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In collaboration with Antonia Kaluza, Philipp Homann, Svenja Dirschbacher

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The Immigrant Social Rights Data Set (ImmigSR). Technical Report (2., aktualisierte Ausgabe, Stand: 04.03.2025)

SFB 1342 Technical Paper Series, 18

Bremen: SFB 1342, 2025



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SFB 1342 Globale Entwicklungsdynamiken von Sozialpolitik / CRC 1342 Global Dynamics of Social Policy

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https://www.socialpolicydynamics.de

[DOI https://doi.org/10.26092/elib/3739] [ISSN 2700-0389]

Gefördert durch die Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Projektnummer 374666841 – SFB 1342

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ABSTRACT

This Technical Report for the Immigrant Social Rights (ImmigSR) (formerly the Migrant Social Protection, MigSP) Dataset outlines the conceptualization and operationalization of immigrant social rights, details the data collection and presents the dataset's codebook. The data provide a set of quantitative comparative measures of de jure immigrant social rights regarding social assistance, unemployment insurance, child benefits, social pensions and employment injury benefits in 45 countries across Europe, Latin America, North America, Oceania and Southeast Asia for the years 1980-2021. The second wave of the data includes several key expansions. First, the dataset was expanded to include six additional countries for the years 2000–2021. Second, data for existing countries was extended to cover the years 2019–2021. Third, two legal categories of migrants were added across all countries: seasonal migrant workers and family migrants. Fourth, three types of benefits were introduced: social pensions, employment injury benefits, and child or family benefits. ImmigSR builds on data collected during the first phase of the Collaborative Research Center Global Dynamics of Social Policy at the University of Bremen, and expands data collected within the realm of the Immigration Policies in Comparison Project (IMPIC) (Bjerre et al., 2016; Helbling et al., 2017).

Keywords: Immigrant Social Rights, immigration, social assistance, unemployment insurance, social pensions, employment injury benefits, and child/family benefits

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam.



1. Conceptualization of Immigrant Social Rights

ImmigSR conceptualizes *immigrant*² social rights as a multi-dimensional construct. (1) First, rights differ by the legal category of immigrant that is considered. (2) Second, rights differ across welfare benefit schemes. (3) Third, restrictions to immigrant social rights might occur through direct or indirect measures.

Figure 1: The multidimensional nature of immigrant social rights. Own visualization.

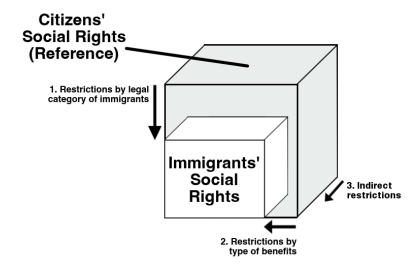


Figure 1 visualizes this approach, depicting a hypothetical degree of immigrant social rights (visualized as the white box) in relation to the reference category, i.e. the social rights of citizens (the grey box). The concept thus can be thought of as a multidimensional continuum. At the restrictive end, all legal categories of immigrants would be excluded from all welfare benefits and services a given country offers – the white box would disappear. At the opposite end, no differentiation would exist between immigrants and citizens, meaning that all immigrant categories under investigation would have full access to welfare benefits and services under the same conditions as citizens, without facing any direct or indirect restrictions. In this case, the white box and the grey box would be identical in size.

1.1 The First Dimension: Legal Categories of Immigrants

Legal categories of entry and residency are of critical importance to explain the extent to which immigrants can access welfare benefits and services (Koning, 2019; Römer, 2017; Sainsbury, 2012). Broadly speaking, most countries differentiate between five different categories of migration (Bjerre et al., 2015; Boucher & Gest, 2018). These are labor, family reunification, asylum/refugee, 'co-ethnic' and irregular migration (Bjerre et al., 2015, p. 559). Furthermore, virtually all countries distinguish between temporary and permanent forms of migration and residency, a differentiation that to some extent cuts across the six categories (there are e.g., both temporary and permanent labor migrants and transitions between different categories can occur).³

Here, the term "immigrant" refers specifically to non-citizens in the legal sense, i.e., those who do not hold citizenship in their country of residence.

More finely grained legal categories do exist, i.e. in some countries operate more than one temporary labor migration scheme. Trajectories that lead to permanent residency also differ: In Australia, permanent residency is granted to some labor migrants at entry, whereas in most European countries, permanent residency is only accessible through accumulating a certain number of years as resident.

The ImmigSR dataset includes measures of the rights of permanent residents, temporary labor migrants, seasonal labor migrants, recognized refugees, asylum seekers and family migrants. Some other groups are however not included in the dataset: ImmigSR does not cover the rights of irregular and coethnic migrants. Furthermore, while we recognize that regional and bilateral agreements such as those governing free movement within the European Union can have important implications for *immigrant* social rights, they are not included, because decisions governing rights for this subset of the migrant population are often made at the supra-national level (see for example Avato et al., 2010; Bruzelius & Seeleib-Kaiser, 2017).⁴

It also needs to be underlined that the six categories of legal migrants that are included in the data collection do not exist in all country-years considered. More specifically, several countries neither operate family reunification programs nor recognize the 1951 Geneva convention relating to the status of refugees. In some cases, no official labor migration policy exists. For the categories "permanent migrant", "family reunification migrant", "recognized refugee", and "asylum seeker" we conceptualize non-existence as equivalent to "no rights" for that group and thus score these cases as "most restrictive" (see subsection "Filters" in section "Codebook" for more details).

