



The Demographic and Socio-Economic
Profile of Return Migrants and
Long-Term In-Migrants in Scotland:
Evidence from the Scottish
Longitudinal Study

**THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC
PROFILE OF RETURN MIGRANTS AND LONG-TERM
IN-MIGRANTS IN SCOTLAND:
EVIDENCE FROM THE SCOTTISH LONGITUDINAL
STUDY**

**David McCollum
ESRC PhD Student Intern,
Office of the Chief Researcher**

Scottish Government Social Research
2011

This report is available on the Scottish Government Social Research website only www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch.

The views expressed in this report are those of the researcher and do not necessarily represent those of the Scottish Government or Scottish Ministers.

© Crown Copyright 2011

Limited extracts from the text may be produced provided the source is acknowledged. For more extensive reproduction, please contact the Queens Printers of Scotland, Admail, ADM 4058, Edinburgh EH1 1NG. Email: licensing@oqps.gov.uk

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
Introduction	5
Findings	5
Policy implications	5
1. INTRODUCTION	6
Policy background	6
Study aims and objectives	7
2. METHODS	8
Key points	8
The Scottish Longitudinal Study	8
Sample groups	8
The analysis	10
Strengths of the SLS	10
Some caveats	10
3. RESULTS	12
Key points	12
Scots return migration	12
Long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK	18
Long-term immigrants from overseas	23
4. CONCLUSIONS	28
Policy implications	28
Implications for future research	28

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author gratefully acknowledges the support of the Office of the Chief Researcher in the Scottish Government, and the Scottish Longitudinal Study team at the Longitudinal Studies Centre Scotland (LSCS) and the General Register Office for Scotland. The LSCS is supported by the ESRC/JISC, the Scottish Funding Council, the Chief Scientist Office and the Scottish Government.

The author alone is responsible for the interpretation of the data. Census output is Crown copyright and is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO and the Queen's Printer for Scotland.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

1. Population growth is a key contributor to, and consequence of, a more vibrant society and dynamic economy. However, Scotland's overall population is ageing, whilst its population of working age is forecast to decline. A modest rate of natural increase (births minus deaths) means that Scotland is heavily reliant on in-migration as a means to achieving its Population Target. However, little is currently known about the nature of migration flows into Scotland or the characteristics of the individuals involved. This research makes use of the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) to explore the nature of some return and other migration flows to Scotland by investigating the characteristics of those who constitute them.

Findings

2. This report describes the characteristics of a particular group of return migrants, i.e. those born in Scotland who left and returned in the ten years between 1991 and 2001. It found that these Scots return migrants typically left and returned to Scotland at an early stage in their working lives. They were slightly more likely to be in work and less likely to be economically inactive than the general Scottish population. However, when compared to members of the general Scottish population of the *same age*, they generally had slightly *lower* employment and full-time education rates, and slightly *higher* unemployment and economic inactivity rates. Nevertheless, they were more likely to have a degree or professional qualification, and those who were working tended to hold better jobs, than their general population age equivalents.
3. This report also describes the characteristics of long-term in-migrants to Scotland – people who were born elsewhere in the UK or overseas, but have lived in Scotland continuously since 1991 or earlier.
4. Long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK had economic activity rates, qualification levels and socio-economic occupational classifications that generally compared favourably against the Scottish population as a whole.
5. Long-term immigrants to Scotland from overseas generally came to Scotland at an early point in their working lives. They had a similar profile to the general Scottish population of the same age in terms of economic activity levels. However, they tended to be more likely to have a degree or professional qualification than the Scottish population of the same age, and less likely to hold jobs at the bottom end of the occupational hierarchy.

Policy implications

6. Overall, the return of Scots and the settling of in-migrants from elsewhere are likely to have positive economic impacts for Scotland. This analysis therefore supports policy efforts to encourage Scots living elsewhere to return and encourage new in-migrants into Scotland from the rest of the UK and from overseas.

1. INTRODUCTION

Policy background

- 1.1 The overall Purpose of the Scottish Government is: *to focus the Government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.* Population growth is a key contributor to, and consequence of, a more vibrant society and dynamic economy (Scottish Government, 2007). In line with the important role played by population growth in increasing sustainable economic growth, a Population Target has been set for Scotland to match average European (EU-15) population growth over the period 2007-2017.
- 1.2 Scotland's population has grown every year since 2002, and the population at the end of June 2009 was estimated at 5,194,000 (General Register Office for Scotland, 2010c). However, a key challenge faced by policy makers is that Scotland's overall population is ageing and the population of working age is projected to decline (University of Strathclyde, 2008). In both 1991 and 2001, 64% of Scotland's population was of working age. However, the proportion aged under 16 decreased and the proportion over 65 increased over this period (General Register Office for Scotland, 2003).
- 1.3 Additionally, a modest rate of natural increase (births minus deaths) means that Scotland is heavily dependent on in-migration as a way of increasing its population in the short to medium terms: in 2009 only 5,190 more people were born than died in Scotland, compared with consistent annual increases from migration of over 20,000 between 2003 and 2009 (General Register Office for Scotland, 2010a; General Register Office for Scotland, 2010b). Despite the significant contribution made by in-migration towards population growth, there are concerns that increases through this route may not produce the average population growth of about 23,000-24,000 per annum needed for the Population Target to be met. Scotland's population only increased by 0.49% in 2009, compared to the EU 15 average of 0.51% (Scottish Government, 2010).
- 1.4 Practical policy responses aimed at stimulating population growth have involved efforts to increase the attractiveness of Scotland as a place to live and work, in order to attract talented migrants and high quality businesses and to better retain the existing Scottish population. This study has been designed to shed light on the merit of policy efforts to promote new and return migration to Scotland. The rationale for these measures is that they can help Scotland achieve its Population, Participation and Productivity Purpose Targets. More people staying and moving to Scotland will increase its population. If these people are of working age, they can increase rates of labour market participation - and if they are skilled, they can boost productivity levels in Scotland.
- 1.5 Population growth through in-migration includes both new immigrants and return migrants to Scotland. The economic impact of more recent immigration into Scotland has been investigated (see Rolfe and Metcalf, 2009) but much less is known about return migration to Scotland. It is estimated that over one

million Scots-born individuals are not resident in Scotland, meaning that around a sixth of Scots are actually living outside of the country, predominantly in the rest of the UK (The Scottish Government, 2009). Evidence from the 2001 Census Sample of Anonymised Records (SAR) suggests that returnees made up 41% of all migrants into Scotland in the twelve months prior to the 2001 Census (author's analysis of the 2001 SAR). Since a considerable proportion of the migrants into Scotland are Scots returnees, these flows could potentially play an important role in Scotland's population growth and thus economic prosperity.

- 1.6 In addition to encouraging Scots living elsewhere to return to Scotland, policies are also aimed at attracting talented individuals from elsewhere in the UK and abroad to migrate to and settle in Scotland.
- 1.7 Understanding of migration flows to and from Scotland is limited, as we do not have a detailed system of recording people who move in and out of Scotland (General Register Office for Scotland, 2009). This study aims to fill some of the existing evidence gaps in relation to the three migration flows discussed above, by investigating the characteristics of Scots returning to Scotland and of non-Scots-born in-migrants from both elsewhere in the UK and overseas who are settling in Scotland, using data from the Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS).

