

**E c o n o m i c &**

**S o c i a l A f f a i r s**

# **International Migration Report 2013**



United Nations



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**Department of Economic and Social Affairs**  
Population Division

# **International Migration Report 2013**



United Nations

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# DESA

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

## Note

The designations employed in this report and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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## PREFACE

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and objective information on population and development. The Population Division provides guidance to the United Nations General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Population and Development on population and development issues. The Division also undertakes regular studies on population levels, trends and dynamics, including trends of international migration, changes in population policies and the interrelationships between population and development.

In the area of international migration, the Population Division estimates the global number of international migrants at regular intervals, monitors levels, trends and policies of international migration, and collects and analyses information on the relationship between international migration and development. The Migration Section also convenes the interagency coordination meeting on international migration and organizes expert group meetings. As part of its monitoring activities, the Migration Section within the Population Division maintains the United Nations Global Migration Database, which contains the most complete set of statistics on international migrants enumerated in the countries or areas of the world and classified by country of birth or citizenship, sex and age. The Migration Section represents DESA in the interagency Global Migration Group (GMG). The Section also services the intergovernmental process on international migration and development at the General Assembly and acts within the Secretariat as the focal point for the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

This report presents information on international migration levels, trends and legal instruments for major areas, regions and countries of the world. The data for the international migrant stock described in chapter I are taken from the two volumes of the publication *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex* and *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Destination and Origin*, while the estimates on the total population in chapter I are based on *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*. The estimates on net migration and the projected population up to 2050 presented in chapter II are based on *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*. Chapter III provides an analysis of the ratification status of migration-related legal instruments for Member States of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO), based on information from the United Nations Treaty Section and the NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards, which can be accessed at <http://treaties.un.org> and <http://www.ilo.org>, respectively. For more information on the data and methodology used for calculating the various indicators used in this report, please see the above-mentioned publications.

The present report has been issued without formal editing. Responsibility for this report rests with the Population Division.

This report is available on the Population Division's website at [www.unpopulation.org](http://www.unpopulation.org). For further information about this report, please contact the office of the Director, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, 10017, by telephone (+1 212)963-3179 or email at [population@un.org](mailto:population@un.org).

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The following symbols are used in the tables shown in this report:

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported.

Three dots (...) indicate that the treaty was not ratified.

An em dash (—) indicates that the amount is nil or negligible.

A hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

A minus sign (-) before a figure indicates a decrease.

A full stop (.) is used to indicate decimals.

Use of a hyphen (-) between years, for example, 1990-2000, signifies the full period involved, from 1 July of the first year to 1 July of the second year.

Due to rounding, the numbers and percentages displayed in tables may not add up to the corresponding totals.

The terms “developed” and “developing” regions are used for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgment as to the developmental stage of a particular country or area. Where appropriate, the term “country” may refer to a territory or area.

The developed regions are comprised of all countries of Europe, Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan. The term “developed countries” refers to countries in the developed regions.

Developing regions are comprised of all countries of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan) and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The term “developing countries” is used to designate countries in the developing regions.

The group of least developed countries, as defined by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP), a subsidiary body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, currently comprises 49 countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia.

The designation sub-Saharan Africa refers to all countries in Africa except Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Western Sahara.

Countries and areas are grouped geographically into six major areas: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America and Oceania. These are further divided into 21 geographical regions.

Country names and the composition of geographical areas follow those of “Standard country or area codes for statistical use” (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.3), available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>.

The following abbreviations have been used:

DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
GDP	gross domestic product
GFMD	Global Forum on Migration and Development
GMG	Global Migration Group
ILO	International Labour Organization

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES** *(continued)*

IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

## CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES OR AREAS BY MAJOR AREA AND REGION OF THE WORLD

AFRICA				
<i>Eastern Africa</i>	<i>Middle Africa</i>	<i>Northern Africa</i>	<i>Western Africa</i>	<i>Southern Africa</i>
Burundi	Angola	Algeria	Benin	Botswana
Comoros	Cameroon	Egypt	Burkina Faso	Lesotho
Djibouti	Central African Republic	Libya	Cape Verde	Namibia
Eritrea	Chad	Morocco	Côte d'Ivoire	South Africa
Ethiopia	Congo	Sudan	Gambia	Swaziland
Kenya	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Tunisia	Ghana	
Madagascar		Western Sahara	Guinea	
Malawi	Equatorial Guinea		Guinea-Bissau	
Mauritius <sup>1</sup>	Gabon		Liberia	
Mayotte	Sao Tome and Principe		Mali	
Mozambique			Mauritania	
Réunion			Niger	
Rwanda			Nigeria	
Seychelles			Saint Helena <sup>2</sup>	
Somalia			Senegal	
South Sudan			Sierra Leone	
Uganda			Togo	
United Republic of Tanzania <sup>3</sup>				
Zambia				
Zimbabwe				

ASIA				
<i>Central Asia</i>	<i>Eastern Asia</i>	<i>South-Eastern Asia</i>	<i>Southern Asia</i>	<i>Western Asia</i>
Kazakhstan	China <sup>4</sup>	Brunei Darussalam	Afghanistan	Armenia
Kyrgyzstan	China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region <sup>6</sup>	Cambodia	Bangladesh	Azerbaijan <sup>5</sup>
Tajikistan		Indonesia	Bhutan	Bahrain
Turkmenistan		Lao People's Democratic Republic	India	Cyprus <sup>7</sup>
Uzbekistan	China, Macao Special Administrative Region <sup>10</sup>	Malaysia <sup>9</sup>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Georgia <sup>8</sup>
	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Myanmar	Maldives	Iraq
	Japan	Philippines	Nepal	Israel
	Mongolia	Singapore	Pakistan	Jordan
	Republic of Korea	Thailand	Sri Lanka	Kuwait
		Timor-Leste		Lebanon
		Viet Nam		Oman
				Qatar
				Saudi Arabia
				State of Palestine <sup>11</sup>
				Syrian Arab Republic
				Turkey
				United Arab Emirates
				Yemen

<sup>1</sup> Including Agalega, Rodrigues and Saint Brandon.

<sup>2</sup> Including Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.

<sup>3</sup> Including Zanzibar.

<sup>4</sup> For statistical purposes, the data for China do not include Hong Kong and Macao, Special Administrative Regions (SAR) of China.

<sup>5</sup> Including Nagorno-Karabakh.

<sup>6</sup> As of 1 July 1997, Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China.

<sup>7</sup> Including Northern-Cyprus.

<sup>8</sup> Including Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

<sup>9</sup> Including Sabah and Sarawak.

<sup>10</sup> As of 20 December 1999, Macao became a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China.

<sup>11</sup> Including East Jerusalem. Refugees are not part of the foreign-born migrant stock in the State of Palestine.

**CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES OR AREAS BY MAJOR AREA AND REGION OF THE WORLD** (*continued*)

<b>EUROPE</b>			
<i>Eastern Europe</i>	<i>Northern Europe</i>	<i>Southern Europe</i>	<i>Western Europe</i>
Belarus	Channel Islands <sup>12</sup>	Albania	Austria
Bulgaria	Denmark	Andorra	Belgium
Czech Republic	Estonia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	France
Hungary	Faeroe Islands	Croatia	Germany
Poland	Finland <sup>13</sup>	Gibraltar	Liechtenstein
Republic of Moldova <sup>14</sup>	Iceland	Greece	Luxembourg
Romania	Ireland	Holy See <sup>15</sup>	Monaco
Russian Federation	Isle of Man	Italy	Netherlands
Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Switzerland
Ukraine	Lithuania	Montenegro	
	Norway <sup>16</sup>	Portugal	
	Sweden	San Marino	
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>18</sup>	Serbia <sup>17</sup>	
		Slovenia	
		Spain <sup>19</sup>	
		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia <sup>20</sup>	

<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>		
<i>Caribbean</i>	<i>Central America</i>	<i>South America</i>
Anguilla	Belize	Argentina
Antigua and Barbuda	Costa Rica	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Aruba	El Salvador	Brazil
Bahamas	Guatemala	Chile
Barbados	Honduras	Colombia
British Virgin Islands	Mexico	Ecuador
Caribbean Netherlands <sup>21</sup>	Nicaragua	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
Cayman Islands	Panama	French Guiana
Cuba		Guyana
Dominica		Paraguay
Curaçao		Peru
Dominican Republic		Suriname
Grenada		Uruguay
Guadeloupe <sup>22</sup>		Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Haiti		
Jamaica		
Martinique		
Montserrat		
Puerto Rico		
Saint Kitts and Nevis		
Saint Lucia		
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		

<sup>12</sup> Refers to Guernsey and Jersey.

<sup>13</sup> Including Åland Islands.

<sup>14</sup> Including Transnistria.

<sup>15</sup> Refers to the Vatican City State.

<sup>16</sup> Including Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands.

<sup>17</sup> Including Kosovo.

<sup>18</sup> Also referred to as United Kingdom.

<sup>19</sup> Including Canary Islands, Ceuta and Melilla.

<sup>20</sup> Also referred to as TFYR Macedonia.

<sup>21</sup> Refers to Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius.

<sup>22</sup> Including Saint-Barthélemy and Saint-Martin (French part).

**CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTRIES OR AREAS BY MAJOR AREA AND REGION OF THE WORLD (continued)**

<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (continued)</b>			
<i>Caribbean</i>	<i>Central America</i>	<i>South America</i>	
Sint Maarten (Dutch part)			
Trinidad and Tobago			
Turks and Caicos Islands			
United States Virgin Islands			
<b>NORTHERN AMERICA</b>			
Bermuda			
Canada			
Greenland			
Saint Pierre and Miquelon			
United States of America			
<b>OCEANIA</b>			
<i>Australia and New Zealand</i>	<i>Melanesia</i>	<i>Micronesia</i>	<i>Polynesia</i>
Australia <sup>23</sup>	Fiji	Guam	American Samoa
New Zealand	New Caledonia	Kiribati	Cook Islands
	Papua New Guinea	Marshall Islands	French Polynesia
	Solomon Islands	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Niue
	Vanuatu	Nauru	Samoa
		Northern Mariana Islands	Tokelau
		Palau	Tonga
			Tuvalu
			Wallis and Futuna Islands

<sup>23</sup> Including Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Norfolk Island.

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## I. LEVELS AND TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT STOCK

### A. INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Globally, there were 232 million international migrants in 2013.<sup>i</sup> Of these, nearly 59 per cent lived in the developed regions, while the developing regions hosted 41 per cent of the world's total. Of the 136 million international migrants living in the North in 2013,<sup>ii</sup> 82 million, or 60 per cent, originated from a developing country, while 54 million, or 40 per cent, were born in the North. Further, 82 million or 86 per cent of the 96 million international migrants residing in the developing world in 2013 originated from the South, while 14 million or 14 per cent were born in the North.

Between 1990 and 2013, the number of international migrants worldwide rose by over 77 million or by 50 per cent. Much of this growth occurred between 2000 and 2010. During this period, some 4.6 million migrants were added annually, compared to an average of 2 million per annum during the period 1990-2000 and 3.6 million per annum during the period 2010-2013 (table I.1). The developed regions gained 53 million or 69 per cent of the 77 million international migrants added worldwide between 1990 and 2013, whereas the developing regions added 24 million or 31 per cent. While the North gained the largest absolute number of migrants between 1990 and 2013, since 2000 the average

annual growth rate in international migrant stock in the South outpaced the growth rate in the North: 2.3 per cent per annum versus 2.1 per cent per annum, respectively. Since 2010, the annual growth rate slowed in both the North and the South: to 1.5 per cent in the developed regions and 1.8 per cent in the developing regions.

#### Box I.1. Who is an international migrant?

For the purpose of estimating the international migrant stock, international migrants are equated either with the foreign-born or with foreign citizens. When data on place of birth are available, they are generally given precedence.

Of the 232 countries and areas in *Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision*, data on the foreign-born were available for 189, or 81 per cent, of them. Data on foreign citizens were used for 43 countries (or 19 per cent of all countries or areas).

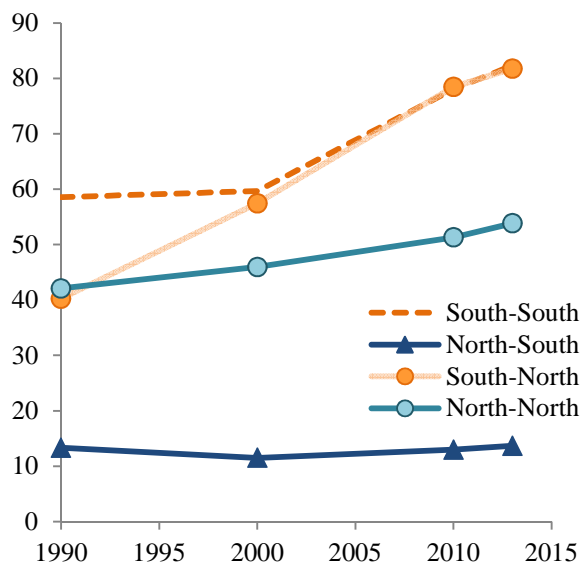
Of the 53 million international migrants added in the North between 1990 and 2013, 42 million or 78 per cent were born in the South. The remaining 12 million international migrants, or 22 per cent, originated from a country in the North.

TABLE I.1: INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT STOCK BY DEVELOPMENT LEVEL AND MAJOR AREA, 1990-2013

	International migrant stock (millions)				Average annual change in migrant stock (millions)			Average annual growth rate in migrant stock (percentage)		
	1990	2000	2010	2013	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2013	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2013
World .....	154.2	174.5	220.7	231.5	2.0	4.6	3.6	1.2	2.3	1.6
Developed regions.	82.3	103.4	129.7	135.6	2.1	2.6	1.9	2.3	2.3	1.5
Developing regions	71.9	71.1	91.0	95.9	-0.1	2.0	1.6	-0.1	2.5	1.8
Africa .....	15.6	15.6	17.1	18.6	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.9	2.8
Asia .....	49.9	50.4	67.8	70.8	0.1	1.7	1.0	0.1	3.0	1.5
Europe .....	49.0	56.2	69.2	72.4	0.7	1.3	1.1	1.4	2.1	1.5
LAC.....	7.1	6.5	8.1	8.5	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.9	2.2	1.8
NA.....	27.8	40.4	51.2	53.1	1.3	1.1	0.6	3.7	2.4	1.2
Oceania.....	4.7	5.4	7.3	7.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.5	3.1	2.6

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

**Figure I.1: Numbers of international migrants by origin and destination, 1990-2013 (millions)**

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Destination and Origin (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Origin).

In contrast, in the developing countries the growth of the migrant population resulted mainly from an increase in the number of migrants from the South. Between 1990 and 2013, the migrant population originating from the South and living in the South grew from 59 million to 82 million, a 41 per cent increase (figure I.1). Of the 24 million foreign-born persons added during this period, 99 per cent were born in the developing regions, while 1 per cent originated from a country in the North.

Worldwide, international migrants accounted for a relatively small share of the total population, comprising about 3.2 per cent of the world population in 2013, compared to 2.9 per cent in 1990. In the North, international migrants constituted 10.8 per cent of the total population in 2013 compared to 1.6 per cent in developing regions. Between 1990 and 2013, international migrants as a share of total population grew in the North but remained unchanged in the South.

## B. INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY MAJOR AREA

Europe and Asia combined hosted nearly two-thirds of all international migrants worldwide in 2013: 72 million international migrants in Europe and 71 million in Asia. Northern America hosted the third largest number of international migrants in 2013 (53 million), followed by Africa (19 million), Latin America and the Caribbean (9 million), and Oceania (8 million) (table I.1).

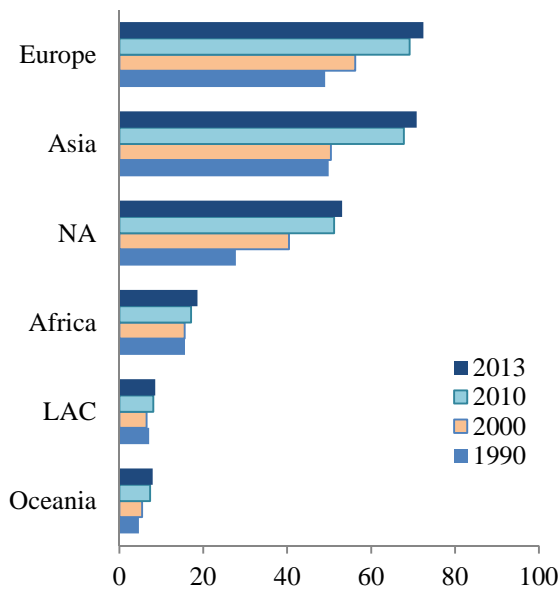
Between 1990 and 2013, Northern America recorded the largest gain in the absolute number of international migrants, adding 25 million migrants, equal to 1.1 million additional migrants per year (figure I.2). Of the 25 million international migrants added in Northern America during this period, 14 million or 57 per cent were born in the Latin America and the Caribbean, 9 million or 35 per cent originated from Asia, while 1 million or 6 per cent were born in Africa.

**TABLE I.2: INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT POPULATIONS BY DESTINATION AND ORIGIN, 2013 (millions)**

Destination	Origin									World
	Developed regions	Developing regions	Africa	Asia	Europe	LAC	NA	Oceania	Other	
Developed regions ...	53.8	81.8	11.3	38.9	48.8	31.0	2.4	1.6	1.6	135.6
Developing regions	13.7	82.3	19.7	53.7	9.7	5.7	1.9	0.2	5.1	95.9
Africa .....	1.3	17.3	15.3	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.4	18.6
Asia .....	9.7	61.2	4.4	54.0	7.6	0.7	0.6	0.1	3.6	70.8
Europe .....	40.1	32.4	8.7	18.7	37.9	4.5	1.0	0.3	1.5	72.4
LAC .....	2.7	5.9	0.0	0.3	1.2	5.4	1.3	0.0	0.2	8.5
NA .....	9.6	43.5	2.0	15.7	7.9	25.9	1.2	0.3	0.0	53.1
Oceania .....	4.1	3.9	0.5	2.9	3.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.1	7.9
World .....	67.5	164.0	30.9	92.6	58.5	36.7	4.3	1.8	6.7	231.5

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Destination and Origin (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Origin).

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

**Figure I.2. International migrants by major area, 1990-2013 (millions)**

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

Europe added the second largest number of international migrants between 1990 and 2013 (23 million or 1 million per year), followed by Asia (21 million or slightly less than 1 million per year). Of the 23 million international migrants gained by Europe during this period, 43 per cent were born in Europe, 22 per cent in Asia, 18 per cent in Africa and 14 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean. For Asia the pattern was less diversified, with 87 per cent of the 21 million migrants gained by that major area between 1990 and 2013 originating from Asia, followed by Africa (8 per cent).

