

Leaving, Returning

Trends and Determinants of
Senegalese and Congolese International Migrations

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Background

- Sub-saharan migration often perceived as..
 - 'Massive' and 'Exploding'
 - Mainly directed to Western countries
 - One-way move... with no return
 - By people fleeing misery
- Little reliable data to describe and understand African flows
 - No series on the number of departures from African countries
 - difficult to assess the supposed « explosion » of African migration
 - International out-migration measured essentially from the Western countries point of view (OECD database)
 - difficult to assess the share of Western countries among other destinations
 - Almost no measure of return migration (either at destination or at origin)
 - difficult to assess whether African migration is definitive or not

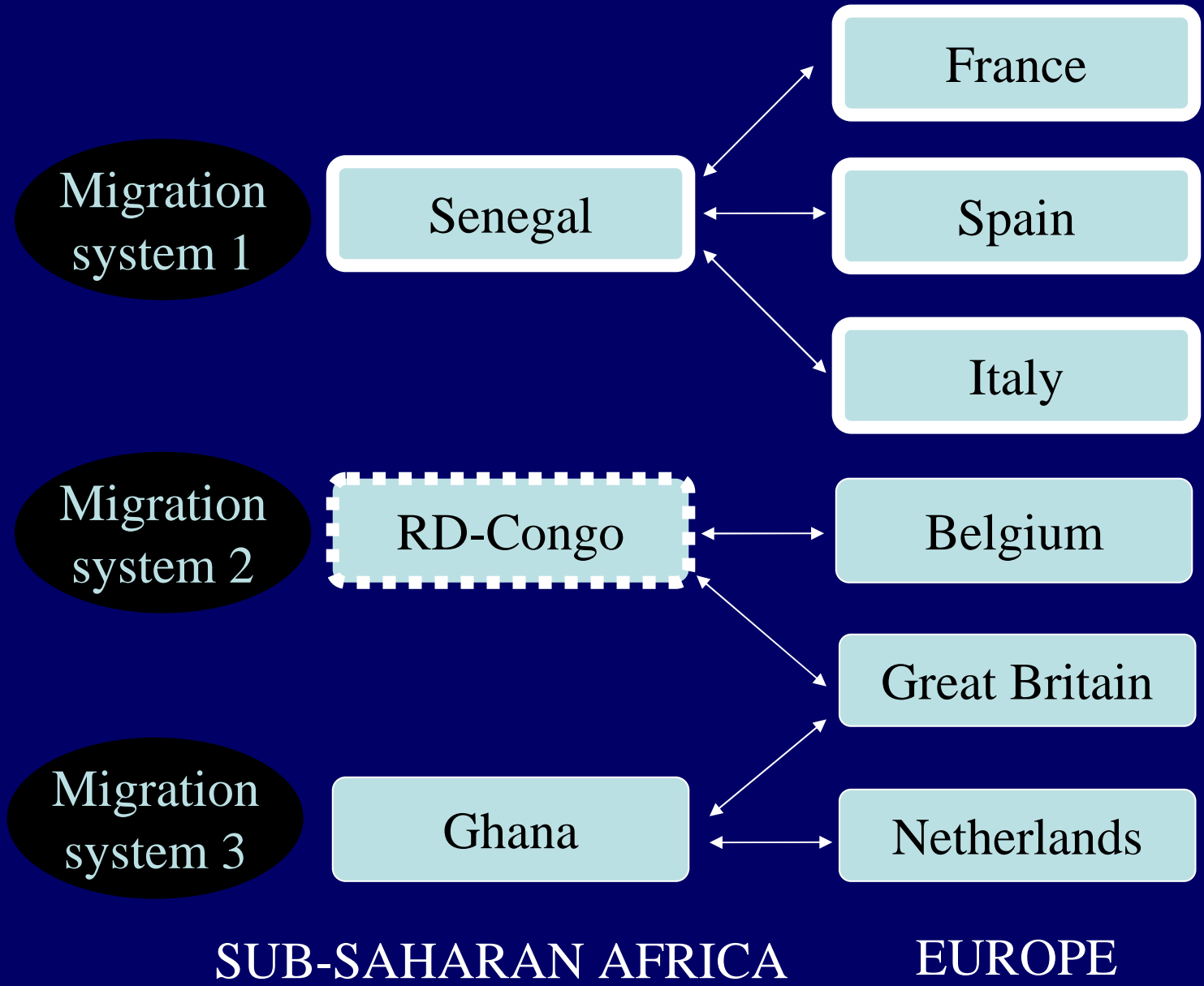
Objectives

- Levels, trends & determinants of African migration
 - How have out-migration trends evolved since the 1970s?
 - In what extent do migrants return to their home country?
 - Which characteristics influence departure and return?
- Beyond patchy evidence
 - Historically: a continuous measure of migration, instead of punctual measures
 - Geographically: a comparative perspective (still limited the capital regions & to be extended)

Data sources & Method

The MAFE surveys

MAFE case studies



MAFE Questionnaires

- Household questionnaire (in departure countries)
 - HH members, but also all HH children and migrants abroad
 - Individual characteristics (age, gender, education...)
 - HH assets, received remittances
 - Migration
 - First migration: date and country
 - Return: date
- Biographic questionnaires (in origin and destination countries)
 - Migration histories, family histories, employment histories, asylum applications, work permits, investments, etc.
- Identical questionnaires in all countries
 - with few exceptions

The MAFE Surveys in Senegal and DRC

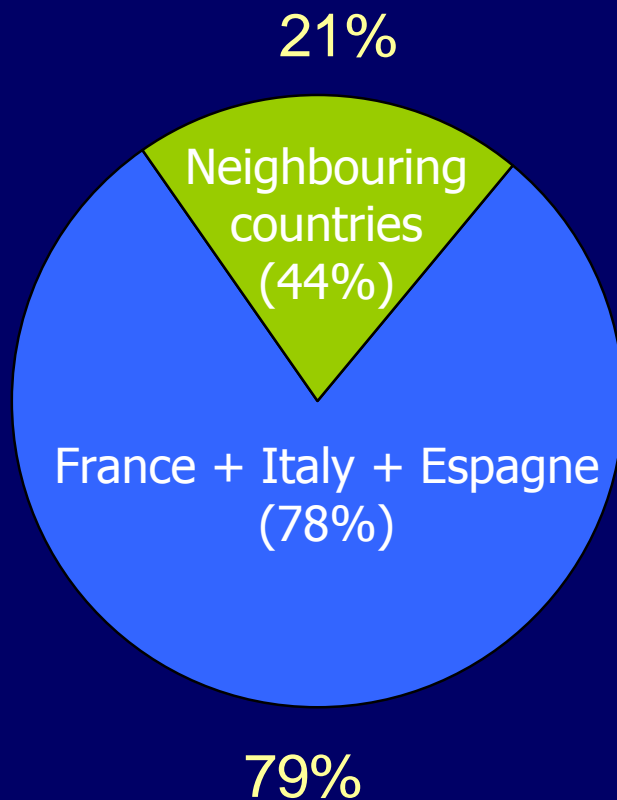
Country	Senegal	DR Congo
Year of data collection	2008	2007
Sample size (households)	1 141	943
Representative samples of...	Dakar Region	Kinshasa
Collected by...	INED & IPDSR	UCL & UNIKIN

