



Bevolkingstrends

Population register data, basis for the Netherlands' Population Statistics

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Kees Prins

Population statistics in the Netherlands are based on the digitized municipal population registers. These registers provide the personal information of residents and non-residents. At the beginning of each calendar year Statistics Netherlands collects a selection of data for every registered person. In addition to this, when a person undergoes a demographic event this is also up-dated in the register and Statistics Netherlands is informed without delay by means of an electronic message. These data are the building blocks for the Dutch population statistics. These population register data are also used to construct sampling frames for surveys that are carried out by Statistics Netherlands.

1. Introduction

Population statistics in the Netherlands are based on the digitized municipal population registers. This article describes the Netherlands' population register system and the way that Statistics Netherlands collects data from these registers. In section 2 a description of the main features of the population register system is given. Since January 2014 not only residents are registered, but non-residents as well. Section 3 gives an overview of registered data for residents and non-residents. When it comes to using population register data it goes without saying that there is no free access to the population registers. Organizations that need population data in their working processes may get permission from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations to obtain data from the population registers. This authorization system is described in sections 4 and 5. In section 6 it is shown in what way and to what extent external users can have an influence on the contents and quality of the population registers. Sections 7 and 8 give information on the demographic statistics and the system of social statistical datasets. Finally, in section 9 the renewal of the population registers are described. This renewal aims at speeding up data transfer, raising the quality of the data and the processes and making use of standard applications that are prescribed at the governmental level, among others.

2. The BRP-system in short

The Netherlands' population statistics that are compiled by Statistics Netherlands are based on the digitized municipal population registers. This registration system is known as the BRP system, which stands for 'Basisregistratie Personen', the basic register for population data. As such, the population register is part of the system of basic registers. Other registers in that system cover firms and enterprises, buildings and addresses, and vehicles among others. The aim of these interconnected registers is to provide all governmental agencies in the Netherlands with actual data on the most important topics. It follows that the BRP system is a basic element in the governmental working processes at the national and local level. Many non-governmental agencies also make use of the basic registers. A more detailed description of the system of basic registers is given in annex 1.

2.1 Glossary

AdmPIN	Personal Identification Number. There are two separate AdmPINs for each registered person: the A-number and the BSN.
A-number	Personal identification number that is only used in BRP.
Basic Register	Governmental agencies are obliged to use data from the eleven basic registers. They are also obliged to inform the registers in case data are assumed to be incorrect. BRP is one of the basic registers.
BRP	The present population registration system Basisregistratie Personen, in use since 6 January 2014.
BSN	Civil service number. This number is used in a wide range of registrations in the public domain.
Emigrant	A resident who leaves for another country for at least two thirds of the forthcoming twelve months
GBA	The previous population registration system Gemeentelijke BasisAdministratie persoonsgegevens, in use until 6 January 2014.
Historical data	BRP data that were valid during a period in the past. They are used when constructing statistical overviews on a given date.
Immigrant	A person who is allowed to stay in The Netherlands and intends to stay here for at least two thirds of the forthcoming six months
Legal partnership	Relationship between two individuals. Dissolution of legal partnerships need not be implemented at the judicial court if no minor children are involved.
Netherlands	The BRP system describes the population in the European territory of the Netherlands. The Caribbean islands Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius have a different population registration system called PIVA.
Non-resident	A person who is registered in BRP as not being a resident of the Netherlands.
Personal record	The combined data registered about an individual in BRP.
Privileged person	Foreign diplomats, NATO personnel and staff members of international organizations who are not obliged to have themselves registered as residents.
Resident	A person who is registered in BRP as a resident of the Netherlands.

The Netherlands' population register system has been in use since 1 January 1850. Each municipality in the Netherlands was obliged to set up and keep a register of all residents who lived within the municipal boundaries. The 1849 population census data were the basis from which these municipal registers were constructed. The registers were primarily set up in books. Since this appeared to be inconvenient in practice, the books were replaced with a paper card system in 1940. For each inhabitant a separate personal card was made out on which all demographic events were registered. Statistics Netherlands was informed by means of statistical paper cards for each demographic event. For a detailed description see Van den Brekel (1977).

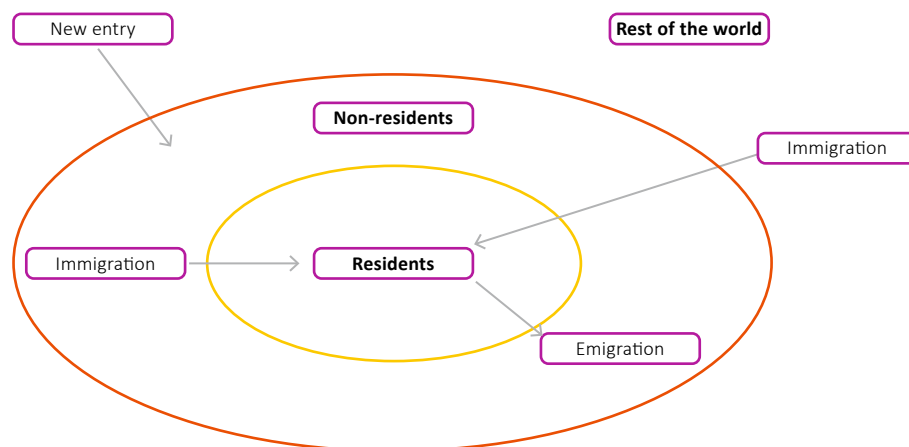
The paper card system lasted until 1 October 1994, when the digitized population registers were put into use. Just as in 1850, each municipality in the Netherlands was obliged to set up and keep a register of all residents who lived within the municipal boundaries. Despite all technological and infrastructural changes the population registers went through, this municipal task continues to exist up until this day. Every municipality has its own population register containing information on all inhabitants of that municipality. This information is listed per individual inhabitant in a so-called personal record. In the population registration system each inhabitant has been given two unique administrative personal identification numbers (AdmPINs). One is the Administration number, which is only used within the BRP population register system, the other is the Civil service number (BSN) which is widely applied by governmental agencies and in civil life. By means of these AdmPINs the municipal authorities are able to link the data of any inhabitant to those of their spouse, parents and children, as well as to data in a wide range of other registers in the public domain. For this reason in each personal record not only the inhabitant's AdmPINs are stored, but also those of the parents, the spouse and the offspring. However, the latter is done only if these persons are or were in the population register of that municipality at any moment since 1 October 1994. Municipalities need not link their personal records to those in other municipalities.

Until January 2014 the aim of the population register system was to cover all persons residing in the Netherlands. Each child that is born in the Netherlands to a mother who is a resident of this country, is registered. Moreover, any person who comes from abroad and who intends to stay in the Netherlands for at least two thirds of the next six months is obliged to inform the municipality of his or her stay. (In practice this is considered to be the next four months). Those whose stay is legal are registered as immigrants. On the other hand, persons who leave the country to stay abroad for at least two thirds of the next twelve months, are obliged to notify the municipality of their departure. They are no longer registered as residents. However, their data are not removed from the system. The same applies to persons who have died. The reason is that these data are sometimes needed after their departure or their passing away. Moreover, in this way the uniqueness of the AdmPINs can be guaranteed, since they cannot be allocated to another person.

In January 2014 the basis for the population registration was extended. Today non-residents can also be registered. All persons who are not resident of this country but who have a relationship with one or more Dutch governmental agencies, for instance because they work or study in the Netherlands or have a social benefit from a governmental agency in the Netherlands, are registered as well. Their registered data are updated by a number of agencies that are instructed by the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. Among those agencies are the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration, the Sociale Verzekeringsbank (= the organization that implements national insurance schemes in the Netherlands and that makes sure that child benefit, AOW pension or Anw survivor benefit are allocated correctly and on time), the Dutch Institute for Employee Benefits Schemes (UWV), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and The National Health Care Institute (Zorginstituut Nederland). However, these agencies do not keep the population register data themselves, this is done by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. Any person who is no resident of the Netherlands is also allowed to have him or herself registered as a non-resident. Registration is done by 18 out of the almost 400 municipalities. In 2016 their number will be upgraded to 19.

The population register is a semi-closed system in the sense that once a person is registered the registered data will be kept for ever in the BRP system. In other words, one can enter the register, but one cannot leave. Interconnection between residents and non-residents is

2.2 Interaction between residents and non-residents



possible through immigration and emigration. A non-resident who immigrates becomes a resident. On the other hand, a resident who emigrates, becomes a non-resident, as shown in figure 2.2.