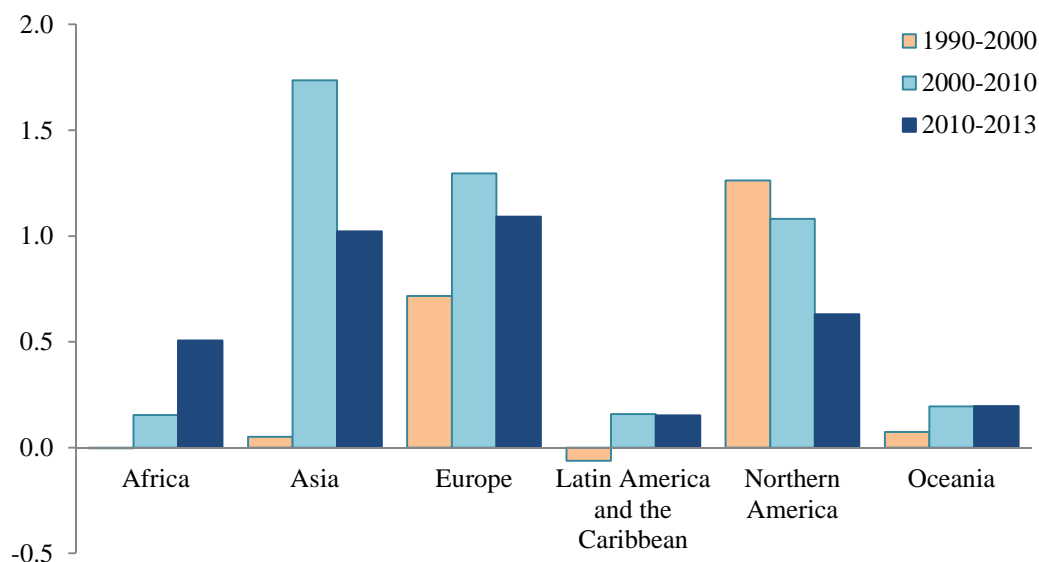
While overall Northern America and Europe experienced the largest absolute growth in the number of international migrants between 1990 and 2013, since the year 2000 Asia added more international migrants than any other major area (figure I.3). Asia gained an average of 1.7 million international migrants per annum during the period 2000-2010 and an additional 1 million per annum during the period 2010-2013. Europe added the second largest number of international

migrants during the period 2000-2013, with an average of 1.3 million international migrants added per annum during the period 2000-2010 and nearly 1.1 million during the period 2010-2013, the largest gain among all major areas. Northern America added the third largest number of international migrants since the year 2000. Yet, in Northern America the absolute number of international migrants added each year continued to decline. During the period 2010-2013 Northern America added nearly half as many international migrants as during the period 2000-2010: an average of 0.6 million per annum compared to 1.1 million per annum. During the period 2010-2013, Northern America also added nearly half as many international migrants as Asia or Europe.

In 2013, Asia-Asia was the largest migration corridor in the world, with some 54 million international migrants born in that major area residing in another country in Asia. During the period 2000-2010, the Asia-Asia corridor grew by an average of 1.5 million international migrants per year; a figure which fell to 0.8 million during the period 2010-2013. Europe-Europe was the second largest corridor during the period 2010-2013, with an average of 0.6 million international migrants per annum. The corridor Latin America and the Caribbean-Northern America, which had been the largest during the period 1990-2000, with an average of 0.8 million international migrants per annum, steadily declined, falling to 0.3 million per annum during the period 2010-2013. During the period 2010-2013, the corridor Africa-Africa overtook Latin America and the Caribbean-Northern America as the third largest international migration corridor in the world.

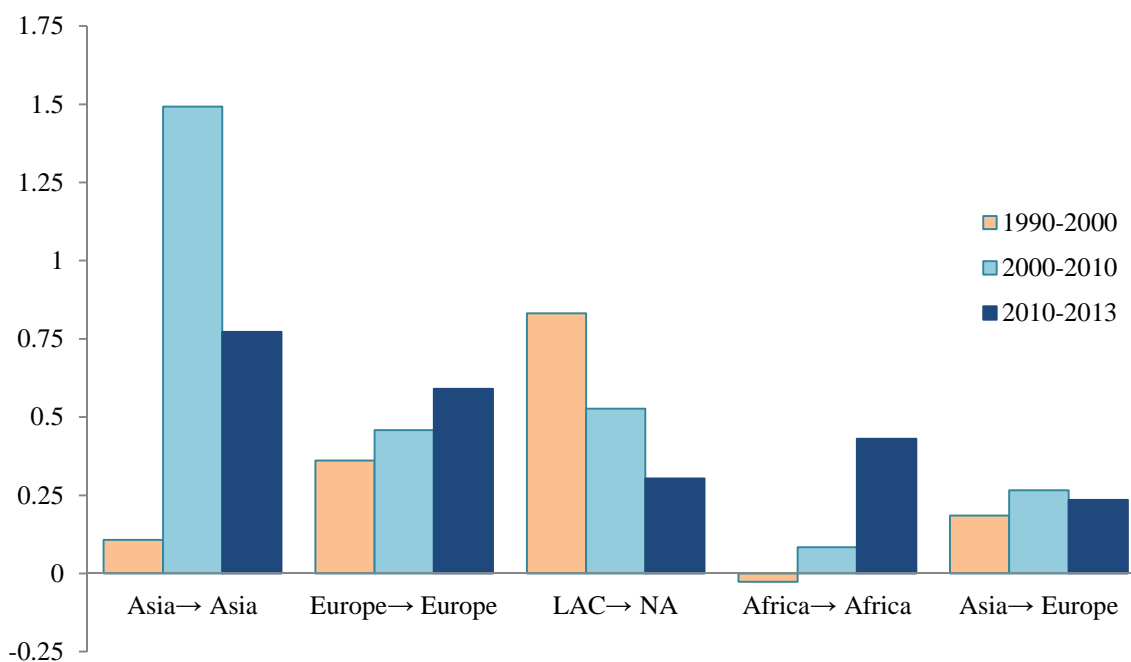
In 2013, the majority of all migration occurred within major areas rather than across major areas. The majority of all international migrants residing in Africa (82 per cent), Asia (76 per cent), Europe (52 per cent) and Latin America and the Caribbean (64 per cent) were also born in that major area. In contrast, only 2 per cent and 14 per cent of all international migrants in Northern America and Oceania had migrated within their major area of birth, respectively.

**Figure I.3. Average annual change in the number of international migrants by major area, 1990-2013 (millions)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

**Figure I.4. Average annual change in the number of international migrants along the five largest migration corridors, 1990-2013 (millions)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Destination and Origin (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Origin).

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

In Europe, Northern America and Oceania, the share of migrants in total population grew

rapidly, while in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, the share of international

migrants in total population remained relatively small. Oceania, the major area with the highest share of international migrant stock in total population, saw this figure climb from 17 per cent in 1990 to 21 per cent in 2013. In Northern America, the proportion of international migrants in total population reached 15 per cent in 2013, up from 10 per cent in 1990, while in Europe it rose from 7 per cent in 1990 to 10 per cent in 2013.

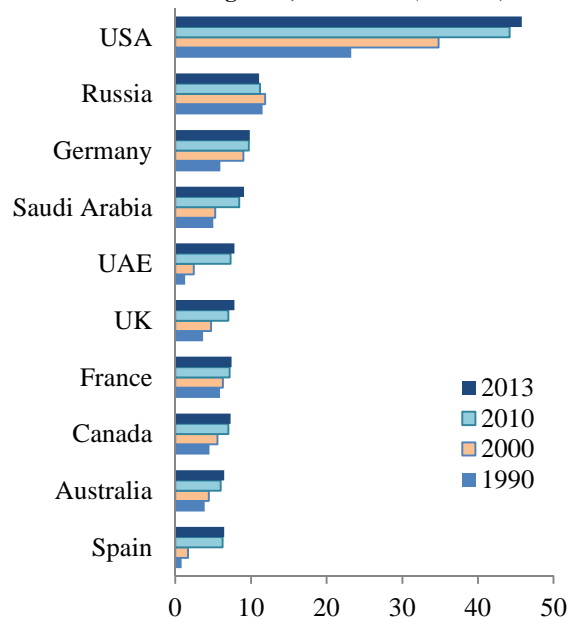
In 2013, Latin America and the Caribbean had the lowest proportion of international migrants in total population (1.4 per cent), followed by Asia and Africa (1.6 per cent and 1.7 per cent, respectively). Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean both experienced a decline in the share of international migrants in their total population between 1990 and 2013, in part owing to the fact that the overall population increased more rapidly than the total migrant stock.

### C. INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY COUNTRY OR AREA

In 2013, over 51 per cent of all international migrants in the world were living in ten countries. The largest number of international migrants resided in the United States of America: 46 million in 2013, equal to nearly 20 per cent of the world's total (figure I.5). The Russian Federation hosted the second largest number of migrants worldwide (11 million), followed by Germany (10 million), Saudi Arabia (9 million), and the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom (8 million each).

Between 1990 and 2013, the size of the international migrant stock grew in nearly three-quarters of all countries or areas. The United States of America gained the largest number of international migrants between 1990 and 2013: nearly 23 million, equal to 1 million additional migrants per annum. The United Arab Emirates recorded the second largest gain during this period (7 million), followed by Spain (6 million). Yet all ten countries with the largest gains in their migrant stock between 1990 and 2013 witnessed a deceleration in their annual growth rate between 2010 and 2013 compared to the period 2000 to 2010.

