

# **From Latin America to Europe**

**Contrasting Socio-Economic Outcomes of Migrants and Their  
Children with Non-Migrants Back Home**

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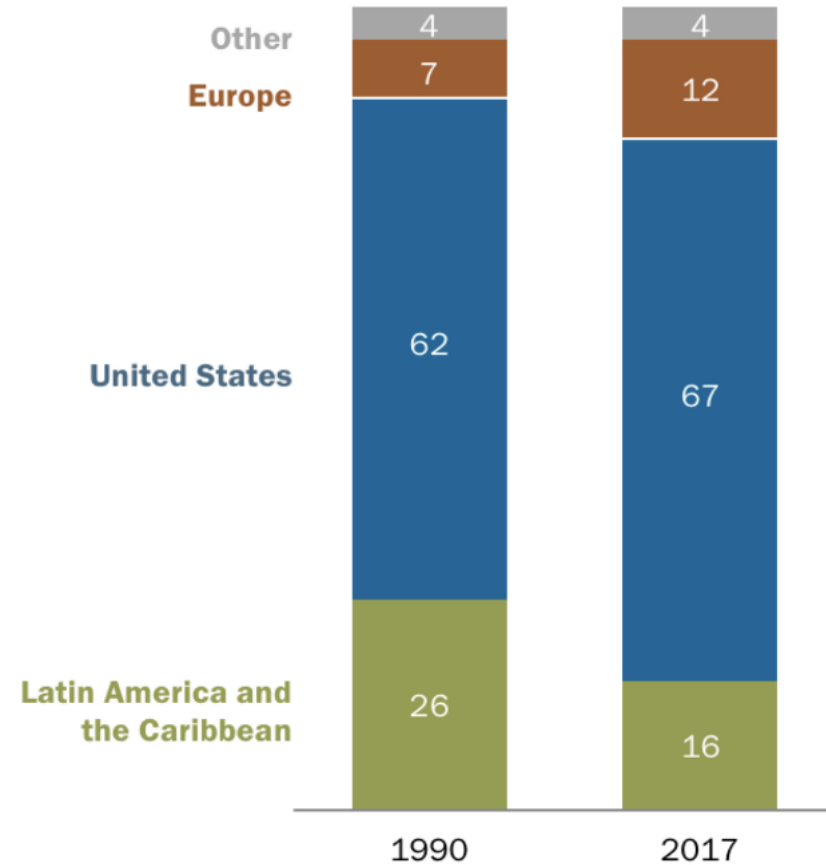
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Latin Americans residing in the EU  
~3.843.026

Eurostat (2011)

# Latin Americans in Europe is a growing group

*% of people born in a Latin American or Caribbean country who live in ...*



Pew Research Center: <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2019/01/25/latin-america-caribbean-no-longer-worlds-fastest-growing-source-of-international-migrants/>

# Conclusions

- Migration outcomes should be judged against two benchmarks:
  - **Origins:** What would my outcomes have been, had I not migrated
  - **Destinations:** How far from the outcomes of the natives
- It is useful to distinguish migration types into multiple groups:
  - based on country of birth of father, mother and migrant;
  - as well as age of migration of migrant :
    - G1 G1.25 G1.5 G2 G2.5

# Findings

- Structural (collective) mobility:
  - LATAM migrants of G1-F1.5 in WEU do hardly **better** with respect to occupational attainment than those who stayed behind;
  - By contrast, G2 and G2.5 do much better, even better than the EU-natives.
- Relative (individual) mobility:
  - Migration produced more relative social mobility: the association between parental background and occupational outcomes is significantly **weaker** for migrants, also compared to WEU natives.

# Design

- Our study is a replicate of Zuccotti et al. (2017) on status attainment and intergenerational mobility of Turks in Turkey and Turks in Europe.
- Zuccotti, Carolina V, Harry BG Ganzeboom, and Ayse Guveli. 2017. “Has Migration Been Beneficial for Migrants and Their Children?” *International Migration Review* 51 (1): 97–126. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imre.12219>.

# What

- Has migration benefited migrants and their children? (Zuccotti, Ganzeboom & Guveli, 2017)
- Phenomenon: consequences of migration → migrants' integration in their host societies
- Migrants ask themselves 'what would have happened had I stayed back in Latin America?'
- To answer, looking at the population at origin is key

# Why

Migrants have a double baseline of comparison upon migration:

1. the natives in the destination country ('destination-oriented' approach) and,
2. those who did not migrate ('origin-oriented' approach).



# How

- Destination + Origin = Double Comparison
- Evaluating two processes:
  - Occupational status attainment : collective or structural mobility
  - intergenerational occupational reproduction: individual or relative mobility.

# About this project

- Antecedents: Jaime's MA thesis at IC3JM, supervised by Zuccotti
  - Studied Argentine migrants in Spain & Israel
  - Learned about context effects
- We study Latin American migrants in 18 countries (Western) Europe and compare them to natives in (A) 8 Latin Americans in Latin America, and (B) Western-European

# Comparative Perspective

Double Comparative: incorporates the population at origin.