Study aims and objectives

- 1.8 The overall aim of the study is to explore the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of those involved in particular types of return and long-term in-migration to Scotland. The specific research objectives are to examine the characteristics of:
 - Scots-born individuals who left and returned (from the rest of the UK and overseas) to Scotland in the 10 years between 1991 and 2001
 - Long-term in-migrants to Scotland (i.e. have lived in Scotland continuously since 1991 or earlier) who were born in another part of the UK
 - Long-term immigrants to Scotland (i.e. have lived in Scotland continuously since 1991 or earlier) who were born overseas

2. METHODS

Key points

- The Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) has been used to identify a particular subset of Scots return migrants and non-Scots-born long-term in-migrants into Scotland (from the rest of the UK and from overseas), and to draw out their demographic and socio-economic characteristics.
- The characteristics of the study cohorts are compared with the general population of similar age in Scotland, using 2001 Census data derived from the Scrol website.
- The benefits of using the SLS are that it contains a wealth of demographic and socio-economic data on a large, nationally representative sample, and it is longitudinal, allowing for analysis of how individuals' circumstances (including place of residence) change over time.
- The SLS has the drawbacks of potentially undercounting some migrants (some young men and some overseas out-migration) and, because its data is from the 1991 and 2001 Censuses, the information is becoming somewhat outdated. It is possible that current patterns of migration differ to some extent from the patterns of migration observed in this analysis.

The Scottish Longitudinal Study

- 2.1 The Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) is a 5.3% nationally representative sample of the Scottish population, which has been running since 2007. It is a large scale linkage study that holds information mostly based on anonymised data from the 1991 and 2001 Censuses. The 274,055 individuals that were living in Scotland at the time of the 1991 Census who held one of twenty undisclosed birthdates (occurring in any year) made up the original sample. Others entered the sample as they were born in Scotland or migrated to Scotland, and individuals exited the sample through death or out-migration from Scotland.
- 2.2 The bulk of information relating to SLS members is derived from anonymised Census records and vital event registrations. The National Health Service Central Register (NHSCR), which records movements of patients between health boards (based on registrations with General Practitioners), is used to identify the entry or exit of SLS members into and out of Scotland.

Sample groups

- 2.3 The analysis involved three main study groups: returners, immigrants from overseas and in-migrants from the rest of the UK. Figure 2.1 illustrates the migratory patterns of the study cohorts, and Table 2.1 shows the study sample used in this analysis.

Table 2.1 Sample size by migration group

Cohort type	Sample size
Returners	1,524
In-migrants from the rest of the UK	10,365
Immigrants from overseas	3,391
2001 Scottish Census population	5,062,011

The analysis

- 2.8 The overall approach involved analysing the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the above groups using their 2001 Census responses.
- 2.9 A derived variable was added to the SLS dataset to indicate which of the above study groups sample members belonged to. Cross-tabulations of this derived variable against various 2001 Census variables were conducted to form a profile of the characteristics of each study group.
- 2.10 The results of the cross tabulations were used to form a profile of these groups of Scots return migrants and non-Scots in-migrants to Scotland, and of their migration patterns.
- 2.11 The characteristics of the three migrant groups were compared to those of the general population in Scotland at the time of the 2001 Census. Their socioeconomic characteristics (qualifications, economic activity and socio-economic class) were also compared to those of people from the same age group in the general population, to examine whether any differences observed were simply a result of the different age profiles of the different populations.

Strengths of the SLS

- 2.12 The SLS is a nationally representative sample of the Scottish population with a very low attrition rate. The SLS has a large sample size (274,055 sample members in 1991), which allows for the examination of relatively small sub-groups. As the data is mostly based on anonymised Census data, it holds a wealth of socio-economic and demographic information well suited to evaluating the characteristics of migrants. As the SLS contains longitudinal data on individuals, it allows for changes in their circumstances (including their location) to be observed. Migrants to and from Scotland can therefore be identified, including the characteristics of return migrants both prior to leaving Scotland and after their return.

Some caveats

- 2.13 Some migrants will not actually be identified as migrants by the SLS. Since the SLS relies on the NHSCR to flag the relocation of sample members, those less likely to register with a GP when they move (such as young men and short-term migrants) may be missed. In addition, people migrating overseas are less likely to be identified as migrants than those migrating to other parts of the UK. This is

because, even if people in the latter group do not inform their GP that they are leaving Scotland, they will be picked up by the NHSCR as having left Scotland when they register with a new GP in another part of the UK.

- 2.14 The bulk of the data on SLS members is derived from their decennial Census records, so there is data on individuals' characteristics only at two specific points in time (21st April 1991 and 29th April 2001). The analysis is therefore unlikely to pick up migrants' characteristics immediately prior to or after moves (unless they moved immediately before/after their enumeration in a Scottish Census).
- 2.15 It has not been possible to include some interesting migrant groups in this study. For example, Scots return migrants who returned to Scotland after 2001 have not been included, as they were not present in Scotland at the 2001 Census and so there is no data available on their circumstances after return. For the same reason, Scots return migrants who left after the 2001 Census and who have since returned were not included.
- 2.16 The recent in-migration of individuals from the A8 countries following their accession to the European Union in 2004 is likely to have had a significant demographic and socio-economic impact on Scotland. However, since these migrants were not in Scotland at the 2001 Census, it has not been possible to include this group in the analysis.
- 2.17 The analysis covers only a subset of all return migrants (those leaving and re-entering Scotland between 1991 and 2001) so the findings are not meaningful in terms of general return migration since they cannot tell us about other patterns of return migration (e.g. return after a longer absence, towards the end of the working life), because those patterns have not been examined here. As the data provides evidence only for the particular subset of return migrants under examination, the analysis cannot shed light on what the main patterns of return migration are, or which are dominant, and how they compare in terms of characteristics.
- 2.18 The socioeconomic characteristics (qualifications, economic activity and socio-economic class) of the three migrant groups were compared to those of people from the same age group in the general population, to examine whether any differences observed were simply a result of the different age profiles of the different populations. Such age-specific analysis was not undertaken for the other characteristics examined (e.g. housing tenure and household type), and so it should be noted that any differences (or lack of differences) observed in these characteristics between migrants and the general population may be at least partly due to the groups' differing age profiles.

3. RESULTS

Key points

- The sub-set sample of Scots return migrants analysed tended to come back to Scotland when they were still at an early stage in their working lives. Returnees were slightly less likely to be in employment or full-time education, and more likely to be unemployed or economically inactive, than the general Scottish population of the same age. However, they were more highly educated and relatively well represented in jobs at the top end of the occupational hierarchy and tended to be more likely to have a degree or professional qualification.
- The long-term in-migrants to Scotland from the rest of the UK analysed tended to have economic activity rates, qualification levels and socio-economic classifications that generally compared favourably against the general Scottish population (and the other two study cohorts). They typically moved to Scotland at an early or mid-point in their careers as opposed to at or near retirement age.
- The long-term in-migrants to Scotland from overseas analysed generally came to Scotland as children or at an early point in their working lives. They had a similar profile to the general Scottish population of the same age in terms of economic activity levels, but tended to be more likely to have a degree or professional qualification and less likely to hold jobs at the bottom end of the occupational hierarchy.

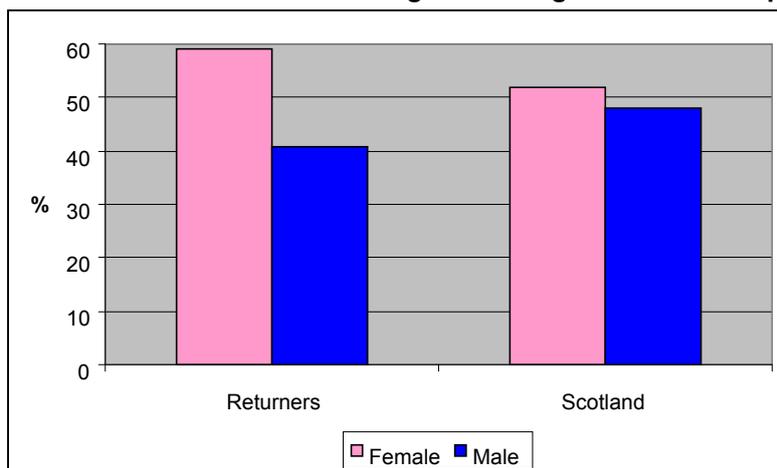
Scots return migration

- 3.1 In this study, Scots return migrants are Scots-born SLS members who were in Scotland at the 1991 and 2001 Censuses but left and returned between them. The figures discussed relating to Scots return migrants are based on their characteristics at the time of the 2001 Census.

