

DEFINITIONS OF POLICY VARIABLES

<i>Variable name</i>	<i>Variable definition</i>	<i>Response categories</i>
Population size and growth		
<i>View on growth</i>	Indicates how the Government perceives the rate of population growth in the country.	Too low Satisfactory Too high
<i>Policy on growth</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the rate of population growth in the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention No official policy
Population age structure		
<i>Level of concern about the size of the working-age population</i>	Indicates the Government's level of concern regarding the current size of the working-age population in relation to the domestic labour market or in relation to the size of the dependent populations.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Level of concern about ageing of the population</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government is concerned about the growing size or the proportion of older persons in the population and its consequences for health and social welfare provisions. ¹	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern No official position
<i>Measures adopted to address population ageing²</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policy measures in the past five years to address population ageing in the country.	1. Raised the minimum retirement age 2. Raised social security contributions of workers 3. Introduced or enhanced non-contributory old-age pensions 4. Promoted private savings schemes for retirement

¹ In cases where the current proportion of older persons is relatively small, Government's concerns about the challenges that a growing older population will pose in the future are included.

² Response categories refer to the 2015 revision of the World Population Policies Database. Response categories in previous revisions were: 1. Change in statutory retirement age; 2. Reform in the pension system; Neither.

<i>Variable name</i>	<i>Variable definition</i>	<i>Response categories</i>
		None of these
Fertility		
<i>View on fertility level</i>	Indicates how the Government perceives the level of fertility in the country.	Too low Satisfactory Too high
<i>Policy on fertility level</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of fertility in the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention No official policy
<i>Measures on birth registration coverage</i>	Indicates whether the Government has undertaken any policy measures in the past five years to improve the coverage of birth registration.	Yes No Not applicable ³
<i>Measures on family and work balance</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policy measures to improve family/work balance for childbearing and child-rearing.	1. Maternity leave for childbirth with job security (paid or unpaid) 2. Paternity leave for childbirth with job security (paid or unpaid) 3. Parental leave for childcare at home (paid or unpaid) 4. Baby bonus (lump sum payment) 5. Child or family allowances 6. Tax credit for dependent children 7. Flexible or part-time work hours for parents 8. Publicly subsidized childcare None of these

³ "Not applicable" indicates that coverage of birth registration in the country is near universal (96 per cent or higher).

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
<i>Level of concern about adolescent fertility</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the level of adolescent fertility in the country to be a concern.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Policies to reduce adolescent fertility</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted any policies or programmes to reduce the level of fertility among adolescents.	Yes No
Reproductive health and family planning		
<i>Government support for family planning</i>	Indicates whether the Government provides direct or indirect support for the provision of family planning. ⁴	Direct support Indirect support No support Not permitted
<i>Policy on restricting access to contraceptive services</i>	Indicates whether the Government has a policy of restricting access to contraceptive services based on certain criteria.	1. Minimum age 2. Marital status 3. Parental consent (for minors) 4. Emergency contraceptive pills 5. Sterilization of women 6. Sterilization of men None of these ⁵
<i>Measures on reproductive and sexual health of adolescents</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policy measures related to improving sexual and reproductive health of adolescents.	1. Raised and/or enforced minimum age at marriage 2. Expanded girls' secondary school enrolment/retention 3. Provided school-based sexuality education None of these

⁴ Direct support implies that family planning services are provided through government-run facilities or outlets. Indirect support implies that the Government does not provide family planning services through government outlets, but instead supports the private sector, including non-governmental organizations, in providing those services. No support means that the Government allows the private sector to provide family planning services without giving it any material support. Not permitted means that the Government does not allow family planning programmes or services within its jurisdiction.

⁵ Includes cases where restrictions by minimum age, marital status or parental consent (for minors) could not be ascertained from available information.

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
<i>Legal grounds on which abortion is permitted</i>	Indicates legal provisions under which the Government permits induced abortion in the country. ⁶	1. To save a woman's life 2. To preserve a woman's physical health 3. To preserve a woman's mental health 4. In case of rape or incest 5. Because of foetal impairment 6. For economic or social reasons 7. On request Not permitted
<i>Level of concern about unsafe abortions</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government is concerned about the number of unsafe abortions in the country.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern No official position
<i>Level of concern about violence against women</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers violence against women to be a concern in the country. ⁷	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Policies to prevent domestic violence</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific legal provisions or policies to address violence against women in domestic settings. ⁸	1. Legal provision 2. Policy Neither
Health and mortality		
<i>View on life expectancy at birth</i>	Indicates whether the Government considers the level of life expectancy at birth in the country to be acceptable.	Acceptable Unacceptable
<i>View on under-five mortality</i>	Indicates whether the Government considers the level of mortality among children under age five in	Acceptable Unacceptable

⁶ Induced abortions are those initiated by deliberate action taken with the intention of terminating pregnancy; all other abortions are considered spontaneous.

