Country Report
The Netherlands
by Jeroen Doomernik

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A. Key institutions involved in data collection

Responsible for Dutch population (and most other) statistics is het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (CBS)– also called Statistics Netherlands – an independent governing body under the Ministry of Economic Affairs. By law it has access to registers maintained by the following organizations for the fulfillment of their legal duties: Central government (het Rijk); provinces (provincies); municipalities (gemeenten); water boards (waterschappen); public bodies (openbare lichamen); and independent control bodies (zelfstandige bestuursorganen). Furthermore, CBS can claim access to all registers maintained by organizations fulfilling functions defined by law and financed with public money. In as far as these sources do not yield sufficient data, these can also be collected from enterprises, the self-employed, and organizations. Provided a Order-in-Council to this effect has been issued, these parties should provide access to their data and/or collect data free of charge. At the same time, Statistics Netherlands should, by law, keep the costs incurred for those providing data as low as possible. If the parties concerned do not – in time – fulfill their obligations vis-à-vis Statistics Netherlands this can lead to sanctions.

The core of Dutch population statistics are the 443 municipal population registers or gemeentelijke basisadministratie (GBA). The contents and maintenance of these registers is regulated by means of the 1994 Law on the municipal basic administration of persons. From 1995, each register thus contains the same variables; notably the individual’s name, sex, data and place of birth, marital status, nationality, address, parental countries of birth, residence status (by a permanent link to the Aliens Registers), and country of previous residence. Pre-1995 data for births, deaths, emigration, immigration, other in- and exclusions, moves and changes in marital status have been mutated into the GBA. Registered should be every legal resident, either from the moment of (declared) birth or from the moment of declaration of stay and residence. For people arriving from abroad, the rule is that any one intending to be in the country for two-thirds of a six month period should be registered in the GBA (art. 65 of the 1994 law).

Between 1998 and 2002 diplomats, members of their households or members of their staff, and others who possess a special residence status resulting from international agreements were not included. From 2002 on they can – if they so choose – be registered. Excluded from registration are residents who are unlawfully residing in the Netherlands and asylum seekers during the first six months of their stay. People who have left the country are removed from the GBA as a matter of course or can be removed administratively if they do not appear to be resident any longer (see further down). In both cases their file (persoonslijst, PL) is de-activated (but not removed).

Next to the population register, the second important register is that of the alien population. Until recently these data were primarily collected by the 25 regional police forces. The police until 2004 was responsible for the admission of aliens who arrived in a regular fashion (i.e. not applying for asylum). Since then all new admissions have been made the responsibility of the Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND) and the police’s role has been reduced to its traditional tasks. Each of those regional forces has its own aliens’ police, which thus used to be responsible for the

1 Law on Statistics Netherlands of 20 November 2003, art. 33.
Vreemdelingenadministratiesysteem (VAS) or Aliens registration system. Each of these registers was called Decentraal (decentralised) VAS (DVAS). These DVAS were based upon a common national format but on top of that contained much information that is fed into the system to serve specific purposes (often at the discretion of the duty officer). The 25 DVASes were electronically linked up in order to make possible the exchange of data between police regions (e.g. when an alien moves to live in another region) and to provide information on aliens who come into contact with police officials outside their region of residence, by means of what until recently was named the Central Aliens Register (Centraal Register Vreemdelingen, CRV) and now goes by the name of Basisvoorziening Vreemdelingen (BVV) or Basic Provision Aliens. This register became operational in June 2003. The BVV incorporated the VAS database and INDIS (the IND information system) thus comprehensively covering all regularly residing aliens, and unspecified numbers of illegal migrants. Each alien is assigned a unique 10-digit identification number. Aliens arriving before the introduction of the BVV were already assigned such a number (the CRV, mentioned above). This pertains to 2.4 million individuals. The VAS were already directly linked to the local population registers; a link which continuous to exist with the BVV. The system is further fed by all institutions dealing with immigration and asylum: the Border Police (KMAR), Aliens Police and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (visa applications and visa issuing). Upon recoding an alien the BVV generates an aliens’ registration number. Each of the partners can modify the entries in the database unless the alien also is in the population register in which case only the municipal authorities are able to make changes.

