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Movers from the city in the (first) year(s) of Covid

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OSLO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
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OSLOMET

Exceptionally high out-migration from cities



CORONAVIRUS

Over 400 000 flee Tokyo in 2020

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on internal migration in Germany: A descriptive analysis

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected economies, labor markets, health care, education and tourism around the globe in unprecedented ways. However, little research has yet been devoted to the impact that the pandemic might have had on internal migration. This study aims to address this gap by determining how the intensity and spatial patterns of internal migration changed between 2019 and 2020 in Germany. We draw on data from the population register on annual flows between 401 counties. We find that the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with a 5% drop in the intensity of inter-county migration in 2020 compared to the previous year, with significant variation across age. The pandemic was also associated with an upsurge in net migration losses for the largest cities, driven by fewer inflows of young adults and continuing outflows of families.

Keywords: COVID-19, internal migration, suburbanization, urbanization

Germany, 2020; Koehl, 2020; Thomas et al., 2021). Besides the direct effects of the pandemic on working lives, ICT, and daily mobility, little is yet known about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on internal migration. Changes in internal migration in response to COVID-19 are very likely because the COVID-induced global recession is expected to affect internal migration flows (Bernard et al., 2020; Decressin, 1994; Gans, 2017; Stawarz & Sander, 2020). A very first study by Fielding et al. (2021) on the impact of COVID-19 on internal migration in Japan also reported a decrease in internal migration and a weakening of population concentration in urban areas in 2020. We draw on data from the population register on annual flows between 401 counties in Germany. We find that the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with a 5% drop in the intensity of inter-county migration in 2020 compared to the previous year, with significant variation across age. The pandemic was also associated with an upsurge in net migration losses for the largest cities, driven by fewer inflows of young adults and continuing outflows of families.

“The pandemic was also associated with an upsurge in net migration losses for the largest cities”

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Urban exodus in Covid times

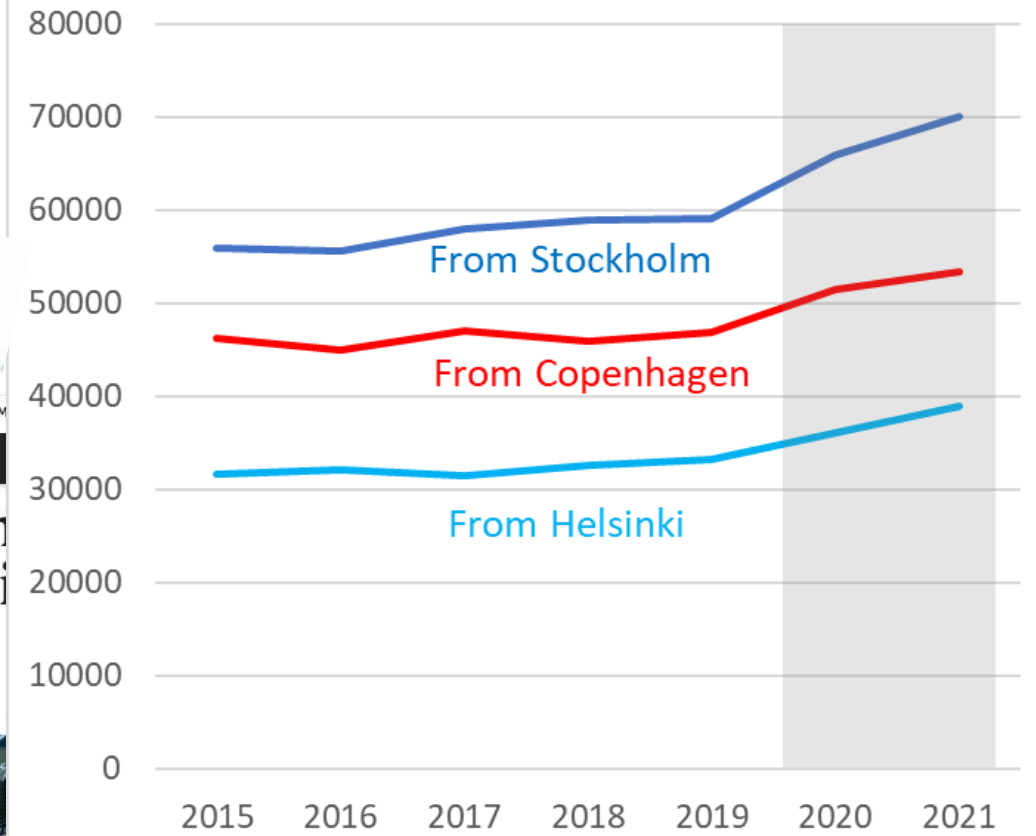
Who moves out of the inner city of Stockholm and where do they go?

Louisa Vogiazides and Jutta Kawalerowicz



Stockholm University
Demography Unit

Out-migration to other parts of the country



Movers from the city in the first year of Covid

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Abstract
Cities across the world have been severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and out-migration from cities was particularly high in 2020. Some movers went abroad; others moved to other parts of the same country. Oslo, Norway, as a case, this study examines the characteristics of those who moved away from the city in 2020, as well as their reasons for moving. Based on these findings, I discuss the likelihood of returning when the pandemic is over. The results show that those moving away from Oslo in 2020 were older than those moving away from other cities. This may be due to the fact that the city after the pandemic effect was less attractive for younger people.



