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Polish migrants in the Netherlands

Facts, myths and challenges

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Outline

❑ Why should we care?

→ Scale and dynamics

❑ Why should we care?

→ Structure and structural changes

❑ Challenges

→ Labour market

→ Housing

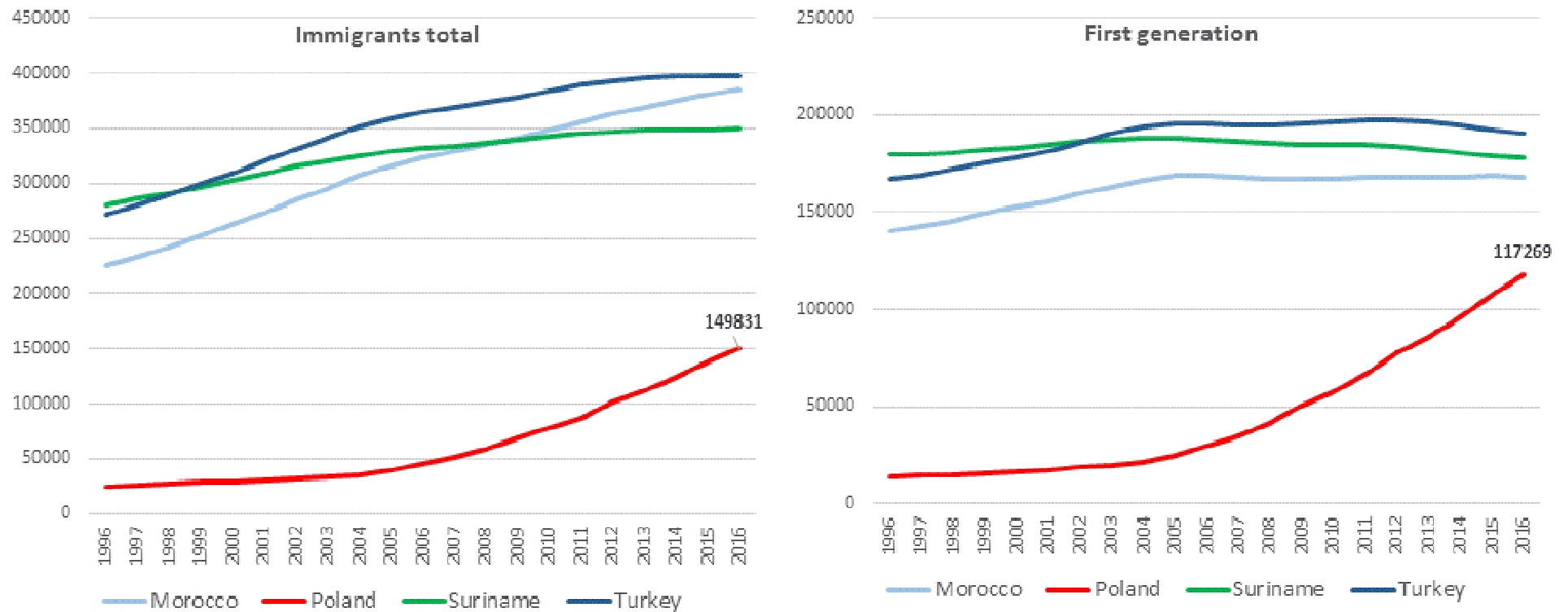
→ Integration

→ Future flows



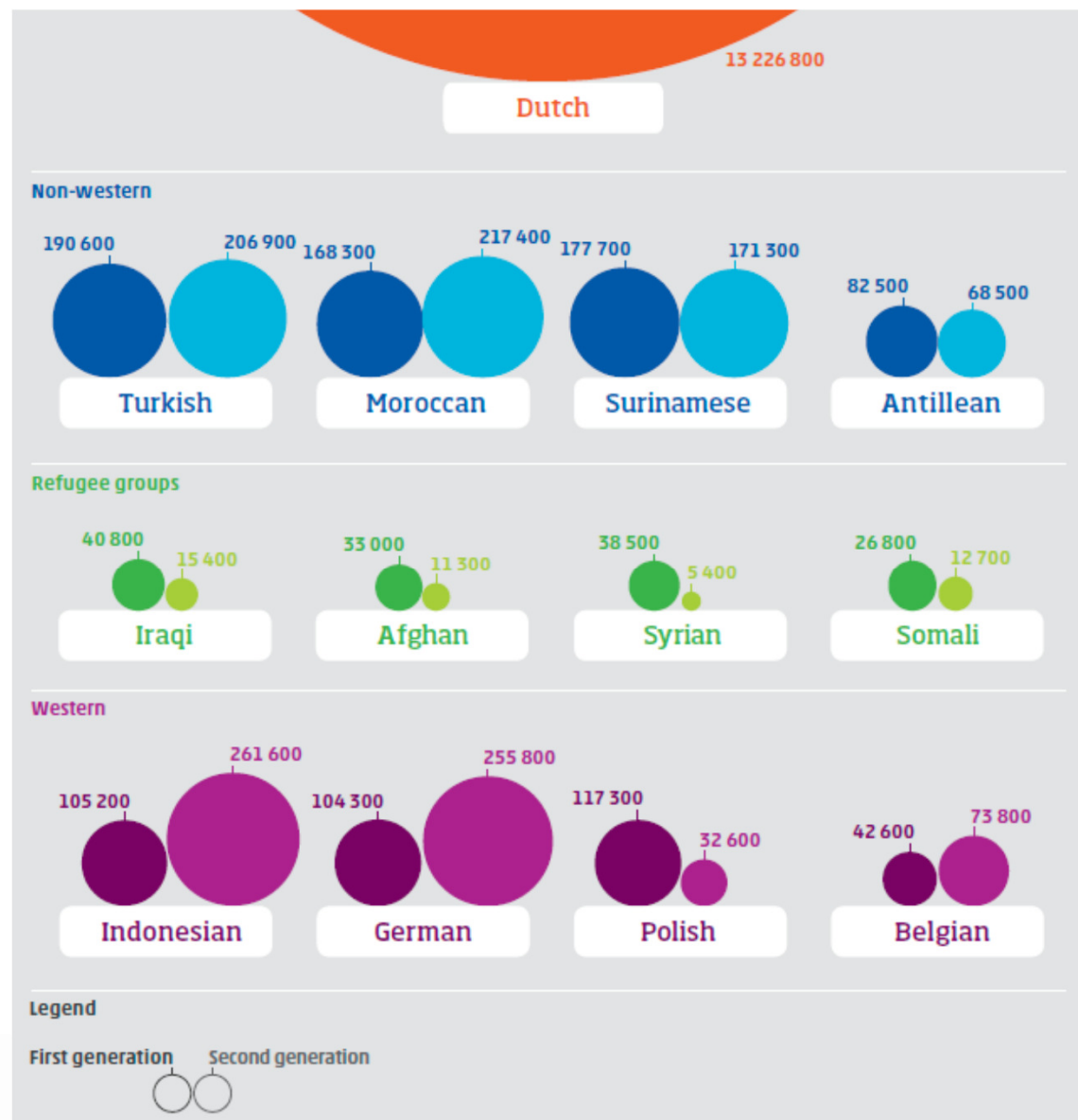
Scale: the Dutch perspective

Persons with foreign origin in the Netherlands, total and first generation only, 1996-2016