CBS is in the process of building a comprehensive system called the Sociaal Statistisch Bestand (SSB). This SSB contains individual data. This is possible because its nucleus (the permanent core statistics) is build around the GBA data which allow for the identification (by means of an in itself meaningless random identification number (RIN) number). The various identifiers (social-fiscal number/citizen service number, name, address, date of birth and postal codes) are only used in a shielded environment to generate this RIN-number and it cannot be used outside of Statistics Netherlands. But inside Statistics Netherlands it allows combinations with data enumerated in a range of registers and surveys. In addition, the SSB knows a number of so called satellites that provide statistics on more specific domains; one of those being the integration of immigrants and their descendants (in Dutch: allochtonen) in Dutch society.

The data that are fed into the SSB nucleus stem from the Inland Revenue, Workers’ Insurance Agencies, CBS (Labour Force Survey), the municipalities, Employment Exchange and the Information Control Group (agency responsible for the national student loans scheme).

Data related to types of income, assets, and taxes (income and property) are available through the Inland Revenue as is data on people who are self-employed. As far as employees are concerned, data on the level of wages and the type of contract are collected by the Agencies that administer the collective employee insurances. It also is the organization administering these datasets.

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2 An allochtonous person is any one who is foreign born with at least one foreign born parent or Dutch born with at least one foreign born parent. For policy purposes a distinction is made between allochtonen of western and non-western origin (see section 5a).
Data regarding the use of such insurances comes from the same source as they also pay the benefits (disability and unemployment). Welfare income for those without further resources (e.g. insurance based benefits) comes from the municipalities, who also provide data on those welfare dependents. Municipalities are furthermore the source for data on the housing stock. Data on unemployment are primarily stemming from the Labour Force Survey (enquete beropesbevolking). It also generates data on the characteristics of the unemployed (duration of unemployment, education) as well as by the regional Centres for Work and Income. All key data on the country’s students are collected by the organization that’s responsible for the administration of the student loan system (Information Control Group).

Another important source of data pertaining to the integration of people of immigrant background are several surveys commissioned by the Netherlands Institute for Social Research (Sociaal Cultureel Planbureau (SCP)): prominent among those the Social Position and Use of Resources by the Allochtonous survey (Sociale Positie en Voorzieningengebruik Allochtonen (SPVA) which ran infrequently from 1988 to 2003 which since has been succeeded in 2006 by a similar Survey Integration Minorities (Survey Integratie Minderheden (SIM)). These surveys target the main and “old” minority groups arising out of post-colonial and “guest worker” migration. Meanwhile several notable new immigrant populations have matured in the Netherlands. To do their presence justice SCP has initiated a new Survey Integration New Groups (Survey Integratie Nieuwe Groepen (SING)) that is being conducted during the year 2009 and targets persons of Afghani, Somali, Iraqi, Iranian, Polish and Chinese origin and their children.

B. Historical evolution of the national data collection system/data collection practices and policies on data collection

In 1971 the last Dutch census took place. The practice, established in 1830, had become politically incorrect and was abolished. This in itself may not have been sufficient reason to abandon the idea of a regular census (not only within the Dutch population opposition to this type of instrument has been voiced but in other countries too). Also the needs for increasingly detailed statistics and the desire to collect those efficiently and against reasonable costs played their role.

Since the abolition of the national census, population data are collected from administrative registers and by means of surveys. The GBA has more and more become the hinge around which this takes place. It contains all persons legally residing in the Netherlands and includes data on nationality and country of birth. Currently a number of surveys no longer hold questions on these issues because these can be simply inserted by linking up the survey findings with the GBA. In effect: the respondent’s address in combination with data of birth or his/her unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) becomes a substitute for those. This also makes possible combining surveys collected by third parties (research institutes, universities) under certain conditions to those available through the SSB (see section 1). For reasons of privacy the only institution able to do so (and by law mandated to) is the CBS.

In future CBS expects the importance of registers over surveys to increase in order to further improve efficiency and reduce costs of data collection and processing.
Surveys that specifically target individuals of immigrant origin go back to the 1980s when their integration had become an explicit government concern and means to monitor the effectiveness of such efforts became necessary.

