

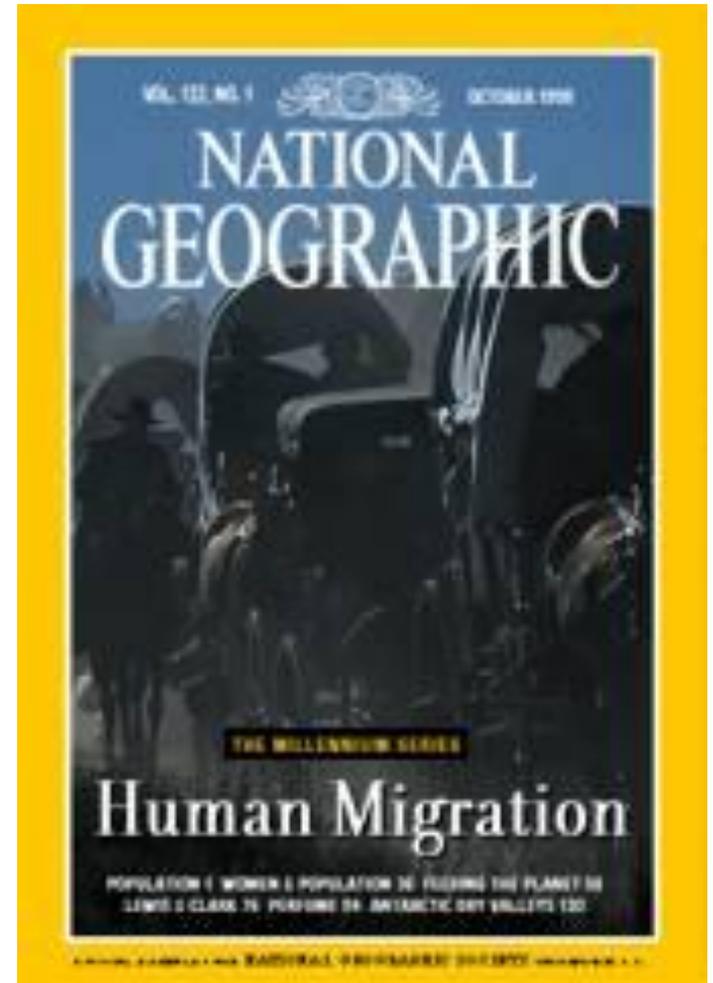


# *Chapter 3*

# **Migration**

# What Geographers Study

- Geographers document from where people migrate and to where they migrate.
- They also study reasons why people migrate.



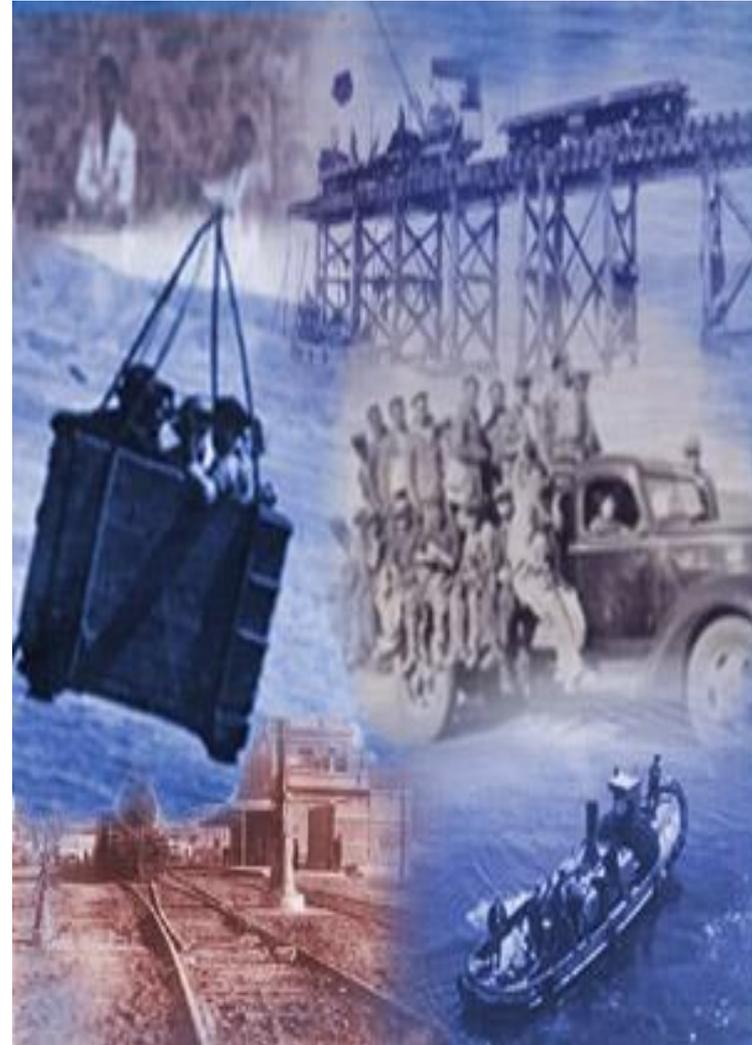
# What Migrants Seek

- Most people migrate in search of three objectives:
  - economic opportunity
  - cultural freedom
  - environmental comfort.



# Migration

- The Key Issues are:
  - 1) Why do people migrate?
  - 2) Where are migrants distributed?
  - 3) Why do migrants face obstacles?
  - 4) Why do people migrate within a country?

