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Migration plans and trajectories in Switzerland: length of stay and emigration

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Plan

- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
 - Migration plans : cross-sectional survey
 - Length of stay
 - Destination country of next emigration
 - Migration trajectories: longitudinal population statistics
 - Re-emigration
 - Return migration
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Migration plans
 - Length of stay
 - Destination country of next emigration
- Migration trajectories
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 - Return migration

Methods

Migration module

- Included in the Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS) every 3-4 years
- History and situations of populations with a migration background
- Last data collections: 2014, 2017, 2021
- Permanent resident population aged 15-74
- Asylum seekers and provisionally admitted foreigners excluded
- Transnationalism, naturalisation, conditions upon arrival, reasons for immigration, migration plans
- Subsample of 18,630 people

Methods

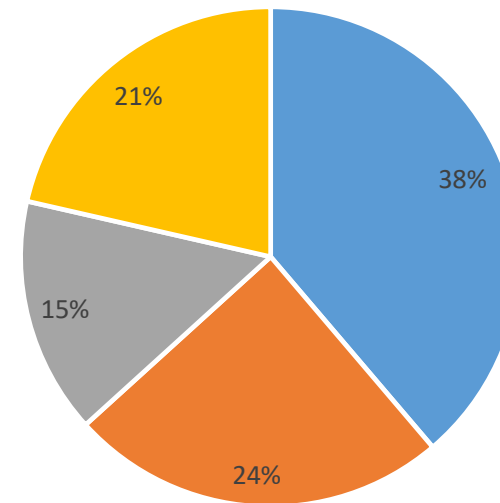
Longitudinal Demographic Statistics (DVS)

- Based on the population data from the Population and Household Statistics (STATPOP)
- Started on 31.12.2010
- Permanent and non-permanent resident population
- Births, deaths, immigration, emigration, residence permits, naturalisation and marital status events
- 11 million entries of people up to 2022

Results

Migration plans

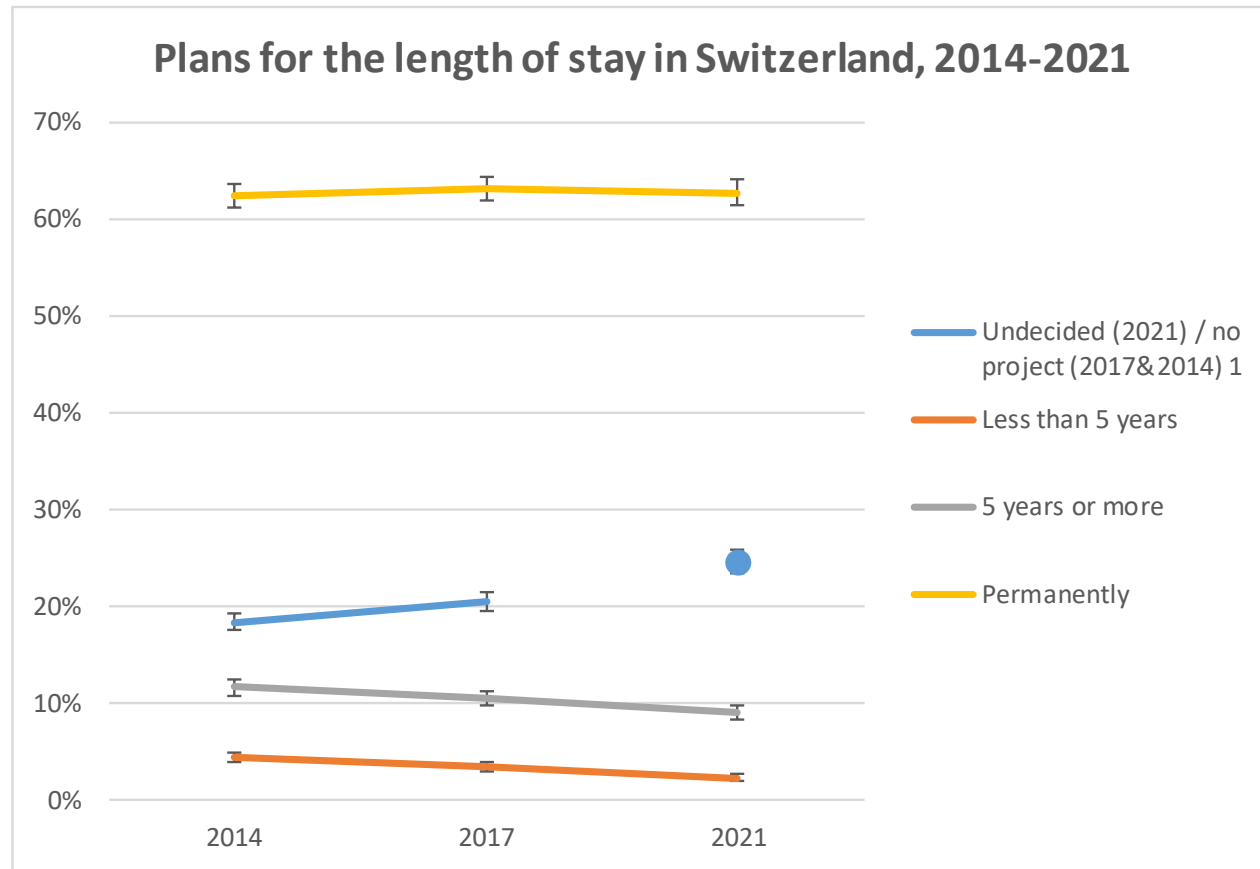
Length of stay in Switzerland for the foreign-born permanent resident population, 2022