⁷ Violence against women includes any act of gender-based physical, sexual, emotional, psychological or financial abuse of women, or threat of such abuse, in domestic, communal and institutional settings.

⁸ Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviour in a relationship. It usually involves an intimate partner or a family member or relative, but may also involve a former spouse or non-marital, non-cohabiting partners and relationships. Domestic violence does not necessarily occur within the household.

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
	the country to be acceptable.	
<i>View on undernutrition in children</i>	Indicates whether the Government considers the level of undernutrition among children under age five in the country to be acceptable.	Acceptable Unacceptable
<i>View on maternal mortality</i>	Indicates whether the Government considers the level of maternal mortality in the country to be acceptable.	Acceptable Unacceptable
<i>Measures to address new born and maternal mortality</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policy measures in the past five years to reduce the number of new born and maternal deaths in the country.	1. Expanded coverage of comprehensive prenatal care 2. Expanded coverage of obstetric care 3. Expanded coverage of essential post-partum and new born care 4. Expanded access to effective contraception 5. Expanded access to safe abortion care, including post-abortion care 6. Expanded recruitment and/or training of skilled birth attendants None of these
<i>Level of concern about overweight and obesity</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the level of overweight and obesity in the country to be a concern.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Level of concern about non-communicable diseases</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the prevalence of non-communicable diseases in the country to be a concern. ⁹	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Level of concern about tuberculosis</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the prevalence of tuberculosis in the country to be a concern.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Level of concern about malaria</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the prevalence of malaria in the country to	Major concern Minor concern

⁹ Major non-communicable diseases include heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, chronic lung disease and cancers.

<i>Variable name</i>	<i>Variable definition</i>	<i>Response categories</i>
	be a concern.	Not a concern
<i>Level of concern about HIV/AIDS</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the country to be a concern.	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Measures to address HIV/AIDS</i>	Indicates specific policy measures that the Government has adopted to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the country.	1. Blood screening 2. Information/education campaigns 3. Antiretroviral treatment 4. Non-discrimination policies (legal measures) 5. Distribution of condoms 6. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)
Spatial distribution and internal migration		
<i>View on spatial distribution</i>	Indicates whether the Government considers the spatial distribution of population within the country to be satisfactory or whether it desires a change.	Major change desired Minor change desired Satisfactory
<i>Policies on the spatial distribution of population</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policies or strategies in the past five years to influence the spatial population distribution of population.	1. Reduction of migration from rural to urban areas 2. Decentralization of large urban centres to smaller urban, suburban or rural areas 3. Relocation out of environmentally fragile or threatened areas None of these
<i>Policies on the distribution of population between regions</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted any policy measures or programmes to influence the spatial distribution of population between regions within the country.	Yes No ¹⁰
<i>Policies on the distribution of population between</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted any policy measures or programmes to influence the distribution of population between rural and urban	Yes No ¹⁰

¹⁰ Coded as "No intervention" in the database.

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
<i>rural and urban places</i>	areas within the country.	
<i>Policy on migration from rural to urban areas</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the flow of migration from rural areas to urban areas within the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention Not applicable ¹¹
<i>Policy on migration from rural to rural areas</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the flow of migration from rural areas to rural areas within the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention Not applicable ¹¹
<i>Policy on migration from urban to rural areas</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the flow of migration from urban areas to rural areas within the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention Not applicable ¹¹
<i>Policy on migration from urban to urban areas</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the flow of migration from urban areas to urban areas within the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention
<i>Policy on migration into urban agglomerations</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the flow of internal migration into urban agglomerations. ¹²	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention Not applicable ¹³
<i>Policies on rural development</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policies or strategies in the past five years to promote rural development.	1. Incentives to establish or retain industries in rural areas 2. Relocation of industries from large urban centres to rural

¹¹ "Not applicable" in countries with 100 per cent urban population.

¹² Migration into urban agglomerations can come from both rural and urban areas.

¹³ Migration into urban agglomerations is "Not applicable" in countries with no urban agglomerations or where the entire country is one urban agglomeration.

<i>Variable name</i>	<i>Variable definition</i>	<i>Response categories</i>
		areas 3. Development of rural infrastructure and facilities None of these Not applicable ¹¹
<i>Policies on living conditions and sustainability of urban centres</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policies or strategies in the past five years to improve the living conditions and sustainability of large urban centres	1. To increase energy efficiency in transport and housing 2. More stringent environmental regulations for industries within or surrounding large urban centres 3. To improve solid waste management system 4. To secure access to water and sanitation for urban poor 5. To secure land tenure and adequate housing for urban poor None of these
International migration		
<i>View on immigration</i>	Indicates how the Government perceives the overall level of documented or regular immigration into the country. ¹⁴	Too low Satisfactory Too high
<i>Policy on immigration</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of documented immigration into the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention No official policy
<i>Rationale for current immigration policy</i>	Indicates the Government's underlying reasons for the current immigration policy.	1. To counter long-term population decline 2. To address population

¹⁴ It includes immigration for permanent settlement, temporary work or family reunification. Government views towards asylum seekers, refugees and undocumented immigrants are not considered.

