

Shift in occupational mobility pre and post migration: A comparative analysis of Latvian migrants in the Nordic countries

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Outline of presentation

- **Context**
- **Some points of previous research on emigration**
- **Recent trends of emigration**
- **Data and methods used**
- **Composition of Latvian immigrants**
- **Occupational mobility**
- **Some conclusions**



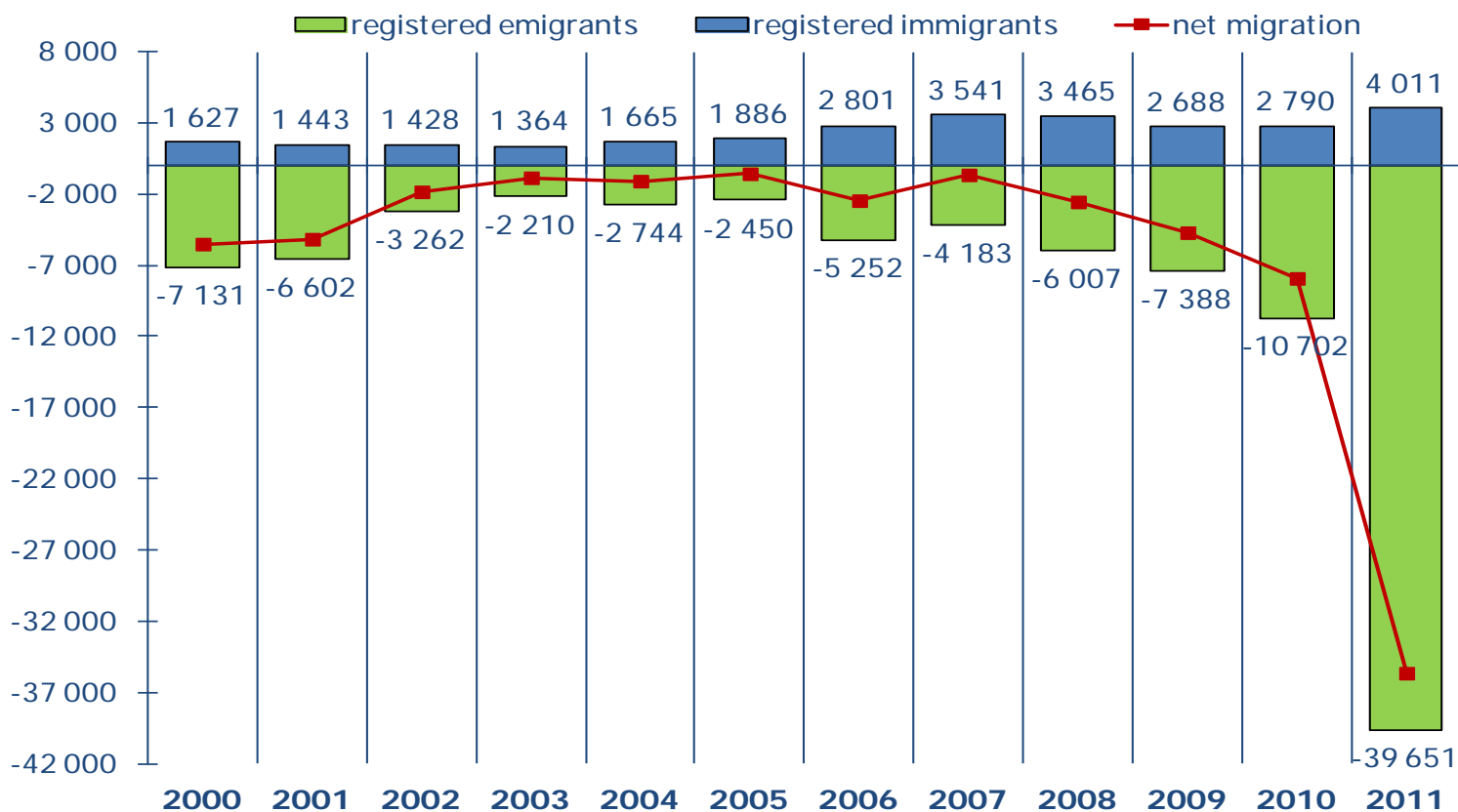
- The enlargement of the European Union and new member states inclusion in year 2004.
- Nordic countries as a destination after May 2004 experienced increasing immigration, especially from Poland and the Baltic States, even if not to the same extent as expected (Wadensjö, 2007).
- Economic recession starting year 2008.

