

Understanding the drivers of internal migration

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Overarching trends from literature review

1. Increasing *heterogeneity* within demographic and economic sub-groups
2. Increased *fragmentation* in demographic and economic spheres
3. Changing form and nature of *networks* – social networks, physical networks and electronic networks
4. Increasing *complexity* of migration decision-making
5. The *relational nature of movement*

Aggregate picture of internal migration is the function of the interplay of short-term cyclical economic processes, medium-term restructuring and long-term shifts in socio-cultural and economic values

Understanding trends

Types of change

- *compositional changes*
(share of the population in sub-groups associated with higher and lower migration propensities)
- *behavioural change*
(mobility within particular population sub-groups)

Movement types

- *Long distance migration*
(inter-regional)
- *Short distance migration*
(within a local area)
- *Circulation*

Demography - *composition*

| <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Ageing of population | Decrease | Increase | Unclear |
| Greater diversity in ethnic composition of the population | Increase | Increase | Unclear |
| Increase in international migration | Increase | Increase | Increase |
| More single person households and more complex and fluid household structures | Decrease | Increase | Increase |

Demography – *behaviour change*

| <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Young adults | Increase | Unclear | Decrease |
| Middle age adults | Decrease | Increase | Increase |
| Older adults – ‘younger third agers | Increase | Increase | Increase |
| Older adults – ‘older third agers | Decrease | Decrease | Not applicable/ Unclear |
| Ethnicity | Unclear | Unclear | Unclear |
| High skilled managed migrants | Unclear | Unclear | Increase |
| Free movers | Decrease | Decrease | Decrease |
| Host population | Decrease | Increase | Unclear |
| Single person households amongst younger adults | Increase | Increase | Decrease |
| Single person households amongst oldest age groups | Decrease | Increase | Decrease |
| Fractured and complex households | Decrease | Increase | Increase |

Macroeconomic and labour market factors - *composition*

| <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sectoral shift from primary and manufacturing to services | Decrease | Unclear | Unclear |
| Occupational change | Increase | Increase | Increase |
| Changing spatial opportunity structures – in aggregate: - to largest agglomerations - other destinations | Unclear Increase Decrease | Unclear | Increase |
| Increase in employment precarity for low-skilled | Decrease | Decrease | Unclear |
| Increase in network organisations and lean management | Decrease | Unclear | Unclear |
| Ageing of workforce | Decrease | Unclear | Unclear |
| Increasing proportion of women in the workforce | Decrease | Unclear | Increase |
| Increase in proportion of highly educated in workforce | Increase | Unclear | Increase |
| Increase in dual career and dual earner households | Decrease | Unclear | Increase |

Macroeconomic and labour market factors – *behaviour change*

| <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Occupational change | Decrease | Decrease | Unclear |
| Highly educated workers | Decrease | Unclear | Unclear |

Technological change

| | <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|-------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Composition</i> | Easier and cheaper travel | Decrease | Decrease | Increase |
| | Increased use of internet and ICT | Unclear: expect Decrease at face value but reasons also for Increase | Unclear | Decrease |
| <i>Behaviour change</i> | Fewer young people with driving licenses (in some countries) | Increase | Increase | Decrease |

Societal and non-economic considerations

| | <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Composition</i> | Increased concern about 'green' issues | Unclear | Unclear | Decrease |
| <i>Behaviour change</i> | Increased desire for spatial 'rootedness' | Decrease | Unclear | Increase |

Other markets, regulatory and institutional factors

| | <i>Key features and trends</i> | <i>Long-distance migration</i> | <i>Short-distance migration</i> | <i>Circulation</i> |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Composition</i> | Medium-term rise in owner-occupation | Decrease | Decrease | Increase |
| | Recent rise in proportion of private renters – and also decline in social renters | Increase | Increase | Decrease |
| | Decrease in labour market regulation | Increase | Unclear | Unclear |
| | Increase in labour market regulation | Decrease | Increase | Increase |
| | Spread of labour market activation policies to more sub-groups | Increase | Unclear | Increase |
| | Massification of higher education | Increase | Increase | Increase |
| <i>Behaviour change</i> | Higher education students | Decrease | Unclear | Increase |

Conclusions

- Different drivers operate in different directions
- Direction is not always clear
- Separation of compositional factors from behavioural change indicates that in some instances expected changes operate in different directions – e.g. occupational change:
 - compositional trends suggest increases in internal migration
 - behaviour change indicates a decrease in internal migration
- Complexity of decision-making
- Key explanations for the declining intensity of migration include population ageing, increased immigration, the rise of dual-earner/career households, greater geographical uniformity in the structure of employment and the growth in a desire for socio-spatial rootedness BUT
- Technological change – enables mobility and immobility