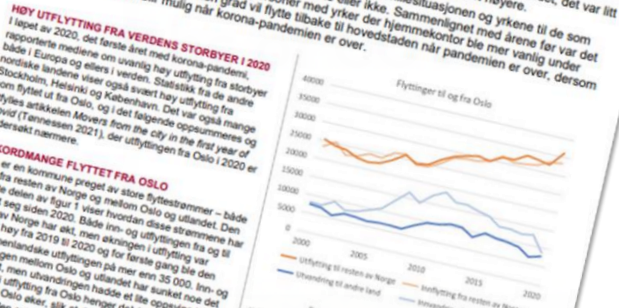
REKORDMANGE FLYTTET FRA OSLO
Oslo er en kommune preget av store bystrømmer – både inn- og utvandring. I 2020 var utvandringen fra Oslo rekordhøy. Dette skyldes blant annet at mange som flyttet fra Oslo i 2020, var eldre og hadde barn. Dette er i samsvar med tidligere undersøkelser som viser at eldre og familier med barn er mer tilbøyelige til å flytte til andre deler av landet. Utvandringen fra Oslo i 2020 er dermed noe annerledes enn tidligere år.

HVEM FLYTTER FRA OSLO I 2020?
De som flytter fra Oslo i 2020 har antakelig hatt mange års erfaring med byen. Folk kan ha flyttet fordi de mistet jobben i en bransje som ble rammet hardt, slik som turisme og hotellbransjen. De kan også ha flyttet fordi de fikk tilbud om jobb i andre deler av landet. Dette er noe som tidligere undersøkelser har vist at mange som flytter fra Oslo gjør. Det er derfor viktig å se på utvandringen fra Oslo i 2020 i sammenheng med tidligere år.

Korona-utflytterne

Hvem forlot storbyen i 2020, og vil de komme tilbake?

Marianne Tønnessen
Utflyttingen fra Oslo var rekordhøy i koronåret 2020. Nær 30 000 utvandret fra Oslo til utlandet, det var litt mer enn året før. 36 500 flyttet til andre deler av Norge, og det tallet har aldri vært høyere. Vi utflytterne kommer tilbake når pandemien er over? Alderen, familiesituasjonen og ynkene til de som flyttet ut kan gi en pekepinn på om de vil komme tilbake eller ikke. Sammenlignet med årene før var det en særlig sterk økning i utflyttingen blant personer med yrker der hjemmekontor ble mer vanlig under pandemien. Det kan tilsa at de i liten grad vil flytte tilbake til hovedstaden når pandemien er over, dersom hjemmekontor fortsatt blir mulig når korona-pandemien er over.



