



# How to measure migration

Problems:

Connecting questions to data choice



- Migration is a process very complex to measure and to follow
- Departure, **arrival**, move to another country, move back, departure again, **arrival again**
- **Who are the migrants: international or internal?**



## Measuring migration: key concepts

- **Who** do we measure?

Migrants' definition issue

- **What** do we measure?

Stock vs flow

- **How** do we measure?

Data sources



## Who do we measure?

### Geopolitical-legal criteria

- Country of usual residence (UN Definition)

- Country of birth

population born abroad

- Country of citizenship

foreign population regardless its country of birth

**Country of citizenship at birth matters!**



## Moroccan emigration stocks in France, 2005

| Source                                | Criterion              | Moroccan emigrants |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| French source<br>(Census)             | Country of citizenship | 461,465            |
|                                       | Country of birth       | 837,840            |
|                                       | Immigrés               | 663,985            |
| Moroccan source<br>(consular records) | Country of citizenship | 1,036,909          |



Immigrés -> people who were born abroad as foreign citizens and reside in France



- Why?
- Technical reasons (difficult to distinguish between migrants and commuters etc.)
- Bureaucratic reason (they do not change residency)
- Political reasons



## Who do we measure?

### Duration criteria (UN definition)

- Short-term migration:  
at least 3 months but less than 12
- Long-term migration:  
at least 12 months

### **!BUT!**

- Comparability issues
- Include movements different in nature



## Questions:

- How many foreigners live in a country
- How many arrived
- How many have left





## What do we measure?

- Stock

number of migrants living in a country at time  $t$  (e.g. 1 Jan. 2014)

- Flows

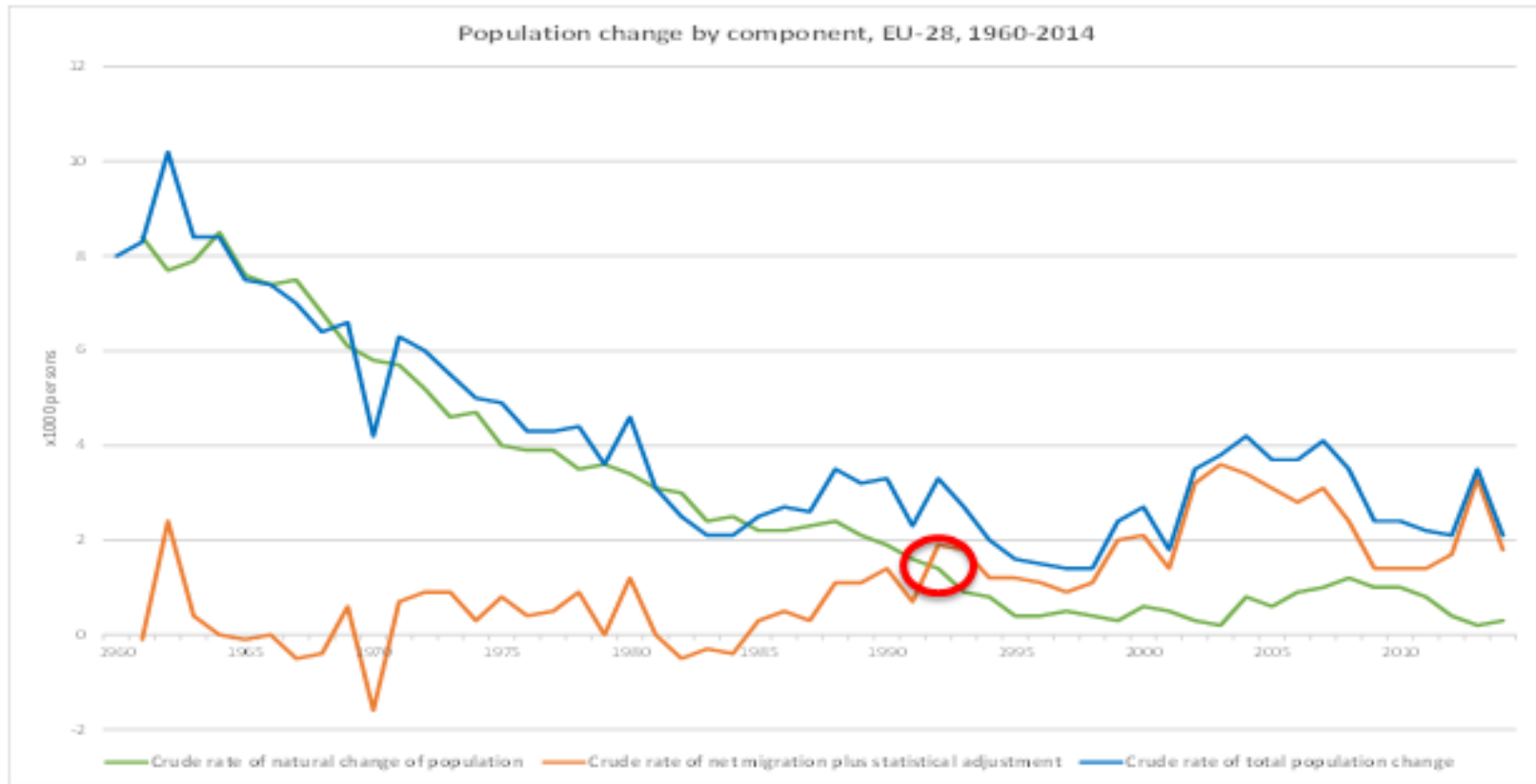
number of migrants who move in a specified time period (usually one year)



- **Flow net flows or gross flows?**
- Inflow immigrants    Out flows of migrants
- Net inflows = Gross inflows - Gross outflows
- Population change (different between two stock values) is due natural change of the population (fertility minus mortality) and net migration (inflows minus outflows)



## The overtaking by migration





## How do we measure?

**Destination vs. origin statistics (direct vs indirect): counting who is in!**

**Emigration** from a given country should be reconstructed as the aggregated immigration originating from this country in all other countries of the world;

**Immigration** in a given country should be measured using data collected in this country.



| Who counts?                                  |  |
|--|--|
| Institution of destination countries         | Institution of origin countries  |
| <b>MAIN SOURCES</b>                          |  |
| Population Census                            | Consulates   |
| Population Registers/Residence permits       | Ad hoc surveys   |
| Ad hoc surveys                               |  |
| <b>ADVANTAGES</b>                            |  |
| Updated                                      | Partial recovery of emigrants residing in countries which <b>do not publish</b> or simply collect data on immigrants (e.g. Gulf) |
| Rich of info                                 | Partial recovery of <b>irregular</b> emigrants   |
|  | Partial recovery of <b>temporary migrants</b> in countries which fail in capturing temporary immigration (see e.g. Russia)       |
| <b>LIMITATIONS</b>                           |  |
| <u>Not available for some countries</u>      | Registration is voluntary (consulates)   |
| Scarcely comparable (birth vs. citizenship!) | Second generation migrants are in  |
| No info on irregular migrants                |  |



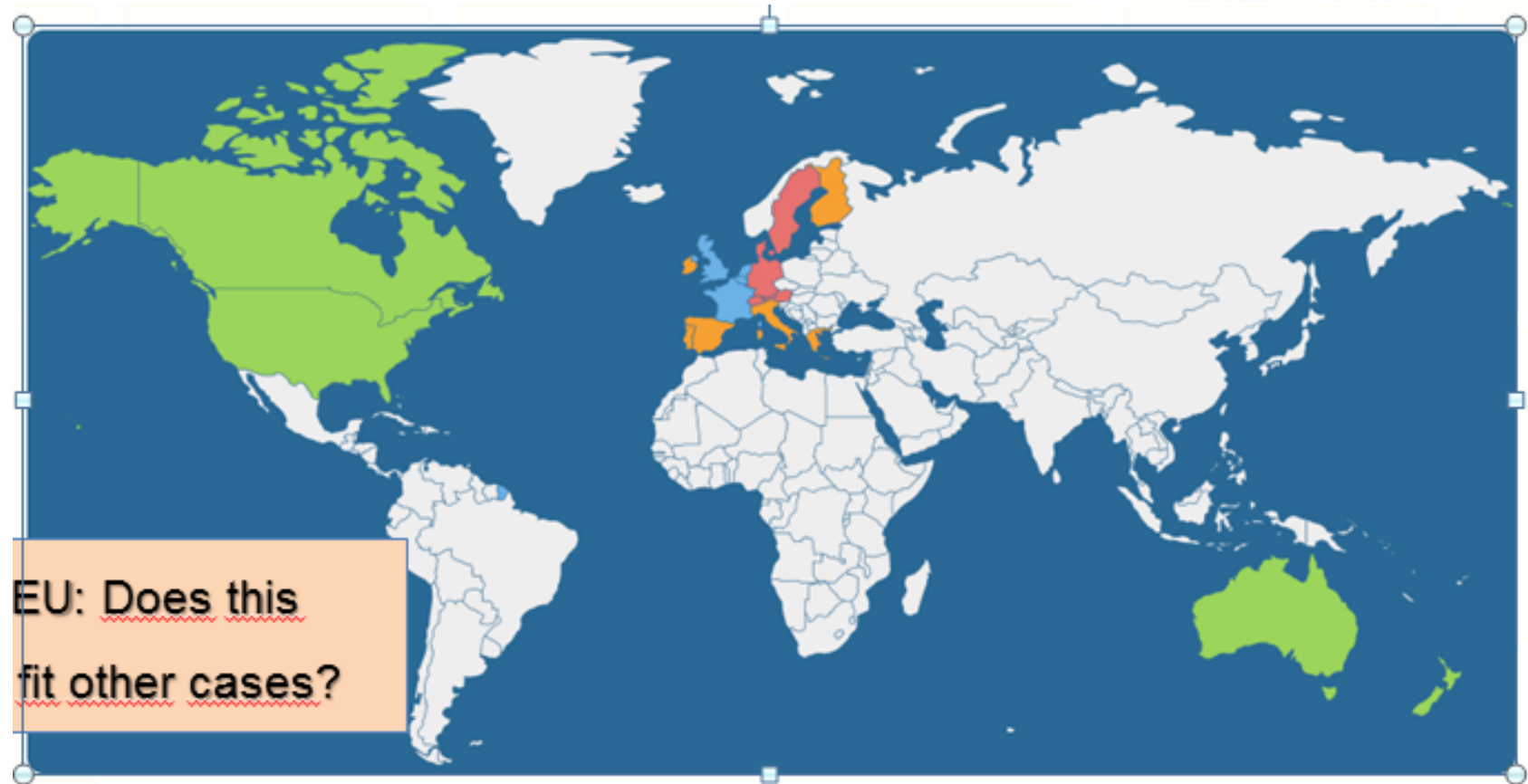
## Who are immigrants' children?