Scale: the Dutch perspective

Population of the Netherlands and persons with foreign background, 2016



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Source: Annual Report on Integration 2016

Scale: the Dutch perspective

Basic characteristics of immigrants / persons with foreign background in the Netherlands, 2016

	Number of persons	Percentage of total population	Increase since 1 January 2005	Proportion of second generation	Average age ¹⁾	
					first generation	second generation
	x 1,000	%	x 1,000	%	years	
Dutch	13,227	77.9	44			
Western	1,656	9.8	232	53	43	40
of whom						
new EU member states	251	1.5	172	23	34	21
of whom						
Polish	150	0.9	110	22	34	19
Bulgarian	26	0.2	22	15	33	8
Romanian	23	0.1	15	23	35	13
other new EU member states	53	0.3	26	32	35	31
other western	1,405	8.3	60	59	46	42
Non-western	2,097	12.3	398	45	43	18
of whom						
Turkish	397	2.3	39	52	47	19
Moroccan	386	2.3	70	56	47	16
Surinamese	349	2.1	20	49	51	23
Antillean	151	0.9	20	45	41	19
other non-western	813	4.8	249	35	38	14

Source: CBS.

¹⁾ The average age of native Dutch is 43.

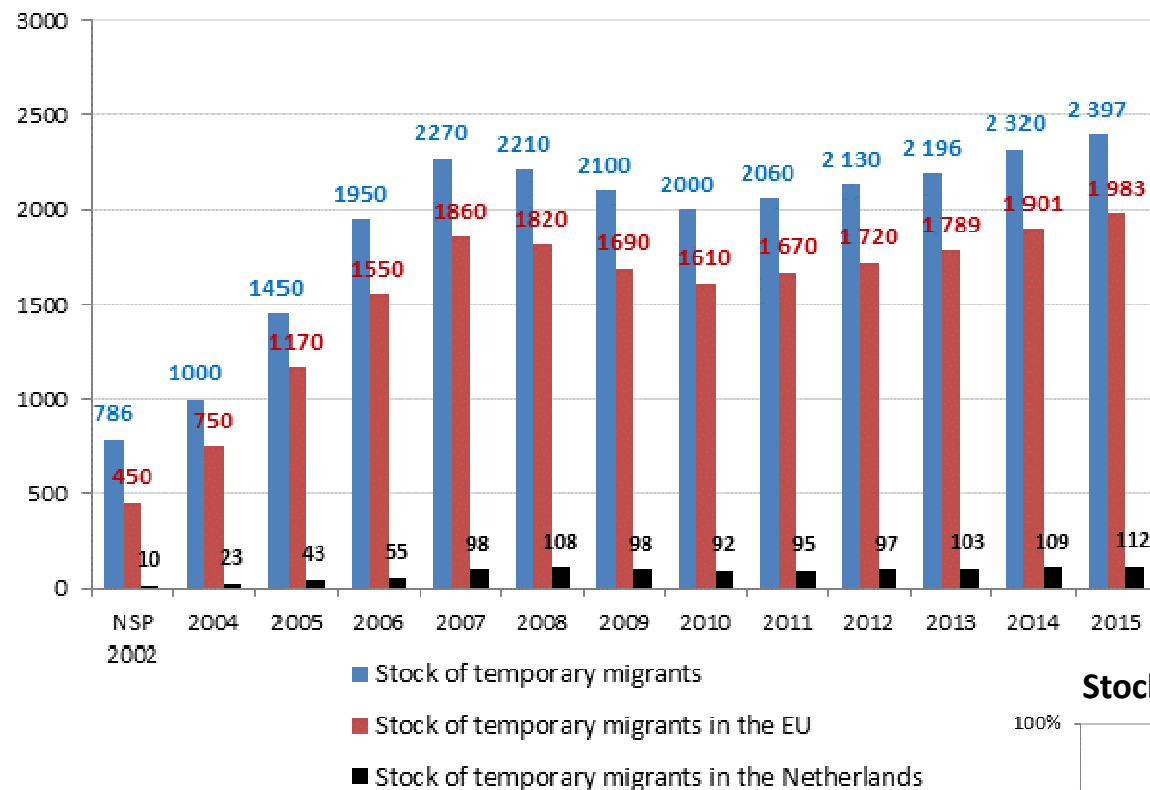


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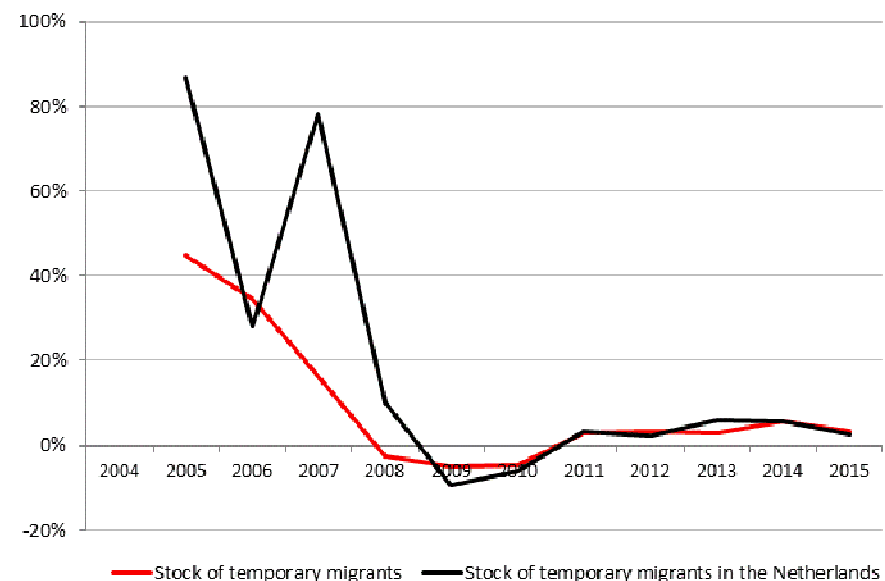
Source: Annual Report on Integration 2016

Scale: Polish perspective

Stock of Poles staying temporarily abroad, based on the CSO data



Stock of Poles staying temporarily abroad, dynamics



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Source: Kaczmarczyk 2016

Polish migration to the Netherlands: why so massive?

- ❑ Approx. 150 thous. migrants from Poland, around ½ registered
- ❑ In the peak season: approx. 250 thous.

❑ Why the Netherlands?