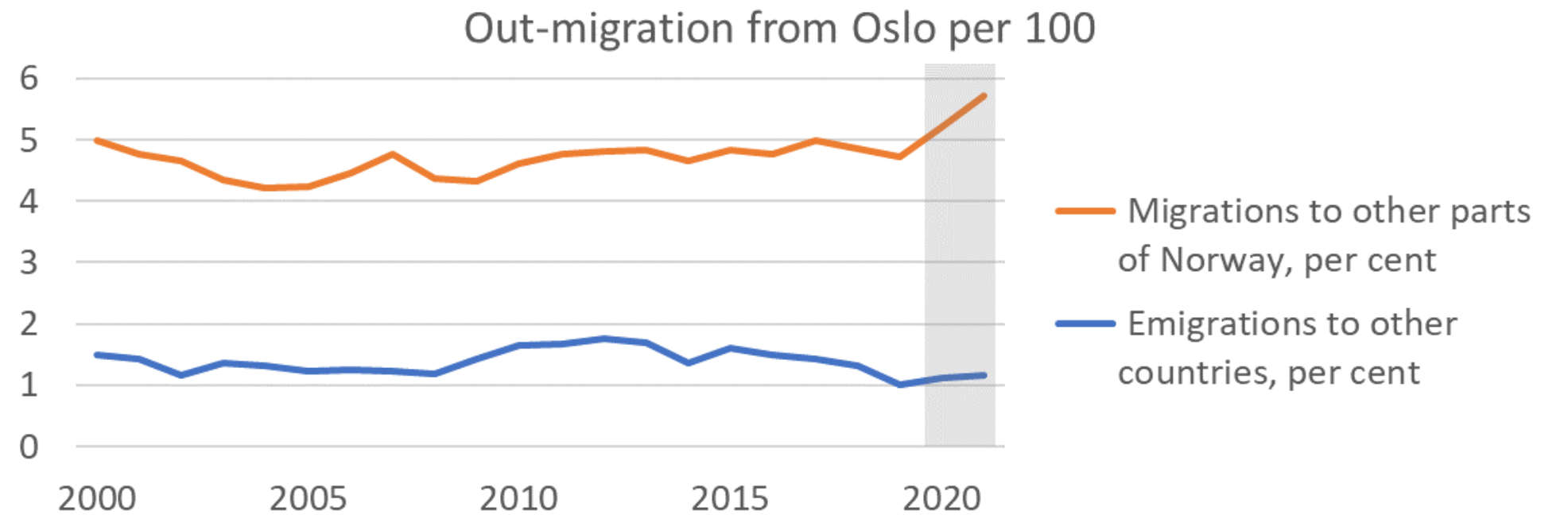
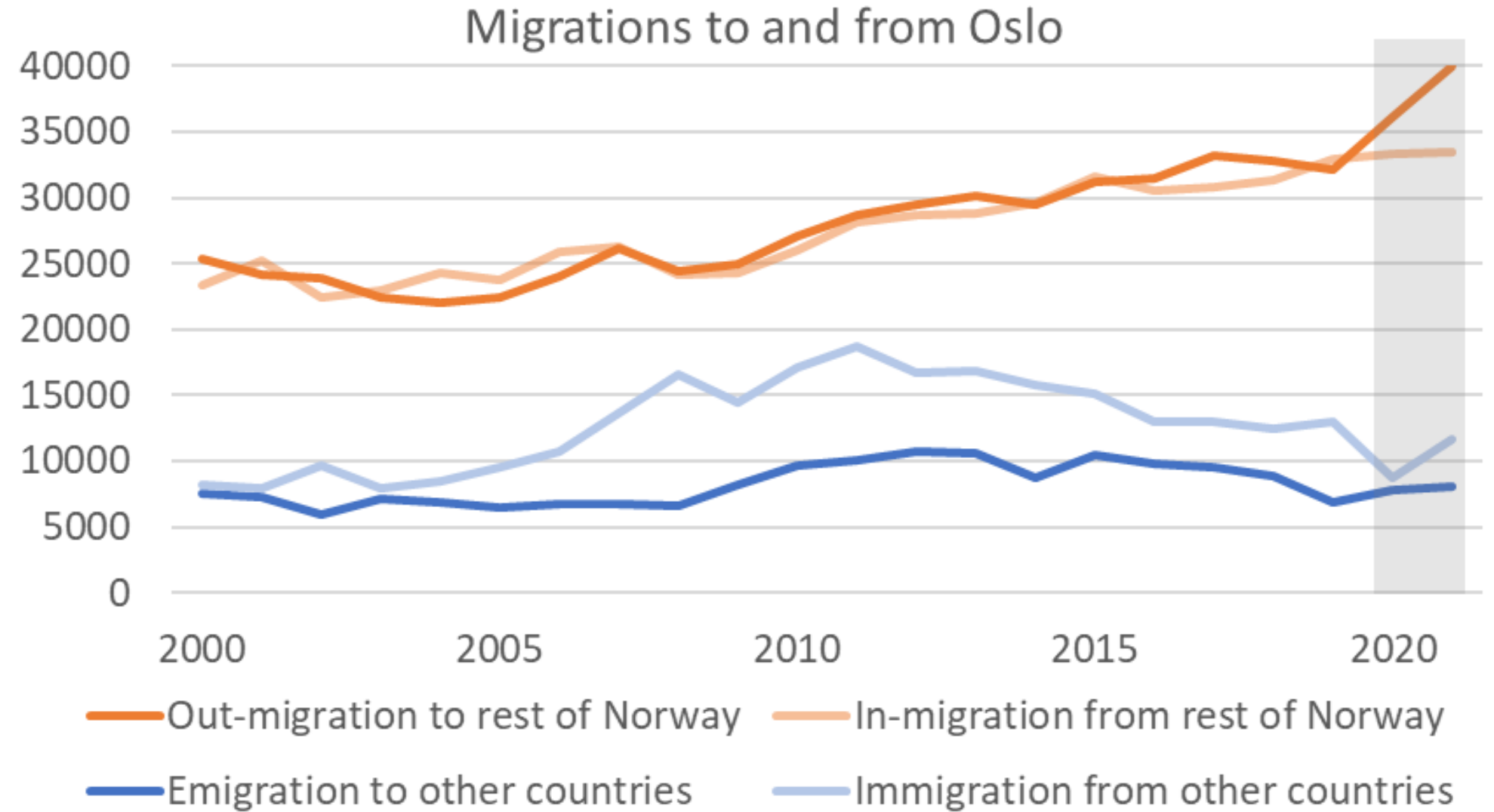
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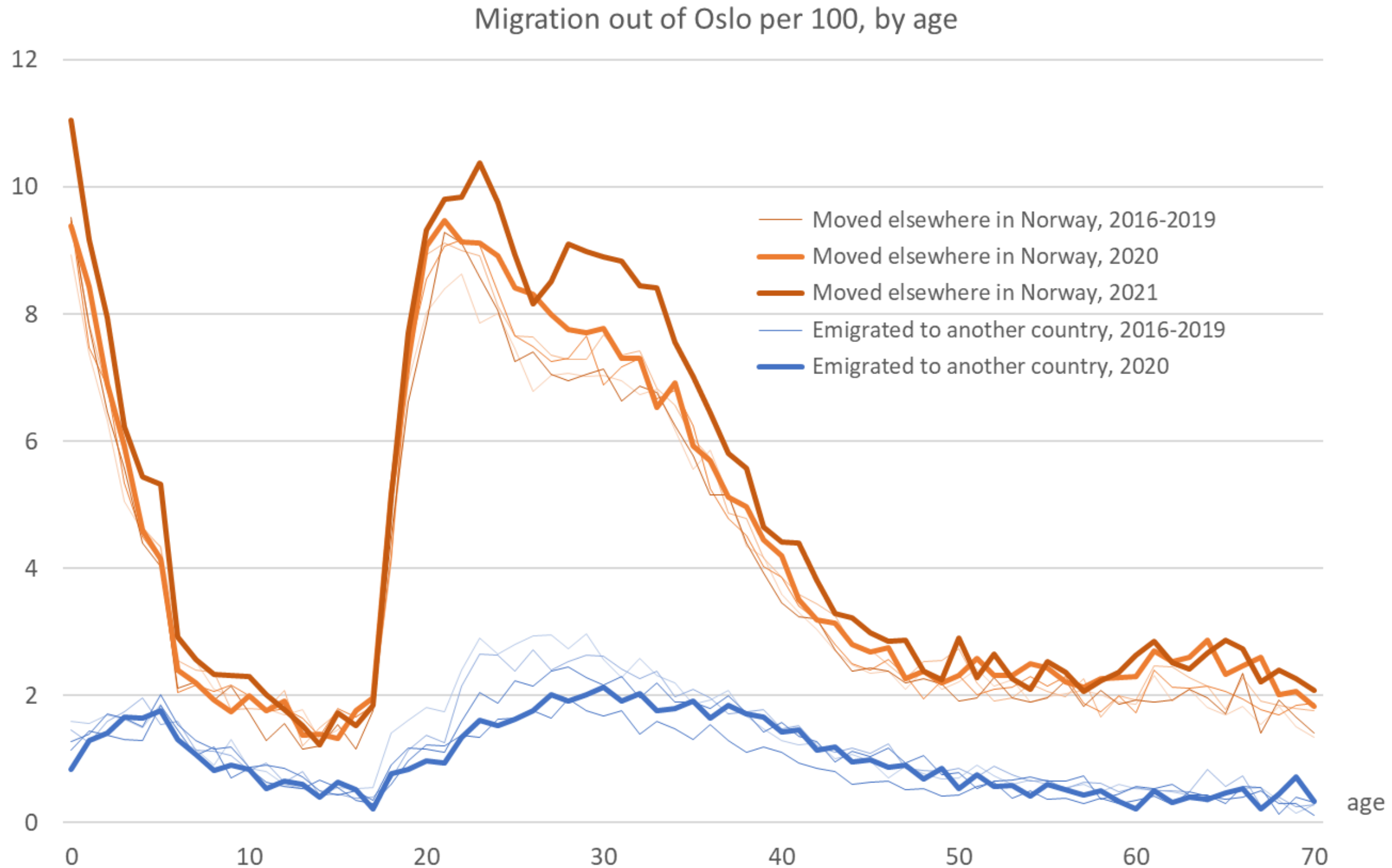
This case: Oslo



