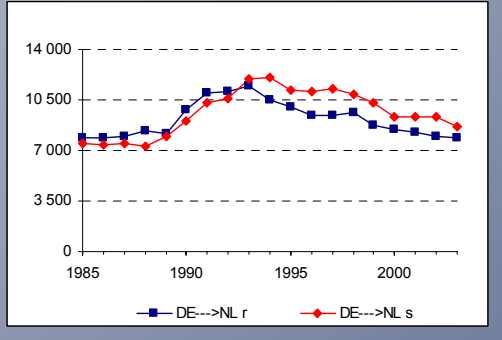
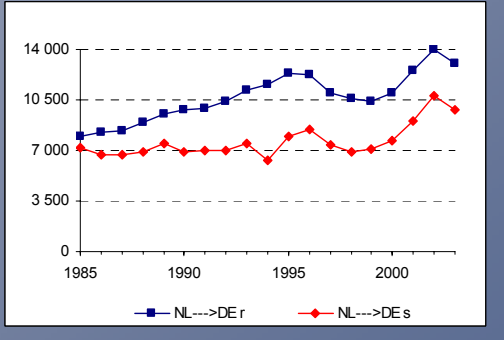
Dutch figures are lower than Danish and German …





The Netherlands ↔ Denmark





The Netherlands ↔ Germany

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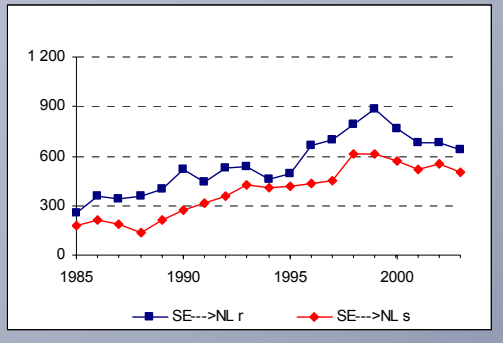
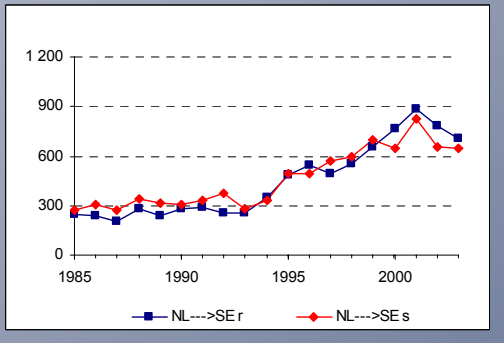
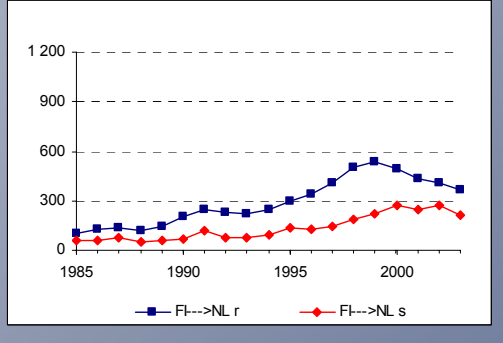
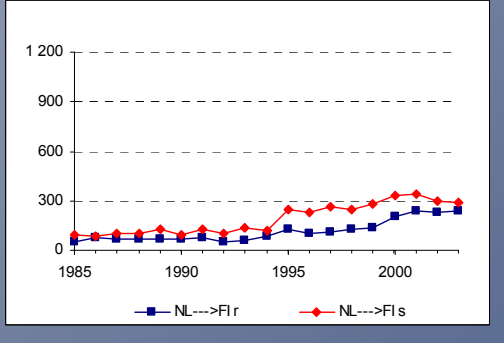
… but
Dutch figures are larger than Finish and Swedish