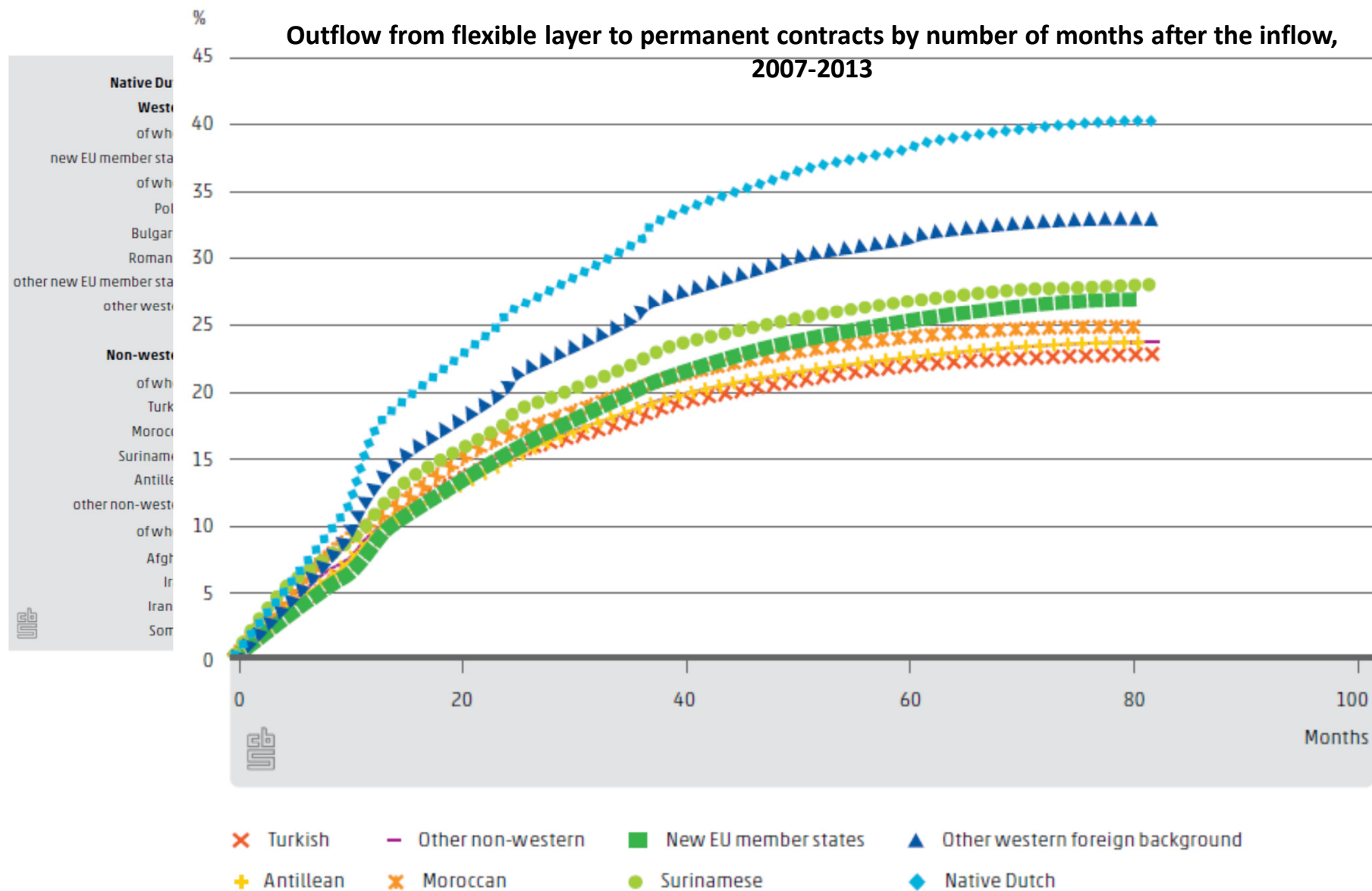
- Germany as a reference frame (wages, working conditions, demand)
- Origins: role of „ethnic Germans”
- Strong demand: seasonal and concentrated in a few sectors (visible already before 2007)
- Institutionalization of migration: recruitment and temporary work agencies → all inclusive model → new migration model and new profile of migrant
- Internal dynamics of the process → role of migrant networks?



Structural features

- **Diverse perspectives / lack of reliable data...**
- **Engbersen et al. 2012:**
 - Males (60%)
 - Young persons (80% below 40)
 - Stable relationships
 - Relatively well educated (20% with tertiary education)
 - Severely overeducated (60-70% in manual occupations)
- **Dagevos 2011 (Survey of Integration of New Groups, SING):**
 - High participation rates and activity rates (70%)
 - Employment in low skilled occupations (75% as compared with 36% for Dutch workers), skill mismatch (62% vs. 21%)
 - High share of persons on temporary contracts (36% vs. 5%)
 - But also: relatively favorable housing situation