Method: Survival analyses

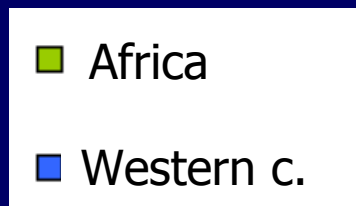
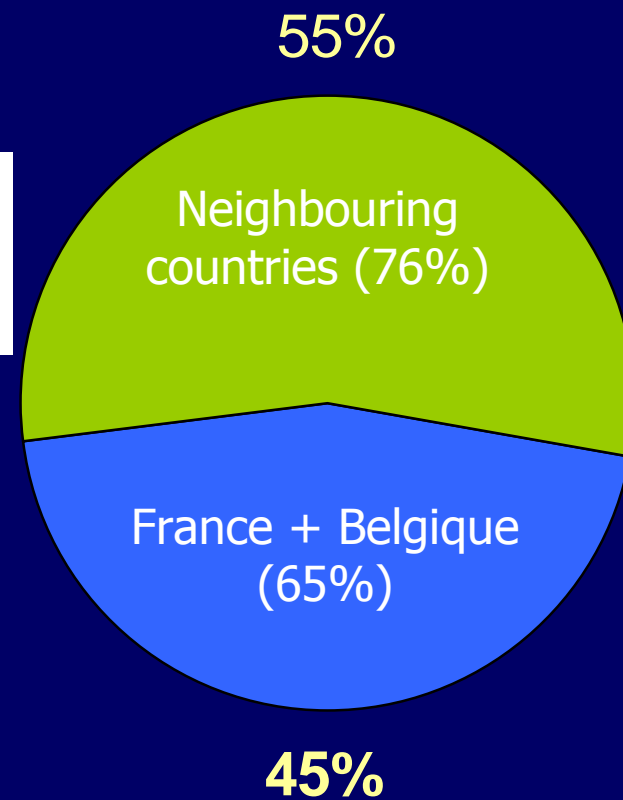
- Using information on the dates and place of migration (1st departure, 1st return)
- Kaplan-Meier estimates (survival curves)
 - To describe the timing of return
- Piecewise constant exponential models
 - To reconstruct migration trends (with splines)
 - To approach the determinants of departure and return
 - Principle: at any time (person-year files)
 - Instantaneous probability of migrating
 - Taking into account the fact that migration did not occur before
 - Controlling for age, period (year), gender, education
- A systematic comparison
 - of origin countries: Senegal vs. RD Congo
 - of destination regions: African vs. Western countries

Where do migrants from Dakar and Kinshasa live at the time of the surveys?

Dakar, 2008



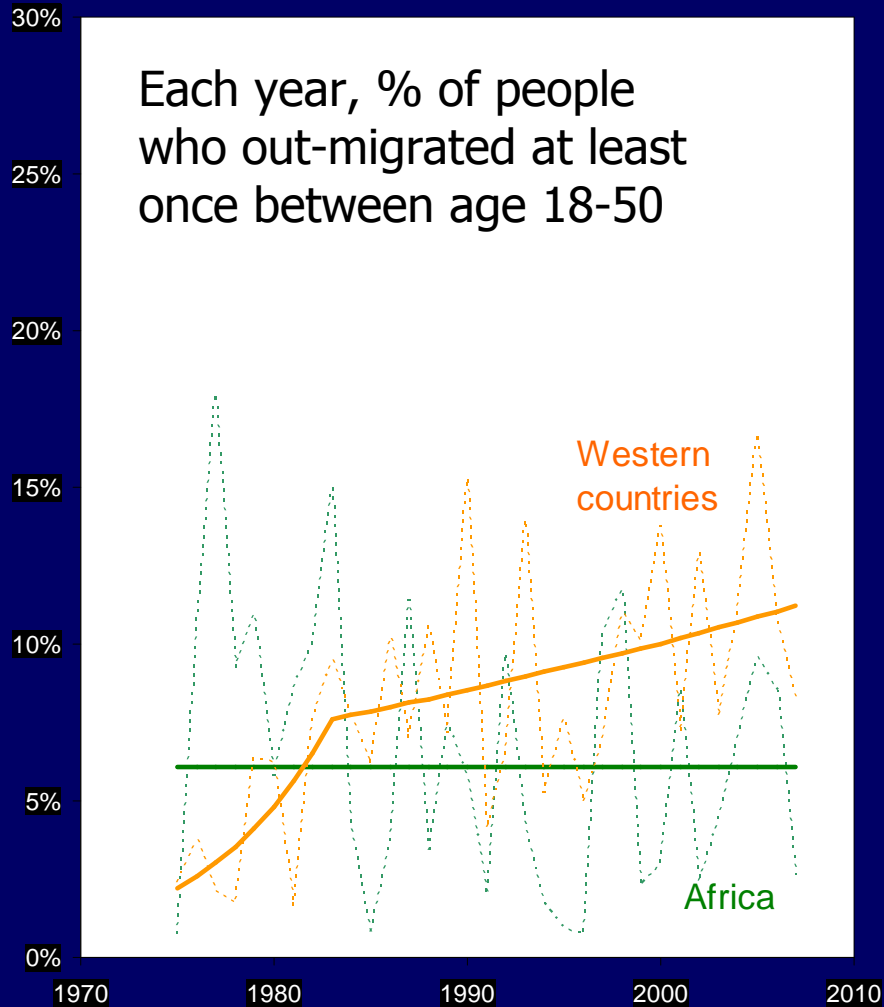
Kinshasa, 2007



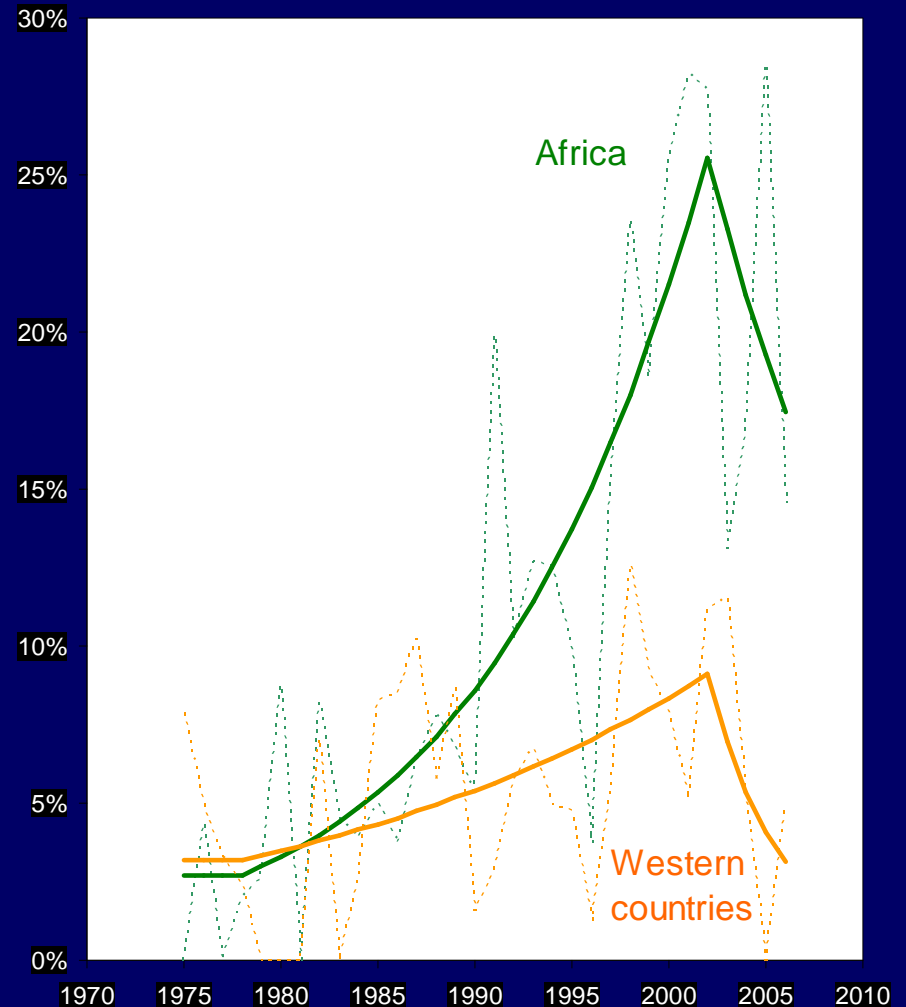
Migration trends to Western countries and African countries