The Netherlands ↔ Sweden





The Netherlands ↔ Finland

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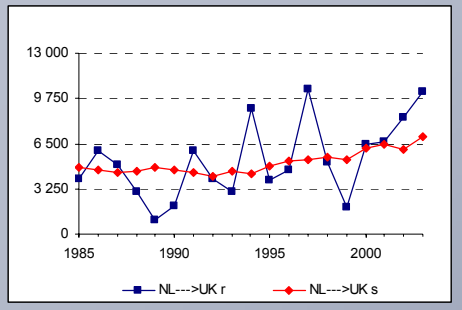
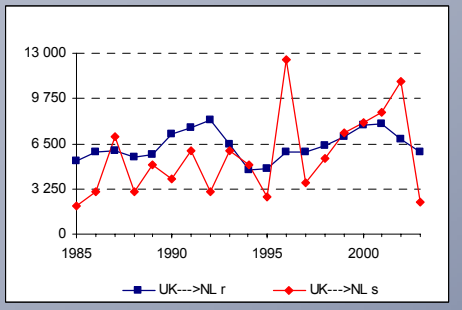
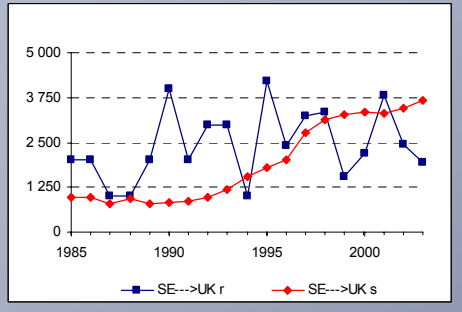
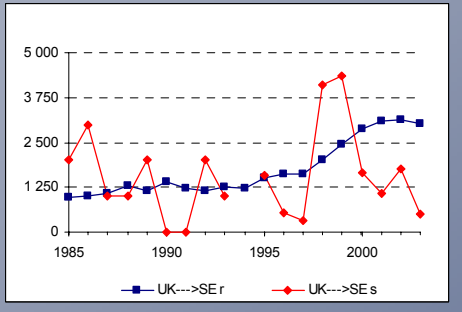
Oscillations of the flows reported by the UK



