KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE? (8 SLIDES)
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Two types of migration exist
  - FORCED: imposition of power or authority, or natural disasters, producing involuntary migration movements
  - VOLUNTARY: occurs after a migrant weighs options & choices, and makes the choice to move

- Sometimes it’s not cut and dry
  - Example: people may choose to move because of a major problem that almost forces them to move
  - Example: people may feel they will eventually be forced to move, so they voluntarily move
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Largest forced migration in history of humanity was the Atlantic slave trade from Africa (estimates from 12-30 million people)
  - Slave trade did unimaginable damage to African societies & communities; changed the cultural & ethnic geography of the U.S., Brazil, Central America & the Caribbean

- Beginning in 1788, tens of thousands of convicts were shipped from Britain to Australia (another form of forced migration)
Forced Migration – the Atlantic Slave Trade
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Other examples of forced migration
  - U.S. Indian Removal
  - Millions of non-Russians were moved to Central Asia & Siberia during Stalin’s reign in the USSR
  - Jews were forced out during Holocaust
  - India-Pakistan

- Modern examples:
  - Darfur
  - Tutsis from Rwanda
  - Hong Kong expels all Vietnamese immigrants
  - U.S. has sent back Haitian refugees back to Haiti
Forced migration from Pakistan to India
Forced migration in Afghanistan
Forced migration in Africa
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Voluntary migration involves many concepts & questions
- The biggest question: Why do people choose to migrate?
- British demographer Ernst Ravenstein proposed several “laws of migration”
  - Every flow generates a return or counterflow
  - Most migrants move a short distance
  - Migrants who move longer distances tend to choose big-city destinations
  - Urban residents are less migratory than rural
  - Families are less likely to make an international move than single adults
ILLEGAL ALIENS IN THE UNITED STATES BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, 1990-2000 (IN 1,000S)
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- His work led to the development of the “gravity model”
  - Predicts the interactions between places on the basis of their population size & distance between them
  - Number of migrants to a destination declines as the distance they must travel increases
- When a person chooses to move, “push” and “pull” factors come into play
  - Push: conditions & perceptions that help the migrant decide to leave
  - Pull: circumstances that attract the migrant to a location
    - Push factors are always more accurately perceived than pull factors
Chinese Push Factors
- Political instability: 28%
- Lack of academic freedom: 14%
- Improve learning: 13%
- Lower standards of living: 11%
- Complicated human relations: 8%
- Crowding and pollution: 7%
- Other: 19%

US Pull Factors
- Academic freedom: 36%
- Job opportunities: 16%
- High standards of living: 13%
- Work environment: 11%
- Learning and information: 7%
- Simpler human relations: 3%
- Other: 1%

PUSH-PULL FACTORS FOR CHINESE STUDENTS DECIDING TO STAY IN THE UNITED STATES, 1997
PUSH-PULL FACTORS FOR CHINESE STUDENTS DECIDING TO RETURN TO CHINA, 1997

Chinese Pull Factors
- Higher social status: 30%
- Better work opportunities: 25%
- Patriotism: 11%
- Family: 11%
- Cultural factors: 9%
- Reform China: 6%
- Other: 8%

US Push Factors
- Stress: 24%
- Lack of job security: 21%
- Violence and crime: 9%
- Racism: 6%
- Loneliness: 9%
- No choice: 2%
- Other: 9%
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- TYPES OF PUSH & PULL FACTORS
  - Economic Conditions
  - Political Circumstances
  - Armed Conflict/Civil War
  - Environmental Conditions
  - Culture & Traditions
  - Technological Advances

- Some migrants move in “chain migration”
  - Migrants move to a place; writes, calls or communicates to tell family & friends about the new place; then they come; and so on...this is also called an “immigration wave”
LIKELIHOOD OF THE WELL-EDUCATED TO STAY, 1998

- United States
- Germany
- Japan
- Mexico
- France
- Canada
- China
- Sweden
- India
- Russia

10 = most likely
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- When considering pull factors, the idea of “distance decay” comes into play
  - Farther away one goes, the less that place is like the original location
  - Because of this lack of knowledge about far-away places, migrants tend to move in short distance
- Some migration happens in stages called “step migration”
  - Example: family moves to a village, then a small town, then a city, then a metropolitan area
Voluntary Migration –
Migrants weigh push and pull factors to decide first, to emigrate from the home country and second, where to go.

Distance Decay weighs into the decision to migrate, leading many migrants to move less far than they originally contemplate.
International Migration – Movement across country borders (implying a degree of permanence).
KEY QUESTION #2: WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Many migrants leave a place with a destination in mind, and wind up somewhere in between.
- Along the way, many are captured by an “intervening opportunity”
  - Something that makes them want to stay in a place in between the place of origin & intended destination.
- Conversely, “intervening obstacles” can occur too
  - Things that happen that prevent a person from going from point A to point B.
KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE? (6 SLIDES)
KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Before the age of exploration, long-distance migration only really happened in the pursuit of riches, spices or fame
- On the heels of European exploration came the age of colonization
  - European powers competed for global colonial control
- Major flows include:
  - Europe to North America
  - Southern Europe to Latin America
  - Britain/Ireland to Africa/Australia
  - Africa to the Americas (slave trade)
  - India to Eastern Africa/Southeast Asia/Caribbean
  - (read pages 89-92)
European colonialism helped establish “islands of development”

