

Classification of the quality of estimates (see also WP1)

I. High quality	II. Medium quality	III. Low quality	IV. Low quality with plausibility warning
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Abbreviations

IFR: Irregular Foreign Residents	IFW: Irregular Foreign Workers	Incl. EU: Estimate includes EU-citizens	FTE: Full-time equivalents	Abs.: Estimate of absolute numbers	Rel.: Estimate subgroup in % of total
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Groups	Definition	Year	Estimate			Main data source	Short explanation	Reference
			minimum	central	maximum			
Total stocks of irregular foreign residents								
IFR – estimate 1	IFR excl. Eastern Europeans	2000	71 578	84 523	97 467	enforcement data	Scientific study estimate with capture-recapture method based on data on police apprehension data	Engbersen et al. 2002
IFR – estimate 2	IFR excl. Eastern Europeans	2000	72 629	91 788	110 948	enforcement data	Scientific study estimate with capture-recapture method based on police apprehension data	Leerkes et al. 2004
IFR – estimate 3	IFR	2001	46 500	80 000	115 600	enforcement data	Academic expert estimate: extrapolation in time with a nationality-based multiplier on the basis of an estimate with capture-recapture method based on police apprehension data from 1995	Hoogteijling 2002
IFR – estimate 4	IFR excl. Eastern Europeans	2001	77 973	117 373	156 772	enforcement data	Scientific study estimate with capture-recapture method based on police apprehension data	Leerkes et al. 2004
		2002	77 721	104 990	132 262			
		2003	60 469	77 077	93 684			
IFR – estimate 5	IFR excl. Eastern Europeans	2005	62 320	88 116	113 912	enforcement data	Scientific study estimate with capture-recapture method based on police apprehension data	van der Heijden 2006

Groups	Definition	Year	Estimate			Main data source	Short explanation	Reference
			minimum	central	maximum			
Total stocks of irregular foreign workers								
IFW – estimate 1	IFW/ companies	2003	60 000	80 000	100 000	expert opinion	Academic expert estimate on illegal workers hired by mala fide employment agencies, based on selected expert opinions	Zuidam and Grijpstra 2004
IFW – estimate 2	IFW/ companies	2004	66 750		89 000	employer survey	Scientific study estimate: employers survey based on randomised Response-method, share of employers who hired irregular workers, extrapolation to the whole economy	Mosselman and van Rij 2005
IFW – estimate 3	IFW/ companies	2006	86 250		115 000	employer survey	Scientific study estimate: employers survey based on randomised Response-method, share of employers who hired irregular workers, extrapolation to the whole economy	Groenewoud and van Rij 2007
IFW – estimate 4	IFW/ companies	2006	54 000		97 000	expert survey	Academic expert estimate on illegal foreign workers hired by mala fide or fraudulent employment agencies, based on expert survey in Netherlands and selected sending countries	Dijkema et al. 2006
Total stocks for specific cities or regions								
/								
Gender composition								
abs.	/							
rel. 1	m	IFR/ non-Europeans			85%	enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented police apprehension data as indicator for gender composition, assessment as min/ max by HWWI	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008 WP1 2008
	f		15%					
rel. 2	m	IFR			80%	enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented data on police apprehensions of illegal migrants as indicator for gender composition, assessment as min/ max by HWWI	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008 WP1 2008
	f		20%					

Groups	Definition	Year	Estimate			Main data source	Short explanation	Reference	
			minimum	central	maximum				
Age composition									
abs.	/								
rel. 1	under 40	IFR/ non-Europeans	2006		80%		enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented police apprehension data as indicator for age composition	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008
	above 40				20%				
rel. 2	Children and Youths (0-20)	IFR	2000		14%		enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented data on police apprehensions of illegal migrants as indicator for age composition	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008
	Adults (20-50)				83%				
	Aged people (above 51)				2%				

