Highly skilled migrants on the Swiss labour market

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Presentation outline

- Data and definitions
- Facts and trends:
  - Migrant labour force
  - Highly skilled migrants
- Labour market outcomes
  - Unemployment rate
  - Incidence of overeducation
- Synthesis

www.migration-population.ch
Data and definitions

- 1st source: Swiss population censuses for 1990 & 2000 (SFSO)

- The migrants are defined by means of two variables:
  - Nationality: foreign
  - Birthplace: abroad
Data and definitions

- 2nd source: matched data from the Swiss population census and the registers of foreigners, asylum-seekers and refugees, for 2000

- The primary migrants are defined by means of three variables:
  - Nationality: foreign
  - Birthplace: abroad
  - Age of entry: at least 15 years old
Data and definitions

- According to the “Canberra Manual”, the highly skilled workers are defined by means of two variables:
  - Qualifications (ISCED)
  - Occupations (ISCO)
# Data and definitions

## Detailed category of Human Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field in S&amp;T</th>
<th>Occupations</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISCO 122, 123, 131</td>
<td>ISCO 2</td>
<td>ISCED 5 ISCED 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISCO 2</td>
<td>ISCO 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other occupations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Highly skilled human resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Low-skilled human resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


www.migration-population.ch
Facts and trends: Migrant labour force

Distribution of primary migrant labour force by year of entry

Source: Swiss population census, registers of foreigners, asylum-seekers and refugees, for 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Facts and trends: Migrant labour force from Europe

EU-15/EFTA-3

Other European countries
Facts and trends: Migrant labour force from Non-European countries

North Africa

Subsaharian Africa

North America

Latin America

Asia

Oceania/Other countries
Facts and trends: Migrant labour force from selected countries

Source: Swiss population census, registers of foreigners, asylum-seekers and refugees, for 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Facts and trends: Highly skilled migrants

Distribution of the migrant labour force in Switzerland by geographical origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1990 Skill level</th>
<th>2000 Skill level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>79.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU-15/EFTA-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other European Countries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>32.2</td>
<td>67.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsaharian Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>57.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>74.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>63.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>42.6</td>
<td>57.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania/Other Countries</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>30.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>77.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Facts and trends: Highly skilled migrants

Distribution of primary migrants in 2000 by skill level and year of entry

Source: Swiss population census, registers of foreigners, asylum-seekers and refugees, for 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Facts and trends: Highly skilled migrants

Share of highly skilled primary migrants by geographical origin and year of entry

Source: Swiss population census, registers of foreigners, asylum-seekers and refugees, for 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
NEC I = Non-European countries (excluding Africa, Latin America and Asia without Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore and Israel); NEC II = Non-European countries (excluding Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, Israel, North America and Oceanian countries).
Facts and trends: Highly skilled migrants

Percentage of highly skilled migrant labour force in 2000 by geographical origin

- EU-15/EFTA-3: 70.6%
- Other European Countries: 14.3%
- Asia: 5.0% (including 18.2% for India i.e. 0.9)
- North America: 4.0%
- Latin American Countries: 2.7% (including 10.3% for Colombia i.e. 0.3)
- Subsaharian Africa: 1.5% (including 12.6% for South Africa i.e. 0.2)
- North Africa: 1.4%
- Oceania/Other countries: 0.6%

Source: Swiss population census for 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Facts and trends: Highly skilled migrants

Share of women among highly skilled migrants in 2000 by geographical origin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>37.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU-15/EFTA</td>
<td></td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other European Countries</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsaharian Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td>31.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td>40.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>42.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>54.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td></td>
<td>56.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>42.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania/Other Countries</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>38.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Labour market outcomes

Unemployment rate among tertiary-level educated migrants in 2000
by geographical origin

Source: Swiss population census 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Labour market outcomes

Incidence of overeducation among tertiary-level educated migrants in 2000
by geographical origin

Source: Swiss population census 2000.
Note: men aged 15–64; women aged 15–61.
Synthesis (1)

- More than half of the primary migrant labour force comes from EU-15/EFTA-3;
- Primary migrants from Non-European countries essentially arrived in Switzerland from the 1990s;
- During the same period, the nature of migration flows evolves in favour of highly skilled labour;
Synthesis (2)

- Migrants from North America and Oceania are mainly highly skilled;

- On the contrary, migrants from other European countries and developing countries essentially constitute a low-skilled labour force, whereas all of them are more and more skilled;
Synthesis (3)

- In 2000, around 3/4 of the highly skilled migrants in Switzerland are from the EU-15/EFTA-3;

- The risk of unemployment/overeducation is higher among migrants from countries where the share of low-skilled workers is important;
THE END