1.2 The Second Dimension: Types of Benefits

Most welfare states protect against several risks such as unemployment, sickness, invalidity, disability, and old age. In principle, a fully exhaustive conceptualization of immigrant social rights would thus incorporate information on how different types of immigrants access the full range of benefits and services provided to citizens. The ImmigSR dataset however focuses on five types of benefits, namely non-contributory social assistance benefits and contributory unemployment insurance, as well as child benefits, social pensions and employment injury benefits. The focus on the first two benefits has proven fruitful in past studies of immigration and the welfare state because they reflect two different logics of welfare state design – contribution-based and tax-financed systems (Brubaker, 1989, pp. 155–156; Sainsbury, 2012, pp. 11–12). Moreover, benefit schemes such as employment injury insurance and social pensions also exist in many countries in the Global South, enhancing the dataset's scope for cross-national comparability.

1.3 The Third Dimension: Direct and Indirect Restrictions

Immigrant social rights can be curtailed both directly and indirectly. Direct measures restrict rights by the introduction of eligibility conditions (for example, a specific residency requirement or permit), or the creation of different benefits (and benefit levels) for individuals based on their permit type. Indirect restrictions include tying residency rights or rights to family reunification to benefit receipt or employment. To give an example, by ensuring that job loss leads to the loss of residency permit, countries indirectly guarantee that an immigrant will not be in the position to claim benefits for an extended period. Similarly, if receiving benefits jeopardizes a non-citizen's residency status or compromises their ability to pursue family reunification, immigrants are indirectly excluded from accessing benefits as well. These kinds of restrictions are specific to immigrants because they rely on a defining feature of immigrant status, i.e., limited residency rights, to prevent access to benefits.

⁴ This means, for example, that EU labor migrants' right to access social assistance benefits are not detailed in our dataset.



1.4 A Note on Comparing Global South and Global North

With the expansion of the sample to the Global South, several questions regarding comparability between established and emerging welfare states arise. Regarding social assistance and unemployment benefits, for most of the OECD economies in our sample, these benefits have a long history and were introduced at some point in the post-Second World War era. However, in many countries in the Global South, social policy institutions have emerged more recently (Barrientos & Hulme, 2009). To ensure comparability for this diverse set of cases, indicators provided in the ImmigSR dataset are relative measures – they compare the rights of legal categories of migrants to the rights of citizens in a given country. With the inclusion of child benefits, social pensions, and employment injury benefits – types of benefits that are also prevalent in many countries in the Global South – additional possibilities for comparison have emerged. If a benefit does not exist for citizens, items regarding this benefit are coded as 'missing', as in such a case, benchmarking immigrant rights with citizen rights is not possible.

At times, it is difficult to assess whether immigrants are excluded or included from looking into the relevant legal texts alone, most notably when non-citizens are not mentioned explicitly.⁵ If non-citizens are not mentioned, but citizenship or nationality are mentioned as eligibility requirements, this is interpreted as excluding all non-citizens, and thus as most restrictive. In other cases, accessing a benefit requires the possession of an ID which is only available to citizens (and in certain cases permanent residents). This consequently excludes other categories of immigrants.⁶ In yet other cases, all stated eligibility criteria and conditions could technically be fulfilled by immigrants. Still, the respective experts indicated that immigrants did not have access to these benefits. This is, e.g., the case when benefits are designed to target households or individuals below a certain threshold, and beneficiaries are selected through a national database that registers households/respective estimation of household income. Immigrants either face additional difficulties in being included in this register or are intentionally excluded.⁷

Gaps between de facto and de jure rights may occur in any country. Nevertheless, it should be stressed that this gap is especially wide in countries where non-citizens are not explicitly mentioned in the law, which on average is more prevalent in Global South countries in the sample. This should be taken into consideration when interpreting the data for these cases.

2. Operationalization

Table 1 gives an overview of which sub-dimensions and indicators make up the aggregated measure of *immigrant social rights*. As we explain below, we collect these indicators through an expert survey, and therefore the indicator names listed here refer to survey items (see Part 2 "Data Collection" for more details). Direct restrictions are captured by question blocks q1, q2, q3, q4, q5 and q6. Indirect restrictions are captured by question blocks q7, q8 and q9.

⁵ This occurs e.g. in Indonesia, Myanmar, Paraguay, Philippines, Thailand, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

⁶ In Paraguay, for example, we see the ID condition in combination with another one: to receive the Tekoporã cash transfer, the beneficiary needs to have a Paraguayan ID and the children need to be born in Paraguay. This is technically possible for permanent immigrants, but impossible for persons on a temporary basis or even refugees or asylum seekers.

In Indonesia, for example, the database builds upon a census of which household lists are submitted to the database. Immigrants who enter a country at a later point in time than the census are not included.

Table 1. Components of the Index: Immigrant Social Rights

	ıres	Consequence of Job Loss	*	: 0				*6b	
Indirect Restrictions	ences Preventive Measures	Family Reunification Requirements	q8b_income						q8a_income
Indirec		For Family Reunification	q8b_welfare						q8a_welfare
	Consequences	For Residence Permits	dZp	g7c					
		Employ- ment Injury Benefits	dSb	d2c				d2g	
		Social Pensions	q4b	94c	q4d	94e		949	
Direct Restrictions		Child / Family Benefit	d8p	q3c	d3d	q3e		d3g	
		Unemployment Insurance	q2b	q2c				929	
		Social Assistance	qlb	qlc	qld	qle&qó	qlf	وام	
			Permanent Residents	Temporary Migrant Workers	Recognized Refugees	Asylum Seekers	Family Migrants	Seasonal Migrant Workers	Citizens

* 99 contains information on various entry tracks for temporary and seasonal labor migrants as well as on permanent resident

3. Data Collection

The data was collected using a series of expert surveys. We chose legal scholars due to their detailed knowledge of the law and ability to locate and interpret legal sources relevant to our conceptualization. In most cases, we were successful in finding an advanced legal scholar or practitioner with extensive experience working on migration issues in their countries (see "List of Experts" below). Furthermore, if possible, country experts who were situated in the respective country were chosen, to ensure optimal language and contextual understanding of the case. In some cases, political scientists or economists who specialize in migration policy research were chosen instead.