Structural features



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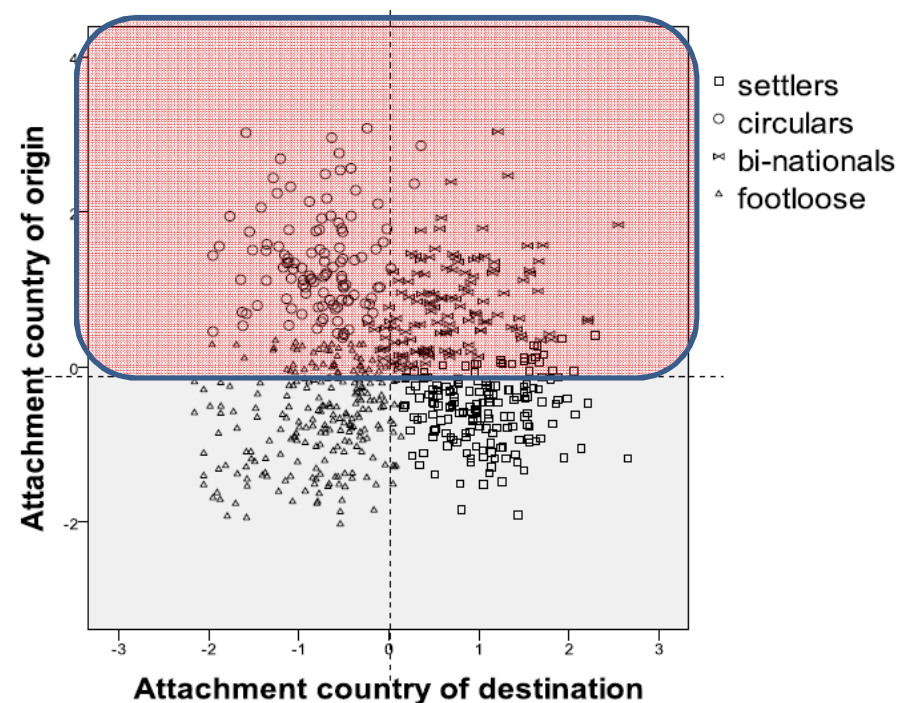
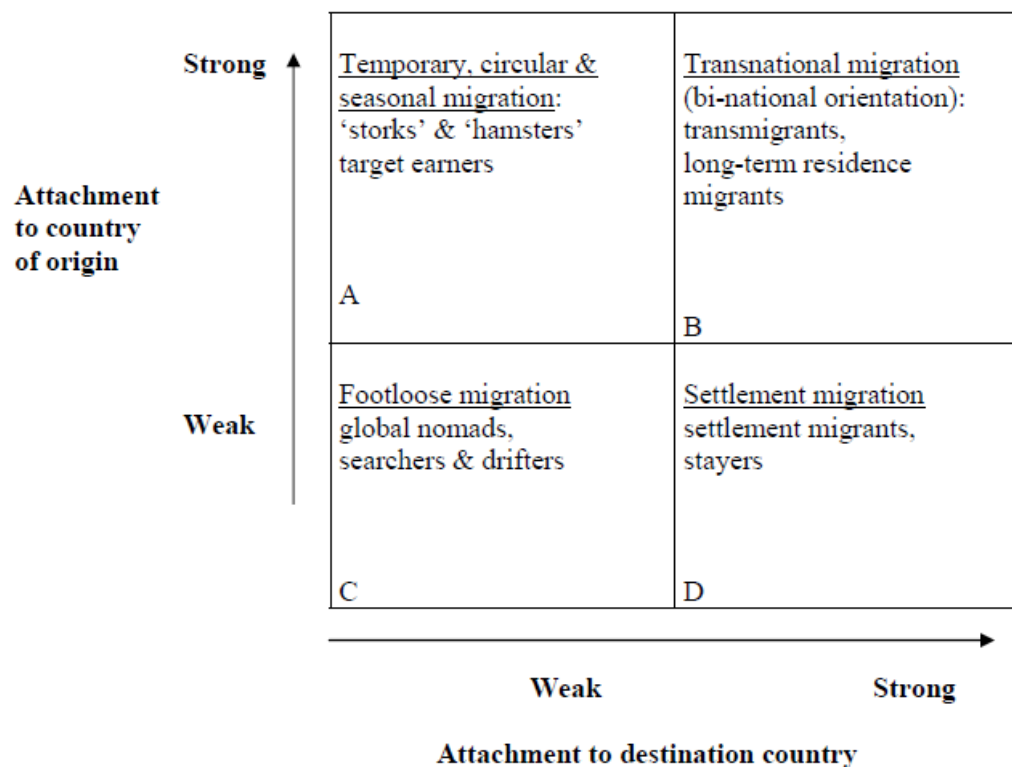
Source: Annual Report on Integration 2016

Migration strategies – case of Polish migrants in NL

Migration typology, Poles (≤ 6 years in the Netherlands), 2009 (in percentages)

	total	men	women
labour migrants	63	81	46
follow-on migrants (to Polish partner/parent)	13	7	20
migrants with native Dutch partner	12	1	23
other migrants	11	11	11

Source: Dagevos 2011



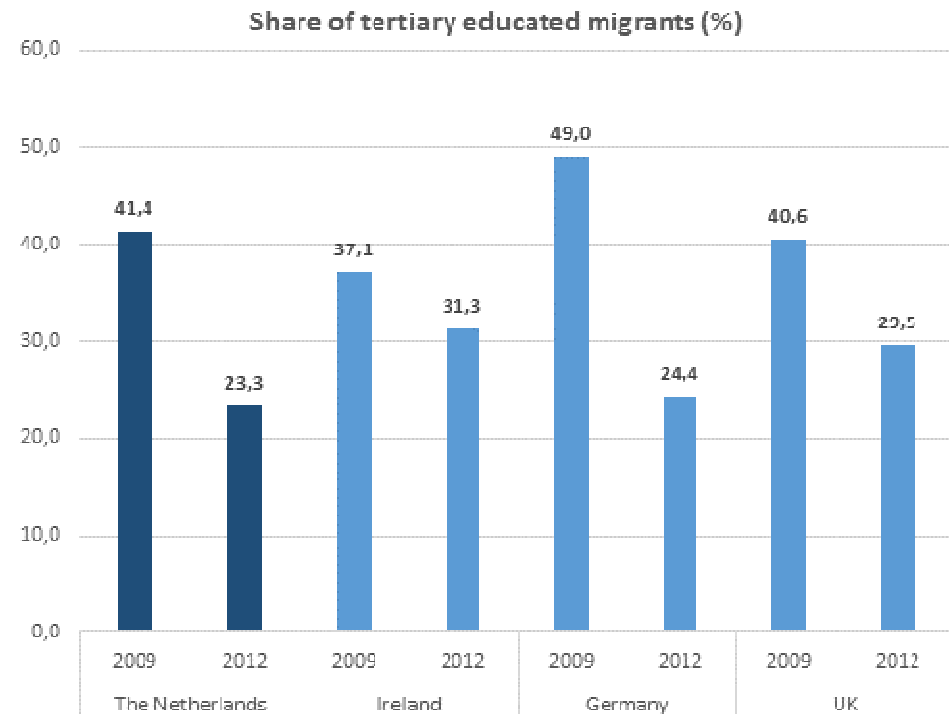
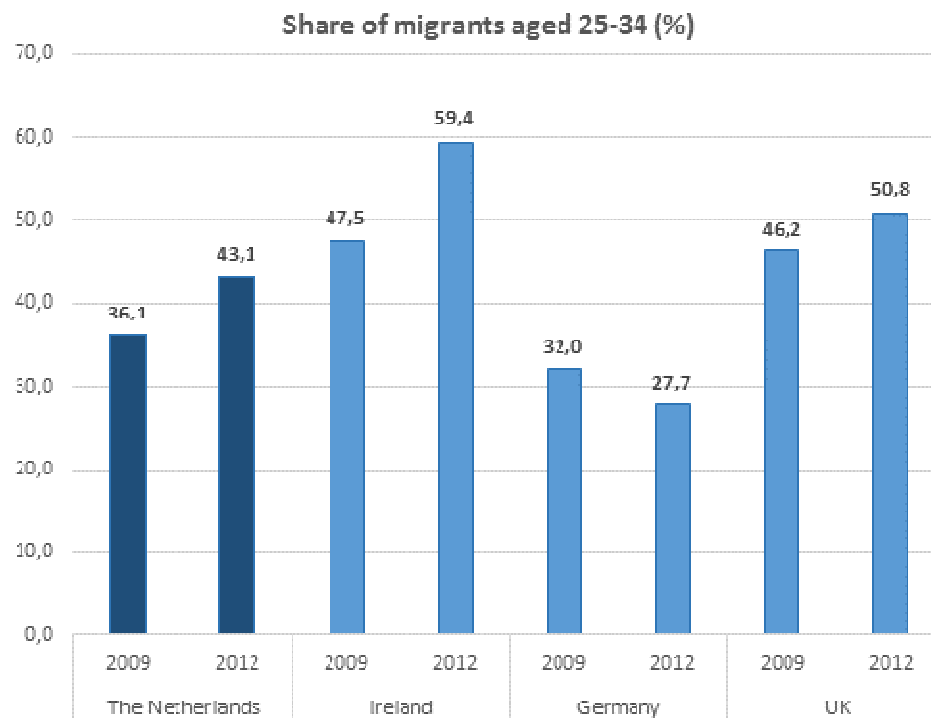
Source: Engbersen et al. 2012



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Structural changes?

