

## Internal migration among Immigrants.

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Over the last fifteen years the net-migration has been the factor that has contributed the most to the population growth in Sweden. Even though the number of children born has increased during the latest years, the immigration has become increasingly significant for the demographic development in Sweden. The population projections indicate that the immigration will continue to be the driving force behind Sweden's population growth. Where within the national borders the population grows largely depends on where the immigrants settle. Their internal migration patterns will pervade the future development at both national and regional level.

The aim of the study is to illustrate the internal migration patterns of different groups of immigrants and to investigate the incitements behind the observed patterns. The study is focusing on the recently arrived immigrant group's behavior in order to provide up-to-date knowledge that could be used e. g. in social planning.

### Method

#### Data

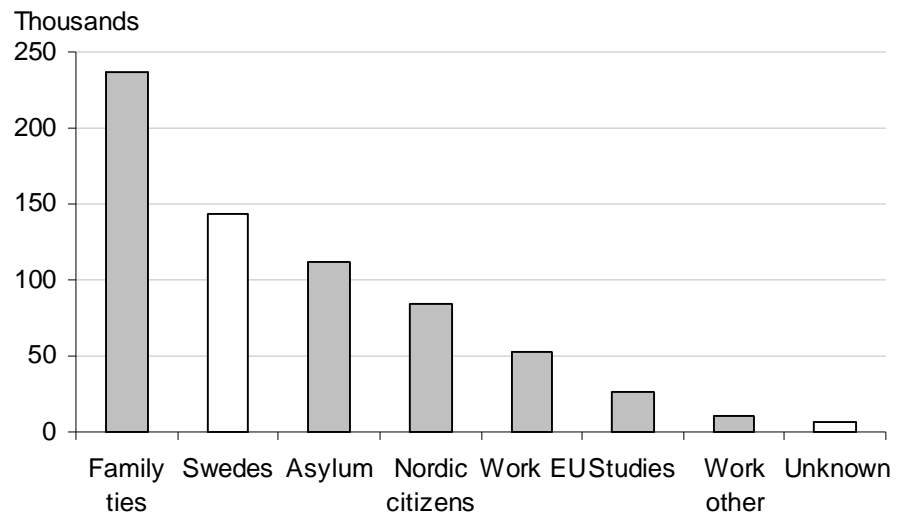
The study is based on data from Statistics Sweden's longitudinal database, "Historic Population Register". This database contains all people that have been living in Sweden between the years 1968-2007, their births, deaths and migrations. If a person has migrated several times within a year, all these events are recorded in the database. Data containing the individuals reason for resident permit and social indicators like income, housing etc comes from Statistics Sweden's database STATIV. Using this data neighborhoods are clustered based on the type of housing that the inhabitants are living in and their income level.

#### Grouping by reason for resident permit

In the years 1997-2007 there came 696 000 immigrants to Sweden. The most common reason for resident permit among these immigrants was *family ties*, normally a wife, husband or child of someone who already has got resident permit in Sweden. About 237 000 immigrated to Sweden as relatives to someone with resident permit. The next largest group was returning *Swedes* that has been living abroad, but this group will be left out of the study. During the period 112 000 people got *asylum* in Sweden as refugees or because of other humanitarian reasons. Citizens in a Nordic country can settle in another Nordic country without applying for resident permit. Since the expansion of the EU in 2004 the number of work migrants has increased.

Of the 52 000 immigrants coming from EU countries outside of Scandinavia 1997-2007, half has come during the latest two years. The work migrants coming from countries outside of the EU is a much smaller group, often workers with a competence that was difficult for the employer to find within the borders of Sweden.

