



International Workshop Indicators of Integration in Social Statistics

Montreal, Canada, 10-11 December 2007

Organized by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on the Integration of Migrants and the Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (INED), with the support of the Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics (QICSS).

Venue: University of Montreal, 3535 Queen-Mary Rd., Montreal (Quebec)
(Metro Côte-des-Neiges)

Website: <http://www.ciqss.umontreal.ca/index.html>

Tentative Programme

Monday, December 10

9.00–9.30 Welcoming buffet

9.30–9.45 Presentation of the scientific panel and of the workshop: Patrick SIMON (INED)

9:45–12:45 **Session 1 – Discussing the meaning of integration**

Rogelio SAENZ, Texas A&M University (USA)

Karen Manges DOUGLAS, Sam Houston State University (USA)

“Immigrant integration: a focus on the host society”

Mark ELLIS, University of Washington, Seattle, (USA)

Richard WRIGHT, Dartmouth College, Hanover, (USA)

“Patterns on the land space in theories and measurement of immigrant integration in the United States”

11:05–11:25 Coffee break

Anne HARTUNG, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium)

“Integrated or not? The impact of conceptual choices on the analysis of labour market integration”

Mirna SAFI, Observatoire Sociologique du Changement (OSC)-Sciences Po (France)

« Décrire le processus d'intégration des immigrés : apports de l'analyse longitudinale »

12:45–13:45 Lunch

13:45–16:45 **Session 2 – Data and their use for analysing integration**

Rob BIJL, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research / SCP (The Netherlands)

“Evaluating the social integration of immigrants: how to measure successes and failures”

Jonathan BURTON, University of Essex (UK)

“Integration of migrants to the UK: data sources and the UKHLS”

15:05–15:25 Coffee break

Clara CORTINA, Edurne JIMENEZ, Albert ESTEVE-PALOS, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain)

“International migration and union formation in Spain: what can we learn from official statistics?”

Ram Christophe SAWADOGO, Université de Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)

« Les chiffres de revenus et de transferts monétaires des migrants de retour et les migrants et leur potentiel d'indicateurs de niveau d'intégration »

16:45–17:00 End of the first day

Tuesday, December 11

9:30–12:30 Session 3 – Measurement and theories

John ICELAND, University of Maryland (USA),
Jeffrey M. TIMBERLAKE, University of Cincinnati (USA)
“Measuring immigrant residential incorporation”

Pamela Irving JACKSON, Rhode Island College (USA)
Roderick PARKES, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Germany)
“Measuring Muslim integration in postindustrial democracies”

10:50–11:10 Coffee break

Alejandro ROMAN, El Colegio de México (Mexico)
“Education of Mexican youth and their assimilation by socioeconomic segment in United States”

Patricia VANDERKOOY, Florida International University (USA)
“Looking in & looking out: measuring (segmented) assimilation of Haitians in Miami”

12:30–13:30 lunch

13:30–16:30 Session 4 – Indicators applied to different case studies

Aomar IBOURK, Université Cadi Ayyd, Marrakech (Morocco)
Mohamed ELMAJDI, University of Bari (Italy)
« La condition de l’immigré Marocain dans le sud de l’Italie : investigation empirique »

Sudesh NANGIA and Nivedita HANSRIA, Jawaharlal Nehru University (India)
“Integrating migrants in an urban industrial environment”

14:50–15:10 Coffee break

Franck BEAN and Susan BROWN, University of California-Irvine (USA)
“The Nature and structure of immigrant group integration and incorporation: evidence from Los Angeles”

Siew-Ean KHOO and Peter McDONALD, Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute (Australia)
“Indicators of immigrant settlement for Australia”

16:30–17:15 Final roundtable, Victor PICHE (Université de Montréal), with the participation of Enrico BISOGNO, Statistical Division of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

17:15 End of the workshop

Abstracts

Alejandro Román, El Colegio de México

“Education of Mexican youth and their assimilation by socioeconomic segment in United States”