Characteristics of Polish migrants 2009-2012 → demographics

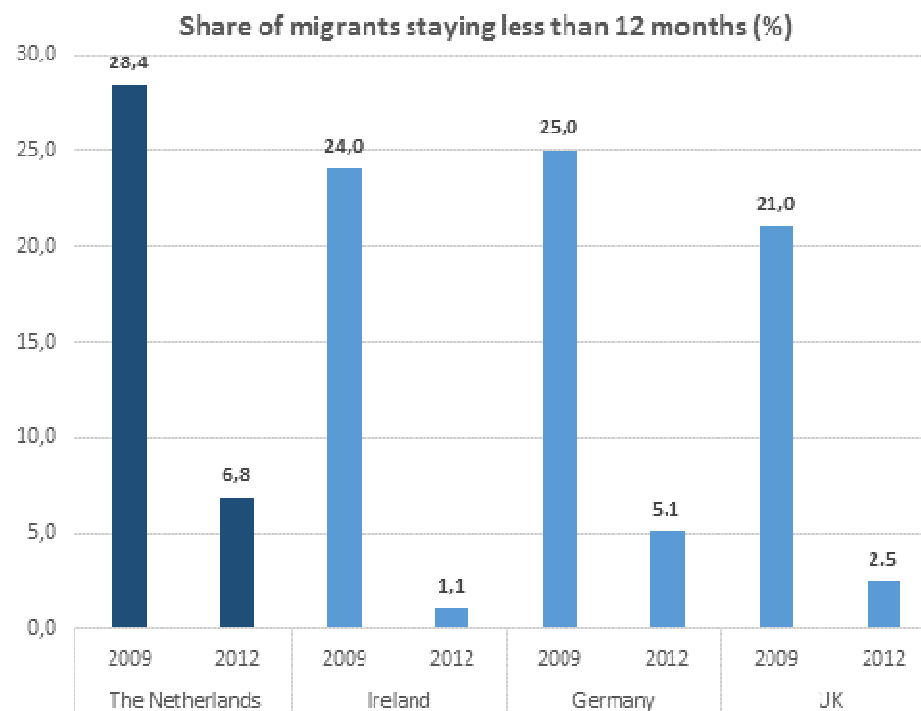
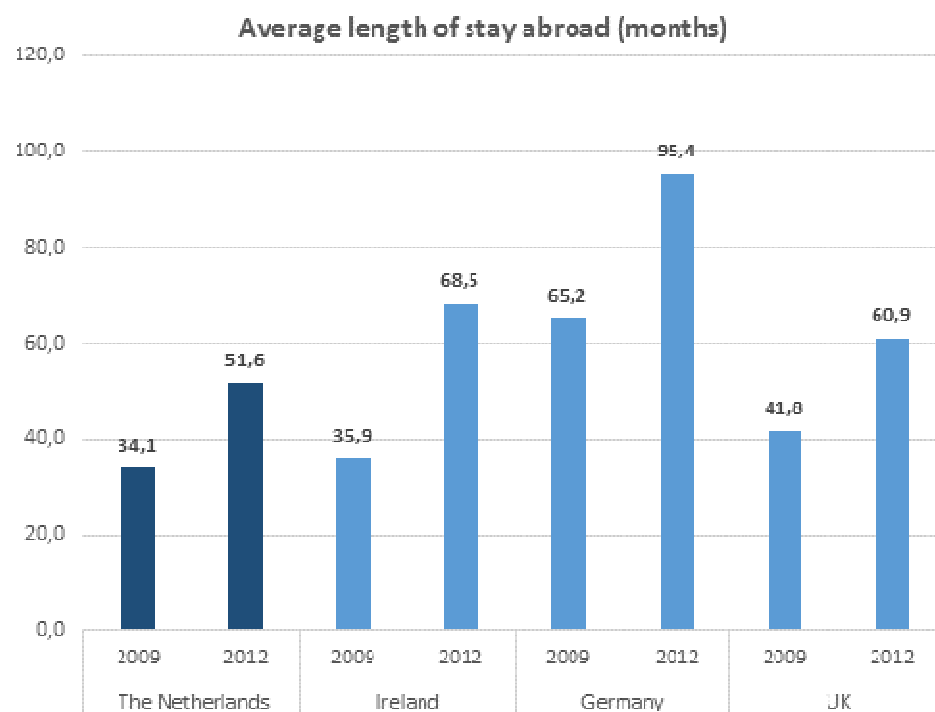


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Source: Janicka and Kaczmarczyk 2015

Structural changes?

