

Germany and other wealthy European countries operated a **guest worker** program mainly during the 1960s and 1970s. Immigrants from poorer countries were allowed to immigrate temporarily to obtain jobs. They were protected by minimum-wage laws, labor union contracts, and other support programs. The guest worker program was intended to be temporary. After a few years, the guest workers were expected to return home.

The first guest worker programs involved emigration from Southern European countries such as Italy, Portugal, and Spain. Northern European countries were then much wealthier and more economically developed and offered many more job opportunities. Turkey and North Africa replaced Southern Europe as the leading sources. Today, most immigrants in search of work in Europe come from Eastern Europe, such as Poland and Romania.

The term “guest worker” is no longer used in Europe, and the government programs no longer exist. Many immigrants who arrived originally under the guest worker program have remained permanently. They, along with their children and grandchildren, have become citizens of the host country. The foreign-born population exceeds 40 percent in Luxembourg and 20 percent in Switzerland. Among the most populous European countries, Spain has the highest share of foreign-born population (Figure 3-30). In Europe as a whole, though, the percentage of foreign-born residents is only one-half that of North America.

## ASIA'S MIGRANT WORKERS

Asia is both a major source and a major destination for migrants in search of work:

- **China.** Approximately 40 million Chinese currently live in other countries, including 30 million in Southeast Asia, 5 million in North America, and 2 million in Europe. Chinese comprise three-fourths of the population in Singapore and one-fourth in Malaysia. Most migrants were from southeastern China. China’s booming economy is now attracting immigrants from neighboring

◀ **FIGURE 3-30 PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS IN EUROPE** Luxembourg and Switzerland have the highest percentages of immigrants.

countries, especially Vietnamese, who are willing to work in China’s rapidly expanding factories. Immigration from abroad pales in comparison to internal migration within China.

- **Southwest Asia.** The wealthy oil-producing countries of Southwest Asia have been major destinations for people from poorer countries in the region, such as Egypt and Yemen. During the late twentieth century, most immigrants arrived from South and Southeast Asia, including India, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Thailand (Figure 3-31). Working conditions for immigrants have been considered poor in some of these countries. The Philippine government determined in 2011 that only two countries in Southwest Asia—Israel and Oman—were “safe” for their Filipino migrants, and the others lacked adequate protection for workers’ rights. For their part, oil-producing countries fear that the increasing numbers of guest workers will spark political unrest and abandonment of traditional Islamic customs.

### Pause and Reflect 3.3.2

**Why are street cleaning and construction jobs attractive for immigrants to Europe and Southwest Asia?**

#### CHECK-IN: KEY ISSUE 3

#### Why Do People Migrate?

- ✓ People migrate for a combination of political, environmental, and economic push and pull factors.
- ✓ Most people migrate in search of work.



▲ **FIGURE 3-31 IMMIGRANTS IN SOUTHWEST ASIA** These immigrants in Dubai have lined up to get construction jobs.



## KEY ISSUE 4

# Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?

- Controlling Migration
- Unauthorized Immigration
- Attitudes toward Immigrants

### Learning Outcome 3.4.1

Identify the types of immigrants who are given preference to enter the United States.

An environmental or political feature that hinders migration is an **intervening obstacle**. The principal obstacle traditionally faced by migrants to other countries was environmental: the long, arduous, and expensive passage over land or by sea. Think of the cramped and unsanitary conditions endured by eighteenth- and nineteenth-century immigrants to the United States who had to sail across the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean in tiny ships. Or the mountains and deserts that European pioneers and displaced Native Americans were forced to cross in their westward migration across the North American continent.

Transportation improvements that have promoted globalization, such as motor vehicles and airplanes, have diminished the importance of environmental features as intervening obstacles. Today, the major obstacles faced by most immigrants are political. A migrant needs a passport to legally emigrate from a country and a visa to legally immigrate to a new country (Figure 3-32).

## Controlling Migration

Most countries have adopted selective immigration policies that admit some types of immigrants but not others. The two reasons that most visas are granted are for specific employment placement and family reunification.