Lifetime risks of international migration (18-50) from Dakar and Kinshasa, 1975-2007

SENEGAL

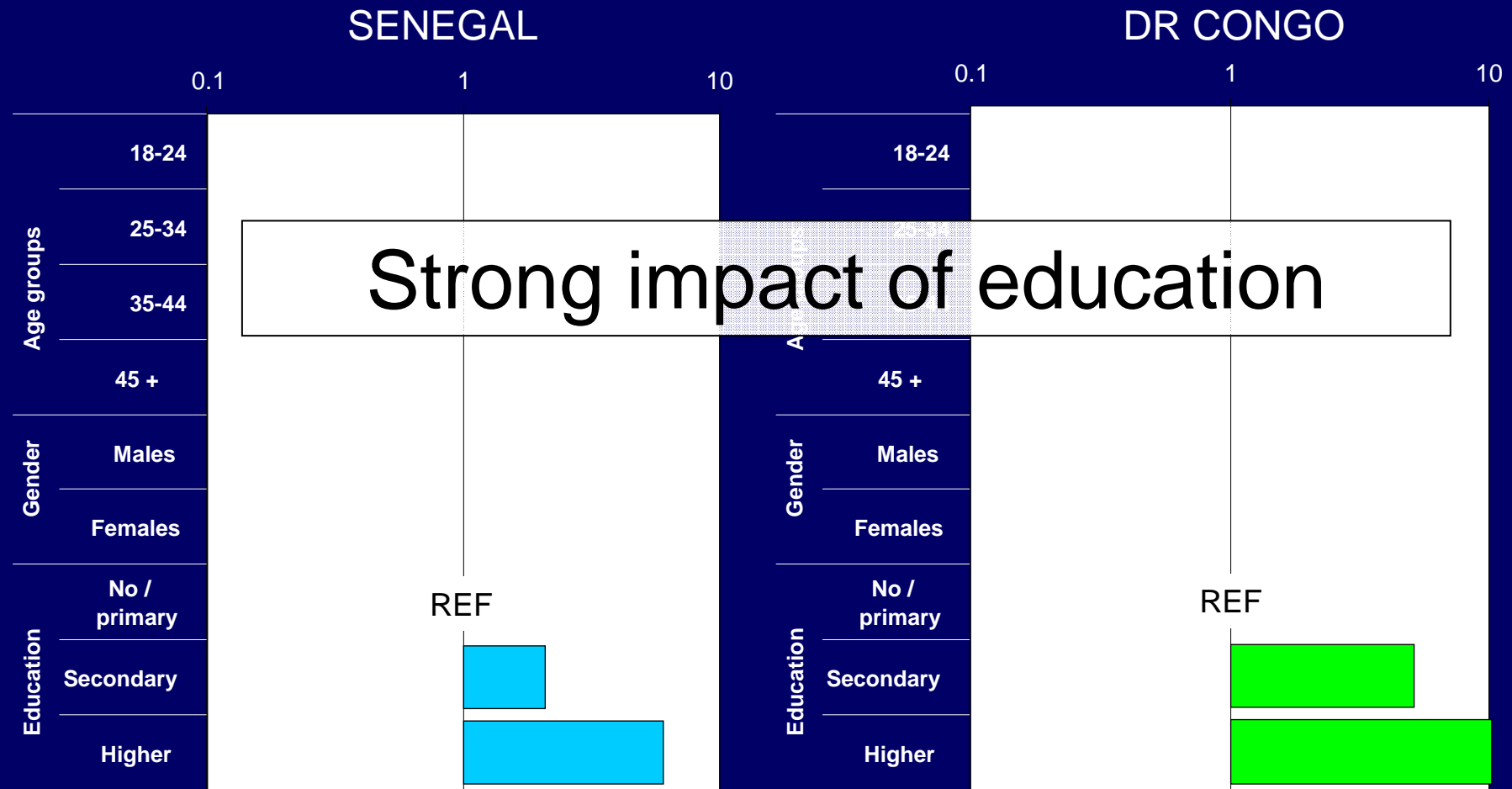


DR CONGO



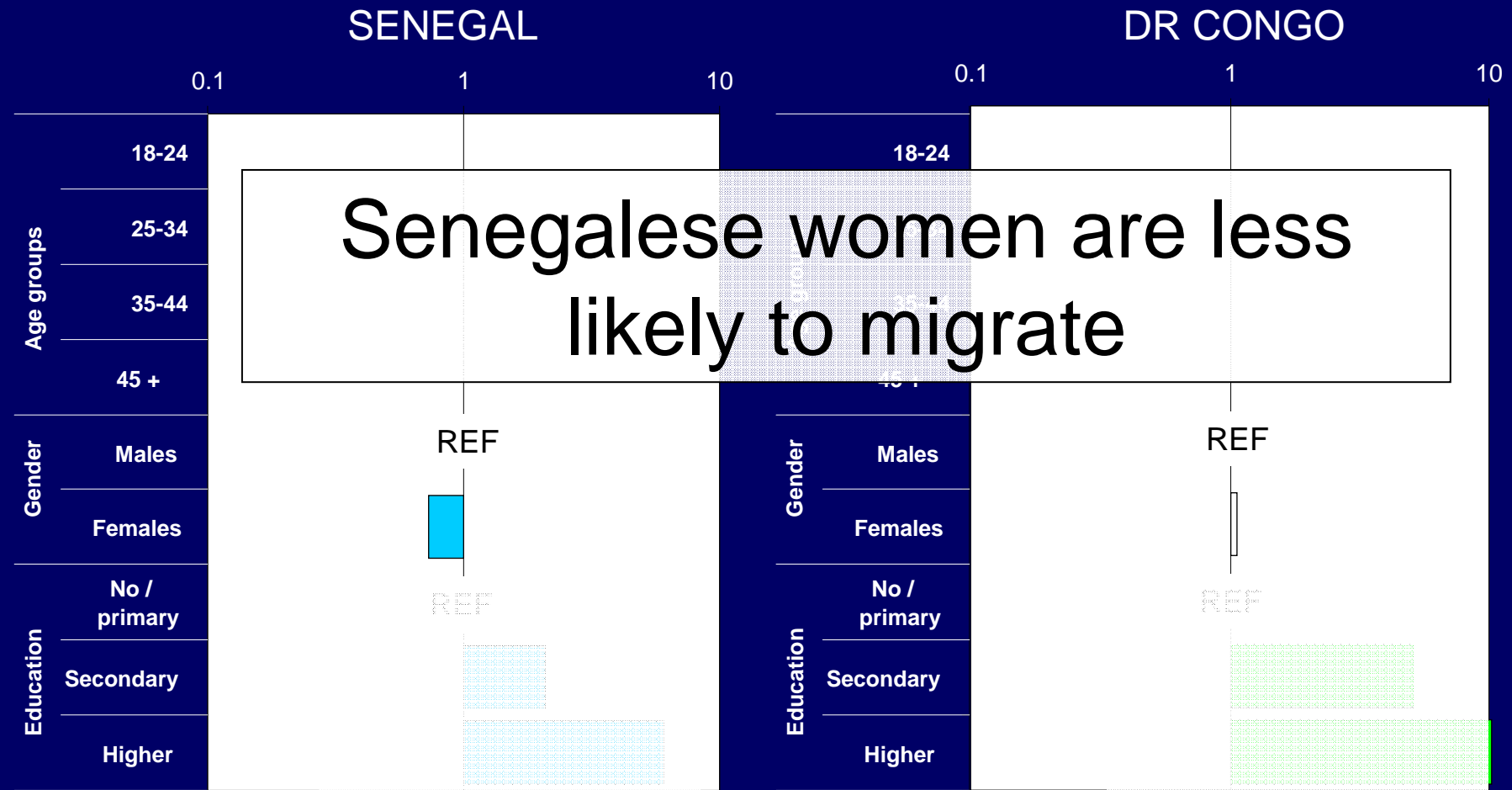
Determinants of departure

Migrations to Western countries



White bars: non-significant results
Other control variable: period

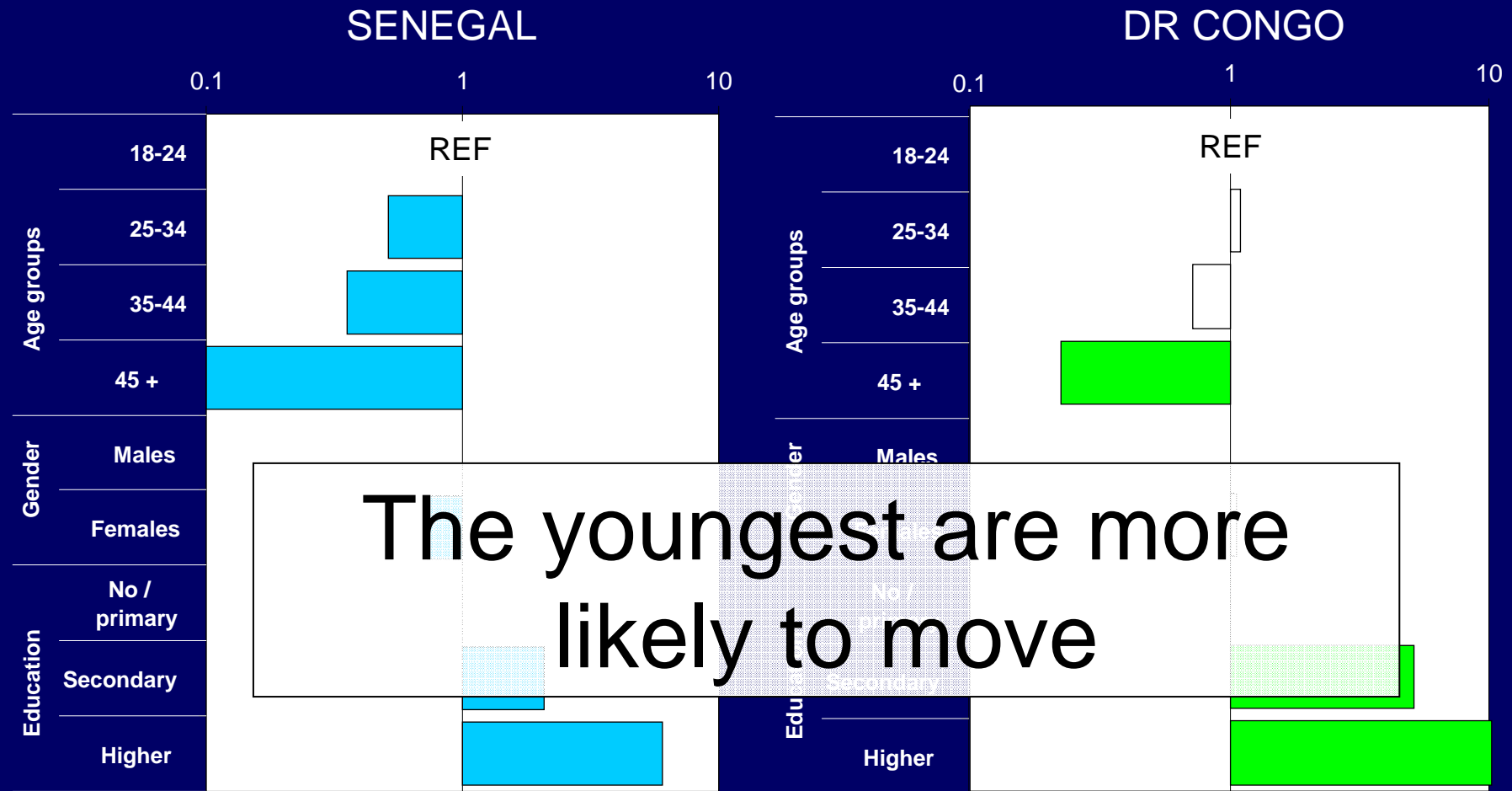