**Figure I.5. Ten countries with the largest number of international migrants, 1990-2013 (millions)**



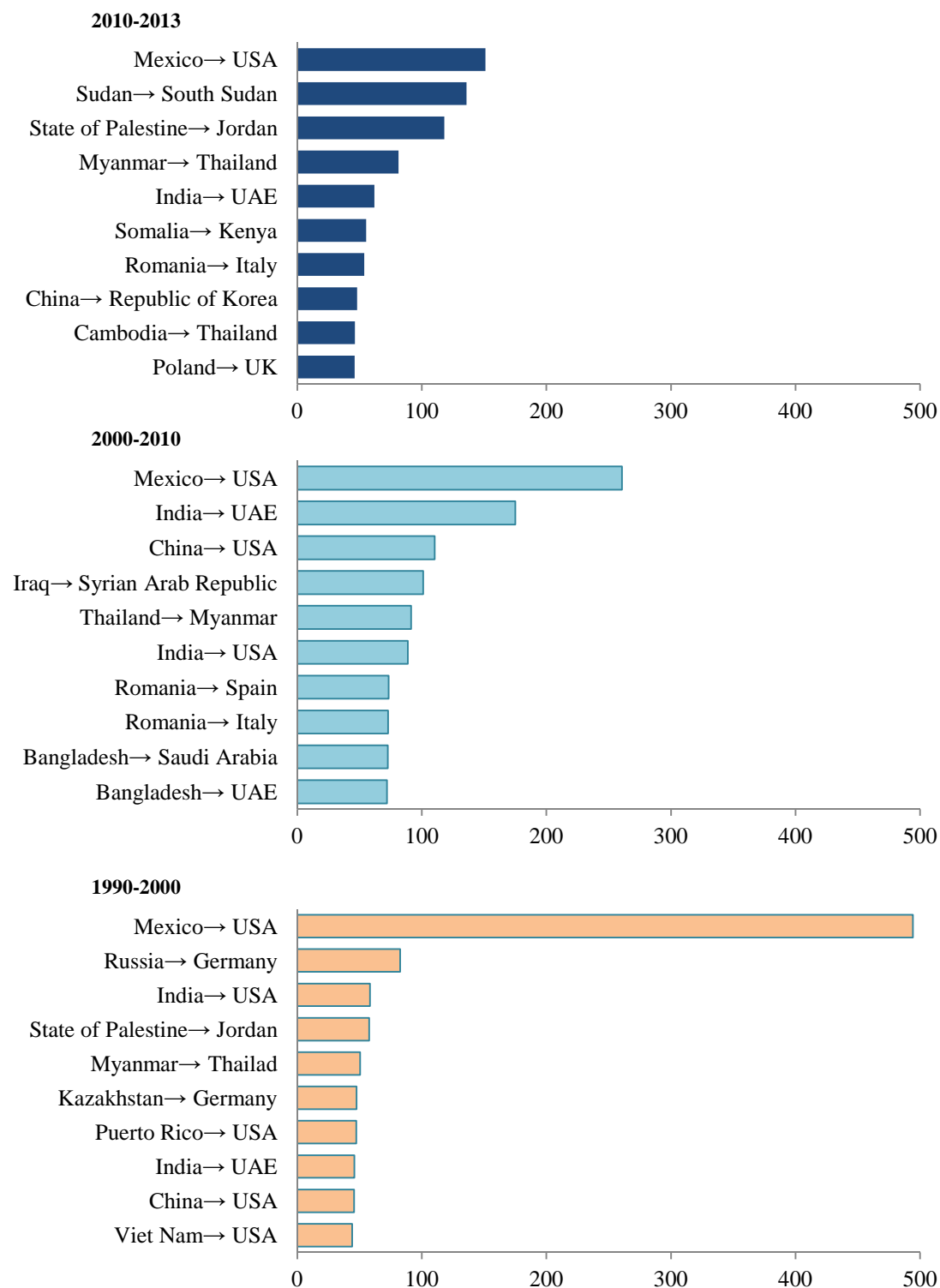
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision—Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

Note: USA refers to the United States of America, Russia refers to the Russian Federation, UAE refers to United Arab Emirates and UK refers to the United Kingdom of Britain and Northern Ireland.

Bilateral migration corridors shifted significantly between 1990 and 2013. During the period 1990-2000, seven of the top ten bilateral migration corridors had as destination a country in the North. The United States was the destination of five of the top ten bilateral migration corridors in the world, with large numbers of international migrants originating from China, India, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Viet Nam. Mexico-United States was the largest bilateral migration corridor in the world, with nearly 500,000 international migrants born in Mexico added to the population of the United States each year (figure I.6). Two of the ten largest bilateral migration corridors during the period 1990-2000 had as destination a country in Europe—Germany—while three were between countries in Asia, namely between India and the United Arab Emirates, Myanmar and Thailand, and the State of Palestine and Jordan.

During the period 2000-2010, the top ten bilateral migration corridors were equally split, with five corridors having as destination a country

**Figure I. 6. Ten bilateral migration corridors with the largest number of international migrants per annum, 1990-2013 (thousands)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Destination and Origin (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Origin).

Note: Russia refers to the Russian Federation, USA refers to the United States of America, UAE refers to United Arab Emirates and UK refers to the United Kingdom of Britain and Northern Ireland.

in the South and five corridors a destination in the North. Mexico-United States continued to be the largest bilateral migration corridor in the world but with much smaller numbers than during the period 1990-2000: an average of 260,000 additional international migrants per year. Countries in Southern Europe, namely Italy and Spain, also became major destinations of international migrants from countries in Eastern Europe. In addition, three of the top ten corridors were between a country in Southern Asia and an oil-producing country in Western Asia, namely, Bangladesh-Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh-United Arab Emirates and India-United Arab Emirates. Refugees displaced by the war in Iraq as well as refugees falling under the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) accounted for large numbers of migrants during the period 2000-2010 in Western Asia.

By the period 2010-2013, migration patterns had changed significantly and all but three of the largest migration corridors in the world had as a destination a country in the South. Of the three bilateral migration corridors that had as a destination a country in the North, two were between countries in Europe: Romania-Italy and Poland-United Kingdom. Only one of the ten largest bilateral migration corridors during the period 2010-2013 was between a country in the South and a country in the North, namely Mexico-United States. Of the seven largest migration corridors which had as a destination a country in the South, five were between countries in Asia, including the corridors China-Republic of Korea and Cambodia-Thailand, while two were between countries in Africa, namely Sudan-South Sudan and Somalia-Kenya. Both the corridor Sudan-South Sudan and the corridor Somalia-Kenya involved large numbers of refugees.

In 2013, international migrants accounted for at least one in every four people in 42 countries or areas. These included small island states in the Caribbean, Melanesia, Micronesia or Polynesia as well countries in Western Asia. In contrast, in many countries of Africa, Eastern Asia, South America and Southern Asia migrants accounted for less than 5 per cent of the total population.

#### D. INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY SEX

In 2013, women comprised 48 per cent of all international migrants worldwide. Yet there were considerable differences across regions. In the North, women constituted 52 per cent of all migrants in 2013, while in the South they accounted for 43 per cent. Between 1990 and 2013, the South witnessed a decline in the proportion of women among all migrants. The percentage of women among all migrants declined from 46 in 1990 to 43 per cent in 2013 in the developing regions. In the North during the same period, however, the share of women among all international migrants increased slightly, from 51 per cent to 52 per cent.

The decline in the percentage of women in the South was primarily the result of a rapid increase in the number of male migrants in Asia. Between 2000 and 2013, the annual increase in the number of male migrants in Asia (3.1 per cent) far exceeded the increase the number of female migrants (1.9 per cent). The increase in male migrants in Asia was fuelled by the strong demand for migrant workers in the oil-producing countries in Western Asia.

Major areas with a well-established history of immigration, hosted the highest percentage of female migrants. In 2013, the percentage female among all international migrants was highest in Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean (52 per cent each), followed by Northern America (51 per cent). The larger proportion of females in those major areas was mainly the outcome of the aging in place of migrants who had arrived decades earlier and the fact that females, including female migrants, tend to have a longer life expectancy compared to males. In contrast, male migrants significantly outnumbered female migrants in Asia (58 per cent) and Africa (54 per cent), where migration was more frequently of shorter duration (figure I.7).

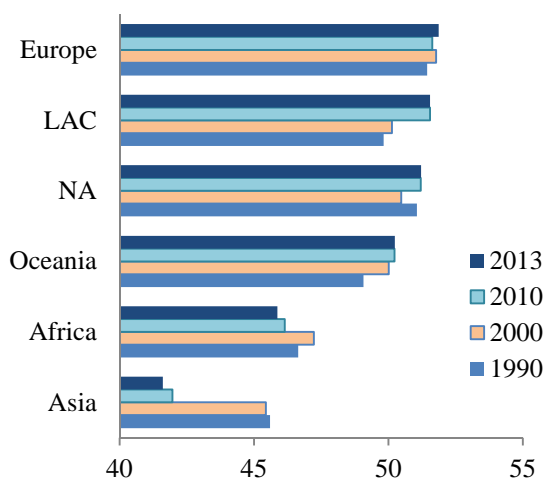
Between 1990 and 2013, the proportion of women among all international migrants increased in all major areas with the exception of Africa and Asia. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the share of females among all migrants rose from 50 per cent in 1990 to 52 per cent in 2013. This



increase was primarily due to the ageing of the migrant stock in that major area. In contrast, in Asia the percentage of women among all international migrant stock fell from 46 per cent in 1990 to 42 per cent in 2013.