Furthermore, the digitized registers went through a number of technological and infrastructural changes since their introduction in 1994. The most important one is the creation of a central database, kept by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. In this database copies of all personal data are stored. National agencies such as Statistics Netherlands receive their data directly from this database. As such, the individual municipalities are suspended from the duty of informing governmental and non-governmental agencies of updates of their population registration. On the other hand, the introduction of the central data base did not alter the responsibility of the municipalities being fully responsible for the correctness and completeness of their population register data. The changes in the system made it relevant to update an earlier description of the population statistics and the population register system (Prins, 2000).

The rules regarding how to keep the municipal population registers up to date are prescribed by law. This BRP Law also sketches the outlines of the population register system. The details of the system are prescribed in regulations at the Ministerial level. These regulations guarantee that all municipalities apply the BRP rules in a similar way. This is extremely important, given the fact that the number of municipalities is almost 400 and the population register data are used by hundreds of agencies in the public domain.

The BRP system describes the population of the European territory of the Netherlands and the non-residents who have a link to that territory. The Caribbean islands Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius are a kind of Dutch municipalities that have a different population registration system called PIVA. PIVA stands for 'Persoonsinformatievoorziening Nederlandse Antillen en Aruba', the 'population information system for the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba'. All six islands make use of this PIVA system. The islands of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius are under Dutch government rule, Aruba, Curaçao and Saint Martin are independent countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

3. Characteristics of the population register system

3.1 Residents

For residents the personal record consists of the following categories:

01. Personal data;
02. data about parent 1, usually the mother;
03. data about parent 2, usually the father;
04. data about citizenship;
05. data about marriage, partnership, widowhood and divorce;
06. data about death;

07. data about registration;
08. data about the address;
09. data about the offspring;
10. data about legal permit to stay in the Netherlands;
11. data about legal restraints;
12. data about passport;
13. Data about the right to vote.

Registered data remain part of the personal record, even when additional data are recorded. For instance, both the present and all former addresses are in the personal record. No data are ever erased. These so called historical data are registered under categories numbered according to the actual data, increasing the respective numbers by 50. Hence, data about former citizenship are categorized under 54, data about former addresses under 58, etc. However, there are some exceptions to the rule that data are never erased, such as those in categories 07, 12 and 13. This means that when new data become available about the registration, passport or right to vote, the data that are already in the personal record, are replaced with the new data. The other exceptions refer to adopted children and transgendered individuals. On their request, data that refer to their biological parents and former gender, respectively, are erased from the register.

Historical categories are also used when data appear to be wrong. If, to give an example, a date of birth in category 01 is not registered correctly, a new category 01 is made with the correct date of birth, and the former category 01 becomes a new category 51. The date when the category was corrected is registered. In doing so the register can provide the data that were thought to be valid on any moment in the past. This is important, because population register data are used by many agencies and if it turns out that governmental decisions were based on incorrect data, the source of these data must be traceable.

Data about the parents, the spouse and the offspring are restricted to AdmPINs, names, sex, date of birth, country of birth and place of birth. They are invariable and will never need to be updated. All data about relatives that may be subject to updating, such as citizenship, marital status and place of residence, are in their own personal record only. In the register these data may be found by linking the personal records through the mutual AdmPINs. There is an exception for residents whose relatives were never registered in the BRP-system, such as immigrants whose parents never lived in this country. Since these relatives do not have a personal record, linking through AdmPINs is not possible.

It should be noted that AdmPINs are registered only for relatives in the first degree. Relatives in the second degree, like brothers and sisters or grandparents and grandchildren, can be detected through mutual relatives in the first degree.

For each marriage or registered partnership a separate category 05 is made. When a marriage or a registered partnership is dissolved, the data about the marriage are transferred to a category 55 while the data about the dissolution (death or divorce) are in the newly created category 55. In the same manner a separate category 09 is made for each child. As a person has at most two legal parents, there is only one set of categories 02 and 03.

Personal records of people who were never married do not have any category 05 or 55. A similar situation occurs for people who are childless, since their personal records have no 09 categories. Unfortunately, the opposite does not hold. When the paper population register

was digitized municipalities were not obliged to transfer data into the parent's personal records about children who were born before 1 January 1966. It follows that the BRP-system does not provide fully reliable data about the number of off-spring for persons who were born before 1950.

Of course, a resident who dies becomes a non-resident. However, the personal record is kept by the municipality of last residence. The content of the category 06 reveals whether a personal record refers to a present or to a former inhabitant of the Netherlands.

The uniqueness of the Netherlands population register system is reflected by the procedures that are followed when a resident moves to another Dutch municipality. The responsibility for keeping the resident's personal record up to date is transferred to the latter municipality. On request of that municipality, the municipality of former residence forwards the resident's personal record to the population department of the municipality of new residence, where it is updated with the resident's new address. This is a straightforward activity, carried out some 600,000 times a year.

A slightly more complex situation occurs when someone who once emigrated, returns to the Netherlands. In this case the municipality of new residence claims the re-immigrant's personal record from the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, to make sure that data are stored in no more than one personal record. Before creating a personal record for an immigrant a municipality must contact the Ministry to verify whether or not this person was ever registered before. In case of earlier registration, the Ministry forwards the personal record involved to the municipality of new residence.

Sources of information

As mentioned before, the population register system is a basic element in the governmental working processes at the national and local level. This is why much attention was given to the rules with respect to keeping the population register data up-to-date. The information needed to update these municipal registers is provided by either the local registrar (births, deaths, marriages, registered partnerships), the judicial courts (divorces), the Ministry of Security and Justice (changes of citizenship) or the public (house moves, immigration, emigration, births/marriages/other events that took place abroad). It is widely acknowledged that the data provision by the public is the weakest point. In order to encourage residents to inform the municipal authorities with the data needed to keep the registers up to date, residents who deliberately fail to do so must pay a maximum penalty of € 325.

Data on marriages, registered partnerships, divorces and changes of citizenship that take place within the Netherlands are relatively easy to keep up-to-date. This is because these events can only take place if the authorities on the local, ministerial or judicial level are involved. Marriages and contracting and dissolution of registered partnerships are carried out by the local registrar, divorces and dissolution of registered partnerships are implemented at the judicial court and changes of citizenship are granted by the King or by the Ministry of Security and Justice. These authorities are obliged to inform the municipal population departments of such events. On the contrary, marriages and divorces that take place abroad are sometimes registered with much delay, if ever.

For all other information the municipal population departments rely on the co-operation of the citizens. Births and deaths should be declared to the local registrar of the municipality where the child is born or where the death has taken place. Births should be declared within

three days by either the legal parent(s), an occupant of the house where the baby was born or by the doctor or midwife who assisted in the delivery. Deaths should be declared by the undertaker, a close relative or an occupant of the house where the person died.

Address

Residents should be registered at the address where they spend the night most of the time. Those who move house should notify the municipality of new residence. This is not always done directly after the removal. It appears that among some populations groups the proportion of misregistrations is higher than among other groups. Sometimes misregistration is related to supposed financial consequences. To give an example: two persons who are on social security and who are officially registered at the same address, may receive a smaller allowance than two persons who are registered at separate addresses. So it may happen that two people who actually live together, have themselves deliberately registered at two different addresses.

Following an order given by Dutch parliament, the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations has a survey carried each year in order to establish the number of residents whose actual address equals the registered one. This percentage varies between 97 and 98 per cent. It follows that almost half a million residents do not live at the address that is recorded in the population register. In some cases this is due to negligence, in other cases this is the result of deliberate misregistration, as pointed out in the former paragraph.

Everybody who intends to stay in the Netherlands for at least two thirds of the forthcoming six months, should notify the population register immediately after arrival in the country. For persons with Dutch citizenship this procedure suffices. Foreigners should also notify the police department that is concerned with foreign citizens. Those who are denied a residence permit by the Immigration and Naturalisation Service of the Ministry of Security and Justice, are not allowed entry into the municipal population register.

An unknown number of people live in the country without being registered in the population register. Various attempts have been made to estimate their numbers, but the results are rather inconclusive. The most recent estimate is between 200,000 and 300,000 (Bakker et al, 2014b). This estimate more or less contradicts the general feeling which is that the number of people who reside in this country for a longer period of time without being registered is unlikely to be very high, given the fact that Dutch society relies heavily on its network of registrations for the provision of several benefits.

