



# Moving on? Integration and onward migration of dispersed refugees in the UK

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Session 2:  
Geographies of Forced Migration  
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# Dispersed refugees in UK

## Apply for Asylum

NASS support (housing and subsistence)

1999 Immigration and Asylum Act

'No choice' housing (dispersal region)

## Refugee status

2004 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants etc) Act

LA Housing determined by 'local connection' (but not within Scotland)

# Research questions

- 1. Has UK dispersal policy been effective in encouraging refugees to remain in dispersal sites?
- 2. What factors predict the onward migration of refugees?
- 3. Does migration positively or negatively impact upon refugee integration outcomes?

# Background

- UK resettlement schemes (Robinson 2003)
- US and Canadian resettlement policies: ‘while refugees are agents of their adaptation, the resettlement bureaucracy may operate at cross-purposes and constrain their resettlement’ (Simich 2003, 588)
- “if refugees migrate to certain urban centres for social support from family and an ethnic community as well as for employment opportunities, they actually have the same priorities that the resettlement program is supposed to have – they are seeking to rebuild self-sufficiency rather than rely on government support” (Simich et al 2002, 604).
- Onward migration as problematic for policy-makers/service providers vs. adjustment strategy for refugees
- ‘counters a conceptualization of refugees as passive, helpless actors who would be content in any community’ (Ott 2011, 5)
- Immobility – structural constraints and individual preferences

# Methods

- Quantitative data analysis
  - Survey of New Refugees (SNR)
  - Refugee Integration and Employment Service (RIES) client data
- *Qualitative data analysis*
  - In-depth interviews with refugees (target of 80)
  - Peripheral and metropolitan areas
  - Glasgow, Cardiff, Manchester and London

## **Quantitative data analysis: migration variables**

**1. Survey of New Refugees: 5678 cases in baseline survey, 1826 cases in 8 month follow-up, 1173 cases in 15 month follow-up, 867 cases in 21 month follow-up (2005-2009)**

**Dispersed refugees: 45% of sample living in NASS accommodation at baseline survey**

**Variables: Region; number of times moved to different town/city since grant (8 month); last 6 months (15 months)**

**2. RIES database (Glasgow): 1436 cases from 2/10/08 until 15/8/11**

**Dispersed refugees: 88% of sample living in NASS accommodation at grant**

**Variables: Local authority at point of decision; Current local authority location**

# Quantitative data

- Level of Geography
  - Survey of New Refugees – regional data only and frequency of mobility over time (but no geography)
  - Refugee Integration and Employment Service (RIES) client records – locational data but snapshot in time

# Do refugees remain in dispersal sites?

- Survey of New Refugees (SNR)
- Levels of mobility: number of times moved town/city since grant (8 months) and in the past 6 months (15 months)

	8 month survey		15 month survey	
	Total sample (n=1529)	Dispersed refugees (n= 692)	Total sample (n=900)	Dispersed refugees (n=469)
Non-migrant	877 (57%)	302 (44%)	720 (80%)	365 (78%)
Migrant	652 (43%)	390 (56%)	180 (20%)	104 (22%)
Missing	297	123	273	263