The experts were sent an online questionnaire (see section 6 in this document) which contained closed as well as open questions. The questionnaire was designed to minimize the impact of subjective evaluations. Rather than providing ratings on the perceived restrictiveness of a given policy, experts were asked to supply factual and objective information based on the legal text from each year. Policy changes are recorded at the point when the respective law enters into force. The raw data provided by the expert was then used to score each item and produce country-year measures of *immigrant social rights* (see next section).

Table 2. List of Experts:⁸

Country Expert	Country
Dr. Lila García CONICET Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires	Argentina
Fergus Peace Independent Researcher	Australia
Dr. Ulrike Brandl Department of Public, Public International and European Law University of Salzburg	Austria
Prof. Jean-Yves Carlier Centre Charles De Visscher pour le droit international et européen (CeDIE) Collège Thomas More Université Catholique de Louvain Dr. Jean-Baptiste Farcy EU Advisory Lawyer at Human Rights Centre Ghent University	Belgium
Laura Madrid Sartoretto, PhD Immigration Lawyer at GAIRE/SAJU - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul	Brazil
Tom Pearson Future Forum, Phnom Penh	Cambodia
Prof. Sasha Baglay Faculty of Social Science and Humanities Ontario Tech University	Canada
Dr. Cristián Doña-Reveco Director of the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies Associate Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology University of Nebraska at Omaha	Chile
PhDr. Marie Jelínková Department of Public and Social Policy, Institute of Sociological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences Charles University, Prague	Czech Republic

⁸ This list of experts refers only to the ImmigSR data collection. For a full list of experts involved in the IMPIC data collection effort, please refer to the IMPIC codebook (Bjerre et al., 2016).

Country Expert	Country
Heidi Vad Jønsson Associate Professor at the Department of Language, Culture, History and Communication University of Southern Denmark	Denmark
Anna-Kaisa Tuovinen University of Helsinki	Finland
Prof. Fabienne Jault-Seseke Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin, Paris Saclay	France
Prof. Constanze Janda Professor of Civil law, Medical Law and German and European Social Rights Deutsche Universität für Verwaltungswissenschaften, Speyer	Germany
Prof. Kwnstantinos Magliveras Department of Mediterranean Studies University of the Aegean	Greece
Prof. Judit Tóth Head of the Constitutional Law Department, University of Szeged	Hungary
Margrét Steinarsdóttir Director of the Icelandic Human Rights Center, Reykjavik	Iceland
Dr. Wayne Palmer Faculty of SociologyUniversität Bielefeld	Indonesia
Dr. Roberta Perna Institute of Public Goods and Policies, Spanish National Research Council, Madrid	Italy
Dr. Ralph Ittonen Hosoki Sophia University, Tokyo	Japan
Inthasone Phetsiriseng Freelance Consultant	Laos
Dr. Low Choo Chin Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang	Malaysia
Prof. Javier Urbano Reyes Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	Mexico
Dr. Su Yin Htun University of Mandalay	Myanmar
Prof. Lieneke Slingenberg Professor of Migrants and the Rule of Law Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam	Netherlands
Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley College of Humanities and Social Sciences Massey University	New Zealand
Anne Britt Djuve Faculty of Social Sciences Department of Social Work, Child Welfare and Social Policy Oslo Metropolitan University	Norway
Dr. Sebastian Bruno Faculty of Social Sciences Universidad de Buenos Aires	Paraguay
Dr. Jean Encinas-Franco Professor in the Department of Political Science University of the Philippines, Diliman	Philippines
Prof. Maciej Duszczyk Department of Labor System and Labor Market University of Warsaw Dominik Wach Centre of Migration Research University of Warsaw	Poland



Country Expert	Country
Emellin de Oliveira CEDIS – Law & Society Research Center, Law Faculty NOVA University of Lisbon Dr. Gabriele de Angelis Researcher Instituto de Filosofia NOVA University of Lisbon	Portugal
Prof. Françoise De Bel-Air Researcher and Consultant GLLM Programme, Gulf Research Centre, Geneva	Saudi Arabia
Dr. Charan Bal Department of International Relations Binus University, Jakarta	Singapore
Monika Aqqad Irish Refugee Council, Dublin	Slovakia
Alicia Raymond Refugee and Migrant Unit University of Witwatersrand Daven Dass General Law Unit University of Witwatersrand	South Africa
Prof. In-Jin Yoon Professor at the Department of Sociology Korea University, Seoul	South Korea
Dr. Alfredo dos Santos Soares Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law (ICADE) Department of Public Law, member of the Research Group on International Human Rights, Immigration and Asylum Law Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid	Spain
Russell Garner Research and Education Department Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund	Sweden
Dr. Robin Stünzi National Center of Competence in Research – The Migration-Mobility Nexus University of Neuchâtel	Switzerland
Srawooth Paitoonpong, PhD Thailand Development Research Institute, Bangkok	Thailand
Prof. Damla Aksel Department of Political Science and International Relations Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul	Turkey
Dr. Richard Warren Immigration Law Adviser Kent Law Clinic University of Kent, Canterbury	United Kingdom
Prof. David Abraham University of Miami School of Law, Florida	United States of America
Dr. Ana Margheritis Department of Politics and International Relations University of Southampton, United Kingdom	Uruguay
Prof. Juan Carlos Sainz Borgo Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas University for Peace, Costa Rica	Venezuela
Prof. Dang Nguyen Anh Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), Ha Noi	Vietnam

4. Scoring

The scoring scale ranges from 0 to 1, with higher scores denoting more rights for immigrants. For each item, three members of the ImmigSR Team came up with scoring suggestions based on both the theoretical minimum/maximum and the empirical observations. The sets of individual scores were then compared and adjusted to agree on a common scoring scheme for each item.