In 2013, women constituted more than half of all migrants in 101 countries or areas. Latvia, the Russian Federation and the Ukraine were among the countries with the highest shares, reflecting the longer life expectancy of women compared to men compounded. In 11 countries, all in Asia, women accounted for less than one in three international migrants. Qatar and the United Arab Emirates were among the countries with the lowest proportions of women in their migrant stock in 2013.

**Figure I.7. Percentage of women among all international migrants, 1990-2013**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

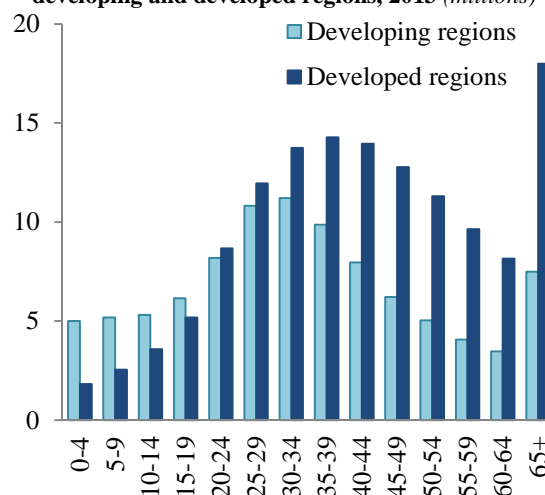
Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

#### E. INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY AGE AND SEX

In 2013, three-quarters of all international migrants were of between the ages of 20 and 64 (figure I.8). Of the 171 million international migrants of working age, the majority (61 per cent) resided in the developed regions. This

distribution had changed little since the year 2000, when 62 per cent of working-age migrants resided in the North.

**Figure I.8. Age distribution of international migrants in developing and developed regions, 2013 (millions)**



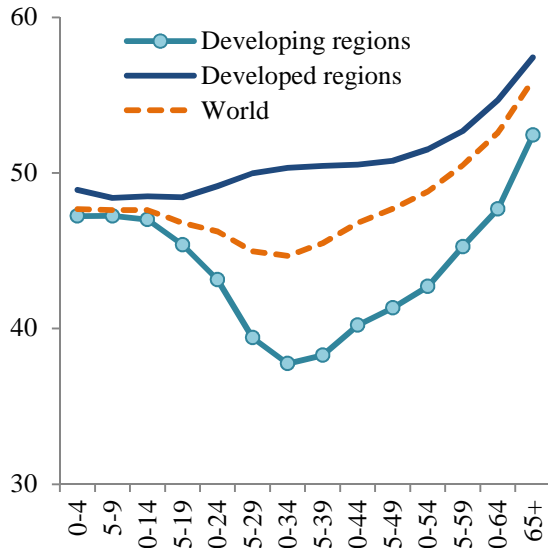
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

While the North hosted the largest number of working age migrants in 2013, the number of working-age migrants grew faster in the South than in the North. In the South, the number of migrants of working age increased from 46 million in 2000 to 67 million in 2013, a 44 per cent increase, compared to the North, where it rose from 76 million in 2000 to 104 million in 2013, a 37 per cent increase. Women accounted for around half of the increase in the North (52 per cent) compared to one-third of the increase in the South (33 per cent).

Globally, 15 per cent of all international migrants were under the age of 20. The proportion of young migrants was significantly higher in the developing regions (23 per cent) than in the developed regions (less than 10 per cent). There were about three times as many migrants under 5 years of age living in the South as in the North. Between 1990 and 2013, the proportion of young persons among all migrants declined. The proportion of those under age 20 declined from 21 per cent in 1990 to 18 per cent in 2000 and further to 15 per cent in 2010.



**Figure I.9. Percentage female among all international migrants in developed and developing regions by age, 2013**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision-Migrants by Age and Sex (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013/Age).

Globally, there were 25 million international migrants aged 65 or over in 2013. The majority of older migrants lived in the North, with over two times as many migrants at ages 65 or above living in the North as in the South (figure I.8). Between 1990 and 2013, the number of older migrants grew significantly in the North, but changed only slightly in the South. The developed regions gained 98 per cent of the 7 million older international migrants added worldwide between 1990 and 2013. The fact that many countries in the developed regions had long been magnets of immigration, combined with the greater propensity among international migrants living in

the developing world to return to their countries of origin were among the reasons for the rising numbers of older migrants residing in the developed regions compared to the developing regions.

The proportion of older migrants was higher for women (13 per cent) than for men (9 per cent). Fifty-six per cent of elderly migrants in 2013 were women. In the developed regions 57 per cent of all migrants aged 65 or over were females, compared to 52 per cent in the developing regions.

#### NOTES

<sup>i</sup> The estimates of the migrant stock were prepared by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. The data presented here refer to the international migrant stock defined as a mid-year estimate of the number of people living in a country or area other than the one in which they were born or, in the absence of such data, the number of people of foreign citizenship. Most statistics used to estimate the international migrant stock were obtained from population censuses, population registers and nationally representative household surveys. The following source should be cited when referring to the data in this fact sheet: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013). See: [www.unmigration.org](http://www.unmigration.org).

<sup>ii</sup> The term “North” refers to countries or regions traditionally classified for statistical purposes as “developed,” while the term “South” refers to those classified as “developing.” The developed regions include Europe and Northern America plus Australia, New Zealand and Japan. These terms are used for statistical convenience and do not express a judgment about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process.

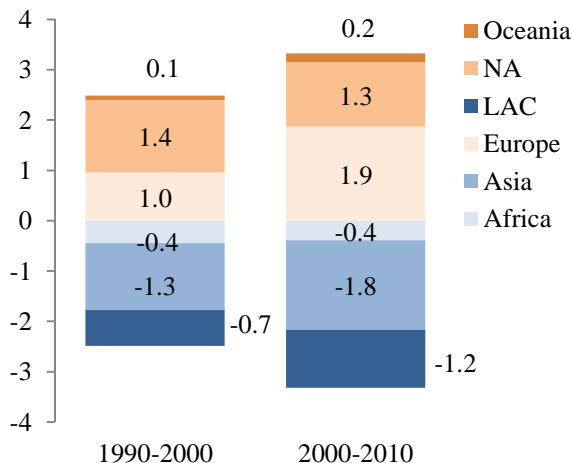
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## II. NET INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

### A. GLOBAL TRENDS

During the period 1950-2010, the developed regions experienced population gains from positive net international migration while the developing regions were losing population from negative net international migration. During the most recent decades, net international migration to the developed regions increased from 2.5 million per year in 1990-2010 to 3.5 million per year in 2000-2010. Europe and Northern America were gaining the most from net international migration, whereas Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean were losing the most (figure II.1).

**Figure II.1. Annual net migration by major area, 1990-2000 and 2000-2010 (millions)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

Net immigration to Northern America, however, declined from 1.4 million annually in 1990-2000 to 1.3 million per year in 2000-2010, while it almost doubled in Europe from one million to 1.9 million per year over the same period. Latin America and the Caribbean experienced an increase in the annual number of net emigrants from 0.7 million in 1990-2000 to 1.2 million in 2000 and 2010.

These regional trends mask substantial variations at the country level. In 1990-2000, out of 232 countries or areas in the world, 94 countries or areas gained population from net immigration and 135 countries or areas lost population due to net emigration. By 2000-2010, the number of countries gaining population due to net migration had increased to 101, and the number of countries losing population had declined to 128 countries or areas (table II.1).

#### Box II.1. Data considerations - Definitions

Net international migration for a given country refers to the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants. If more people immigrate to a country than emigrate from it, the country gains population from positive net migration. When more people emigrate than immigrate, the country loses population through negative net migration. At the global level, population grows or declines due to natural change while international migration is necessarily zero. Whenever the world's constituent countries are divided into groups of mutually exclusive units—such as the developed and the developing regions—net migration flows to one group cancel out net migration flows

In the developed regions, the majority of countries experienced net immigration and that number increased from 35 in 1990-2000 to 40 in 2000-2010. In the developing regions, the majority of countries experienced net emigration, both in 1990-2000 and 2000-2010. However, in the developing regions, the number of countries experiencing net emigration declined from 115 to 113 between 1990-2000 and 2000-2010, whereas the number of countries gaining population due to net immigration increased from 59 to 61.

Among the countries gaining population in both 1990-2000 and 2000-2010 were traditional countries of immigration, such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States as well as countries which started to see an increase

TABLE II.1: NUMBER OF COUNTRIES OR AREAS BY NET MIGRATION STATUS DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND MAJOR AREA, 1990-2000 AND 2000-2010

Development group and major area	Net immigration		Net emigration		Change in status (net emigration → net immigration country)
	1990-2000	2000-2010	1990-2000	2000-2010	1990-2000 and 2000-2010
World.....	94	101	135	128	29
Developed regions .....	35	40	20	15	6
Developing regions .....	59	61	115	113	23
Africa.....	26	19	32	39	7
Asia.....	17	22	32	27	9
Europe.....	30	35	18	13	6
Latin America and the Caribbean .....	14	19	34	29	6
Northern America .....	2	2	2	2	—
Oceania.....	5	4	17	18	1

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

Note: Change in status refers to the number of countries which changed from net emigration status in 1990-2000 to net immigration status in 2000-2010. Countries with zero net migration in 1990-2000 and 2000-2010 have been excluded from the analysis.