Characteristics of Polish migrants 2009-2012 → migration projects

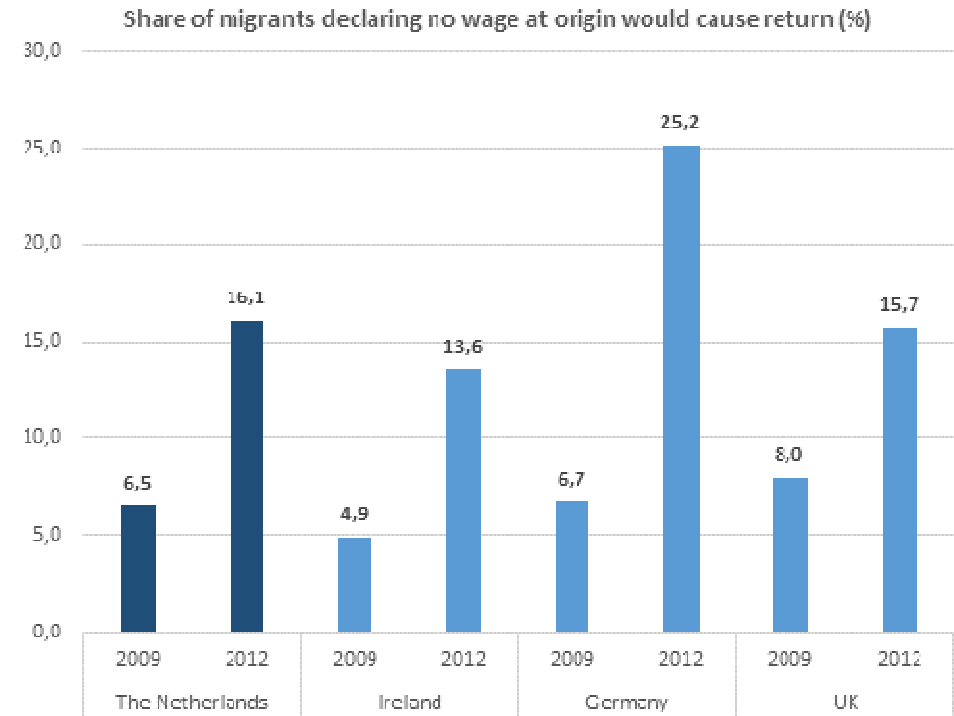
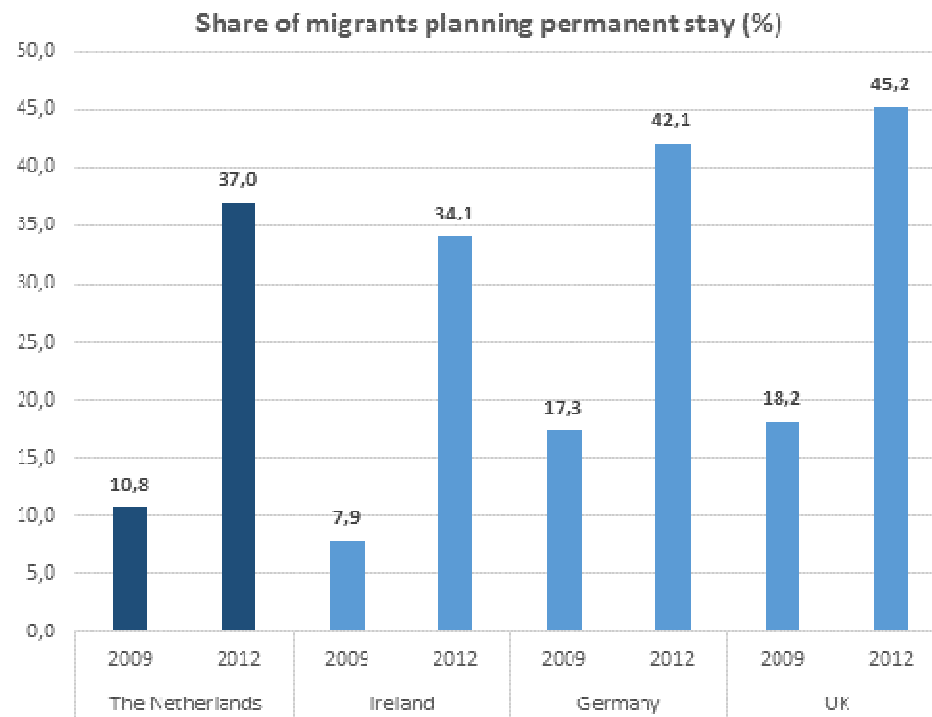


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Source: Janicka and Kaczmarczyk 2015

Structural changes?

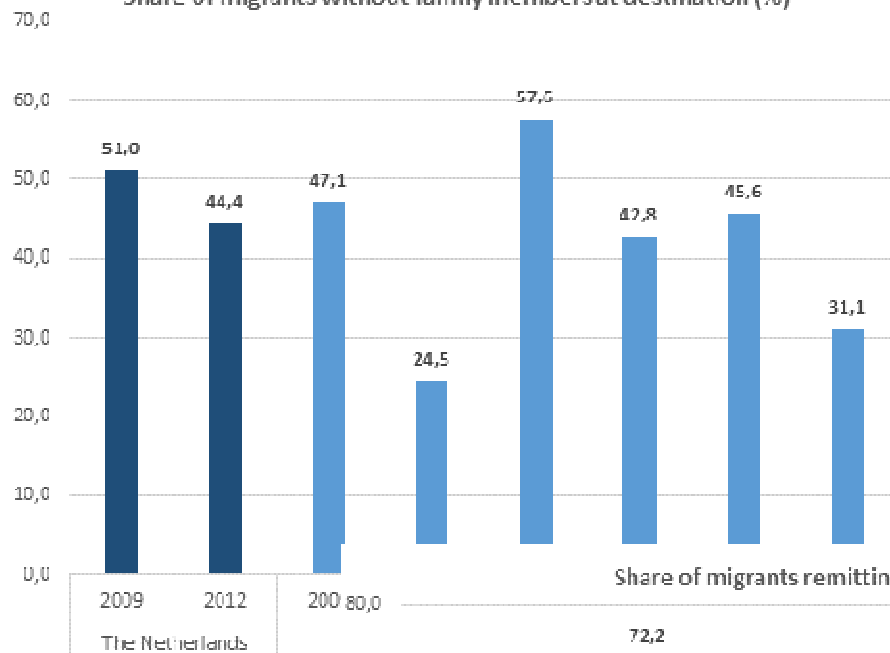
Characteristics of Polish migrants 2009-2012 → intentions



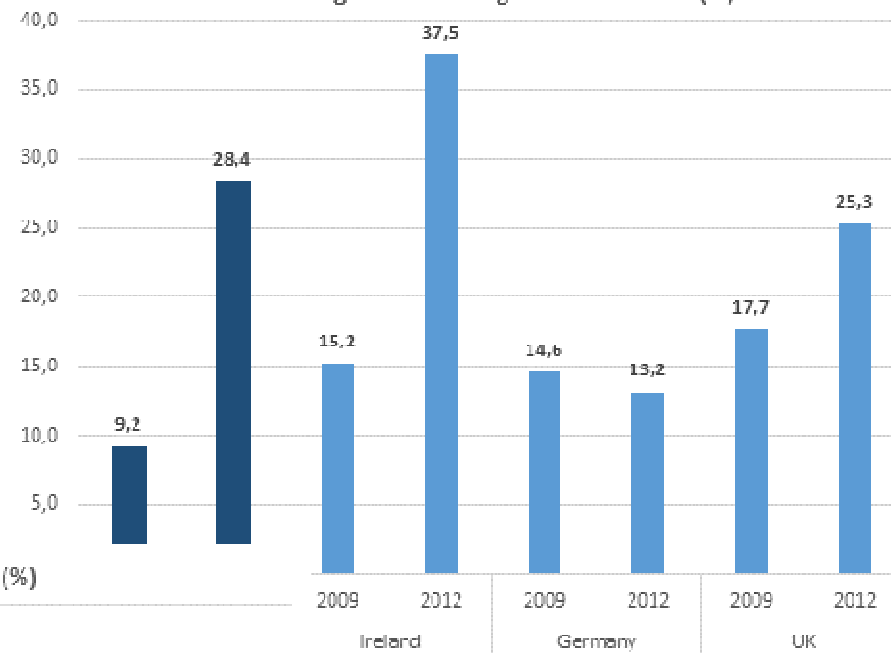
Structural changes?

