

An aerial photograph of a busy city street in Kenya, showing heavy traffic with many buses and cars. The street is lined with multi-story buildings, some with signs like 'CRAFTWOOD FURNITURE LTD' and 'SERIAL STORE'. The scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the street and buildings. The overall tone is somewhat muted, with a dark overlay.

Cities of Migration: Perspectives from Kenya

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Migration between Africa and Europe: Knowledge, Production, Attitudes and
Governance

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Structure

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 - **21st Century Migration in Kenya**
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 - **Demographic Population of Migrants**
 - **Drivers of Migration**
 - **Youth Migration in Kenya**
- Impact of migration to cities and Policy Approaches
- How can cities manage migration?

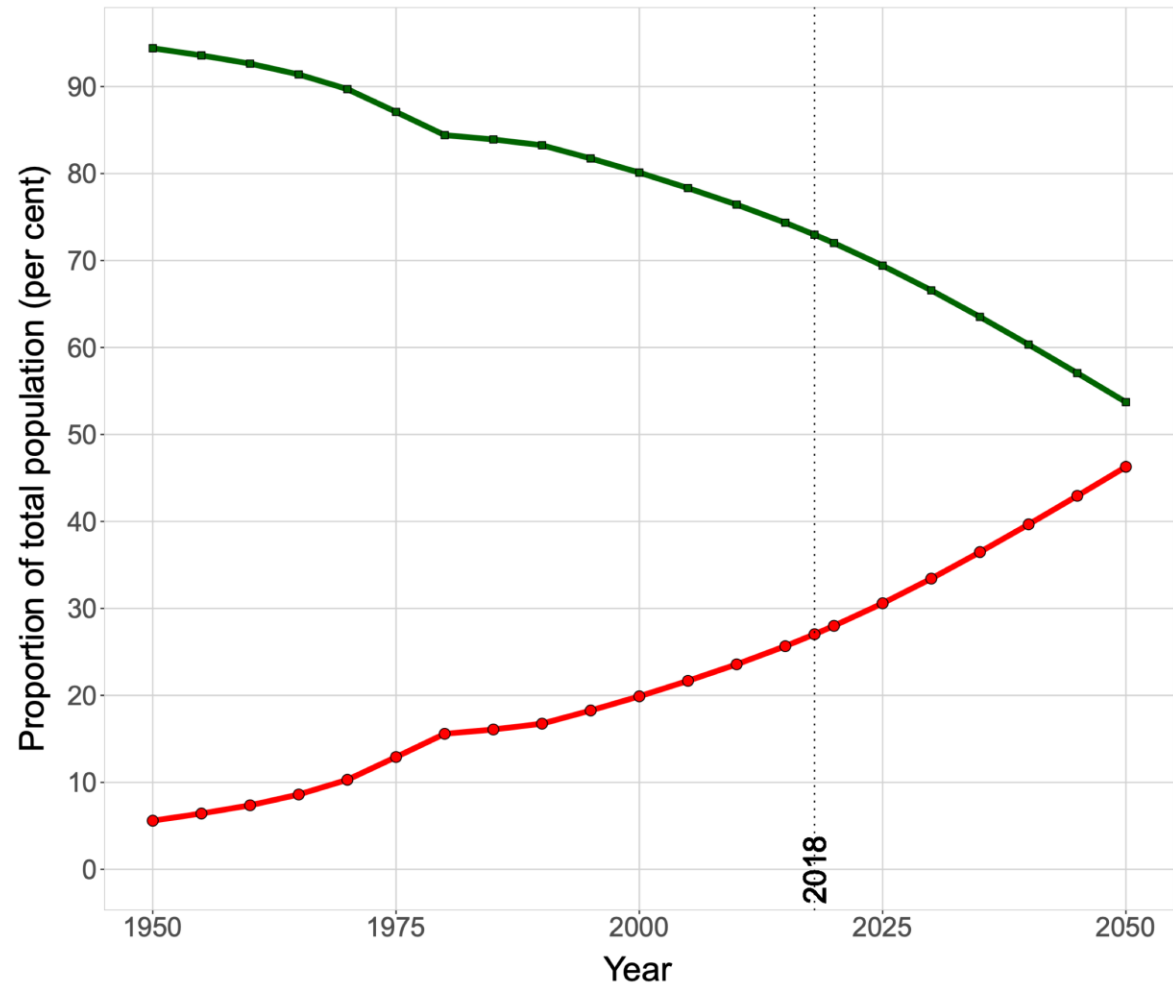
Overview of Migration

Brief Overview of Migration to Cities

- Culture of migration in East Africa
 - Colonialism that created rural-urban trends mostly labour migrants and male
 - After colonialism increased drive of migration to cities → opportunities available in cities i.e. social services, employment opportunities, education etc
 - Removal of colonial migration policies increased this drive
 - Migration to cities affected sending areas especially rural areas → deprivation of human resources and labour
- 1980s
 - More rural-urban migration in response to the political and economic environment at the time;
 - Underdevelopment of rural areas increased out-migration flows;
 - Lack of an effective policy in place to reduce rural-urban migration flows
 - *Operation Rudi Shamba*
- 1990s
 - From late 1980s onwards there was a larger flow of migration rural – urban due to lack of opportunities, unstable economy, limited or lack of effective and efficient social services.

Percentage of population in urban and rural areas Kenya

Urban Rural



21st Century Migration

- Rural – Urban migration continued more fluidly with improvements in transport link and communication
- Transit peri-urban areas thriving
 - Migrants began to seek alternative job opportunities in other towns
- Sector development
 - Influence demand for skills in other towns led to the development and growth of new towns e.g. Kajiado;
- New cities began to grow as a result of migration
 - Where there are migrants there is a demand for service and opportunity for business development
- Increased flows of younger migrants depending on life stage i.e. young graduate, single parent, married
 - 2012 Study on Migrating Out of Poverty, young people migrated regardless of their conditions, rural areas provided a safety net where as cities provided access to income generating opportunities.