- **No full agreement at the international level...**
- **Most used definition:** individuals “born in the host country” or “born abroad and migrated before the age of 18” with at least one parent born abroad -> two variables of interest: *country of birth* (children and parents) + *year of arrival/age*

# Migration in Europe

MigrEU Jean Monnet Module

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
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non-immigration countries

European countries characterized by large inflows due to post-war labour recruitment

European countries with long immigration histories linked to their colonial past

European countries of 'recent' immigration



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## Useful links

Migration to the EU: the **Eurostat** database

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data/database>

### **OECD (Level of education and occupation)**

Migration to OECD countries (year 2001): <http://stats.oecd.org/?lang=en>

Migration to OECD and non-OECD countries: <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/dioc.htm>

### **MPC-Databases**

Migration from, to and through CARIM-East countries: <http://www.carim-east.eu/database/>

Migration from, to and through CARIM-South countries: <http://www.carim.org/index.php?callContent=4>

Migration from India to the EU: <http://www.india-eu-migration.eu/database/demographic-and-economic-module/>

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## Recommended references

- Lemaitre G., “The Comparability of International Migration Statistics. Problems and Prospects”, OECD Statistics Brief, OECD, 2005.
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division (1998), Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration Revision 1, Statistical Papers Series M, No. 58, Rev. 1, United Nations: New York;
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division (2007), Part 1: Introduction and Concepts and definitions, United Nations Expert Group Meeting on the Use of Censuses and Surveys to Measure International Migration, 24-28 September 2007: New York;
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division (2007), Part 2: Measuring International Migration through Population Censuses, Use of Censuses and Surveys to Measure International Migration, 24-28 September 2007: New York;
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division (2007), Part 3: Measuring international migration through sample surveys, Use of Censuses and Surveys to Measure International Migration, 24-28 September 2007: New York;
- Fargues P. (2005) How Many Migrants from, and to, Mediterranean Countries of the Middle East and North Africa? Analytic and Synthetic Notes 2005/16, European University Institute, RSCAS: San Domenico di Fiesole (FI);
- Migration Policy Centre (2013), The demographic and economic framework of .., in EU NEIGHBOURHOOD MIGRATION REPORT 2013, Fargues P. (eds.), European University Institute, RSCAS: San Domenico di Fiesole (FI);



## Who is a migrant in the EU statistics?

- Based on the change of usual residence
- It only implies:
  - **Crossing of (current) borders**
  - **Duration of actual/intended stay of at least 1 year**
- Changes of usual residence between EU MSs are migrations
- It does not include short-term migrations (between 3 and 12 months)
- Asylum seekers not included in population counts in many MSs (unlike refugees)



## How many migrants in/to the EU-28?

| Flows in 2013                          | Measure                                  | EU-28 | Sum MSs |
|--|--|-------|---------|
| Immigration                            | Country of previous usual residence      | 1.7   | 3.4     |
| Emigration                             | Country of next usual residence          | 1.4   | 2.8     |
| Net migration                          | Difference immigration - emigration      | 0.3   | 0.6     |
| Net migration + statistical adjustment | Difference total change – natural change | 1.7   | 1.7     |

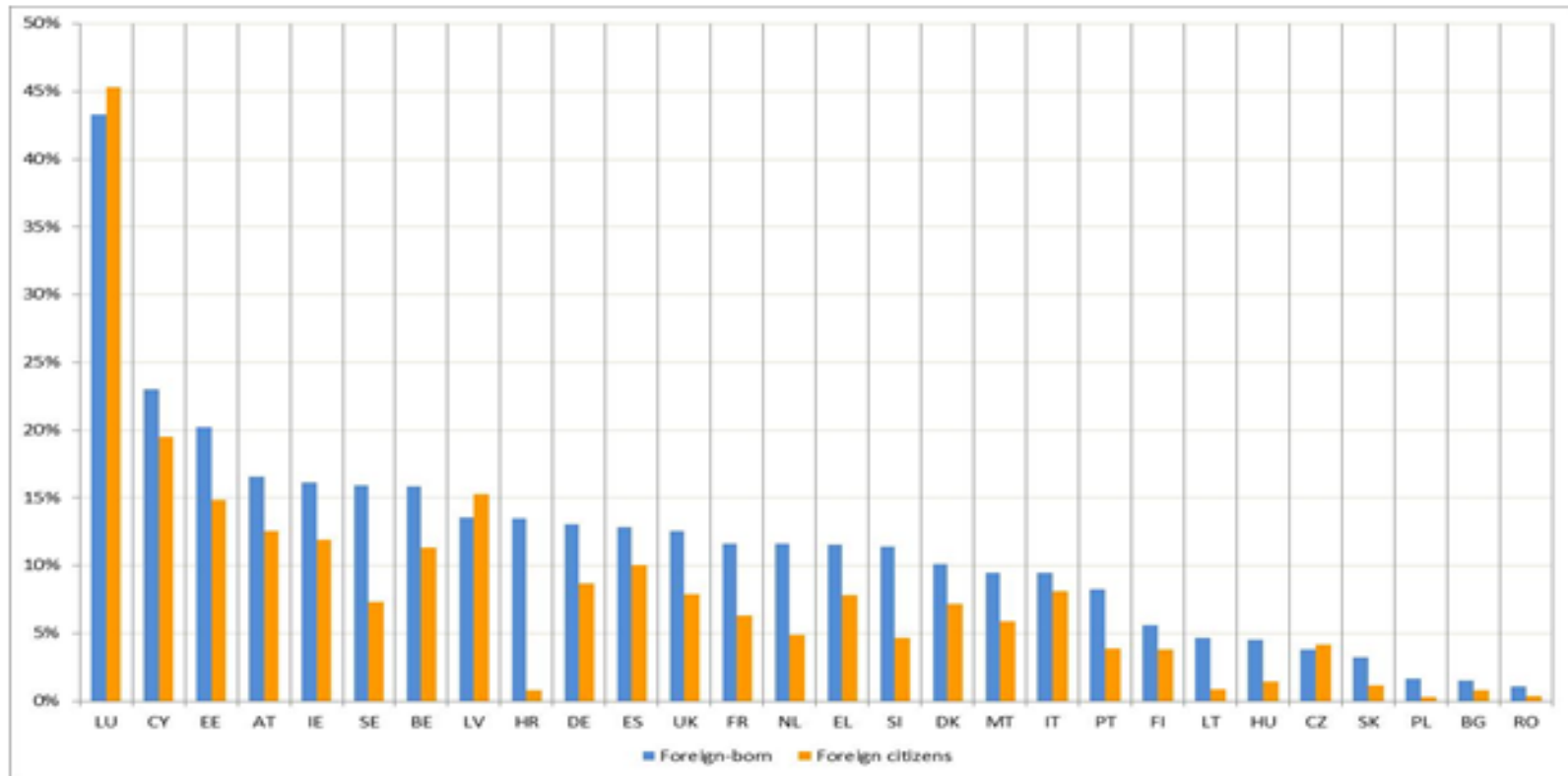
*In million, including unknowns*

| Stocks on 1.1.2014       | Measure                             | EU-28 | Sum MSs |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Foreign-born persons     | Country of birth                    | 34.4  | 52.3    |
| Foreign citizens         | Citizenship                         | 19.8  | 34.1    |
| Formerly resident abroad | Ever resided abroad (censuses 2011) | ---   | >59.1   |

*In million, including unknowns and stateless. Residents abroad before 1980 missing for 14 MSs.*



