

Economic mobility trajectories of regularised migrants in Belgium

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This paper presents the results of a study that looked at the economic mobility trajectories of migrants who benefited from a one-off mass regularization campaign in Belgium in 2000. The particular focus in this paper is on their integration in the formal labour market and their reliance of state income support. This study, building on both administrative and survey data, represents the first systematic analysis of post-regularisation mobility trajectories of formerly irregular migrants in Belgium. This paper asks: how are the people who benefited from the 2000 amnesty in Belgium doing almost 8 years later, especially in terms of their integration in the labour market. Have they acquired formal employment, and if so, of what nature is that employment? Is it consistent with their skills, experience and aspirations? Have they shifted industry? Have they become less reliant on ethnic or national networks, and more reliant on formal support provisions?