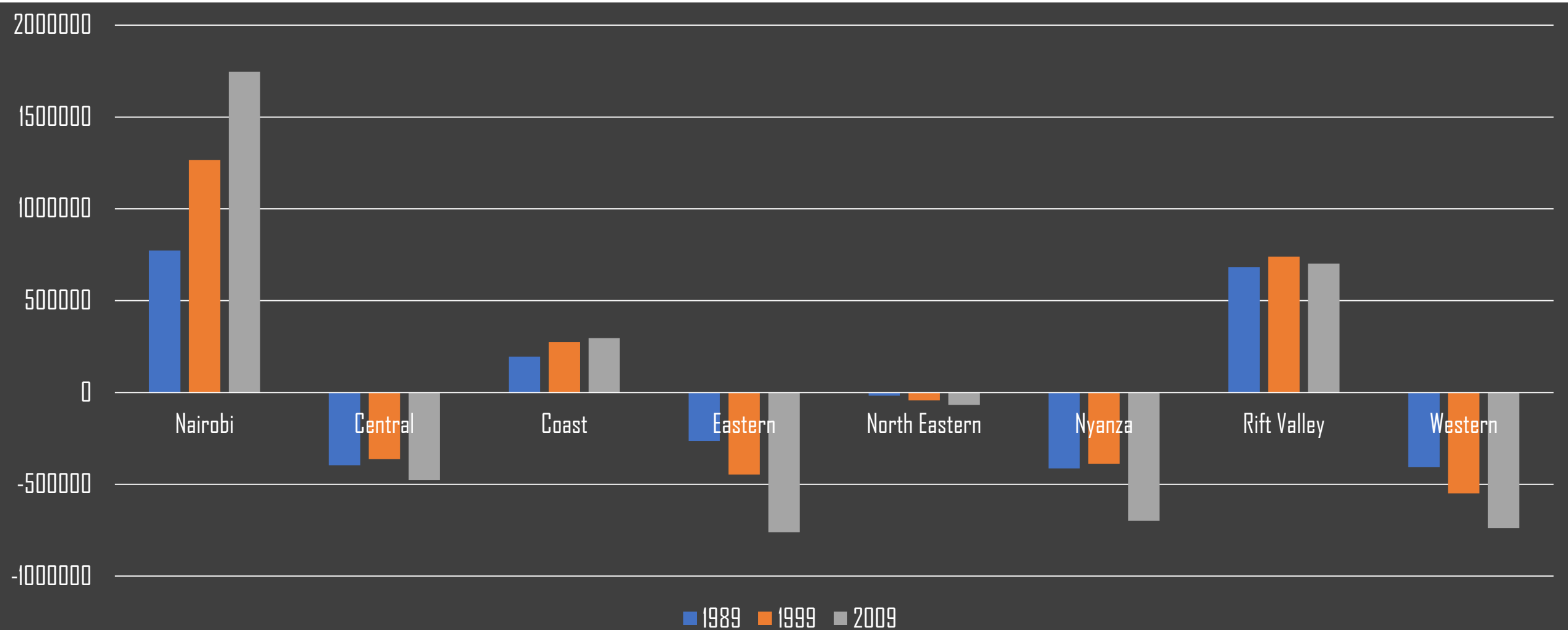
21st Century Migration

- Devolution of Governance (2013)
 - Development of 47 Counties from 8 provinces and 70 districts
 - Each county has its governance structure that has been pre-designed to respond to national government needs
 - Key reality is how development is slowly changing the course of development
 - New cities emerged Nakuru, Naivasha, Machakos, Kajiado, Kiambu, Kisumu, Mombasa
- County Integrated Development Plan for each county outlined the development needs by county, with little reference to the importance of internal migration or migration in general
 - Reference made was negative in terms of labour shortages
 - No consideration of the opportunities migrants bring to cities
- Need to understand migration and its role and impact on cities