Previous research

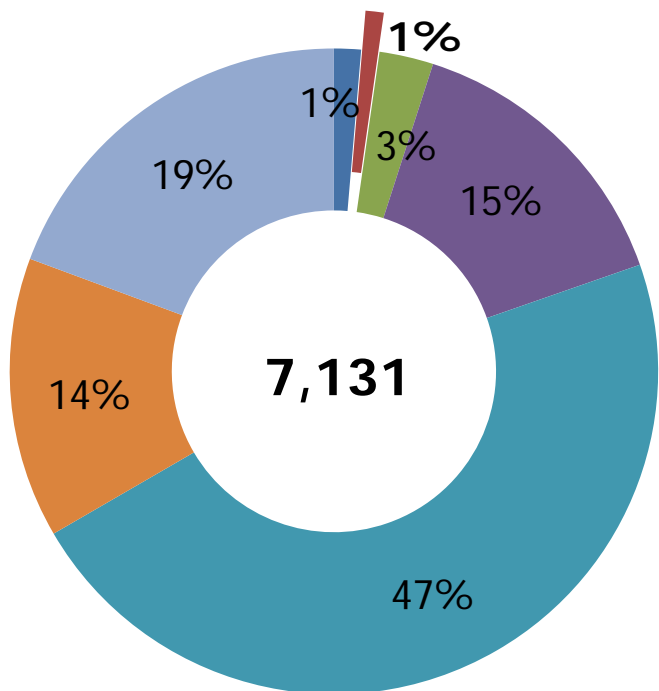
- Previous research indicated that most of the Central Eastern European (CEE) countries experienced an increase in emigration since the enlargement of the European Union in 2004 (Divinsky 2004; Drbohlav 2004; Haug 2005, Mansoor and Ouillin 2007, Kicinger and Weinar 2007 etc.)
- Currently migration wave from Latvia seems irreversible, because people are unable to find employment in Latvia and stay with their friends and relatives who are already living abroad (Hazans 2010) relating to expansion of migrant social networks.

Recent trends of emigration

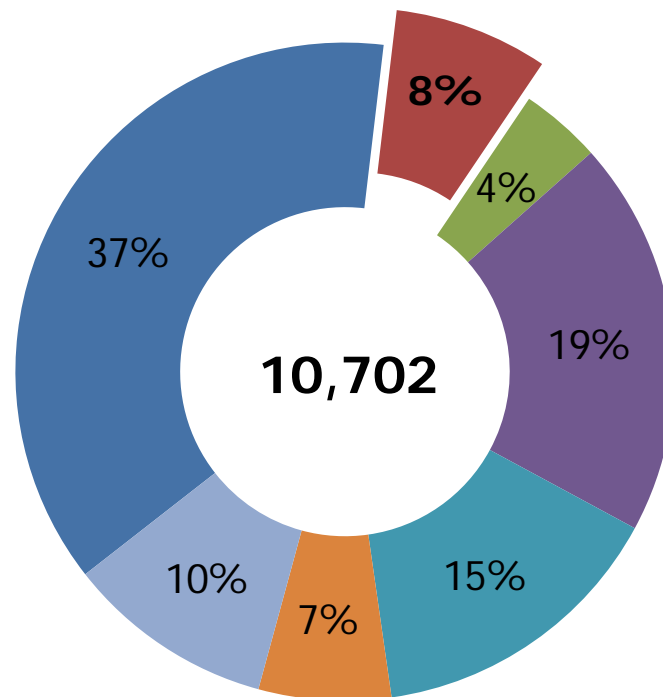
	2000 – 2003	2004 – 2007	2008 – 2011
Immigration	5 862	9 862	12 954
Emigration	-19 205	-14 629	-63 748
Net migration	-13 343	-4 736	-50 794