C. Key coordination and linking

Spider in the web of Dutch statistics is CBS. Through the GBA and the Random Identification Number allotted to each resident it has the ability to link up many surveys and registers. So Statistic Netherlands is the sole provider of national demographic data. In addition municipalities (notable the larger cities) may use municipal population data and analyze these in relation to other core data collected by means of local surveys.

Even though relevant institutions may make public their own data, Statistics Netherlands usually is the institution to present them in a coordinated fashion. For instance, statistics on asylum requests are primarily collected by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND) as it is responsible for the adjudication of these requests. IND will thus regularly make public recent figures (numbers of application, inadmissible and manifestly unfounded applications, rejections, applications granted, country of origin) but Statistics Netherlands issues regular press releases with these data and also makes them available through Statline. The same holds true for data on naturalizations.

In most other cases institutions who “own” relevant data would not make those available in connection to the variables Prominstat is centered on.

Next to the national data collection systems, there are also data which are not handled by Statistics Netherlands, for instance because they are not collected in a systematic way. This applies to statistics on discrimination. For these several sources are available: the regional police forces, the public prosecutor and local anti-discrimination bureaus. All tally the number of complaints they receive. Annually the government commissions a report on the basis of these sources in order to – among other things – fulfill its reporting obligations under the UN Convention on Racial Discrimination and towards the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance.

Another example would be data on active voting among members of ethnic minority groups as have been collected for the local elections in 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006 by researchers of the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) of the University of Amsterdam. In some instances the surveys were more sizeable than others and also contain a varying number of cities and voting districts. The 2006 survey covered 7134 individuals who participated in an exit poll (4443 people of immigrant origin and 2693 native Dutch).³

³ Anja van Heelsum and Jean Tillie (2006) Opkomst en partijvoorkeur van migranten bij de gemeenteraadsverkiezingen van 7 maart 2006 Amsterdam: IMES
D. Concepts and definitions

Dutch citizenship is based upon both *ius soli* and *uis sanguinis*. A person born out of a Dutch parent (until 1984 out of a Dutch father) is automatically a Dutch citizen, regardless of the location of birth. If the effect is that a person has two (or more) citizenships, nothing in Dutch law prevents this.

If neither of the parents is Dutch, the child is not a Dutch citizen, even if born on Dutch soil unless already its grandparents and parents had been residents of the Netherlands. In that case *ius soli* can be applied. The Kingdom of the Netherlands includes the Netherlands Antilles (Curacao, Saint Maarten, Saba, Saint Eustatius, Bonaire) and Aruba in the Caribbean Sea. As a consequence citizens of these islands are Dutch. Until 1975, when the country attained independence, this also held true for Suriname.

Attaining Dutch citizenship through naturalization is possible after five years of legal permanent residence (or three years in case of marriage to a Dutch citizen). It may be necessary to pass an integration exam. This is not the case if alternative proof of Dutch language skills is brought. It is generally required to relinquish previous citizenship. However, a number of exceptions to this rule exist.

A person who holds Dutch citizenship plus the citizenship of another country as a rule will lose the former if s/he de facto lives outside of the Kingdom for a period of more than ten years.

Citizenship is enumerated for Dutch statistics but the concept is used much less frequently, and has less political salience, then ethnicity. Dutch population statistics usually offer the figures for the largest ethnic groups (Surinamese, Netherlands Antilleans and Arubans, Turks and Moroccans).

By the late 1970s, the Dutch government gradually understood that labour migrants who had arrived as ‘guest workers’ from the mid-1960s onward from – predominantly - Morocco and Turkey, and people resettling from remote parts of the Kingdom (i.e. Suriname and the Dutch Isles in the Caribbean) had actually become permanent immigrants. This recognition also made policy makers aware of the need for integration policies. At the core of these policies stood legal integration; e.g. by means of easy naturalization. At that point it was decided that after five years of legal residence an immigrant can become a Dutch national. The implication of this policy goal is a need for specific statistics. Whereas in some countries a foreign nationality remained a suitable marker for “immigrant”, this no longer remained the case in the Netherlands. To this end, the concept of the allochthonous persons or *allochtoon* was created – standing in contrast to autochthonous or native persons. It serves to denote all immigrants and their descendants regardless of nationality and is based on the country of birth of the individual and his/her parents. An *allochtoon* is a person who has at least one foreign born parent.