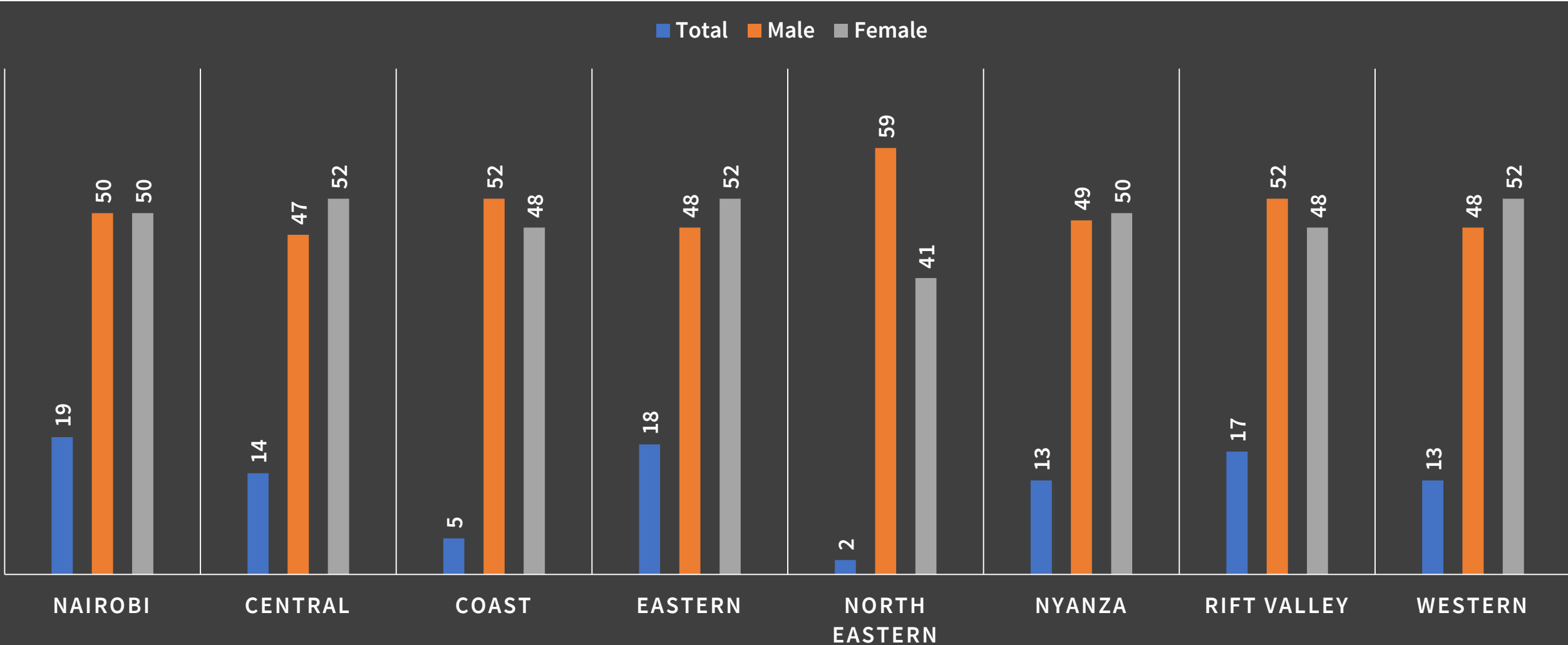


Drivers, Trends and Demographic Profile of Migrants