Emigration 2000



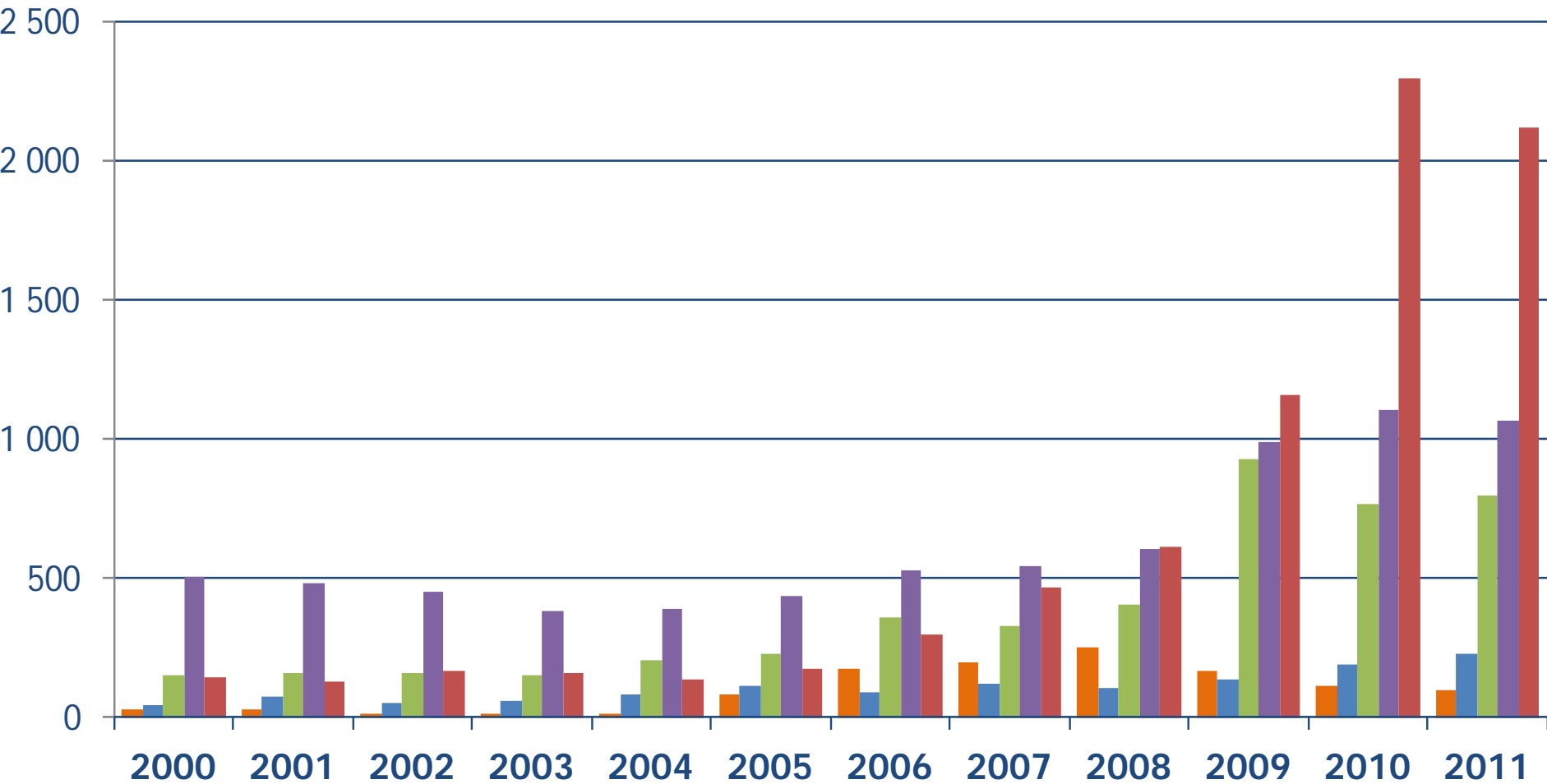
Emigration 2010



- United Kingdom & Ireland
- Nordic countries
- Baltic countries
- Other European
- Russia
- Commonwealth of Independent States
- Other

