Chapter 3

Migration
Key Issue 1 / EQ / Purpose

- Why do people migrate?

Migration Streams Around the World

- Income per Person, 2000
  - $10,000 and over
  - $5,000–$9,999
  - $4,999 and under
  - No data

- Areas of conflict
  - Armed conflicts, 1990–2005

- Annual Net Migration Streams
  - 500,000 people
  - 10,000 people

*Net migration equals the flow of people into a region minus the flow out of the region.*
Migration Terms

- **Migration**
  - Form of relocation diffusion involving permanent move to a new location.

- **Example:**
  - Family moves from *India* to the Bham,
  - Family moves from *Indiana* to Bham.
Migration Terms

- **Immigration**
  - Migration to a new location.
  - Example:
    - Colonial immigration from Europe.
Migration Terms

- **Emigration**
  - Migration from a location.
  - Example:
    - Syrian’s Emigrating from Syria.
Migration Terms

Net migration
- The difference between the level of immigration and the level of emigration.

Example:
- People moving to Mexico from all over, but also leaving.
Reasons why do people migrate:

- Economic
- Cultural
- Environmental

US Migration Map
Reasons: Push and Pull Factors

**Push factors**
- Factors that induce people to leave old residences.
- Example:
  - A factory worker leaves Detroit because the factory closes down. They are pushed out!

**Economic:**
- Not enough jobs
- Few opportunities
- Loss of wealth

**Cultural:**
- Primitive conditions
- Political fear or persecution
- Death threats
- Lack of political or religious freedom
- Discrimination
- Poor chances of marrying

**Environmental:**
- Desertification
- Famine or drought
- Natural disasters
- Pollution
- Poor housing
Reasons: Push and Pull Factors

**Pull factors**
- Factors that induce people to move to a new location.
- Example:
  - A factory worker from Detroit choose to move to Bellingham because they find a job working for Zodiac Aerospace. They are pulled here by a job!

• **Economic**
  - Job opportunities
  - Education

• **Cultural**
  - Security
  - Family links
  - Political and/or religious freedom
  - Better chances of marrying

• **Environmental**
  - Attractive climates
  - Better living conditions
Migration for economic reasons

- #1 Reason why people migrate:
  - Economic reasons: JOBS!
- The relative attractiveness of a region can shift with economic change.
Migration for economic reasons

**Guest workers**

- Workers who migrate to the more developed countries of Northern and Western Europe, usually from Southern and Eastern Europe or from North Africa, in search of higher-paying jobs.

- Example:
  - US Guest Workers – Green Card
  - [European Economic Migration](#)
  - [European Migration Crisis](#)
Migration for economic reasons

Remittances
- Money immigrants send back to family and friends in their home countries, often in cash, forming an important part of the economy in many poorer countries.
  - Example:
    - A worker comes to the US from Guatemala and works 2 jobs. He sends money home to his family.
    - Video
Migration for cultural reasons

**Forced migration**
- Permanent movement compelled usually by cultural factors.
- Example:
  - Slave Trade from Africa to the Americas
  - Refugee – Sudan, Cuba, Syria, Jewish in WWII.

**Refugees**
- People who are forced to migrate from their home country and cannot return for fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion.
- Example:
  - Syria – War torn country is not safe – people are being pushed out.
  - Video
Migration for environmental reasons

People also migrate for environmental reasons
- Pulled toward physically attractive regions
- Pushed from hazardous ones.

Environmental Migrations:
- Long term drying trends
- Rising Sea Levels
- Weather Related Hazards
- Competition Over Resources

Example:
- Hurricane Katrina
- Drought in Ethiopia
- Old people move to Arizona or Florida.
E.G. Ravenstein’s “Laws of Migration”

1. Most people migrate for economic reasons.
2. Cultural & environmental factors may also be important, but not as important as economics.
3. Most migrants move a short distance, and stay within a country.
4. Long-distance migrants go to major centers of economic activity.
5. Most long-distance migrants are males.
6. Most long-distance migrants are adults, not families with their children.