<i>Variable name</i>	<i>Variable definition</i>	<i>Response categories</i>
		ageing 3. To meet labour demands in certain sectors of the economy 4. To safeguard employment opportunities for nationals None of these Not applicable
<i>Policy on permanent settlement</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of immigration for permanent settlement into the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention
<i>Policy on temporary workers</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of immigration of temporary workers into the country. ¹⁵	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention
<i>Policy on highly skilled workers</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of immigration of highly skilled workers into the country. ¹⁶	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention No official policy
<i>Policy on family reunification</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of immigration for family reunification. ¹⁷	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention
<i>Policy on integration of non-nationals</i>	Indicates whether the Government has any policies or programmes aimed at integrating non-nationals into the host society. ¹⁸	Yes No

¹⁵ Temporary labour migration may include seasonal workers, contract and project-linked workers, guest workers and other cross-border workers that are admitted for a fixed duration without the expectation of obtaining permanent resident status.

¹⁶ Highly skilled migrants generally include highly qualified workers with post-secondary technical or professional education or job experience, especially with qualifications or skills in demand in the host country.

¹⁷ Migration for family reunification mostly includes family members considered dependants, usually the spouse and minor children (even if the spouse is not financially dependent).

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
<i>Measures on integration of immigrants</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policies or programmes aimed at integrating immigrants into the host society.	1. Language skills training 2. Transfer of professional credentials 3. Protection against discrimination None of these
<i>Policy on naturalization</i>	Indicates whether there are legal provisions to allow immigrants to become naturalized citizens under certain conditions.	Yes, less restrictive ¹⁹ Yes, more restrictive No
<i>Level of concern about irregular migration</i>	Indicates the extent to which the Government considers undocumented or irregular immigration into the country to be a concern. ²⁰	Major concern Minor concern Not a concern
<i>Measures on irregular immigration</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted specific policy measures to address the issue of irregular immigration.	1. Penalties for employers of migrants in an irregular situation 2. Fines, detention or deportation of migrants in an irregular situation 3. Regularization of legal status under defined schemes or conditions None of these
<i>Programmes to facilitate return of migrants to their home countries</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted any policies or programmes to encourage or facilitate the return of immigrants to their home countries. ²¹	Yes No
<i>View on emigration</i>	Indicates how the Government perceives the level of emigration from the country.	Too low Satisfactory Too high

¹⁸ These may include provisions for social services, involvement in civil and community activities, language training and legal provisions to ensure non-discrimination of foreigners.

¹⁹ Countries where naturalization was available to only certain categories of immigrants or where the residency requirement was 10 years or longer were categorized as having “more restrictive” naturalization policies.

²⁰ Migrants in an irregular situation are those who have either entered a country without proper documents or authorization or who have stayed beyond their authorized time period. The Government’s concerns about its own citizens living abroad in irregular conditions are not considered.

²¹ Such programmes may include assisted return programmes and schemes to reintegrate return migrants in their countries of origin.

Variable name	Variable definition	Response categories
<i>Policy on emigration</i>	Indicates the Government's policy to influence the level of emigration of its citizens from the country.	Raise Maintain Lower No intervention No official policy
<i>Policy to encourage the return of citizens</i>	Indicates whether the Government has adopted any policies or programmes to encourage the return of its citizens living abroad.	Yes No
<i>Acceptance of dual citizenship</i>	Indicates whether the Government permits its citizens to retain their original citizenship upon acquiring citizenship of another country, and if yes, under what conditions or restrictions. ²²	Yes, non-restrictive Yes, restrictive No
<i>Special governmental unit dealing with diaspora</i>	Indicates whether the Government has a special unit, department or ministry to deal with matters concerning the country's diaspora.	Yes No
<i>Measures to attract investment by diaspora</i>	Indicates specific policy measures that the Government has adopted to encourage or facilitate investment in the country by its diaspora. ²³	1. Reduced costs of transferring remittances 2. Tax exceptions or breaks 3. Preferential treatment in providing credit or allotment of licences None of these

²² The restrictions may refer to: (i) the countries involved (acceptance of dual citizenship when some specific countries are involved but not others) or (ii) the rights involved (acceptance of dual citizenship with some restrictions to full citizenship rights).

²³ Response categories refer to the 2015 revision of the World Population Policies Database. Response categories for this variable in previous revision were: 1. Tax exceptions or breaks; 2. Reduction of tariffs on goods or import duties for diaspora companies; 3. Preferential treatment in providing credit; 4. Preferential treatment in allotment of licenses; 5. Streamlined bureaucratic procedures for investment; 6. Diaspora bond/mutual fund; None of these