Emigrants should notify the local authorities of their departure. However, it often happens that they fail to do so. Some just forget, others just do not take the trouble of going to the municipal hall. In any case, they are registered as residents without residing in the country. If the population department has any doubts on whether or not a person is still residing at the address of registration, his or her whereabouts should be investigated. As soon as it is clear that the person has gone, or if the person cannot be traced within a couple of months, the person is no longer considered to be an actual inhabitant of that municipality. In this case it is stated in personal record category 08 that the person emigrated to an unknown country. Their annual number is about 70,000. Given the fact that the annual number of registered emigrants is slightly over 100,000, this means that about one in three residents who leave the country to live abroad do not notify the local government of their departure.

Delay

Events that have taken place abroad are usually registered with delay. In general births will not suffer too much from this phenomenon, since parents receive an allowance for each child under 18 (and for students under 24). Deaths that are not notified in time to the local authorities, whether they have occurred in the Netherlands or abroad, may eventually be considered as emigration. Marriages that are contracted abroad are the most striking example of delayed registration.

Quality

The municipal authorities are responsible for the quality of the population register. Quality means that all people who are a resident of the municipality and who meet the criteria for registration, are registered. It also means that the registered data must be correct and up to date. This is all the more important since the population register is part of the system of basic registers; for a short description of the system of basic registers see annex 1. As such, population register data are used in a large number of governmental processes, which demand that the quality of the data is extremely high. It is clear that the municipal authorities are not able to perform this huge task on their own. Therefore it is prescribed by law that governmental agencies are obliged to notify the register when data are assumed to be wrong or outdated. Next, the municipal authorities are obliged to start an investigation about the correctness of the data. In doing so, all governmental agencies that make use of population register data help in keeping the register data up to date. However, some agencies, including Statistics Netherlands, are not permitted to notify the population register of data that are assumed to be incorrect.

The quality of the population register is very important for Statistics Netherlands. Here two characteristics apply (Statistics Netherlands, 2014b):

1. completeness of the units;
2. correct composition of the units.

The completeness requirement is violated when a person who should be registered, is not in the register, or when a person who is registered as a resident, should not be. This may apply, among others, to immigrants and emigrants who fail to notify the municipal authorities of their arrival and departure, respectively. However, the population statistics make no corrections for these violations. Incorrect compositions are corrected, which means that implausible data are replaced with data that fit better.

3.2 Non-residents

For non-residents the personal record consists of the following categories:

01. personal data;
04. data about citizenship;
06. data about death;
07. data about registration (actual inhabitant or former inhabitant);
08. data about the address;
10. data about legal permit to stay in the Netherlands.

The dataset for non-residents is shorter than for residents. No data about parents, partners and children are registered. If, however, a resident becomes a non-resident, the registered data are not erased. This means that they are in the non-resident's personal list, but they are not kept up-to-date. If an emigrant marries or has a child, for example, these data are

not added to the personal record even if those demographic events take place within the Netherlands. In those cases a note is made in the personal record (category 08, element 75.10) that the data need updating when the non-resident becomes a resident again. Using data about relatives of non-residents is possible, but the user should beware of the risk that they do not represent the actual situation. For non-residents who never were a resident, no data about the parents, spouse and children are registered.

When a non-resident immigrates to the Netherlands and becomes a resident the data in the personal record is validated, there is no entirely new acquisition, making the transfer of data a default test case for the validity of existing data sets. Missing information about relatives or demographic events that took place while abroad is added.

When a non-resident dies, the personal record is kept by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations.

Of course, data for non-residents are harder to keep up-to-date than for residents. Usually non-residents stay in the Netherlands for only a short period of time, some of them even have never been here at all. Non-residents are not obliged to inform the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations when they move house or provide other information needed to keep the register up-to-date. In order to inform users about the timeliness of the data, the date when the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration or other non-municipal agencies that supply the Ministry with data about non-residents contacted the non-resident is registered, even if all data are found to be valid and need no up-date. This gives the users of the data an idea of whether the data can be used in their working processes.

Given the fact that non-residents are no residents of the Netherlands, only addresses in foreign countries are registered. Here a symmetry can be observed with residents who stay abroad for a short period of time. For them no foreign address is registered in the BRP-system. Big municipalities like Amsterdam argue that short stay workers tend to stay at a limited number of addresses that are concentrated in a limited number of urban areas. For that reason the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations has set up a pilot project in order to investigate the merits of registering the first address in the Netherlands where the non-resident is lodged. This pilot project is carried out with the help of Rotterdam and The Hague and three other municipalities in the western part of the country.

Although the pilot project has not yet ended and its results have not yet been published, the Association of Netherlands Municipalities fear that registration of only the first address is not enough. They argue that municipalities need to have information about all people who are actually staying in the Netherlands, no matter the duration of stay and no matter whether they are a resident or non-resident. They have therefore made a proposal to register all persons who actually stay in the Netherlands. The government has not yet made a decision in favour or against.

3.3 Privileged persons; asylum seekers

A person who intends to stay in the Netherlands on a legal basis for at least two thirds of the next six months needs to be registered as an immigrant (resident), as was mentioned in section 2. However, this rule does not apply to all foreigners who arrive in the Netherlands. In this respect the Law on BRP mentions two categories.

Following the 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations, foreign diplomats, non-Dutch NATO personnel and non-Dutch staff members of international organizations are not obliged to have themselves registered as residents. In practice about one in three do because being not registered as a resident can be cumbersome. The other two thirds are registered as non-residents. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides the BRP-system with actual data on privileged persons.

Asylum seekers who are lodged by the governmental organization that provides for the reception, supervision and departure of asylum seekers (COA) are registered in the BRP-system six months after their arrival in the Netherlands, notwithstanding the fact that many of them intend to stay here for at least two thirds of the next six months. It follows that an asylum seeker whose application for asylum is rejected within six months after arrival is not registered in the population register.

4. The authorisation system

The BRP-population registers are not intended for municipal purposes only, but many national and non-governmental organizations benefit from them as well. In fact, all governmental agencies such as Statistics Netherlands and the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration are obliged to make use of population register data when such data are needed in their working processes; see annex 1. On the other hand, given the confidential character of the data, they have no free access to the population registers. Each organization that needs population register data for their working processes, is given the opportunity to submit a request to the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations to receive data on a regular basis. In this request the organization must explain which population register data are needed and why these data are indispensable for their working processes. Thereupon the Minister decides which data the organization is allowed to receive. Each positive decision leads to a so-called authorisation.

One of the features of the population register system is that once a personal record is updated, the system automatically creates electronic mail for all organizations that are entitled to receive information about the update. This enables them to update their own registration. Each organization is obliged to extract these electronic messages from their mail box at least once in every 24 hours. It is not guaranteed that the messages are still present after that amount of time.

On its request, Statistics Netherlands received permission to obtain population register data on which to base its population statistics (see also section 5). Statistics Netherlands obtained permission to extract from the municipal population registers both data on the whole of the resident and non-resident population once a year (the annual enumeration on 1 January) and data on demographic events on a continuous basis. This enables the statistical office to combine the stock and flow of data in such a manner that an up-to-date register is constructed. For every resident and non-resident in the Netherlands' population register, the statistical register contains a subset of the registered data. Indeed, it should be noted that not all data or personal record updates are needed for population statistics. For example, family names and disenfranchisements are registered in the personal record, but they do not result

in electronic messages for statistical purposes. However, Statistics Netherlands is allowed to collect family names for a limited number of processes, primarily for carrying out sample surveys. In the next section a detailed description of the Statistics Netherlands authorisations is given.

According to the confidentiality rules imposed on Statistics Netherlands, no other organization has access to the internal Statistics Netherlands computer network. Consequently, the electronic messages cannot be directly forwarded to the statistical office. It was therefore decided to create a separate computer system which serves as a lock, open to either the mailboxes in the population register electronic network or the Statistics Netherlands computer network. When the access to the latter network is closed, this computer system reads the electronic messages from the population register network mail boxes, then closes the access to that network and transports the messages to the Statistics Netherlands computer network.

5. The Statistics Netherlands authorisations

Statistics Netherlands has been authorised to receive from the BRP population registers all the data the statistical office needs to compile population statistics, given the national needs and the needs of international organizations such as the UN, Eurostat and the Council of Europe. The authorisations can be grouped into four categories as follows:

- data needed for the annual enumeration of the whole of the resident and non-resident population (authorisation 1);
- data needed for the statistics on demographic events (authorisations 2–7 and 9);
- data about family names and first names, needed primarily for carrying out sample surveys (authorisation 8);
- data needed to verify the number of Dutch residents coming from and going to the Dutch Caribbean (authorisation 11).

Every year in January, Statistics Netherlands obtains a fixed set of data (authorisation 1) about all residents and non-residents in the population register. These data are primarily used to give a statistical overview of the population on 1 January. In order not to overburden the electronic network, these data are collected by means of a web service.