### Box II.2. Data considerations – Data source

The data used in this part of the report are from the latest population estimates and projections produced by the United Nations Population Division.<sup>1</sup> In estimating and projecting population net migration is often derived as a residual. Estimates are produced for the period 1950-2010 and projections for the period 2010-2050. Given the volatility of international migration flows, it is impossible to accurately project future migration levels and trends and their impact on population change and population structures. However, population projections including different migration scenarios can help assess the likely impact international migration might have on future populations. For the medium projection variant, the future path of international migration is set on the basis of past international migration estimates and migration policy considerations for the respective countries. Projected levels of net migration are generally kept constant over the next decades, starting in 2010-2015. For countries with sizable refugee populations, it is assumed that refugees return to their country of origin within the next five to ten years.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

in their levels of immigration in the 1990s and 2000s, such as Italy and Spain. In addition, countries in the developing regions recruiting labour migrants, such as Qatar, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates were among the countries experiencing net immigration in both periods. Interestingly, 23 countries in the developing regions changed their status from net emigration in 1990-2000 to net immigration in 2000-2010. Some of these countries repatriated refugees, such as Burundi, Eritrea and South Sudan, while others had recently begun to recruit foreign workers on a larger scale, such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Among the group of countries experiencing net emigration were traditional countries of emigration, such as Bangladesh, China, India, Mexico, Pakistan and the Philippines. Many of these countries had long-standing ties with traditional countries of immigration, such as Australia, Canada and the United States, while others had newly established ties with countries in South-Eastern and Western Asia which were recruiting foreign workers.

Between 1990-2000 and 2000-2010, the number of countries with net immigration increased in Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, decreased in Africa and Oceania and remained the same in Northern America. Furthermore, the number of countries that

TABLE II.2: COUNTRIES AND AREAS WITH THE HIGHEST AND THE LOWEST LEVEL OF ANNUAL NET MIGRATION, 1990-2000 AND 2000-2010 (THOUSANDS)

A. Net immigration countries or areas				
Rank	Country or area	1990-2000	Country or area	2000-2010
1.	United States of America .....	1 292	United States of America .....	1 055
2.	Russian Federation .....	453	Spain .....	508
3.	Germany .....	407	United Arab Emirates .....	468
4.	Afghanistan .....	264	Russian Federation .....	389
5.	Canada .....	146	Italy .....	376
6.	Spain .....	112	South Africa .....	247
7.	Ethiopia .....	99	Saudi Arabia .....	235
8.	South Africa .....	96	Canada .....	228
9.	Australia .....	87	United Kingdom .....	181
10.	United Arab Emirates .....	79	Australia .....	181
B. Net emigration countries or areas				
Rank	Country or area	1990-2000	Country or area	2000-2010
1.	Kazakhstan .....	- 284	Bangladesh .....	- 557
2.	Mexico .....	- 264	Mexico .....	- 498
3.	Egypt .....	- 205	India .....	- 490
4.	Bangladesh .....	- 169	China .....	- 418
5.	Iran (Islamic Republic of) .....	- 166	Pakistan .....	- 360
6.	Pakistan .....	- 159	Philippines .....	- 236
7.	Philippines .....	- 147	Myanmar .....	- 180
8.	China .....	- 143	Viet Nam .....	- 165
9.	Morocco .....	- 118	Zimbabwe .....	- 150
10.	Republic of Korea .....	- 115	Nepal .....	- 148

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

changed from net emigration countries in 1990-2000 to net immigration countries in 2000-2010, the so-called “status changes” was highest in Asia (9), followed by Africa (7), Europe (6), Latin America and the Caribbean (6) and Oceania (1).

During 2000-2010, the United States, Spain and the United Arab Emirates were the top net immigration countries, whereas Bangladesh, Mexico and India were the top net emigration countries (table II.2). Compared to 1990-2000, Italy, Spain, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom moved up on the list of leading net immigration countries, whereas Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, Germany and the Russian Federation moved down on that list. For the main net emigration countries, especially Bangladesh, China and India became more important as their levels of net emigration more than doubled.

#### B. CONTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TO OVERALL POPULATION CHANGE

In 1950-1960, the population both in the developed and the developing regions was primarily growing due to natural increase (figure II.2). By 2000-2010, net migration had become the primary source of population growth in the developed regions, whereas the developing regions were still growing due to a surplus of births over deaths (natural increase). Following the projection assumptions defined earlier (box II.2), the population of the developed regions will still be growing by 2040-2050, but at a declining rate with net migration being the only source of the projected population growth and natural increase having become negative. In the developing regions, the population is projected to continue to grow, albeit at lower rates, due to natural increase while net emigration will have a negligible effect on population size.

Over the period 1950-2010, the populations of Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean grew due to natural increase, although at differing rates (figure II.3). Negative net migration was more than offset by natural increase, which will remain the major factor behind future population growth in these major regions.

**Box II.3. Net migration – One factor contributing to population change**

Over time, a population grows or declines due to natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration (immigrants minus emigrants). Migration affects population change directly by adding to or subtracting from the population. It also affects population indirectly by impacting, for example, the age structure of a population and related mortality and fertility patterns in the respective countries. This part of the report will focus on the direct impact of net migration and natural change on overall population change.

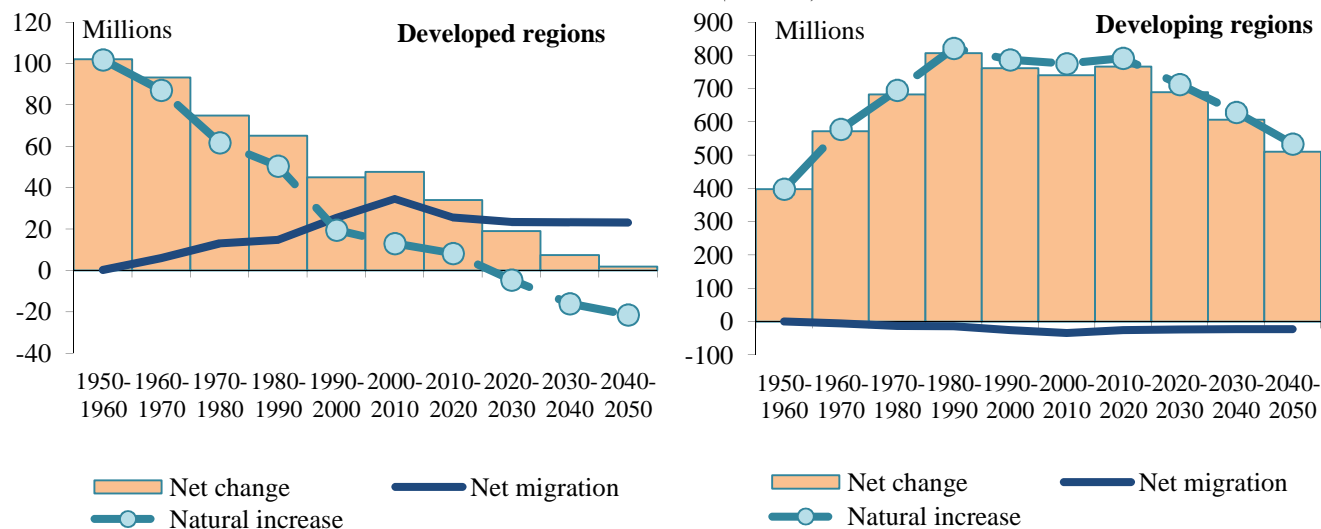
In Europe, Northern America and Oceania, positive net migration has had an increasing impact on population growth since 1950, while natural increase has become less important. In

Europe, natural increase became negative in 1990-2000 and net migration is projected to offset population decline until 2010-2020. After 2020, however, and despite continued positive net migration, the surplus of deaths over births is projected to dominate population change, leading to population decline in Europe.

Between 1950-1960 and 2000-2010, net migration increasingly contributed to population growth in Northern America and Oceania, while natural increase became less important. By 2030-2040, net migration in Northern America will, for the first time, contribute more to population growth than natural increase. From then on, net migration will drive population growth in Northern America. In Oceania, natural increase will remain the main driver of population growth, but at a declining rate.

