Chapter 3

Migration

An Introduction to Human Geography
The Cultural Landscape, 8e
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PPT by Abe Goldman
modified DKroegel
The process by which characteristics spreads across space from one place to another over time

Types of diffusion
- Relocation diffusion
  - The spread of an idea through physical movement of people from one place to another
- migration
- Expansion diffusion
  - Hierarchal diffusion
  - Contagious diffusion
  - Stimulus diffusion
Mobility – Make yourself mobile!

- **Migration** – permanent move
  - Immigration (In)
  - Emigration (Out/Exit)

  A migrant (or what deBlij calls a mobal) is both an immigrant and an emigrant at the same time.

- **Circulation**
  - routine, cyclical, repetitive movement

- **Seasonal mobility**
  - Migratory (like birds)
Reasons for migrating
- Most people migrate for economic reasons
- Less frequently cultural and environmental factors

Distance of migration
- Most migrants relocate a short distance within the same country
- Long-distance migrants to other countries head for major centers of economic activity

Characteristics of migrants
- Most long-distance migrants are male (1990s US-55% female)
- Most long-distance migrants are adult *individuals* rather than couples with children
Why People Migrate

- Reasons for migrating

  - **Push and pull factors**

    - **Economic** – MOST COMMON
      - PUSH: financial instability, unemployment
      - PULL: financial stability; jobs

    - **Cultural** – Tradition, modernity, language, politics, religion, ethnicity
      - PUSH: slavery (forced), political instability (refugees), war
      - PULL: freedom, political asylum

    - **Environmental** – personal preferences
      - PUSH: TOO-cold, high, wet and/or dry lands; hazardous pollution
      - PULL: beaches, warm/moderate climate, scenic
Fig. 3-1: Major source and destination areas of both international and internal refugees.
Why People Migrate

– *Intervening obstacles*

Economic, environmental or cultural feature that hinders migration

Examples?

*(distance-decay – the farther away a place is located, the less likely that people will migrate to it)*
Why People Migrate

• Distance of migration
  • *Internal migration* – permanent movement within the same country
    • *Interregional*
    • *Intraregional*

*Region* – any area larger than a point and smaller than the entire planet.

• *International migration* – permanent movement from one country to another
  • *Voluntary*
  • *Forced*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION</th>
<th>EPIDEMIOLOGY TRANSITION</th>
<th>MIGRATION TRANSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1     | CBR: very high, varied ≥35 per1000  
CDR: very high, varied ≥35 per1000  
NIR: low long term increase  
Life style:  
hunting & gathering and early farming practices (First Agricultural Revolution) | Pestilence and famine  
● infectious and parasitic diseases or principal causes of human death, along with accidents and attacks by animals and other humans  
● "natural checks" Malthus | Mobility characterized by circulation including high daily or seasonal mobility in search of food  
Unlikely to migrate permanently |
| 2     | CBR: very high, ≥35 per1000  
CDR: rapidly decline, ≥35 down to ≈15 per1000  
NIR: very high, sharp increase at start then slows  
Life style:  
Agrarian (farmers); ability to cultivate reliable food source. Modern transition to stage 2 via medical revolution | Receding pandemics  
● improve sanitation, nutrition, and medicine during the Industrial Revolution reduce the spread of infectious diseases  
● poor people crowded into rapidly growing industrial cities still have especially high death rates | International migration prominent; destination centers of economic opportunities in MDCs (Stage 3/4)  
Interregional migration - rural to urban  
Migration in response to reduced need for agricultural workers and increased factory jobs near cities |
| 3     | CBR: rapidly decline, ≥35 down to 15 per1000  
CDR: slow decline, ≈15 down to <10 per1000  
NIR: steady decline toward ZPG  
Life style:  
Extensive urbanization, secondary and tertiary sector jobs prevalent. NEED for large family declines with change in economic structure and medical advances reducing IMR | Degenerative and human created diseases  
● still decrease in deaths from infectious diseases  
● increase in chronic disorders associated with aging such as cardiovascular diseases (i.e. heart attacks), and various forms of cancer | Internal migration - cities to suburbs |
| 4     | CBR: very low, ≈10 per1000  
CDR: very low, ≈10 per1000  
NIR: ZPG; TFR of 2.1  
Life style:  
Urbanized – changing family structure, changing role of women, birth control, etc. | Delayed degenerative disease  
● cardiovascular diseases and cancers still exist, but the life expectancy of people is extended through medical advances and improved lifestyles and diets | Internal migration - cities to suburbs  
International guest worker migration |
| 5     | Future… unconfirmed  
CBR: lower than CDR  
CDR: very low, ≈10 per1000  
NIR: population decline; TFR < 2.1  
Life style:  
Urbanized – aging of population, established small family structure, women empowered, possible culture decline/extinction | Future… unconfirmed  
Reemergence of infectious and parasitic diseases  
● infectious diseases thought eradicated or controlled returned and new ones have emerged  
● potentially higher crude death rates  
Reasons  
● evolution of microbes  
● poverty  
● mobility/travel | international guest worker immigration |
Why People Migrate