# Do refugees remain in dispersal sites?

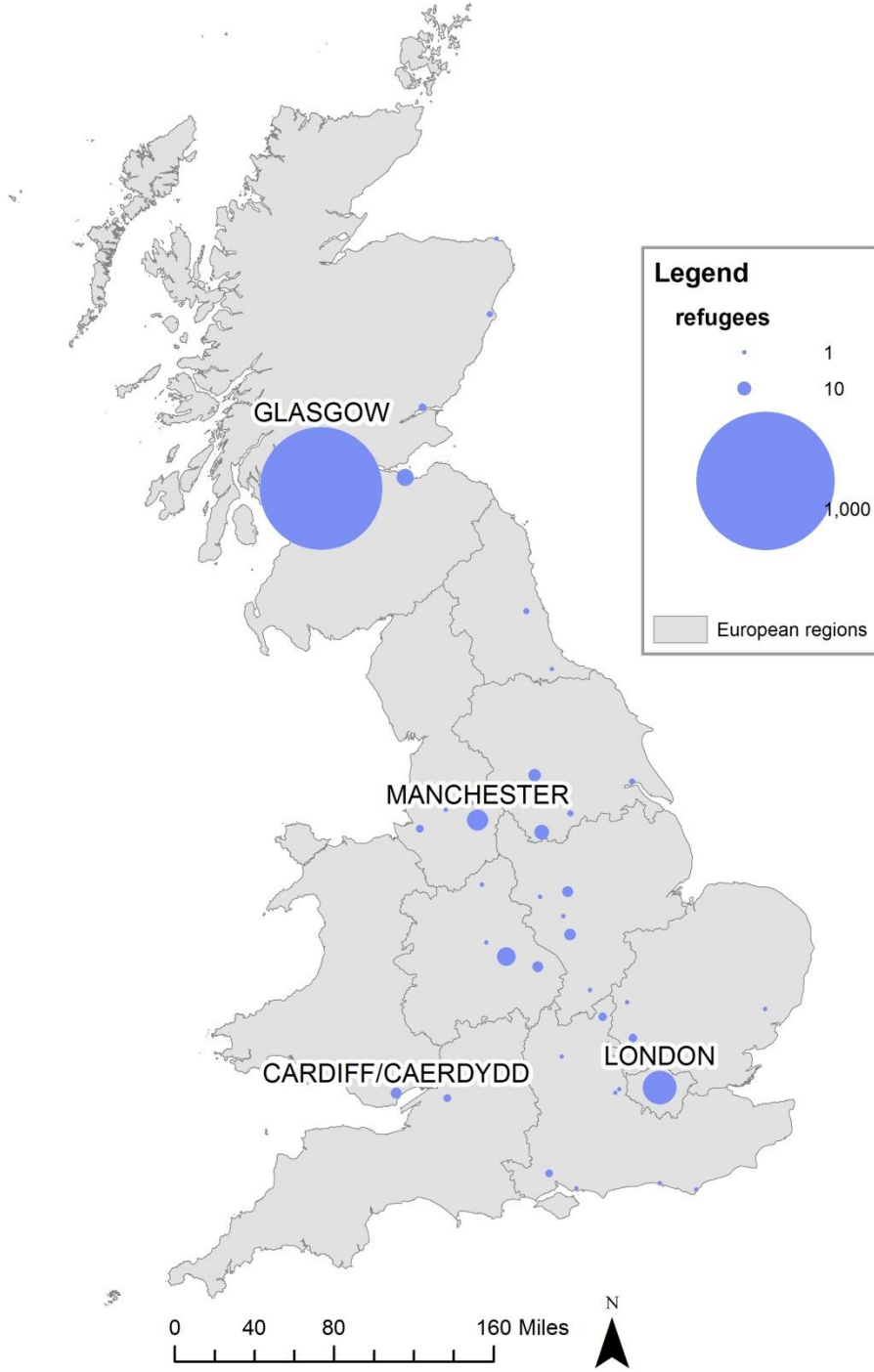
- Survey of New Refugees (SNR) – Total number of moves (8&15 months)

	<b>Dispersed refugees (n=428)</b>	<b>Rest of SNR sample (n=327)</b>
No moves	147 (34%)	188 (58%)
One move	139 (33%)	73 (22%)
2+ moves	142 (33%)	66 (20%)

# Do refugees remain in dispersal sites?

- Survey of New Refugees (SNR) – Migrant ‘types’ (8&15 months)

	<b>Dispersed refugees (n=428)</b>	<b>Rest of SNR sample (n=327)</b>
Non-mover	147 (34%)	188 (58%)
Early mover	187 (44%)	92 (28%)
Late mover	40 (9%)	30 (9%)
Multiple mover	54 (13%)	17 (5%)



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Current local authority  
of dispersed refugees  
(Source: Glasgow RIES client database,  
2008-2011)

# What factors predict the onward migration of refugees?

- Survey of New Refugees (SNR)
- Can independent variables recorded at the baseline predict the probability of moving town/city at 8 or 15 months?
- Dependent variables
  - 8 month survey: How many times have you moved town or city since time of grant? (non migrant/migrant)
- Independent variables (40 variables)
  - Socio-demographic, human capital, place and housing, social/cultural and health

Probability of moving town/city at 8 months by using independent variables from baseline survey (N=1265)

Statistics		Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6
		Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)
<i>Socio-demographics</i>							
Gender	Male (ref Female)	1.288 **	1.307 **	1.308 **	1.231	1.235	1.276 *
Partner status	Partner (ref Single)	0.721 **	0.770	0.767	0.948	0.942	0.908
Country of origin (ref Eritrea)	Somalia	0.362 ***	0.365 ***	0.347 ***	0.455 ***	0.438 ***	0.469 ***
	Iraq	0.386 ***	0.482 ***	0.533 **	0.668	0.637	0.664
	Iran	0.570 **	0.618 *	0.671	0.807	0.815	0.824
	Zimbabwe	0.521 ***	0.299 ***	0.363 ***	0.537 **	0.522 **	0.609
	Other	0.496 ***	0.571 ***	0.606 **	0.893	0.918	0.993
Time in UK (at baseline survey)	More than one year (ref less than one year)		0.693 ***	0.718 **	0.871	0.891	0.885
<i>Human capital</i>							
Qualifications before entering UK	Yes (ref No)			0.725 **	0.659 ***	0.645 ***	0.645 ***
Speak English compared to native speaker	Very/fairly well (ref not very well/at all)			0.649 **	0.642 ***	0.632 ***	0.638 **
Read English compared to native speaker	Very/fairly well (ref not very well/at all)			1.482 **	1.404 *	1.400 *	1.471 **