Since the official numbers of inhabitants per municipality on 1 January are derived from the annual enumeration, it also serves an important non-statistical task. The number of members of the municipal council follows directly from these official numbers of inhabitants. In combination with a number of other statistical data the central government uses this information to allocate finances to the local authorities.

The data obtained according to authorisation, CBS2 enables Statistics Netherlands to compile statistics on internal and international migration and statistics on changes of municipal boundaries. The authorisations CBS3 and CBS4 are needed for statistics on births, adoptions and recognition of children born out of wedlock. Authorisation CBS5 is needed for

mortality statistics. Authorisation CBS6 enables Statistics Netherlands to produce statistics on marriages, divorces, widowhood, registrations of partnership and the ending of these registrations. On the basis of authorisation, CBS7 Statistics Netherlands receives data needed for the statistics on changes of citizenship. Finally, authorisation CBS9 provides information about changes of AdmPINs and CBS11 gives insight in whether a person who enters or leaves the three Dutch Caribbean islands is a resident of the Netherlands.

In annex 2 an overview is given per authorisation of the data Statistics Netherlands receives from the population register.

Statistics Netherlands is only informed of the updates related to demographic events. In order to ensure that the statistical office receives no other messages than needed for the production of population statistics, an electronic message is created only if the contents of a trigger key are changed and if a number of additional conditions are met. These conditions are related to the type of demographic event. All information produced on the basis of authorisation CBS2 has to do with changes of address. A necessary condition for creating an electronic message on the basis of this authorisation is that in personal record category 08 the date of taking up residence at the present address is renewed.

The necessary condition for creating an electronic BRP-message under authorisation CBS3 is that in a newly created personal record, 'date of birth' in category 01 equals 'date of registration at the present address' in category 08. When this condition is compared to that of authorisation CBS2, it becomes clear how the system works. When a personal record is created for an immigrant, the condition of authorisation CBS3 is not met (apart from the unlikely event of birth and immigration on the same day), which leads to the creation of a message under authorisation CBS2.

5.1 Trigger key elements and additional conditions for triggering the system to send an electronic message to Statistics Netherlands, per authorisation

Autorisation	Trigger key	Additional condition
CBS2: Changes of address	08.10.30 Date when the person was registered at the address in the Netherlands	08.10.30 Date when the person was registered at the address in the Netherlands ≠ 01.03.10 Date of birth
	08.13.20 Date when the person was registered at the address abroad	
CBS3: Birth and ancestry (child)	01.03.10 Date of birth	01.03.10 Date of birth = 08.10.30 Date when the person was registered at the address in the Netherlands
	0.262.10 Date of family relationship with parent 1 ¹⁾	
	0.362.10 Date of family relationship with parent 2 ²⁾	
CBS4: Birth and ancestry (parent)	09.03.10 Child's date of birth	At least one of the children was born while the parent was registered as a resident
CBS5: Mortality	06.08.10 Mortality date	-
CBS6: Marriage/Registered partnership	05.06.10 Wedding date / Date when partnership was contracted	The wedlock or partnership contacting took place when the person was registered as a resident.
CBS7: Citizenship	04.05.10 Nationality	Acquirement or loss of citizenship took place after the person was registered as a resident or a non-resident
	04.65.10 Indication of Dutch nationality	
	04.82.30 Description of document	

¹⁾ Usually the mother.

²⁾ Usually the father.

Through authorisation CBS3 information about a newly born child is forwarded to Statistics Netherlands. But since a personal record contains only a limited number of data about the parents, as was pointed out in section 3, electronic messages that are released on the basis of this authorisation, are insufficient for compiling high-grade birth statistics. Since the number of children are registered in the parents' personal records only, important features of these statistics, such as the distribution of births by birth rank, cannot be derived by the information under authorisation CBS3. This is why Statistics Netherlands was authorised to receive additional information about the parents under authorisation CBS4. A necessary condition for the release of an electronic BRP-message under this authorisation is that data about an additional child is added to the parent's personal record, that is if a family relationship is established between parent and child. This relationship may be the result of a live birth, a recognition of a child born out of wedlock or an adoption.

Release of an electronic BRP-message under authorisation CBS5 is relatively simple. The only requirement is filling in 'date of death' in person record category 06. Here 'no value' is also useful information, since it indicates a correction of an erroneous message that was received earlier about the same person.

Under authorisation CBS6 electronic messages concerning changes in marital status are released. If the contents of 'marriage date' in personal record category 05 changes, a message of the kind is forwarded to Statistics Netherlands. This is a necessary condition also for releasing information when a marriage ends. In the latter case the contents of 'marriage date' is emptied, which is interpreted by the system as a change in the contents of 'marriage date', leading to a release of an electronic message. (Besides, when a marriage ends the contents of 'marriage date' are not erased from the personal record, they are moved to an historical category 55).

If the contents of 'nationality' in personal record category 04 changes, an electronic message concerning a change in citizenship under authorisation CBS7 is forwarded to Statistics Netherlands. This authorisation change should not be interpreted as replacement only, but also as addition. 'Nationality' is one of the items in the population register that may have more than one entry. Hence, if a nationality is changed or if a second or a third nationality is added to the one(s) a person already possesses, or if a person loses a nationality, an electronic message is created and forwarded to Statistics Netherlands.

In short, the electronic messages received by Statistics Netherlands are to a large extent allocated to the statistics they are needed for. The simplest authorisation in this respect is CBS5. Electronic messages received under this authorisation directly lead to the mortality statistics. The other authorisations are more complex. The messages under authorisation CBS2 lead to a number of different statistics: internal migration, statistics on municipal boundary changes, immigration, emigration and administrative corrections. Those under authorisation CBS3 and CBS4 are needed for birth statistics and for statistics on recognitions and adoptions and those under authorisation CBS6 to marriage, divorce and widowhood statistics and to statistics about registered partnerships. Finally, messages under authorisation CBS7 lead to either statistics on changes of citizenship or to information about privileged persons, such as foreign diplomats and foreign NATO personnel, needed to estimate the number of usual residents (see also section 7).

Although the AdmPINs are unique and cannot be allocated to two different persons, it sometimes happens that an error is made. Fortunately, their number is small. Another error

is made when two different Administration numbers or two different civil service numbers are allocated to the same person. These cases are repaired without delay by allocating new AdmPINS. In order to combine the data in the micro data bases Statistics Netherlands is informed through authorisation 9 where both the former and new AdmPINS are forwarded.

Statistics Netherlands needs no information about Christian names and family names for statistical purposes. It follows that the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations did not allow Statistics Netherlands to have names of registered persons in the annual enumeration and data messages on demographic events. However, the micro databases are also used as sampling frames so that sample surveys can be carried out. Since name is an important item when addressing people, Statistics Netherlands collects the names of the persons to be interviewed through authorisation CBS8. When the survey data process is finished Statistics Netherlands erases the names from the interviewees. This authorisation is also used for a limited number of other purposes, such as allocating people to ethnic groups, such as East Indians, Africans (Creoles and Maroons) and Javanese from Suriname. Here also, names are erased as soon as they are no longer needed for the analyses.

Data from the Netherlands population register are also used for tourism statistics in the Caribbean Netherlands (Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius). Since 10 October 2010 these three islands in the Caribbean have been special municipalities for which Statistics Netherlands produces statistics. Tourism is a very important economic factor in these territories, hence so are tourism statistics. Data on in and outgoing persons must therefore be allocated to the parts of the European and Caribbean parts of the Kingdom (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, European Netherlands, Saba, Saint Martin and Sint Eustatius). Authorisation 11 enables Statistics Netherlands to determine which in and outgoing persons in the Caribbean Netherlands are registered as a resident in the BRP population register system.

6. Consultative council

The Minister for the Interior and Kingdom relations is responsible for the juridical aspects of the Basic Register for Population data. According to the BRP Law the Minister cannot rule the BRP system on his own. This law orders the Minister to consult the municipalities and agencies that make use of the population data about all aspects of the law. In this way a harmonious population registration system is guaranteed. Consultation aims at reaching agreements between all parties, but if an agreement is not achieved the Minister is the one to decide.

Given the fact that the number of municipalities is almost 400 and the number of agencies is even bigger the Minister consults a number of representatives of municipalities and agencies. A consultative council was therefore created which numbers six representatives on behalf of the Minister, three municipal representatives, three officials who represent the municipal and non-municipal agencies that supply the Ministry with data about non-residents and six representatives on behalf of the agencies that make use of population data. The council meets every three months, and more frequently if necessary. Its chairperson is independent, which means that this person is not employed or paid for by any of the organizations present

or represented in the council.