Sex and age profile

- 3.2 Chart 3.1. shows a higher proportion of females in the return migrant sample (59%) than males (41%). The 2001 Census population shows less of a difference between the sexes (52% male and 48% female).

Chart 3.1 Sex of Scots return migrants and general Scottish population, 2001



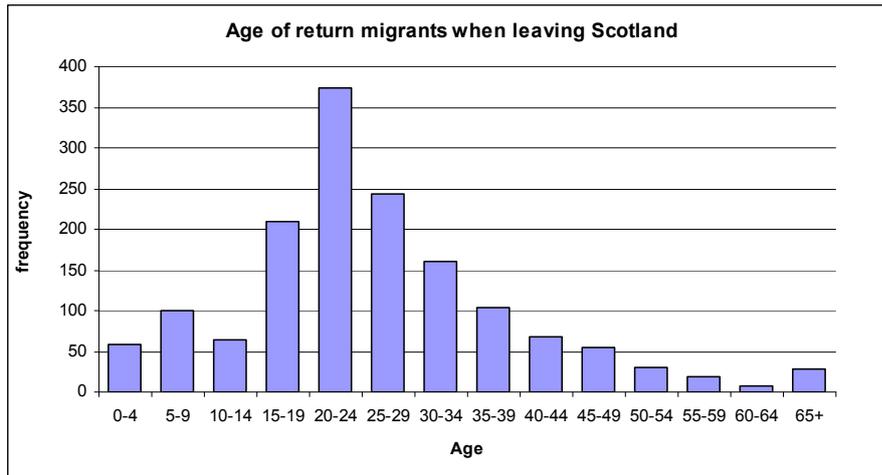
3.3 It was possible to detect the age at which members of study cohorts last migrated to or from Scotland. Table 3.1 shows the average age of Scots return migrants when they left and returned to Scotland, and Charts 3.2 and 3.3 display the age ranges at which they left and returned to Scotland. The figures presented indicate that most return migrants who left and returned to Scotland between 1991 and 2001 did so at an early point in their working lives, and they typically spent only a very short period of time outside Scotland. The mean ages of the return migrants sample at the time of their last recorded exit and entry from and to Scotland were 26 and 28 respectively, meaning that Scots who spent a relatively short period of time outside of Scotland (i.e. left after 1991 and returned before 2001) on average spent only two years elsewhere.

Table 3.1: Average age that Scots return migrants left and returned to Scotland

	Age last exit	Age last entry	Age in 2001
Mean	26	28	30
Median	24	26	29
Mode	24	24	27

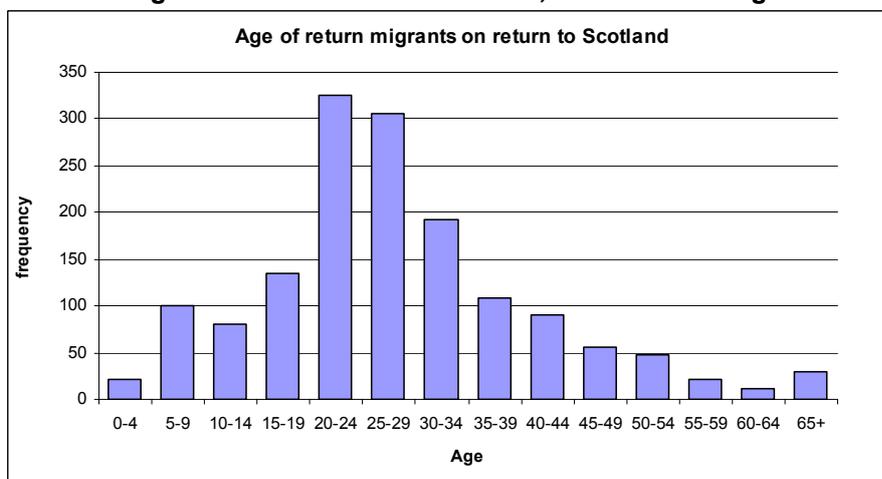
3.4 Chart 3.2 indicates that the return migrant's cohort consisted mostly of those who made a decision to leave Scotland as adults, but also of some individuals who are likely to have left as a child with their parents. The most common age for children leaving was 7. Adults tended to leave in their late teens or early to mid-twenties, possibly reflecting new students leaving to start university in other parts of the UK or overseas and recent graduates leaving Scotland.

Chart 3.2: Age at last exit from Scotland, Scots return migrants



3.5 Chart 3.3 indicates that the mid-twenties were the most common period for return. These figures are encouraging since they suggest that Scots who left Scotland after 1991 and returned before 2001 came back at an early as opposed to late point in their working lives or upon retirement. However, it should be noted that some of this effect is likely to be caused by the way that the cohort of return migrants was defined since those who stayed away from Scotland for longer than ten years were not included in the analysis.

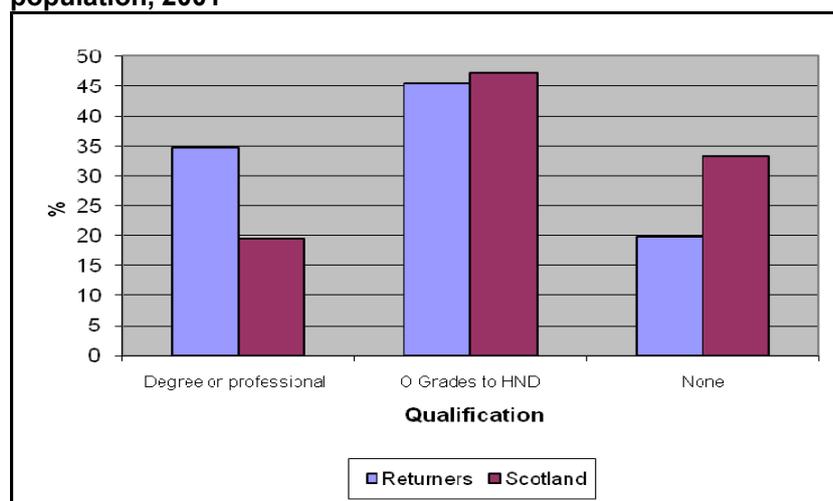
Chart 3.3: Age at last return from Scotland, Scots return migrants



Qualifications

3.6 As Chart 3.4 shows, return migrants were relatively well educated. Over a third (35%) of returnees held a degree or professional qualification in 2001 and only around a fifth (19%) had no qualifications whatsoever. These figures compare favourably with the educational profile of the general Scottish population in 2001 (19% and 33% respectively).

Chart 3.4: Level of highest qualification, Scots return migrants and general Scottish population, 2001



3.7 Table 3.2 shows the educational profile of return migrants and the general Scottish population at the 2001 Census as disaggregated by age. Returners of nearly all ages were much more likely to have a degree or professional qualification and were less likely to have no qualifications than the general population of Scotland of similar age. An exception is the 16-24 age group, where returners were more likely to have a degree or professional qualification but were also more likely to have no qualifications than the general Scottish population of similar age in 2001.