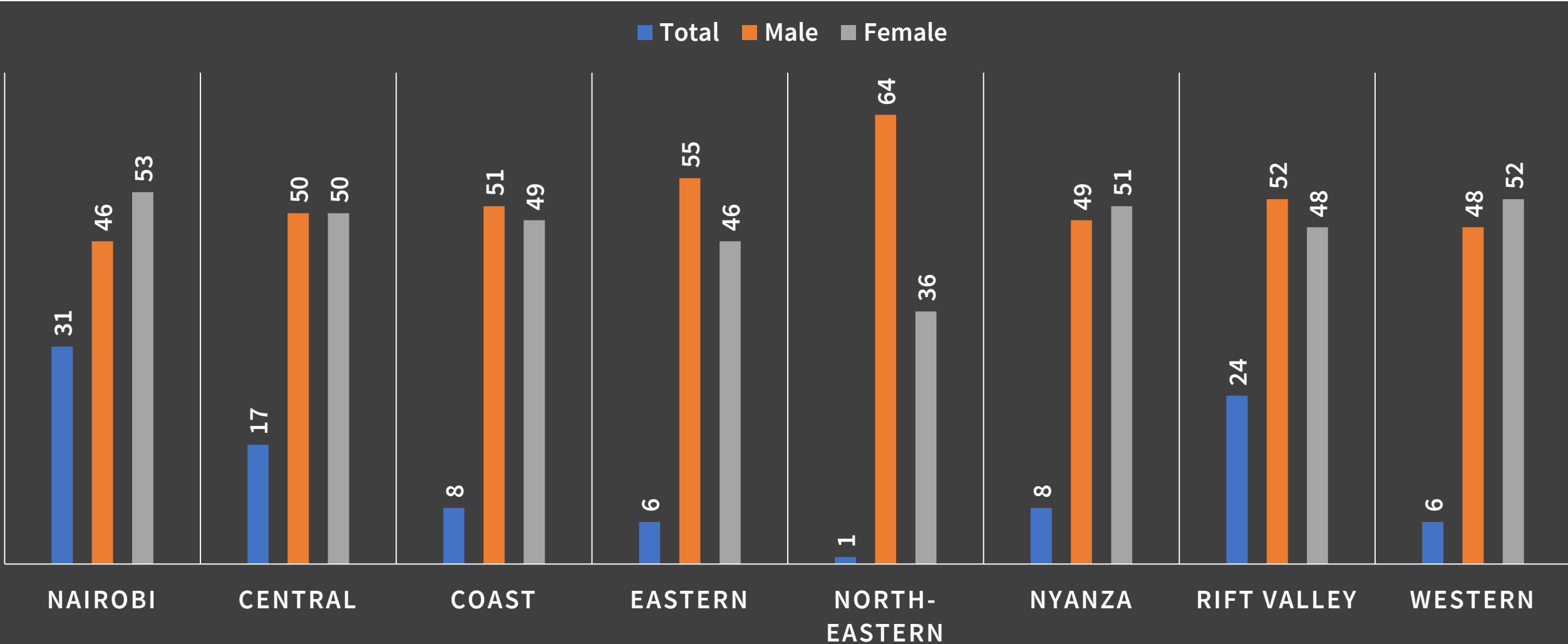
Trends of Lifetime Net Migration 1989 - 2009