The achievements in school of migrants and their descendents in United States are an indicator that, according to assimilation theories, permits to know if migrants and their children are assimilating to the new society. It means, if they have similar education to the natives, we can say that they are assimilating. In particular, the segmented assimilation theory pointed out that the assimilation of migrants and their descendents will be different among socioeconomic segments; and we think that not only by segments, either by generation of Mexican youth. Our objective in this paper is to analyze the segmented assimilation for the different generations of Mexican youth in United States through their educational achievements. The source of data is the Current Population Survey 2003, with this source we are going to study the educational differences among Mexican and natives youths through dissimilarity index; besides we will emphasize the influence of several elements on educational achievements with a logistic model. The main results are, the second generation from low and high income is having more assimilation than the third generation from the income low, and women are getting better results than men in educational terms.

Franck Bean and Susan Brown, University of California-Irvine

“The Nature and structure of immigrant group integration and incorporation: evidence from Los Angeles”

Progress in developing further theoretically driven and systematic empirical knowledge about immigrant group integration and incorporation in immigrant-receiving countries is currently hampered by significant issues of conceptualization and measurement. Evidence about integration and incorporation are available from an untold number of empirical analyses that have been conducted for various countries based on the tracking (across time for immigrants) or across generations (for immigrant groups) of countless demographic, economic, social, cultural, political, and psychological indicators. However, conclusions about the pace and nature of immigrant integration and incorporation remain elusive because little work has been done on conceptualizing and measuring systematically key dimensions of these policy relevant phenomena. Here, by integration, we generally mean convergence in economic and demographic indicators between immigrant and appropriate native groups and by incorporation we mean the further convergence in other kinds of indicators. In these senses, it is possible to speak of immigrant integration occurring without without full incorporation.

Further theoretical advances about how sequences of key aspects of incorporation occur or how aspects of incorporation combine in their influence of other phenomena (e.g., such as health behaviors and outcomes) require better conceptualization and measurement. This paper conceptualizes the key aspects of incorporation as consisting of economic, spatial (characteristics of neighborhoods), sociocultural, and political sets of indicators. It presents the results of principal components analyses of over 50 indicators of these sets of indicators taken from a new survey of almost 5000 1.5 and 2nd generation immigrants from Los Angeles, including about 1900 persons of Mexican origin (representing the first and third and fourth-plus generations in addition to the 1.5 and 2.0 generations) and persons of non-Hispanic white and African origin as well, supported by the Russell Sage Foundation as part of its two-decade long assessment of immigrant group incorporation in the United States. The goals of the research are to ascertain the degree to which one or more

general dimensions of incorporation emerge from the analyses, the degree to which these dimensions correspond to the four key aspects of incorporation conceptualized above, the degree to which various dimensional structures vary by gender and across different generational and national origin groups. The empirical results are discussed not only in terms of what they reveal about answers to these questions, but also in terms of the degree to which they suggest the dimensional structures vary in the ways alternative theoretical formulations of immigrant group incorporation in advanced economies (classic assimilation, ethnic disadvantage, segmented assimilation, post-modern incorporation) imply they might.

Rob Bijl, The Netherlands Institute for Social Research / SCP

“Evaluating the social integration of immigrants: how to measure successes and failures”

The key question in policy evaluation is “What works for whom in what circumstances?” Evaluation research on integration policy and integration projects is beginning to get off the ground. Policy measures aimed at young second-generation Turkish migrants to enhance their opportunities to find a job will not necessarily be effective – or might even have adverse side-effects – among first-generation Moroccan migrants, due to differences in social and economic background and social capital, cultural values, or some other, still unknown context. Because most available data are ‘isolated’, an integrated evaluative approach of integration policies is difficult to realise.