Emigration to Nordic Countries

■ Iceland
 ■ Finland
 ■ Sweden
 ■ Denmark
 ■ Norway



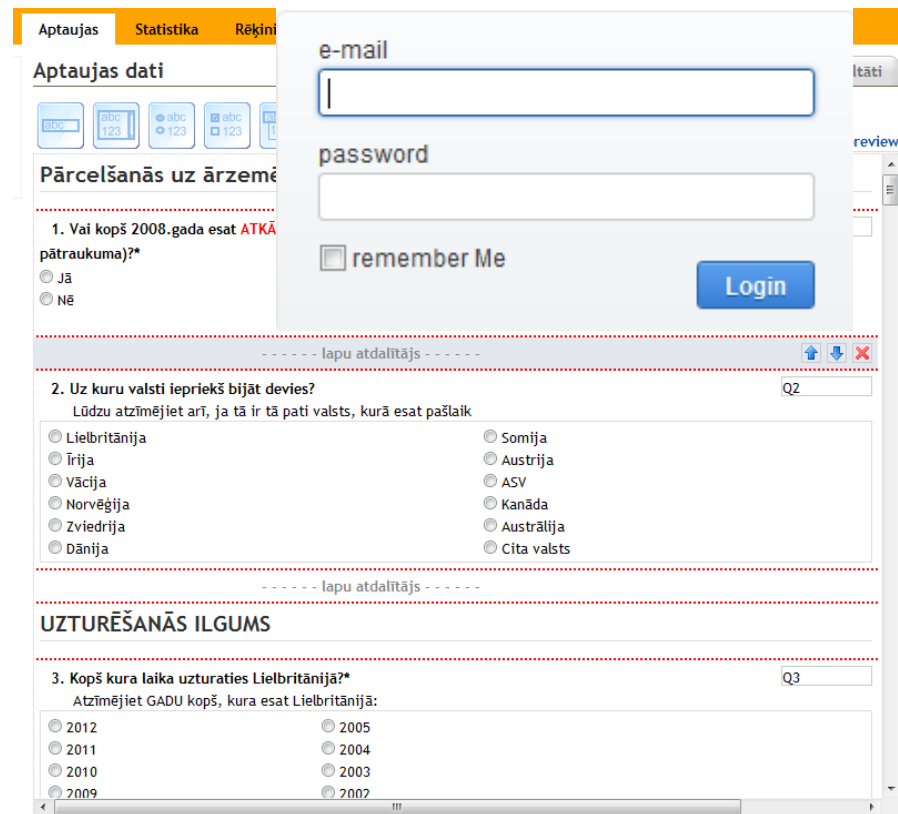


Web-based survey in a Latvian social network website <http://www.frype.com> “For Friends” in Latvian

2.6 million registered website users who mostly are Latvians

Survey was posted to all Latvians who were located in the Nordic Countries (IP addresses)

Initially first selection question excluded those who are only visiting.

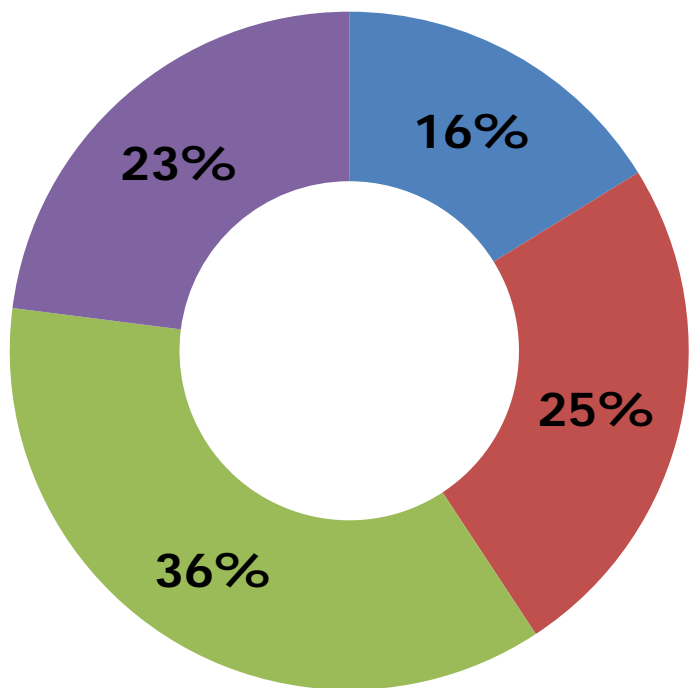


The screenshot shows a web-based survey interface for 'frype.com'. The page has a yellow header with navigation tabs: 'Aptaujas', 'Statistika', and 'Rēķini'. The main content area is titled 'Aptaujas dati' and contains several sections:

