United States Migration Patterns (International and Internal)
The New Colossus

... Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

EMMA LAZARUS
International Migration to the US

• There are 3 main eras of international migration to the U.S.:
  – 1\textsuperscript{st} era: Colonial/Early U.S. immigration (1700 – early 1800s)
  – 2\textsuperscript{nd} era: Other Europeans (mid-19\textsuperscript{th} to early 20\textsuperscript{th} century)
    • 3 waves within 2\textsuperscript{nd} era
  – 3\textsuperscript{rd} era: Recent immigration from LDCs (since 1950s)
US Immigration Patterns

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2nd era: Other Europeans (mid-19th to early 20th century)
  - 1st wave = Germans/Irish (1840s – 1870s)
    - Push factors
      » Ireland = potato famine (environmental)/British abuse (cultural)
      » Germany = stage 2 overpop., no avail. land/econ. opp. (econ.)
Industrialization creates Stage 2 overpopulation issues.
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      - forced military service, revolution, 48ers etc. (cultural)
  - **2**\(^{nd}\) wave (1870 - 90s) = Scandinavians add to earlier
    - overpopulation, lack of land/economic opportunity (econ.)
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American Pull Factors (mid – 1800s)

• Political and religious liberty
• land = **Homestead Act**
  – German, Scandinavian
    • more middle class background
    • use skills on frontier, new cities
    • $ for farmland
• jobs in Northern cities
  – more Irish
    • very poor, starving, shantys
    • build infrastructure
      – canals, RRs, city projects
  – NYC, Boston, Philadelphia
• Why the North?
  – Economy built on ‘free’ labor not slavery
  – **Result:** North becomes more ethnically diverse
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- **BOTH PRIMARILY NORTHERN and WESTERN EUROPE**
Terms to Know:

• **Nativism**
  - the policy of protecting the interests of native-born or established inhabitants against those of immigrants.

• **Xenophobia**
  - intense or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries.

America has a long history of Nativism and Xenophobia.
European Subregions for Migration
US Immigration Patterns

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    • British, Scots-Irish, Indentured Servants, Africans
  – 2nd era: European (mid-19th to early 20th century)
    • 1st wave = Irish/Germans (1840s – 1870s)
    • 2nd (1880 - 90s) = add Scandinavians to mix
    • 3rd wave (1890s - WWI/1920s) = Southern and Eastern Europeans
US Immigration Patterns (#12)

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      - Economic:
        » Italian, Poles, Russian Jews, others = stage two
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      – Economic:
        » Italian, Poles, Russian Jews, others = stage two
        » Stage 2 overpop., lack of land/economic opportunity/jobs
      – Cultural:
        » Italians = political discrimination in favor of North,
        » Poles = foreign rule (partitioned 3x), language suppressed
        » Jews = religious persecution “pogroms”
  – Destination? Northern urban areas = industrial jobs
U.S. transformed from an agrarian, farming society to an industrial powerhouse

- By 1895, US surpasses Britain in industrial output
  - mechanization
  - natural resources
  - RRs
  - inventions
  - big business
    - Carnegie, Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, JP Morgan, Ford

- By 1920
  - 1/3 of Americans are immigrants or children of immigrants
Discriminatory/racist exclusions

- **Asian (Chinese) = exception to European migration**
  - RR boom in the 1860s – 1880s
  - **Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)**
    » claims Chinese “unable to assimilate” to American culture

- **U.S. quota laws of the 1920s**
  - **The Quota Act (1921)** = Restricted to % of population in 1880
    » favors Northern and Western Europeans
    » decreases Southern and Eastern European migrants
  - **The National Origins Act (1924)**
    » Racist extension of 1921 act barring Asians
CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT, 1882
US Immigration Patterns

- Low net in-migration (1930 - 40s)
  - Great Depression and WWII
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– 3rd era: Recent immigration from LDCs (since 1950s)
  • Quota laws revised to be less racist (mid-1960s)!!!!
    – Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965
    – Civil rights era
  • Latin America & Asia
    – Why? (know this and describe for all applicable migration streams)
      » these regions are in stage two/early three
      » diffusion of medical advances makes CDR drop but not CBR leading to rapid population growth
      » Carrying capacity of economic opportunity (jobs, land etc.) is exceeded by population = OVERPOPULATION
      » Corrective action = EMIGRATION
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  • Latin America & Asia
    – Mexico (#3 overtaken in 2013), Central America, Cuba
    – China (#2), India (#1), Philippines (#4), Vietnam

• Who gets in today?
  – 67% family reunification (chain migration)
  – 13% humanitarian issues (refugees)
  – 17% job-skills
    » Causing BRAIN DRAIN effect on source country (the migration of highly trained, degreed individuals to more “desirable” geographic regions)
    » BRAIN GAIN for us!

» LDCs → MDCs, Rural → Urban, “Flyover” States → Coasts
Changing Immigration Streams

Racial makeup of U.S. immigrant population

- 14% Hispanic
- 31% Asian
- 8% Black
- 5% White

1965: 80%
1975: 5%
1985: 4%
1995: 18%
2005: 26%
2015: 47%
2065 (Projected): 38%

Source: Pew Research Center
New York Times Immigration Wave Map
Irish - 1880

Immigration Explorer
Select a foreign-born group to see how they settled across the United States.

Key:
- Bubble size is proportional to population.

Note: Due to limitations in the Census data, foreign-born populations are not available in all areas for all years.
Germans - 1900
Mexicans - 2000

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Unauthorized Immigration to the U.S.

• What areas are sending more/less unauthorized immigrants to the U.S.?
  – Less: Mexico, S. America
  – More: Asia, C. America, Africa

• Why?
  – Mexico, much of South America are now in later stage three.
  – Asia, C. America, Africa are in stage two/stage three
Unauthorized immigration

- 2008
  - estimated 11.9 million undocumented immigrants
  - ≈ 5.4% of the U.S. civilian labor force
    - 59% from Mexico
Immigration debate

Pro-immigration

- Immigrants provide economic growth
  - wages, taxes etc.
  - they buys things, too!
- Immigrants provide high-skilled labor and entrepreneurial attitude
  - Internet founders
- Provide low-skilled labor other Americans won’t do (farm labor)
- Offset aging population

Anti-immigration

- Immigrants use social services
- Low-wage immigrants drive down wages
- Immigrants don’t share American values (Nativism)
  - English language
  - assimilation
  - terrorism
- Crime in low-income immigrant communities
- Pressure on environment
  - Especially SW (lack of water)