■ Less than 10 years ■ 10-20 years ■ 20-30 years ■ At least 30 years

Source: FSO - Population and Household Statistics (STATPOP)

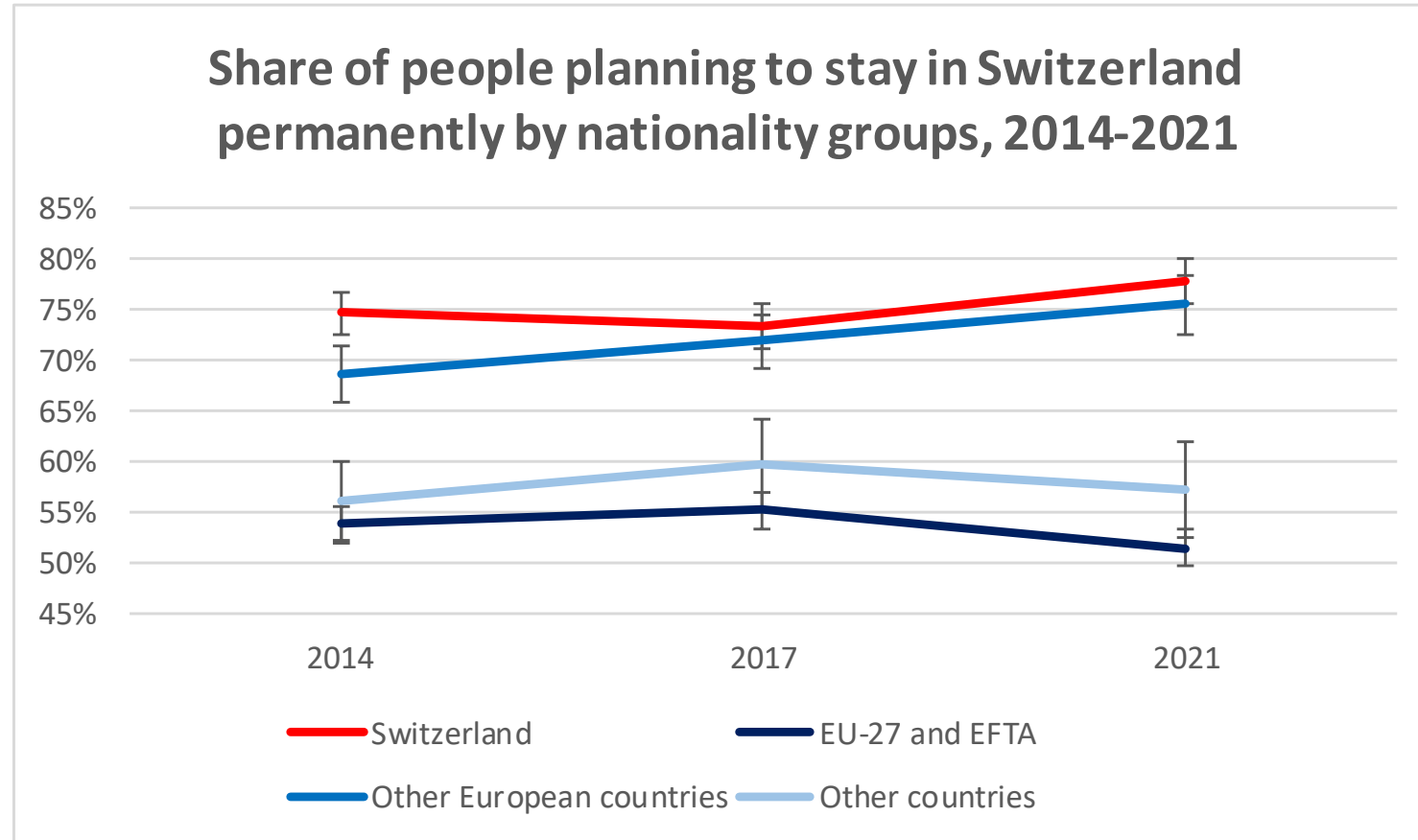
Length of stay in Switzerland