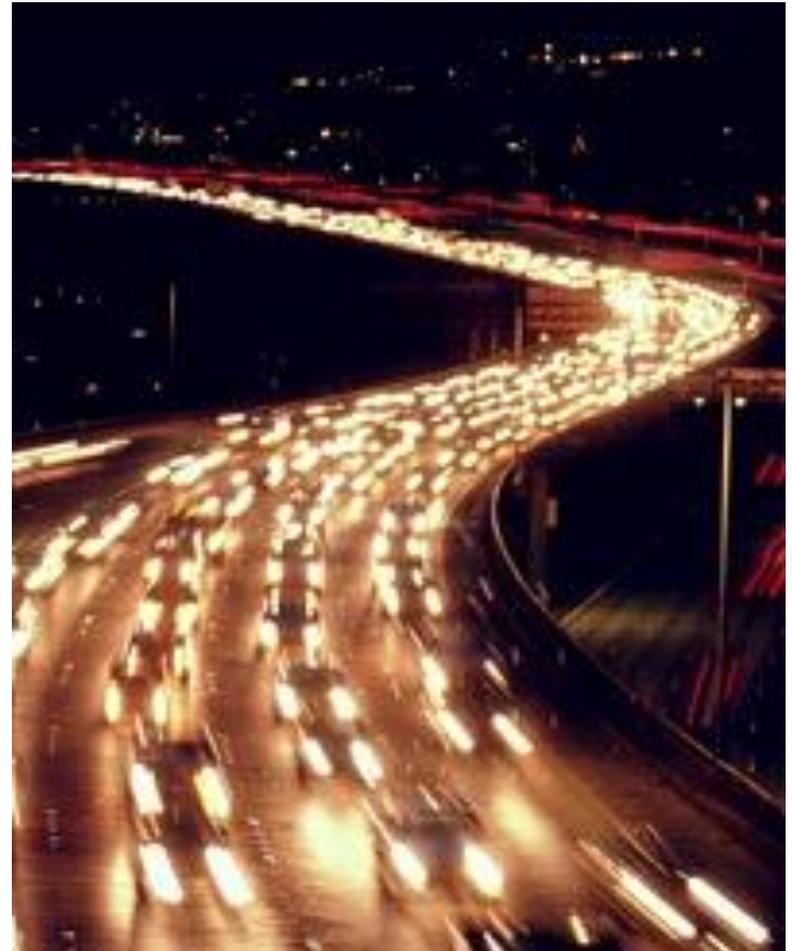


# Net Migration

- The subject of this chapter is a specific type of relocation diffusion called migration, which is a permanent move to a new location.
  - Emigration is migration from a location
  - Immigration is migration to a location.
  - The difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants is the net migration.

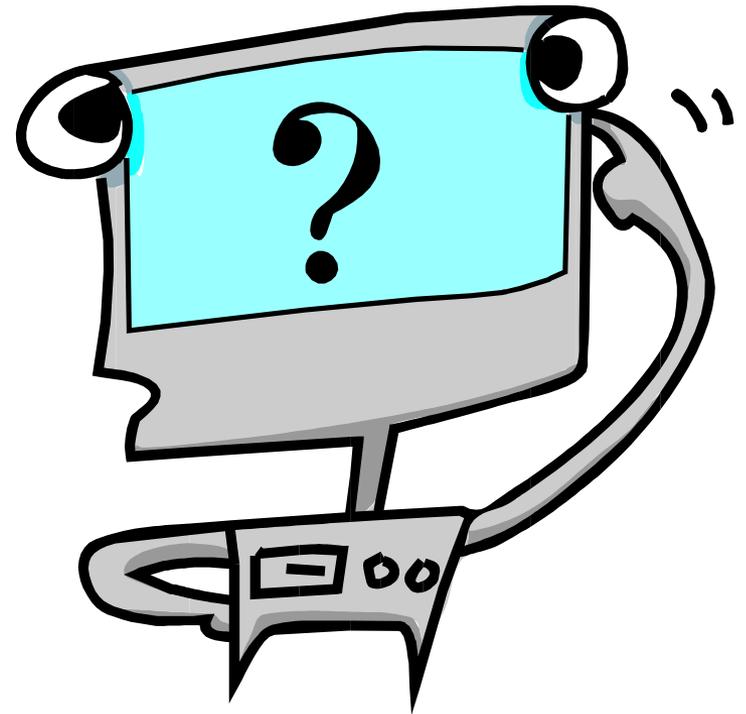
# Migration and Circulation

- **Migration** is a form of mobility, which is a more general term covering all types of movements from one place to another.
- Short-term, repetitive, or cyclical movements that recur on a regular basis, such as daily, monthly, or annually, are called **circulation**.



# Here's a Good Question that relates to Migration in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- If people can participate in the globalization of culture and economy regardless of place of residence, why do they still migrate in large numbers?
  - The answer is that place is still important to an individual cultural identity and economic prospects.



# Issue 1: Why People Migrate

- Reasons for migrating
  - *Push and pull factors*
    - Economic
    - Cultural
    - Environmental
  - *Intervening obstacles*
- Distance of migration
  - *Internal migration*
  - *International migration*
- Characteristics of migrants
  - *Gender*
  - *Family status*