Obviously, in integration policy there must be some definition or operationalisation of what constitutes integration of immigrants, of what are considered the essential social domains, and any benchmarks or desired levels of integration must be articulated. However, this is not always explicitly formulated, and it is the task of the evaluator to discover and reconstruct what local or national policymakers consider to be the goals of successful integration and why and how their instruments – plans, initiatives – might contribute to these goals.

In this contribution I will focus on some essential aspects of evaluation of integration policies. Often politicians are primarily interested in the effects of their policies. As a result, there is usually a desire for short-term results. Monitoring, using basic indicators of change in social domains that are considered relevant for integration, is then often seen as a valuable instrument. However, when evaluating integration and integration policies it is important to assess whether a certain policy or initiative has had anything to do with the social outcome. If the economy is booming, an increase in the number of migrants who succeed in finding a job may have nothing to do with the effectiveness of policy measures, but may have been an autonomous process. In other words, the causality of policy measures and their supposed operating mechanisms and outcomes in terms of immigrant integration must be assessed. This assessment can be carried out by properly following the steps in the ‘evaluation chain’.

There is a need in integration research for an approach which is able to combine a quantitative and qualitative approach. Because even though more and more quantitative outcome data are becoming available at national level which describe the position and careers of immigrants in various social domains, developing an insight into the causal relationship between a policy measure or programme and that social position requires other information.

Jonathan Burton,

“Integration of Migrants to the UK: Data sources and the UKHLS”

This paper examines indicators of integration of migrants to the UK. We examine the context in which the process of integration takes place; the history of migration to the UK and the increasing importance of immigration as a political issue. Within this context we evaluate the current measures of integration. One of the weaknesses of current measures is the lack of a temporal perspective on what is a temporal process. Cross-sectional ‘snapshots’ of integration

amongst migrant communities can be informative, but lack the dynamic nature needed to disentangle the age and cohort effects or to model causal processes. The UK Household Longitudinal Survey (UKHLS) is a newly-commissioned annual panel survey which includes a significant ethnic minority boost sample. The UKHLS has huge potential for researchers interested in measuring integration, through the collection of retrospective migration history and a broad range of economic and social indicators. The UKHLS will allow researchers to look at the integration processes of different generations within families. This paper will set out the potential of the UKHLS design and content and will also discuss the methodological decisions in the selection of sample groups and the treatment of ethnicity and migration status in the survey.

Mark Ellis, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

Richard Wright, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, USA

“Patterns on the Land Space in Theories and Measurement of Immigrant Integration in the United States”

Understandings of the process of immigrant adaptation to destination society life are bound up with immigrant settlement geographies; patterns of group concentration or dispersion act as indicators of incorporation. This way of thinking reaches back to the nation’s founding, and it has manifested itself in pro- and anti-immigrant discourses in the US from then until the present. These historical discussions likely infused early 20th century Chicago School scholars who developed spatial assimilation theory, which - with minor modifications - remains the dominant theoretical framework in social science for making sense of US immigrant neighborhood geographies. Spatial assimilation theory’s pole position has withstood challenges from multiculturalist and racialization perspectives, which label it as inconsistent with evidence of enduring housing discrimination and also deride its frequent privileging of spaces of whiteness in normative assessments of integration. This paper argues that evaluations of immigrant integration based on the number of foreigners in a place (households, neighborhoods, regions) ignore a range of other socio-spatial relations that produce these immigrant geographies. Accordingly, this paper explores alternative interpretations of immigrant settlement patterns that disrupt the elementary correspondence between space and immigrant integration proffered by spatial assimilation theory, as well as by its multicultural alternative.

Albert Esteve-Palós

“International Migration and Union Formation in Spain: What Can We Learn from Official Statistics?”