Aims of the study

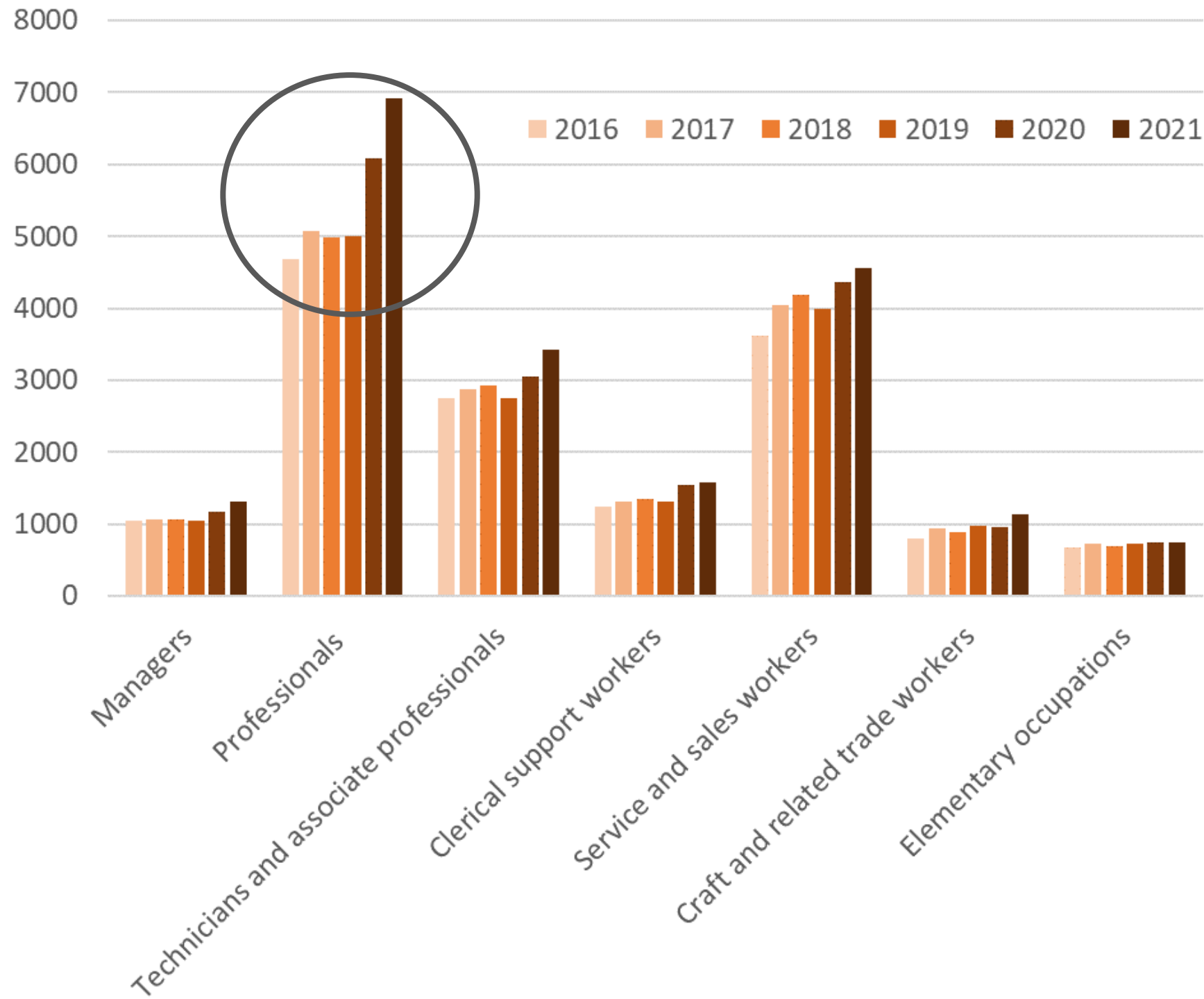
- Describe the characteristics of those who moved from Oslo in 2020 and 2021 compared with those who moved from the city in the previous years
 - To other parts of Norway
 - To other countries
- Use the descriptions to discuss whether they will move back after the pandemic
 - Assumptions: Age matters, occupation matters, place of birth matters, family matters
- Data and methods:
 - Microdata.no (register data from Statistics Norway) – descriptives and multinomial regression

Who left Oslo in 2020 and 2021? (part I)