### Number of immigrants coming to Sweden 1997-2007, by reason for resident permit

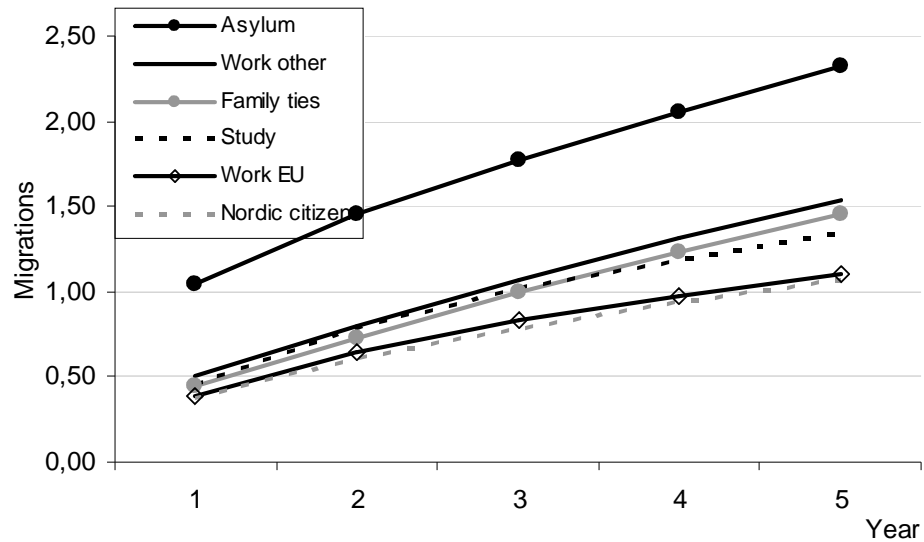


## Results

### Migration intensities

The number of migrations differs between the groups. The immigrants that has got asylum seems to be the group that has the most difficult to establish themselves at the housing market. Part of it can be explained by that some refugees are placed in refugee quarters in municipalities around the country and when they get their resident permit they quite quickly move to a more preferred part of the country.

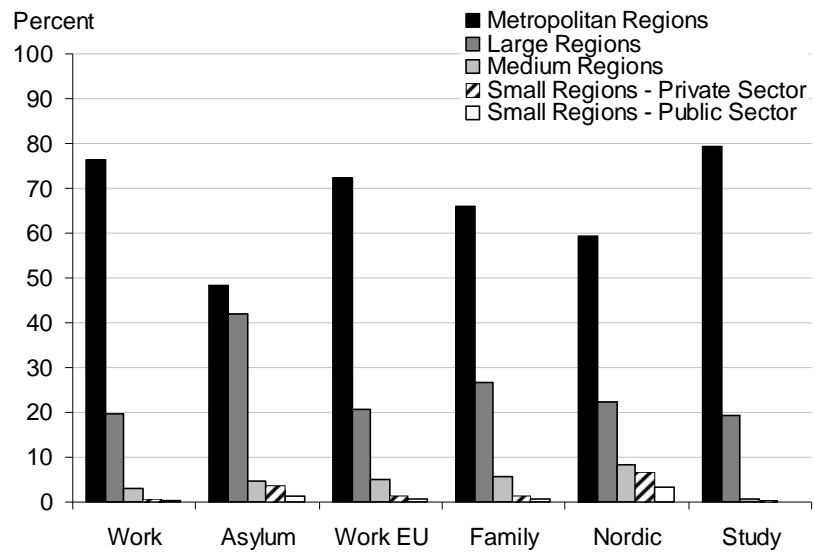
**Average number of migrations per year since immigrating, persons immigrated 1998-2002**



**Regional migration**

The immigrants are highly concentrated to the metropolitan areas, even if you take into account the larger population size and age structure of these regions. The asylum seekers stands out by being more concentrated to the large regions. Most of the migrations are within the same type of region.

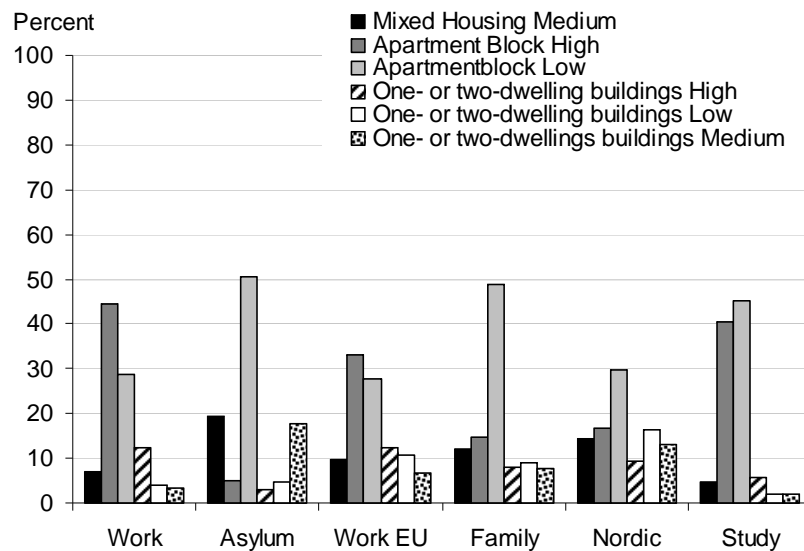
**Initial resident region among persons immigrated 1997-2002**



**Neighborhood types**

Asylum and Family Ties are settled in neighborhoods characterized by low apartment blocks were the income levels are low. A quite high percentage of the work migrants from countries outside of the EU, have settled in the “better” neighborhoods.

**First resident neighborhoods by housing and income level, persons immigrated 1997-2002**



After five years the immigrants that has been granted asylum in Sweden are even more concentrated in deprived neighborhoods. This indicates that the migration patterns is continuously generating more and more segregated neighborhoods, instead of giving evidens of that this group of immigrants are able to do a housing career in sweden.

**Resident neighborhood type after five years compared with first neighborhood by housing and income level, persons immigrated 1997-2002**