Migrations to Western countries



Senegalese women are less likely to migrate

White bars: non-significant results
Other control variable: period

Migrations to Western countries



White bars: non-significant results
 Other control variable: period

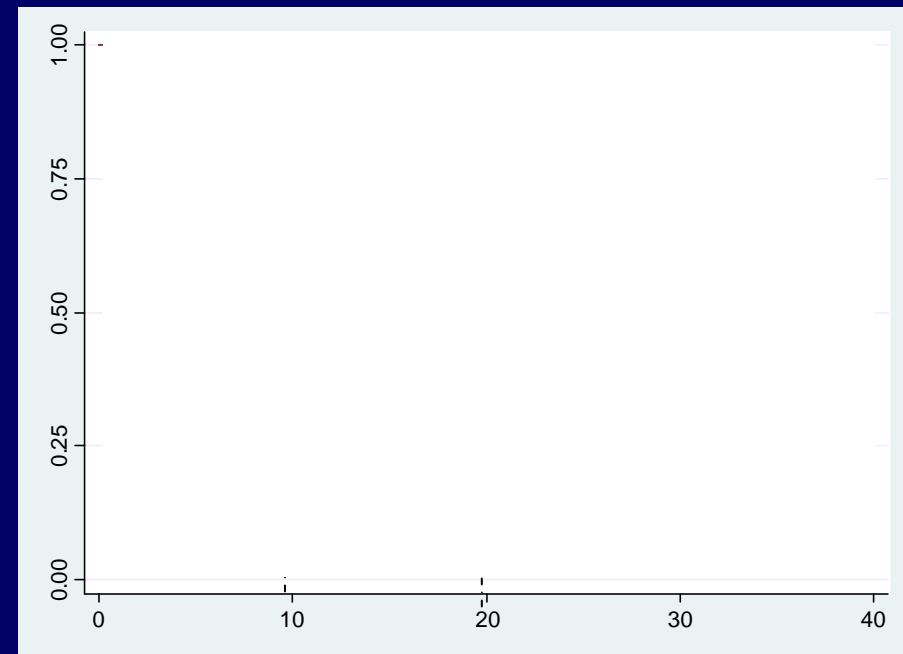
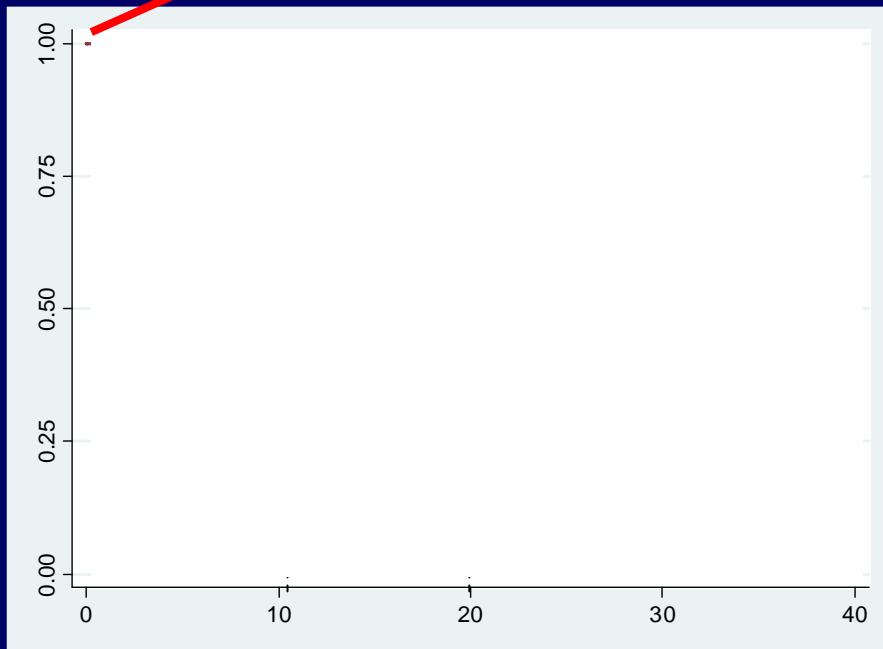
Do migrants return?