Table 3.2 - Distribution of highest qualification in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for Scots return migrant sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

		degree or professional qualification	O grades to HND (or equivalent)	no qualification	All qualifications (and sample size)
SLS return migrant sample	16-24	17%	62%	21%	100% (223)
	25-34	45%	43%	12%	100% (591)
	35-59	32%	43%	25%	100% (394)
	60-64	23%	30%	47%	100% (44)
	65-74	*	*	70%	100% (17)
	All ages	35%	46%	19%	100% (1,269)
2001 Census population	16-24	9%	79%	12%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	26%	59%	15%	100% (699,000)
	35-59	22%	43%	35%	100% (1,757,000)
	60-64	16%	24%	60%	100% (262,000)
	65-74	14%	20%	66%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	19%	48%	33%	100% (3,731,000)

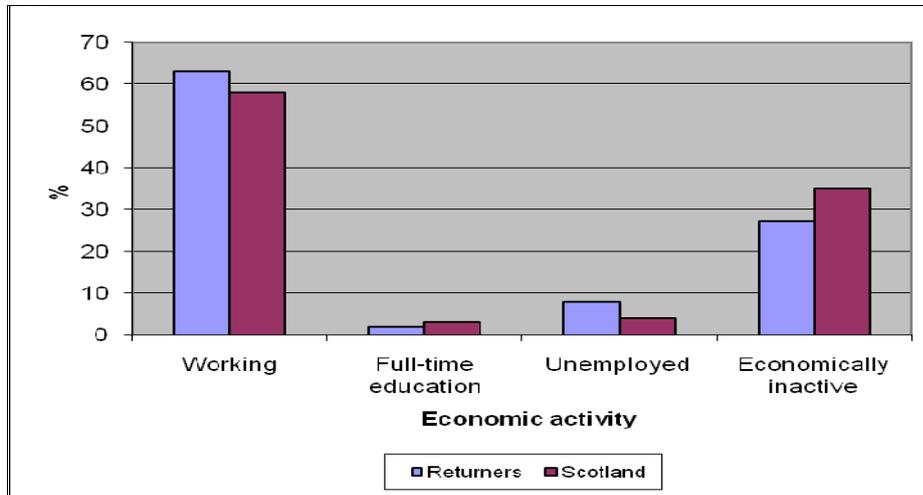
* Cell suppressed as percentages based on small numbers

Economic activity

3.8 Chart 3.5 shows the economic activity of Scots return migrants and the general Scottish population in 2001. Nearly two-thirds of return migrants (63%) aged 16-74 were working at the time of the 2001 Census whereas 2% were in full-time education, 8% were unemployed and 27% were economically inactive. Return migrants were more likely to be in work and less likely to be economically

inactive than the general Scottish population in 2001. They were, however, more likely to be unemployed and slightly less likely to be in full-time education.

Chart 3.5: Economic activity of return migrants and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.9 In order to examine whether the above differences between the cohort groups were merely attributable to differences in their age structure, the economic activity of return migrants and the general population are disaggregated by age in Table 3.3. Return migrants tended to be slightly less likely to be working and more likely to be economically inactive than the general Scottish population of the same age. The age disaggregated figures for unemployment and full-time education also tend to be slightly less favourable for Scots return migrants in comparison with the general Scottish population.

Table 3.3 - Distribution of economic activity in 2001 by age group for Scots return migrant sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

	Age group	Working	Full-time education	Unemployed	Economically inactive	All economic activities (and sample size)
SLS return migrant sample	16-24	41%	8%	15%	36%	100% (226)
	25-34	71%	1%	6%	22%	100% (592)
	35-54	68%	1%	7%	24%	100% (396)
	55-64	46%	*	*	48%	*
	65-74	*	*	*	*	*
	All ages	63%	2%	8%	27%	100% (1,281)
2001 Census population	16-24	44%	17%	7%	32%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	75%	1%	5%	19%	100% (699,000)
	35-54	76%	0%	4%	20%	100% (1,469,000)
	55-64	45%	0%	3%	52%	100% (550,000)
	65-74	7%	0%	0%	93%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	58%	3%	4%	35%	100% (3,731,000)

* Cell suppressed as percentages based on small numbers

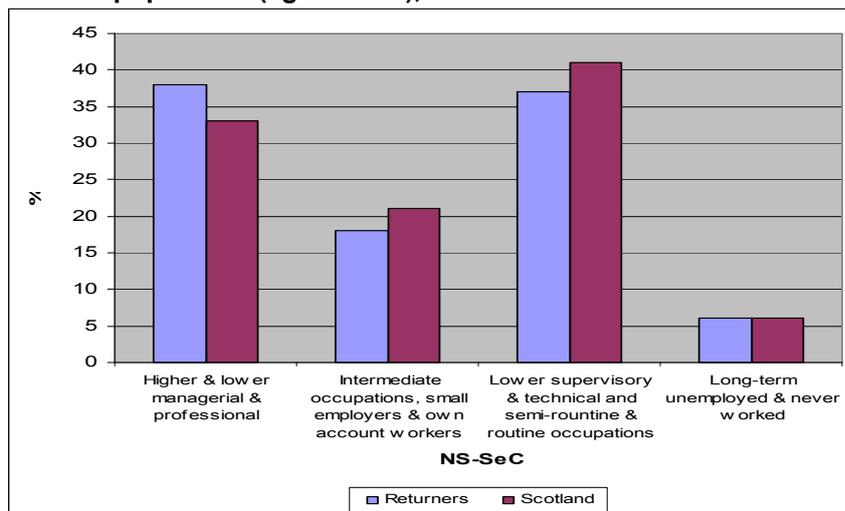
3.10 These figures indicate an apparent contradiction since they suggest that return migrants tended to have lower economic activity rates and higher economic inactivity rates than the general Scottish population of the same age, yet

collectively (i.e. when age was not taken into account) they had a higher proportion in work and lower proportion that were economically inactive. This can be explained by differences in the age distribution of return migrants and the general Scottish population in 2001. Nearly half of this group of Scots return migrants (46%) were aged 25-34 in 2001 whereas only 19% of the 2001 Census population belonged in this age cohort. This concentration of returners within the 25-34 age group explains why their overall figures for economic activity and economic inactivity compare favourably with the overall Scottish population in 2001 i.e. because they have fewer younger and older people to 'drag down' economic activity rates.

Socio-economic class

3.11 Chart 3.6 shows the socio-economic classification of Scots return migrants and the general Scottish population in 2001. In comparison with the general Scottish population, the returners that were in work after their return were overrepresented in jobs at the top of the occupational hierarchy and underrepresented in jobs at the bottom of it.

Chart 3.6: National Statistics Socio-economic Class of Scots return migrants and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.12 Table 3.4 shows the above figures disaggregated by age group. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, return migrants tended to be more likely to be in jobs at the top of the occupational hierarchy and less likely to be in jobs at the bottom end of it.

Table 3.4 - Distribution of NS-SEC in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for Scots return migrant sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

	Age group	higher and lower managerial and professional	intermediate occupations, small employers & own account workers	lower supervisory & technical and semi-routine & routine occupations	long-term unemployed & never worked	All socio-economic classifications (and sample size)
SLS return migrant sample	16-24	19%	17%	51%	13%	100% (173)
	25-34	45%	18%	32%	5%	100% (566)
	35-54	38%	19%	37%	6%	100% (375)
	55-64	35%	14%	51%	*	*
	65-74	*	27%	66%	*	*
	All ages	38%	19%	37%	6%	100% (1,172)
2001 Census population	16-24	17%	18%	55%	10%	100% (340,000)
	25-34	36%	20%	38%	6%	100% (646,000)
	35-54	37%	21%	38%	4%	100 (1,322,000)
	55-64	29%	22%	44%	5%	100% (400,000)
	65-74	17%	24%	23%	36%	100% (47,000)
	All ages	33%	20%	41%	6%	100% (2,754,000)

* Cell suppressed as percentages based on small numbers

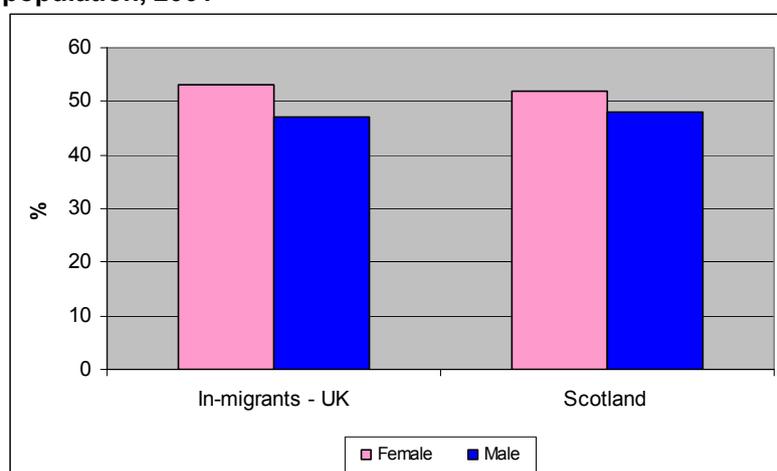
Long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK

3.13 In this study, long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK are UK born SLS members who were not born in Scotland but who have been recorded as living in Scotland continuously since 1991 or earlier. The figures discussed relating to long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK are based on their characteristics at the time of the 2001 Census.