¹ Break in series between 2017 and 2021 for methodological reasons

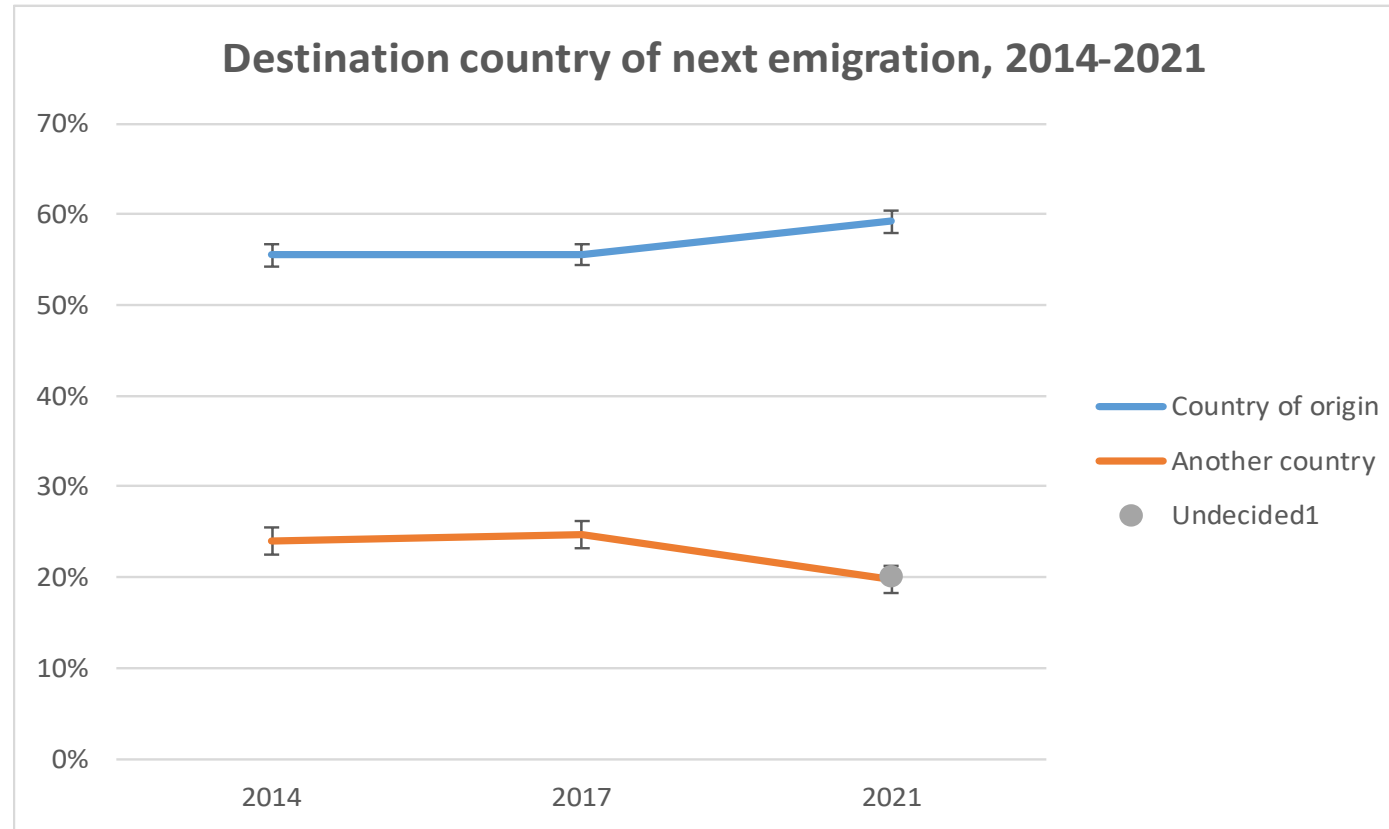
Source: FSO – Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS), migration module