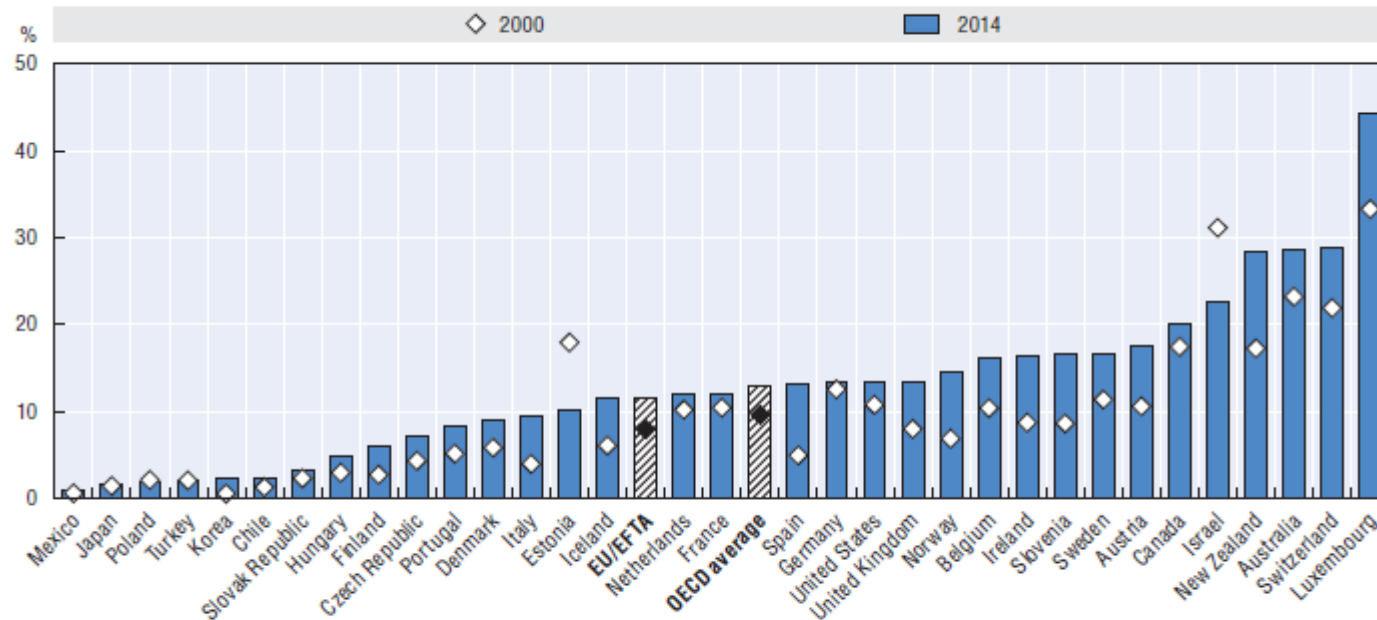
## Migrants stocks on 1.1.2014



Note: foreign-born including unknown, foreign citizens including unknown and stateless.



Figure 1.13. The foreign-born as a percentage of the total population in OECD countries, 2000 and 2014

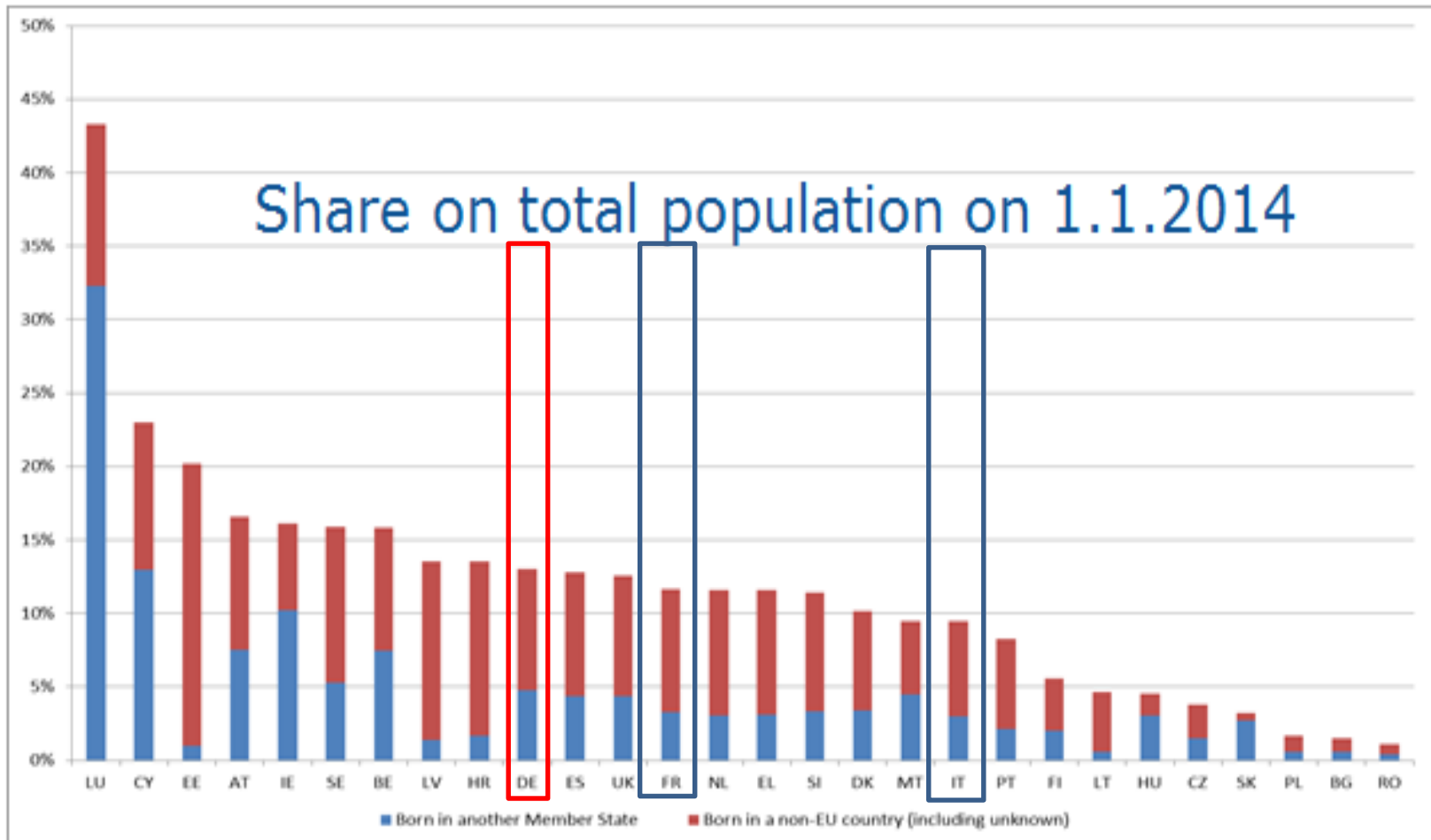


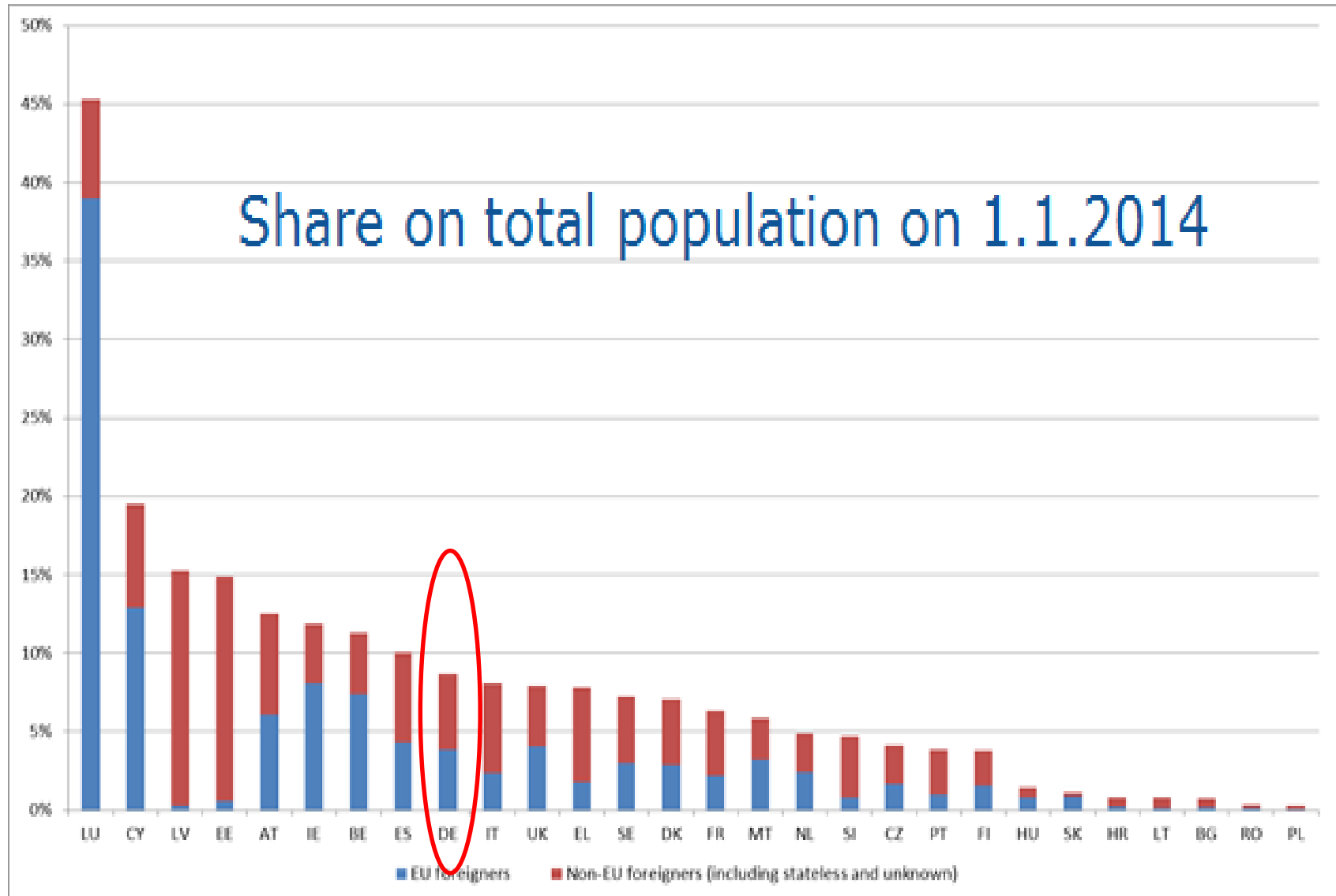
Notes: Data refer to 2000 or to the closest year with available data and to 2014 or most recent available year. OECD average refers to the average of countries presented. The value for EU/EFTA is the percentage of foreign-born population living in all EU/EFTA countries presented among the total population of these countries. Data refers to foreign instead of foreign-born population for Japan and Korea. Source: OECD International Migration Database.

