This chapter, with its global focus, seeks to assist migration policymakers, practitioners and researchers make sense of the bigger picture of migration. Drawing on sources of global data, and using infographics, graphs and tables, the chapter provides an overview of global data and trends on international migrants (stocks) and international migration (flows). It also provides a discussion of specific migrant groups as well as of remittances. In addition, the chapter highlights the growing body of IOM programmatic data. While these data are generally not global or representative, they can provide insights into changes that have occurred in relevant IOM programming and operations globally. The chapter also discusses key data gaps and challenges, highlighting issues of fragmentation, lack of uniformity and comparability that make a comprehensive analysis of global migration trends difficult and inhibit the presentation of a truly global picture of all aspects of migration.

**KEY THEMES**

- International migrants: numbers and trends
- International migration flows: definitions, numbers and gaps
- Migrant workers
- Remittances
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Internally displaced persons
- Diaspora
- Human trafficking
- Data gaps and challenges

**IOM PROGRAMMATIC DATA BOXES**

- Migrant fatalities and IOM’s missing migrants project
- IOM’s assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) programmes
- IOM’s work on migrant health
- IOM’s role in resettlement
- IOM’s displacement tracking matrix
- IOM’s diaspora mapping
- IOM’s data on assistance to victims of trafficking
SNAPSHOT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

The international migrant population globally has increased in size but remained relatively stable as a proportion of the world’s population.

To read the report, please go to https://www.iom.int/world-migration-report-2018