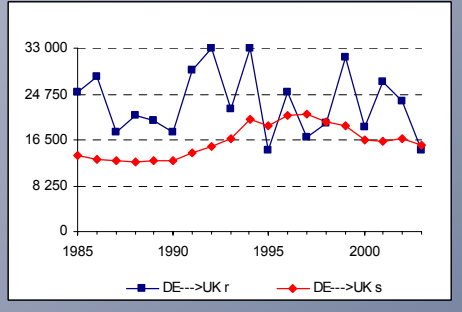


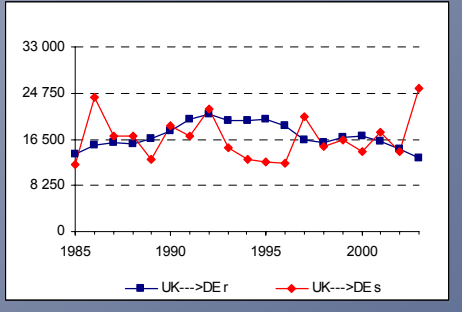
the UK ↔ the Netherlands





the UK ↔ Sweden





the UK ↔ Germany

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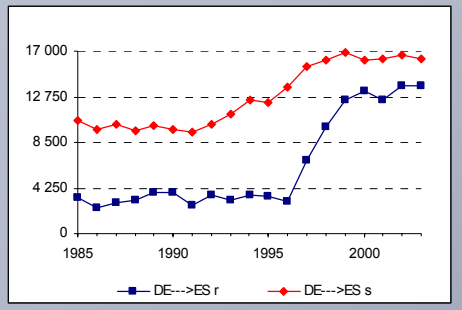
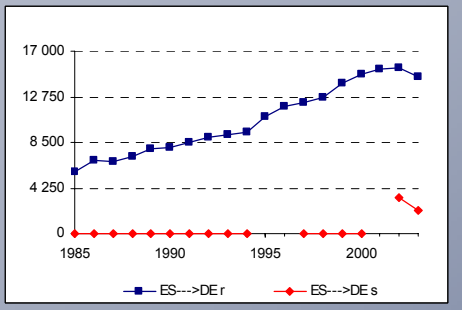
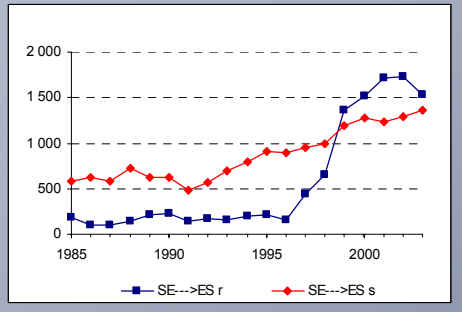
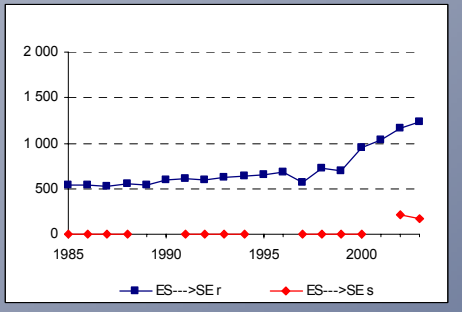
Jumps in the flows reported by Spain



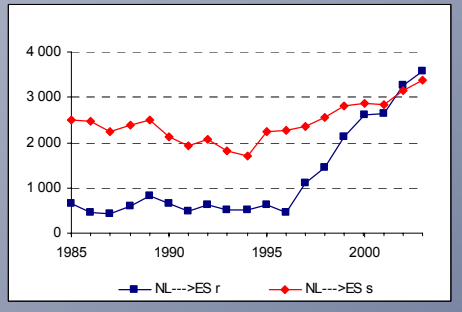


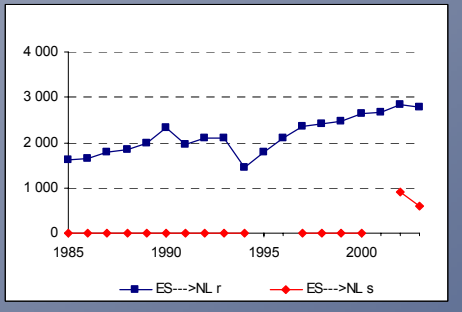
Spain ↔ Germany





Spain ↔ Sweden





Spain ↔ the Netherlands

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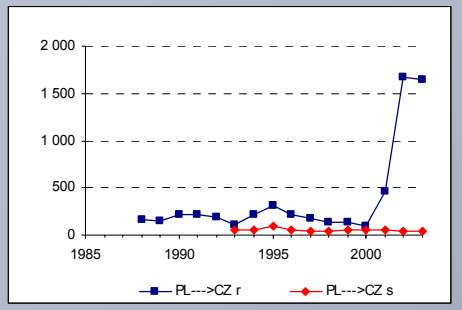
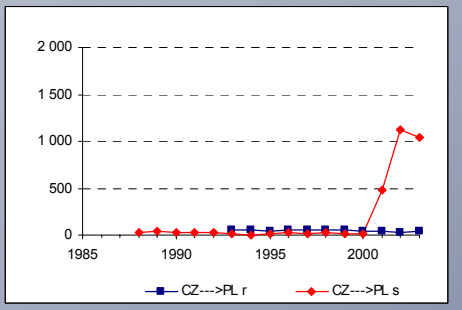
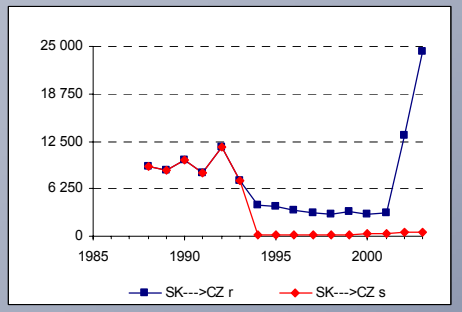
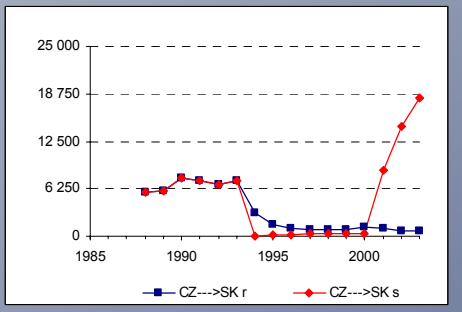
Jumps in the flows reported by the Czech Republic