In a sense this means that ethnicity has become an important marker. But at the same time this is not entirely correct for not all ethnic identities are included if country of birth is employed as its proxy. Many migrants from Turkey would identify themselves perhaps rather as Kurds, Armenians or Syrians. Among Moroccans too differentiation would be called for.
For policy purposes the distinction is made between *allochtonen* of western and non-western origin. The latter category is the subject of integration policies and is made up by persons originating in the developing parts of the world (excluding, for historical reasons, people with an Indonesian background). As a result of the linked statistics of the SSB nucleus and satellites, the extent to which the integration of these *allochtonen* has progressed can be closely monitored, especially in the domains of labour, education, housing and health. Integration defined in less concrete forms – like religious practice and orientation – occasionally also comes into view if relevant items are part of a national survey. In 2007 the survey *Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituation (POLS)*, for instance, included a question on religious denomination which allowed for a nuanced calculation of the number of Muslims living in the country. Previously their number was simply calculated on the bases of the number of individuals with a background in a (predominantly) Islamic country and the percentage of Muslims known to live in those countries.4

Apart from the variable ethnicity (i.e. allochtoon = country of birth and country of birth of either parent) (which in future might be extended to include the third generation) enumerated furthermore is nationality/nationalities.

### E. Availability of data

#### E.1. Core demographic data on immigrants and migration control

The population register (GBA) contains all core demographic data on all legal residents of the Netherlands; including those related to their parentage. In the case of aliens the register contains a code which is a proxy for the person’s legal status (notably in relation to his entitlements vis-a-vis welfare provisions and public goods). This code is generated by the linking up of the GBA with the aliens register (BVV). The BVV contains all basic data: name, place and date of birth, sex, nationality, address, nationality, and residence title, and, if applicable, remaining GBA data. Furthermore the BVV registers applications for a residence permit or change in status and their outcomes. Lastly, it contains all the data on issued residence cards (*vreemdelingendocument*). The BVV contains a powerful search engine: non-Dutch nationals can be looked up not only by name or registration number but also parts of the name and by using wild cards. Historical data are available too.

Main variables available through the BVV are visa applications (and decisions), type of residence permit, and duration of legal residence. Once an alien is naturalized, his file is discontinued (and at some stage deleted).

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E.1.a Population stocks and general demographic characteristics

From the GBA (population register, see above) all core migration variables are available instantaneously.

E.1.b Migration flows

Immigration and Emigration are enumerated – again – on the basis of the population register, whereby figures for newcomers are usually more up-to-date than the figures on emigrants. The latter is the consequence of the fact that people who leave the country have few incentives to report their departure to the authorities. Moreover, not all people who leave the country for a prolonged period of time had the intention to do so when they left. Migration data are thus updated by means of “administrative corrections”. This includes “administrative removals” of aliens whose residence permit has expired or who otherwise are in an irregular situation and who may (or may not) still reside in the Netherlands. Generally speaking administrative corrections account for a large share of the emigration statistics. In 2002 they amounted to a third of all enumerated emigrants; 25 percent for people of western origin and half of the emigrants born in a non-western country (Alders and Nicolaas 2004, table 1).

E.1.c Legal status of immigrants

Presently thirty-three residence titles are in existence. Partly this multitude results from a combination between an admission ground (family related, employment, study, and humanitarian) and one or more restrictions (e.g. no access to employment or social security). All of these are generated by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND) and fed and exhaustively listed in the GBA. Regularizations are not common practice in the Netherlands. Under the present government (Balkenende IV) an exception was made for failed asylum seekers who arrived before April 2001 – the moment at which the current migration law came into force. The relevant files should be traceable through the IND (INDIS) database.

