1 DATA

Global Compact for Migration Objective 1

Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies[1]

> " *Policymakers need timely, reliable, accessible, and comparable data on international migration to manage migration effectively and protect the rights of migrants. Migration data should be disaggregated (e.g. by sex) and include information on the economic impacts of migration.*[2]

📌 Objective 1 takeaways

- Countries that have a formal interministerial coordination mechanism to ensure a whole-of-government approach to migration governance are more likely to collect sex-disaggregated migration data outside the census.

- Countries that are making efforts to ensure the vertical coherence of their migration policy between different administrative levels are more likely to collect migration data outside the census.

One third of MGI countries regularly collect and publish migration data disaggregated by sex outside the census. Moreover, the national census includes a module on migration in 69 per cent of them. Conversely, only 18 per cent of countries disaggregate labour market data by migration status and sex, while national assessments for monitoring the labour market demand for immigrants as well as studying the effects of emigrants on the domestic labour market occur in 18 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively (Figure 1). Figure 2 shows the regional distribution of "yes" answers to these questions.

Figure 1. MGI questions on data: global distribution of answers (yes/partially/no)
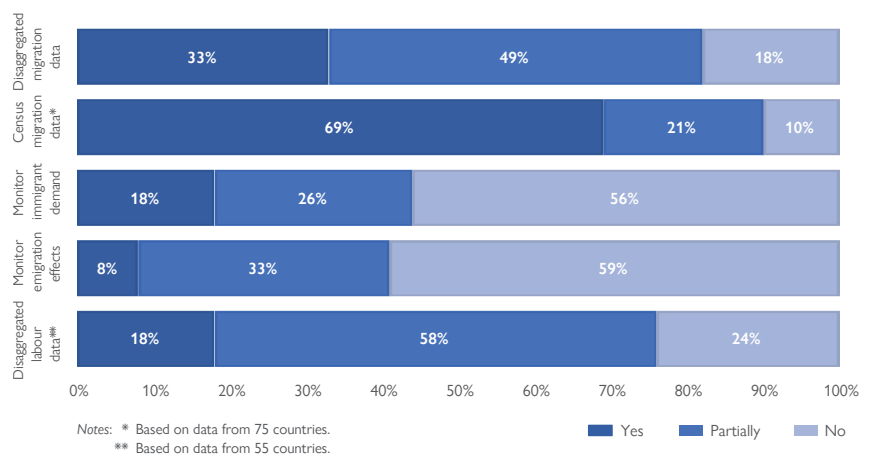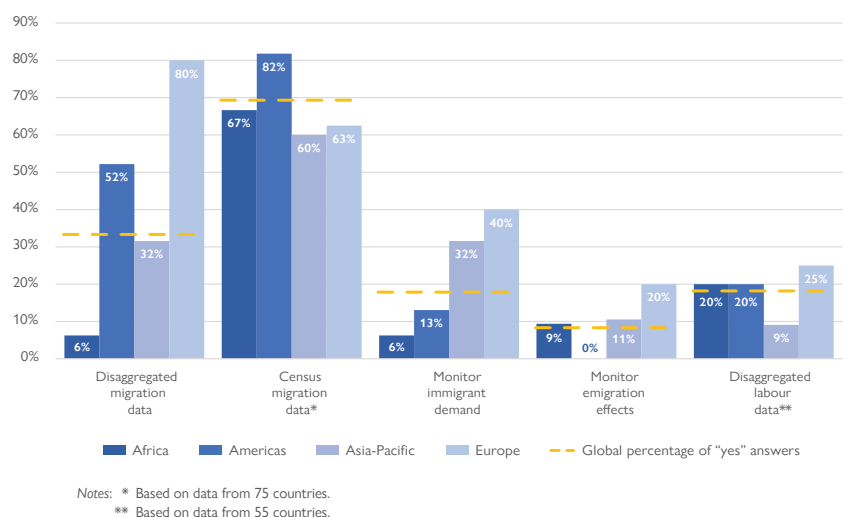

Notes: * Based on data from 75 countries.
** Based on data from 55 countries.