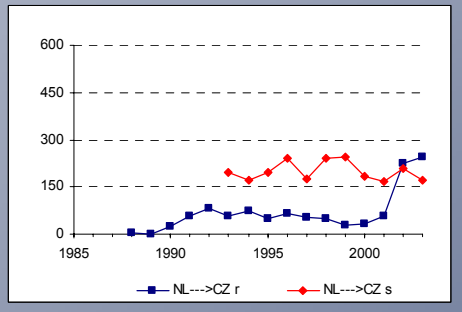


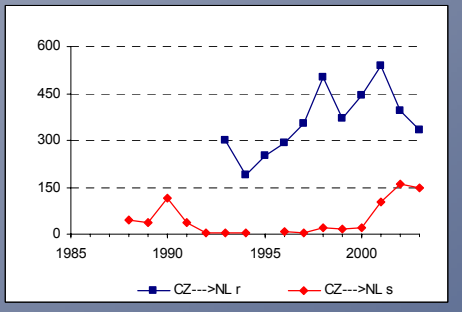
CZ ↔ PL





CZ ↔ SK





CZ ↔ NL

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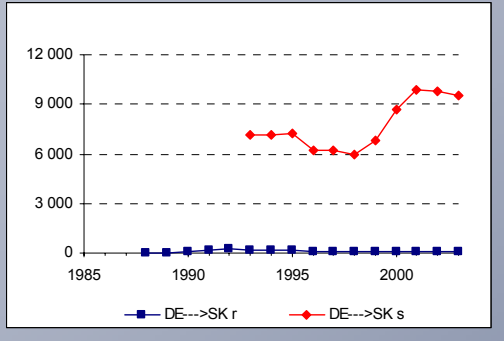
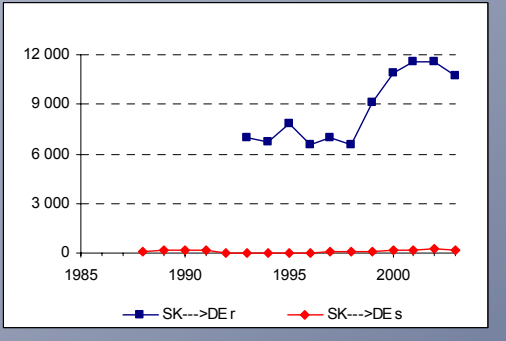
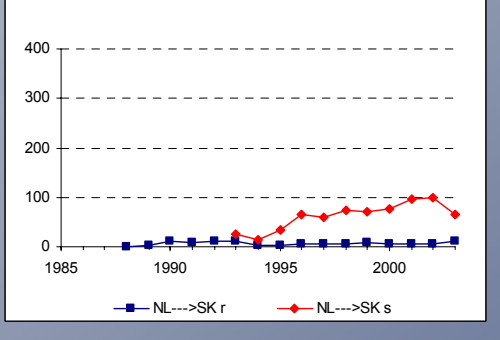
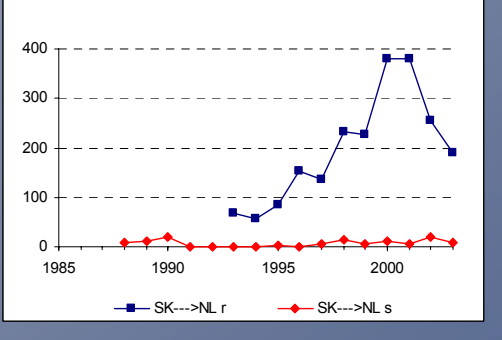
Low levels of flows reported by Slovakia