- Today, it's a place built up by a government to attract investment and which has relatively high concentrations of jobs.
- Traditionally, set up often on the coast (especially early ones), because of trade access.
KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Regional migration occurs based on three major reasons
  - Economic Opportunities
  - Reconnection of Cultural Groups
    - Jewish migration to Israel is great example
  - Conflict & War

- National migration flows also occur
  - American westward expansion is great example
  - Russia has experienced an eastward expansion in recent decades
  - Mexico has experienced a northward expansion (to replace population loss due to immigration)
Movement of the Center of US Population

When did the largest movements take place?
Internal Migration -
Movement within a single country’s borders (implying a degree of permanence).
KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- After WWII, European rebuilding was based heavily on two things:
  - Workers from poorer European countries moving to economically growing areas
  - Non-Europeans migrating (many from North Africa, Turkey and other regions from the world)

- Western European countries called these workers “guest workers”:
  - Many stayed and have greatly impacted European demographics
  - Guest workers today are usually legal immigrants, but with short term work visas---they send money back home (called “remittances”)

KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Thousands and thousands of poor people flee a crisis in their home region or country (many of which walk)
  - These people are called “refugees”
  - Official definition: “person who has a well-rounded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion”
- In 2000, there were unofficially 24 million worldwide refugees (and another 25 million internally displaced people)
- Hurricane Katrina caused debate about definition of a “refugee”
REFUGEES

A person who flees across an international boundary because of a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.
KEY QUESTION #3: WHERE DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

- Some refugees seek “asylum”
  - Shelter & protection that a state provides a foreign person
- Modern refugees usually meet three criteria
  - Move without any more property than they can carry
  - Many make their first movements on foot, bike, wagon or boat (and are usually suddenly displaced)
  - Move without official documents that accompany immigrants
- Regions with heavy impact of dislocation in recent years
  - Sub-Saharan Africa (DRC, Sudan, Rwanda)
  - North Africa/Middle East (Iraq)
  - South Asia (Pakistan, Afghanistan)
  - Southeast Asia (Myanmar)
  - Europe (former Yugoslavia, Russia)
GLOBAL MIGRATION PATTERNS

Fig. 3-2: The major flows of migration are from less developed to more developed countries.
Fig. 3-3: Net migration per 1000 population. The U.S. has the largest number of immigrants, but other developed countries also have relatively large numbers.
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION? (5 SLIDES)
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION?

- Efforts to restrict migration are nothing new
- Fences along the Rio Grande, Great Wall of China, Berlin Wall, Korean DMZ---all examples of things built to limit migration (built for other reasons too, but they all limited migration)
- Governments have passed legislation in past
  - 1882: U.S. Congress passed the first restrictive legislation law (Oriental Exclusion Laws---prevented immigration of Chinese people to California)
  - 1901: Australia passed law which ended nonwhite immigration; also deported many Pacific Islanders in 1906 (laws lasted until 1979)
The U.S. side of the border is uninhabited and separated from Mexico by a fence.
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION?

- United States immigration history has been greatly affected by governmental policy
  - 1800s: we opened our doors (began with British, Germans, French & Irish...moved more towards Italians, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish & Russians towards end of 19th century)
  - After WWI, our isolationist policy led to Congress setting quotas---tied quotas to a set percentage of the national origins of current Americans
  - After WWII, immigration increased (more than 7 million immigrants entered between 1945-1970)
Changing immigration laws, and changing push and pull factors create waves of immigration.
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.
Fig. 3-8: California is the destination of about 25% of all US immigrants; another 25% go to New York and New Jersey. Other important destinations include Florida, Texas, and Illinois.
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION?

- Many countries have a ‘selective immigration’ policy
  - Former criminals, unhealthy, or perhaps people with questionable pasts are barred from entering
    - EXAMPLES
      - South Africa for years only allowed people with a pure European descent
      - New Zealand favored immigrants from Britain
      - Brazil preferred people with farming backgrounds
      - Singapore favors people of Chinese ancestry
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION?

- Since 9/11, government policies have incorporated more and more security concerns
  - Before 9/11, we were more worried about drug trafficking & human smuggling
- U.S. government marked 33 countries as countries where al-Qaeda or other terrorist groups operate
  - Anyone who sought asylum from these countries was automatically detained first
- Justice Department has authority to detain any illegal immigrant—even if he or she has no terrorist background
POST-SEPTEMBER 11TH
KEY QUESTION #4: HOW DO GOVERNMENTS AFFECT MIGRATION?

- Major fear is that places are used as “staging points”
  - Example: Terrorist goes to Mexico, emigrates to America as an illegal immigrant (instead of coming from one of those 33 countries)

- Another major fear focuses on legal immigration
  - All of the 9/11 terrorists had legal visas

- Some are critical of these new post-9/11 policies
  - Claim it will not stop terrorism
  - Claim it will intensify hatred towards America
  - Claim it violates civil rights & civil liberties
  - Claim it slows down business & tourism more than terrorism