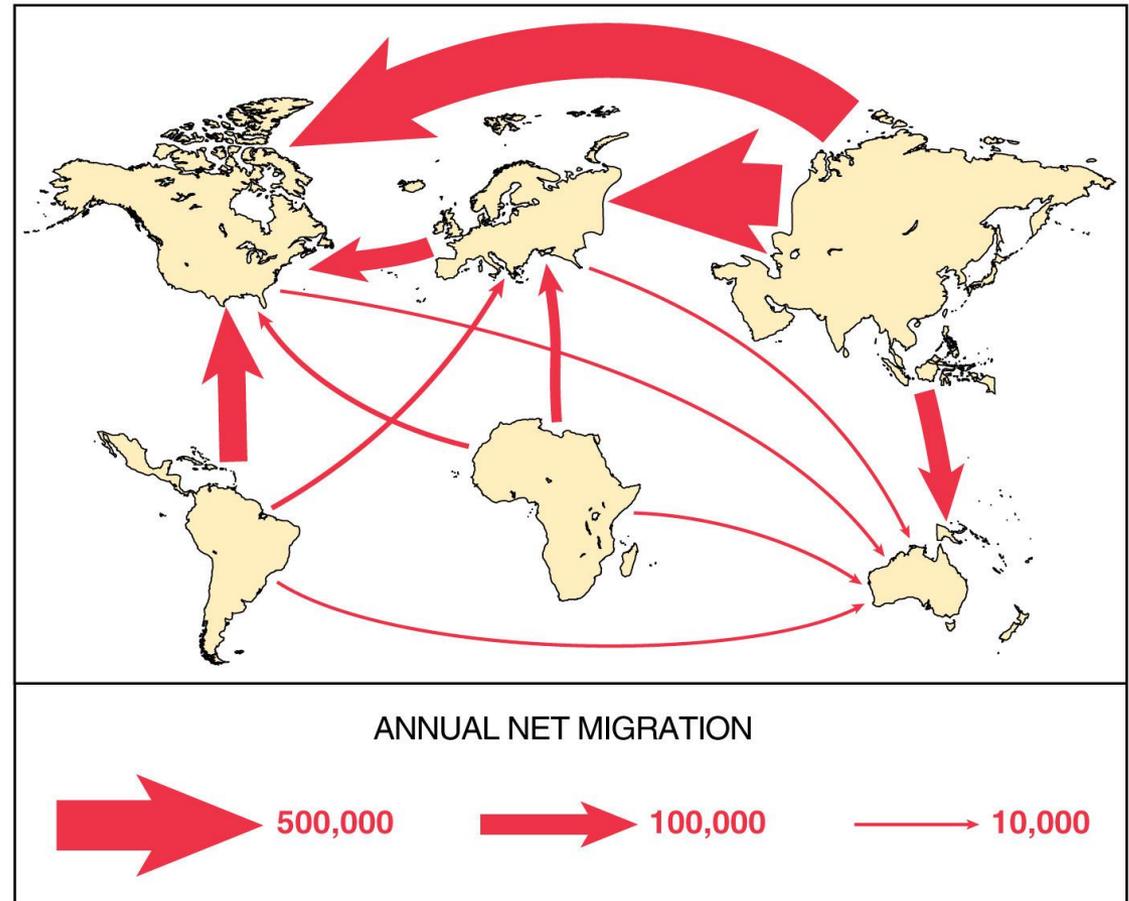
# Ravenstein's Laws

- Geography has no comprehensive theory of migration, although a nineteenth-century essay of 11 migration “laws” written by E. G. Ravenstein is the basis for contemporary migration studies.
- Ravenstein’s “laws” can be organized into three groups:
  - reasons
  - distance
  - migrant characteristics



# Global Migration Patterns

- Most people migrate for economic reasons.
- Cultural and environmental factors also induce migration, although not as frequently as economic factors.

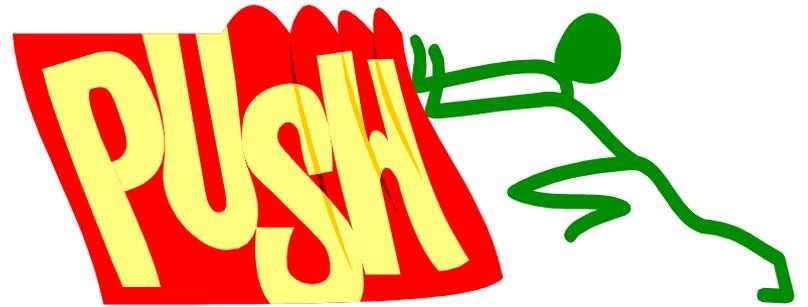


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Fig. 3-2: The major flows of migration are from less developed to more developed countries.

# Push – Pull Factors

- People decide to migrate because of push factors and pull factors.
  - A push factor induces people to move out of their present location
  - A pull factor induces people to move into a new location.
- Both push and pull factors typically play a role in human migration.



# Three Types of Push-Pull

- We can identify 3 major kinds of push and pull factors:
  - Economic
  - Cultural
  - Environmental



# Economic Push and Pull Factors

- Most people migrate for economic reasons.
- The relative attractiveness of a region can shift with economic change.



# Cultural Push and Pull Factors

- Forced international migration has historically occurred for two main reasons:
  - Slavery
  - Political instability