Slovakia ↔ Germany





Slovakia ↔ the Netherlands

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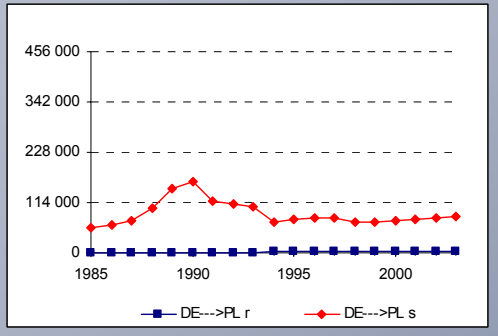
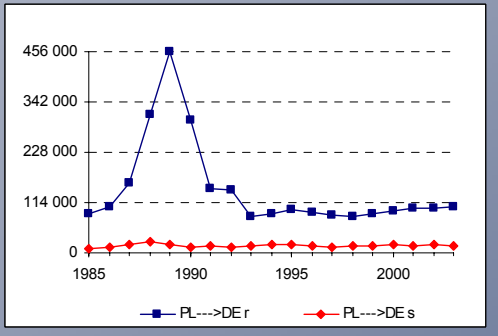
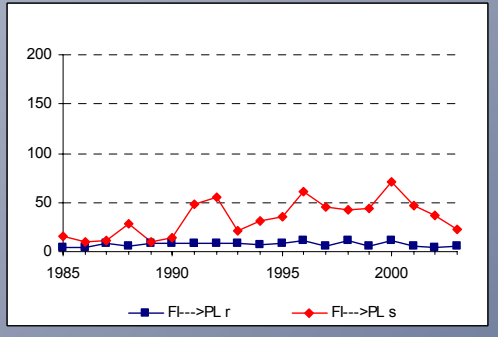
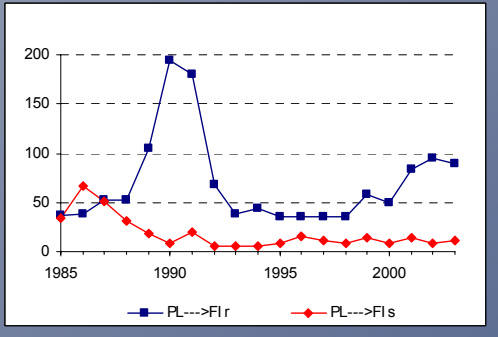
Low levels of flows reported by Poland





Poland ↔ Germany





Poland ↔ Finland

How to explain the empirical observations?

- One has to understand how the statistics are produced
  - What are the data sources?
  - What definitions of the terms *migration* and *migrant* are used?

Definition = the rules applied (explicitly or implicitly) in the migration measurement process to decide who is included and eventually counted in the statistics

- **Statistics is conditioned by the procedures adopted by the country at three stages:**

  Stage 1 - Collection of the raw data in the primary data sources

  Stage 2 - Production of statistics

  Stage 3 - Disseminations of statistics

- **Differences between the countries occur at all three stages**

Stage 1 – Collection of data in the primary data sources

- Strongly dependent on the legislation and the attitudes of migrants towards the legal rules;
- Determines data availability (recorded variables, coverage);
- Problems more difficult to overcome than those at Stage 2 and 3

Stage 2 – Production of statistics

- Selection rules might help reach the compliance with internationally agreed definitions
- Statistics are not always produced even if the raw data are available