All agencies that make use of population data are allocated to one of six sectors:

- Health and welfare
- Pension funds
- Public order and security
- Social security
- Statistics Netherlands and other agencies
- Taxes and other fees

The sector member organizations choose among themselves a person who represents them in the consultation council. This representative is obliged to keep in contact with the member organizations and put forward their wishes and ideas in the consultative council meeting.

Financial contributions to the BRP population register system are an important item on the agenda of the council. These contributions are intended to cover the costs that are incurred at the governmental level, such as the central database (see section 2) and the personnel needed to keep this database up and running. Other costs involve adaptations of the system and changes in the authorisations (see section 4). According to BRP Law the amount of data that an agency obtains from the register determines the contribution: the more data an agency gets, the higher the contribution.

Statistics Netherlands is allocated to the sector 'Statistics Netherlands and other agencies'. The other members of this sector are the Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency, the twelve Netherlands provinces, the Chamber of Commerce and the Royal Dutch Association of Civil-law Notaries, among others. Statistics Netherlands represents this sector in the consultative council.

7. Demographic statistics; processing and output

Almost all of the Netherlands' official demographic statistics are fully based on population register data. Household statistics are the only exception. In these statistics demographic data are combined with fiscal data in order to pinpoint individuals who live at the same address and who have made themselves known to the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration as members of the same household. Here it should be added that this organization not only collects tax money, but also distributes benefits in the form of financial support for childcare, rent and health insurance, the latter two being intended for households whose joint income does not exceed a certain amount.

7.1 Statistical process

The demographic statistics are produced according to the Statistics Netherlands business architecture. One of the features of this architecture is that in statistical processing the data

are kept according to a number of standards, called 'rest points'. The first of these 'rest points' is the input database where all data collected from the BRP population registers are kept. By keeping the collected data as such, statisticians are able to consult the collected data during statistical processing. This also allows the user to restart the statistical processing, if necessary. Fortunately, this has never actually happened. The input database contains direct identifiers, such as the two AdmPINs. This is why the input database data are kept for no more than three years. The input database is the only database in which data are kept for a limited period of time. The statistical data that are produced in the statistical processes are kept indefinitely.

The first stage of the statistical process consists of checking the data (completeness, plausibility) and correcting data if necessary, according to the Statistics Netherlands business rules. Imputation of unknown data also takes place in this stage of the process. Statistics Netherlands is aware of the fact that errors can be made during the registration process and that municipal authorities sometimes face problems with regard to the whereabouts of persons, but in general the municipal authorities do their job very well. In the statistical processes implausible data are adapted and unknown data are imputed in such a way that these imputed data make a proper fit with the other data. Furthermore, it is recognized that not all population register data are suitable for direct use in demographic statistics. Some demographic variables clearly are, such as gender or municipality of residence. Other variables must be derived from the data, such as age, which is obtained by subtracting the date of birth from the reference date. Marital status can be derived by combining reference date with the dates of marriage contracting and marriage dissolution. In order to prevent persons from being counted more than once, a choice is made with respect to the variable nationality. All persons who are Dutch citizens are classified as Dutch citizens only, with additional nationalities are neglected. Non-Dutch citizens who have two or more nationalities are classified by one of these nationalities. In this processing stage the demographic variable 'origin' is derived as well. This variable gives an indication of which part of the world a person is closely related with. For many people it is the part of the world they originate from. The 'origin' variable is composed of the country where a person was born and the parent's countries of birth.

When the data fit with the Statistics Netherlands business rules they are kept in the so called Demografisch Deelregister. This register is the second 'rest point'. It is a database where all individual demographic data are kept that are fit for output processes. In a sense it is a richer dataset than the data that are collected from the population register since implausible data are adapted, unknown data are replaced with usable values and demographic variables such as age, marital status and origin are added. This register is used for the monthly demographic statistics production. Mortality data are also directly produced from this register every week. These are provisional data that are replaced with definitive data during the annual data file production.

Although the vast majority of data are collected with no or minimal delay, all types of demographic events face problems with missing data. In particular, people who marry abroad and fail to report their marriage to the municipal authorities in a timely fashion. The consequence of this is that the update of the population register also takes place with a delay. This is why Statistics Netherlands publication strategy concerning demographic statistics yields both provisional and definitive figures, as follows:

- a. Every two weeks provisional figures about the previous two weeks are published.
Published data about previous weeks can be changed.

- b. At the end of each month provisional figures about the previous month are published. Published figures about previous months can be changed. In September or October the monthly figures about the previous calendar year are replaced with definitive figures.
- c. In January, April, July and October provisional figures about the months of the previous quarter are published. Published figures about the previous quarter can be changed. In October the monthly figures about the previous calendar year are replaced with definitive figures.
- d. Once a year definitive annual figures about the previous calendar year are published.
- e. Every two years definitive figures about the two previous calendar years are published.

In the annual data all data that are collected before 15th February of the following year, are taken into account. Mid-February was chosen as a compromise between being able to produce actual annual data and the limited loss caused by data that are collected after 15th February. In order to take these delayed data into account it was decided to have them in the statistics of the following calendar year. If, to give an example, a marriage that was contracted abroad in 2014 was reported to the municipal authorities in March 2015, this marriage is in the 2015 marriage statistics. However, in this respect a maximum delay is tolerated. If this marriage is reported after 15th February 2016 the marriage will not be in the 2016 marriage statistics. In fact, it will not be in the statistics of any calendar year. Fortunately, reporting with such a big delay is very rare so that there is nearly no lasting effect on the completeness of Dutch demographic statistics.

Table 7.1 gives an impression of the effect of taking delayed events into account. This table shows that over 2 per cent of the marriages that were contracted in 2009, were reported too late to be included in the 2009 marriage statistics. On the other hand, given that only 5 or 8 per 10,000 were missing, the 2009 statistics on deaths and internal house moves were almost complete.

Quarterly and annual demographic statistics are produced from the system of social statistical datasets (see section 8). This enables Statistics Netherlands to enrich the demographic

7.1.1 Demographic events that took place in 2009 and were published in 2010 demographic statistics

	%
Live born children	0.13
Deaths	0.05
Internal house moves	0.08
Immigration	0.47
Emigration	0.26
Administrative corrections	1.38
Marriages	2.33
Divorces	1.45
Widowhood	1.03
Changes of nationality	0.90

statistics with data from other sources, such as level of education and socio-economic status. In time such enriched tables will be published through the statistical database StatLine.

7.2 Demographic statistics

Demographic statistics provide information on the size and structure of the population as well as population dynamics, such as births, deaths, house moves, external migration, marriages etc. The size of the resident population follows directly from the population register data. In the statistical process no adaptations are made with respect to the number of residents. As such, demographic statistics cover the 'de jure' population of the Netherlands. Data are primarily disseminated through the statistics database StatLine. The edition in [English](#) is more limited than the one in [Dutch](#), but naturally the most important statistics are included.

Given the definitions for immigrants and emigrants in section 2 and the definition of usual residence in Regulation No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council it is not possible to extract the number of usual residents directly from the population register. Usual residence means:

'usual residence' means the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage. The following persons alone shall be considered to be usual residents of a specific geographical area:

- i. those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; or*
- ii. those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least one year. Where the circumstances described in point (i) or (ii) cannot be established, 'usual residence' can be taken to mean the place of legal or registered residence.*

It follows that the application of the usual residents concept requires adaptations as to the duration of stay. The duration of stay in the usual residence concept is 12 months, whereas in the Netherlands population register this is two thirds of the next six months for immigrants and two thirds of the next twelve months for emigrants. Immigrants who leave the country within twelve months after their arrival are therefore excluded from the usual resident population, while emigrants who return within twelve months after their departure are included.

In order to determine the number of usual residents Statistics Netherlands is preparing to investigate other data sources that may provide useful information, such as the registration of salaried employees and data about privileged persons who are not registered as residents.

8. The system of social statistical datasets

Until the 1990s, most data used in social statistics were collected by means of sample surveys. The population register was one of the few exceptions. Since sample surveys were set up independently from one another, the coherence of the Netherlands' social statistics were limited. This changed when data collection shifted from sample surveys to administrative data. As Bakker, Van Rooijen and Van Toor (2014a) pointed out, this shift was due to political pressure and budget cuts. The quick rise of the amount of administrative data enabled Statistics Netherlands to replace many sample surveys with collecting data from administrative registers.