Sex and age profile

3.14 As Chart 3.7 indicates, long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK had a comparable sex split to the general Scottish population: 47% of this cohort was male and 53% female, compared with 48% and 52% respectively in the case of the general Scottish population.

Chart 3.7: Sex of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and general Scottish population, 2001

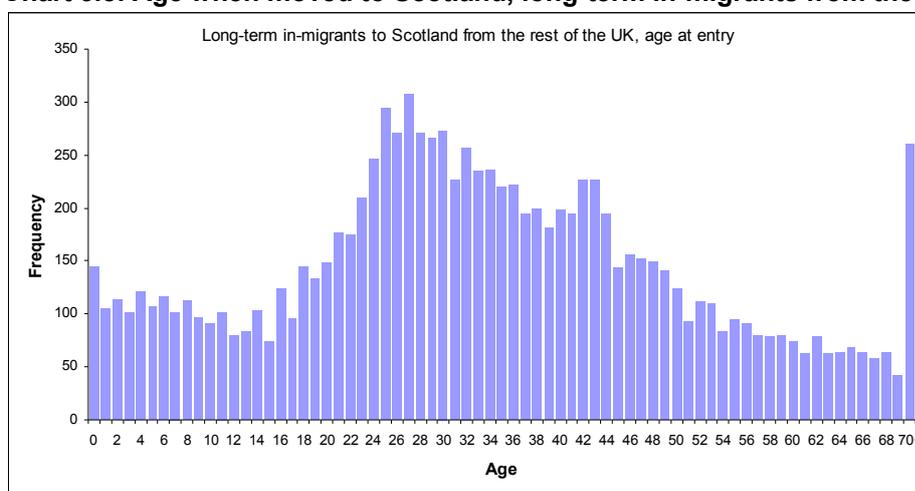


3.15 Table 3.5 shows the average age of in-migrants from the rest of the UK when they moved to Scotland, and Chart 3.8 displays the age ranges at which they moved to Scotland. These indicate that most long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK moved to Scotland prior to or at or near the beginning of their working lives. Long-term in-migrants from the UK were on average 33 years old when they moved to Scotland. Large numbers moved as children or in their twenties or early thirties.

Table 3.5: Average age that in-migrants from rest of UK moved to Scotland

	Age last entry	Age in 2001
Mean	33	47
Median	32	49
Mode	27	54

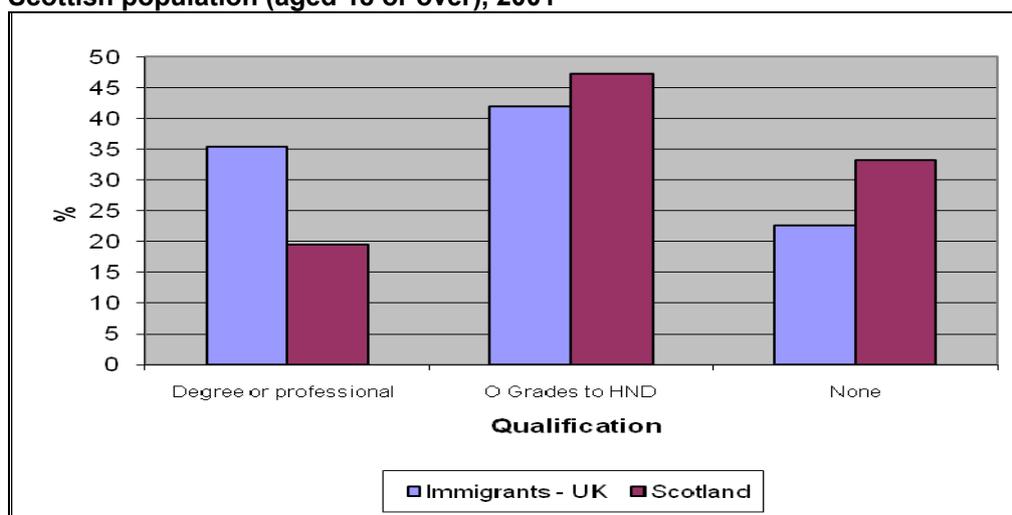
Chart 3.8: Age when moved to Scotland, long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK



Qualifications

3.16 As chart 3.9 shows, long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK were relatively well qualified. Over a third (35%) had a degree or professional qualification in 2001 whereas only 23% had no qualifications whatsoever. Long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK were more likely to have a degree or professional qualification and were less likely to have no qualifications than the general Scottish population.

Chart 3.9: Level of highest qualification, in-migrants from the rest of the UK and general Scottish population (aged 18 or over), 2001



3.17 Table 3.6 shows the educational profile of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and the general Scottish population by age in 2001. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, in-migrants from the rest of the UK tended to be more likely to have a degree or professional qualification and less likely to have no qualifications.

Table 3.6 - Distribution of highest qualification in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for in-migrants from rest of the UK sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

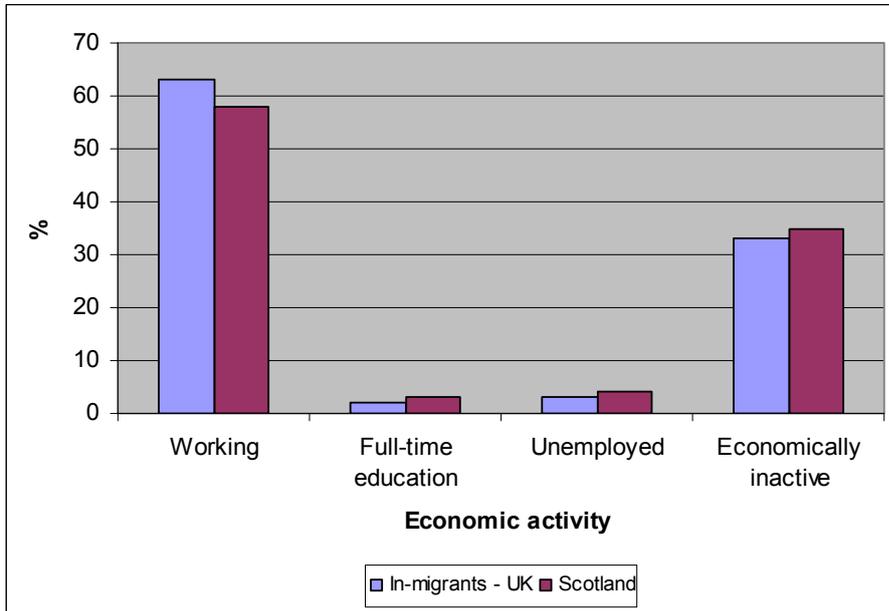
		degree or professional qualification	O grades to HND (or equivalent)	no qualification	All qualifications (and sample size)
SLS in-migrant from rest of UK sample	16-24	10%	82%	8%	100% (620)
	25-34	29%	61%	10%	100% (1,132)
	35-59	41%	39%	20%	100% (4,903)
	60-64	35%	29%	37%	100% (772)
	65-74	31%	23%	46%	100% (1,108)
	All ages	35%	42%	23%	100% (8,535)
2001 Census population	16-24	9%	79%	12%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	26%	59%	15%	100% (699,000)
	35-59	22%	43%	35%	100% (1,757,000)
	60-64	16%	24%	60%	100% (262,000)
	65-74	14%	20%	66%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	19%	48%	33%	100% (3,731,000)

Economic activity

3.18 Chart 3.10 shows the economic activity of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and the general Scottish population in 2001. Almost two-thirds of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK (63%) were in work in 2001 whereas 2% were in full-time education, 3% were unemployed and 33% were economically inactive. These figures compare favourably with the general Scottish population in 2001. In-migrants from the rest of the UK were more

likely to be employed and slightly less likely to be unemployed or economically inactive than the general Scottish population.