- Registration/Navigation:** Fields for 'e-mail' and 'password', a 'remember Me' checkbox, and a 'Login' button. There are also 'Itāti' and 'review' links on the right.
- Section 1:** 'Pārcelšanās uz ārzemē' (Moving abroad). Question: '1. Vai kopš 2008.gada esat ATKĀ (pātraukuma)?*' (Have you been abroad since 2008?). Options: 'Jā' (Yes) and 'Nē' (No).
- Section 2:** 'Uz kuru valsti iepriekš bijāt devies?' (Which country did you visit previously?). Question: '2. Uz kuru valsti iepriekš bijāt devies? Lūdzu atzīmējiet arī, ja tā ir tā pati valsts, kurā esat pašlaik' (Which country did you visit previously? Please also mark if it is the same country you are currently in). Question ID: Q2. Radio button options include: Lielbritānija, Somija, Īrija, Austrija, Vācija, ASV, Norvēģija, Kanāda, Zviedrija, Austrālija, Dānija, Cita valsts.
- Section 3:** 'UZTURĒŠANĀS ILGUMS' (Duration of stay). Question: '3. Kopš kura laika uzturaties Lielbritānijā?*' (Since when have you been in Great Britain?). Question ID: Q3. Sub-question: 'Atzīmējiet GADU kopš, kura esat Lielbritānijā:' (Mark the year since you have been in Great Britain). Radio button options include: 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002.

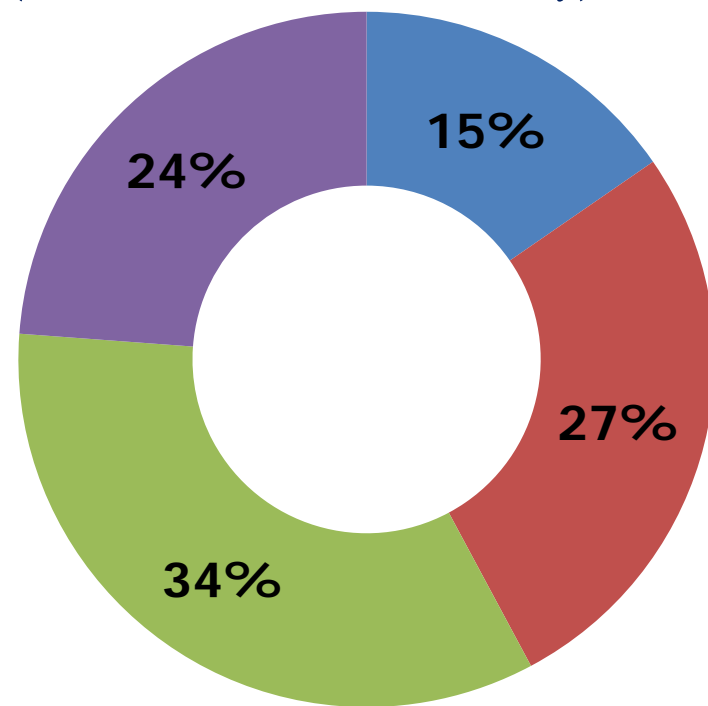
Reasons for emigration

Nordic Countries
(Sweden and Norway)



- Family reasons
- Unemployment
- Looking for better life conditions
- Adventure seeking / new experience

Other top destinations
(UK, Ireland, Germany)