Administrative registers usually focus on one item only, such as labour, income, health etc. Social statistics, however, should give insight in the association between these items. It was therefore decided to combine data from the various administrative sources for statistical purposes. This was done by the introduction of the System of social statistical datasets (SSD). This system enables social statistics production units within Statistics Netherlands to make use of the data from all available administrative sources.

The core elements of the SSD are (Bakker, Van Rooijen and Van Toor, 2014a):

- Data are centrally stored in a standardized way.
- The unit types (persons, buildings, households, companies) can be easily linked because of assigned linkage keys.
- Coordination is crucial to obtain consistent outcomes. Coordination comprises organizational, technical, and content related aspects.

Naturally, the data Statistics Netherlands collects from the BRP population register are in the centre of the SSD. Most social statistics tables show basic variables like sex and age, among others. BRP is the source of these data. Furthermore, as pointed out in section 5, actual BRP data are forwarded to Statistics Netherlands on a daily basis. All production processes therefore can make use of up to date population data.

For privacy reasons the two BRP AdmPINS are replaced with one linkage key (StatPIN) that has no reference to the individual involved. In other words, StatPINs reveal no clue to the AdmPINS, age, nationality, country of birth or other demographic data. Although data about place of residence are also replaced with an address identification number (AIN), it is not possible to avoid identification of all individuals and addresses in the statistical data sets. A municipality with one home for the elderly may serve as an example. Given the fact that the data sets are set up in such a way that addresses and the persons who live there must be statistically identifiable as being one unit, homes for the elderly are relatively easy to recognize, regardless of the replacement with statistical identification numbers. Of course, all rules on statistical confidentiality are applied, see Statistics Netherlands (2014c).

Almost all social statistics production processes in Statistics Netherlands make use of the BRP population data. In this way, all these processes take advantage of the BRP system. On the other hand, in compiling household statistics demographic data are combined with fiscal data (see section 7).

9. Renewal of the population register system

Digitizing the population register in 1994 implied more or less straightforwardly transforming the data from the paper card system into digital data records. A few years after the digitized register was implemented, upgrading appeared to be necessary. An upgrading project initiated by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations was started in 2001 and is planned to be finished by the end of 2016. In 2017 and 2018 all municipalities and organizations that make use of population register data will be transferred from the present system to the new one. If all goes well, the present population registration system will be phased-out at the beginning of 2019.

The modernization of the population register aims to speed up data transfer, raising the quality of the data and processes and make use of standard applications that are prescribed at the governmental level. However, the modernization is not merely a technical operation. Implementation of a new data model will be part of the operation in order to avoid redundancy in the new system. To give an example, in the present system a person's birth date is registered as an attribute in the person's personal record, but also in the personal records of the parents, the present and former spouses and the offspring. So for a person who has two parents, a spouse and two children the birth date is registered in six different personal records. The new data model is such that all data are registered only once. Referring to parent's, spouse's and children's personal records is done by means of the personal identification numbers only.

With the new data model no new data are introduced. The data in the present system are reorganized such that they represent the new data model. Next, the new model will contain a handful of new data that are deduced from the present data and processes. The most promising of these new data for statistical purposes is 'Administrative action', which resembles a demographic event, such as birth or marriage. Every time a personal record is updated 'Administrative action' is added and forwarded to the organizations that make use of the population register data. Although its details are not yet known, Statistics Netherlands expects 'Administrative action' to be helpful in statistical processes. Given the fact that all municipalities will be transferred to the new system in 2017–2018, from 2019 onwards it will be possible to make full use of 'Administrative action' in statistical processes.

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Annex 1 The Netherlands' system of basic registers

The system of basis registers aims at

- Better governmental service to the public and the business sector
- Reduction of administrative costs
- Transparency
- Maintenance, surveillance and fighting fraud
- High level governmental information service
- Efficient public funding
- Administrative coherence

In order to accomplish these objectives the Dutch government introduced the system of digitized basic registers in 2004. The reason was that ministries and other governmental agencies had many registers on related topics, like addresses, that showed many discrepancies. Usually these agencies collected and maintained these registers themselves in order to carry out their tasks. Every time the public contacted these agencies they were asked for their names, addresses, date of birth etc. Apart from the fact that these data were provided many times before, it also gave people the opportunity to give different data to different agencies.

The main purpose of the system of basic registers is to have the government collect data only once and keep them in one register. Every time a governmental agency needs those data that agency is obliged to collect them from the appropriate basic register. To give an example, if the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration needs someone's address, this department is not permitted to ask the person involved, but the department should collect it from the Basic Register for Population data (BRP). In this way the public is relieved of supplying the same data over and over again, and all governmental agencies make use of the same data.

Annex 1.1 System of Basic Registers

Basic Register	Owner	Management organization	Cabinet Minister
Addresses and Buildings Basic Register	Municipalities	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Basic Register for Population data (Personal Records Database)	Municipalities	Governmental Agency for Identity Data (RvIG)	Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations
Basic Register of Real Estates (Cadastral Register)	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Incomes Basic Register	Dutch Tax and Customs Administration (Belastingdienst)	Dutch Tax and Customs Administration (Belastingdienst)	Ministry of Finance
Large-scale Topography Basic Register	Municipalities	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Property Valuation Basic Register	Municipalities	Council for Real Estate Assessment (Waarderingskamer)	Ministry of Finance
Salaries, Labour Relations and Benefits Basic Register	Dutch Institute for Employee Benefits Schemes (UWV)	Dutch Institute for Employee Benefits Schemes (UWV)	Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment
Topography Basic Register ¹⁾	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster)	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Trade Register	Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel)	Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel)	Ministry of Economic Affairs
Underground Basic Register	Municipalities, provinces, water boards, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment	TNO Research Organization	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Vehicles Basic Register	Netherlands' Vehicle Registration Agency (RDW)	Netherlands' Vehicle Registration Agency (RDW)	Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment

¹⁾ Implementing this register has not yet been decided upon. However, data about salaries, labour relations and benefits have been registered in the Policy Administration since 2006.

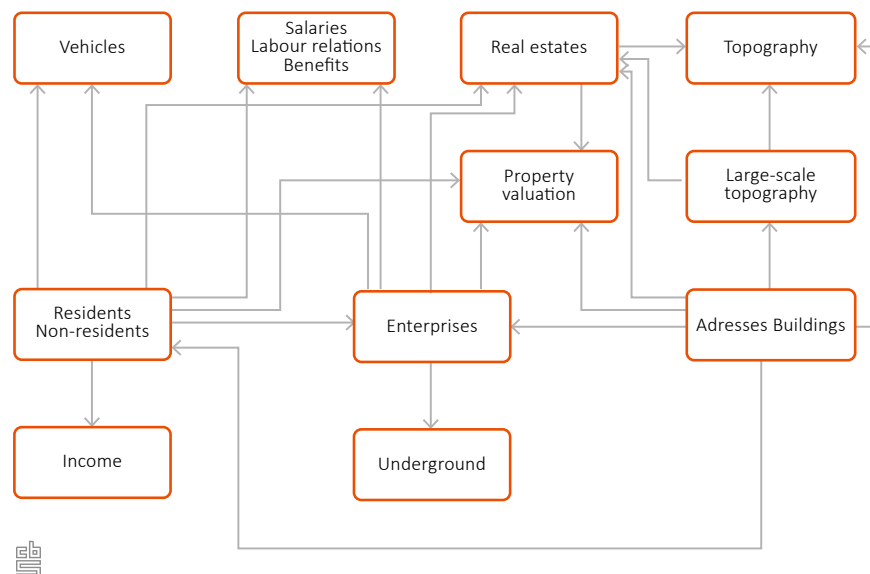
Naturally the quality of the basic registers must be extremely high. As the Dutch government pointed out at the start of the system in 2004, the quality of the registers should be higher than can be achieved by any of the agencies that make use of them. In order to realize this, agencies are obliged to contact the register if they assume that data are not correct and need updating. If, to give an example, the Dutch Institute for Employee Benefits Schemes finds out that a person's address has changed, they must report this to the Basic Register for Population data. Preferably this reporting gives information about the assumed new address. A basic register that is confronted with such a report is obliged to investigate the actual value of the data. The office that is responsible for keeping the register up to date makes the final judgement. So if, for instance, the municipality of residence after having investigated a person's whereabouts judges that this person still lives at the registered address, the registered data will not be changed, and the report which states that he or she lives elsewhere, is neglected.