Length of stay in Switzerland



Source: FSO – Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS), migration module

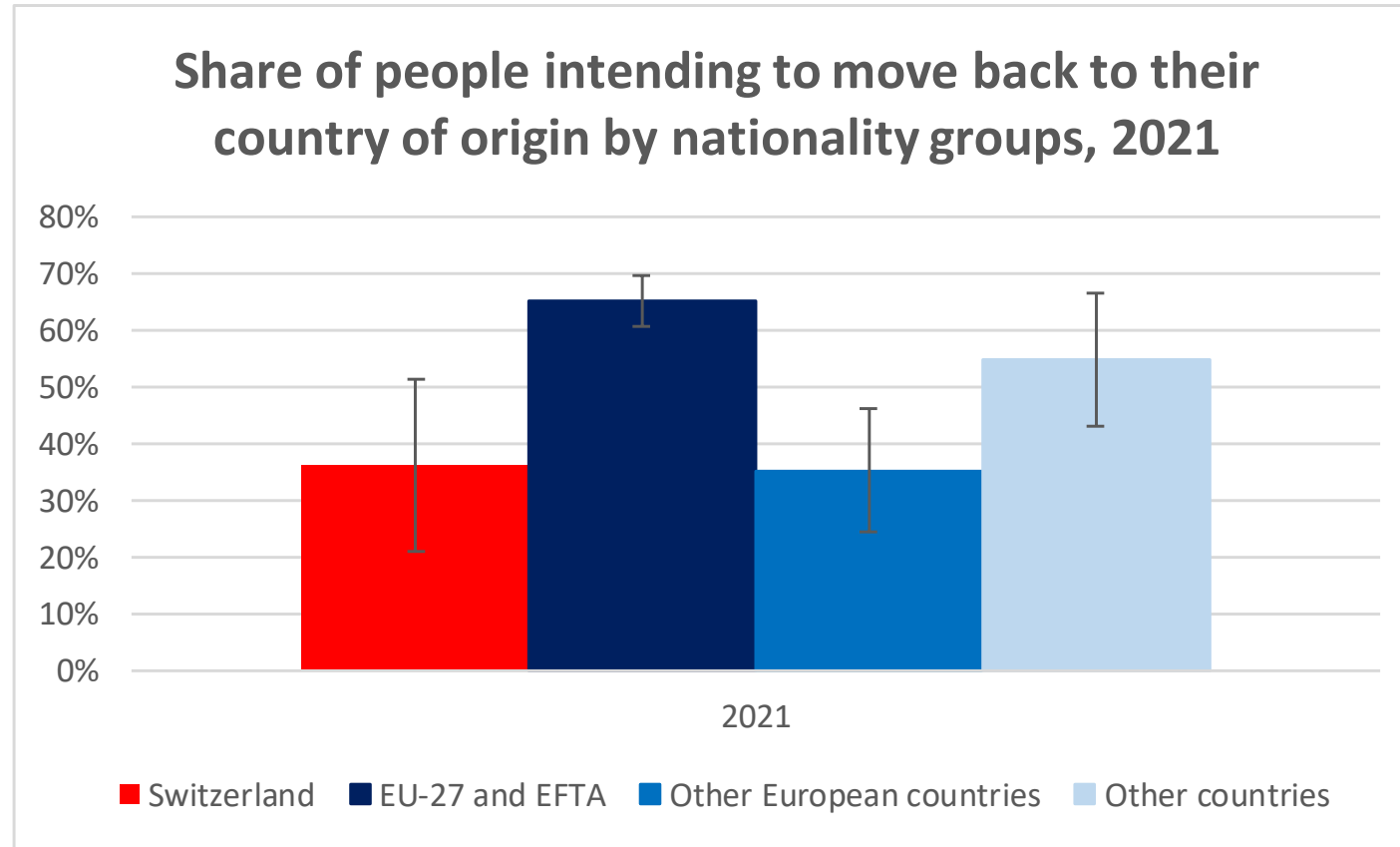
Destination country of next emigration



¹ From 2021

