



PhD-project

Exclusion and inclusion of people with disability and immigrants in the labour market – in the Nordic countries



Comparative in two ways:

- 1) Across the Nordic countries, with specially focus on Norway, Sweden and Denmark
- 2) Across the two groups: People with disability and immigrants



Participation on the labour market

- A measurement of integration
- Benefits both for the individual and the surrounding society
- Keywords:
 - Self-sufficiency
 - Self-esteem
 - Economic growth



The idea about a common Nordic model

- The Nordic countries are meeting the challenges of integration with different strategies
- At the same time the Nordic countries have a lot in common:
 - Generous out-of-work benefit payments – both in their unemployment insurance systems and in other aspects of the social security systems
 - Agrees on the importance of equal opportunities and a good participation on the labour market as a measure for successful integration
 - A statistical infrastructure that is able to track the target populations over time and to measure their outcomes

”Migrant” – Who are we actually referring to?

- Immigrant
- First generation immigrant
- Second generation immigrant
- Foreign born
- People with foreign background
- People with immigration background
- People from Turkey, Asia, Africa and Latin-America
- People with non-western background
- People with non-european bacground

Immigrant population by country background 1970-2008 in Norway

Immigrant population by country background.
1970-2008

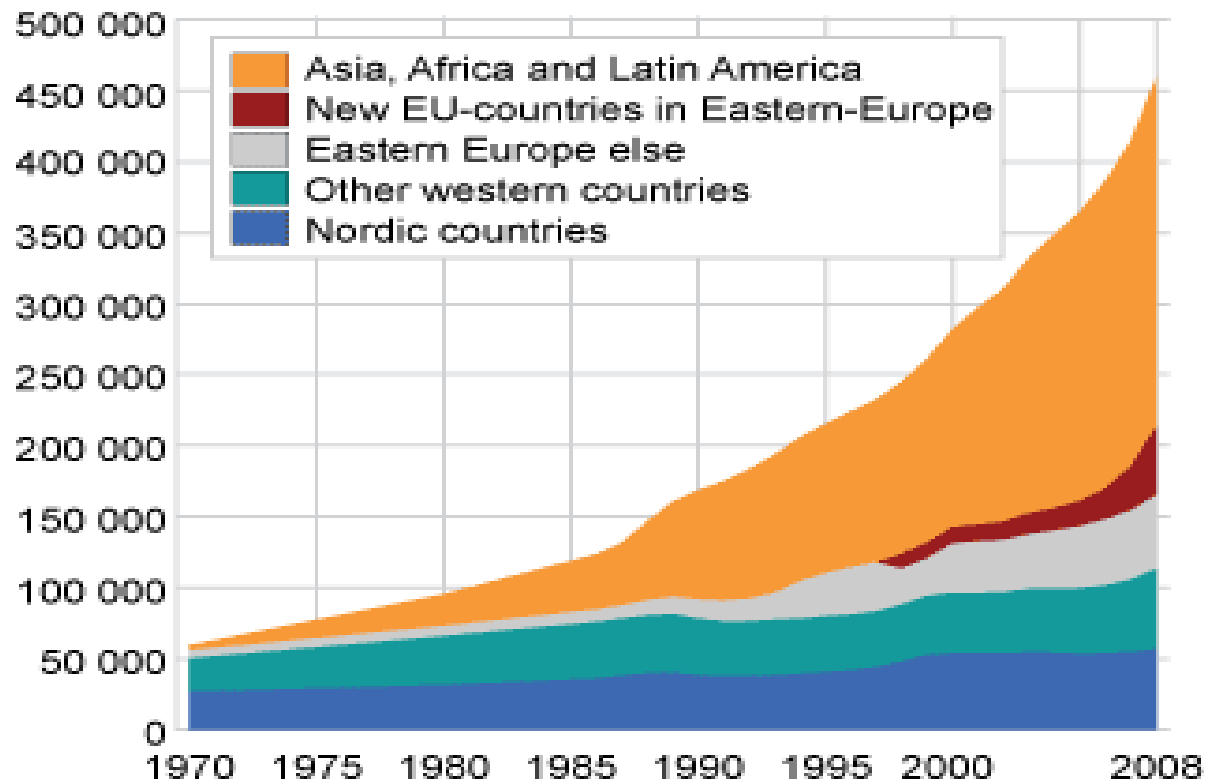
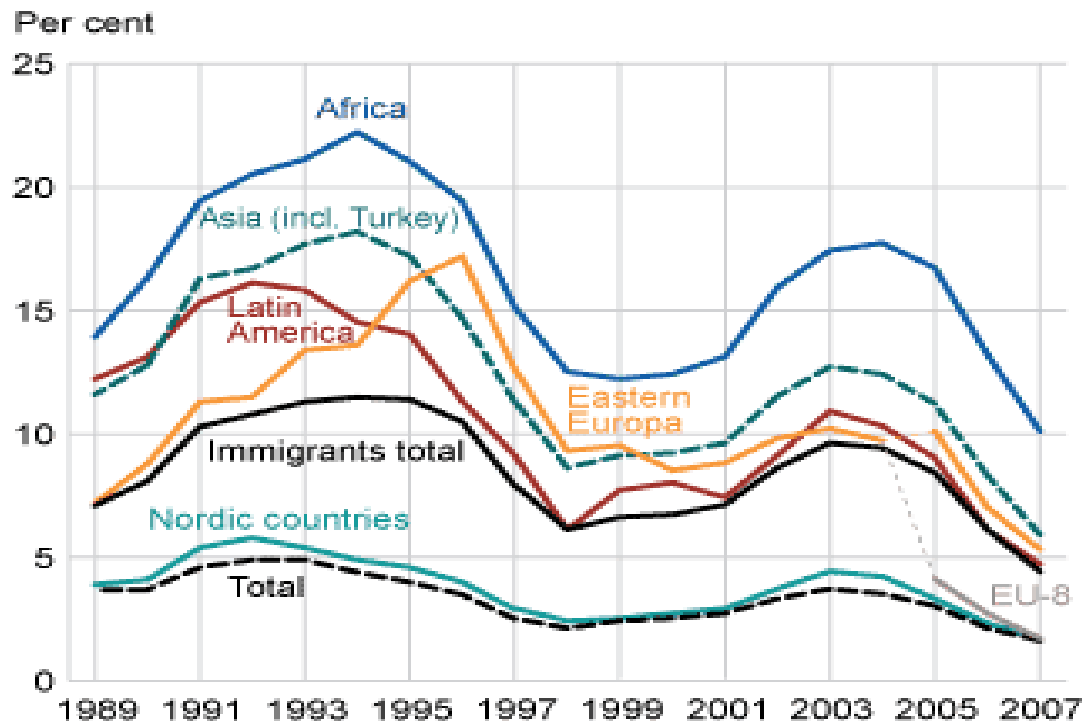


Figure of the unemployment situation in Norway 1989-2007

Registered unemployed aged 16-74, by country background. As a percentage of the labour force. End of November 1989-2007¹



¹ Break in the time series in 1999 due to changes in the definition of unemployed.



Are the data comparable across the national borders?

- Labour Force Survey vs. Employee register data
- The target population is limited to employee jobs
- Different definitions of an employee job
- Unemployed, but not registered



Other problems with statistics

- "Foreign born" and "native born" are two broad categories
- The statistics can show a too positive picture and exposing the reality for some immigrant groups
- Hiding differences between nationalities



What are the statistics good for?

- Development in living conditions
- Dissimilarities between relevant groups living conditions
- A picture of different type of situations and whether the situations changes over time
- The statistics becomes insufficient when it comes to measure the whole picture
- Anyhow, statistics and numbers can open up the box of possible explanations and suggestions for improvements