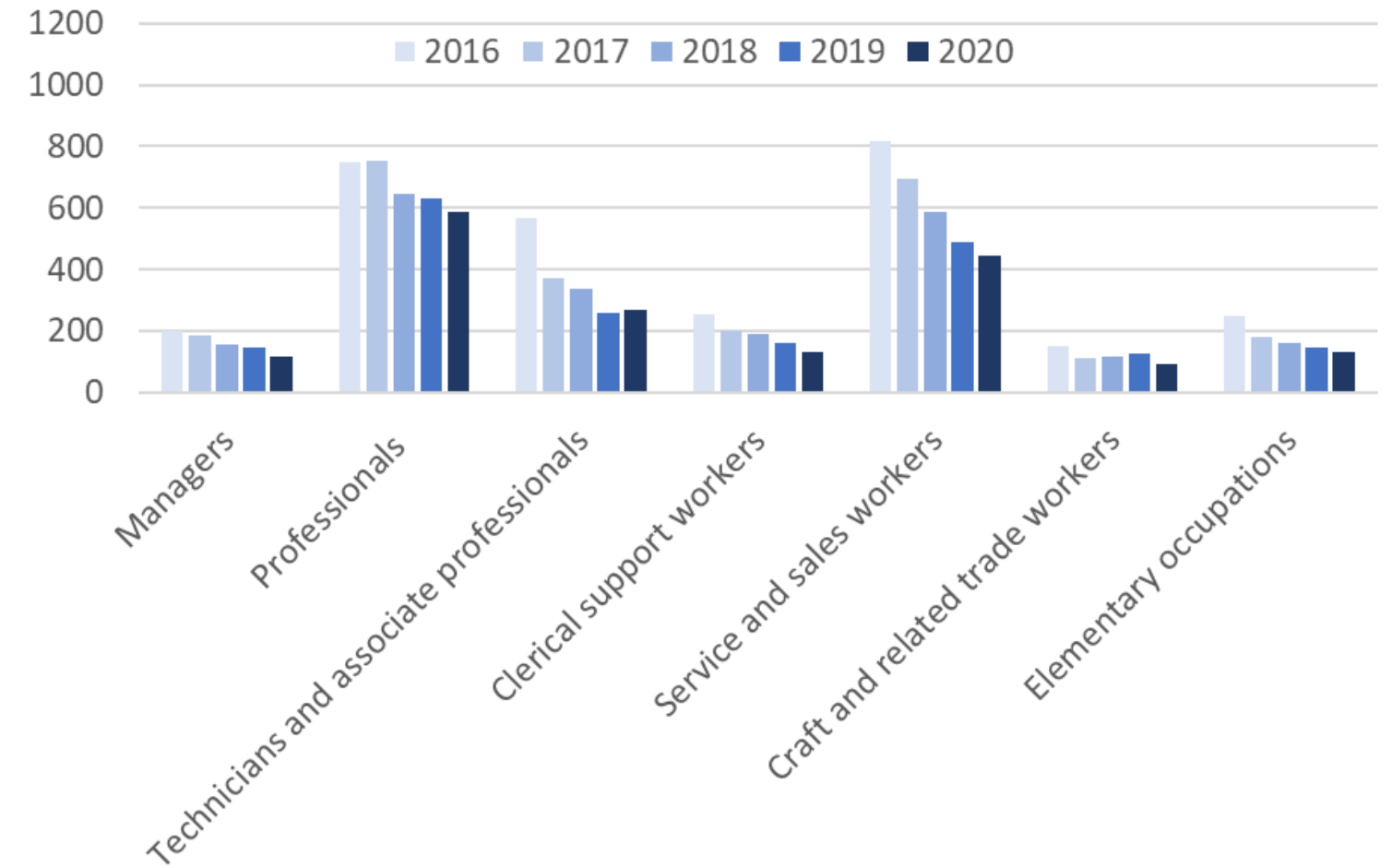


Who left Oslo in 2020 and 2021? (part II)