Union formation patterns of foreign born population have been widely regarded as a key area of study for social research on assimilation and/or integration of migrants. Most of this research relies on official statistics that have not been specifically designed for scientific purposes. This paper offers a critical assessment of the main drawbacks in the existing Spanish official statistics. The first limitation relates to the identification of the international migrant, for which there are two options depending of the statistical source: country of birth and/or country of citizenship. The use of one or the other option influences the results for the vast majority of national origins. Secondly, the lack of biographical information at the individual and household level does not allow an accurate description of the chronology of union formation processes and migration processes. As an example, official statistics do not permit to ascertain whether prevailing unions were formed before or after migration. Thirdly, in the specific case of vital statistics on marriage, non-marital unions are excluded and intermarriage may be overestimated because of the impact of marriages of convenience. We use empirical findings based on our own research to illustrate some of the limitations of the existing data.

Anne Hartung

“Integrated or not? The impact of conceptual choices on the analysis of labour market integration”

The question how to measure integration appropriately is inevitably related to its theoretical definition. Although integration - understood as a reciprocal process (Phalet/Swyngedouw 1999) - involves different societal spheres (Borjas 2006; Heckmann 1998), this paper focuses on the structural dimension. Labour market integration, in particular, relates to the question if “comparable groups of workers [...] enjoy comparable opportunities and outcomes in terms of [...] labour-market relevant characteristics” (Böhning 1995: 2). But such a definition bears an ambiguous notion: Which groups are comparable? To what degree are breakdowns meaningful to measure integration?

The proposed paper will reveal the far-reaching consequences of this conceptual decision: the empirically measured degree of (dis)integration varies and depends to a large degree on the theoretical concept chosen. On the basis of the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP), the paper analyses in which different manners labour market integration can be quantitatively conceptualised. Taking the instance of unemployment, it reveals the differences between overall integration measures, and those taking into account basic as well as advanced covariates, i.e. including a large set of human capital and segregation indicators. Like this, the quality of international comparisons can be ensured although ethnic minorities differ greatly across countries.

John Iceland

“Measuring Immigrant Residential Incorporation”

Immigrant incorporation can be conceived and understood in a variety of ways. In this paper we discuss and analyze two distinct dimensions of residential immigrant incorporation: residential segregation and locational attainment. Residential segregation, which measures the unequal distribution of groups across space, tends to capture traditional notions of assimilation. In contrast, locational attainment refers to the quality of neighborhoods in which people reside. Residential segregation and locational attainment do not always perfectly correlate. There are many examples of some high-status immigrant communities with good schools and low crime. Using data from multiple United States censuses, we analyze levels and determinants of change from 1970 to 2000 in four measures of residential inequality—dissimilarity, entropy, isolation, and net difference—between Whites, Blacks, Asians, and Latinos. The first three measures represent conventional indicators of residential segregation while the fourth measures locational attainment. While much of our analysis focuses on racial and ethnic segregation more generally, we also provide detailed analyses on the role of nativity in shaping residential patterns. With some exceptions, our findings generally indicate a convergence in residential patterns across groups, consistent with notions of spatial assimilation and greater locational attainment among ethnic minorities in U.S. metropolitan areas over time.

Jackson Pamela Irving,

“Measuring Muslim Integration in Postindustrial Democracies”

As the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Intolerance (EUMC, 2006: 3) notes in its recent study, “European Muslims are a highly diverse mix . . .” The report (EUMC, 2006:4) warns that anti-terrorism security measures risk disrupting the integration of Muslim communities. Without reliable statistics the effects of these measures will not be known, and fears of Muslim radicalization can be exploited. Yet research on the situation of Muslims relies

on “mostly ‘proxy’ data, referring to nationality and ethnicity” (EUMC, 2006: 8; cf. OECD, 2007). The European Commission (2005: 3) has initiated an effort toward “the systematic production of harmonized Community statistics.” We examine the comparability of Muslim integration data available in the Netherlands, Germany, France, Britain—and, as a non-EU point of comparison, the United States. We further investigate the interests and misgivings of EU member states concerning the collection of these data in the purely domestic context, and the influence of their European policy agendas on harmonization efforts.