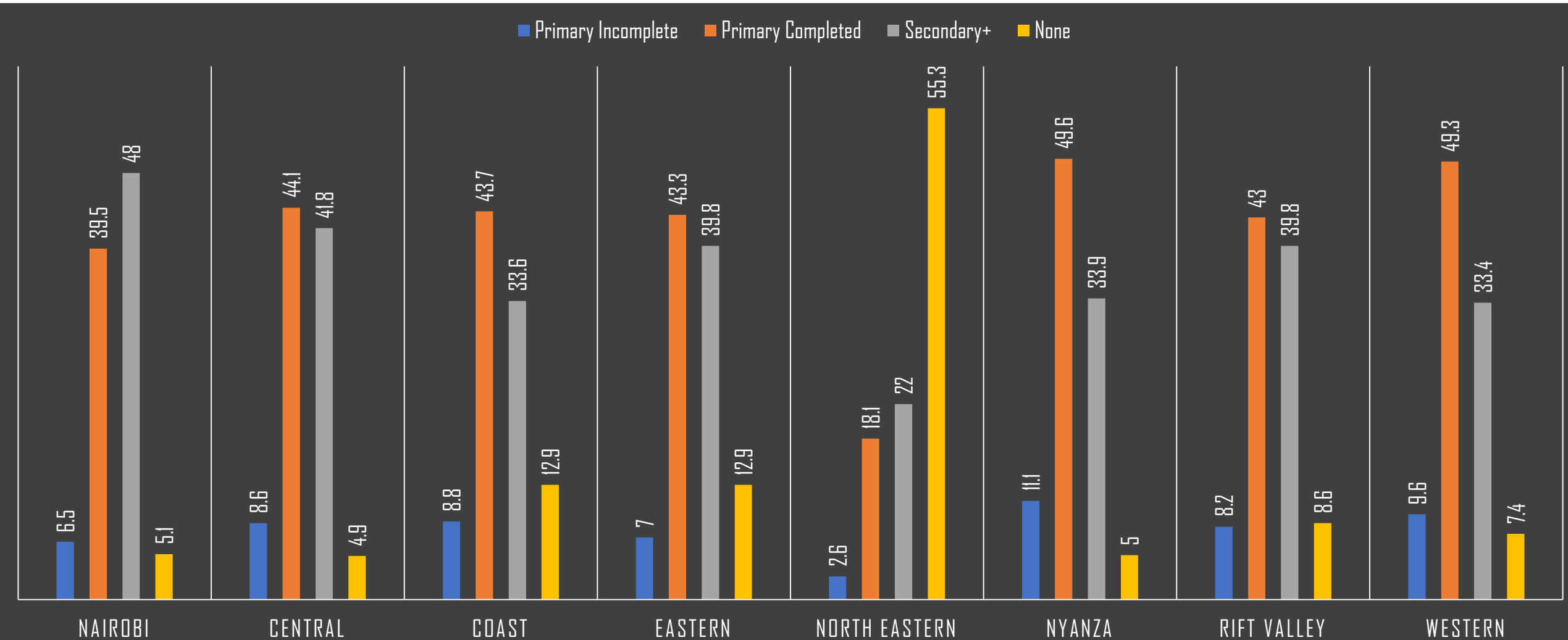
Trends of Recent Out-Migrants by sex and province (2009)