Throughout the data-collection process, we encountered cases where conditions to access a certain benefit were not sufficiently specified. This occurred in all parts of the data, but most prominently regarding the access to social assistance and requirements for family reunification. Without a legal basis for the requirements, the decision on a claim remains up to the discretion of the authorities.

On the one hand, discretionary decision making may be favourable to immigrants, who could benefit from a case-by-case assessment of their situation. An opposing view suggests that discretion can be harmful, because it increases the risk of discrimination. We agree with the second interpretation, expecting that less discretion leads to more predictability and accountability. Put differently, we argue that dependence on the state's authority without a clear legal basis for a decision is a less secure scenario than one with defined rules and conditions. We therefore interpret cases where requirements or conditions were unspecified as more restrictive than those with a set specification (e.g., requiring "sufficient income" is more restrictive than specifying a concrete minimum income threshold for sponsoring family members).

5. CODEBOOK

This codebook describes scored variables in the dataset, provides an overview of the missing types, and introduces the filters applied⁹. The scored variables are derivatives of one or several raw variables.

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⁹ The raw variables, named with the prefix r_ in the variable name, include the unscored values from the questionnaire, in most cases corresponding directly to the answer options of the questionnaire. Currently, these are only available upon request.



Access to Tax-funded Social Assistance Benefits (q1)

Access to social assistance for permanent migrant workers (q1b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

0	No access OR status of permanent resident does not exist
0.3	Discretion citizen household members
0.4	Residency requirement 10 (incl.) years and higher
0.5	Residency requirement of 8-9 (incl.) years inclusion in household registry
0.6	Residency requirement 6-7 (incl.) years
0.7	Residency requirement 4-5 (incl.) years
0.8	Residency requirement of 2-3 (incl.) years
0.9	Residency requirement up to one year (incl.)
1	Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Access to social assistance for temporary migrant workers (q 1 c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did temporary migrant workers have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

- O No access
- 0.5 Any condition | lower benefits | limited duration | administrative discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Access to social assistance for recognized refugees (q1d)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did recognized refugees have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

- O No access OR status of recognized refugee does not exist
- 0.5 Any condition | lower benefits | limited duration
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Access to social assistance for asylum seekers (q 1 e)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did asylum seekers have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

- O No access OR status of asylum seeker does not exist
- 0.5 Any condition | lower benefits | limited duration
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Notes: For asylum seeker benefits, the benefits of asylum seekers accommodated in reception centres are taken into account and compared to the level of social assistance. Asylum seekers who receive benefits that are equal in amount to general social assistance are coded as "Same as citizens" in item q1e and are regarded as receiving cash benefits in q6. If the amount of asylum seeker benefits is lower than social assistance but at least 50% of the same, question q1eis coded as "Lower benefit" (scored as 0.5) and q6 is coded as "yes" for cash benefits. Asylum seeker benefits that are lower than 50% of general social assistance are coded as "no" in q1e, but "yes" for cash benefits in q6. If asylum seekers get less than 10% of general social assistance, q6 is coded as "no" for cash, as well. Issues of comparability may arise to some extent, since in addition to the cash payment in question, asylum seekers receive in-kind benefits, most importantly the accommodation in their reception centre. However, in most of the countries in our sample, social assistance recipients also had access to further benefits such as housing benefits. Only in five countries (AUS, JPN, POR, SLO, SPN), social assistance is supposed to cover housing in its entirety. Therefore, asylum seeker benefits are in fact comparable to social assistance in all other countries.

Access to social assistance for family migrants (q 1 f)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did family migrants have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

0	No access OR status of family reunification migrant does not exist
0.1	Discretion citizen household members sponsor regulations
0.2	Residency requirement 10 (incl.) years and higher
0.3	Residency requirement of 8-9 (incl.) years
0.4	Residency requirement 6-7 (incl.) years
0.5	Residency requirement 4-5 (incl.) years inclusion in household registry lower benefit
0.6	Residency requirement of 2-3 (incl.) years
0.7	Residency requirement up to one year (incl.)
1	Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Access to social assistance for seasonal migrant workers (q l g)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did seasonal migrant workers have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

Specifications:

- O No access
- 0.5 Any condition | lower benefits | limited duration | administrative discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Unemployment Insurance Benefits (q2)

Unemployment insurance benefits for permanent residents (q2b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit have a legal claim to contribution-based unemployment insurance benefits?

Specifications:

- O No access to contributory benefits OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.5 Longer contribution period/additional requirements
- Same contribution period as citizens

Unemployment insurance benefits for temporary migrant workers (q2c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did temporary migrant workers have a legal claim to contribution-based unemployment insurance benefits?

Specifications:

- O No access to contributory benefits
- 0.5 Longer contribution period, additional requirements
- 1 Same contribution period as citizens

Unemployment insurance benefits for seasonal migrant workers (q2g)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did seasonal migrant workers have a legal claim to contribution-based unemployment insurance benefits?