Rogelio Saenz and Karen Manges Douglas

“Immigrant Integration: A Focus on the Host Society”

In recent decades much research has explored the integration of immigrants in the US. Grounded in the assimilation tradition, this literature focuses on the degree to which immigrants are accepted into the host society. Accordingly, sociologists and demographers have constructed a variety of indicators to gauge the extent to which immigrants have acculturated/assimilated into the US.

This paper draws on several literatures to shift the frame in the conceptualization of immigrant integration from immigrants to the host society itself. The paper builds on the work of Blumer who emphasizes the way the host society and its dominant members establish boundaries to either maintain newcomers at a distance or allow them to join the in-group. The host society establishes boundaries, rules, and practices that ensure that immigrants remain outside of mainstream society. Our paper also draws from whiteness studies and critical race theory which allows us to shift the focus from an examination of immigrants to the host society and the white majority population. Critical race theory allows immigrants to exhibit agency through relaying their experiences and tales, what critical race theorists refer to as “counter-stories.”

Aomar Ibourk

« La condition de l’immigré Marocain dans le sud de l’Italie: investigation empirique »

Cet article a pour objectif d’expliquer le niveau d’intégration des travailleurs marocains sur le marché du travail italien. L’approche adoptée est longitudinale et elle vise à poursuivre le parcours de l’immigré Marocain dans le sud de l’Italie. Tout en mettant l’accent sur l’accès au marché du travail. Car le motif principal de l’immigré marocain vers l’Italie est la recherche du travail. L’analyse menée permet également de savoir les exigences du marché du travail italien et dans quelle mesure les flux migratoires marocains contribuent ou non à la satisfaction des besoins du marché Italien. Le questionnaire administré a suivi les objectifs suivants:

- mesurer le degré d’intégration des immigrants marocains dans le marché de travail
- analyser les facteurs d’intégration et d’exclusion
- Dans quelle mesure l’immigré marocain satisfait les exigences du marché du travail.

Cet article présente aussi les résultats des interviews avec des responsables des organismes publics et des ONG.

Plus le questionnaire nous avons travaillé aussi sur les données et les statistiques des autorités et les ONG Italiennes (Ministero dell’interno, consiglio regionale di Puglia, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica, Caritas Italia, Stranieri Italia, Osservatorio Romano sulle Migrazioni Terzo Rapporto... et des études universitaires) .

Mirna Safi

« Décrire le processus d’intégration des immigrants: apports de l’analyse longitudinale »

Le processus d’intégration des immigrants est un objet social éminemment temporel. Les données de type longitudinal, et notamment les données de panel récoltant des observations répétées sur

un ensemble d'individus à plusieurs dates successives, devraient donc être privilégiées lorsqu'on étudie le parcours des immigrants dans une société d'accueil. Pourtant, leur usage en sciences sociales reste limité malgré un essor particulier d'une littérature méthodologique sur ce sujet depuis les années 1980.

L'objectif de ce travail est de présenter les apports de l'exploitation de données longitudinales pour la connaissance sociologique sur l'intégration des immigrants. L'accent sera mis sur deux atouts fondamentaux des méthodes appliquées à ce type de données: la capacité à prendre en compte des variables inobservées ou/et inobservables d'une part et à analyser des problématiques de causalité entre différentes dimensions de l'intégration d'autre part. Deux exemples empiriques seront développés ; l'un se fonde sur l'usage des méthodes d'économétrie des panels dans l'analyse des inégalités entre immigrants et natifs sur le marché du travail en France, et l'autre repose sur la mesure de l'effet causal de la naturalisation sur l'emploi grâce à l'estimation de modèles à équations simultanées.

Ram Christophe Sawadogo,

« Les chiffres de revenus et de transferts monétaires des migrants de retour et les migrants et leur potentiel d'indicateurs de niveau d'intégration »

Au Burkina Faso, de 1994 à 2006, plusieurs mouvements de retour forcé des émigrants du pays notamment en provenance de la Côte d'Ivoire ont conduit à des évaluations du capital migratoire dont disposaient les personnes concernées, afin de mieux apprécier leur potentiel de réinsertion sociale et économique. Parmi les indicateurs de ce potentiel figurent les chiffres de revenus et de transferts monétaires des migrants.

