



ABSTRACT WORKING PAPER 3.21

MIGRANTS AT THE RUSSIAN LABOUR MARKET: CHARACTERISTICS, STATUS, MOBILITY

July 2013

This paper presents the main findings of recent sociological survey on labour migration in the Russian Federation. Over the last two decades, international migration in Russia has become a marked socio-economic phenomenon. However, Russia has not enough information about migrants: their socio-demographic characteristics, spheres of activities, living and working conditions, mobility, etc. A lack of reliable information creates a distorted image of a migrant, leads to inadequate assessments of their place in Russian society and labour market, and reduces effectiveness of migration policy efforts.

Our study shows that, in spite of a large number of foreign workers, arriving in Russia, first of all, from the CIS states, the system of attracting them is ineffective. The mechanism of selection of foreign workers from the CIS countries by professions and qualifications does not meet the needs of Russian employers. Most foreign workers' labor contracts are limited to 1 year which does not contribute to the employers' interest to invest in professional training of migrants.