Specifications:



0	No access to contributory benefits
0.25	other conditions OR only some permits have access
0.5	more than 12 months contribution period
0.75	1-12 months contribution period
1	Same contribution period as citizens

Child Benefits (q3)

Child benefits for permanent residents (q3b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a migrant worker who held a permanent residence permit with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

Specifications for the parent (q3b_parent):

O	No access OK status of permanent resident does not exist
0.4	Residency requirement more than 60 months
0.5	Other requirements discretion
0.6	Residency requirement of 37 up to 60 months
0.7	Residency requirement of 25 up to 36 months
0.8	Residency requirement of 13 up to 24 months
0.9	Residency requirement of up to 12 months
1	Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for the child (q3b_child):

- O No access OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.1 Born in the country | being a citizen
- 0.5 Any period of prior residence | discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Child benefits for temporary residents (q3c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a temporary migrant worker with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

Specifications for the parent (q3c_parent)

0	No access
0.2	Residency requirement more than 60 months
0.3	Residency requirement of 37 up to 60 months
0.4	Residency requirement of 25 up to 36 months
0.5	Other requirements discretion
0.6	Residency requirement of 13 up to 24 months
0.7	Residency requirement of 7 up to 12 months
0.8	Residency requirement of up to 6 months
1	Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for the child (q3c_child):

0	No access
0.1	Born in the country being a citizen
0.5	Any residency requirement discretion
1	Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Child benefits for recognized refugees (q3d)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a recognized refugee with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

Specifications for the parent (q3d_parent):

- O No access OR status of recognized refugee does not exist
- 0.2 Residency requirement more than 60 months
- 0.3 Residency requirement of 37 up to 60 months
- 0.4 Residency requirement of 25 up to 36 months
- 0.5 Other requirements | discretion
- 0.6 Residency requirement of 13 up to 24 months
- 0.7 Residency requirement of 7 up to 12 months
- 0.8 Residency requirement of up to 6 months
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for the child (q3d_child):

- O No access OR status of recognized refugee does not exist
- 0.1 Born in the country | being a citizen
- 0.5 Any residency requirement | discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Child benefits for asylum seekers (q3e)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a asylum seeker with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

Specifications for the parent (q3e_parent):

- O No access OR status of asylum seeker does not exist
- 0.25 Residency requirement more than 12 months
- 0.5 Residency requirement of up to 12 months | discretion
- 0.75 Other requirements
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for the child (q3e_child):

- O No access OR status of asylum seeker does not exist
- 0.5 Any residency requirement | discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Child benefits for seasonal migrant workers (q3g)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a seasonal migrant worker with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

Specifications for the parent (q3g_parent):

- 0 No access
- 0.25 Residency requirement more than 12 months
- 0.5 Residency requirement of up to 12 months | discretion
- 0.75 Other requirements
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)



Specifications for the child (q3g_child):

- O No access
- 0.5 Any residency requirement | other requirements | discretion
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Social Pensions (q4)

Social pensions for permanent residents (q4b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

Specifications for residency requirements:

- O No access OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.1 Residency requirement more than 40 years
- 0.2 Residency requirement of 35 up to 40 years
- 0.3 Residency requirement of 30 up to 34 years
- 0.4 Residency requirement of 25 up to 29 years
- 0.5 Residency requirement of 20 up to 24 years
- 0.6 Residency requirement of 15 up to 19 years
- 0.7 Residency requirement of 10 up to 14 years
- 0.8 Residency requirement of 5 up to 9 years
- 0.9 Residency requirement of up to 4 years
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for other conditions:

- O No access OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.5 Other requirements (e.g. discretion, work permit)
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Social pensions for temporary migrant workers (q4c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did temporary migrant workers have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

Specifications for residency requirements:

- O No access
- 0.1 Residency requirement more than 40 years
- 0.2 Residency requirement of 30 up to 40 years
- 0.3 Residency requirement of 20 up to 29 years
- 0.4 Residency requirement of 10 up to 19 years
- 0.5 Residency requirement of 5 up to 9 years
- 0.6 Residency requirement of up to 4 years
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Specifications for other conditions:

- O No access
- 0.5 Other requirements
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Social pensions for recognized refugees (q4d)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did recognized refugees have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

Specifications for residency requirements:

0	No access OR status of recognized refugee does not exist
0.1	Residency requirement more than 40 years
0.2	Residency requirement of 35 up to 40 years
0.3	Residency requirement of 30 up to 34 years
0.4	Residency requirement of 25 up to 29 years
0.5	Residency requirement of 20 up to 24 years
0.6	Residency requirement of 15 up to 19 years
0.7	Residency requirement of 10 up to 14 years
0.8	Residency requirement of 5 up to 9 years
0.9	Residency requirement of up to 4 years

Specifications for other conditions:

O No access OR status of recognized refugee does not exist

Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

- 0.5 Other requirements (e.g. discretion)
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Social pensions for asylum seekers (q4e)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did asylum seekers have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

Specifications for residency requirements:

- O No access OR status of asylum seeker does not exist
- 0.5 Any condition
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Social pensions for seasonal migrant workers (q4g)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did seasonal migrant workers have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

Specifications for residency requirements:

- 0 No access
- 0.5 Any condition
- Same as citizens (other than residency requirements)

Employment Injury Benefits (q5)

Employment injury benefits for migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit (q5b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit have a legal claim to employment injury benefits?

Specifications:

- O No access OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.5 Any condition (e.g. lump sum, lower benefit)



Same as citizens

Employment injury benefits for temporary migrant workers (q5c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did temporary migrant workers have a legal claim to employment injury benefits?

Specifications:

- O No Access
- 0.5 Any condition (e.g. lump sum, lower benefit)
- 1 Same as citizens

Employment injury benefits for seasonal migrant workers (q5g)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did seasonal migrant workers have a legal claim to employment injury benefits?

Specifications:

- 0 No access
- 0.5 Any condition (e.g. lump sum, lower benefit)
- 1 Same as citizens

Benefits for Asylum Seekers (q6)

Cash or in-kind benefits for asylum seekers (q6)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], in what form did asylum seekers receive benefits (cash payment or payment in kind)?

