

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate C: Macro-economic statistics Unit C2: National accounts production

Luxembourg, 27 July 2023

Country specific metadata on the recording of Ukrainian refugees

The consequence of Russia's military aggression of Ukraine has been the movement as refugees of millions of Ukrainian citizens to EU Member States and other countries. In some Member States – notably those bordering Ukraine – the refugees' economic activities could have a major impact on national accounts aggregates.

To address the challenges associated with the recording of Ukrainian refugees in national accounts, Eurostat published an <u>updated guidance note on classification of Ukrainian</u> <u>refugees in national accounts</u> (June 2022 version) on its <u>website</u>. The published guidance provides the following conclusion on the proposed classification in national accounts:

Ukrainian nationals in the EU should in principle be split between resident and non-resident households based on ESA 2010 criteria of actual or intended duration of residence. However, in the absence of reliable data at the current stage, it is proposed as an interim approach in national accounts to classify Ukrainian refugees within domestic households when they are appropriately registered with the national authorities.

If a country gathers sufficient (and reliable) information to split Ukrainian refugees between resident and non-resident in line with the ESA 2010 requirements, a country could implement the split, while ensuring that a consistent treatment is applied across different sets of statistics.

In this case it is important that additional and reliable information be gathered on the economic activities of Ukrainian refugees, in particular their expenditures and revenues, so that a proper split may be made in national accounts data, without resort to sweeping assumptions. Applying consistent procedures across EU countries should be looked for (sharing best practice), and in particular for those countries most affected by the influx of refugees for the sake of consistency of national accounts in the EU, and in particular for the calculation of GNI.

The above interim approach could be reassessed with regard to the evolving situation in Ukraine in the coming months.

Following these interim recommendations for compilers of national account and balance of payment statistics for the classification of Ukrainian refugees, Eurostat collected information from National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) on the recording the Ukrainian refugees in their national accounts (Table 1). The information was collected in August 2022. An update is expected in September 2023.

Table 1. Responses of Member States to the Questionnaire on the recording of Ukrainian refugees in national accounts

Country	Have you accounted for Ukrainian refugees?	Classification	Criteria	Significant revisions expected
Cyprus		As resident households	Intention of Ukrainian refugees to stay	No
Slovenia				No
Slovakia				No
Netherlands				No
Estonia			Insufficient information to separate them from residents	
Ireland				No
Norway				No
Denmark			Combination of the above	No
Germany	Yes			No
Ireland	165			No
Greece				No
Spain				No
Lithuania				No
Poland				Yes
Portugal				No
Sweden				No
Czechia		As non- residents		Yes
Belgium			There are none or negligible numbers of Ukrainian refugees in the country	No
France				No
Austria				No
Finland				No
Italy			There is not sufficient information about the presence of Ukrainian refugees in the country	No
Hungary				No
Malta				No
Romania				
Iceland				
Latvia	No		More time is needed to collect, classify and estimate all the information.	No
Malta			Quarterly provisional estimates of the population do not include a specific component for international protection, as is the case for final end of year estimates, but are indirectly included in total estimates of foreign migration flows. These individuals are not specifically being addressed in provisional population counts.	No