Ces chiffres, comme indicateurs d'intégration des migrants, se sont révélés polysémiques en rapport soit avec les effectifs des migrants, soit le niveau de revenus des migrants et leur capacité d'épargne, soit encore la facilité d'accès aux canaux de transferts des économies réalisées, mais également le rapport du migrant avec son environnement social (travail, amis, pays et famille d'origine, volonté d'investissement dans celui-ci, circonstances particulières des mouvements de départ ou de retour, etc).

En partant des résultats, la présente communication voudrait insister sur ce potentiel polysémique de ces chiffres mais surtout les discuter comme base de définition, d'orientation et de gestion de politiques sociales d'intégration des migrants.

Les données exploitées permettent par ailleurs de conduire des analyses à la fois rétrospectives et des comparaisons régionales ouest-africaines.

Siew-Ean Khoo and Peter Mc Donald

“Indicators of immigrant Settlement for Australia”

In 2001 we were commissioned by the Australian Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs to develop a set of indicators of settlement success of immigrants and to establish a set of benchmarks against which the settlement indicators could be measured. We used the Department's definition of settlement success as “active economic and social participation in Australian society as self-reliant and valued members” to develop an analytical framework that is in keeping with concepts of wellbeing as espoused by the welfare economist, Amartya Sen, and others.

We proposed a framework for examining settlement indicators across four dimensions of immigrant settlement – social participation; economic participation; economic wellbeing; and physical wellbeing – with a number of indicators for each dimension. These indicators were developed using data from the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Australia relating to the early years of settlement, and from censuses and labour force surveys relating to longer term settlement outcomes. Statistical analysis was also undertaken to examine how the four

dimensions were related and their relative importance as measures of immigrant settlement success.

The findings suggest that the four dimensions are closely related to one another and form an interlinked system.

Sudesh Nangia and Nivedita Hansraj

“Integrating Migrants in an Urban Industrial Environment”

This study examines the economic, social and cultural integration of migrant workers in Ludhiana – an industrial metropolitan city in the State of Punjab in India.

The migrant work history data of a sample of 365 respondents, drawn from two main industries, the Hosiery and the Light Engineering, and their ancillary units are used.

The analysis is based on the use of economic, social and cultural indicators to determine the level of integration in the city. The benchmarks for assessing the integration of migrants include variables related to investment and remittance pattern, family and social linkages, knowledge of local language and other forms of interaction that would reflect the intensity of assimilation of migrants into the city. The level of integration and the impact of various indicators have been further analysed through Principal Component Analysis. The findings indicate that except for employment, there is a little integration of migrants in the city.

Patricia Vanderkooy, Florida International University

« Looking in & looking out: measuring (segmented) assimilation of Haitians in Miami »

Expectations of assimilation frame the immigrant context in the United States, yet these norms are not always adhered to by immigrants and their offspring. Assimilation is oftentimes more problematic than reflected in quantifiable measures of linguistic ability, labor market performance, and racial/ethnic identifications. This paper considers the assimilation of Haitian second-generation immigrants in Miami, questioning the reliability of existing assimilation measures for this community and context. Earlier research indicated that some persons of Haitian origin assimilate to an African-American segment of U.S. society. A follow-up study with original study participants, now in early adulthood, questions how these individuals employ gender-specific strategies in their adaptation to American society. Segmented assimilation patterns are also considered in light of Miami context, in which immigrants wield power, but race and class continue to stratify. The preliminary conclusions suggest that the integration of Haitian immigrants speaks not only to measures of assimilation, but also to racial politics framing social interactions. Measuring immigrant integration is therefore problematized in relation to both intra-community relations and interaction with the broader society. Given these considerations, the Haitian case raises doubts about the validity of existing measures of assimilation.