Specifications:

- O Neither cash nor in kind OR status of asylum seeker does not exist
- 0.5 No cash and yes, in kind
- 0.75 Yes, cash and yes, in kind
- 1 Yes, cash and no in kind

Notes: Benefits for asylum seekers are also taken into account in item q1e. For further details on the scoring of different amounts of benefits, please refer to the description of that item above.

Consequences of Dependency on Social Assistance (q7)

Consequences for dependence on social assistance for permanent residents (q7b)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did being dependent on social assistance have consequences (e.g. withdrawal of residence permit) for migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit? Specifications:

- O Immediate withdrawal OR status of permanent resident does not exist
- 0.5 Withdrawal after some time | other consequences | non-renewal
- 1 No consequences

Consequences for dependence on social assistance for temporary migrant workers (q7c)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did being dependent on social assistance have consequences (e.g., withdrawal of residence permit) for temporary migrant workers?

Specifications:

- O Immediate withdrawal
- 0.5 Withdrawal after some time | other consequences | non-renewal
- 1 No consequences

Conditions of Sponsorship (q8)

Consequences of Social-Welfare Reliance for family reunification (q8[a,b]_welfare)

Social welfare reliance and family reunification for citizens (q8a_welfare)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were citizens required not to rely on social welfare?

Specifications:

- O Status of family reunification migrant does not exist
- 0.5 Yes
- 1 No

Social welfare reliance and family reunification for third country nationals (98b_welfare)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were third-country nationals required not to rely on social welfare?

Specifications:

- O Status of family reunification migrant does not exist
- 0.5 Yes
- 1 No

Income requirement for family reunification (q8[a,b]_income)

Citizens or third-country nationals are often asked to fulfil either income and/or funds criteria to prevent family migrants from posing a welfare burden. We operationalise this following an "or" logic, such that q8a_income and q8b_income reflect either income or funds requirements. In the (rare) case that both funds and income requirements exist, the higher condition was taken.

Income criterion for family reunification for citizens (q8a_income)

Question: In the years 2000(2019)-2021, were sponsors who were citizens required to have a specific income per month or fulfil an income criterion/prove the availability of specific financial funds?

Specifications:

- O Status of family reunification does not exist
- 0.4 Unspecified funds or assistance
- 0.5 Income higher than minimum wage
- 0.6 Income equal to minimum wage
- 0.7 Income higher than social assistance
- 0.8 Income equal to social assistance

0.9 Specific funds1 No Requirements

Income criterion for family reunification for third country nationals (q8b_income)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were third-country nationals required to have a specific income per month or fulfil an income criterion/prove the availability of specific financial funds?

Specifications:

O	Status of family reunification migrant does not exist
0.4	Unspecified funds or assistance
0.5	Income higher than minimum wage
0.6	Income equal to minimum wage
0.7	Income higher than social assistance
0.8	Income equal to social assistance
0.9	Specific funds
1	No Requirements

Consequences of Loss of Employment (q9)

Question: In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did loss of employment have consequences for a migrant worker's residence permit?

Specifications:

0	Immediate withdrawal (expulsion)		
0.5	After some time	non-renewal	
1	No consequence	es	

Notes: Experts were asked to specify this question for up to six different entry routes for migrant workers of their own choice. Permanent entry routes are numbered starting with $q9_perm_1$, temporary entry routes are numbered starting with $q9_perm_1$. EU Blue Card schemes are stored as $q9_EU$ blue. In addition, variables appended by "_name" (e.g., " $q9_perm_1_name$ ") contain information on the appellation of the respective track.

Aggregation Rule: weighted average --> average of the unweighted average for all perm tracks and unweighted average for all temp tracks

Missing Values

Depending on the cause of the absence of a value, several types of missing values can be differentiated. These are as follows:

-991	Don't know
-992	Former communist countries
-993	Benefit did not exist (including for citizens)
-994	Legal category of migrants did not exist
-995	Neither benefit nor legal category of migrants existed
-996	Missing value for Myanmar 1980-2010
-997	Index is missing because all underlying variables are also missing
-998	Missing for other reasons
-999	Country not in sample in 1980-1999

Filters

If "benefit does not exist"

» If a certain benefit does not exist, all items pertaining to that benefit are set to missing (-993) and are not assigned a score

If "legal category of migrant does not exist":

- » Scored as "most restrictive" for the following categories:
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "permanent migrant", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1b, q2b, q3b, q4b, q5b, q7b) are set to missing (-994) and this is scored as "most restrictive", i.e. 0
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "recognized refugee", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1d, q2d, q3d, q4d, q5d, q7d) are set to missing (-994) and this is scored as "most restrictive", i.e. 0
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "asylum seeker", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1e, q2e, q3e, q4e) are set to missing (-994) and this is scored as "most restrictive", i.e. 0
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "family reunification migrant", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1f, q2f, q3f, q4f) are set to missing (-994) and this is scored as "most restrictive", i.e. 0
- » Not scored/set to missing for the following categories:
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "temporary labor migrant", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1c, q2c, q3c, q4c) are set to missing (-994) and this is not scored
 - » If there is no legally recognized category "seasonal labor migrant", all items pertaining to that legal category of migrant (q1g, q2g, q3g, q4g) are set to missing (-994) and this is not scored

Further filters

- » If q1b is "no", meaning permanent migrant workers cannot access benefits, q7b is most restrictive, as there can be no consequences by definition
- » If q1c is "no", meaning temporary migrant workers cannot access benefits, q7c is most restrictive, as there can be no consequences by definition
- » If q8[a,b]_income indicates that there is an "income requirement", q8[a,b]_welfare is scored as 0.5 (unless transfer payments can be used to fulfil the requirement)

6. Questionnaire

1. Social Assistance

1a. Social Assistance for Citizens

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did citizens have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

If specific eligibility conditions applied (such as duration of residence or a specific waiting time), please check "Yes, with conditions". A text field will appear below the table subsequently. Please specify which conditions applied in the text field for the respective year. If you think a question does not apply for your country, please specify why.