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933395403>



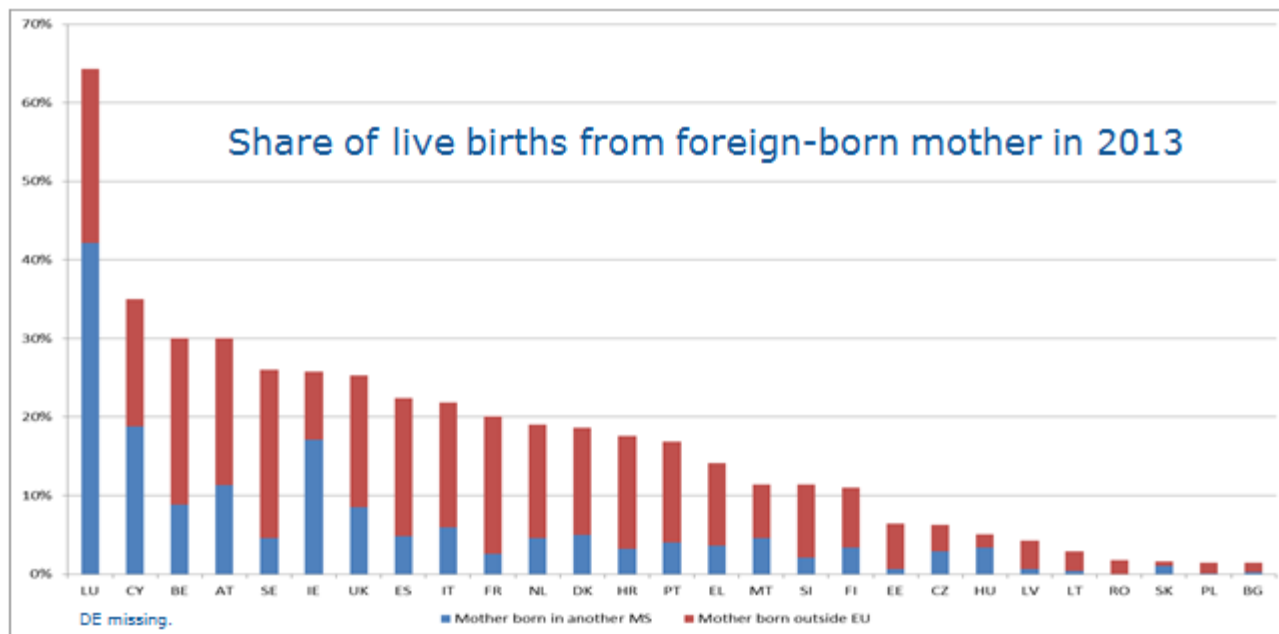
## How many "EU-born" migrants?