In doing so, all governmental agencies that make use of basic register data, help in keeping the quality of the registers as high as possible. However, Statistics Netherlands Act, section 37.3, provides that statistical publications by Statistics Netherlands allow no dissemination of identifiable data of individual persons, households, companies or institutions. It follows that Statistics Netherlands is forbidden by law to notify the basic register of data that are assumed to be incorrect. However, this does not mean that Statistics Netherlands makes no contribution to the improvement of the system of basic registers. In Statistics Netherlands (2014a) the mutual quality of four basic registrations is examined. The results are presented by means of aggregate data. An update of this examination is agreed upon by the basic registers involved.

All objects in the basic registers have a unique identification number. This enables the interconnection of the basic registers. For instance, addresses in the Basic Register for Population data and the Trade Register are in principle connected to the Addresses and

Buildings Basic Register. When a resident reports his or her address to the municipality in order to be registered in the Basic Register for Population data, the municipal authorities are obliged to check if this address is in the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register. If this is the case, the identification number of that address is registered as the person's address. If, however, the address is not in the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register, the person is registered at the address, but the municipal authorities must report the assumed omission to the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register. The municipal department that is responsible for that register must start an investigation about the nature of the address. This investigation may lead to three different results. One result is that the address is indeed an omission in the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register, whereupon the address is added to that register. Another possible result is that the address is a valid address, correctly registered in the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register, but not correctly spelled in the Basic Register for Population data. In that case the spelling of the registered address in the latter register must be adapted. The last possible outcome is that the address is not a valid one given the rules of the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register. In that case the address continues to be registered in the Basic Register for Population data, but no reference is made to the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register.

Annex 1.2 System of basic registers



The Basic Register for Population data duplicates eight elements from the Addresses and Buildings Basic Register, if available:

- Public area
- House number
- House number letter
- Addition to house number
- Postal code
- Place of residents
- Residence identification code
- Address identification code

Population register (BRP) data are used in a number of other basic registers, viz.

- Trade Register
- Vehicles Basic Register
- Basic Register of Real Estates (Cadastral Register)
- Property Valuation Basic Register
- Incomes Basic Register
- Salaries, Labour Relations and Benefits Basic Register

The basic registers are implemented in separate laws, under the responsibility of a cabinet minister. The Minister of Infrastructure and the Environment is responsible for six out of the eleven basic registers, the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations is responsible for the coordination within the system.

Annex 2 Data in Basic Register of Population data (BRP) and the data that Statistics Netherlands collects from the BRP system.

This annex gives an overview of all data elements in the Basic Register of Population data. The data Statistics Netherlands is authorised to receive from the registers are marked by 'x'.

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	recognition: data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent	mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system
Category 01: personal data											
01.01.10	Administration numer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
01.01.20	Civil service number (BSN)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
01.02.10	Christian names								x		x
01.02.20	Noble title								x		
01.02.30	Family name prefix								x		x
01.02.40	Family name								x		x
01.03.10	Date of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
01.03.20	Place of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
01.03.30	Country of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
01.04.10	Gender	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

Authorisation

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
				birth, birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent	mortality	change in marital status	change in citizen- ship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registe- red in BRP- system
01.61.10	Name used in governmental documents							x		
01.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out	x	x		x					
01.81.20	Description of certificate	x	x		x					
01.82.10	Municipality where document was made out									
01.82.20	Date when document was made out									
01.82.30	Description of document									
01.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid									
01.86.10	Date when category was made out									
Category 51: former personal data¹⁾										
51.01.10	Administration numer								x	
51.01.20	Civil service number (BSN)								x	
51.02.10	Christian names									
51.02.20	Noble title									
51.02.30	Family name prefix									
51.02.40	Family name									
51.03.10	Date of birth									
51.03.20	Place of birth									
51.03.30	Country of birth									
51.04.10	Gender									
51.61.10	Name used in governmental documents									
51.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out									
51.81.20	Description of certificate									
51.82.10	Municipality where document was made out									
51.82.20	Date when document was made out									
51.82.30	Description of document									
51.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid									
51.86.10	Date when category was made out									
Category 02: data about parent 1 (usually the mother)										
02.01.10	Parent 1 administration numer	x	x	x	x	x	x			
02.01.20	Parent 1 civil service number	x	x	x	x	x	x			
02.02.10	Christian names									
02.02.20	Noble title									
02.02.30	Family name prefix									
02.02.40	Family name								x	
02.03.10	Date of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x			
02.03.20	Place of birth									
02.03.30	Country of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
02.04.10	Gender parent 1	x	x	x	x	x	x			
02.62.10	Date of family relationship with parent 1	x		x						
02.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out	x		x						
02.81.20	Description of certificate	x		x						
02.82.10	Municipality where document was made out									
02.82.20	Date when document was made out									
02.82.30	Description of document									
02.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid									
02.86.10	Date when category was made out									

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

Authorisation										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			birth, birth, adoption adoption or or recogni- tion: recognition: data about the parent	mortality	change in marital status	change in citizen- ship	cristian and family names	change in PIN		verifying if a person is registe- red in BRP- system

Category 52: former data about parent 1 (usually the mother)¹⁾

52.01.10	Parent 1 administration numer
52.01.20	Parent 1 civil service number
52.02.10	Christian names
52.02.20	Noble title
52.02.30	Family name prefix
52.02.40	Family name
52.03.10	Date of birth
52.03.20	Place of birth
52.03.30	Country of birth
52.04.10	Gender parent 1
52.62.10	Date of family relationship with parent 1
52.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out
52.81.20	Description of certificate
52.82.10	Municipality where document was made out
52.82.20	Date when document was made out
52.82.30	Description of document
52.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid
52.86.10	Date when category was made out

Category 03: data about parent 2 (usually the father)¹⁾

03.01.10	Parent 2 administration numer	x	x	x	x	x	x		
03.01.20	Parent 2 civil service number	x	x	x	x	x	x		
03.02.10	Christian names								
03.02.20	Noble title								
03.02.30	Family name prefix								
03.02.40	Family name							x	
03.03.10	Date of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x		
02.03.20	Place of birth								
03.03.30	Country of birth	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
03.04.10	Gender parent 2	x	x	x	x	x	x		
03.62.10	Date of family relationship with parent 2	x		x					
03.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out	x		x					
03.81.20	Description of certificate	x		x					
03.82.10	Municipality where document was made out								
03.82.20	Date when document was made out								
03.82.30	Description of document								
03.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid								
03.86.10	Date when category was made out								

Category 53: former data about parent 2 (usually the father)¹⁾

53.01.10	Parent 2 administration numer
53.01.20	Parent 2 civil service number
53.02.10	Christian names
53.02.20	Noble title
53.02.30	Family name prefix
53.02.40	Family name
53.03.10	Date of birth

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system	
52.03.20	Place of birth										
53.03.30	Country of birth										
53.04.10	Gender parent 2										
53.62.10	Date of family relationship with parent 2										
53.81.10	Municipality where certificate was made out										
53.81.20	Description of certificate										
53.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
53.82.20	Date when document was made out										
53.82.30	Description of document										
53.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
53.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 04: data about citizenship¹⁾											
04.05.10	Nationality	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
04.63.10	Grounds of which nationality was granted	x						x			
04.64.10	Reason why nationality was lost	x						x			
04.65.10	Indication of Dutch nationality	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
04.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
04.82.20	Date when document was made out										
04.82.30	Description of document	x	x	x				x			
04.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid	x						x			
04.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 54: former data about citizenship¹⁾											
54.05.10	Nationality	x						x			
54.63.10	Grounds of which nationality was granted										
54.64.10	Reason why nationality was lost										
54.65.10	Indication of Dutch nationality	x						x			
54.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
54.82.20	Date when document was made out										
54.82.30	Description of document										
54.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid	x						x			
54.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 05: data about marriage and registered partnership											
05.01.10	Spouse's administration numer	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.01.20	Spouse's civil service number	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.02.10	Spouse's Christian names										
05.02.20	Spouse's noble title										
05.02.30	Spouse's family name prefix								x		
05.02.40	Spouse's family name								x		
05.03.10	Spouse's date of birth	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.03.20	Spouse's place of birth										
05.03.30	Spouse's country of birth	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.04.10	Spouse's gender	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.06.10	Date when or marriage or relationship was registered	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		
05.06.20	Place where the marriage was registered										
05.06.30	Country where the marriage was contracted	x	x		x	x	x	x			

