

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 as well as in the databases sent by the Directorate for Persons Records and Database Management under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The data providing units were the town halls of municipalities, cities and communes, the courts and the notaries public.

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 period.

Marriage represents a freely consented union between a man and a woman, concluded according to the country's legislation.

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 and in the records of the state's administrative bodies.

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 uninterruptedly lived in the usual residence for at least 12 months before the reference time are considered to have their usual residence in a specific 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 on the vital events for 2016 and January, February and March 2017 are provisional and are broken down according to the date when the vital events were recorded.