## Contribution of migrants to fertility







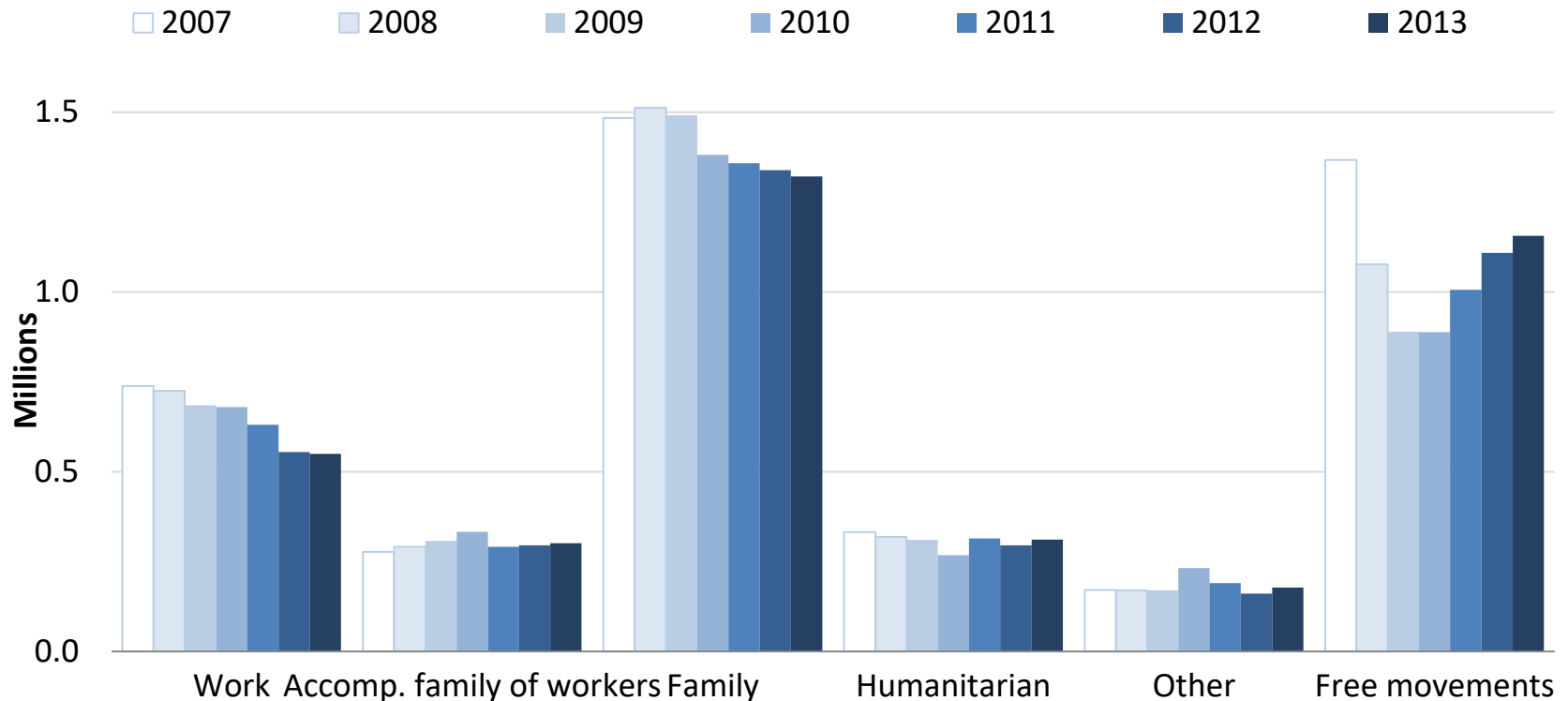
## Reason to migrate

- Economic Reasons
- Refugees
- Family reunification
- Students
- Tourists



## Free mobility is the component of migration flows that is most sensitive to economic conditions

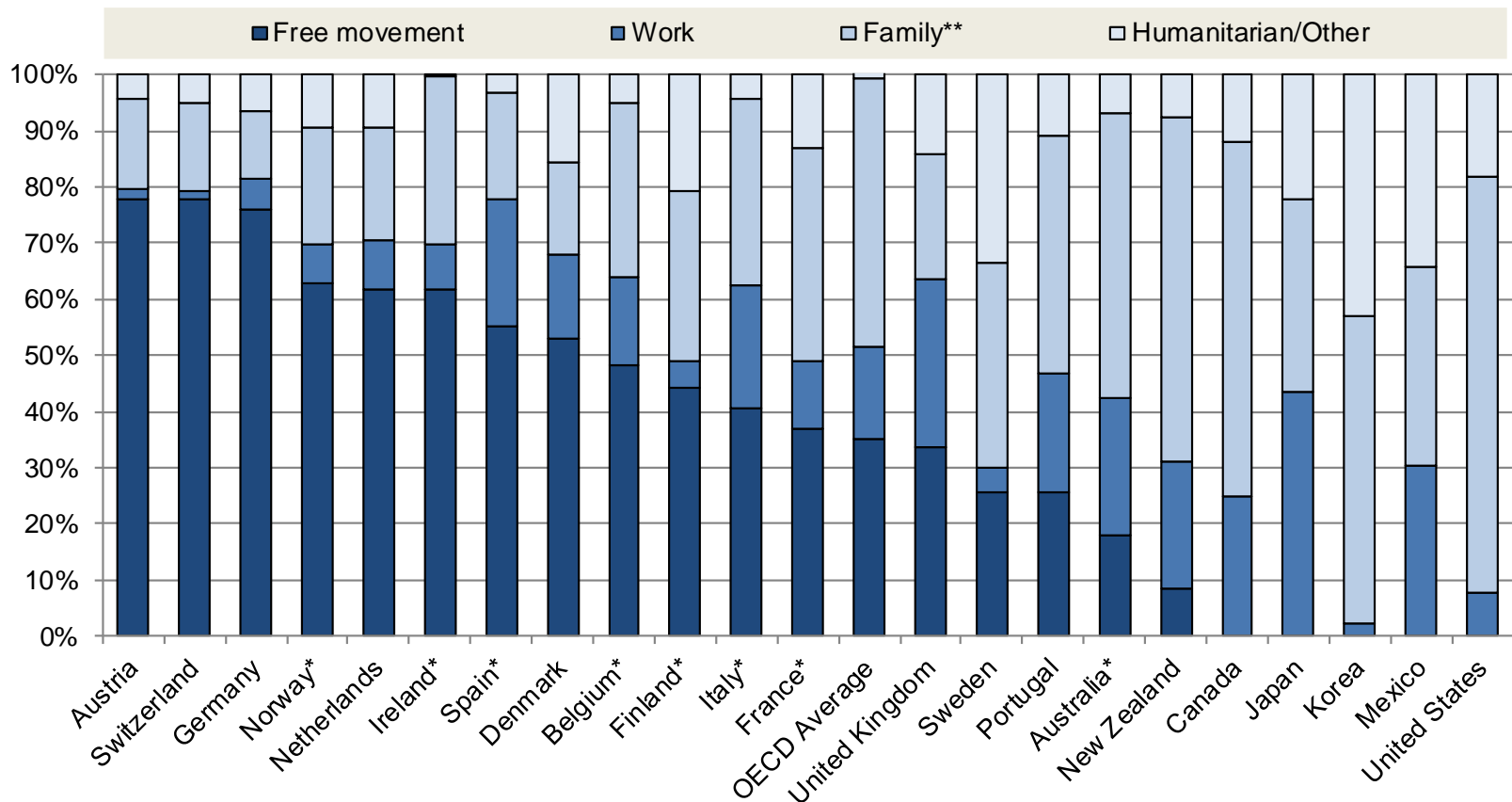
Permanent immigration OECD countries by category





## Across European countries, there is a large dispersion in the composition of new migration

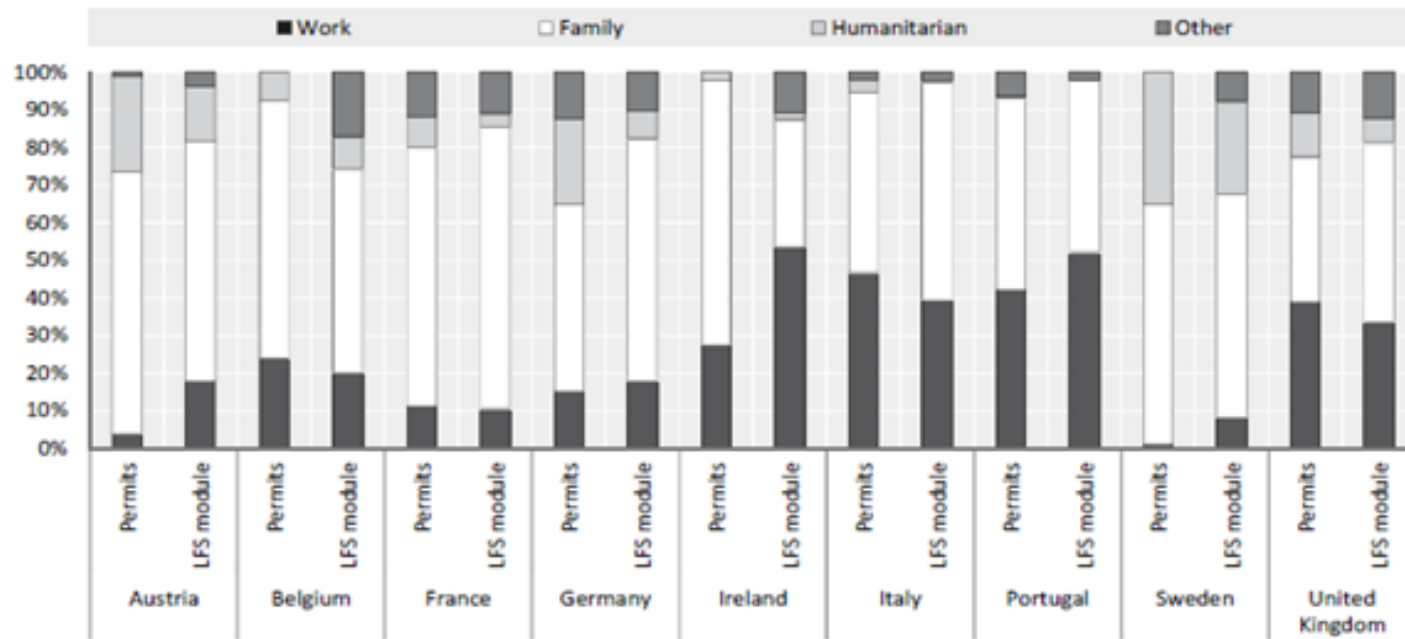
Composition of permanent migration, by category (2012/13)



\* 2012 \*\*incl. accompanying family of workers



**Figure 2: A comparison of labour force survey and of OCDE standardized permit data (non-EU migrants), 2005-08 cumulative**



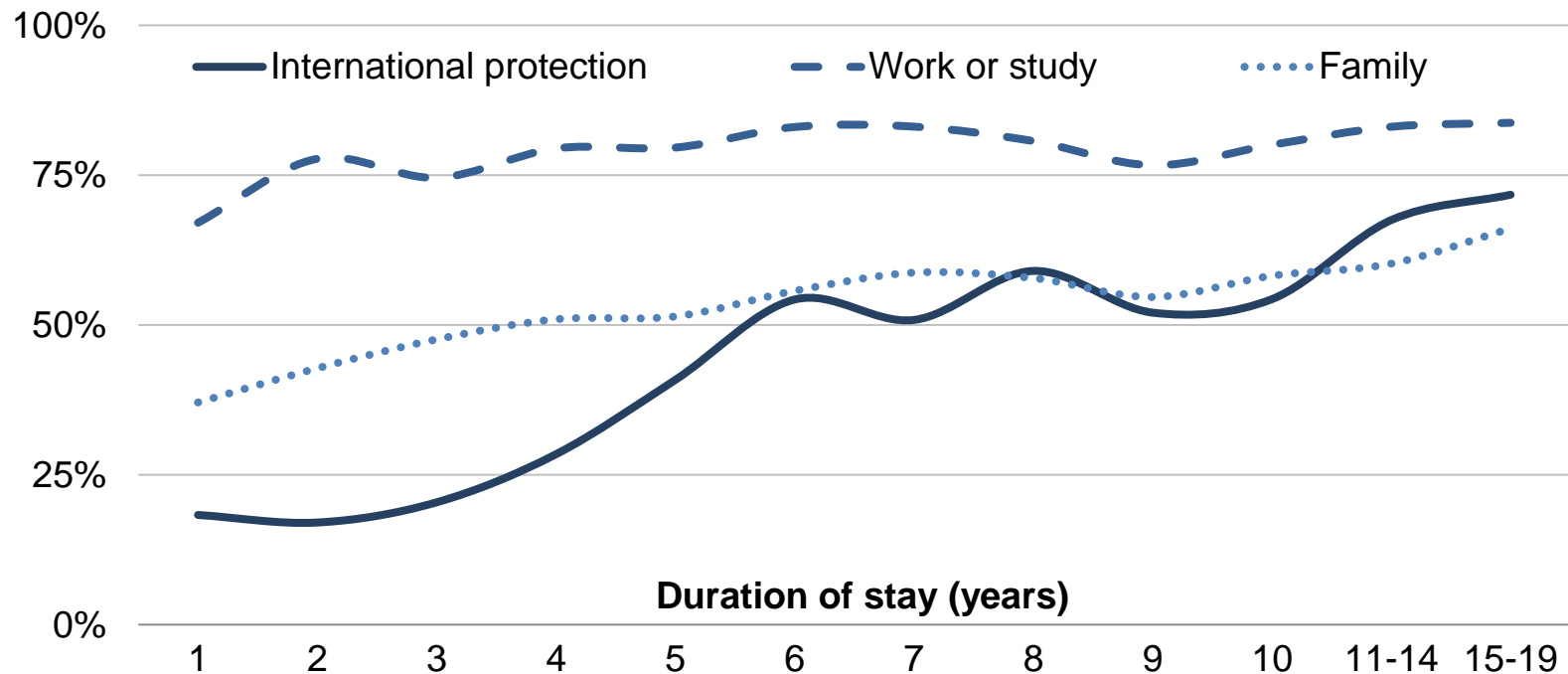
Source: Eurostat Labour Force Survey ad-hoc immigrant module and OECD standardised immigration.