Percentage of migrants still abroad, by duration since first departure (Kaplan Meier estimates)

SENEGAL

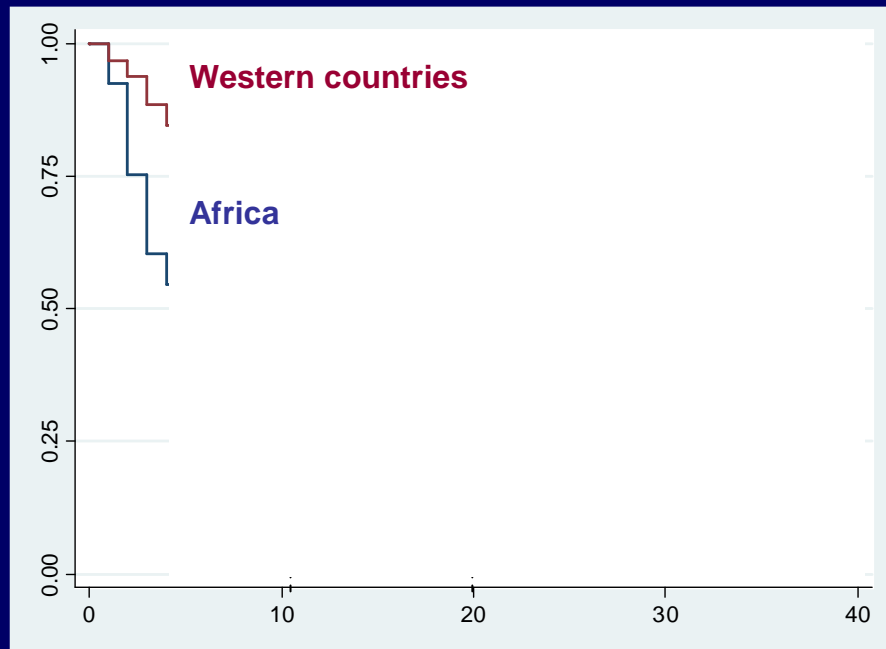
DR CONGO

100 % still abroad

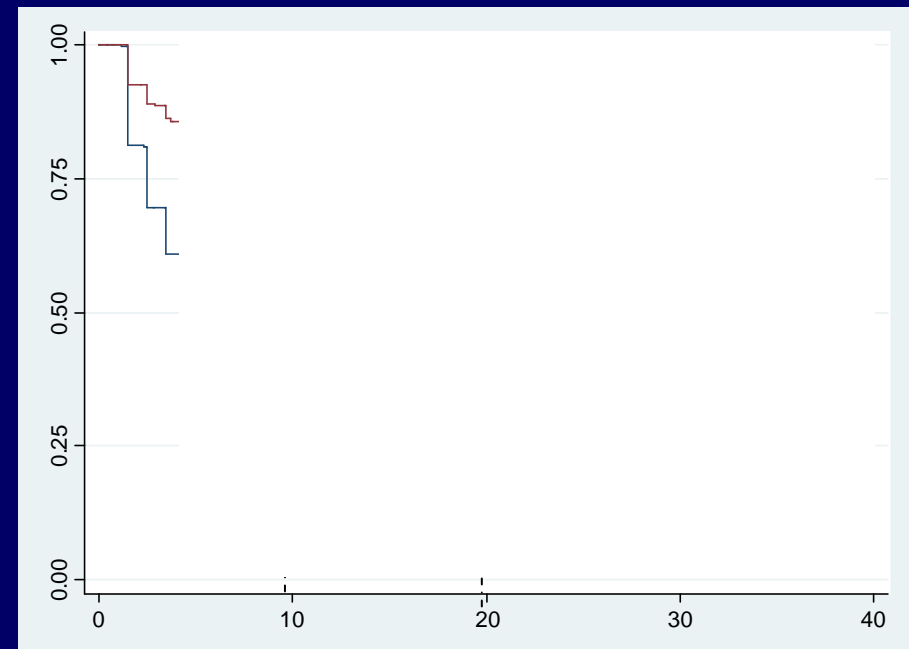


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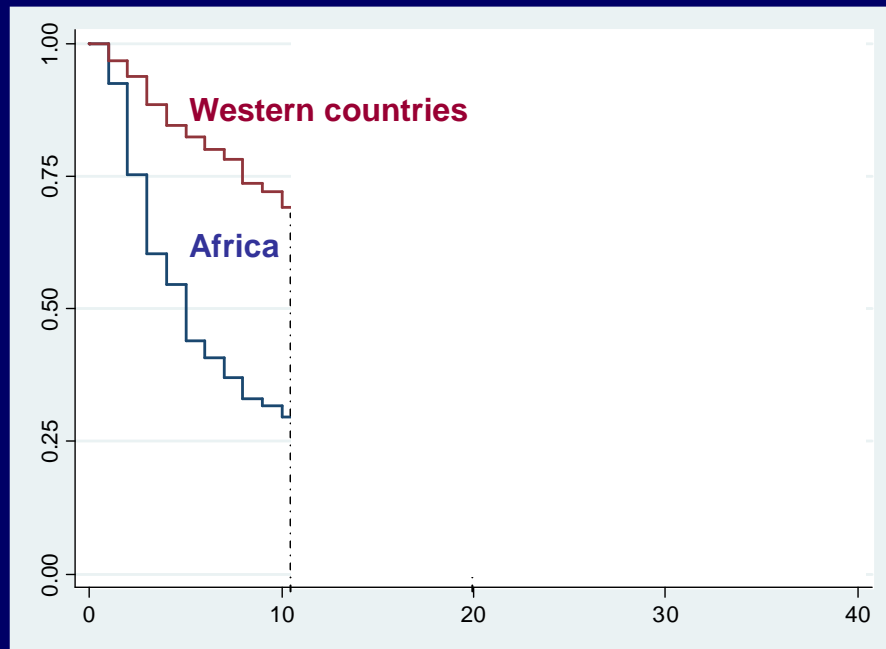


