Introduction to Migration
The Movement of People
Migration Defined

• Migration is the semi-permanent movement of people from one place to another

• Types of Migration:
  – Immigration: The movement of people IN to a new area
  – Emigration: The movement of people OUT of an area
Why migration matters

– When combined with the Natural Increase Rate the Net Migration Rate (Immigrants-Emigrants=Net Migration Rate) gives us a better idea of the changes in population of an area.
Reasons for Migration

• Economic
  – The search for new job opportunities
    • The most common reason for migration

• Social
  – Migration for cultural reasons, or to be with family members

• Political
  – Often people are forced to leave areas because of the political climate

• Natural
  – People migrate in search for better climate conditions or to be closer to particular landforms
    • Ex. Oceans, Mountains, Lakes, etc...
Types of Migration: Forced Migration

• Human Trafficking
  – Slavery and modern practices where people are captured or sold as property

• Refugees
  – People who are forced to leave their homes because of economic, social, political, or natural reasons
Types of Migration: Illegal Migrants

- **Illegal Migrants**: People who migrate to an area without going through the proper process of visa and passport applications
  - Often undocumented
  - Living there without the government knowing
Types of Migration: Cyclical Migration

- People who move back and forth between places in a cycle
  - **Seasonal Migrants:** Workers who move to an area for a season or period but maintain their full time home somewhere else
  - **Nomadic Migration:** People without one set home, but move between a series of different grazing pastures for their animals.
Types of Migration: Periodic Movement

- People who only move for a period of time, and then return to their original place
  - **Time Contract Workers**: People who move for work reasons for a set period of time. Once their contract is over they return home.
  - **Military Service**: People who are attached to a military force who are stationed in a place, normally for a set period of time.
  - **Transhumance**: Farmers who move up and down mountains depending on seasons
Migration Trends: Chain Migration

- Chain Migration: People from the same family or ethnic background migrate to the same area where there are already people from their family or the same ethnic group.
Migration Trends: Brain Drain

- **Brain Drain**: Educated professionals and people seeking to get better education from Less Developed Countries move to More Developed Countries
  - The LDCs lose their more educated people, and the MDCs benefit from the arrival of diverse educated migrants.
USA Migration History

- **1600s-Early 1800s**
  - Mostly British, French, and Africans

- **1840s**
  - Germans and Irish

- **1900 – 1950**
  - Norwegians, Swedes, Ukrainians, Italians

- **After 1950**
  - Latin Americans and Asians
Case Study: US Migration

Figure 3.
Largest Ancestry: 2000
Migration Restrictions

- **Quotas**: Limits created by governments to limit the number of immigrants that they will accept in a year
  - Ex. USA Quota is 675,000 per year
- **Selective Immigration Laws**: Laws created by governments to choose how many people from each group they will accept
  - Focus on people with special abilities or people from certain ethnic groups