Source: Lemaître G., 2014, Migration in Europe, in Matching Economic Migration with Labour Needs, OCDE and EU, p.351



Reason for migration is the most important determinant of outcomes for new arrivals, *but there is some convergence over time*

Employment rate by immigrant category and duration of stay in European OECD countries, 2008





## Reason for migration: the single most important determinant of outcomes

- An important factor for policy: only labour migrants are directly selected – but category of migration is rarely considered in analyses of migrants' outcomes.
- Non-EU migrants who came for work or study have higher qualification levels than family or humanitarian migrants, but still lower than the native-born.
- The returns to qualifications are higher for labour migrants (and for former international students) than for the other two groups but still tend to be lower than for the native-born.



## Type of migration 1

- Permanent
- Temporary
- Seasonal
- Circular
- Return migrants



- Highly skilled
- Low skilled



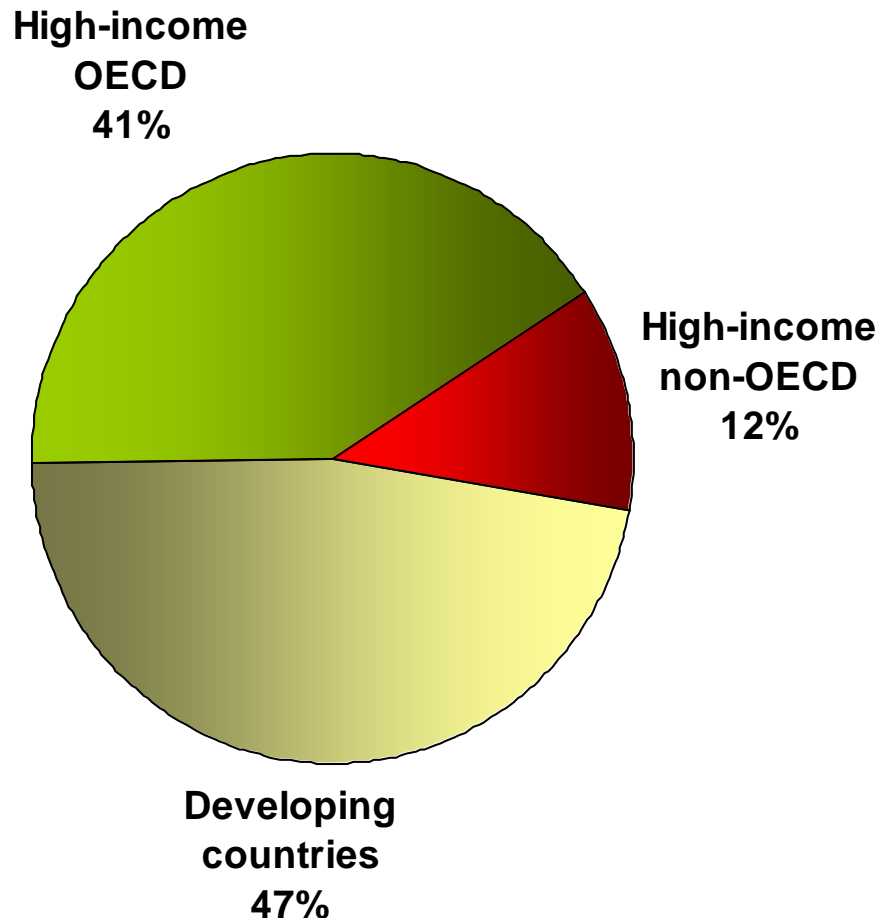


## 1 False myth of migration

Migrants go to the Rich North



## Destination of migrants from developing countries

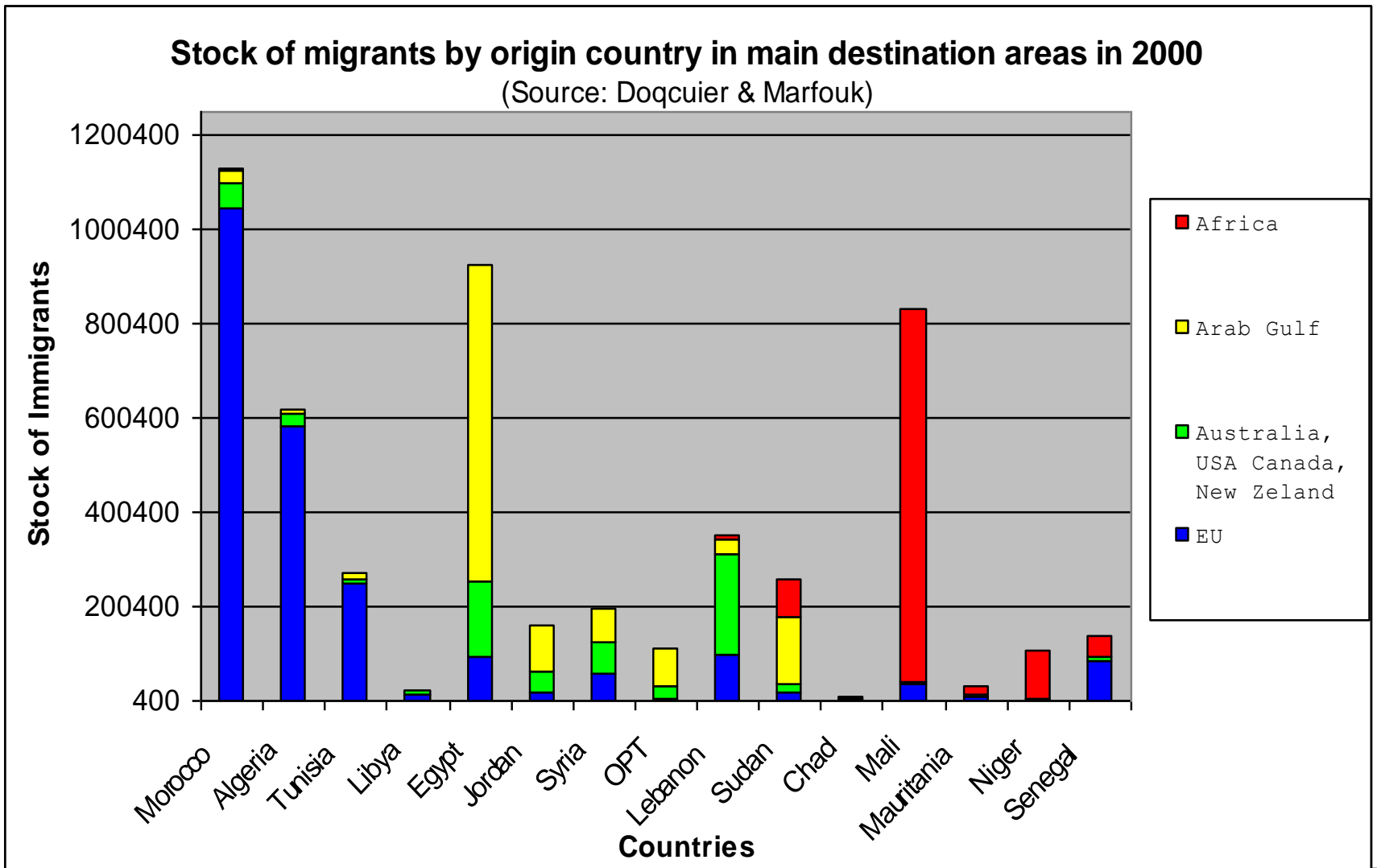


South-South migration is larger than migration to high-income OECD countries



## Stock of migrants by origin country in main destination areas in 2000

(Source: Doqcuier & Marfouk)