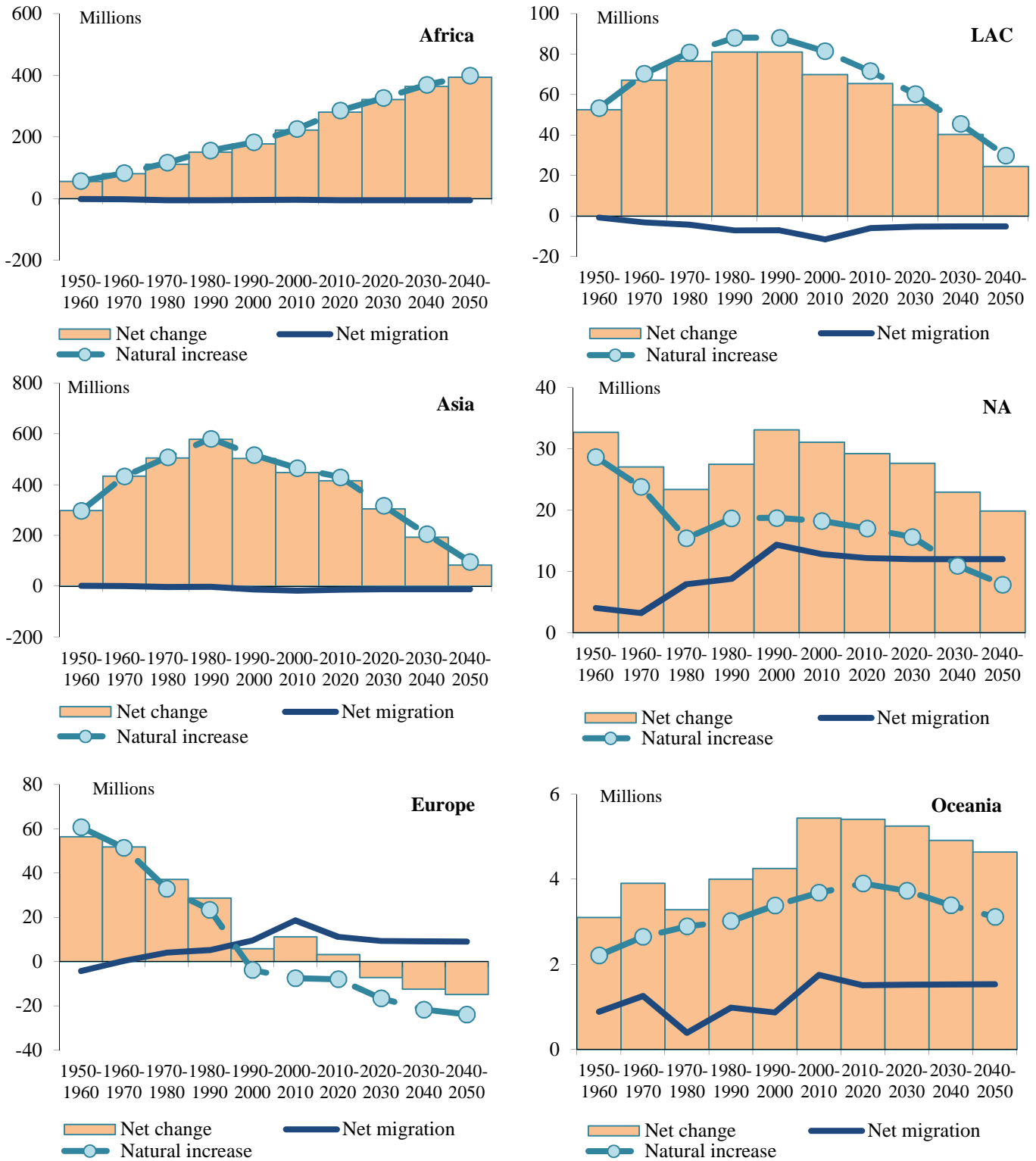
The impact of international migration on population growth or decline can also be assessed by comparing the results of the 2010-2050 population projection of the medium variant with those obtained by projecting the population with zero international migration. In other words, the zero-migration scenario illustrates the effect natural population change alone would have on future population growth since migration is set to zero starting in 2010. Comparing the projected

**Figure II.2. Contribution of natural increase and net migration to total population change by development group, 1950-1960 to 2040-2050 (millions)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

**Figure II.3. Contribution of natural increase and net migration to total population change by major area, 1950-1960 to 2040-2050 (millions)**



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

Note: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.



TABLE II.3: PROJECTED POPULATION, MEDIUM VARIANT PROJECTION AND ZERO-MIGRATION SCENARIO BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND MAJOR AREA 2050

<i>Development group and major area</i>	<i>Population in 2050 (millions)</i>		<i>Difference as percentage of medium variant</i>
	<i>Medium variant</i>	<i>Zero-migration scenario</i>	
World.....	9 551	9 553	0.0
Developed regions .....	1 303	1 169	-10.3
Developing regions .....	8 248	8 384	1.7
Africa.....	2 393	2 425	1.3
Asia.....	5 164	5 235	1.4
Europe.....	709	656	-7.5
Latin America and the Caribbean .....	782	811	3.8
Northern America .....	446	378	-15.3
Oceania.....	57	48	-15.4

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

populations of the medium variant with those of the zero-migration scenario helps assess the relative impact continued international migration is expected to have on population change.

Table II.3 presents a comparison of these two types of projection results for 2050. As expected, the zero-migration scenario produces a smaller population for the developed regions and a higher one for the developing regions. But the magnitude of the difference in relative terms is revealing: in the developed regions, zero-migration during 2010-2050 is projected to result by 2050 in a population about 10 per cent smaller than it would have been with a migration inflow. In the developing region immigration will increase the population by almost two per cent by the same year. This comparison confirms the important impact of international migration on population growth in the developed regions.

The largest relative differences between the 2050 population in the medium variant and the zero-migration scenario are found for Northern America and Oceania. Without any international migration the projected populations of Northern America and Oceania in 2050 are projected to be 15 per cent smaller than according to the medium variant. The potential difference for the population of Europe is more modest, about seven per cent. The medium variant for Africa and Asia results in populations that are smaller than under the zero-migration scenario. For Latin America

and the Caribbean the population projected without migration would be about four per cent smaller.

Given the age selectivity of migration, migration affects the age and sex composition of a population. The dependency ratio is a commonly used measure of potential social and economic support needs. The total dependency ratio is calculated as the ratio of the dependent population (under 15 years of age and 65 years or older) to the working-age population (15 to 64 years of age). Table II.4 presents dependency ratios for the medium variant projection and the zero-migration scenario. In general, the higher this ratio, the more people each potential worker needs to support.

According to the medium variant, the dependency ratio is projected to increase in the developed regions over the next 40 years from 48 to 72. In other words, for every 10 working adults, there were 4.8 dependent persons in 2010 while there are projected to be 7.2 dependent persons in 2050. Assuming no migration, the dependency ratio will increase to 76 in the developed regions in 2050 with 7.6 dependent persons per 10 working adults. Northern America, followed by Oceania and Europe would be the most affected regions if there were no international migration. They would all experience higher dependency ratios in the zero-migration scenario compared to the medium variant. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the dependency ratio under the zero-



migration scenario would decline to 57, from 58 in the medium variant, Africa's and Asia's dependency ratios would not be affected if there were no migration.

TABLE II.4: DEPENDENCY RATIO UNDER THE MEDIUM VARIANT PROJECTION AND ZERO-MIGRATION SCENARIO BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND MAJOR AREA, 2050

<i>Development group and major area</i>	<i>Dependency ratio in 2010</i>	<i>Dependency ratio in 2050</i>		<i>Difference between zero-migration scenario and medium variant</i>	<i>Difference as percentage of medium variant</i>
		<i>Medium variant</i>	<i>Zero-migration scenario</i>		
World.....	52	58	58	—	—
Developed regions .....	48	72	76	4.3	8.8
Developing regions .....	53	57	56	-0.3	-0.5
Africa.....	80	61	61	-0.2	-0.3
Asia.....	48	55	55	-0.2	-0.3
Europe.....	47	73	77	3.5	7.5
Latin America and the Caribbean .....	54	58	57	-1.1	-2.0
Northern America .....	49	66	71	4.6	9.4
Oceania .....	53	62	66	4.2	8.0

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, DVD Edition*.

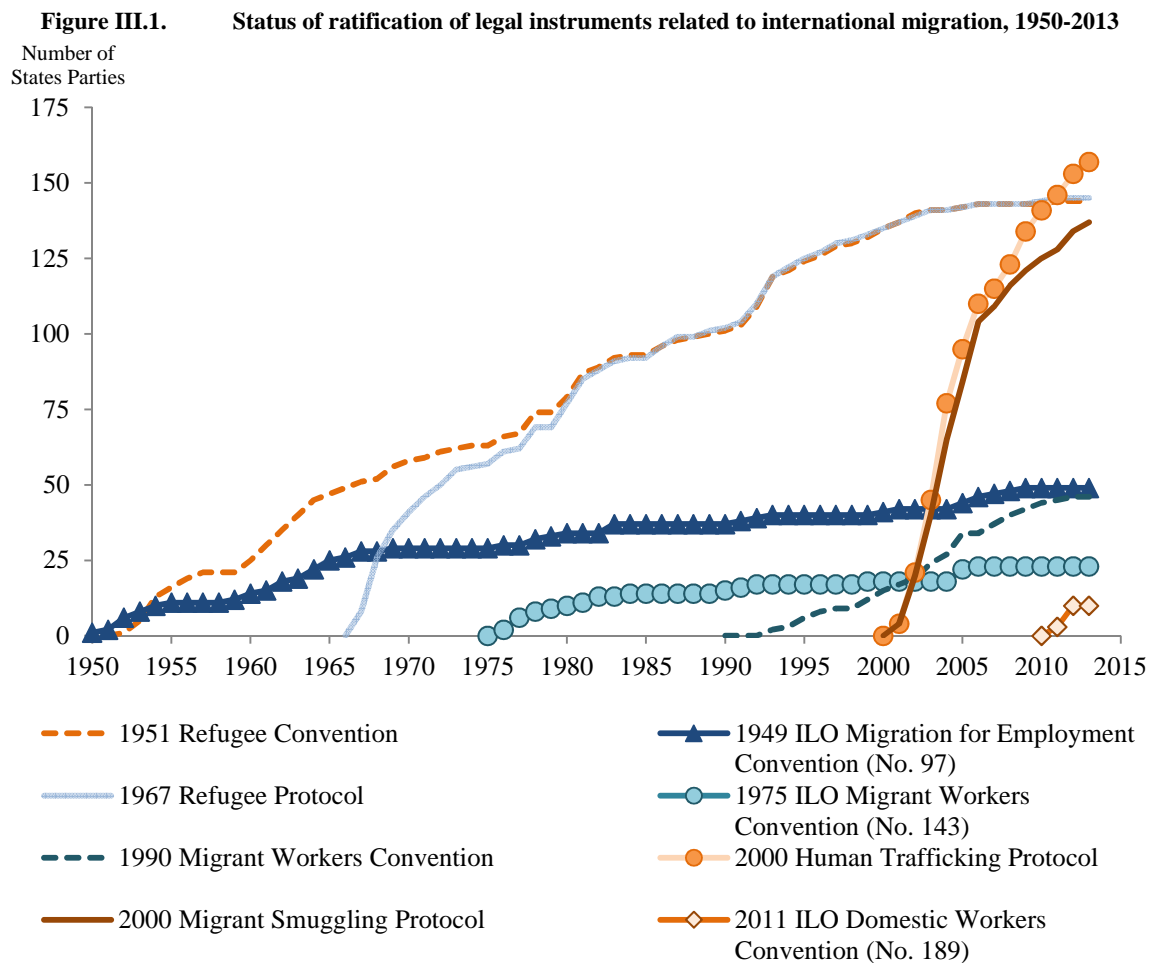
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### III. LEGAL INSTRUMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