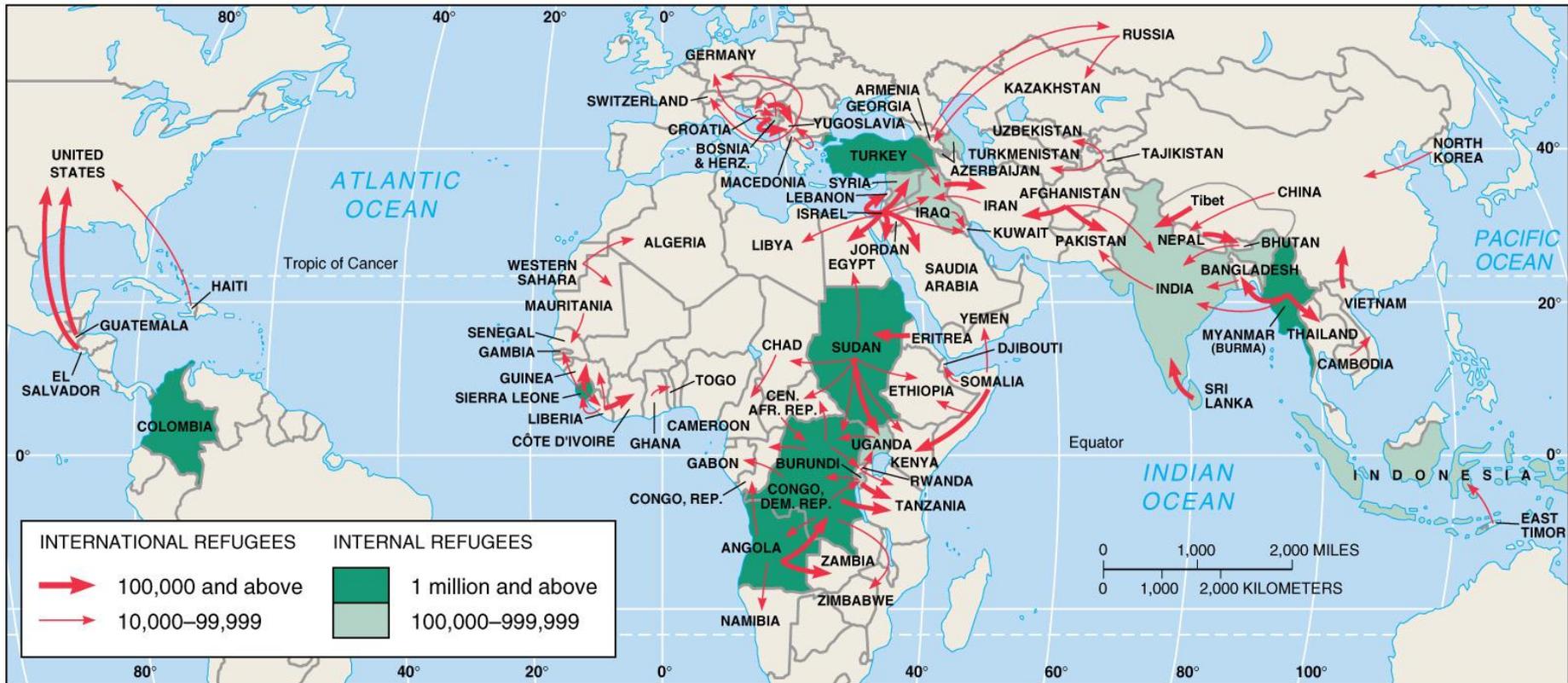


# Twentieth Century Instability

- In the twentieth century, forced international migration increased because of political instability resulting from cultural diversity.
  - Refugees are people who have been forced to migrate from their home country and cannot return for fear of persecution.
  - Political conditions can also operate as pull factors, especially the lure of freedom.
  - With the election of democratic governments in Eastern Europe during the 1990s, Western Europe's political pull has disappeared as a migration factor.
  - However, Western Europe pulls an increasing number of migrants from Eastern Europe for economic reasons.



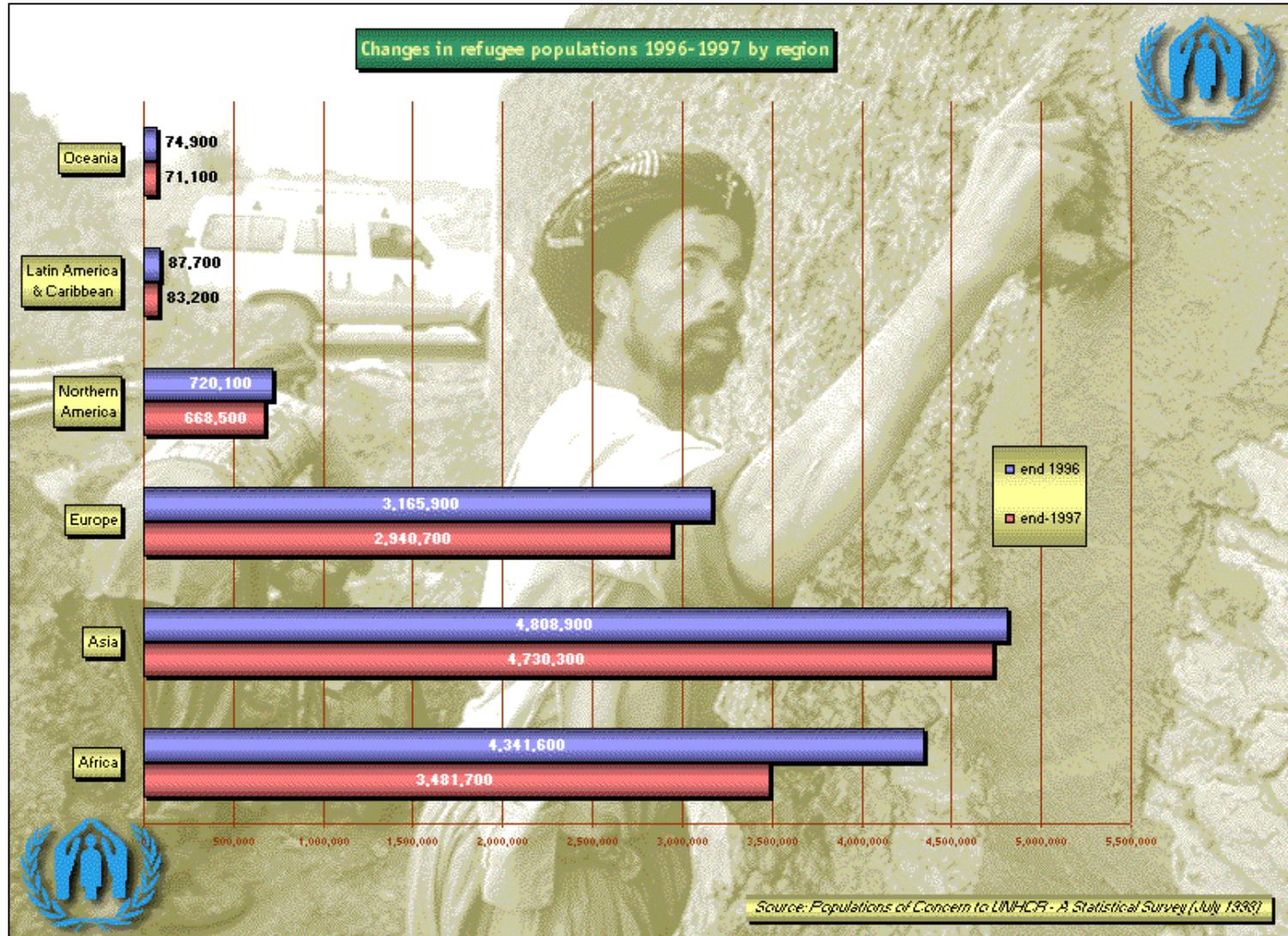
# Refugees: Sources and destinations



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Fig. 3-1: Major source and destination areas of both international and internal refugees.

# Changes in Refugee Populations



# Environmental Push and Pull Factors

- People also migrate for environmental reasons, pulled toward physically attractive regions and pushed from hazardous ones.
- Attractive environments for migrants include mountains, seashores, and warm climates.
- Migrants are also pushed from their homes by adverse physical conditions.
  - Water—either too much or too little—poses the most common environmental threat.