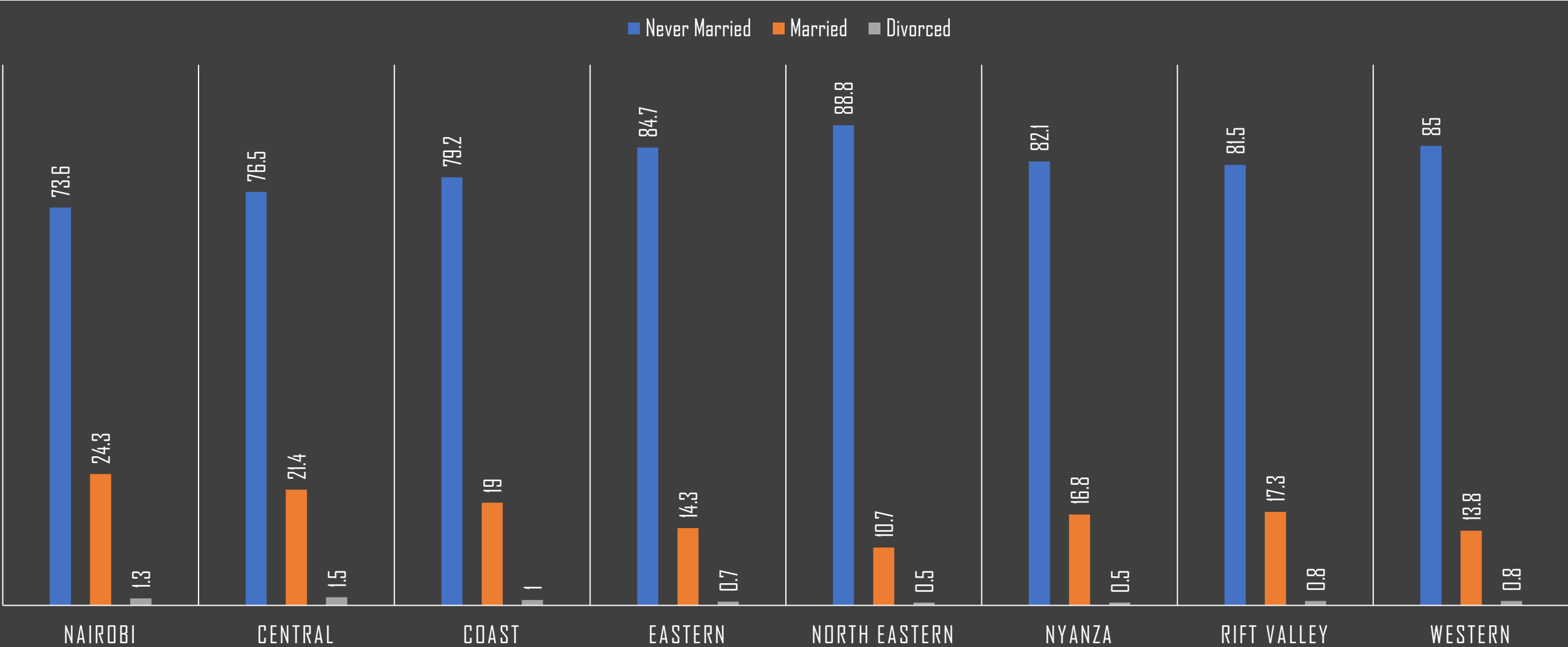
Trends of Recent In-Migrants by sex and Province (2009)



Demographic Profile of Recent Migrants (2009)



Marital Status of Recent Migrants (2009)