Groups	Definition	Year	Estimate			Main data source	Short explanation	Reference
			minimum	central	maximum			
Nationality composition								
abs.	/							
rel. 1	Eastern Europe	IFR incl. EU	2000		32%	enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented data on illegal migrants apprehended by the police as indicator for nationality composition	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008
	Rest of Africa				16%			
	Asia				14%			
	Northern Africa				12%			
	Western Europe				11%			
	Turkey				8%			
	Other				7%			
	rel. 2			Africa	IFR incl. EU			
Asia			23%					
Other Europeans (excl. Bulgaria and Romania)			15%					
Bulgaria			12%					
Turkey			9%					
Romania			5%					
America			4%					
Other			3%					

Groups	Definition	Year	Estimate			Main data source	Short explanation	Reference	
			minimum	central	maximum				
Economic sector composition									
rel.	Hotel, restaurant and café sector	IFW incl. EU	2000/2001		22%		migrant survey	Scientific study estimate: sectoral distribution of illegal employment according to respondents of migrant survey	van der Leun and Kloosterman 2006
	Personal services				22%				
	Horticulture				14%				
	Retail and trade				13%				
	Cleaning				12%				
	Construction				12%				
	Other				5%				
Other subgroups									
rel.	Former asylum seekers and refugees	IFR	2005	11%		33%	enforcement data	CLANDESTINO country expert presented shares of asylum seekers in police apprehensions (min: asylum procedure in year before apprehension; max: country relevant for asylum seekers)	CLANDESTINO Netherlands 2008

References

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- WP1 (2008): Vogel, Dita and Vesela Kovacheva, Classification report: Quality assessment of estimates on stocks of irregular migrants, Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI), Database on Irregular Migration, Working paper No.1, http://www.irregular-migration.hwwi.net/Working_papers.6113.0.html.
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Annotations

Total stocks of irregular foreign residents: [back to table](#)

IFR – estimate 1, 2, 4, 5: Estimates fulfilling usual academic standards; while the capture-recapture-method is not without shortcomings, these estimates were embedded in substantial fieldwork and adjusted to the extent possible. Estimate 1 is a recalculation of the often quoted estimate in Engbersen 2002 (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 25).

IFR – estimate 3: Careful estimate; medium quality mainly due to adjustment of older estimate with rough indicators (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 25).

Total stocks of irregular foreign workers: [back to table](#)

IFW – estimate 1: Low quality due to a lack of documentation, in particular how estimate was derived from expert opinions; irregular migrants directly hired by employers as an important group of irregular migrants are not included in the estimate (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 20).

IFW – estimate 2, 3: Careful estimates; medium quality due to not fully adequate underlying data collected with “randomised Response-method”. Scientific dialogue: Experts challenged the classification of the estimate. A high quality classification could be considered if convincing arguments could be presented that data are not biased because participants did not understand complicated study designs (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 20).

IFW – estimate 4: Low quality due to a lack of documentation, in particular how estimate was derived from expert opinions; irregular migrants directly hired by employers as an important group of irregular migrants are not included in the estimate (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 23).

Gender composition: [back to table](#)

Relative estimate 1: For minimum and maximum assessment logic, see WP1. Low quality due to a lack of information on degree of under- and overestimation (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 27).

Relative estimate 2: For minimum and maximum assessment logic, see WP1. Low quality due to a lack of information on degree of under- and overestimation (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 28).

Age composition: [back to table](#)

Relative estimate 1: Low quality due to low quality due to unclear bias (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 28).

Relative estimate 2: Low quality due to low quality due to unclear bias (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 28).



Nationality composition: [back to table](#)

Relative estimate 1: Low quality due to unclear bias (no information whether there are unequal apprehension likelihoods for different nationalities) (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 30).

Relative estimate 2: Low quality due to unclear bias (no information whether there are unequal apprehension likelihoods for different nationalities) (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 28).

Economic sector composition: [back to table](#)

Relative estimate: Low quality due to a lack of reliability assessment (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 32).

Other subgroups: [back to table](#)

Former asylum seekers and refugees/ Relative: Careful estimate; medium quality as based on rough indicators (CLANDESTINO Netherlands Report: 32).

Comments on the table are welcomed by the HWWI-team: [Dita Vogel](#) and [Vesela Kovacheva](#).

Suggested quotation: HWWI (2009): Stocks of Irregular Migrants: Estimates for the Netherlands, last change October 2009, Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI), Database on Irregular Migration.

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