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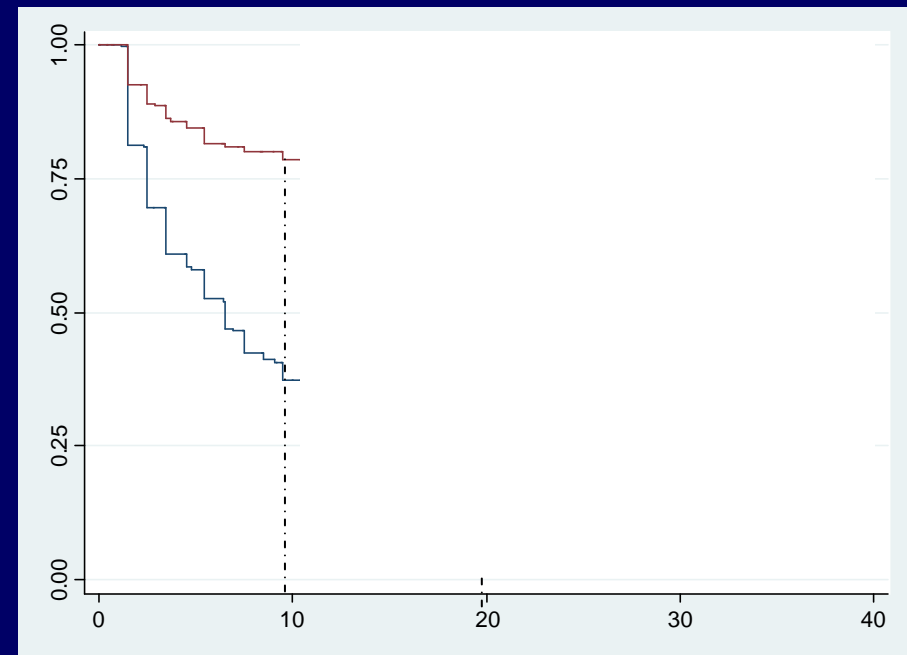


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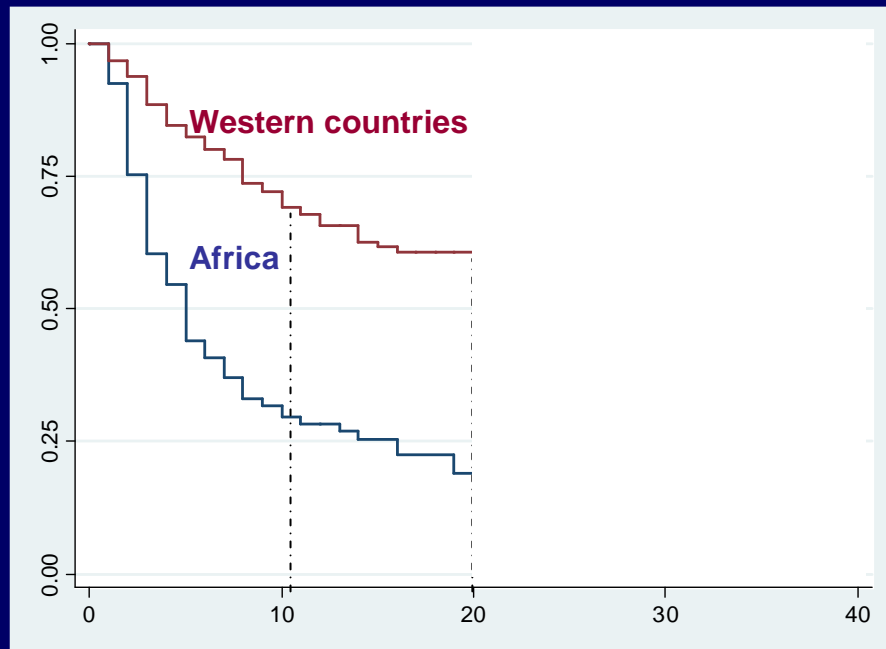


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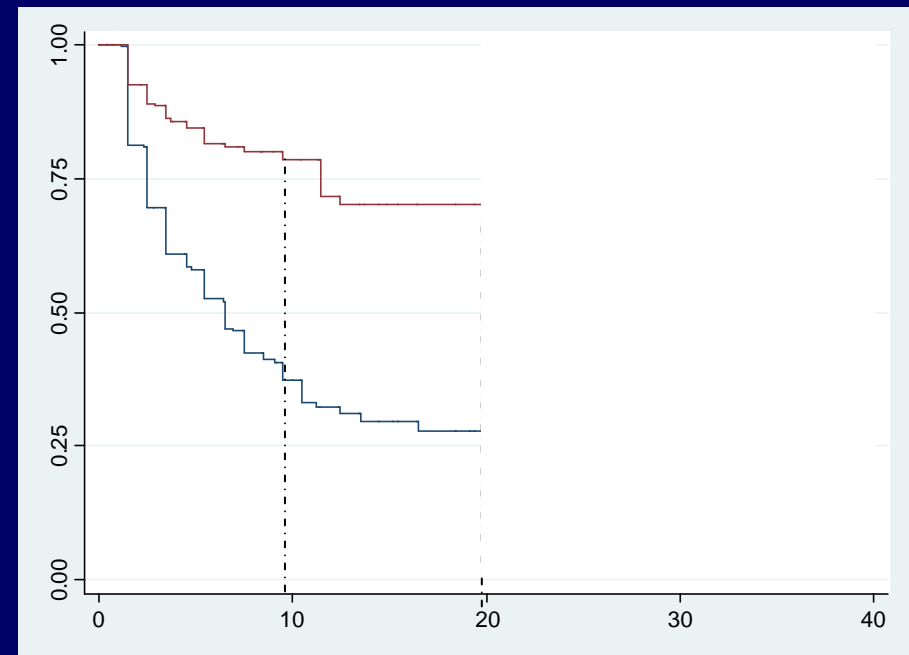


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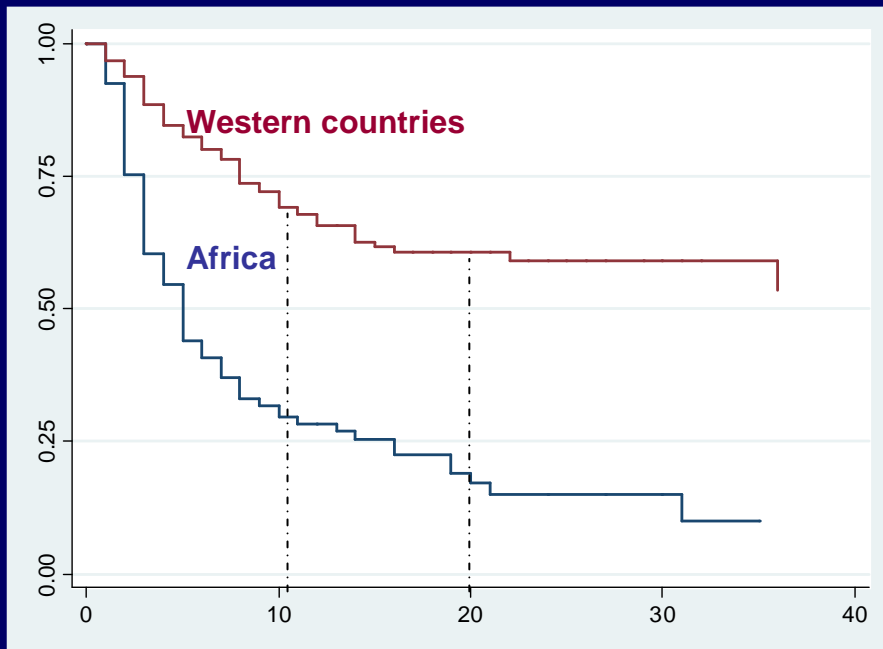


