

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. Since May 2024, part of the statistical bulletins regarding live births and deaths have been filled in through the Integrated Information System for the Issuance of Civil Status Records (SIIEASC). The extension of the Integrated Information System to a national level will be done gradually by 24 September 2024, in accordance with Law No 119/1996 on civil status records, as subsequently amended and supplemented. According to Art. 72(3) of the same legal act, as of 24 September 2024, *“the data related to the statistical bulletins regarding live births, marriages, divorces and deaths drawn up by civil register officers are sent to the National Institute of Statistics in electronic format”*.

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 married abroad and whose marriages were recorded at Register Offices in Romania.

Divorces include the divorces that were pronounced by courts, by civil register officers or by notaries public, as well as the divorces of the Romanian citizens who divorced abroad and whose divorces were transcribed in Romania.

4. The nature of the data

The data on the **birth rate** and **death rate** for the year 2023 are semi-final data 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 2023 are final data and are broken down according to the date when the vital event occurred.

The data on the vital events for the months of 2024 are provisional data and are broken down according to the date when the vital event was recorded.

The **semi-final data on the vital events (births and deaths)** recorded at Register Offices and **related to the months of year N** represent the provisional absolute data related to the vital events (births and deaths) recorded at Register Offices in year N, from which the events (births and deaths) belatedly recorded at Register Offices in year N but which occurred in year N-1 were excluded and to which the vital events (births and deaths) belatedly recorded at Register Offices in Romania during the first month of year N+1 but which occurred in year N were added.

The **provisional data on the vital events related to the months of year N** present the vital events recorded at Register Offices in year N, broken down according to the date when the event was recorded. The provisional data of year N do not include the events that occurred in year N-1 and which were belatedly recorded in year N (excepting the month of January of each year).

The **final data on the vital events (births and deaths)** recorded at Register Offices and **related to the months of year N** represent the semi-final absolute data related to the vital events (births and deaths) recorded at Register Offices in year N, redistributed by month according to the date of occurrence, to which the events belatedly recorded in the first 9 months of year N+1 but which occurred in year N are added.

The **revised data on the vital events (births and deaths)** related to the months of year N represent the final absolute data related to the vital events (births and deaths) recorded in

year N, to which the vital events (births and deaths) belatedly recorded in years N+1, N+2 and in the first 4 months of year N+3 but which occurred in year N were added.

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