Chart 3.10: Economic activity of in-migrants from the rest of the UK and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.19 Table 3.7 shows the economic activity levels of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and the general Scottish population in 2001 disaggregated by age. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, in-migrants from the rest of the UK tended to be more likely to be economically active and less likely to be economically inactive than the general Scottish population of the same age.

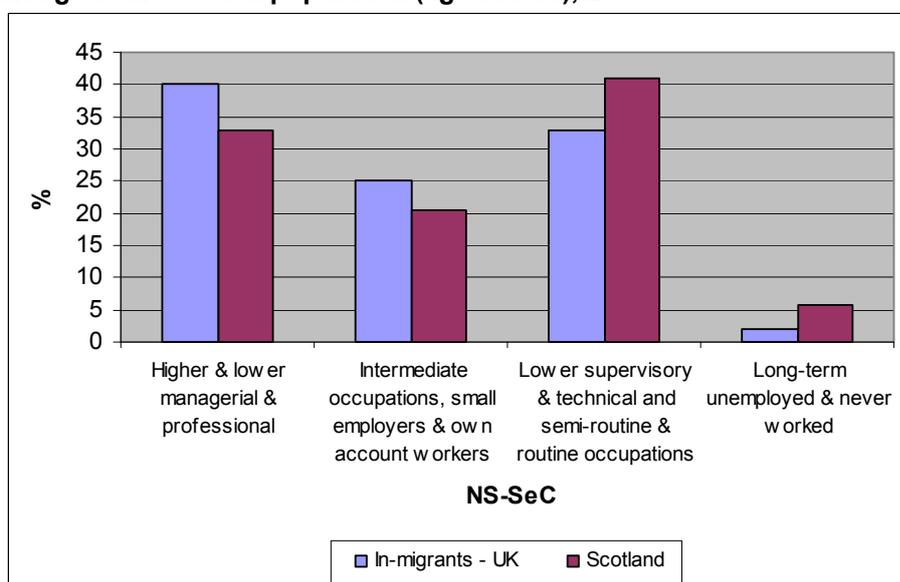
Table 3.7 - Distribution of economic activity in 2001 by age group for in-migrant from rest of UK sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

		Working	Full-time education	Unemployed	Economically inactive	All economic activities (and sample sizes)
SLS in-migrant from rest of UK sample	16-24	45%	17%	5%	33%	100% (612)
	25-34	77%	2%	5%	16%	100% (1,124)
	35-54	81%	0%	3%	16%	100% (3,874)
	55-64	54%	0%	2%	44%	100% (1,774)
	65-74	9%	0%	0%	91%	100% (1,130)
	All ages	63%	2%	3%	33%	100% (8,514)
2001 Census population	16-24	44%	17%	7%	32%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	75%	1%	5%	19%	100% (699,000)
	35-54	76%	0%	4%	20%	100% (1,469,000)
	55-64	45%	0%	3%	52%	100% (550,000)
	65-74	7%	0%	0%	93%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	58%	3%	4%	35%	100% (3,731,000)

Socio-economic class

3.20 Chart 3.11 shows the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and the general Scottish population in 2001. Nearly half of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK (40%) held higher or low managerial or professional occupations, 25% held intermediate occupations or were small employers or own account workers and 33% had lower supervisory or technical or routine or semi-routine jobs. Only 2% of long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK were long-term unemployed or had never worked. Long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK were more likely to hold jobs at the top end of the occupational hierarchy and were less likely to hold jobs at the bottom end of the occupational hierarchy than the general Scottish population. They were also less likely to be long-term unemployed or have never worked.

Chart 3.11: National Statistics Socio-economic Class of in-migrants from the rest of the UK and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.21 Table 3.8 shows the age specific socio-economic classifications for long-term in-migrants from the rest of the UK and the general Scottish population in 2001. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, the long-term in-migrants tended to be more likely to be in high occupational status jobs and less likely to hold jobs at the bottom end of the occupational hierarchy or be long-term unemployed.

Table 3.8 - Distribution of NS-SEC in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for in-migrant from rest of UK sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

		higher and lower managerial and professional	intermediate occupations, small employers & own account workers	lower supervisory & technical and semi-routine & routine occupations	long-term unemployed & never worked	All socio-economic classifications (and sample size)
SLS in-migrant from rest of UK sample	16-24	20%	22%	52%	6%	100% (335)
	25-34	35%	26%	36%	3%	100% (1,081)
	35-54	44%	25%	29%	2%	100% (3,809)
	55-64	40%	26%	32%	2%	100% (1,727)
	65-74	36%	27%	35%	2%	100% (986)
	All ages	40%	26%	32%	2%	100% (7,938)
2001 Census population	16-24	17%	18%	55%	10%	100% (340,000)
	25-34	36%	20%	38%	6%	100% (646,000)
	35-54	37%	21%	38%	4%	100% (1,322,000)
	55-64	29%	22%	44%	5%	100% (400,000)
	65-74	17%	24%	23%	36%	100% (47,000)
	All ages	33%	20%	41%	6%	100% (2,754,000)

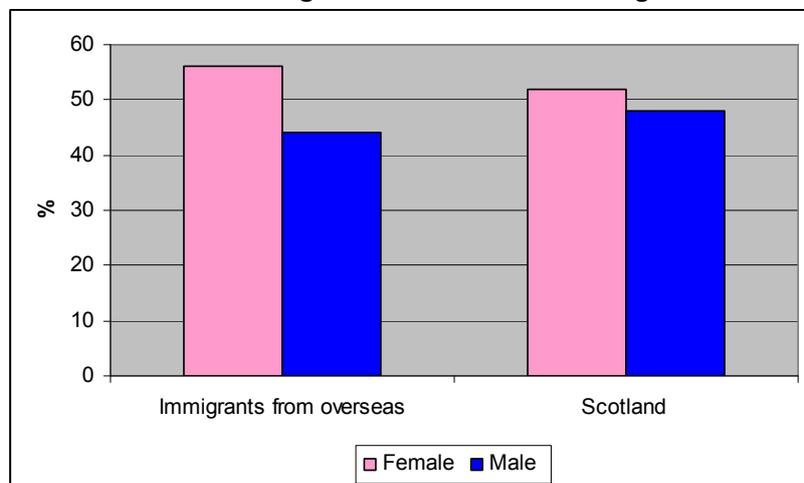
Long-term immigrants from overseas

3.22 In this study, long-term immigrants from overseas are SLS members who were not born in the UK but who have been recorded as living in Scotland continuously since 1991 or earlier. The figures discussed relating to long-term immigrants from overseas are based on their characteristics at the time of the 2001 Census.

Sex and age profile

3.23 As chart 3.12 indicates, long-term immigrants from overseas were more likely to be female than the general Scottish population. Only 44% of long-term immigrants from overseas were male (compared to 48% of the general Scottish population), and 56% of members of this cohort were female (compared to 52% of the general Scottish population).