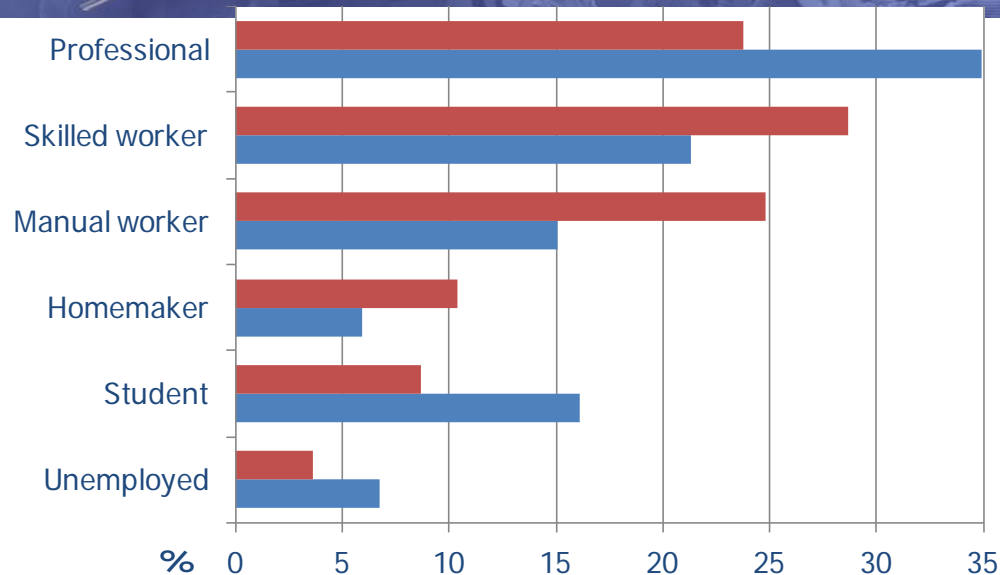
Composition of Latvian immigrants

		Nordic Countries	Other top destinations
		%	%
Age group	16-23	17.1	27.8
	24-30	35.1	33.4
	31-37	20.1	17.1
	38-44	16.8	10.4
	>45	10.9	11.3
Education	Primary	10.4	16.0
	Secondary	34.7	39.1
	Secondary professional	33.4	32.4
	University	21.5	12.5
Migration experience	non-migrant	41.3	35.1
	previous migrant	58.7	64.9

Composition of Latvian immigrants

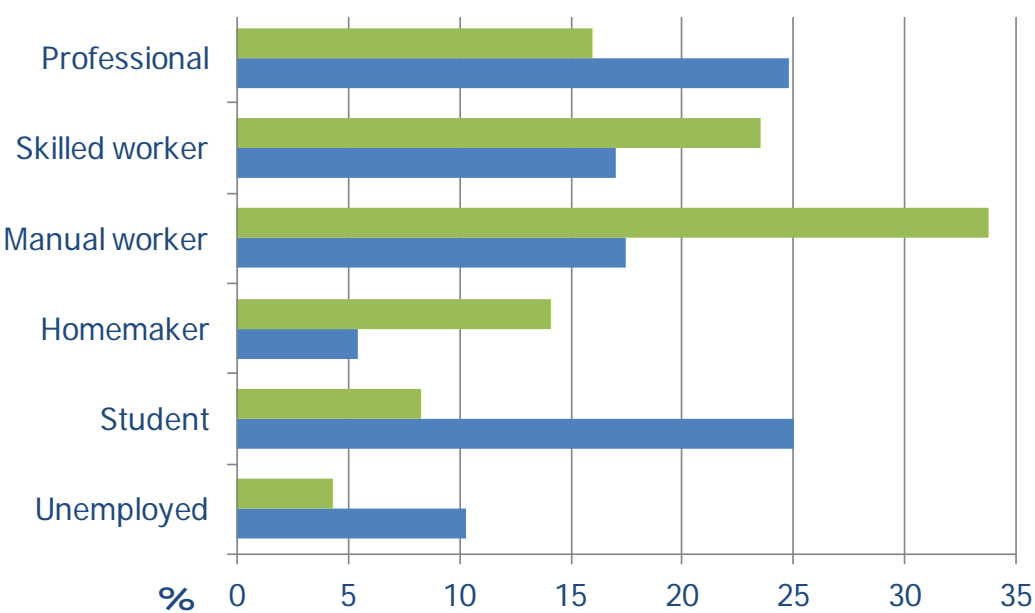
		Nordic Countries	Other top destinations
Family members in Latvia	pre-school age children	4.2	2.1
	school-age children	9.1	4.9
	children over 18	5.8	5.5
	spouse	9.2	3.7
	parents	37.5	44.9
	brothers / sisters	30.8	33.7
	no one	3.4	5.2
Family members abroad	pre-school age children	11.9	10.8
	school-age children	9.4	10.7
	children over 18	5.0	6.3
	spouse	33.2	28.9
	parents	6.2	9.9
	brothers / sisters	11.5	16.8
	no one	22.8	16.6