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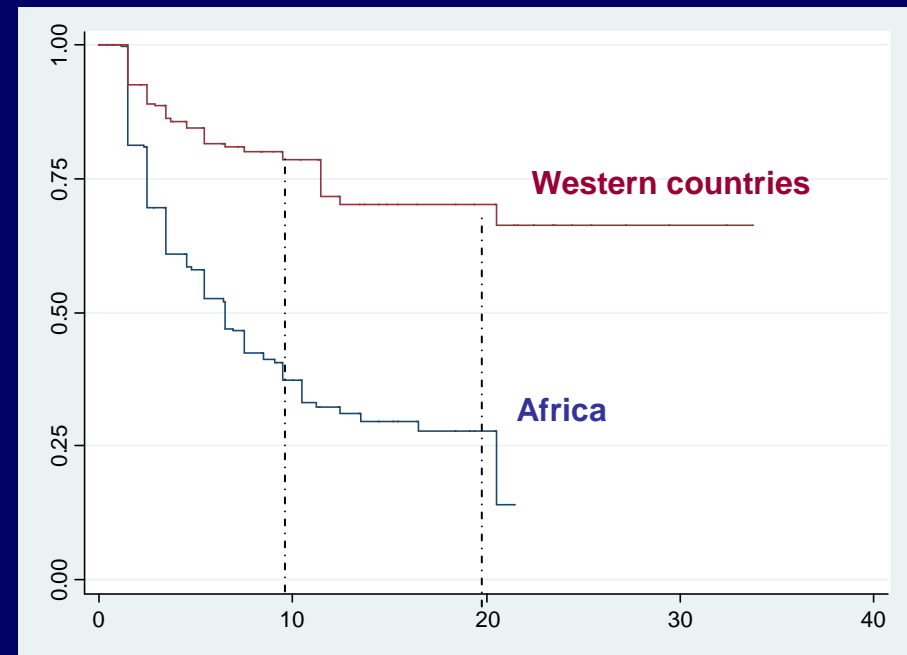


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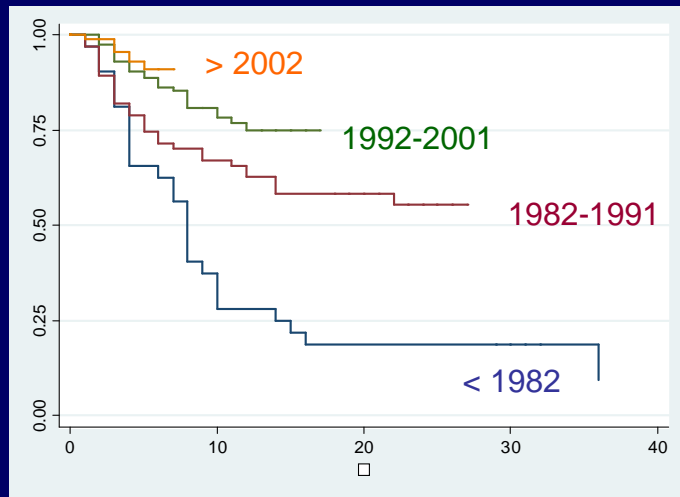


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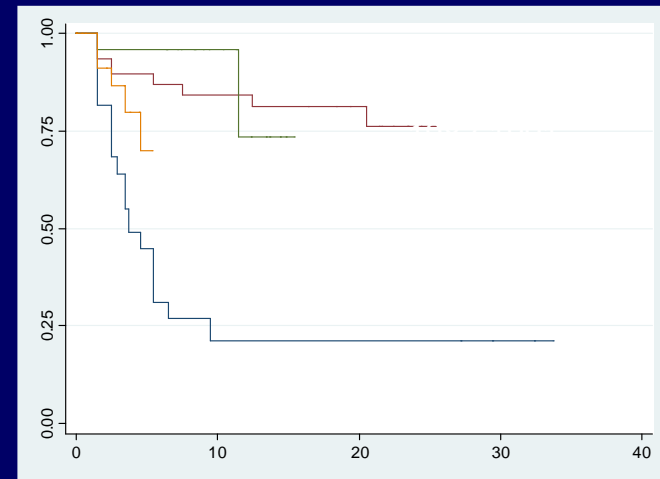