1. **Primary Data:** 2,000 Families (Guveli et. al., 2017) and Mexican

Migration Project (Durand & Massey).

2. **Secondary Data:** observational data (Zuccotti et. al., 2017; Feliciano, 2005,

Dronkers, 2010)

# The Incorporation of Immigrants

Destination-Oriented: compare migrants and natives in one destination.

1. Assimilation theory
2. Revisited assimilation theory (Alba & Nee, 1997; Alba, 2005).
3. Segmented assimilation theory (Portes & Zhou, 1993; Zhou, 1997).

Mixed results findings:

- Pessimistic: Portes; Massey; Telles & Ortiz.
- Optimistic: Alba; Waters.

# OED and Groups

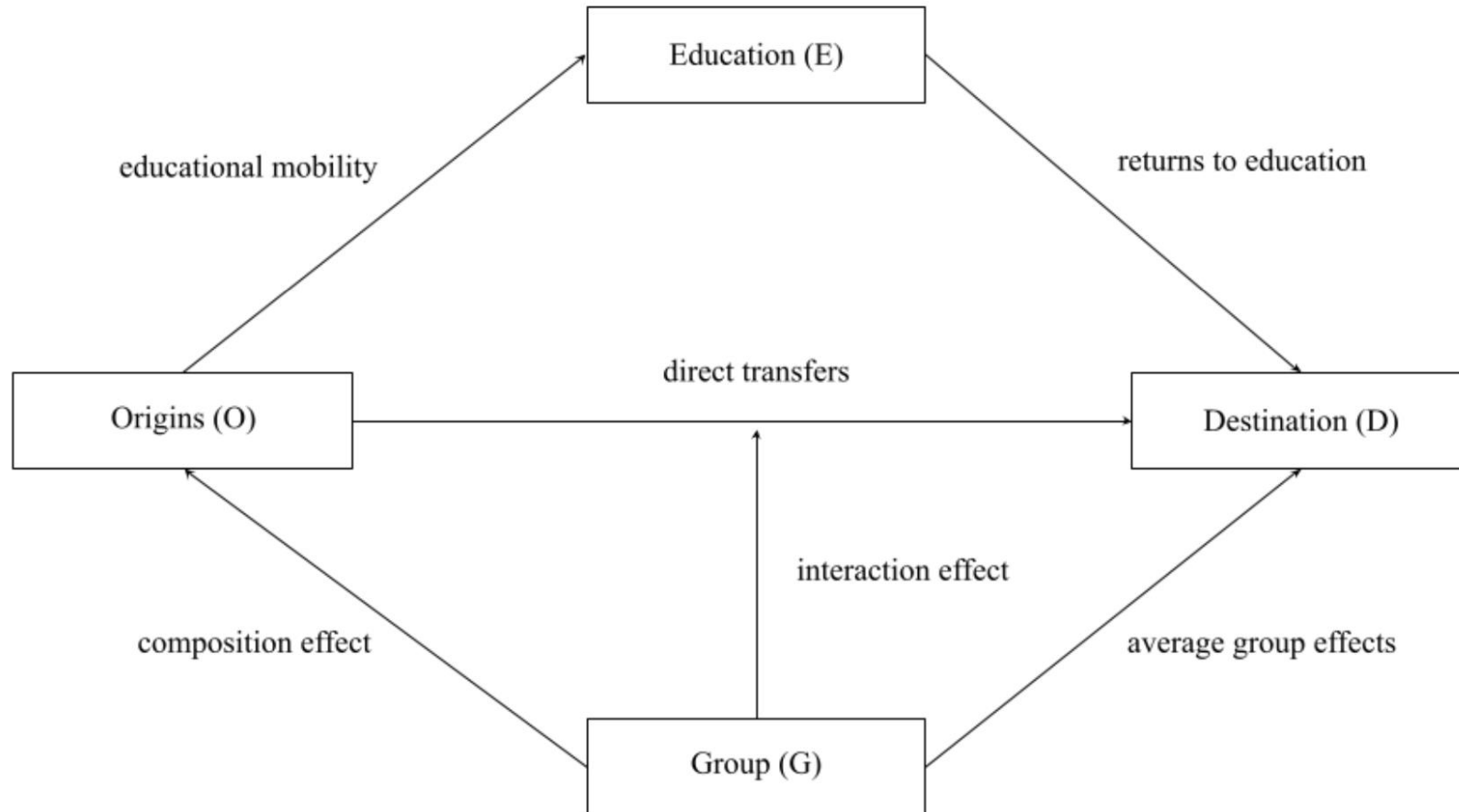


Figure: Groups and the Origin-Education-Destination Model (Blau and Duncan, 1967)

How does socio-economic attainment of Latin American migrants in Europe and their children differ from non-migrants in their country of origin?

What is the role of socio-economic origins in the occupational outcomes of the different groups?