E.1.d Acquisition and loss of citizenship

Changes in nationality are the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice (Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND)). They are subsequently enumerated in the population register. Differentiation is made between modes of acquisition: acquiring Dutch nationality by recognition (of a child by a Dutch parent); acquisition by right; acquisition by adoption; acquisition by option; acquisition by naturalization. In the population register previous nationalities are not enumerated but if a person has more nationalities – which is the case with approximately one million residents – these are known.

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5 Even though the stated principle is that plural nationalities are to be avoided, exceptions are granted on a large number of grounds that can be summarized as cases of undue hardship.
E.1.e Asylum seekers and refugees

Dutch statistics on asylum are also provided by the Ministry of Justice (Immigration and Naturalization Services (IND)). It concerns all requests for asylum by individuals, decisions regarding such requests and some data regarding return. In 2006, the tasks of the IND related to returning failed asylum seekers were taken over by a new organization (DT&V, Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek) which carries out most return related activities. Statistics on returns are collected in a database named Ketenbrede Management Informatie-module (KMI) which is owned by the Ministry of Justice. From September 2006 the IND is able to distinguish first (initial) asylum requests from repeated ones. Earlier repeated requests were counted as if they were initial ones. As a consequence, the statistics tended to exaggerate the number of asylum seekers. Asylum seekers are entered into the GBA after six months of residence (usually living in a government hostel). Statistics for asylum applications, decisions and returns are collected on a monthly basis.

E.1.f Irregular migration

Because irregular migrants are not included in the population register, there are no reliable figures. Estimates have been made and there appears to be some consensus between policy makers, politicians and scholars that the country might know approximately 150.000 irregular residents.

E.2. Measuring integration, discrimination and diversity

Generally speaking data availability is sheer unlimited, in the sense that all major source for the country’s social and economic statistics allow for the distinction between allochtonen according to their ethnic background and the autochtonen.

E.2.a Employment, incomes, transfers and social benefits

Statistics collected allow for the appraisal of labour market participation rate, (un)employment rate, sector of employment, hours of employment, self-employment, income, etc. (see table 1) in relation to, for instance, gender and age group.

E.2.c Housing and residential patterns

For each address in the Netherlands it can be enumerated what the ethnic background of its legally residing inhabitants is. Data on housing is collected by means of the Woningbehoeftteonderzoek (Survey on housing needs) which was a large scale sample survey held every four years. It was replaced in 2006 by a three-yearly survey called WoON (Woononderzoek Nederland). Municipalities moreover annually report the size of their housing stock, divided into owner occupied, social rent and other rent, and the number of rooms per dwelling.
E.2.d Health and access to Healthcare

The main source of data on health is the relevant module of the comprehensive POLS (permanent onderzoek levenssituatie) (permanent life situation research) survey. The relatively modest sample size (8,741 individuals during 2007) and selective non-response make it necessary to weigh, which is done for sex, age, marital status, level of urban exposure, province, household size and month of survey. Nationality or ethnicity is not among the variables weighed, making the POLS perhaps unreliable as a source for research on the health and integration nexus.

E.2.e Education

The Informatie Beheer Groep (IBG) (from 2010 Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs) holds data on all pupils and students who receive a study grant (= all who are eighteen years or older who are in full-time education). On the basis of these data, for higher education the following statistics are compiled: number of students; first year students; successful candidates; study efficiency; average duration of education; in relation to some characteristics of the student population. On 1 October each year all institutions of HE electronically report these data to the IBG that checks for mistakes and forwards to Statistics Netherlands, where they are linked to the GBA.

E.2.f Family and household

All main characteristics of all household members can be taken from the GBA. These data are combined with imputations assisted by logistic regression models, based upon the LFS.

E.2.g Political participation

The national elections (normally every four years) are reason for the Nationaal Kiezersonderzoek (Dutch Parliamentary Elections Studies) run by the Dutch Foundation for Electoral Research (SKON). The survey is held before the election and includes questions pertaining to party preference, gender, marital status, region, level of urbanity, religion, education, ethnicity, and age. The 2006 survey included 4,000 respondents who were interviewed by telephone.

The Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies of the University of Amsterdam has conducted exit polls among participants in local elections of 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006. Those polls were specifically aimed at measuring the participation and party

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8 [http://www.dpes.nl/](http://www.dpes.nl/)
preference among *allochtonen*. The 2006 poll was done in the country’s two largest cities Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and the medium sized cities Arnhem and Breda.\(^9\)

**E.2.h Crime and justice**

As part of the annual POLS survey, a sub-questionnaire on Law and Participation (*Recht en Participatie*) was devoted to actual and potential victims of crime, perpetrators of crime, and the consequences thereof. It also contained questions pertaining to social contacts, e.g. in the neighbourhood, and membership in voluntary organizations. This survey was replaced in 2005 and again renamed in 2008 and now goes by the name *Integrale Veiligheidsmonitor* (IVMR).

Linked to the SSB is also the *Herkenningsdienststijstysteem* (HKS), which contains data on all individuals who are or have been suspected of committing a crime. For the purpose of the SSB links are made between age, gender, ethnicity, municipality of residence and crime career.\(^10\) This SSB satellite also contains data on victim support and the special programme for obligatory community service for young offenders (HALT).

**E.2.i Discrimination**

The Netherlands has a tradition of grass root activism against racism and discrimination which has resulted in a network of local agencies where victims of discrimination can find support. These agencies, usually located in the bigger cities, keep statistics on the complaints they receive. Legal prohibitions on discrimination in both penal and civil law are also an older feature of Dutch integration policies. In effect, police is supposed to act (at a minimum make a report) on any reported case of discrimination and the public prosecutor to undertake action. These activities find reflection in the crime statistics as do the cases which lead to a conviction.

The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) 2008 first European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-Midis) in the Dutch case was targeted at three ethnic minority groups: Turks, North Africans (which in all likelihood means predominantly Moroccans) and Surinamese. These are among the largest populations with an immigrant background (other equally sizeable ones are the Germans and the Indonesians) and its members are generally visibly recognizable as such. The sample sizes were 433, 459 and 471 respectively.


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F. Accessibility of data

For researchers of Statistics Netherlands few limits exist when it comes to the accessibility of data. To a considerable extent this is also true for academic researchers. Their limits would lie at data disaggregated to levels where privacy of individuals comes under threat or at data collected for purposes of law enforcement. Many general data are made available – free of charge - through Statistics Netherlands’ Statline\(^\text{11}\) where users can make their own cross tables. Secondly, interested parties can ask Statistics Netherlands to provide specified tables. This service is not free of charge. Thirdly, users can make their own analyses using the SSB data, either on site or via remote access. This service is restricted to a specified group of users (e.g. universities and the government’s planning bureaus).\(^\text{12}\) Fourthly, remote execution is available to ministries, the government’s planning bureaus, and research institutions commissioned by them.

In addition and specifically aimed for those with an interest in the integration of ethnic minority groups, Statistics Netherlands, together with the Scientific Research and Documentation Centre of the Justice Ministry, from 2006 publishes an annual overview and analysis of the position of these groups on the core societal domains. The first edition contains chapters on: demographic development – e.g. in relation to labour market participation; education; labour market; interaction between the autochthonous and allochthonous inhabitants; use of first line health care; and crime.\(^\text{13}\)

\(^{11}\) http://www.cbs.nl/nl-NL/menu/cijfers/statline/default.htm

\(^{12}\) As statistics Netherlands reports:
A researcher who wants to work with Statistics Netherlands microdata must be affiliated with one of the following institutions:
- a university, as defined in the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Research;
- a legal organisation or institute for scientific research;
- the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis, the Social and Cultural Planning Office of the Netherlands, the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, the National Spatial Planning Agency;
- The Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat);
- another Dutch agency, organisation or institution insofar as authorised in this respect by the Central Commission for Statistics.

A contract, together with declaration of confidentiality, to be signed by the director of the institution and the researcher, will be drawn up between Statistics Netherlands and the institution for which the researcher works.

The data will be provided by the Centre for Policy Related Statistics in the form of a system file in one of the accepted statistical packages. The researcher shall only have access to the data specified in the contract during the period specified in the contract.

