

Tenure Trajectories of Immigrants and their Children in France: Between Integration and Stratification

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Abstract

Immigrants have been found to exhibit different tenure patterns than the rest of the population in a number of contexts. This paper tests whether observed differences in tenure in France can be explained by differences in socio-demographic characteristics or whether unexplained differences might result from housing market mechanisms that affect immigrants differentially from the rest of the population and extends it to second generation. The paper relies on data from TeO, a survey of 21,761 persons designed to oversample and identify immigrants and their children, providing information about the outcomes of children of immigrants that are otherwise lacking in French statistics. The results indicate that while immigrants are significantly less likely to be homeowners, even after controlling for compositional difference, the gap homeownership between second generation and the rest of the population is smaller and not statistically significant. This suggests a progressive integration in the housing market over time and over generations rather than overall stratified housing trajectories. Differences in terms of the share of social housing residents and experience of overcrowding also decline across generation. However, children of immigrants from some non-European origins are experiencing higher levels of stratification than other groups with continued significant differences in tenure.

Keywords: Immigrants; Tenure; Homeownership; Housing Trajectories; France