Migration from Oslo to other parts of Norway, by occupation

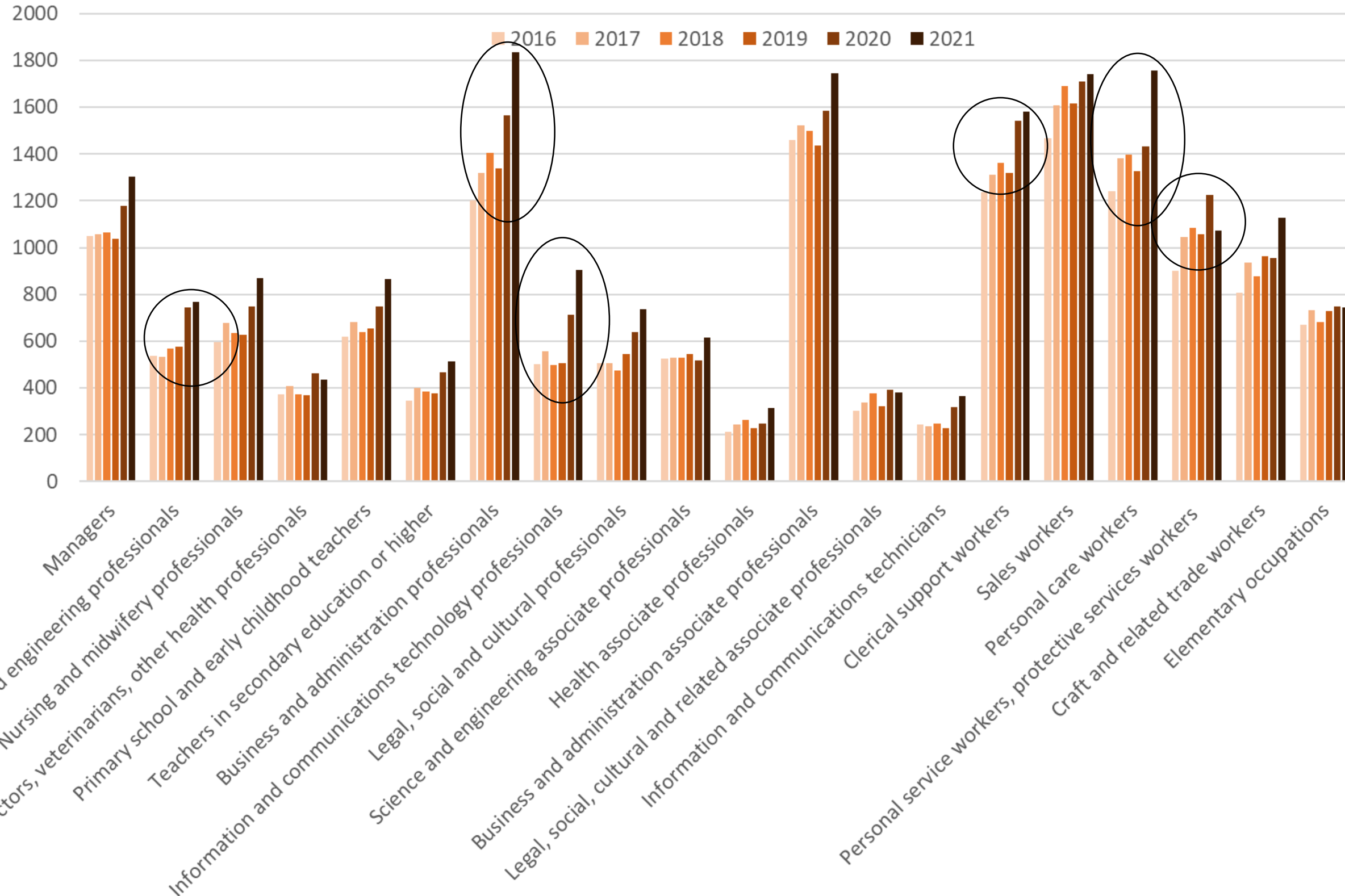


Emigration from Oslo to other countries, by occupation



Who left Oslo in 2020-21? (part III)

Movers from Oslo to other parts of Norway, by occupation



Realister, sivilingeniører m.v.

Rådgivere innen økonomi, administrasjon og salg

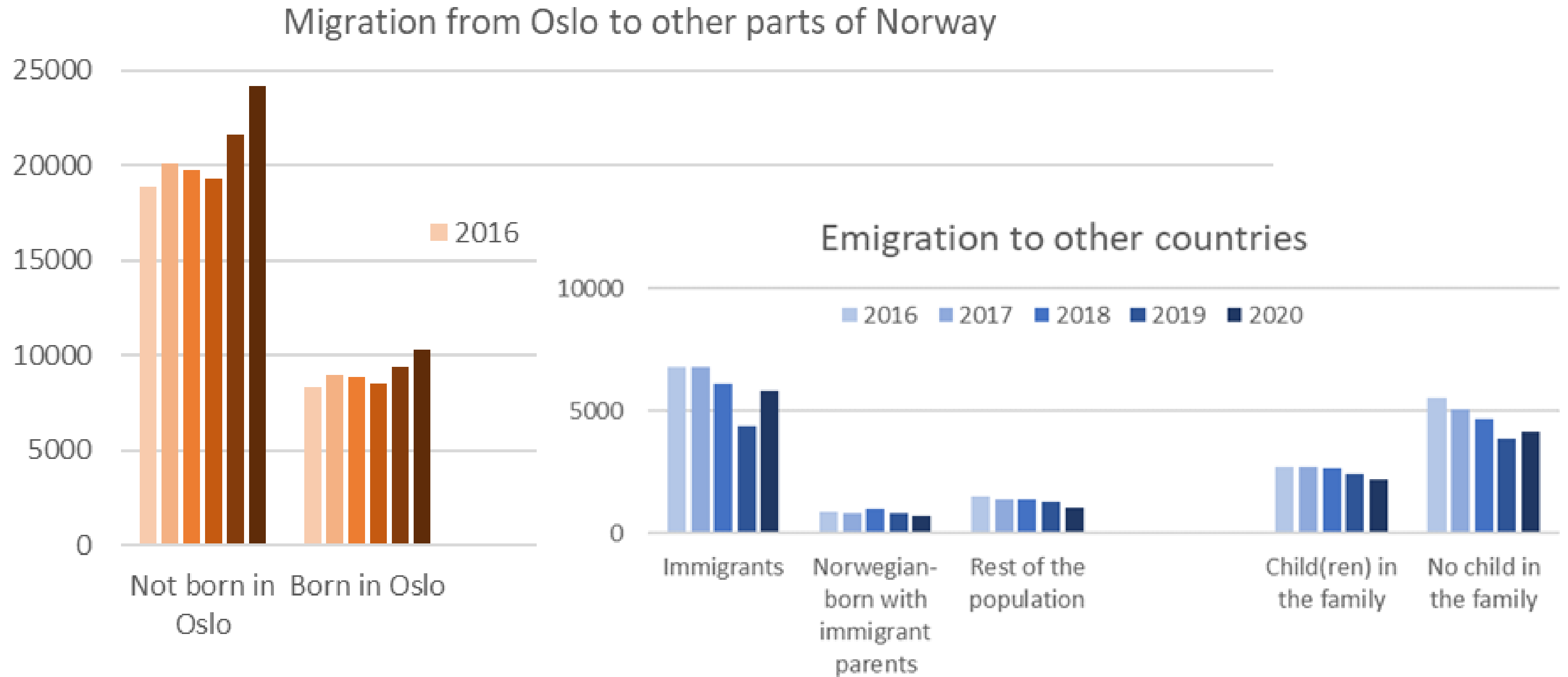
IKT-rådgivere

Kontoryrker

Kokker, servitører, bartendere, frisører og annen personlig tjenesteyting, sikkerhetsarbeidere