Chart 3.12: Sex of immigrants from overseas and general Scottish population, 2001

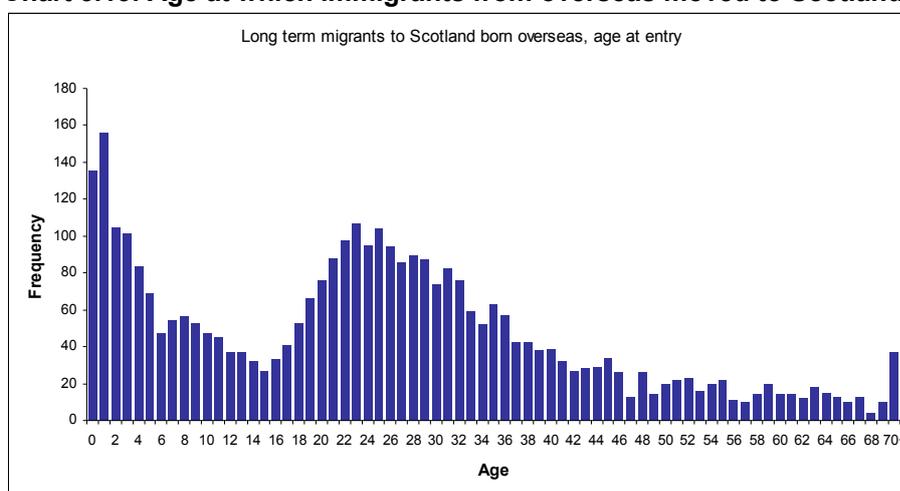


3.24 Table 3.9 shows the average age of immigrants from overseas when they moved to Scotland and Chart 3.13 displays the age ranges at which they moved to Scotland. These figures indicate that most long-term immigrants from overseas moved to Scotland at a young age. The average age of long-term immigrants from overseas was 24, and the single most common age (mode) of the immigrants from overseas was 1. Nearly a third (32%) of this migrant cohort came to Scotland when they were children and a large proportion moved to Scotland when they were in their twenties (27%).

Table 3.9: Average age that immigrants from overseas moved to Scotland

Average	Age last entry
Mean	24
Median	24
Mode	1

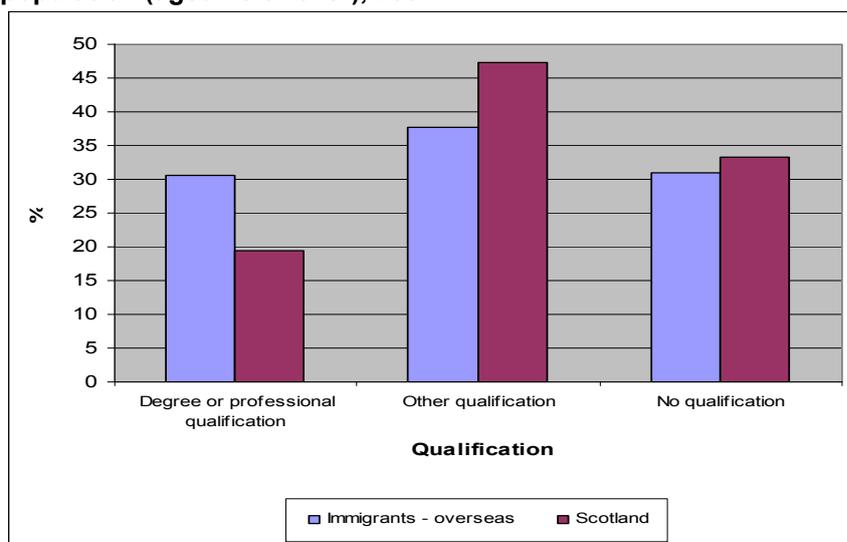
Chart 3.13: Age at which immigrants from overseas moved to Scotland



Qualifications

3.25 As Chart 3.14 shows long-term immigrants from overseas were well qualified, with nearly a third of those aged 16 or over (31%) having a degree or professional qualification in 2001 (compared to 20% of the general Scottish population). Similar proportions of long-term immigrants and the general Scottish population had no qualifications at all (32% and 33% respectively).

Chart 3.14: Level of highest qualification, immigrants from overseas and general Scottish population (aged 16 or over), 2001



3.26 Table 3.10 shows the educational profile of long-term immigrants from overseas and the general Scottish population in 2001 by age. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, immigrants from overseas were more likely to have a degree or professional qualification than the general Scottish population of the same age. They were also less likely to have no qualifications.

Table 3.10 - Distribution of highest qualification in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for in-migrant from overseas and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

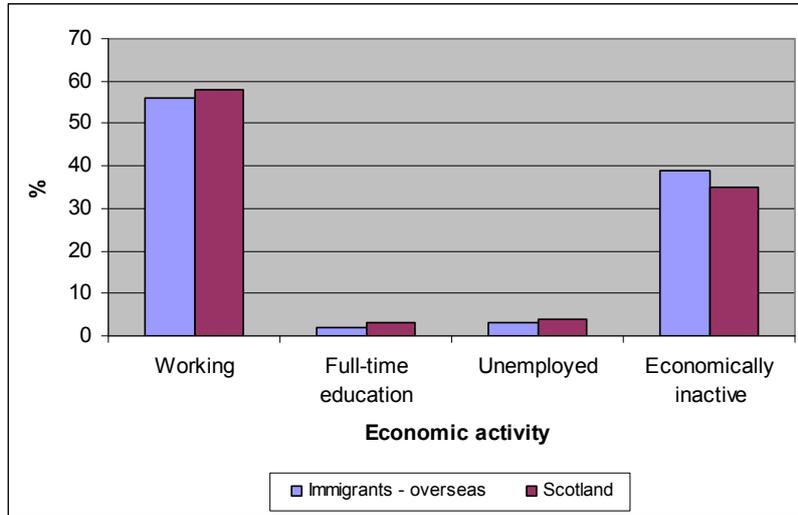
		degree or professional qualification	O grades to HND (or equivalent)	no qualification	All qualifications (and sample sizes)
SLS in-migrant from overseas sample	16-24	14%	81%	5%	100% (264)
	25-34	28%	62%	10%	100% (330)
	35-59	36%	36%	28%	100% (1,263)
	60-64	33%	20%	47%	100% (436)
	65-74	26%	16%	58%	100% (424)
	All ages	31%	38%	31%	100% (2,717)
2001 Census population	16-24	9%	79%	12%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	26%	59%	15%	100% (699,000)
	35-59	22%	43%	35%	100% (1,757,000)
	60-64	16%	24%	60%	100% (262,000)
	65-74	14%	20%	66%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	19%	48%	33%	100% (3,731,000)

Economic activity

3.27 Chart 3.15 shows the economic activity of long-term immigrants from overseas and the general Scottish population in 2001. 56% of long-term immigrants from overseas were working in 2001, 2% were in full-time education, 3% were unemployed and 39% were economically inactive. This group of long-term immigrants had slightly lower employment, full-time education and

unemployment rates, and a higher economic inactivity rate, than the general Scottish population.

Chart 3.15: Economic activity of immigrants from overseas and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.28 Table 3.11 shows the economic activity figures for long-term immigrants from overseas and the general Scottish population in 2001 by age. The economic activity breakdowns were broadly similar between immigrants from overseas and the general Scottish population of the same age, with immigrants in some age groups having only very slightly lower employment and slightly higher economic inactivity rates than the general population.