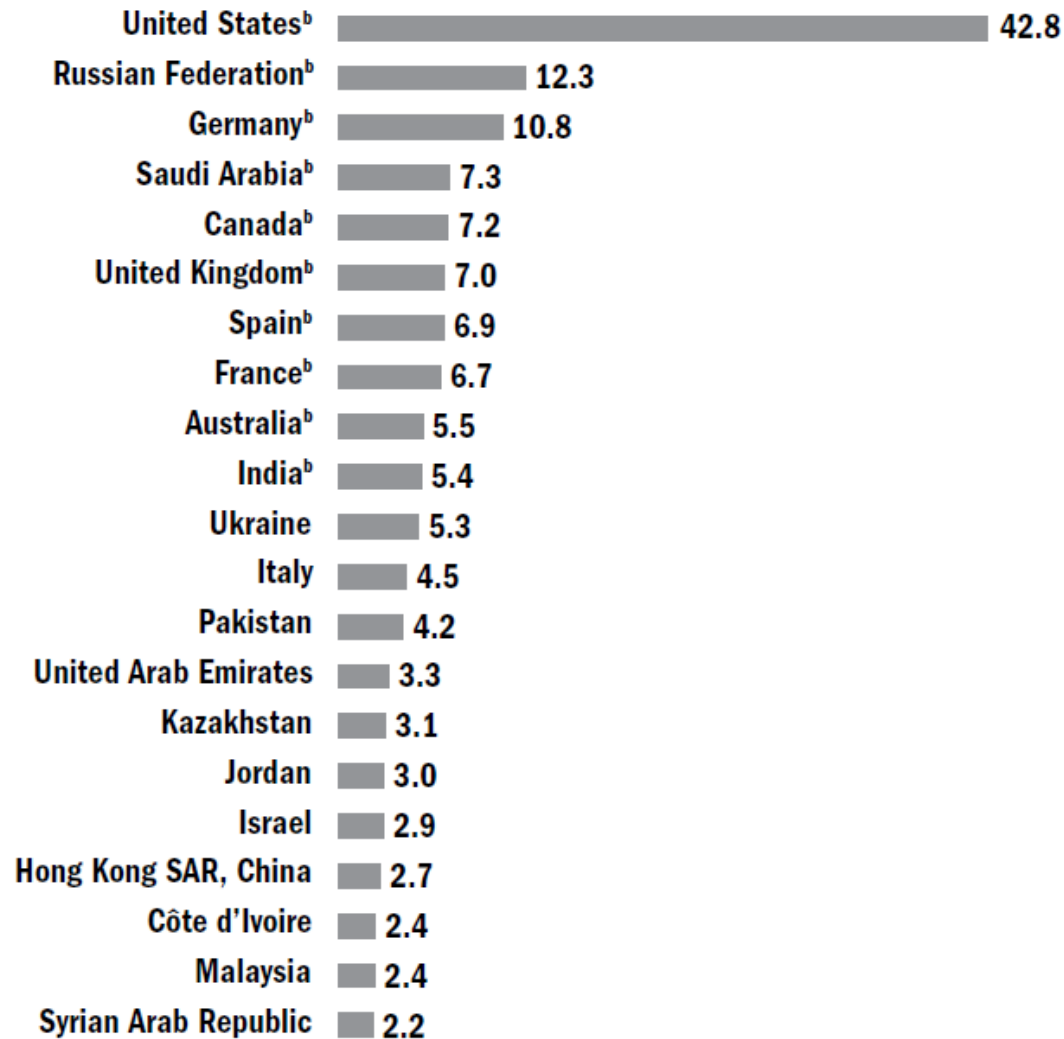
## 2 False myth of migration

The number of migrants determines the impact of migration in destination country



## Top Immigration Countries<sup>a</sup>, 2010

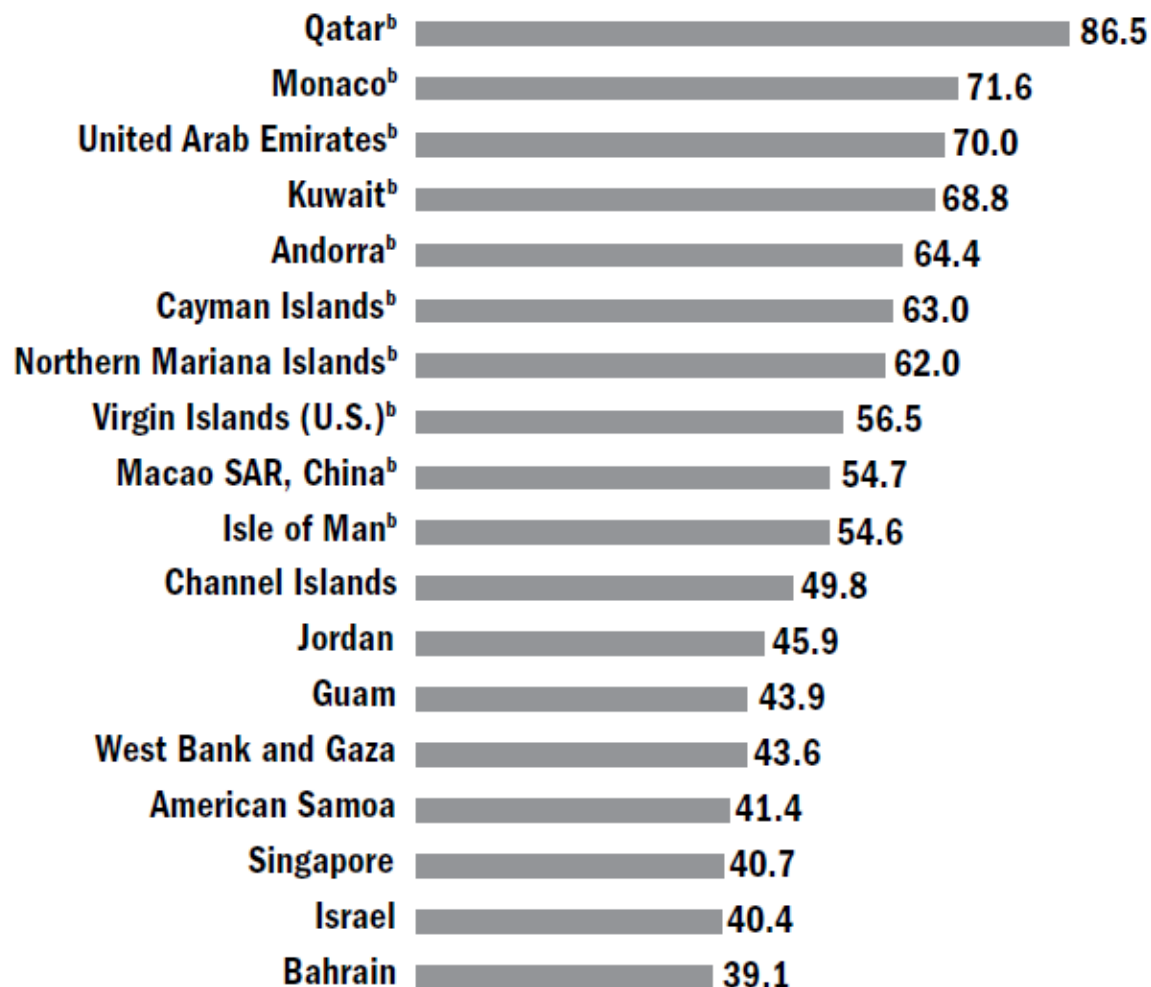
*number of immigrants, millions*





## Top Immigration Countries<sup>a</sup>, 2010

*percentage of population*





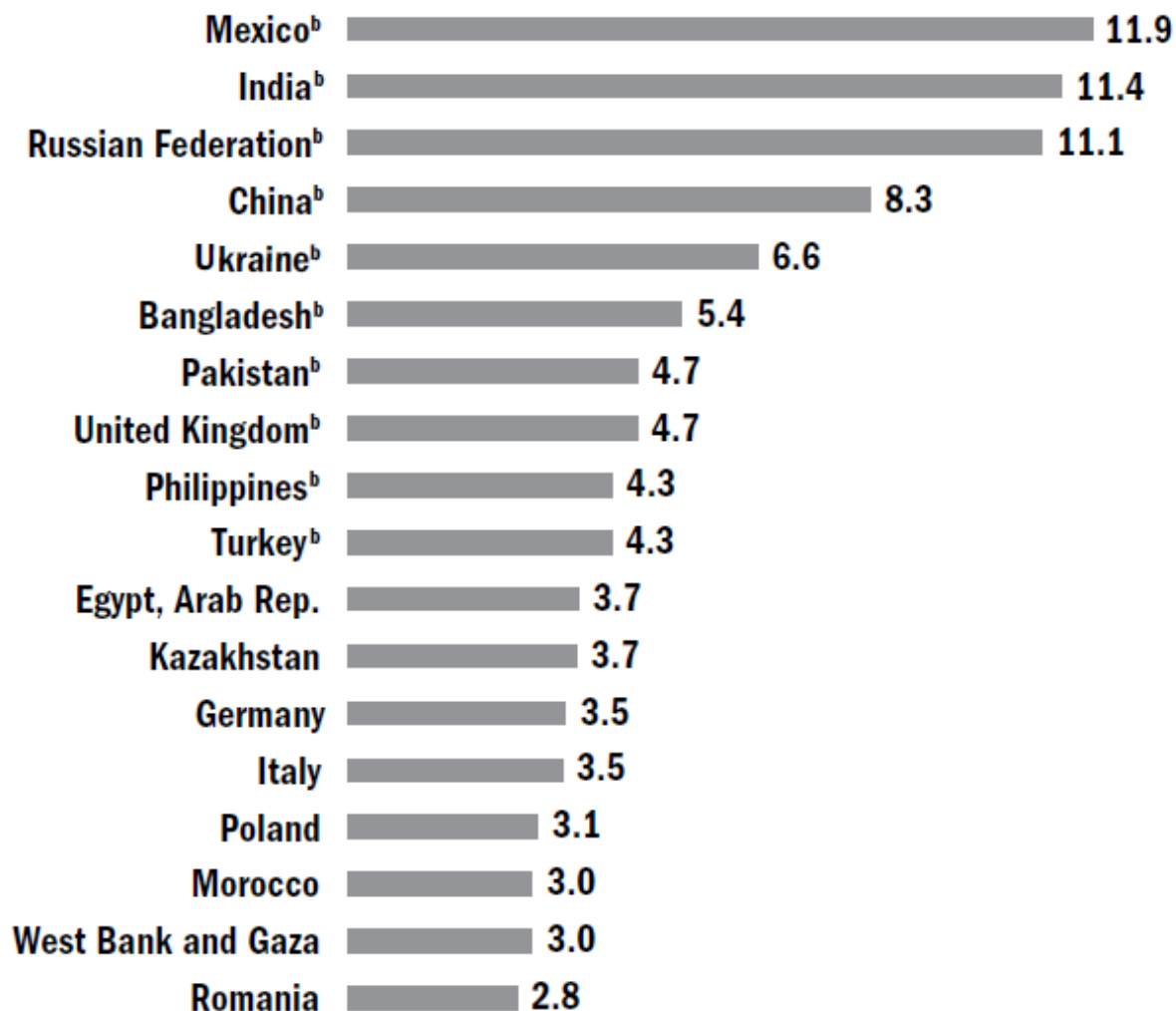
## 3 false myth of migration

The size of migration determines the  