The results of research done on Statistics Netherlands microdata are checked by staff to make sure there is no risk of disclosure. These results be secured: no identifiable information on individual persons, enterprises, institutions or households is released by Statistics Netherlands. Information that can be traced back to specific respondents must be secured, both at record level and at an aggregated level.

\(^{13}\) http://www.wodc.nl/images/ca06-08_volledige_tekst_tcm44-59214.pdf
G. Quality and scope of data

In as far as the legally residing population is concerned the reliability of Dutch statistics is generally high. The main caveat would be that people who leave the country are not immediately enumerated. The aliens register has been harmonized with the population register during the 1990s. This exercise brought to light many mistakes, often resulting from various transcriptions of Arabic or other non-Latin alphabets. Presently, the entry into the population register is always the leading (and thus only) one.

H. Conclusions - Recommendations

It seems safe to conclude that Dutch statistics offer considerable insight in the societal position of immigrants and their descendants. In as far as that the standard data collection (the SSB nucleus) leaves issues out, these can be turned into items of a survey, like the annual POLS.A question still be addressed is whether with time these statistics should also include the grand children (the 3rd generation) of migrants. Some argue in favour of doing so for the fact that policies also should benefit these people and monitoring is thus required. Others point to the stigmatizing effects this might have. Indeed, some concern, not least among 2nd generation immigrants, is already being voiced about such effects of the indiscriminate use of the policy category “allochtoon” in public discourse.
### Annex 1 – Data sources of the SSB-nucleus, source and contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Most important variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GBA</td>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>Sex, birth of date, address, marital status, nationality, country of birth, kinship relations, households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance payments income tax (Fibase)</td>
<td>Inland Revenue</td>
<td>Type of income, fiscal income, start and finish, fiscal number company/institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees’ insurance administration</td>
<td>Agencies for employees’ insurances (UWV)</td>
<td>Gross income social insurances, social insurance days, type of contract, start and finish, number of company/institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force Survey</td>
<td>Statistics Netherlands</td>
<td>Type of contract, wages components, duration of work, start and finish, economic activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax declarations</td>
<td>Inland Revenue</td>
<td>Self-employment or not, profit, wage or benefits from abroad, wage from other sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural count</td>
<td>Statistics Netherlands in collaboration with the Ministry of LNV</td>
<td>Agricultural businesses on address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration disability laws (AO)</td>
<td>Agencies for employees’ insurances (UWV)</td>
<td>Type of benefit, extent and type of disability, start and finish, cause for finish, WSW-indication, sums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Unemployment Laws (WW)</td>
<td>Agencies for employees’ insurances (UWV)</td>
<td>Type of benefit, start and finish, cause for finish, sums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration general social security law (ABW/WWB)</td>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>Type of benefit, household, start and finish, sums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration law income provision older and partly disabled unemployed employees (IOAW)/disabled former self-employed (IOAZ)</td>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>Type of benefit, household, start and finish, sums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax on property values (WOZ)</td>
<td>Inland Revenue</td>
<td>Rental- or owner occupied, WOZ-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders compulsory health insurance self-employed</td>
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<td>Client relations</td>
<td>Inland Revenue</td>
<td>Assigned Social-fiscal numbers, A-numbers economic activity self-employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing statistics</td>
<td>Municipalities</td>
<td>Additions and subtractions of housing stock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrations Employment Exchange</td>
<td>Centres for Work and Income (CWI)</td>
<td>Registered CWI, educational level CWI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, SSB informatie, 2007¹⁴</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Register of Matriculated Students in HE (CRIHO)</th>
<th>Information Control Group (IBG)</th>
<th>School, class, type of education, school success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class and course fee register (LCS)</td>
<td>Information Control Group (IBG)</td>
<td>Type of education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result survey register (ERR)</td>
<td>Information Control Group (IBG)</td>
<td>Exam results secondary education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study grants administration</td>
<td>Information Control Group (IBG)</td>
<td>Type of grant, sum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force Survey</td>
<td>Statistics Netherlands (survey among persons)</td>
<td>Educational career</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>