- » Yes, without condition
- » Yes, with conditions
- » Don't know

Conditions:

- » Residency requirement (in years): _____» Administrative discretion ("yes" or blank): _____
- » Other conditions (please specify): _____

1b-f. Social Assistance for Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did [migrant type] have a legal claim to tax-funded social assistance?

[- migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit

- temporary migrant workers
- seasonal migrant workers
- recognized refugees
- asylum seekers
- family migrants]

If specific eligibility conditions applied (such as duration of residence or a specific waiting time), please check "Yes, with conditions". A text field will appear below the table subsequently. Please specify which conditions applied in the text field for the respective year.

- No
- Yes, without condition
- Yes, with conditions
- Don't know

Conditions:

•	Residency requirement (in years):
•	Administrative discretion ("yes" or blank):

Other conditions (please specify): ______

2 Child Benefits

2a. Child Benefits for Citizens

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a citizen with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

- Yes, without any condition
- Yes, with condition (please specify below)
- Don't know

There are several conditions that might apply to either the citizen, their spouse, and/or their child/children. Below you find a list of different types of conditions.

There are several conditions that might apply to either the citizen, their spouse, and/or their child/children. Below you find a list of different types of conditions. Please indicate which minimal condition concerning residence applied to the citizen, their spouse and their child.

Citizen:

Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a
number of months
Employment in [country]
Other conditions

Spouse:

Citizenship of [country]
Permanent residence in [country]
Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a number of months
Employment in [country]

Child:

Having been born in [country]
Citizenship of [country]
Permanent residence in [country]
Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a number of months
Employment in [country]
Other conditions

Please add any other conditions, particularly:

• the minimum number of children required to receive the benefit

Other conditions

- the maximum age of the child/children
- a means test

2b. Child Benefits for Migrants, Refugees, Asylum Seekers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], was a [migrant type] with a child/children eligible to receive non-contributory child/family benefits?

[- migrant worker who held a permanent residence permit

- temporary migrant worker
- seasonal migrant worker
- recognized refugee
- asylum seeker]
- Yes, without any condition
- Yes, with condition (please specify below)
- Don't know

There are several conditions that might apply to either the [migrant type], their spouse, and/or their child/children. Below you find a list of different types of conditions.

There are several conditions that might apply to either the citizen, their spouse, and/or their child/children. Below you find a list of different types of conditions. Please indicate which minimal condition concerning residence applied to the citizen, their spouse and their child.

Citizen:

Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a
number of months
Employment in [country]
Other conditions

Spouse:

Citizenship of [country]
Permanent residence in [country]
Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a number of months

Employment in [country]
Other conditions

Child:

Other conditions

Having been born in [country]
Citizenship of [country]
Permanent residence in [country]
Habitual residence in [country]
Continued residence in [country] for a number of months
Employment in [country]

Please add any other conditions, particularly:

- the minimum number of children required to receive the benefit
- the maximum age of the child/children
- a means test
- 3. Benefits for Asylum Seekers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], in what form did asylum seekers receive benefits (cash payment or payment in kind)?

• Only cash



- Only in-kind
- Both cash and in-kind
- None
- Don't know

4. Consequences of Dependency on Social Assistance

4a-b. Consequences of Dependency on Social Assistance for Migrant Workers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did being dependent on social assistance have consequences (e.g., withdrawal of residence permit) for [migrant type]

[- migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit

- temporary migrant workers]

If you choose "Yes, other consequences", a text field will appear below. Please use it to specify your answer.

- No
- Yes, permit was not renewed
- Yes, permit was revoked
- Yes, other consequences (please specify):
- Don't know

5. Conditions of Sponsorship

5a-b. Conditions of Sponsorship (Third-Country Nationals, TCNs)

i. In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were [migrant type] required not to rely on social welfare?

[- citizens

- third-country nationals]
- No, they were not required not to rely on social welfare
- Yes, they were required not to rely on social welfare
- Don't know

ii. In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were [type] required to have a specific income per month or to fulfil an income criterion?

[- citizens

- third-country nationals]

If a specific income level or a fulfilment of a criterion (such as the minimum wage) was required, please check the respective option. A text field will appear below the table. Please fill in the level of income (in national currency) or the criterion in the appropriate field for the respective year. If the national currency has changed over the years, please indicate this in the comments section.

- No
- Yes, a specific amount of income was required (please specify below)
- Yes, a criterion applied (please specify below)
- Don't know

Please specify the amount (in national currency) Please specify the criteria	
Please specify the amount (in national currency) Please specify the criteria	

iii. In the years [YYYY-YYYY], were sponsors who were [type] required to prove the availability of specific financial funds?

[- citizens

- third-country nationals]

If specific funds were required, please check the respective option. A text field will appear below the table. Please fill in the amount (in national currency) in the appropriate field for the respective year. If the national currency has changed over the years, please indicate this in the comments section.

- No
- Yes

Please specify the amount (in national currency)

6. Loss of Employment and Residence Permit

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did loss of employment have consequences for a migrant worker's residence permit?

Please indicate the consequences of loss of employment for up to six entry tracks (by "track" we refer to the permit/category that the migrant falls under when entering/staying in the country).

Entry Track [Number, up to six could be specified]

Please specify the name of the entry track:

Please specify what the consequences were, if applicable.

- No
- Yes, right away (less than three months)
- Yes, after some time (three months or more)
- Yes, permit was not renewed
- Don't know

7. Unemployment Insurance Benefits

7a. Unemployment Insurance Benefits for Citizens

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did citizens have a legal claim to contribution-based unemployment insurance benefits?

