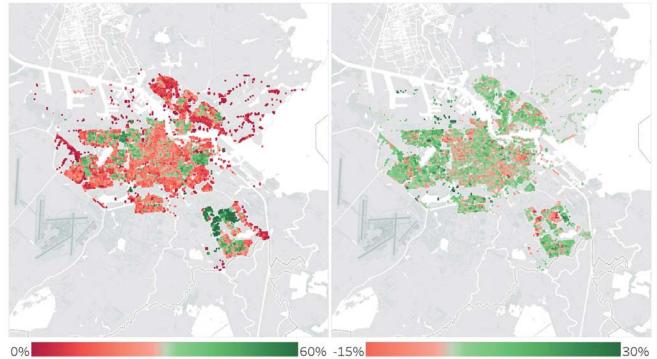


D4I - Data for IntegrationDoes migration inevitably lead to residential segregation?

Share of migrants in 2001

Change in the share of migrants 2001 - 2011



It is often feared that rising migration leads to residential segregation as migrant communities settle in specific neighbourhoods or 'enclaves'. However, early insights from the D4I initiative suggest that this is not a rule.

Comparing the data from the 2001 and 2011 Census, researchers have examined population concentration in Italian and Dutch cities.

Results show what can be described as a process of 'residential integration' over time. In areas where a high proportion of the population was of migrant background in 2001 there was a decrease in the concentration of migrants between 2001 and 2011. This was observed in cities of all sizes across Italy and the Netherlands, despite an overall increasing migrant population in each country at this time.

The maps above exemplify the change in the concentration of migrants in the case of Amsterdam. The areas with a high concentration of migrants in 2001 (green on the left map) saw a negative change in the share of migrants from 2001 to 2011 (red on the right map), meaning that migrants had moved out of those areas.

A range of factors may influence this process, from the provision of public housing to patterns of socio-economic integration and increasing social mobility of migrants. Further research in the future will seek to shine greater light on these factors.

D4I - Data for Integration is an initiative of the European Commission's Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD - https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/migration-and-demography). Data on the concentration of migrants at high spatial resolution has been assembled from National Census statistics and shared with research teams from across the world. The aim is to produce new insights on the local aspects of migration in support of policymaking at EU, national and local levels.

For more information on the D4I: https://bluehub.jrcec.europa.eu/datachallenge/ or contact fabrizio.natale@ec.europea.eu