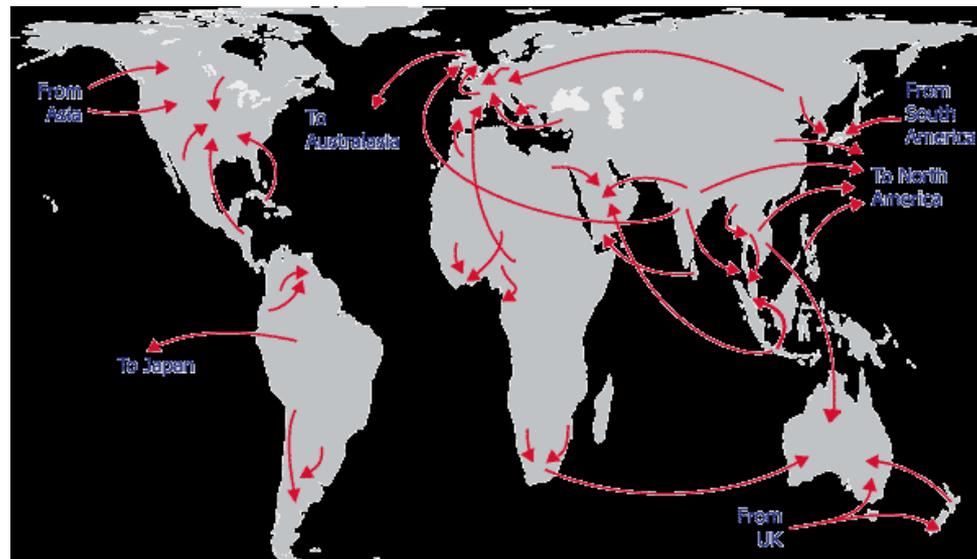
# Intervening Obstacles

- Where migrants go is not always their desired destination.
- They may be blocked by an intervening obstacle.
  - In the past, intervening obstacles were primarily environmental. . . like mountains and deserts.
  - Bodies of water long have been important intervening obstacles.
  - However, today's migrant faces intervening obstacles created by local diversity in government and politics.



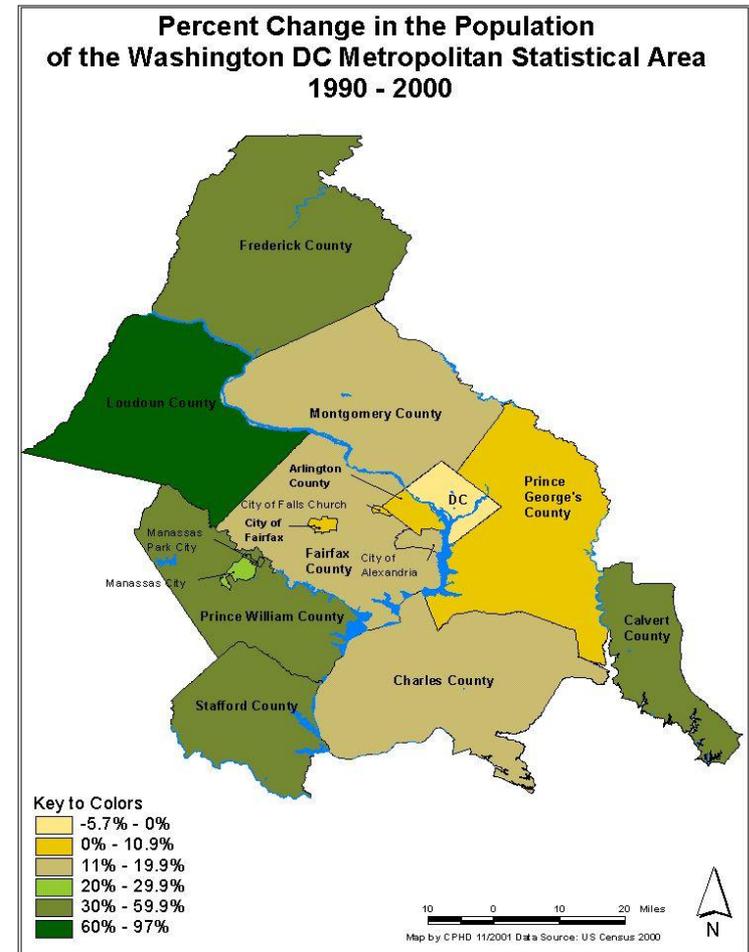
# Distance Traveled

- Ravenstein's theories made two main points about the distance that migrants travel to their home:
  - Most migrants relocate a short distance and remain within the same country.
  - Long-distance migrants to other countries head for major centers of economic activity.



# International vs. Interregional Migration

- International migration is permanent movement from one country to another, whereas internal migration is permanent movement within the same country.
  - International migrants are much less numerous than internal migrants.
- Interregional migration is movement from one region of a country to another, while intraregional migration is movement within one region.



# Two Types of Migration

– International migration is further divided into two types

- Forced
- Voluntary



# Connections to Demographic Transition

- Geographer Wilber Zelinsky has identified a migration transition, which consists of changes in a society comparable to those in the demographic transition.
  - A society in stage 1,
    - Unlikely to migrate permanently.
    - Does have high daily or seasonal mobility in search of food.
  - According to migration transition theory, societies in stages 3 and 4 are the destinations of the international migrants leaving the stage 2 countries in search of economic opportunities.
  - Internal migration within countries in stages 3 and 4 of the demographic transition is intraregional, from cities to surrounding suburbs.