Figure 2. MGI questions on data: regional distribution of "yes" answers

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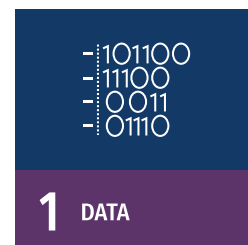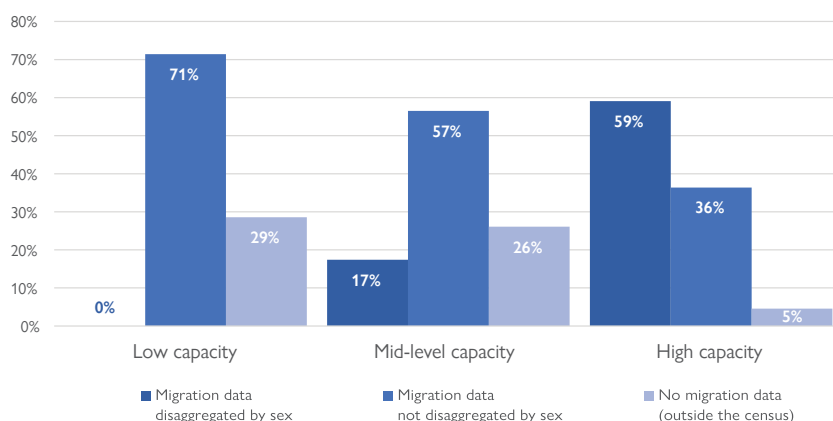101100
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Figure 3 shows a clear relationship between a country's statistical capacity and the likelihood of collection of migration data outside the census. None of the countries with a low statistical capacity indicator (SCI)[3] score regularly collect migration data disaggregated by sex outside the census, yet this is the case for more than half (59%) of the countries with a high SCI score.
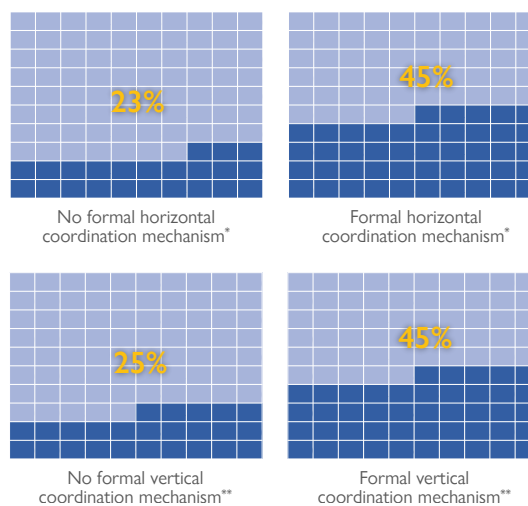
Having a coherent institutional structure to promote efficiency and decrease overlapping efforts in migration management may play a role in the likelihood of collecting disaggregated migration data. Figure 4 shows that countries that have formal interministerial (horizontal) coordination mechanisms on migration issues at the national level are more likely to collect migration data disaggregated by sex outside the census. The same result is found for countries making formal efforts to enhance the vertical coherence of their migration policy (e.g. through regular coordination with decentralized levels of governance).

🎯 MGI data insight

Only 4 per cent of heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) regularly collect and publish disaggregated migration data outside the census, in contrast with 44 per cent of other MGI countries.

Source: Own calculations based on the World Bank's data on HIPC classification (2018).

Figure 3. Percentage of countries collecting migration data outside the census, by statistical capacity indicator score

Legend:
- Migration data disaggregated by sex
- Migration data not disaggregated by sex
- No migration data (outside the census)

Source: Own elaboration based on the World Bank's data on statistical capacity (n.d.a).
Note: SCI data is based on 75 MGI countries.

Figure 4. Percentage of countries collecting sex-disaggregated migration data outside the census, by type of migration policy coordination mechanism

23% — No formal horizontal coordination mechanism*
45% — Formal horizontal coordination mechanism*
25% — No formal vertical coordination mechanism**
45% — Formal vertical coordination mechanism**

Notes: * Based on data from 81 countries.
** Based on data from 77 countries.

Selected example from MGI data: Seychelles

The Seychelles National Labour Migration Policy, adopted in 2019,* commits the Government to integrate labour migration issues in periodical statistics sources. The Policy recommends including the International Labour Organization's Labour Migration Module in the 2020 census. Due to COVID-19, the 2020 census was postponed and is scheduled to be carried out in 2022.**

* Ministry of Employment, Immigration and Civil Status, Seychelles National Labour Migration Policy (2019). Available at www.mofbe.gov.sc/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Labour-Migration-Policy.pdf.
** More information is available at https://nbs.gov.sc/news.

3 The SCI is a composite score assessing the capacity of a country's statistical system, on a scale of 0–100 (World Bank, n.d.a). For this publication, three tiers were created: low-capacity countries (score below 50), mid-level capacity (score between 50 and 75) and high capacity (score above 75).