**Theory of Human Migration: 1885**
Lee’s Theory of Migration

- When deciding whether or not to migrate, a potential migrant takes into consideration:
  - +’s and –‘s of the origin and the destination.
  - Difficulty of intervening obstacles

**Intervening obstacle**
- An environmental or cultural feature of the landscape that hinders migration.
  - Physical features – Mountains, Deserts, bodies of water, etc.
  - Cultural/Political features – Racism, quota laws, etc.
Lee’s Push and Pull Forces
Political
Education
Economic
-employment

Ravenstein Rules
Rural to Urban
Young, educated migrate
Longer distance end in big cities

Opportunity Cost

Migration
Migration Transition

- Wilber Zelinsky
  - migration transition and demographic transition.
  - **Stage 1**
    - Unlikely to migrate permanently.
    - High daily or seasonal mobility in search of food.
  - **Stage 2**
    - Migrate to stage 3 or 4 countries
    - In search of economic opportunities
    - Rural to urban
  - **Stages 3 and 4**
    - Destinations of the international migrants.
    - Internal migration - cities to suburbs.
Distance-decay

Space-Time Compression

THE HUMAN JOURNEY
From global DNA data, Geographic and other scientists have charted the spread of humankind out of East Africa. The dates here represent the first arrivals in a region.

Distance no object

Some of the world's more important current migration routes

Sources: National Public Radio; The Economist
Hispanic Americans in the U.S.

Fig. 7-2: The highest percentages of Hispanic Americans are in the southwest and in northern cities.
African Americans in the U.S.

Fig. 7-1: The highest percentages of African Americans are in the rural South and in northern cities.
Asian Americans in the U.S.

Fig. 7-3: The highest percentages of Asian Americans are in Hawaii and California.
Issue 2: Where are migrants distributed?
Chain Migration

Chain Migration

- Migration of people to a specific location because relatives or members of the same nationality previously migrated there.

- Example:
  - Adult brothers move to New York city from India and get jobs, send remittances and save money. Their wives and kids come a year later. Cousins a year after that.
Europe’s Demographic Transition.

- Industrial and Medical Revolutions pushed Europe into Stage 2
  - Late 1700’s for UK
  - Early 1800’s for Ireland
  - Mid 1800’s for Northern and Western Europe
  - Late 1800’s for Eastern and Southern Europe
  - This rapid population growth fueled emigration to the US.
Europe’s Demographic Transition.

Enclosure Movement – Push Factor

- the process of consolidating small landholdings into a smaller number of larger farms in England during the eighteenth century.
- Displaced farmers could choose between working in factories in the large cities or migrating to the United States where farmland was plentiful.
First Peak of European Immigration

- **1607 – 1840**
  - Steady stream of Europeans – English (totaling 2 million) migrated to the American colonies and after 1776... the United States.
  - Before 1840 – 90% from England
  - 1840 – 1850 – 4 million from Northern and Western Europe.
    - 2/5 from Ireland and another 1/3 from Germany.
Second Peak of European Immigration

- U.S. immigration declined somewhat during the 1860s as a result of the Civil War (1861—1865).
- A second peak was reached during the 1880s, where more than a half-million people, more than three-fourths during the late 1880s, came from Northern and Western Europe.
Third Peak of European Immigration

- Economic problems in the United States discouraged immigration during the early 1890s, but by the end of the decade the level reached a third peak.
- From: Italy, Russia, and Austria-Hungary.
- The record year was 1907, with 1.3 million.
- Pull Factor – Huge growth in industry in the US – Lots of Jobs!
- Movement from rural to urban – Farming to factory jobs.
Recent Immigration from Less Developed Regions

- Immigration to the United States dropped in the 1930s and 1940s
  - Great Depression
  - World War II.
- Post WWII Immigration increased steadily
- Surged in 1980’s and 1990’s to historically high levels.
  - From Asia and Latin America
Recent Immigration from Less Developed Regions

- **US Pull Factors**
  - Change to service jobs
  - Need for labor.

- **Latin American and Asian Push Factors**
  - Population Growth – Stage 2
  - Poverty – Lack of Jobs
  - Political instability
    - Vietnam War
    - Revolutions
Migration from Asia to the U.S.

Fig. 3-5: Migration in 2001. The largest numbers of migrants from Asia come from India, China, the Philippines, and Vietnam.
Asian Americans in the U.S.

Fig. 7-3: The highest percentages of Asian Americans are in Hawaii and California.
Fig. 3-6: Mexico has been the largest source of migrants to the U.S., but migrants have also come from numerous other Latin American nations.
Hispanic Americans in the U.S.

Fig. 7-2: The highest percentages of Hispanic Americans are in the southwest and in northern cities.