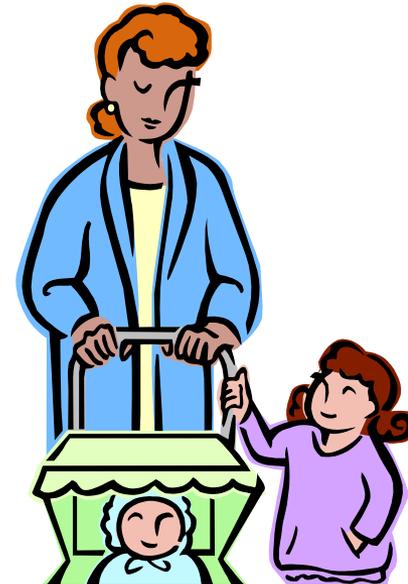
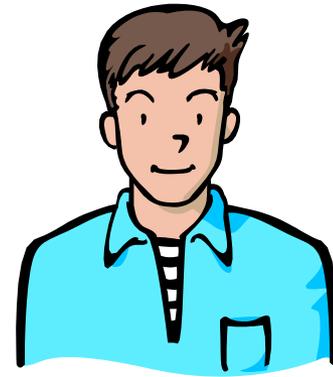
# Characteristics of Migrants

- Ravenstein noted distinctive gender and family-status patterns in his migration theories:
  - Most long- distance migrants have historically been male
  - Most long-distance migrants have historically been adult individuals rather than families with children.
- Changes in Gender of Migrants
  - But since the 1990s the gender pattern has reversed, and women now constitute about 55 percent of U.S. immigration.



# Family Status of Migrants

- Ravenstein also believed that most long-distance migrants were young adults seeking work.
- For the most part, this pattern continues for the United States.
- With the increase in women migrating. . . more children are coming with their mother.



# Mexican Immigration

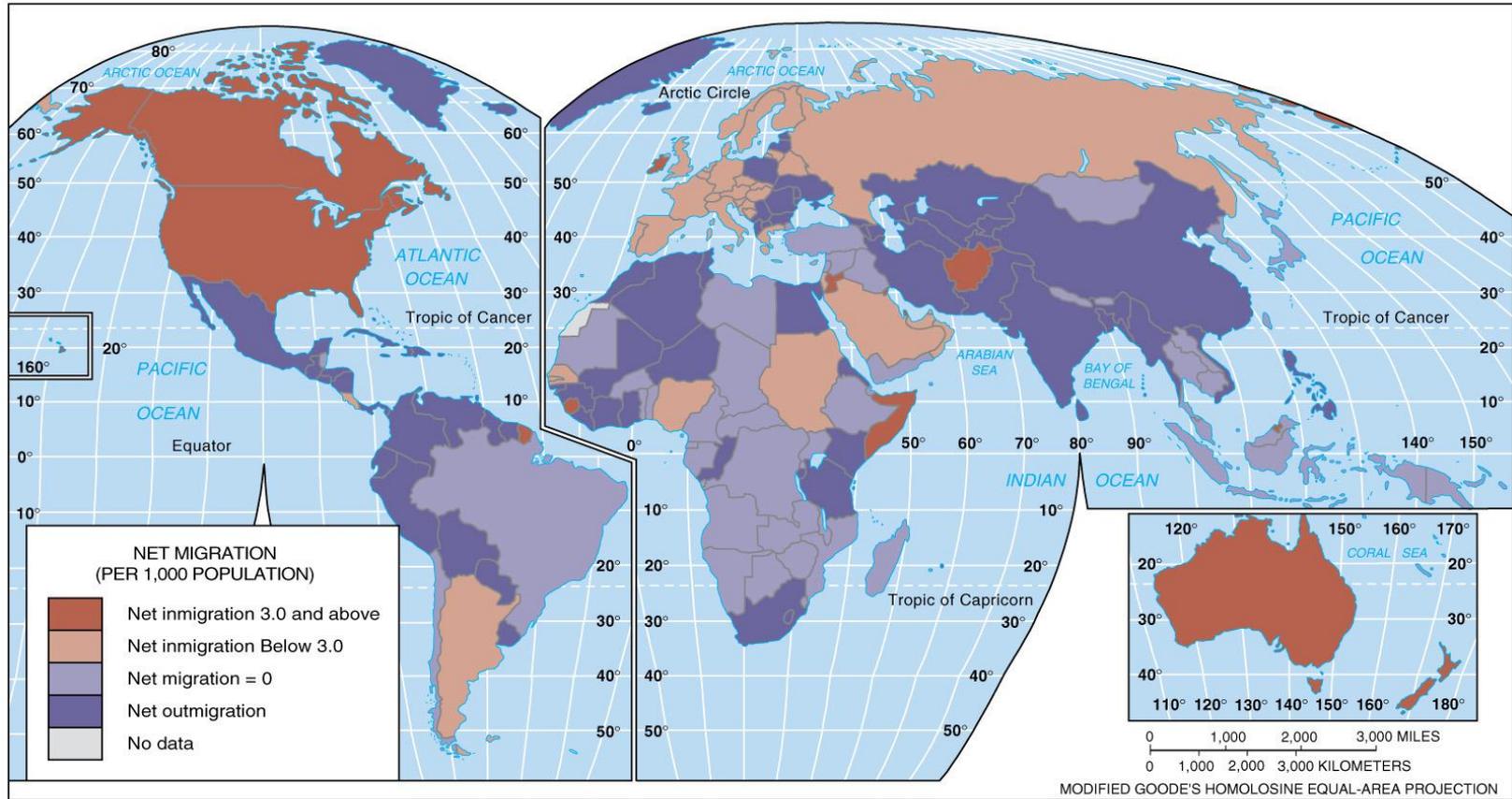


- The origin of Mexican immigrants to the United States matches the expectations of the migration transition and distance-decay theories.
  - The destination of choice within the United States is overwhelmingly states that border Mexico.
  - But most immigrants originate not from Mexico's northern states but from interior states.
  - Because farm work is seasonal. . . the greatest number of Mexicans head north to the United States in the autumn and return home in the spring.