Source: FSO – Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS), migration module

Destination country of next emigration



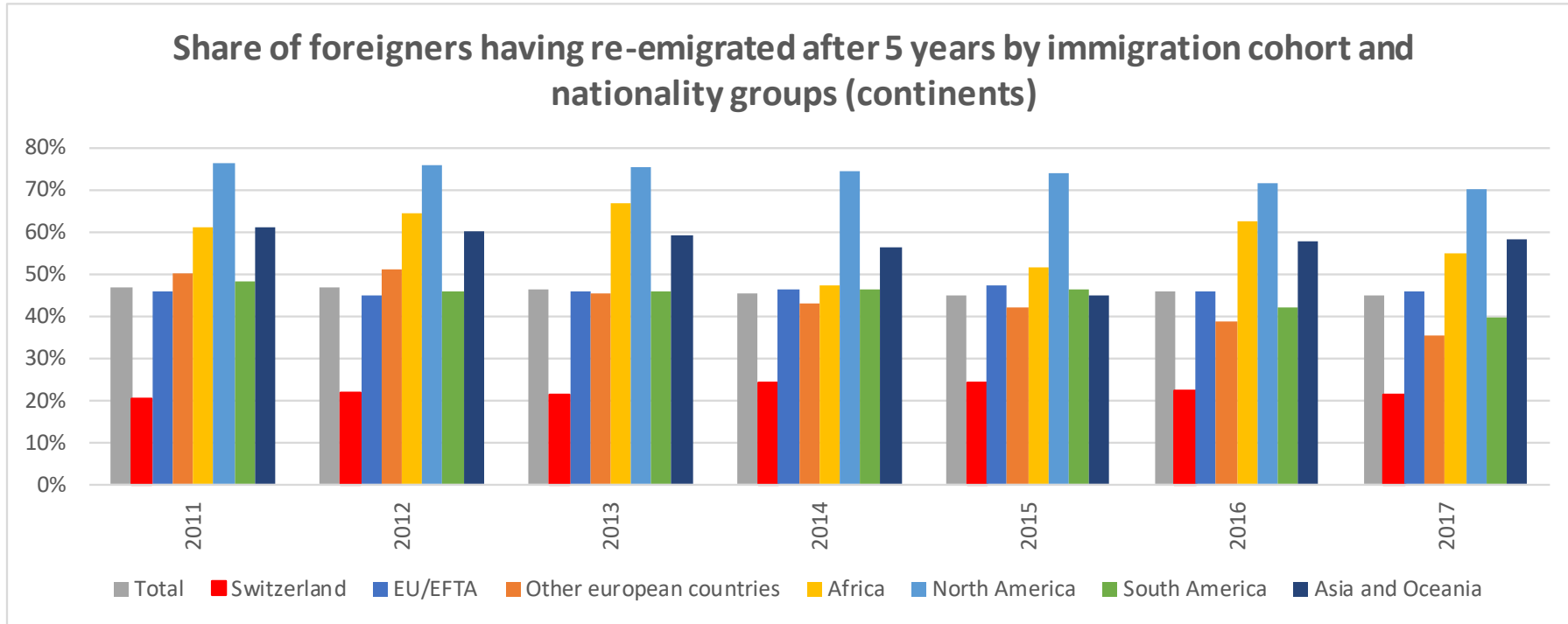
Source: FSO – Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS), migration module



