

Methodological explanations – press release on vital statistics

1. The data on the vital events were obtained by processing the information contained in the statistical bulletins regarding live births, deceased persons, marriages and divorces drawn up by the city halls of municipalities, cities and communes while registering these events in the civil status records.

2. Definitions

Live birth is a product of conception, completely ejected or extracted from the mother's body, regardless of the pregnancy duration, who, after this separation, gives a sign of life (breathing, heart activity, beats of the umbilical cord or voluntary muscular contractions).

Deceased is the person whose vital functions definitively ceased after any amount of time passed from his/her birth.

Natural increase represents the difference between the number of live births and the number of deceased persons during the reference year.

Marriage represents a voluntary union between a man and a woman, concluded according to law.

Divorce represents the dissolution of a legally concluded marriage, according to a final decision of a court, a civil register officer or a notary public. The data refer to the divorce petitions for which the dissolution of marriage has been admitted.

Permanent residence is the address where a person declares to have his/her main home, as shown in the identity document (CI, BI) and in the records of the state's administrative bodies. The usual residence, the period of and/or reason for absence from the permanent residence are not taken into account when determining the value of this indicator.

Usual residence is 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. Only the persons who have lived continuously in the usual residence for a period of at least 12 months before the reference time are considered to have their usual residence in a particular geographical area. The usual residence may be the same as the permanent residence or may differ from it, for the persons who choose to establish their usual residence in a locality other than the locality of permanent residence, in the country or abroad.

3. Coverage

Live births include the children born alive whose mothers, at the time of giving birth, had had their permanent or usual residence in Romania for a period of at least 12 months.

The **deceased** include the persons who, at the time of their death, had had their permanent or usual residence in Romania for a period of at least 12 months.

Marriages include the marriages of the persons who, at the time of getting married, had their permanent residence in Romania, as well as the marriages of the Romanian citizens who marry abroad and which are recorded at Register Offices in Romania.

Divorces include the divorces that were pronounced by courts, by civil register officers or by notaries public, in accordance with Law No 202/2010, as well as the divorces of the Romanian citizens who divorced abroad and which were transcribed in Romania.

4. The data for the year 2015 are provisional and are broken down according to the date when the event was recorded.
5. The data on the **birth rate** and **death rate** for the year 2014 are semi-final and are broken down according to the date when the event occurred.
6. The data on the **marriage rate** and **divorce rate** for the year 2014 are final.