Table 3.11 - Distribution of economic activity in 2001 by age group for in-migrant from overseas sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

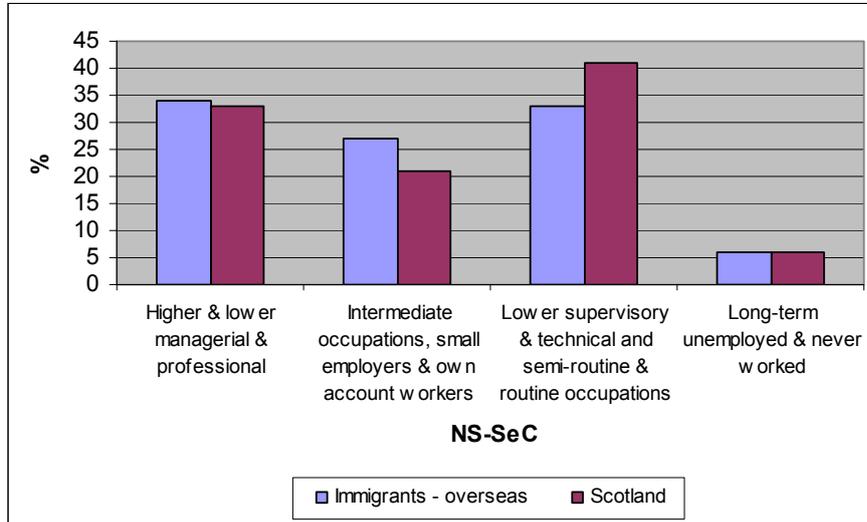
		Working	Full-time education	Unemployed	Economically inactive	All economic activities (and sample sizes)
SLS in-migrant from overseas sample	16-24	42%	17%	6%	35%	100% (264)
	25-34	75%	0%	6%	19%	100% (334)
	35-54	74%	1%	3%	22%	100% (1,249)
	55-64	44%	0%	3%	53%	100% (441)
	65-74	8%	0%	0%	92%	100% (453)
	All ages	56%	2%	3%	39%	100% (2,741)
2001 Census population	16-24	44%	17%	7%	32%	100% (566,000)
	25-34	75%	1%	5%	19%	100% (699,000)
	35-54	76%	0%	4%	20%	100% (1,469,000)
	55-64	45%	0%	3%	52%	100% (550,000)
	65-74	7%	0%	0%	93%	100% (446,000)
	All ages	58%	3%	4%	35%	100% (3,731,000)

Socio-economic class

3.29 As Chart 3.16 shows, the long-term immigrants from overseas that were in work appeared to do relatively well in terms of the types of jobs that they held. Similar proportions of immigrants and Scots held jobs at the top end of the occupational

hierarchy in 2001 (34% and 33% respectively) but the former were overrepresented in middle level jobs and the latter were overrepresented in jobs at the bottom of the occupational hierarchy.

Chart 3.16 National Statistics Socio-economic Class of immigrants from overseas and general Scottish population (aged 16-74), 2001



3.30 Table 3.12 shows the occupational profile of long-term immigrants from overseas and the general Scottish population by age in 2001. When compared to the general Scottish population in the same age group, immigrants from overseas tended to be more likely to hold jobs in the middle of the occupational hierarchy and less likely to hold jobs at the bottom end of the occupational hierarchy than members of the general Scottish population of the same age.

Table 3.12 - Distribution of NS-SEC in 2001 for those aged 16-74, for in-migrant from overseas sample and 2001 Census population, row percents and sample sizes

		higher and lower managerial and professional	intermediate occupations, small employers & own account workers	lower supervisory & technical and semi-routine & routine occupations	long-term unemployed & never worked	All socio-economic classes (and sample sizes)
SLS in-migrant from overseas	16-24	19%	27%	48%	5%	100% (151)
	25-34	35%	25%	35%	5%	100% (331)
	35-54	38%	27%	28%	7%	100% (1,207)
	55-64	31%	29%	34%	6%	100% (413)
	65-74	30%	26%	38%	6%	100% (382)
	All ages	34%	27%	33%	6%	100% (2,484)
2001 Census population	16-24	17%	18%	55%	10%	100% (340,000)
	25-34	36%	20%	38%	6%	100% (646,000)
	35-54	37%	21%	38%	4%	100% (1,322,000)
	55-64	29%	22%	44%	5%	100% (400,000)
	65-74	17%	24%	23%	36%	100% (47,000)
	All ages	33%	20%	41%	6%	100% (2,754,000)

* Cell suppressed as percentages based on small numbers

4. CONCLUSIONS

Policy implications

- 4.1 All three of the migrant groups examined had characteristics that generally compared favourably to the Scottish population. The evidence presented in this report therefore gives credence to policy measures that aim to promote positive demographic and socio-economic outcomes in Scotland by encouraging both Scots and non-Scots from the rest of the UK and from overseas to migrate to and settle in Scotland.
- 4.2 Steps to encourage greater numbers of talented individuals to move to and settle in Scotland will be constrained to some extent by UK immigration policies. However, it should be noted that the largest of the three study groups analysed was the long-term immigrants from the rest of the UK cohort. There is thus scope for targeting this group since movement within the UK is not subject to restrictive immigration legislation. Aiming to attract more in-migrants from the rest of the UK is a warranted policy goal since this group was found to have favourable socio-economic traits (in terms of economic activity, socio-economic class and qualifications) relative to the general Scottish population.

Implications for future research

- 4.3 Members of the three study cohorts in this analysis were in Scotland at both the 1991 and 2001 Censuses, but this analysis has considered their characteristics in 2001 only. Future research could make use of data from the 1991 Census. For example, looking at the educational levels of long-term immigrants in 1991 (which is closer to when they moved to Scotland) could provide information on whether highly skilled migrants are being attracted to Scotland or whether they gain skills after they move.
- 4.4 Similarly since the three study groups were in the 1991 and 2001 Censuses, further analysis could investigate their levels of occupational mobility over the ten years between the decennial Censuses. This could shed light on the extent to which those from the UK and overseas progress in the Scottish labour market over time and the impact on Scots' careers of leaving and later returning to Scotland.
- 4.5 The analysis presented in this report covers only a subset of all return migrants - those leaving and re-entering Scotland between 1991 and 2001. Examination of the characteristics of those who left some time before 1991 (and returned before 2001) would allow us to build a more comprehensive picture of return migrants.
- 4.6 Future research using the SLS could rerun this analysis when data from the 2011 Census have been included. This would generate more up to date findings, and would allow a more sophisticated analysis of migrant groups than that presented in this report. For example, Scots returners who spent less time outside of Scotland (left and returned between the 1991 and 2001 or the 2001 and 2011 Censuses) could be compared with those spending a longer period of

time away before returning (left before 1991 Census and returned before 2011 Census).

- 4.7 Qualitative research may be required to better understand the factors that influence whether or not Scots and others living outside of Scotland decide to return/move to Scotland.

References

General Register Office for Scotland (2003). Scotland's Census 2001. The Register General's 2001 Census Report to the Scottish Parliament. http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files1/stats/rg_report_parliament.pdf

General Register Office for Scotland (2009). Scotland's Population 2008 – The Register General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends. <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/scotlands-population-2008-the-Register-generals-annual-review-of-demographic-trends-154th-edition/scotlands-population-2008-the-register-generals-annual-review-154th-edition.pdf>

General Register Office for Scotland (2010a). Net migration to/from Scottish administrative areas, 1981/82 to most recent. <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/migration/total-net-mig-adminareas-1981-82-to-latest-updjul10.pdf>

General Register Office for Scotland (2010b). Population and vital events Scotland 1971-2009 <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/ve-reftables-09/ve09-t1-1b.pdf>

General Register Office for Scotland (2010c). Scotland's Population 2009 – The Register General's Annual Review of Demographic Trends. <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/annual-review-09/rqar2009.pdf>

Rolfe H and Metcalf H (2009). Recent Migration into Scotland: the Evidence Base. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/261996/0078342.pdf>

Scottish Government (2007). The Government Economic Strategy. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/202993/0054092.pdf>

Scottish Government (2009). Scotland's Diaspora and Overseas Born Population. Edinburgh. The Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/285746/0087034.pdf>

Scottish Government (2010). High Level Summary of Statistics: Population and Migration. Edinburgh. Scottish Government. <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/stats/high-level-summary/j11198/j1119805.htm>

University of Strathclyde (2008). Economic Impact of Scottish demographic changes. Report to the General Register Office for Scotland. Edinburgh: Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Research/by-topic/public-services-and-gvt/Demography-Research-Prog/EconomicImpactofScottish>

Social Research series

ISSN 2045-6964

ISBN 978-0-7559-9971-2

web only publication

www.scotland.gov.uk/socialresearch

APS Group Scotland
DPPAS11206 (01/11)