<i>Place and Housing</i>							
Region of residence (ref London and South East)	Midlands and East England				1.630 ***	1.631 ***	1.587 **
	NE, Yorkshire and Humber				2.378 ***	2.416 ***	2.346 ***
	North West				1.817 ***	1.826 ***	1.843 ***
	Scotland and NI				1.141	1.312	1.367
	Wales and SW				2.465 ***	2.574 ***	2.571 ***
Current accommodation (at baseline survey) (ref NASS accomm)	With friends/family				0.601 ***	0.582 ***	0.576 ***
	Other				0.531 ***	0.530 ***	0.531 ***
<i>Social/cultural</i>							
Meeting relatives not in household	Yes (ref No)					1.292 *	1.255
<i>Health</i>							
Limited by physical health in past 4 weeks	Yes (ref No)						1.558 ***
Limited by emotional problems in past 4 weeks	Yes (ref No)						0.755 *

# What factors predict the onward migration of refugees?

- Survey of New Refugees (SNR)
- Dependent variables
  - 15 month survey: In total, how many times have you moved to a different town or city in the past 6 months? (non migrant/migrant)
- Independent variables (40 variables)
  - Socio-demographic, human capital, place and housing, social/cultural and health for modelling

Probability of moving town/city at 15 months by using independent variables from baseline survey (N=757)

<b>Statistics</b>		<b>Model 1</b>	<b>Model 2</b>	<b>Model 3</b>	<b>Model 4</b>
		Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)	Exp (B)
<i>Socio-demographics</i>					
Gender	Male (ref Female)	1.699 ***	1.666 **	1.625 **	2.011 ***
Religion	Muslim (non Muslim)	0.626 *	0.582 **	0.632	0.636
Time in UK (at baseline survey)	More than one year (ref less than one year)	1.349	1.905 ***	2.163 ***	2.633 ***
<i>Place and Housing</i>					
Region of residence (ref London and South East)	Midlands and East England		0.434 **	0.406 **	0.465 **
	NE, Yorkshire and Humber		0.630	0.662	0.795
	North West		0.966	0.976	0.809
	Scotland and NI		0.283	0.258 *	0.262
	Wales and SW		0.320 **	0.343 **	0.435 *
Current accommodation (at baseline survey) (ref NASS accomm)	With friends/family		0.382 ***	0.411 ***	0.436 ***
	Other		0.372 **	0.415 **	0.368 ***
<i>Social/cultural</i>					
Contact with national/ethnic groups	Yes (ref No)			1.565 **	1.262
Friends or relatives in UK	Yes (ref No)			0.560 **	0.640
<i>Health</i>					
Limited by emotional problems in last 4 weeks	Yes (ref No)				1.937 ***
General health (ref Bad)	Fair				2.244 *
	Very good or Good				2.194 **



# What factors predict the onward migration of refugees?

- Probability of moving town/city at 8 and 15 months by using independent variables at baseline
- Summary of results
  - Role of gender
  - Country of origin
  - Human capital (English language)
  - Living in NASS accommodation
  - Role of national/ethnic groups and friends/relatives
  - Physical and emotional health

# Does migration positively or negatively impact upon refugee integration outcomes?

- Next steps for analysis
- Migration
  - When controlling for baseline variables, can independent integration variables recorded at 8 or 15 months predict the probability of moving town/city in these time periods?
  - 66 variables at 8 months; 73 variables at 15 months
  - Social networks, social capital, means and markers (employment, housing, health, education), facilitators, foundations, place/quality of life, other (welfare benefits, money, help and support needed)
- Integration
  - Integration indicators (employment, health)
  - Is migration important to integration outcomes?
  - Migrant types (8&15 months)

# Conclusion



- Onward migration website: [www.onwardmigration.com](http://www.onwardmigration.com)
- Please like our Facebook page: Onward Migration Research Project
- Contact: [emma.s.stewart@strath.ac.uk](mailto:emma.s.stewart@strath.ac.uk)



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