Primary data sources

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		Population registers (central or local)		Register of foreigners or residence permit register		Sample survey		Statistical forms and other types of sources	
		Nationals	Foreigners	Nationals	Foreigners	Nationals	Foreigners	Nationals	Foreigners
BE	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
CZ	Immigration	x			x				
	Emigration	x			x				
DK	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
DE	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
EE	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
EL	Immigration				[x]				
	Emigration								
ES	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
FR	Immigration				x		[x]		
	Emigration								
IE	Immigration					x	x		
	Emigration					x	x		
IT	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
CY	Immigration					x	x		
	Emigration					x	x		
LV	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
LT	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
LU	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
HU	Immigration	x			x				
	Emigration	x			x				
MT	Immigration							x	x
	Emigration							x	
NL	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
AT	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
PL	Immigration							x	x
	Emigration							x	x
PT	Immigration				x	[x]			
	Emigration					x	x		
SI	Immigration	x			x				
	Emigration	x			x				
SK	Immigration				x			x	x
	Emigration				x			x	x
FI	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
SE	Immigration	x	x						
	Emigration	x	x						
UK	Immigration					x	x		
	Emigration					x	x		

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Primary data sources

Nationals

- 16 countries use population registers (central or local)
- the UK and CY – passenger surveys
- IE and PT(emi) – household surveys
- PL and SK – statistical forms filled in when registering
- Immi to MT – forms filled at Customs
- Emi from MT – data from foreign embassies (currently only from the British High Commission)
- GR and FR – no data
- PT(immi) – data not published, used for internal purposes only

Primary data sources (cont.)

Foreigners

- 13 countries use population registers
- 5 countries (CZ, HU, SI, FR, PT-imi) use data from the registers of foreigners or residence permits registers
- CY, IE, UK, PT(emi) – sample surveys (as for nationals)
- PL, SK, MT (immi) – statistical forms (as for nationals)
- FR, MT – no data on emigration
- GR – no data

How info on data sources explains peculiarities observed in the double-entry matrices and in the flow time series?

- Strong oscillations in the British data are due to the use of the sample survey
- In Portugal, the sample size in the household survey not large enough to catch relatively small emigration flows to some countries , hence the zero values
- Flows PT→PT: foreign children born in Portugal who received residence permits

Definitions

Definitions might be identified by analysing:

- The rules governing the collection of data in the primary data sources (e.g. the admin rules for reporting changes of place of residence in population registers)
- The selection rules applied to the raw data when preparing the statistics

Differences in rules: between countries, nationals/foreigners, immigration/emigration

Definitions (cont.)

The differences concern:

- **The concept of place of residence**
- **Time criteria**
  - Minimum duration of stay in the destination country required for the change of residence to be counted as international migration.

Definitions (cont.)

- **Table 7 – very few countries comply with the UN recommendations and use the one year duration of stay criterion**

The UN definition: A long-term migrant is a person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.

The time criterion in the international migration definition

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		None		3 months		6 months		Other below one year		One year		Permanent		Permit expiry	
		NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR	NAT	FOR
BE	IMMI			x	x										
	EMI			x	x										p
CZ	IMMI				x[EU]						x[non-EU]	x			
	EMI											x	x		p
DK	IMMI	x			x[non-EU]		x[EU]								
	EMI					x	x								
DE	IMMI	x	x												
	EMI	x	x												
EE	IMMI				x							x			
	EMI						x					x			
EL	IMMI										[p]				
	EMI														
ES	IMMI	x	x												
	EMI	x	x												
FR	IMMI										p[1]				
	EMI														
IE	IMMI	x	x												
	EMI	x	x												
IT	IMMI	x	x[EU]				x[non-EU]								
	EMI									x	x				
CY	IMMI									x	x				
	EMI									x	x				
LV	IMMI	x	x								x				
	EMI					x	x								p
LT	IMMI					x	x				x				
	EMI					x	x								p
LU	IMMI	x	x												
	EMI	x	x												
HU	IMMI			x	x[EU]						x[non-EU]				
	EMI			x									x		p
MT	IMMI											x	x		
	EMI											x			
NL	IMMI							x[2]	x[2]						
	EMI							x[3]	x[3]						
AT	IMMI			x	x					[x]	[x]				
	EMI			x	x					[x]	[x]				
PL	IMMI											x	x		
	EMI											x	x		
PT	IMMI										p				
	EMI									x	x				
SI	IMMI			x[4]	x							x			
	EMI			x									x		p
SK	IMMI				p							x	x		
	EMI											x	x		p
FI	IMMI	x									x				
	EMI									x	x				
SE	IMMI									x	x				
	EMI									x	x				
UK	IMMI									x	x				
	EMI									x	x				