Results

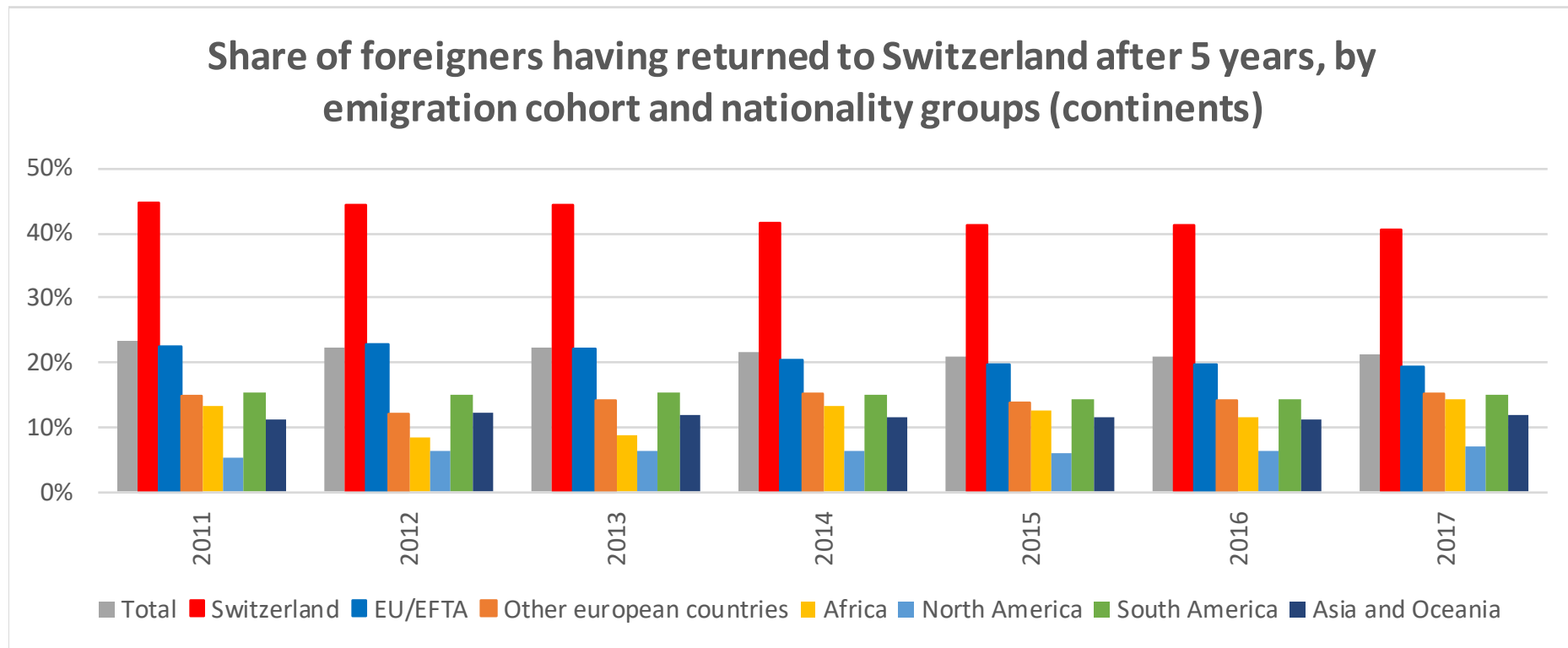
Migration trajectories

Re-emigration



Source: FSO - Longitudinal demographic statistics (DVS)

Return migration



Source: FSO - Longitudinal demographic statistics (DVS)

Conclusion

- Immigration to Switzerland is most often seen as something permanent
- Citizens of the EU or EFTA countries plan less often to stay indefinitely
- 50% of people who immigrated to Switzerland have already left the country after 5 years
- North Americans and Africans have the highest re-emigration rates after 5 years
- Around 25% of people who left Switzerland are back in the country after 5 years
- North Americans show the lowest re-entry rates after 5 years