impact in the sending country



## Top Emigration Countries<sup>a</sup>, 2010

*number of emigrants, millions*

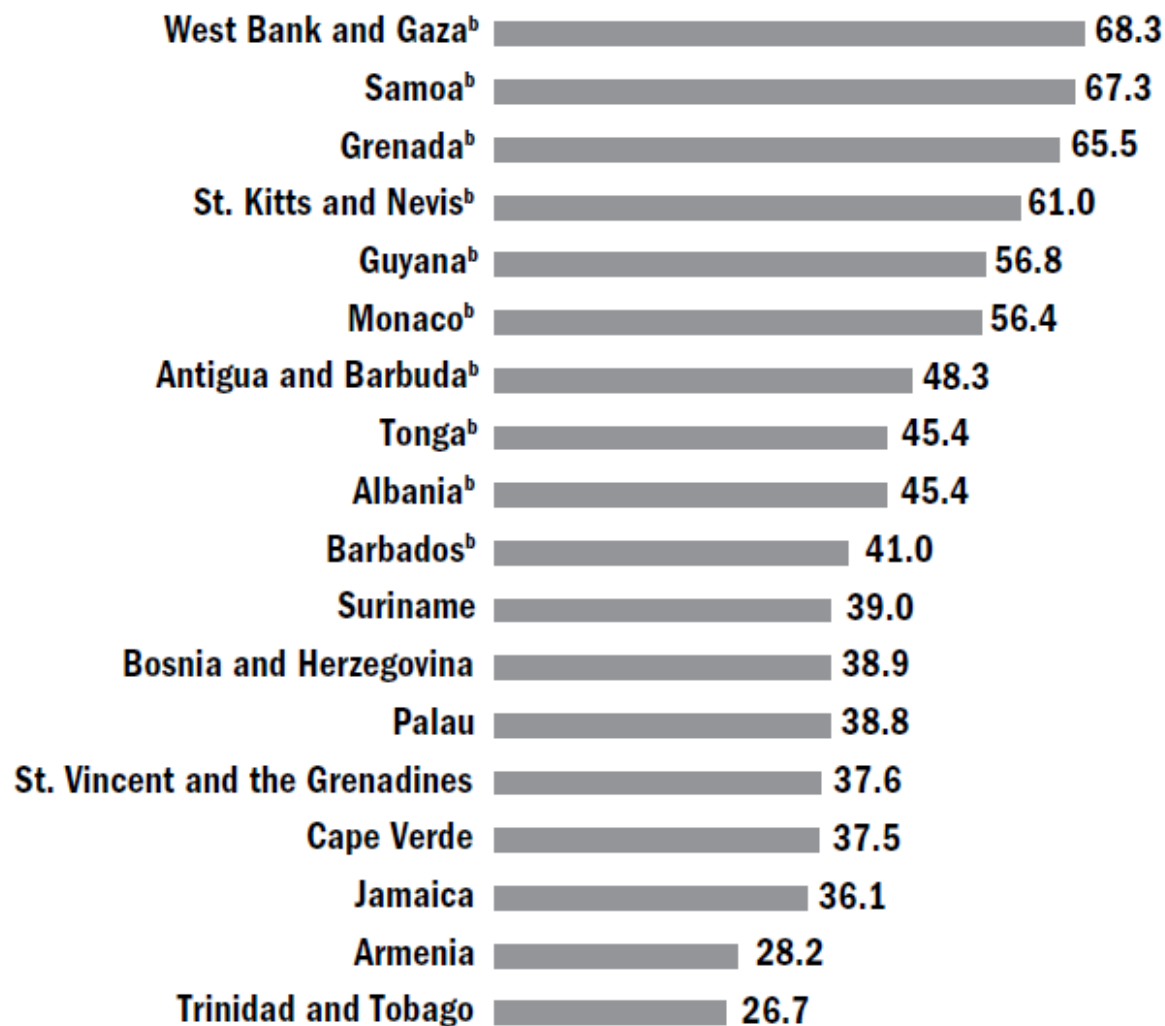






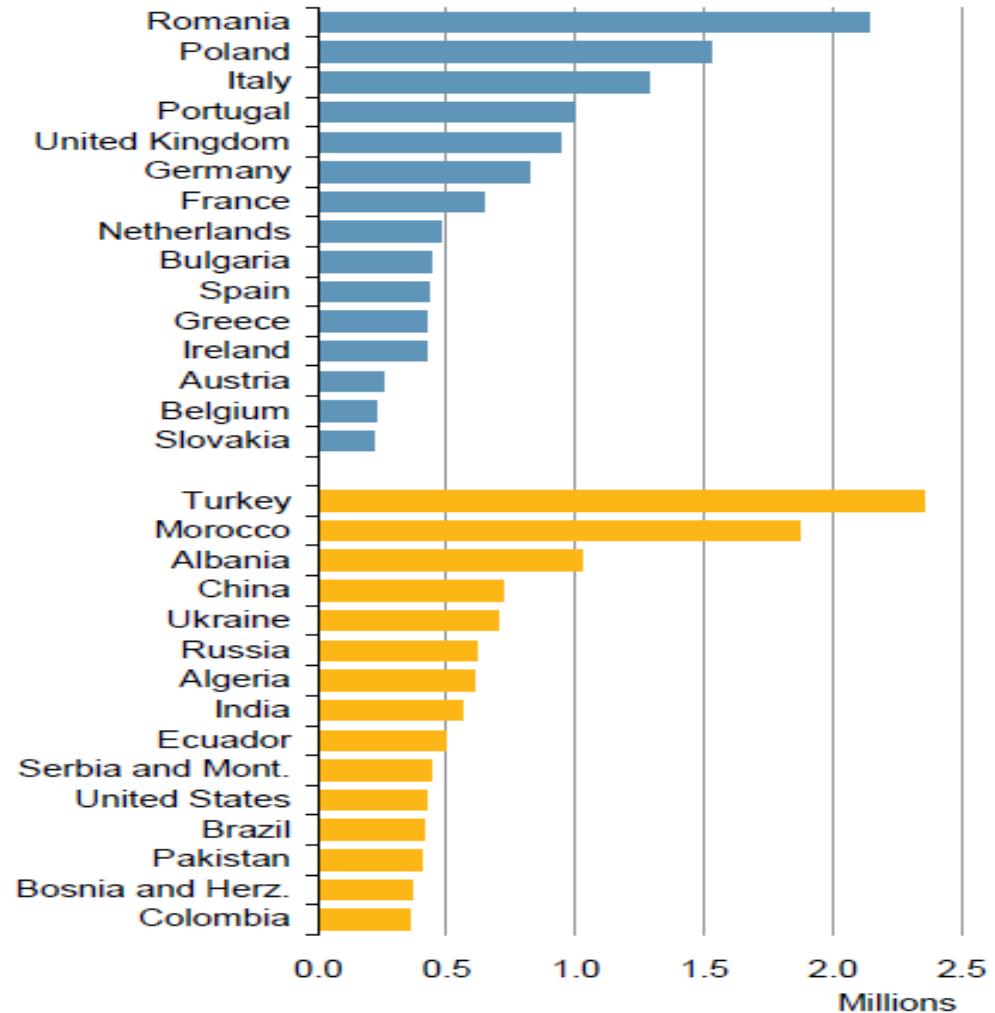
## Top Emigration Countries<sup>a</sup>, 2010

*percentage of population*





**Figure 4: Main citizenships of EU and non-EU foreigners residing in the EU-27, 2010**



One quarter of foreigners in the EU are citizens of Turkey, Romania, Morocco and Poland