Propensity of return by period of departure

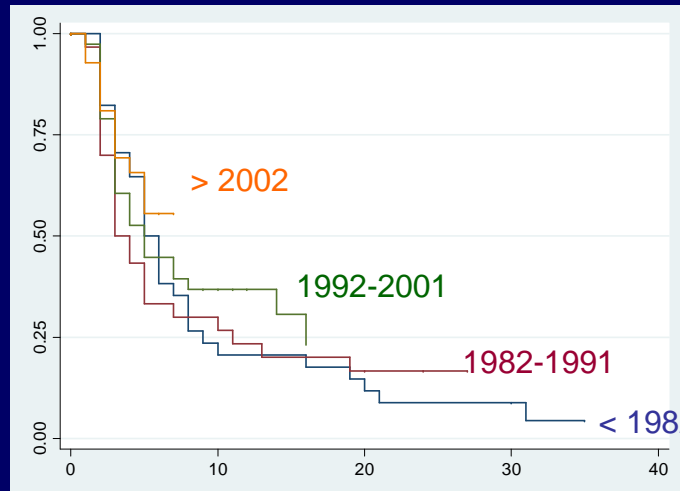
SENEGAL



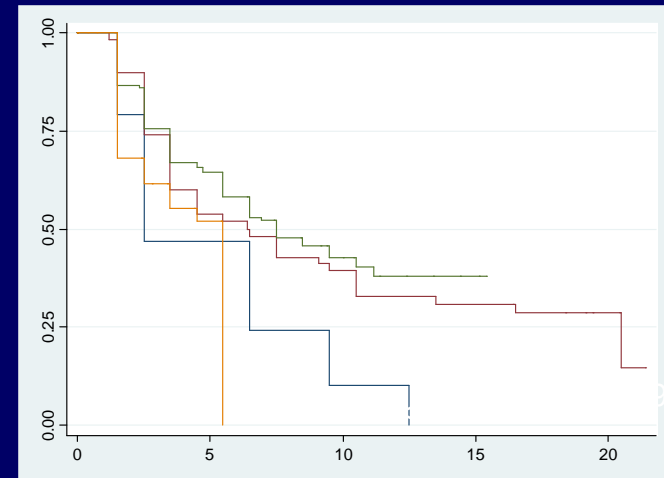
DR CONGO



Western countries



Africa



Returns from Western countries

SENEGAL

RD CONGO

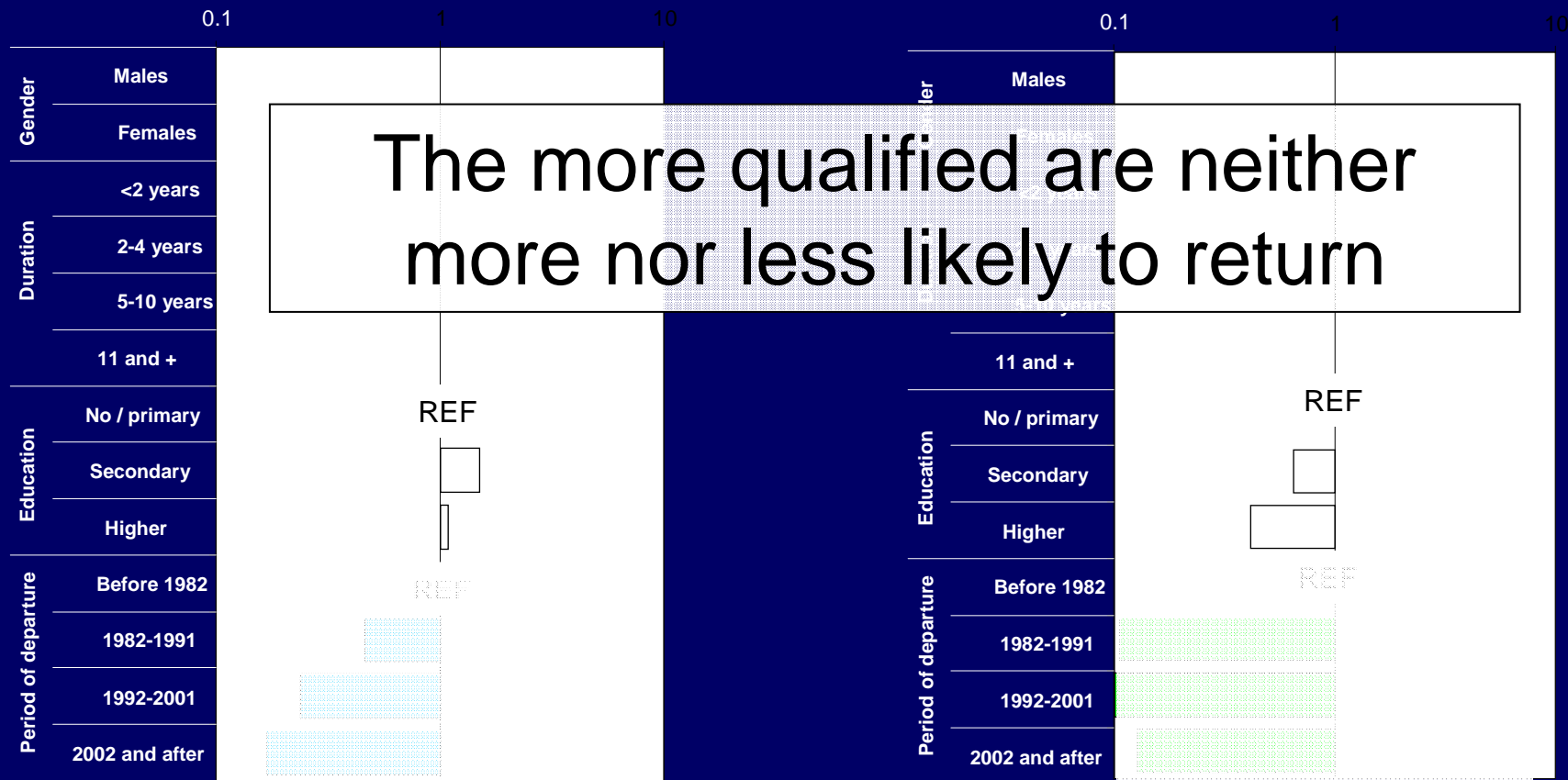


The harder it is to leave, the less people return

Returns from Western countries

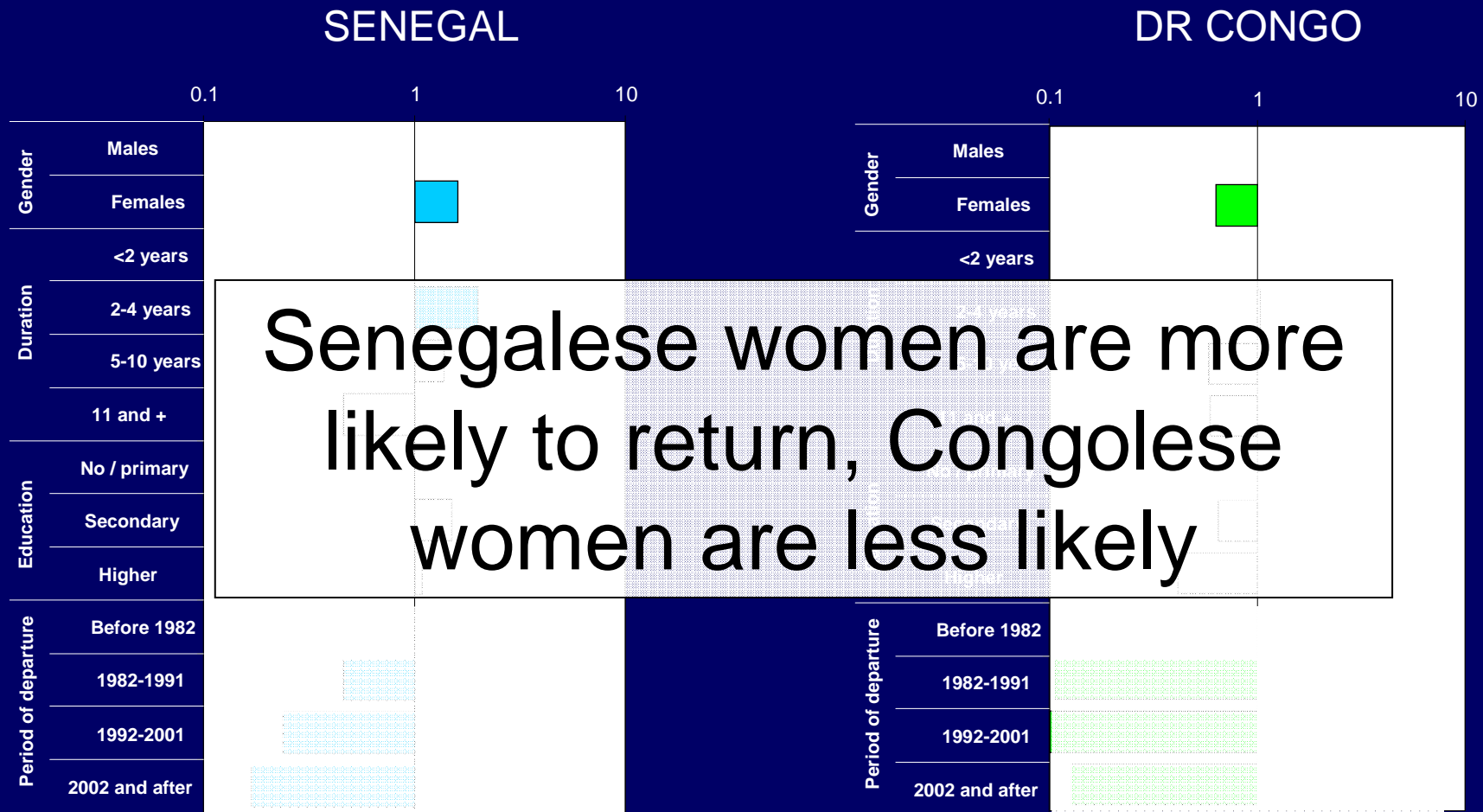
SENEGAL

DR CONGO



The more qualified are neither more nor less likely to return

Returns from Western countries



Senegalese women are more likely to return, Congolese women are less likely

Conclusion

- No unique model of migration
 - Significant differences in migration trends, with varied destinations
 - Congolese specificity due to political troubles (?)
 - Need for further comparison (Ghana forthcoming)
 - Gender effect varies across countries
 - Senegalese F. leave less, return more than M.
 - Congolese F. leave as much as M., return less
 - Need for further investigation on gender relations and migration

Conclusion

- But convergences
 - Strong selectivity by level of education at departure
 - But not upon return
 - Significant returns
 - Even from Western countries (1/3 after 10 years)
 - But a decreasing propensity of return from Western countries
 - Strong differences between African and Western countries
 - Border control as a counter-productive policy regarding return (?)... What future for return migration from Africa?