Drivers of Migration

- Economic
 - employment or income generating opportunities
- Education
 - Access to schools especially tertiary education
- Land
 - Demand for land for real estate development, popular among diaspora + foreign investors
- Development
 - Improvement to transport/road links, devolution of social services, low cost of living
- Security
 - job, social security, food security, and health needs
- Political
 - Post-election violence, climate change and development based displacement e.g. Mau Forest Evictions
- Resources
 - Access to available resources for self-employment i.e. most products produced in cities e.g. Nairobi (All), Machakos (Cement)

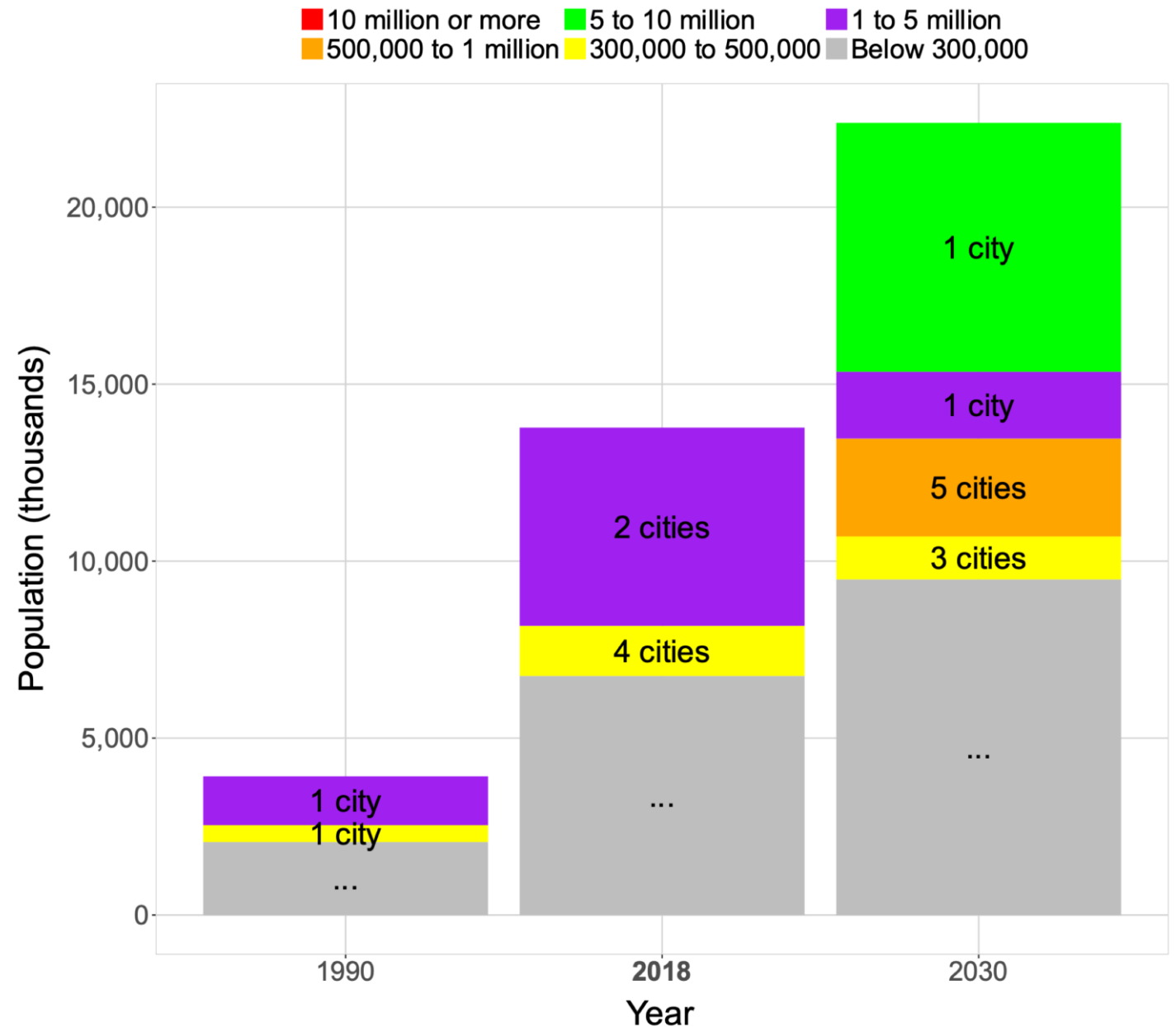
Youth Migration

- Youth have always been mobile, but the number has increased through time.
- Rural urban migration is dominant
- Kenya, conducted studies on youth and employment issues but not understood role and impact of migration
- Cities remain the primary destination of many migrants → opportunities available
 - Perceived as better access to employment, resources, capital etc
- Demand of youth have changed
 - Seek employment, but needs have changed especially with technological advancement
 - New business models
 - Increased desire for self-employment
- Small population of young people moving from urban – rural areas but urban rural is mostly associated with people older than 40 years and often retirees
 - Small pop. of young people migrating to rural areas due to opportunities available and low of cost of living

Why Kenyans want to live in Cities

- According to the World Bank, Kenyans are attracted to cities because:
- Growth and opportunities available in the cities
- Rural areas are quickly urbanizing creating new cities
- More people are moving to the same space and we have seen that in Ongata Rongai, Kiambu and Kitengela
- Improvements in road networks and infrastructural development the Single Gauge Railway, you can work in one city and live in another

Urban population by size class of urban settlement
Kenya



Impact of Migration to Cities and Policy Approaches

Impact of Migration to Cities: Challenges and Opportunities



Housing

CHALLENGE

Provision of social and affordable housing to address

OPPORTUNITY

Innovation and alternative materials for construction for affordable housing for migrants



Education and Employment

CHALLENGE

Leveraging existing skills of migrants to meet labour market need