Characteristics of Polish migrants 2009-2012 → plans/actions

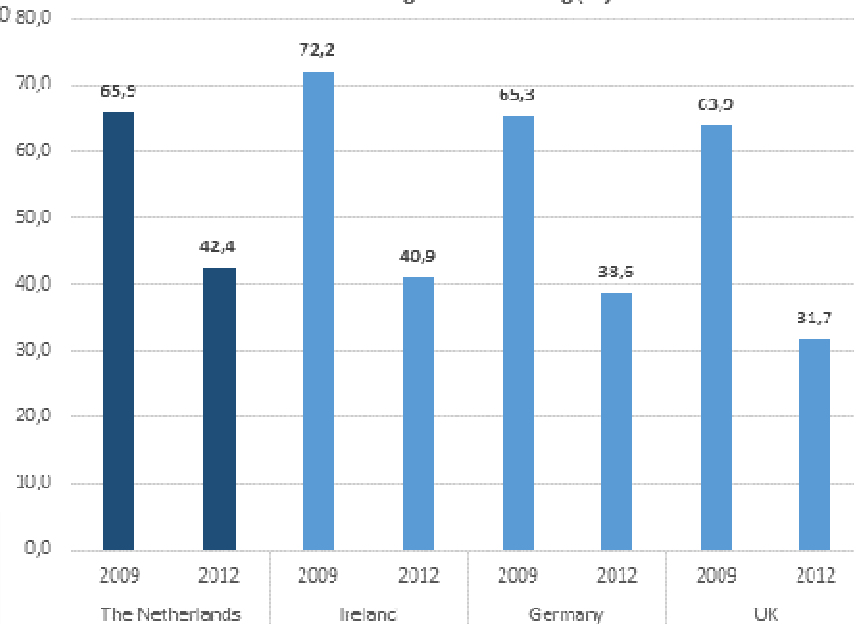
Share of migrants without family members at destination (%)



Share of migrants receiving welfare benefits (%)



Share of migrants remitting (%)



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Source: Janicka and Kaczmarczyk 2015

Challenges... (1) Labour market

❑ Context:

- 30-60% employed via temporary work agencies, majority flexible contracts
- Easy labour market entry, high employment rates
- Role of temporary work agencies = institutionalized migration
- Role of language

❑ Critical areas:

- Knowledge (how the system works, insurance, responsibilities)
- Theory and practice – how agencies work: information, contracts and enforcement, payment and accommodation, fines, insurance fees, overwhelming control
- Language as a critical factor (primary labour market segment)
- Social benefits and length of the contract

Challenges... (2) Housing

❑ Context:

- Theoretically: equal access to social housing and housing benefits
- Practically: all inclusive packages, limited access, negative attitudes, local regulations attempting to control settlement of immigrants

❑ Critical areas:

- Strong regional concentration
- Seasonality of employment
- Low capacities of the Dutch housing market (considering massive inflow)

Challenges... (3) Integration

❑ Context:

- Migration patterns / strategies: long-term or seasonal?
- Fluid / liquid migration?
- Variety of migration forms / strategies

❑ Critical areas:

- Language as critical factor (incentives? rules?)
- Integration classes
- Integration prospects of persons who are staying in long-term (assymetrical) relations with temporary work agencies → seasonal migration and ...?
- Perspective: no special integration measures needed in the long-term (similarly to Polish migrants in DE) (Engbersen 2012)



Challenges... (4) Future flows?

☐ Context:

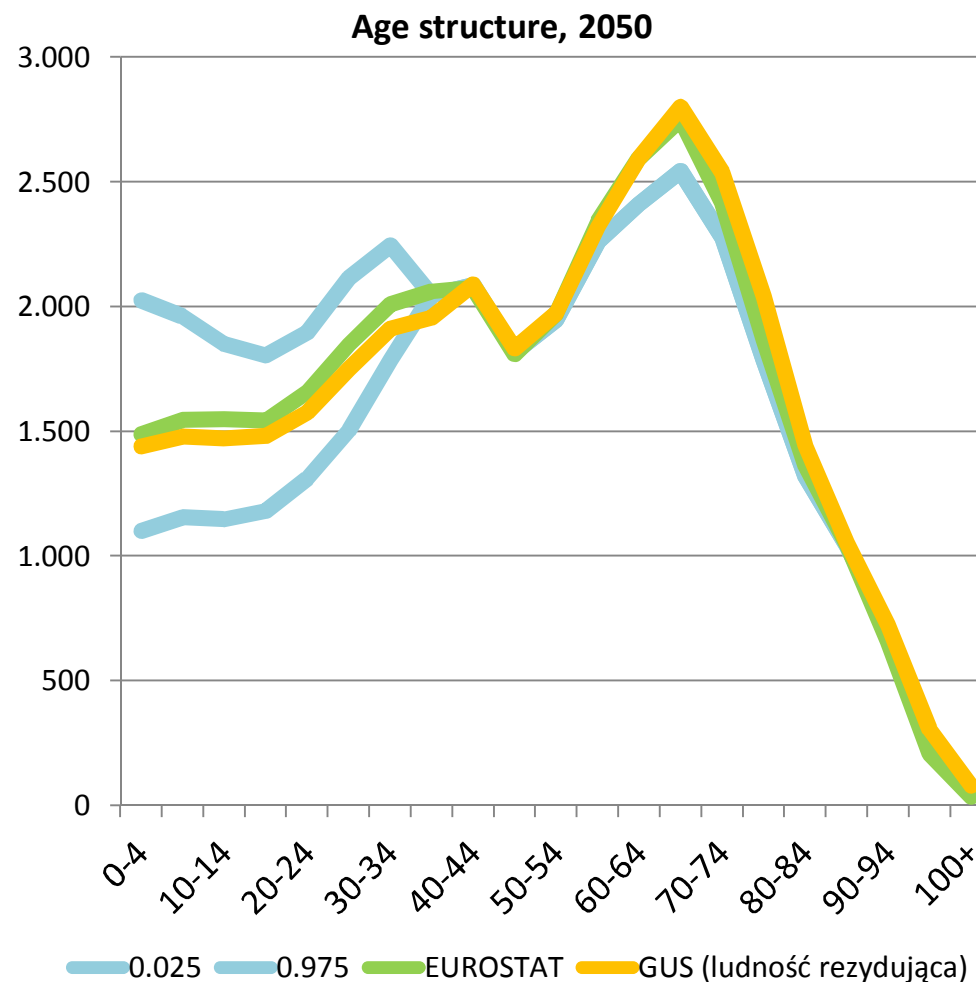
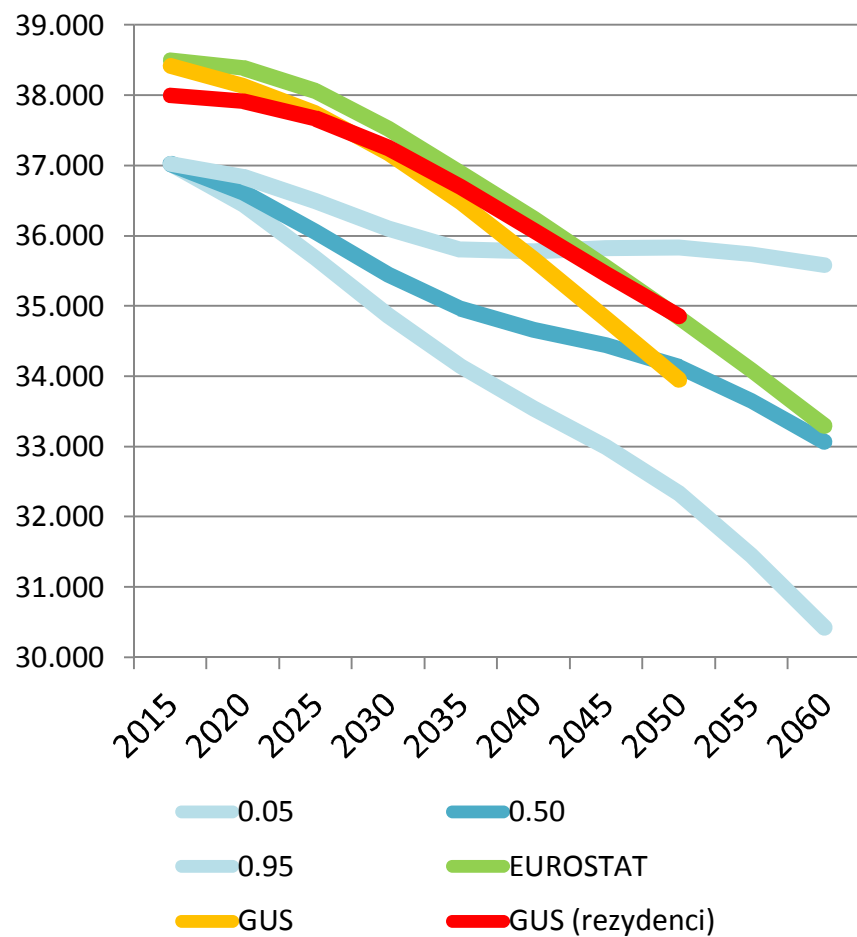
- Continuity and change in Polish migration
- Demographic development in Poland
- Demography and immigration in the Netherlands

