

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 period.

Marriage represents a union between a man and a woman, concluded according to the country's legislation, in order to set up a family, where both husband and wife have rights and obligations towards one another, as well as towards their children.

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. 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 nature of the data

The data on the **birth rate** and **death rate** for the year 2016 are semi-final and are broken down according to the date when the vital event occurred.

The data on the **marriage rate** and **divorce rate** for the year 2016 are final and are broken down according to the date when the vital event occurred.

The data on the vital events for the months of 2017 are provisional.

The **provisional data on the vital events for the months of 2017** present the vital events broken down according to the date when the event was recorded. The provisional data of 2017 do not include the events that occurred the previous year and which were belatedly recorded in 2017.

The **semi-final data on the vital events (births and deaths) for the months of 2016** represent the provisional absolute data related to the vital events (births and deaths) recorded in 2016, from which the events (births and deaths) belatedly recorded in 2016 but which occurred in 2015 or previous to that year were excluded, and to which the vital events (births and deaths) belatedly recorded in Romania during the first month of 2017 but which occurred in 2016 were added.

The **final data on the vital events (marriages and divorces) that occurred in 2016** represent the total number of vital events (marriages and divorces) recorded in the reference year and broken down by month according to the date when the vital event occurred.