Definitions - Duration of stay options

- **Duration of stay not taken into account**
  - Germany – everybody taking up a residence is counted
  - Ireland – question on place of residence one year ago, no question about the intended or actual duration
- **A minimum period of stay applies that might be 3, 6 or 12 months**
  - NL – 4 out of 6 for immi, 8 out of 12 for emi
  - Intended duration (actual: CZ immi 2001,2002)
  - The meaning of time limits:
    - Period of stay related with the obligation to register
    - Duration of validity of residence permits
    - Selection rules applied when producing statistics

Definitions - Duration of stay options (cont.)

- **The concept of „permanent migration”**
  - Temporary changes of residence not counted, only those declared as permanent are included
  - Applies to the former socialist countries (PL, SK, CZ till 2000)

- **Permit of stay expiry**
  - Used to prevent the underregistration of emigration
  - Problem: no info on country of destination

    Solution:

    CZ – destination=citizenship

    LT – destination=country of previous residence

Specific situation in the Nordic countries

- Inter-Nordic Migration Agreement: DK, FI, SE, NO, IS
- Migration registered in the country of destination and info transferred to the country of origin

How info on definitions explains peculiarities observed in the double-entry matrices and in the flow time series?

- **Inter-Nordic agreement – excellent agreement in the flows between SE, DK, FI**
- **Relations between the figures reported by DE, NL and the Nordic countries correspond to the differences in the definitions**
  - DE – the widest def, the highest figures
  - NL – time criterion longer than in DE and DK, but shorter than FI and SE
- **PL and SK - report lowest flows (only permanent)**

How info on definitions explains peculiarities observed in the double-entry matrices and in the flow time series? (cont.)

- **Observations different than expected based on the defs:**
  - LU - country of previous residence available only for 25% of flows
  - SI – country of residence available for nationals only
- **Sudden jumps in time series – due to changes in the definitions**
  - CZ – till 2001: permanent migration only
  - Spain emi – till 2001: assisted emigration only (reported emi increased from 134 in 2001 to 36605 in 2002)

Secondary data sources

End users usually use not the primary data sources but the secondary ones, which include:

- Official websites of NSIs
- Eurostat electronic database and printed publications
- Council of Europe publications „Recent developments in Europe”
- SOPEMI reports (OECD)
- Annual report on asylum and migration prepared by the EC DG for Justice, Freedom and Security (DG JLS)

- **Data published in various secondary sources differ**
- **Data are not well documented**

- **Results of the comparison of figures on annual total immigration and emigration in the period 1999-2002:**
  - **Only for seven EU countries the figures on total flows are consistent across the inspected sources**:

    the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Sweden
  - For all other EU countries some discrepancies have been identified, sometimes significant

In Lithuania, the differences result from the post-census revisions

Emigration from Lithuania	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	21 816	7 253	:
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	1 369	:	:	:
CoE	1 369	2 616	7 253	7 086
DG JLS	:	2 616	:	:
SOPEMI 2004	:	:	:	:
NSI (yearbook)	23 418	21 816	7 253	7 086

The UK: TIM data or IPS only

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Immigration to the UK	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	483400	479600	512800
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	354077(1)	:	:	:
CoE	354077(1)	364370(1)	:	:
DG JLS	453800(2)	483400(2)	479600(2)	512800(2)
SOPEMI 2004	453800(3)	483400(3)	479600(3)	512800(3)
(1) International Passenger Survey (2) Total International Migration (data from IPS, adjusted for asylum seekers and flows from Ireland) (3) Data from IPS (flows from Ireland not included), adjusted for asylum seekers and visitors switchers				
NSI website (Total International Migration: data from IPS, adjusted for asylum seekers, visitors switchers and flows from Ireland)	453 800	483 400	479 600	512 800

In the Netherlands, some sources present emigration figures without the administrative corrections