☐ Critical questions:

- Pool of potential migrants
- Labour market needs in Poland → from push to pull forces?
- Competition for workers – EU and beyond
- Attitudes towards immigrants
- Sustainable migration scheme? Conditions...



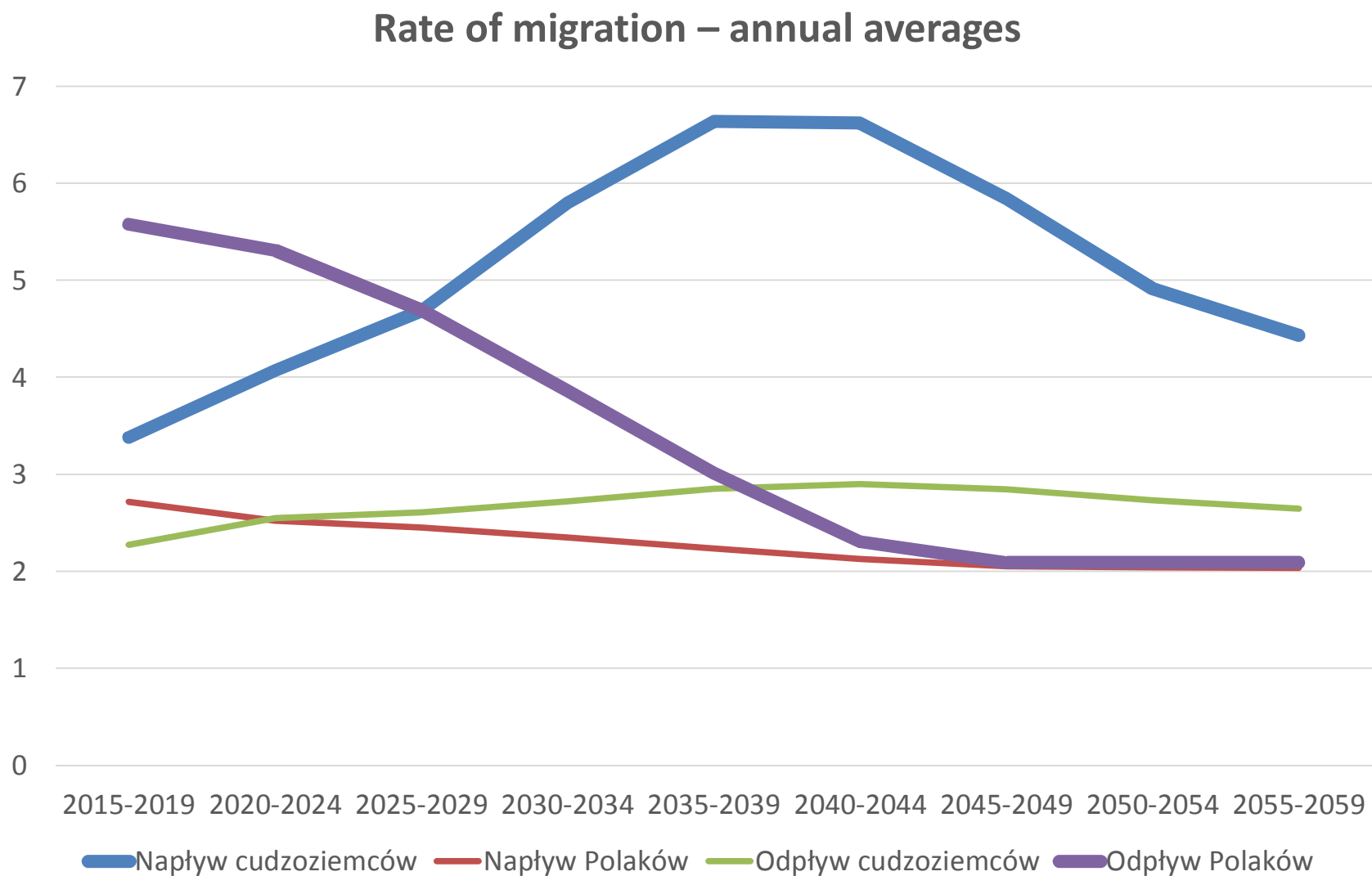
Challenges... (4) Size and the structure of Polish population



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Source: Anacka and Janicka 2017

Challenges... (4) Future flows?



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Source: Anacka and Janicka 2017