Occupational Mobility



Latvia:
Professionals,
students

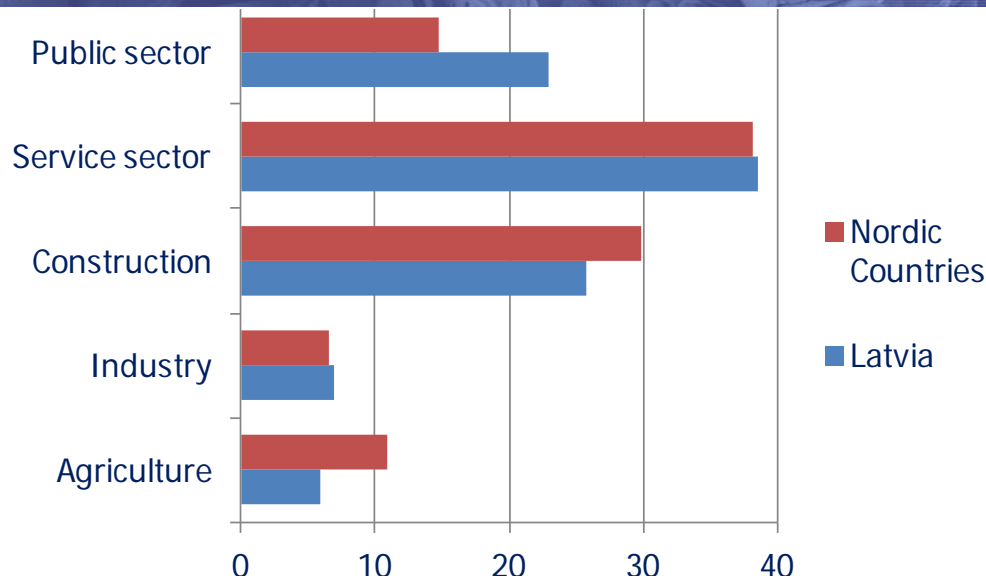
Nordic countries:
Skilled and manual
workers



Latvia:
Professionals,
students,
unemployed

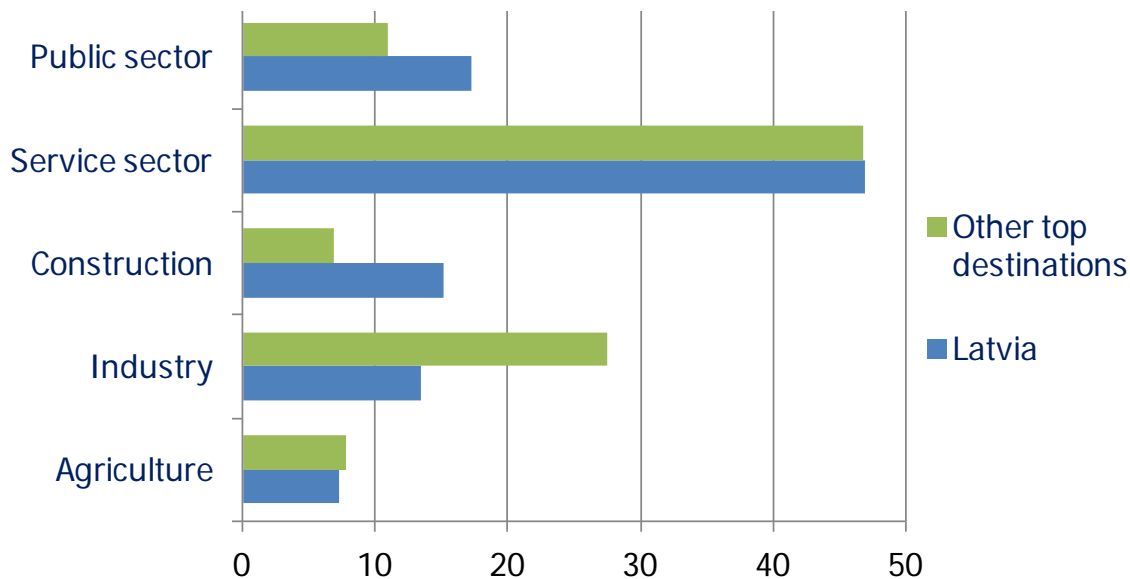
**Other
destinations:**
manual worker,
skilled worker

Occupational Mobility



Latvia: Public setor

Nordic countries:
Construction,
agriculture



Latvia: Public setor,
construction

Other destinations:
Industry

Some conclusion

- Nowadays Nordic countries often are an alternative to the English speaking countries.
- Close geographic proximity and modern technologies as well as travel opportunities support rather frequent communication and information flows between Latvia and Nordic countries.
- In recent years Sweden attracts more young, working age male who are economic migrants in comparison to previous female immigrants.
- Occupational diversity excludes Latvian migrants from concentration in the lower occupations.

Some conclusion



- Increase in share of migrants to the Nordic countries.
- Main reasons: better life conditions and unemployment in Latvia.
- More university level migrants.
- More first time migrants.
- Latvia: more children and spouse left behind.
- Nordic countries: more alone and with spouse both Latvians and other nationals.
- Latvia - professionals and students; public sector.
- Nordic countries - skilled workers and manual workers; construction and agriculture.



Thank you for your attention!

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