- Characteristics of migrants
  - **Gender**
    - In Ravenstein’s time, largely young unmarried males
    - More recently, half or more are female
      - Changes in gender role and social status of woman

- **Family status, 2008 United States**
  - 40% - ages 25 to 39
  - 5% - over 65
  - 16% - under 15
  * Some of those adults are bringing their children with them
Migration Patterns

- US immigrant stats, 2008:
  - +70,000,000 immigrant since 1820
  - 12% of US population are immigrants (≈36,960,000)
  - Largest concentration by number in the world but not the largest % of population
    - Australia 25%
    - Middle East 50%
    - United Arab Emirates 74%
    - Kuwait 68%

  Jobs in the oil industry attract immigrants
Fig. 3-2: The major flows of migration are from less developed to more developed countries.
Fig. 3-3: Net migration per 1,000 population. The U.S. has the largest number of immigrants, but other developed countries also have relatively large numbers.
Migration Patterns

• U.S. migration patterns
  • Colonial immigration
    • Europe – voluntary
      • Nearly all from Great Britain
    • Africa – forced, about 650,000
  • 19th century immigration
    • Nearly ALL European
  • Recent immigration
    • Latin America
    • China
Fig. 3-4: Most migrants to the U.S. were from Europe until the 1960s. Since then, Latin America and Asia have become the main sources of immigrants.
Migration Patterns

- Impact of immigration on the U.S.
  - Legacy of European migration
    - Emigration fueled by Europe Stage 2 population growth post-Industrial Revolution
    - European culture – language, religion, politics diffusion
  - Undocumented immigration
    - Estimate at 7 – 20 million
    - Majority from Mexico
  - Destination of immigrants within the U.S.
    - Half – California, New York, Florida and Texas
      - Chain migration a factor in these concentrations
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.
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.
Fig. 3-7: The complex route of one group of undocumented migrants from a small village north of Mexico City to Phoenix, Arizona.
Fig. 3-8: California is the destination of about 25% of all U.S. immigrants; another 25% go to New York and New Jersey. Other important destinations include Florida, Texas, and Illinois.
Obstacles to Migration

• Immigration policies of host countries
  • **U.S. quota laws**
    • Quota Act, 1921 & National Origins Act, 1924
      • Quotas based on country of origin
      • 2% of origin country US pop. per year
    • Immigration Act of 1965 (post-civil rights)
      • Country quotas became hemisphere quotas
      • 1978 - global quota 290,000; max. 20,000 per country
      • Current: 620,000; max. 7% per country
        • Types: reunify families, skilled workers/professionals, lottery
        • Exceptions: refugees
  • **Brain Drain – migration of the talented & educated**
    • Country of immigration benefits
    • Country of emigration suffers
Obstacles to Migration

**Temporary migration for work**
- Guest workers – temporary workers from other countries
  - Europe
    - Shortage of workers
    - North Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Asia
    - Benefits and protections under the law for guest worker
    - Lower paid than European workers
  - Middle East

**Time-contract workers**
- Laborers hired for a specific period of time
- Many remain in the contract country after contract time has expired
  - Chinese laborers who helped build the railroads in the western US in 19th century
Fig. 3-9: Guest workers emigrate mainly from Eastern Europe and North Africa to work in the wealthier countries of Western Europe.
Distinguishing Between Economic Migrants and Refugees

- **Economic migrants**
  - Seeking economic opportunities
- **or refugees?**
  - Fleeing from the persecution of an undemocratic government
- The distinction is extremely important in US immigration law as refugees (& family of US citizens) do NOT count within the immigration quota each year. Refugee status gives greater opportunity to enter the US.
  - Cubans = refugees (Castro & the Soviet Union)
  - Haitians = economic migrants
  - South Vietnamese = refugees (communist persecution)
Obstacles to Migration

- Cultural problems living in other countries
  - U.S. attitudes to immigrants
    - Economic
    - Suspicion
    - Intensified when migrants from other than Europe
      - Racist?
  
- Attitudes to guest workers (Europe)
  - Guest workers often young, male and single
  - Very much the same as US
Fig. 3-10: Various ethnic Chinese peoples have distinct patterns of migration to other Asian countries.
Fig. 3-11: Many Vietnamese fled by sea as refugees after the war with the U.S. ended in 1975. Later boat people were often considered economic migrants.
Migration within a Country

- Migration between regions of a country
  - Migration between regions within the U.S.
  - Migration between regions in other countries

- Migration within one region
  - Rural-urban migration
  - Urban-suburban migration
  - Migration from metropolitan to nonmetropolitan regions
The center of U.S. population has consistently moved westward, with the population migration west. It has also begun to move southward with migration to the southern sunbelt.
Fig. 3-13: Average annual migrations between regions in the U.S. in 1995 and in 2000.
Intraregional Migration in the U.S.

Fig. 3-14: Average annual migration among urban, suburban, and rural areas in the U.S. during the 1990s. The largest flow was from central cities to suburbs.