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	recognition: data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system	
05.07.10	Date when the marriage or relationship ended	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		
05.07.20	Place where the marriage was ended										
05.07.30	Country where the marriage was ended	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.07.40	Reason why the marriage or relationship ended	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.15.10	Type of relationship (marriage / registered relationship)	x	x		x	x	x	x			
05.81.10	Municipality where the certificate was made out	x					x				
05.81.20	Description of certificate	x					x				
05.82.10	Municipality where document was made out	x					x				
05.82.20	Date when document was made out										
05.82.30	Description of document										
05.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
05.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 55: data about former marriages or former registered relationships¹⁾											
55.01.10	Spouse's administration numer	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.01.20	Spouse's civil service number	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.02.10	Spouse's Christian names										
55.02.20	Spouse's noble title										
55.02.30	Spouse's family name prefix										
55.02.40	Spouse's family name										
55.03.10	Spouse's date of birth	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.03.20	Spouse's place of birth										
55.03.30	Spouse's country of birth	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.04.10	Spouse's gender	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.06.10	Date when or marriage or relationship was registered	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.06.20	Place where the marriage was registered										
55.06.30	Country where the marriage was contracted	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.07.10	Date when the marriage or relationship ended	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.07.20	Place where the marriage was ended										
55.07.30	Country where the marriage was ended	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.07.40	Reason why the marriage or relationship ended	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.15.10	Type of relationship (marriage / registered relationship)	x	x		x	x	x	x			
55.81.10	Municipality where the certificate was made out	x					x				
55.81.20	Description of certificate	x					x				
55.82.10	Municipality where document was made out	x					x				
55.82.20	Date when document was made out										
55.82.30	Description of document										
55.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
55.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 06: data about mortality											
06.08.10	Date of death	x				x					x
06.08.20	Place of death										
06.08.30	Country of death	x				x					
06.81.10	Municipality where the death certificate was made out	x				x					
06.81.20	Description of death certificate	x				x					

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	recognition: data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system	
06.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
06.82.20	Date when document was made out										
06.82.30	Description of document										
06.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
06.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 07: Registration											
07.68.10	Date when person was registered for the first time										
07.69.10	Municipality where the personal card is kept										
07.70.10	Indication that the person does not allow to forward data to certain organisations	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
07.71.10	Date when data of non-resident were verified	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
07.71.20	Type of verification	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
07.87.10	All personal card data were transferred to the personal record										
07.88.10	Non-municipal agency that supplies data about non-residents	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
07.88.20	Treaty that allows foreign agencies to supply data about non-residents	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Category 08: data about the address											
08.09.10	Municipality of residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.09.20	Date of registration in the municipality										
08.10.10	Type of registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
08.10.20	Part of municipality									x	
08.10.30	Date when the person came to live at the address	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
08.11.10	Street	x	x							x	
08.11.15	Public area	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.20	House number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.30	House number letter	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.40	Addition to house number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.50	Addition to house number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.60	Postal code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.70	Place of residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.80	Residence identification code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.11.90	Address identification code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.12.10	Description of the address	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
08.13.10	Country of residence	x	x			x		x			x
08.13.20	Date when the person came to live at the foreign address	x	x			x		x			x
08.13.30	Foreign address part 1	x	x			x		x			
08.13.40	Foreign address part 2	x	x			x		x			
08.13.50	Foreign address part 3	x	x			x		x			
08.14.10	Country of former residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
08.14.20	Date of arrival in the Netherlands	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x
08.72.10	Description of whose information led to registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
08.75.10	Indication that data need updating when the person becomes a resident										
08.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
08.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system	
Category 58: data about former addresses¹⁾											
58.09.10	Municipality of residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.09.20	Date of registration in the municipality										
58.10.10	Type of registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.10.20	Part of municipality										
58.10.30	Date when the person came to live at the address	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.10	Street	x	x								
58.11.15	Public area	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.20	House number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.30	House number letter	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.40	Addition to house number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.50	Addition to house number	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.60	Postal code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.70	Place of residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.80	Residence identification code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.11.90	Address identification code	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.12.10	Description of the address	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.13.10	Country of residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.13.20	Date when the person came to live at the foreign address	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
58.13.30	Foreign address part 1	x	x			x		x			
58.13.40	Foreign address part 2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.13.50	Foreign address part 3	x	x			x		x			
58.14.10	Country of former residence	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
58.14.20	Date of arrival in the Netherlands	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.72.10	Description of whose information led to registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
58.75.10	Indication that data need updating when the person becomes a resident										
58.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
58.86.10	Date when category was made out										
Category 09: data about the offspring¹⁾											
09.01.10	Child's administration numer	x	x		x	x	x	x			
09.01.20	Child's civil service number	x	x		x	x	x	x			
09.02.10	Child's Christian names										
09.02.20	Child's noble title										
09.02.30	Child's family name prefix										
09.02.40	Child's family name										
09.03.10	Child's date of birth	x	x		x	x	x	x			
09.03.20	Child's place of birth										
09.03.30	Child's country of birth										
09.81.10	Municipality where the birth certificate was made out	x			x						
09.81.20	Description of birth certificate	x			x						
09.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
09.82.20	Date when document was made out										
09.82.30	Description of document										
09.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid	x			x						
09.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (continued)

		Authorisation									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
		annual complete enumeration	change in address	data about the child	birth, adoption or recognition: data about the parent mortality	change in marital status	change in citizenship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registered in BRP-system	

Category 59: former data about the offspring¹⁾

59.01.10	Child's administration numer										
59.01.20	Child's civil service number										
59.02.10	Child's Christian names										
59.02.20	Child's noble title										
59.02.30	Child's family name prefix										
59.02.40	Child's family name										
59.03.10	Child's date of birth										
59.03.20	Child's place of birth										
59.03.30	Child's country of birth										
59.81.10	Municipality where the birth certificate was made out										
59.81.20	Description of birth certificate										
59.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
59.82.20	Date when document was made out										
59.82.30	Description of document										
59.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
59.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Category 10: data about legal permit to stay in the country²⁾

10.39.10	Description of legal permit	x									
10.39.20	Legal permit's expirement date	x									
10.39.30	Date when legal permit became valid	x									
10.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
10.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Category 60: data about expired legal permit to stay in the country¹⁾

60.39.10	Description of legal permit	x									
60.39.20	Legal permit's expirement date	x									
60.39.30	Date when legal permit became valid	x									
60.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
60.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Category 11: data about authority

11.32.10	Parental authority										
11.33.10	Put under guardianship										
11.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
11.82.20	Date when document was made out										
11.82.30	Description of document										
11.85.10	Date since when the data in this category are valid										
11.86.10	Date when category was made out										

Category 61: data about authority

61.32.10	Parental authority										
61.33.10	Put under guardianship										
61.82.10	Municipality where document was made out										
61.82.20	Date when document was made out										
61.82.30	Description of document										

Annex 2.1 Data in the Basic Register for Population data (BRP) that Statistics Netherlands is authorised to collect (end)

Authorisation

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11
			birth, birth, adoption adoption or or recogni- tion: recognition: data about the parent	mortality	change in marital status	change in citizen- ship	cristian and family names	change in PIN	verifying if a person is registe- red in BRP- system	

61.85.10 Date since when the data in this category are valid

61.86.10 Date when category was made out

Category 12: data about Dutch travel document ¹⁾²⁾

12.35.10 Type of travel document

12.35.20 Travel document number

12.35.30 Date when travel document was issued

12.35.40 Agency that issued the travel document

12.35.50 Date when the travel document expires

12.35.60 Date when travel document was reported missing

12.36.10 Objection to issuing a travel document

12.81.20 Description of birth certificate

12.82.10 Municipality where document was made out

12.82.20 Date when document was made out

12.82.30 Description of document

12.85.10 Date since when the data in this category are valid

12.86.10 Date when category was made out

Category 13: data about right to vote

13.31.10 Right to vote for the European Parliament

13.31.20 Date when person requested to be registered to be entitled to vote

13.31.30 Date when exclusion for European Parliament elections expires

13.38.10 Exclusion from right to vote

13.38.20 Date when exclusion from right to vote expires

13.82.10 Municipality where document was made out

13.82.20 Date when document was made out

13.82.30 Description of document

¹⁾ This category may have more than one entry.

²⁾ For non-Dutch citizens only.

Explanation of figure

Empty cell	Figure not applicable
.	Figure is unknown, insufficiently reliable or confidential
*	Provisional figure
**	Revised provisional figure
2014–2015	2014 to 2015 inclusive
2014/2015	Average for 2014 to 2015 inclusive
2014/'15	Crop year, financial year, school year, etc., beginning in 2014 and ending in 2015
2012/'13–2014/'15	Crop year, financial year, etc., 2012/'13 to 2014/'15 inclusive

Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the separate figures.

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