The international normative framework on international migration includes instruments pertaining to the human rights of migrants and the rights of migrant workers, and the protection of refugees as well as instruments designed to combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking. These instruments have been ratified in varying degrees by Member States. As of 1 December 2013, instruments designed to protect refugees and to combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking had been ratified by more than three-quarters of Member States, whereas instruments protecting the rights of migrant workers had been ratified by less than one-quarter of all Member States (figure III.1).

#### A. REFUGEES

The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol, both relating to the Status of Refugees, are the central elements in the international regime of refugee protection. The 1951 Convention defines the term “refugee”,<sup>i</sup> enumerates the rights of refugees, and establishes the legal obligation of States to protect refugees. The Convention prohibits the expulsion or forcible return of persons accorded refugee status: no refugee should be returned in any manner to a country or territory in which his or her life or freedom would be threatened (non-refoulement).



Sources: United Nations Treaty Collection; see <http://treaties.un.org> (as of 1 December 2013) and NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards; see <http://www.ilo.org/> (as of 1 December 2013).

Note: Does not include ratifications by the Holy See or the European Union.

TABLE III.1: STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION<sup>1</sup>

Instrument	Year of entry into force	Parties to international instruments	
		Number	Percentage
<b>Refugees</b>			
1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees <sup>2</sup> .....	1954	144	75
1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees <sup>2</sup> .....	1967	145	75
<b>Migrant workers</b>			
1949 ILO Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised 1949) (No. 97) .....	1952	49	26
1975 ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) (No. 143) .....	1978	23	12
1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families .....	2003	47	24
2011 ILO Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (No. 189) .....	2013	10	5
<b>Smuggling and trafficking</b>			
2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children <sup>2</sup> .....	2003	157	81
2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air <sup>2</sup> .....	2004	137	71

Sources: United Nations Treaty Collection; see <http://treaties.un.org> (as of 1 December 2013) and NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards; see <http://www.ilo.org/> (as of 1 December 2013).

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Of Member States of the International Labour Organization (185) or the United Nations (193).

<sup>2</sup> Does not include ratifications by the Holy See or the European Union.

The 1967 Protocol extended the application of the 1951 Convention to persons who became refugees after 1 January 1951, without any geographic limitation. By the end of 2013, the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol had been ratified by 144 and 145 United Nations Member States, respectively; with 142 States Parties to both instruments. The 147 States that had ratified either the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol collectively hosted 6.7 million refugees in 2013, 42.6 per cent of the global refugee population.

## B. MIGRANT WORKERS

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has adopted three legally-binding instruments that are relevant for the protection of migrant workers: the Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised 1949) (No. 97), the Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of

Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) (No. 143) as well as the 2011 Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (No. 189).<sup>ii</sup> All three have been complemented by non-binding recommendations.

The 1949 Convention concerning Migration for Employment covers recruitment and working conditions' standards for migrant workers. It establishes the principle of equal treatment of migrant workers and nationals with regard to laws, regulations and administrative practices that concern living and working conditions, remuneration, social security, employment taxes and access to justice.

The 1975 Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers was the first multilateral attempt to address irregular migration and to call for sanctions against

traffickers of human beings. It emphasized that Member States are obliged to respect the basic human rights of all migrant workers, including irregular migrants. It also provided that lawfully present migrant workers and their families should not only be entitled to equal treatment but also to equality of opportunity, e.g. equal access to employment and occupation, trade union and cultural rights and individual and collective freedoms.

The 2011 Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers, which entered into force in 2013, was the first multilateral instrument to establish global labour standards for domestic workers, guaranteeing them the same basic rights as other workers. The convention establishes that domestic workers, regardless of their migration status, have the same basic labour rights as those recognized for other workers: reasonable hours of work, a limit on payment in-kind, clear information on the terms and conditions of employment, as well as respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, including freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.

As of 1 December 2013, 49 ILO Member States out of 185 had ratified ILO Convention No. 97; 23 Member States had ratified Convention No. 143; and 10 Member States had ratified Convention No. 189. In total, two of ILO's 185 Member States—Italy and the Philippines—had ratified all three instruments, representing less than one per cent of ILO Member States and hosting less than three per cent of all international migrants worldwide (5.9 million) in 2013.

The 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of Their Families is the third and most comprehensive international treaty on migrant rights. It establishes international definitions for categories of migrant workers and formalizes the responsibility of States in upholding the rights of migrant workers and members of their families. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights monitors the implementation of

the convention and works to further its ratification.

As of the end of 2013, 47 Member States (out of a total of 193 United Nations Member States) had ratified the convention. They collectively hosted 17 million international migrants in 2013, about seven per cent of the global migrant population. None of the States Parties to the 1990 Convention were major migrant receiving countries, and only six of them hosted more than one million international migrants. Overall, 87 countries had ratified at least one of the four instruments regarding migrant workers. Together they hosted 32 per cent of the world migrant population in 2010, or 75.8 million in absolute figures.

### C. SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING

The two protocols seeking to stem irregular migration concern human trafficking and migrant smuggling, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children took effect in 2003 and had been ratified by 157 United Nations Member States as of 1 December 2013. The Protocol defines human trafficking as the acquisition of people by improper means, such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them. The Protocol aims to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, to protect and assist victims of such trafficking, in particular women and children, to prosecute perpetrators of such crimes and to promote cooperation among States Parties.

The 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air took effect in 2004 and had been ratified by 137 United Nations Member States as of 1 December 2013. As set out in the Protocol, smuggling of migrants involves the procurement for financial or other material benefit of the illegal entry of a person into a State of which the person is not a national or permanent resident. The Protocol is an effective tool for combating and preventing the smuggling of "human cargo". It reaffirms

TABLE III.2: DISTRIBUTION OF STATES PARTIES TO LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION BY DEVELOPMENT GROUP AND MAJOR AREA (percentage)

	States Parties to United Nations instruments <sup>1,2</sup>					States Parties to ILO instruments <sup>1,2</sup>		
	1951 Refugee Convention	1967 Refugee Protocol	1990 Migrant Workers Convention	2000 Human Trafficking Protocol	2000 Migrant Smuggling Protocol	1949 Migration for Employment No. 097	1975 Migrant Workers No. 143	2011 Domestic Workers No. 189
World .....	75	75	24	81	71	26	12	5
Developed regions.....	94	96	4	94	92	38	24	4
Developing regions.....	68	68	31	77	64	23	9	6
Africa .....	89	89	33	81	70	19	13	4
Asia .....	40	40	21	70	51	16	9	2
Europe .....	95	95	5	95	93	40	28	5
LAC.....	82	82	52	97	88	45	3	15
NA.....	50	100	0	100	100	0	0	0
Oceania.....	57	57	0	36	29	9	0	0

Sources: United Nations Treaty Collection; see <http://treaties.un.org> (as of 1 December 2013) and NORMLEX Information System on International Labour Standards; see <http://www.ilo.org/> (as of 1 December 2013).

Notes: LAC refers to Latin America and the Caribbean, while NA refers to Northern America.

<sup>1</sup> Of Member States of the International Labour Organization (185) or the United Nations (193).

<sup>2</sup> Does not include ratifications by the Holy See or the European Union.

that migration in itself is not a crime, and that migrants may be victims in need of protection. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) assists Member States in implementing the two protocols. The rapid increase in the ratification of the human trafficking and the migrant smuggling protocols indicates the growing concern of Member States about irregular migration and its detrimental effects.

As of the end of 2013, ratification for the above-mentioned conventions and protocols differed greatly by development group and major area (table III.2). For the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol, both relating to the status of refugees, the rate of ratification is low in Asia (40 per cent) and in Oceania (57 per cent), while the remaining areas show ratification rates above 80 per cent for at least one of the two instruments. Ratification rates of the protocols relating to human trafficking and migrant smuggling are highest for Member States in Northern America (100 per cent) and Europe (95 and 93 per cent, respectively). Ratification of the two protocols was higher among countries in the

developed regions than among countries of the developing regions.

Overall, the three instruments relating to migrant rights' protection show lower ratification rates compared to the other migration-related instruments in all major areas. Latin America and the Caribbean had the highest ratification rate for at least one migrant rights' instrument of these three, whereas Northern America has not ratified any instruments.

## NOTES

<sup>i</sup> The 1951 Refugee Convention defines a refugee as someone who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country".

<sup>ii</sup> It should be noted that a significant proportion of all domestic workers are migrants, particularly migrant women.