If there was a legal claim after a certain contribution period, please check "Yes, after having contributed for some time". Please specify for how long the persons in question were required to have contributed in the field for the respective year, if applicable.

- Yes, after having contributed for some time
- Don't know

Duration of contribution (in months):

7b-d. Unemployment Insurance Benefits for Migrant Workers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did [migrant type] have a legal claim to contribution-based unemployment insurance benefits?

[- migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit

- temporary migrant workers
- seasonal migrant workers]



If there was a legal claim after a certain contribution period, please check "Yes, after having contributed for some time". Please specify for how long the persons in question were required to have contributed
in the field for the respective year, if applicable.
• No
 Yes, after having contributed for some time
• Don't know
Duration of contribution (in months):
O Caratal Danatana

8. Social Pensions

8a. Social Pensions for Citizens

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did citizens have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

- Yes, without conditions
- Yes, with conditions (please specify below)
- Don't know

Residency requirement (in years):	
Continued residence in [country] ("yes" or blank):	
Other, please specify:	

8b-f. Social Pensions for Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did [migrant type] have a legal claim to your country's main tax-funded (non-contributory) social pension?

[- migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit

- temporary migrant workers
- seasonal migrant workers
- recognized refugees
- asylum seekers]
- No
- Yes, without conditions
- Yes, with conditions (please specify below)
- Don't know

Residency requirement (in years):	
Continued residence in [country] ("yes" or blank):	
Other please specify:	

9. Employment Injury Benefits

9a. Employment Injury Benefits for Citizens

In the years [YYYY-YYYY], did citizens have a legal claim to employment injury benefits?

- Yes, without conditions
- Yes, with conditions (please specify below)
- Don't know

Residency requirement (in years):

	Continued residence in [country] ("yes" or blank): Other, please specify:
9b-d.	Employment Injury Benefits for Migrant Workers
	years [YYYY-YYYY], did [migrant type] have a legal claim to employment injury benefits? [- migrant workers who held a permanent residence permit - temporary migrant workers - seasonal migrant workers] • No • Yes, without conditions • Yes, with conditions (please specify below) • Yes, but under a separate scheme for [migrant type] • Yes, but benefit levels were lower than for citizens • Don't know
	Residency requirement (in years): Continued residence in [country] ("yes" or blank): Other, please specify:

7. Naming of Variables as compared to WeSIS and MigSP

Question	WeSIS variable name	Scored variable (MigSP)	Scored variable (ImmigSR)	Group
Social assistance	isr_permmig_socass_access_s	f41 b	qlb	Permanent residents
	isr_tempmig_socass_access_s	f41c1	qlc	Temporary migrant workers
	isr_seasmig_socass_access_s	-	qlg	Seasonal migrant workers
	isr_recoref_socass_access_s	f41 d	qld	Recognized refugees
	isr_asylsee_socass_access_s	f41 e	qle	Asylum seekers
	isr_famimig_socass_access_s	-	qlf	Family migrants
Asylum seeker benefits	isr_asylsee_typben_access_s	c 14a	q6	Asylum seekers
Consequences of social	isr_permmig_socass_conseq_s	f5a	q7b	Permanent residents
assistance receipt	isr_tempmig_socass_conseq_s	f5b	q7c	Temporary migrant workers
Family reunification	isr_famicit_socben_conseq_s	a4aCIT	q8a_welfare	Citizens
	isr_famitcn_socben_conseq_s	a4aTCN	q8b_welfare	Third-country nationals
	isr_famicit_socben_prevme_s	a4xCIT	q8a_income	Citizens
	isr_famitcn_socben_prevme_s	a4xTCN	q8b_income	Third-country nationals
Consequences of job oss	isr_meanmig_socben_prevme_s	b12_perm_(1- 2)_name	q9_perm_(1-2)_ name	(various groups of migrant workers)
	isr_permmig(1-2)_socben_ prevme_s	b12_perm_(1-2)	q9_perm_(1-2)	
	isr_tempmig(1-4)_socben_ prevme_s	b12_temp_(1- 4)_name	q9_temp_(1-4)_ name	
	isr_EUblue_socben_prevme_s	b12_temp_(1-4)	q9_temp_(1-4)	
		b 12_EUblue_name	b12_EUblue_name	
		b 12_EUblue	b12_EUblue	
Unemployment insurance	isr_permmig_uneins_access_s	f61 b	q2b	Permanent residents
	isr_tempmig_uneins_access_s	f61c1	q2c	Temporary migrant workers
	isr_seasmig_uneins_access_s	-	q2g	Seasonal migrant workers
Child / family benefits	isr_permmig_chiben_access_s	f42b	q3b	Permanent residents
	isr_tempmig_chiben_access_s	f42c1	q3c	Temporary migrant workers
	isr_seasmig_chiben_access_s	-	q3g	Seasonal migrant workers
	isr_recoref_chiben_access_s	f42d	q3d	Recognized refugees
	isr_asylsee_chiben_access_s	f42e	q3e	Asylum seekers

Question	WeSIS variable name	Scored variable (MigSP)	Scored variable (ImmigSR)	Group
Social pensions	isr_permmig_socpen_access_s	f43b	q4b	Permanent residents
	isr_tempmig_socpen_access_s	f43c1	q4c	Temporary migrant workers
	isr_seasmig_socpen_access_s	-	q4g	Seasonal migrant workers
	isr_recoref_socpen_access_s	f43d	q4d	Recognized refugees
	isr_asylsee_socpen_access_s	f43e	q4e	Asylum seekers
Employment injury benefits	isr_permmig_empinj_access_s	f44b	q5b	Permanent residents
	isr_tempmig_empinj_access_s	f44c1	q5c	Temporary migrant workers
	isr_seasmig_empini_access_s	-	q5g	Seasonal migrant workers

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