Pleie- og omsorgsarbeidere

Who left Oslo in 2020 and 2021? (part IV)



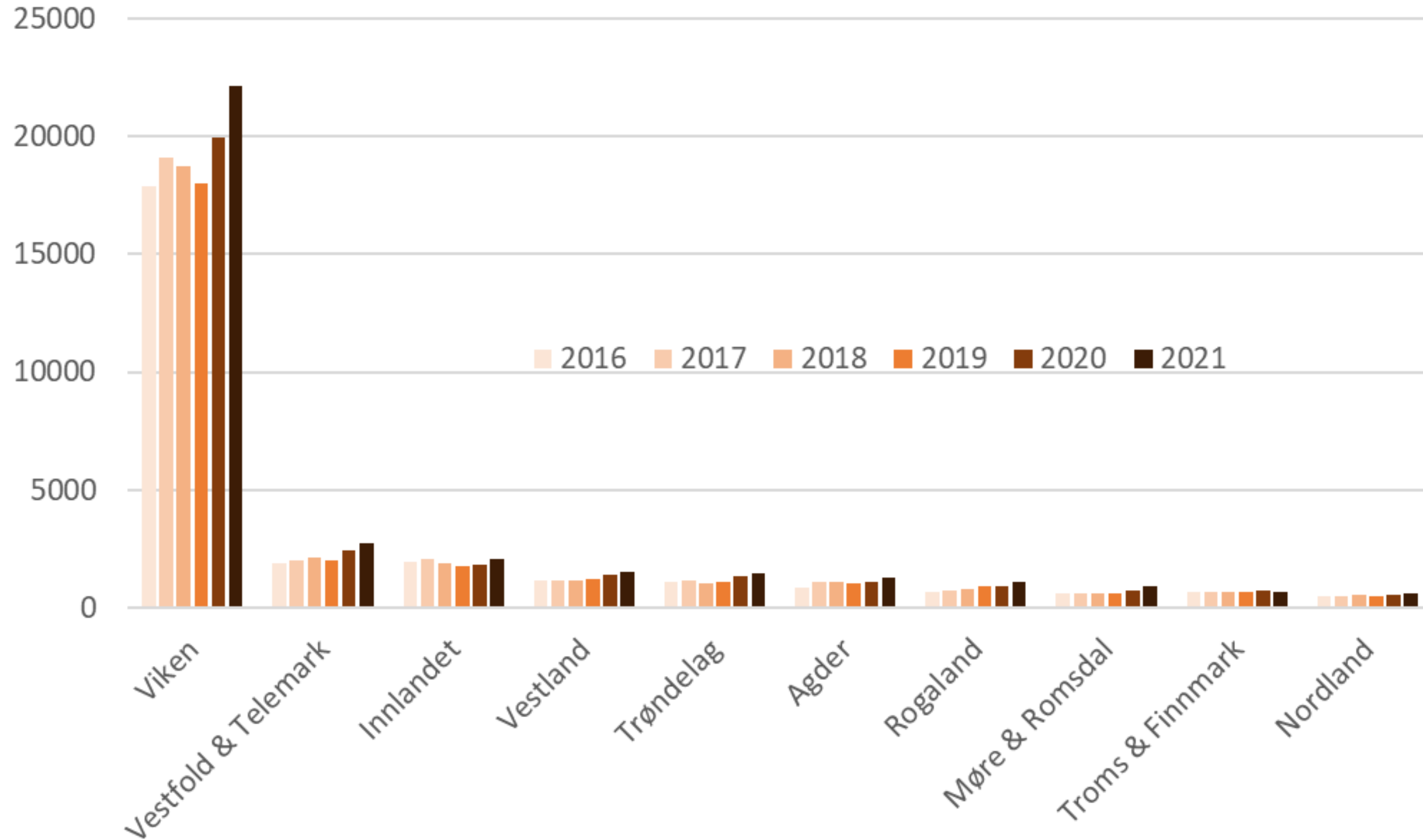
Results, in short

Compared to the years before 2020, the movers from Oslo in 2020 (and 2021) were

- ↓ • Somewhat older
- ↓ • More often professionals, clerical support workers, managers, and technicians & associated professionals
- ↓ • More often born outside Oslo (and for emigration: more often an immigrant)
- ↑ • Also increase among service and sales workers (in 2020)
- ↑ • More often without children in the family

Where did they move?