# Issue 2: Migration Patterns

- Global migration patterns
- U.S. migration patterns
  - *Colonial immigration*
  - *19th century immigration*
  - *Recent immigration*
- Impact of immigration on the U.S.
  - *Legacy of European migration*
  - *Undocumented immigration*
  - *Destination of immigrants within the U.S.*

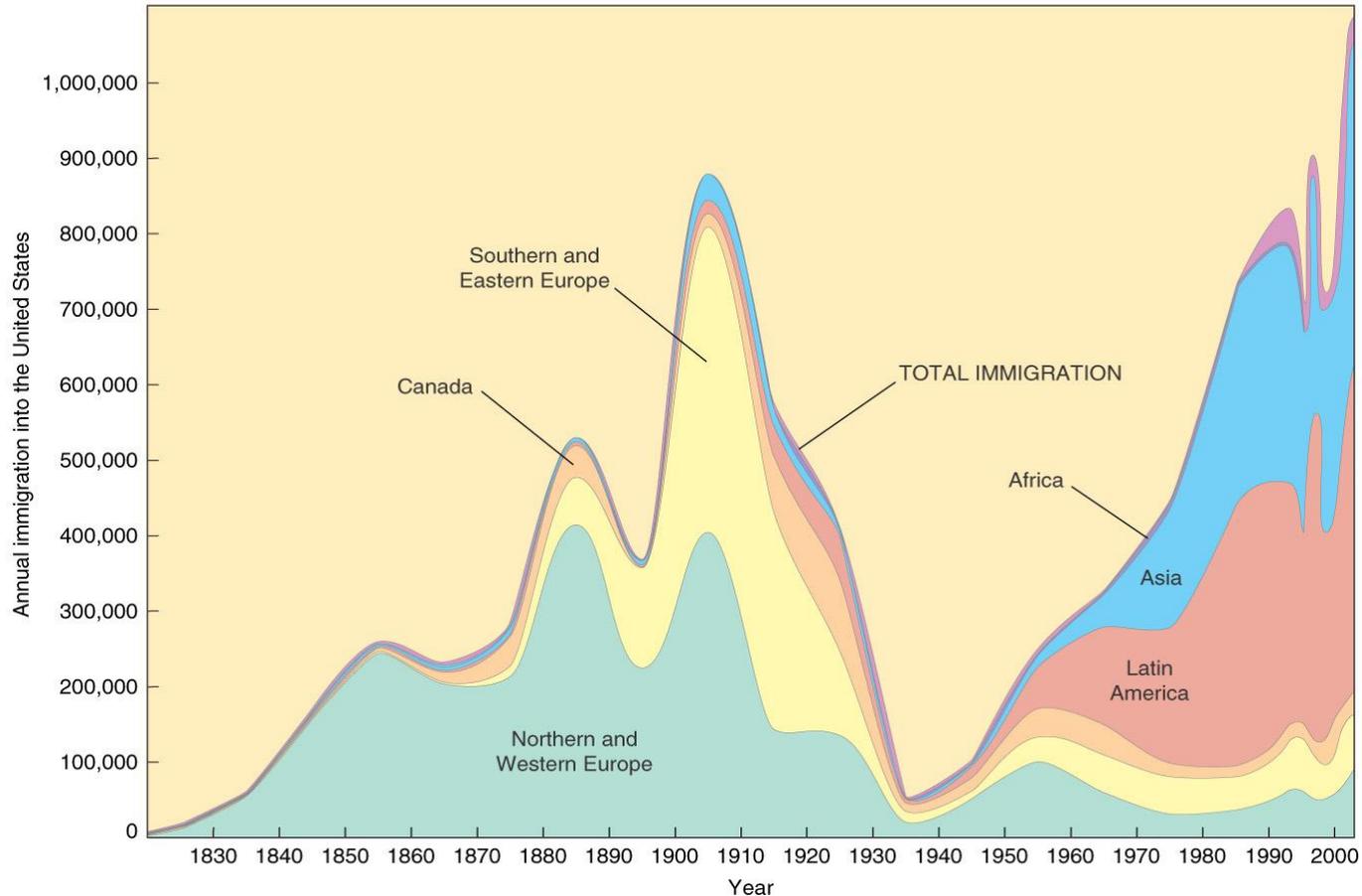
# Net Migration (per population)



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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 to U.S., by region of origin



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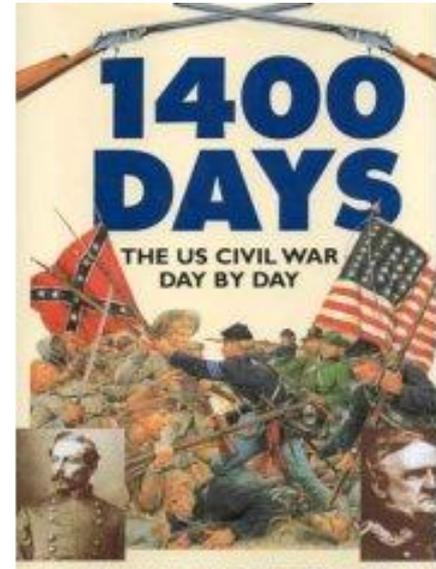
Fig. 3-4: Most migrants to the U.S. were from Europe until the 1960s. Since then, Latin America and Asia have become the main sources of immigrants.

# First Peak of European Immigration

- From 1607. . . until 1840, a steady stream of Europeans (totaling 2 million) migrated to the American colonies and after 1776. . . the United States.
- Ninety percent of European immigrants. . . prior to 1840 came from Great Britain. During the 1840s and 1850s, the level of immigration. . . surged.
  - More than 4 million people migrated,. . . more than twice as many as in the previous 250 years combined.
- More than 90 percent of all U.S. immigrants during the 1840s and 1850s came from Northern and Western Europe, including two fifths from Ireland and another one third from Germany.