Emigration from the Netherlands	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	78 977(1)	82 566(1)	96 918(1)
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	59 023	:	:	:
CoE (tables)	59 023	:	63 318	66 728
DG JLS	78 779	78 977	82 566	96 918
SOPEMI 2004	78 800(1)	79 000(1)	82 600(1)	96 900(1)
(1)Including corrections				
NSI – Emigration	59 023	61 201	63 318	66 728
NSI – Emigration including net administrative corrections	78 779	78 977	82 566	96 918

In Italy, there are two sources of data differing in methodology

Emigration from Italy	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	56 601	:	:
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	76 500	:	:	:
CoE	:	:	:	41 756
DG JLS	56 707	76 483	66 821	49 383
SOPEMI 2004	:	:	:	:
ISTAT balance survey	76 483	66 821	67 125	49 383
ISTAT individual survey	64 873	56 601	56 077	41 756

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Hungary: provisional or final data, total flow or foreigners only

Immigration to Hungary	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	20 184	21 233	:
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	*18 456*	:	:	:
CoE	*18 216*	20 184	22 079	17 558
DG JLS	20 151	20 184	20 308	15675(p)
SOPEMI 2004	*20 200*	*20 200*	*20 300*	*15 700*
(p) = provisional data *italic* = non-nationals only				
NSI – total (final data)	21 422	21 726	22 079	:
NSI – total (provisional data)	:	:	21233(p)	17558(p)
NSI – non-nationals (final data)	*20 151*	*20 184*	*20 308*	:
NSI – non-nationals (provisional data)	*18456*(p)	*14484*(p)	*19462*(p)	*15675*(p)

Malta: immigration data concern either total flow or migrants of Maltese origin only

Immigration to Malta	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eurostat Population Yearbook 2004	:	965	1 002	915
Eurostat Migration Yearbook 2002	*339*	:	:	:
CoE	339	450	472	535
DG JLS	708	965	1 002	:
SOPEMI 2004	:	:	:	:
italic = non-nationals only				
NSI website – Maltese origin	339	450	472	382
NSI website – Non-Maltese nationals	*369*	*515*	*530*	*533*

Availability of data in secondary data sources

- **Eurostat**
  - potentially the most comprehensive source
  - publishes data collected through the Joint Eurostat-UNSD-UNECE-CoE-ILO Questionnaire on International Migration (see next slide)
  - The part of the database on migration currently under review
- **Other sources – not so many disaggregated data**

Joint Migration Questionnaire

- **sent annually to 55 countries**
- **Eurostat processes and disseminates data for 37 countries**
- **The questionnaire includes the following tables concerning long-term flow data:**
  - Immi and emi by sex and previous/next country of residence
  - Immi and emi by sex, citizenship and 5-year age group
- **In the data collection conducted in 2005 the tables on flows by previous/next country of residence were extended to include the age dimension**

UNSD data collections

- Till 2001, UNSD collected data on international migration through the annual questionnaire sent out within the preparation for the Demographic Yearbook
- Data have been published irregularly, the last time in the Demographic Yearbook 1989

UNSD Trial Questionnaire

- **Recently the UNSD proposed a new questionnaire that would comply with the *UN Recommendations;***
- **The UNSD trial questionnaire includes tables on**
  - Inflows of foreigners by reason for admission and duration of stay
  - Inflows of nationals by purpose and duration of stay abroad
  - Outflows of foreigners by current status in the country
  - Outflows of nationals by purpose of travel abroad
- **Asymmetric treatment of nationals and non-nationals – problem for comparing data from receiving and sending countries**
- **Countries probably won't be able to provide the requested data**

Conclusions

- A good comparability of data will be difficult to achieve, if at all possible
- The disseminating bodies should pay more attention to the proper description of the data
- Incomparability of statistics on international migration flows is strictly linked with that of statistics on population stocks, so both problems should be solved simultaneously.

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The end

Country of usual residence

- **The UN definition:**

  The country of usual residence is *the country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which he or she has a place to live where he or she normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence.*