# Expectations

- International migration invokes social mobility
- both structurally (migrants move to better jobs than they would have obtained at home),
- and relative (migrants' parental resources are less effective than for non-migrants).



# Data & Sample

- European Social Survey (10 waves, 2002-2020)
- European Value Study (2 waves, 2008-2018)
- ISMF: International Stratification and Mobility File (Ganzeboom & Treiman, 2023). [www.harryganzeboom.nl/ismf](http://www.harryganzeboom.nl/ismf).
- Males and females, aged 18-65
- LATAM origin countries: 7 (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Venezuela, Suriname, Ecuador, Mexico)
- European destination countries: 18 WE

# Who are the Latin Americans?

**Table 1: Number of Migrants (from ESS & EVS) and Non-Migrants (from ISMF). Initial N.**

	Migrants ESS & EVS	Non- migrants ISMF
BR Brazil	618	57634
AR Argentina	306	34388
SR Suriname	304	8202
CO Colombia	204	1520
PE Peru	188	1400
EC Ecuador	185	1200
CL Chile	173	12509
JM Jamaica	169	0
VE Venezuela	155	969
CU Cuba	108	0
BO Bolivia	100	0
DO Dominican Republic	96	0
UY Uruguay	76	0
MX Mexico	67	16315
Other countries (31x)	416	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3165</b>	<b>134137</b>

# Groups Operationalization (Rumbaut, 2004)

- Generation 1: they migrated, both parents born Latin America
- Generation 1.25: they migrated at age 12-21, both parents born Latin America
- Generation 1.5: they migrated at age 0-11, both parents born Latin America
- Generation 2: born in Europe, Latin American parents
- Generation 2.5: born in Europe, one Latin American parent

# Groups

Group	Frequency	Percent
LA Natives	121641	17.6
Generation 1	980	.1
Generation 1.25	605	.1
Generation 1.5	869	.1
Generation 2	256	.0
Generation 2.5	1025	.1
WE Natives	564287	81.8
Total	689663	100.0

# Results

Dependent Variable: Respondents Occupation (Standardized)						
Parameter	B	SE	B	SE	B	SE
LA Natives	-.324	.037	-.210	.035	-.184	.035
Generation 1	.097	.038	.085	.036	.103	.037
Generation 1.25	-.150	.048	-.132	.045	-.113	.045
Generation 1.5	-.019	.042	-.034	.040	-.026	.041
Generation 2	.241	.074	.303	.070	.334	.074
Generation 2.5	.385	.041	.319	.039	.347	.042
WE Natives	.205	.017	.246	.016	.244	.016
Parental Occupation			.333	.002		
LA Natives*Parental OCC					.411	.004
Generation 1*Parental OCC					.262	.029
Generation 1.25*Parental OCC					.215	.040
Generation 1.5*Parental OCC					.293	.034
Generation 2*Parental OCC					.214	.070
Generation 2.5*Parental OCC					.270	.032
WE Natives*Parental OCC					.315	.002

Controls: Data file, gender, country, cohort, cohort\*region

# Conclusions

- Migration outcomes should be judged against two benchmarks:
  - Origins: What would my outcomes have been, had I not migrated
  - Destinations: How far from the outcomes of the natives
- LATAM migrants in WEU do hardly **better** with respect to occupational attainment than those who stayed behind; **G2 and G2.5** do much better, even better than the EU-natives.
- Migration produced **relative mobility**: the association between parental background and occupational outcomes is somewhat weaker for migrants, also compared to WEU natives.

# Discussion

- Should we include the Surinamese case? **MAYBE**
- Should we keep those countries with < 20 migrant cases? **HARDLY RELEVAND**
- How to tackle selectivity on education? **BY CONTROLLING EDUCATION, WHICH WE DO, THE PROBLEM IS IN SELECTION ON UNOBSERVED VARIABLES**

# Parametrization (new)

- $cFMISEI = FMISEI - \text{mean}(FMISEI)$
- $cISEI = ISEI - \text{mean}(FMISEI)$
- This produces structural mobility (difference between origin and destination averages) in the intercept of the model; the main effects are the group-wise version of this intercept.
- We standardize all status-variables after this transformation, to have all effects in the same metric.
- Datasource is deviation coded
- CNTRY is double deviation coded: separately for WEU and LATAM countries.
- This produced reference values which are the expectation in the center if the data.
- Reference categories for other variables: Female (0=women), Cohort (0=1929).



# Estimation and testing (new)

- We estimate the model omitting the intercept: main effects centered around the grand mean.
- The bias in SE is repaired by testing significant using an omitted category specification.
- Interaction are fully saturated (not contrasted to main effect)

# Latin-American migration to Europe (new)

- Much of it is same-language migration: BR → PT; AR etc → ES, SR → NL; JA → UK; ?? → FR.
- But not all migration is to same language.
- While in colonial times the flow was from Europe to LATAM, the flow has now reversed.
- European motherlands may have facilitated the inflow of migrant from their former colonies, in particular to attract HE students.
- E.g. Surinamese students pay EU tutoring fees in NL.

# Thank you!

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