Using administrative data sources for production of official statistics on stateless persons (Norway)

KÅRE VASSENDEN, STATISTICS NORWAY

UNECE AND UNHCR, WORKSHOP ON THE INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON REFUGEE, IDP AND STATELESSNESS STATISTICS



Content

A. Data sources: Administrative data

B. Statistics: Official



Notice: The importance of a person's citizenship in the Norwegian society is limited

- Typical for some countries (including Norway) is that the status of a
 resident means a lot for the individual, whereas the citizenship is not
 relevant in most national circumstances.
- Only for crossing international borders does citizenship clearly matter.



A. Administrative data sources

A distinction: Two different roles of the data

1. Data source(s) for the information that someone is or has been stateless

'Stateless' is one out of appr. 200 citizenship values. The primary object of our interest must be the entire Citizenship variable

2. Sources of data for other information that is necessary or useful for the understanding or analysis of statelessness data



'Citizenship' in Norwegian (electronic) administrative data

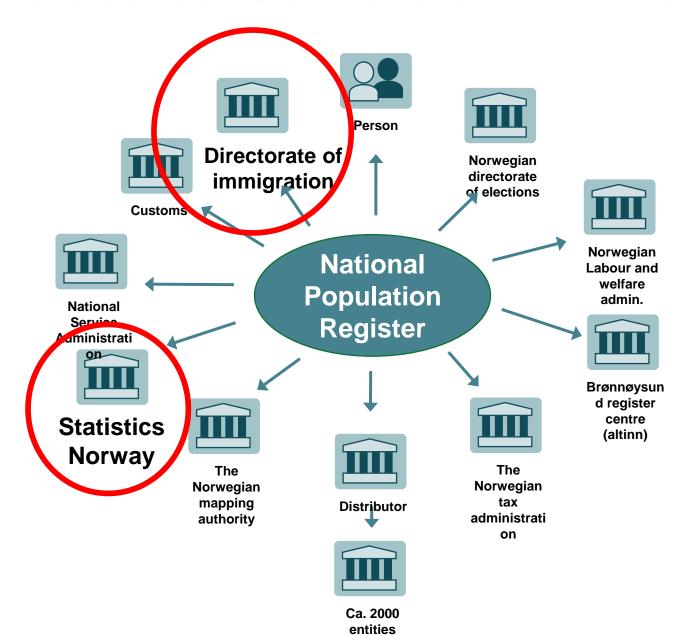
- Currently (and at least since 2017): No doubt, the administrative register
 providing the official information on citizenship is the National Population
 Register (NPR).
- 2. Before that, since around 1975, it was slightly less clear for the users where the *official* information could be found. However, the only alternative was the **NPR**.
- 3. 1967-1973: Citizenship found in some **NPR** data e.g. immigration records



Suppliers of information to the NPR



20 000 consumers of NPR data

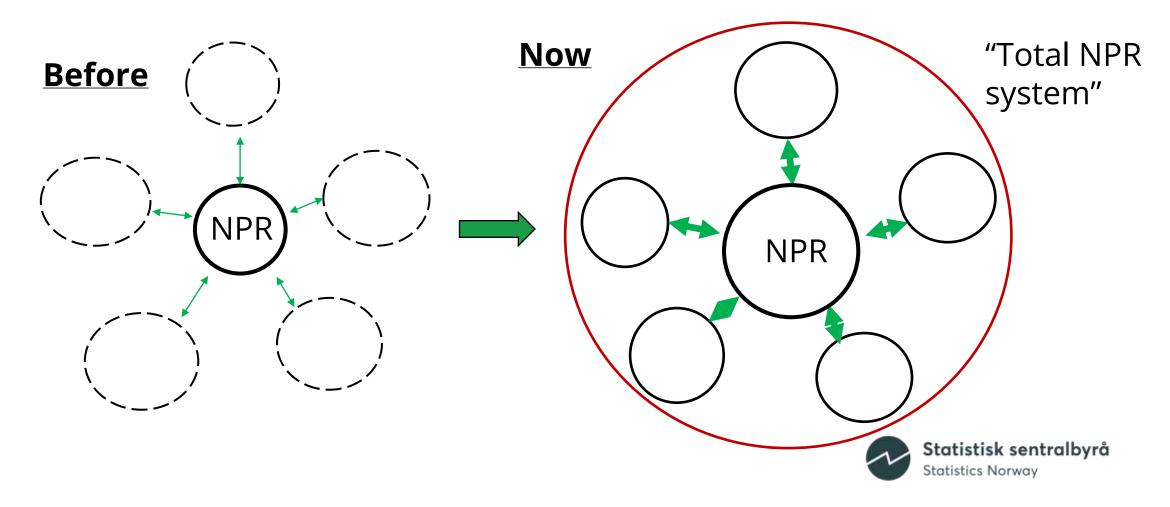




The role of the immigration authorities (UDI) in relation to citizenship

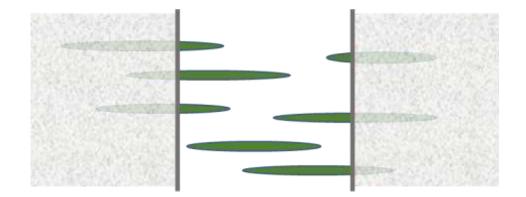
- The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) was responsible for most citizenship acquisitions from 1988 to 2004.
- In 2005, the UDI became responsible for *all* citizenship acquisitions.
- However, it did not cover all foreign citizens (not Nordic/EEA citizens), it did not have stock data, and there was no system for serving the society with data.
- The only source containing all stock and flow data is the NPR. However, the UDI has more *variables* than the NPR related to the acquisition cases.

Increasing integration and standardisation. The public administration has grown together



B. Producing (official) statistics

- In 2015: The statelessness statistics of that time were embarrassing difficult to interpret.
- The only solution was considered to be the development of event-history data.
 - Key information: Number of years passed since immigration or birth in Norway





Distinctive quality of 'stateless' as a citizenship value in statistics

- 'Country of birth' or other similar variables are necessary to know the geographical/national background of the person.
- 'Country of birth of the parents' is helpful for the native-born.



Statelessness statistics in current statistics vs. special analysis projects

- It is difficult to see that statelessness will be given extra attention in publishing basic, current statistics.
- In analysis products, however, it is easy and natural to handle statelessness as a particular topic.
- Statistics Norway cooperates with the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (AID) on migration-related statistics. Studies of the acquisition of Norwegian citizenship are included.



Thank you!

Kåre Vassenden +47 41 54 79 65 kva@ssb.no [= kare.vassenden@ssb.no]