Finding suitable employment for migrants

OPPORTUNITY

Partnering with academic institutions and employers to address career development of migrants

Foster migrant entrepreneurship through training and mentorship



Health

CHALLENGE

Affordable healthcare ensuring access to all including migrants

OPPORTUNITY

Engage migrants in policy making

Assess universal healthcare ensuring migrant needs are mainstreamed



Transport

CHALLENGE

Expansion of transport infrastructure to accommodate migrants where they live

OPPORTUNITY

Private sector collaboration to fund transport infrastructure project

Policies on Migration in Kenya

- 2015/19 Migration Profile for Kenya of the existing policies related to migration
- Currently no specific policy related to internal migration
 - Draft National Migration Policy incl. all migration
- Development plans have yet to mainstream migration into policy and practice
 - Recent discussions of mainstreaming migration into Urban Policy
 - CIDP also provides County governments with the opportunity to understand their population alongside migrants
- Constitution loosely has an indication on migration
 - 60% of the opportunities will be made available to the local residents of a county and 30% to others
 - Reduce the need to know the profile of local population to reduce rise of inter-ethnic conflict
- Other policies that can benefit on mainstreaming migration
 - Youth Policy from economic, social, political and environmental perspectives
 - Education given that a number of the mobile pop. Are students

Policies on Migration in Kenya

- Devolution provides an opportunity for Counties
 - to understand their migrant population,
 - how they impact cities; and
 - develop strategies of mainstreaming migrant needs into policy and practice
 - Limitation: handling inter-ethnic matters i.e. knowing migrant population may indirectly lead to direct discrimination
 - AMADPOC currently conducting a study for FAO to Profile Migration in Kiambu County which can be replicated in other counties
- Research is important for informing policy design and implementation strategies using evidence based approach
 - Identify existing sources of data/information and assess how that information informs policies in practice
 - Challenge: research fatigue in the field with limited to no implementation makes the field/information difficult to access

How can cities prepare to manage migrants?