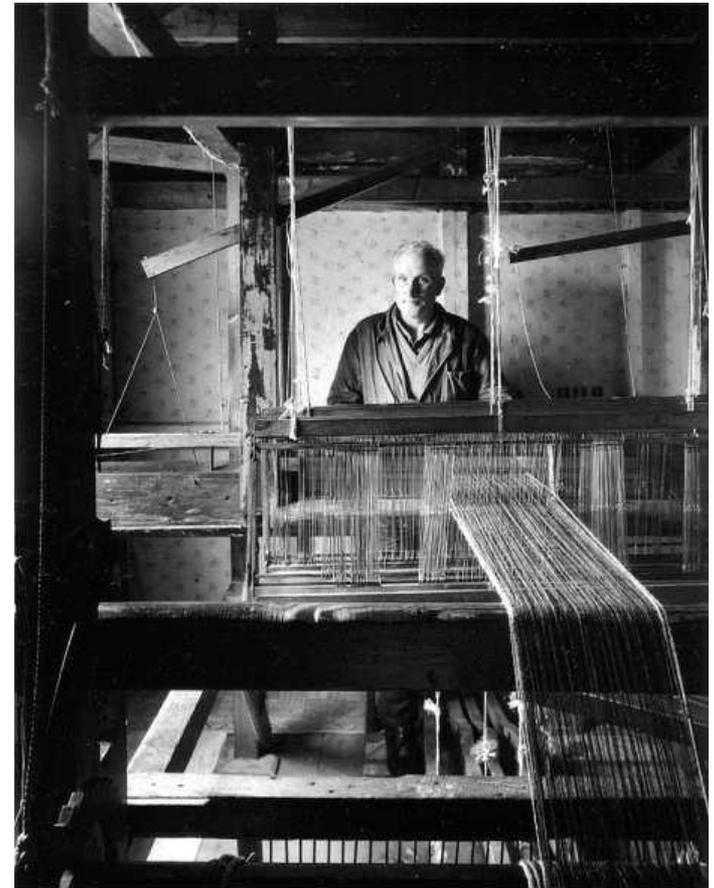
# Second Peak of European Immigration

- 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.



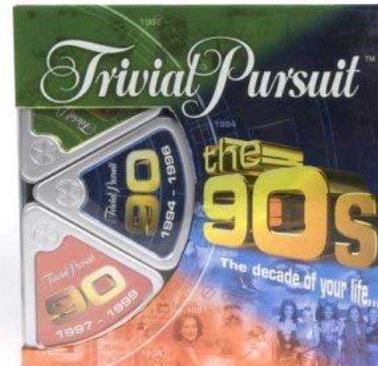
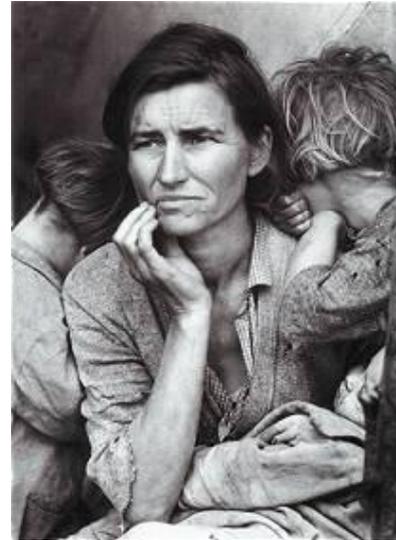
# Third Peak of European Immigration

- 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.
- During this time, most people came from Italy, Russia, and Austria-Hungary, places that previously had sent few people.
- The record year was 1907, with 1.3 million.
  - The shift coincided with the diffusion of the Industrial Revolution... to Southern and Eastern Europe.

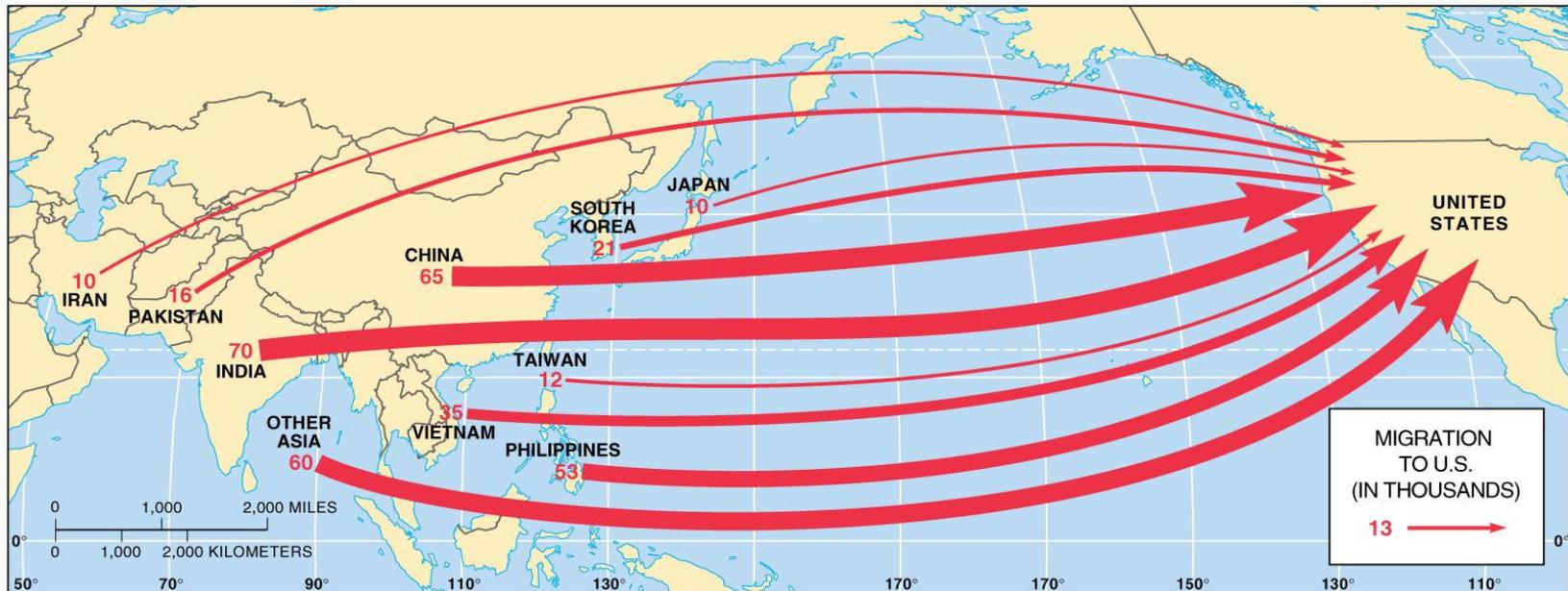


# Recent Immigration from Less Developed Regions

- Immigration to the United States dropped sharply in the 1930s and 1940s, during the Great Depression and World War II, then it steadily increased during the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s.
- It surged during the 1980s and 1990s to historically high levels.



# Migration from Asia to the U.S.



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

# Migration from Latin America to the U.S.



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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.