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**Mapping the Demographics of  
the New Forms of Mobility and Measuring  
Their Socioeconomic Impact**

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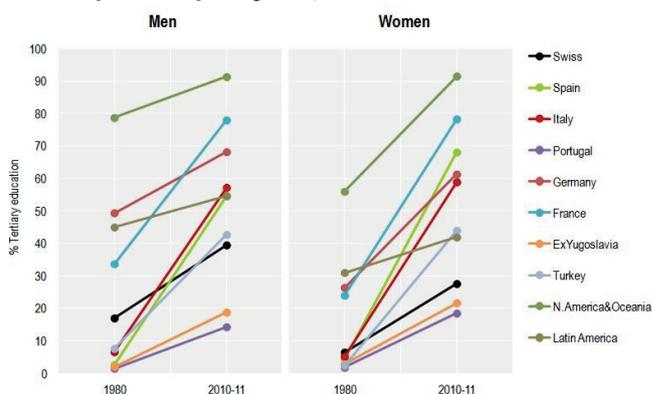
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**This project aims at understanding and measuring the impacts of the new migration on the society by analyzing three domains: The labor market, the social insurance system and the spatial distribution of inhabitants. Based on statistical approaches, the project gives priority to longitudinal analyses such as sequential data analyses approaches or forecasting methods.**

**The Impact of Migration on the Labor Market (Maria Elena Vidal Coso)**

This subproject aims at offering a timely analysis of the sociodemographic and gendered distribution of the integration of migrants into the Swiss labor market. The overarching aim is to analyse the different pathways to integration into the Swiss labor force of migrants from a longitudinal perspective. The first objective is to provide an in-depth analysis of the impact of the skills composition on the labour market performance of recent immigrant flows, and compare their situation with that of their predecessors who arrived in previous decades. Indeed, the confluence of three parallel processes – i.e. the progression of the socio-economic conditions, the evolution of labor demand and the changing migration policies – explains the improvement of the skills composition of the successive cohorts of immigrants and, as a consequence, the transformation in their occupational attainment in Switzerland.

**Educational attainment (% Higher education) of Swiss and foreign nationals by nationality and gender, 1980 and 2010–11**



Notes: Swiss nationals and only recent immigrants; age: 20–64.  
Source: 1980 Swiss census and 2010–2011 Structural Survey.

Second, the project will verify how trajectories across the life course – transition from school to work, maternity leave, retirement age, etc. – occur among the different groups of migrants. A special focus lies on studying the participation of women in the labor market, and identifying the main factors influencing this participation. Our main research question is: Are family circumstances (in particular

maternity) and the earnings of the partners impacting on the labor supply of immigrant women similar to how they do on the labor supply of Swiss women? Preliminary results corroborate our hypothesis that maternity causes a greater withdrawal from the labor market for immigrant women than for natives. Moreover, we also observe that the employment behavior of immigrant women is more influenced by their family budget as it is for Swiss women.

### **The Impact of Migration on the Social Insurance System (Alice Milivinti)**

This second subproject aims on the one hand at answering to the following research questions: How will the future of Swiss migration look like? Which will the future trends be and how will the composition of the migration population look like? Therefore, migration forecasts will be elaborated by looking at the countries macro dynamics, in a first step, and at individual behavior, in a second step.

On the other hand, the impact of migrants on the Swiss pension system will be examined. Making use of the produced forecasts, the future balance of retirees versus employees will be investigated according to different hypotheses on the trends in future migration flows and the socioeconomic dimensions of migration. For the Swiss case, we will question the positive balance between payments and contributions received from the first pillar (social insurance), which is frequently listed as a beneficial impact of migratory flows on this pillar.

### **Methodology**

Different forecast methods will be applied not only to transversal macro data as it is generally the case, but also to macro and micro data organized longitudinally. The results will be compared with the migration projections of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. One objective of this project is to measure the added value of applying different methodologies. It will allow for a close and subtle analysis of the impact of migration on the social insurance system.

### **Preliminary Findings**

The very first step consisted in the construction of a dataset which is used for the migration forecasts based on countries macro dynamics. The final database includes 153 source countries followed for a period of 31 years. Behind the data on Swiss immigration and emigration from each of the 153 source country, state-specific economic, demographic, institutional, geographical, and historical information together with Swiss specific information have been included. The data will be analyzed using longitudinal techniques.

### **Spatial Mobility Pathways of Migrants (Jonathan Zufferey)**

The third subproject aims at establishing a typology of foreigners' mobility trajectories taking into account both the internal and the international migrations. This research will bring a better understanding of how migrants are circulating within and between countries. The objectives of this project are fourfold. First, this research provides a better idea of the heterogeneity in the mobility practices. Second, it confronts the paradigm of mobility to empirical evidence. Third, it gathers the internal and international migrations which are too often considered as separate fields (King and Skeldon 2010). Finally, it tests which characteristics are associated with one trajectory or the other.

### **Methodology**

This subproject is based on exhaustive longitudinal micro data on three cohorts of foreigner immigrants (1998, 2003, and 2008) who are followed during 5 years after their first arrival in Switzerland (Steiner and Wanner 2014). Using sequential data analysis, this research is able to follow the trajectory of mobility that migrants experienced after their immigration in Switzerland.

### **Preliminary findings**

This research demonstrates a high heterogeneity in migration practices. The two most important groups are the migrants who definitely settle (28%) and those who return home and do not immigrate again to Switzerland (43%). All the other migrants experienced more than two moves. We can distinguish the migrants who relocate internally, those who are doing kinds of circular movements, those who had to migrate internationally twice before being able to settle, and finally those who are highly mobile (moving more than twice for both international and internal moves).

### **References**

- King, Russell, and Ronald Skeldon. “Mind the Gap! Integrating Approaches to Internal and International Migration.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 36 No. 10, (2010): 1619–46.
- Steiner, Ilka, and Philippe Wanner. *Towards a New Data Set for The Analysis of Migration and Integration in Switzerland*. Working Paper. Neuchatel: nccr – on the move, 2015.