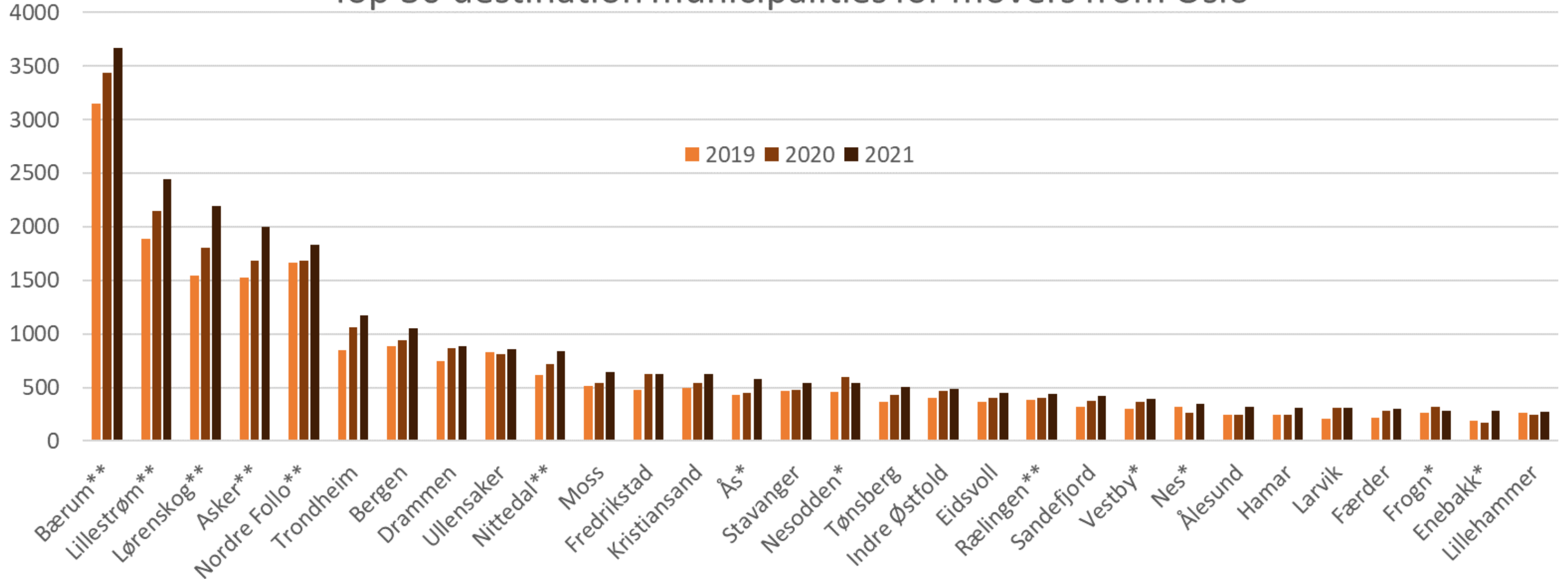
Movers from Oslo to other parts of Norway, by destination county



Although the Covid-19 pandemic seems to have affected *who* moves out of Oslo, it does not seem to have affected *where* people move when leaving Oslo.

Where did they move? (part II)

Top 30 destination municipalities for movers from Oslo



* The municipality is part of Oslo housing and labor market region, ** and the urban settlement of Oslo covers (part of) the municipality.

Two more questions

Is high out-migration the new trend?

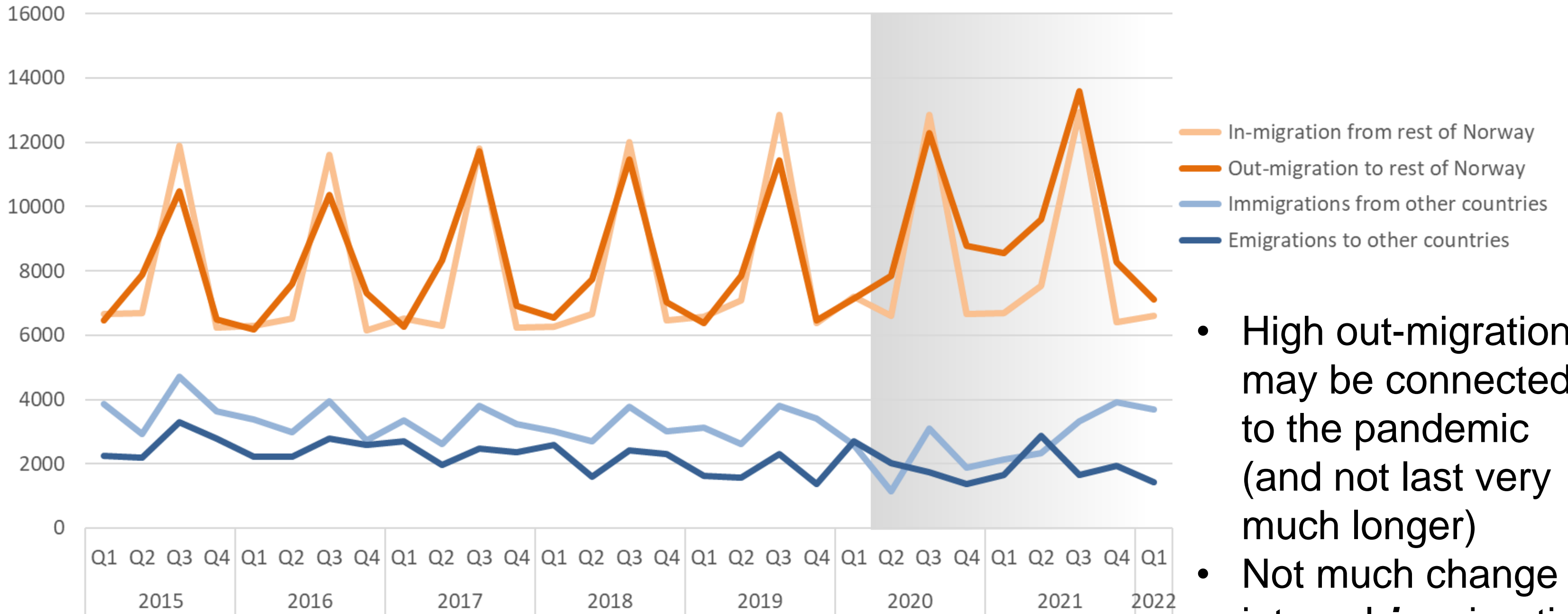
- **Yes:**
 - Teleworking becoming more common
 - The network effect
 - High housing prices
- **No:**
 - The most prone to leave Oslo have already left
 - The movers may affect the housing (and labor) market

What about future in-migration to Oslo?

- **It may decrease:**
 - Affected by the same determinants as out-migration (teleworking, network, housing prices)
- **It may increase:**
 - Those who only left temporarily in 2020 will come back
 - Teleworkers with jobs other places may choose to live in Oslo

The latest updates

Moves into and out of Oslo, by quarter



- High out-migration may be connected to the pandemic (and not last very much longer)
- Not much change in internal *in*-migration