### U.S. QUOTA LAWS

The era of unrestricted immigration to the United States ended when Congress passed the Quota Act in 1921 and the National Origins Act in 1924. These laws established **quotas**, or maximum limits on the number of people who could immigrate to the United States during a one-year period. Key modifications in the U.S. quotas have included:

- **1924:** For each country that had native-born persons already living in the United States, 2 percent of their number (based on the 1910 census) could immigrate each year. This ensured that most immigrants would come from Europe.
- **1965:** Quotas for individual countries were replaced with hemisphere quotas (170,000 from the Eastern Hemisphere and 120,000 from the Western Hemisphere).
- **1978:** A global quota of 290,000 was set, including a maximum of 20,000 per country.
- **1990:** The global quota was raised to 700,000.

Because the number of applicants for admission to the United States far exceeds the quotas, Congress has set preferences:

- **Family reunification.** Approximately three-fourths of immigrants are admitted to reunify families, primarily spouses or unmarried children of people already living in the United States. The typical wait for a spouse to gain entry is currently about five years.
- **Skilled workers.** Exceptionally talented professionals receive most of the remainder of the quota.
- **Diversity.** A few immigrants are admitted by lottery under a diversity category for people from countries that historically sent few people to the United States.

The quota does not apply to refugees, who are admitted if they are judged genuine refugees. Also admitted without limit are spouses, children, and parents of U.S. citizens. The number of immigrants can vary sharply from year to year, primarily because numbers in these two groups are unpredictable.

Other countries charge that by giving preference to skilled workers, immigration policies in the United States and Europe contribute to a **brain drain**, which is a large-scale emigration by talented people. Scientists, researchers, doctors, and other professionals migrate to countries where they can make better use of their abilities.

Asians have made especially good use of the priorities set by the U.S. quota laws. Many well-educated Asians enter the United States under the preference for skilled workers. Once admitted, they can bring in relatives under the family-reunification provisions of the quota. Eventually, these



▲ **FIGURE 3-32 PASSPORT CONTROL** Backup at the border from Tijuana, Mexico (right) into the United States at San Diego.



immigrants can bring in a wider range of other relatives from Asia, through a process of **chain migration**, which is the migration of people to a specific location because

relatives or members of the same nationality previously migrated there.

## CONTEMPORARY GEOGRAPHIC TOOLS

### Claiming Ellis Island

Twelve million immigrants to the United States between 1892 and 1954 were processed at Ellis Island, situated in New York Harbor (Figure 3-33). Incorporated as part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument in 1965, Ellis Island was restored and reopened in 1990 as a museum of immigration. Before building the immigration center, the U.S. government used Ellis Island as a fort and powder magazine beginning in 1808.

An 1834 agreement approved by the U.S. Congress gave Ellis Island to New York State and gave the submerged lands surrounding the island to New Jersey. When the agreement was signed, Ellis Island was only 1.1 hectares (2.75 acres), but beginning in the 1890s, the U.S. government enlarged the island, eventually to 10.6 hectares (27.5 acres).

New Jersey state officials claimed that the 10.6-hectare Ellis Island was

part of their state, not New York. The claim was partly a matter of pride on the part of New Jersey officials to stand up to their more glamorous neighbor. After all, Ellis Island was only 400 meters (1,300 feet) from the New Jersey shoreline, yet tourists—like immigrants a century ago—are transported by ferry to Lower Manhattan more than a mile away. More practically, the sales tax collected by the Ellis Island museum gift shop was going to New York rather than to New Jersey.

After decades of dispute, New Jersey took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1998, the Supreme Court ruled 6–3 that New York owned the original island but that New Jersey owned the rest. New York's jurisdiction was set as the low waterline of the original island. Critical evidence in the decision was a series of maps prepared by New Jersey Department

of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) officials using Geographic Information System (GIS). NJDEP officials scanned into an image file an 1857 U.S. coast map that was considered to be the most reliable map from that era. The image file of the old map was brought into ArcView, and then the low waterline shown on the 1857 map was edited and depicted using a series of dots. The perimeter of the current island was mapped using global positioning system (GPS) surveying.

After ruling in favor of New Jersey's claim, the Supreme Court directed the NJDEP to delineate the precise boundary between the two states, again using GIS. Overlaying the 1857 low waterline onto the current map identified New York's territory, and the rest of the current island was determined to belong to New Jersey.



▲ **FIGURE 3-33 ELLIS ISLAND** Ellis Island is in the foreground, Jersey City, New Jersey, is to the left, and Manhattan, New York is to the rear.



## Unauthorized Immigration

### Learning Outcome 3.4.2

**Describe the population characteristics of unauthorized immigrants to the United States.**

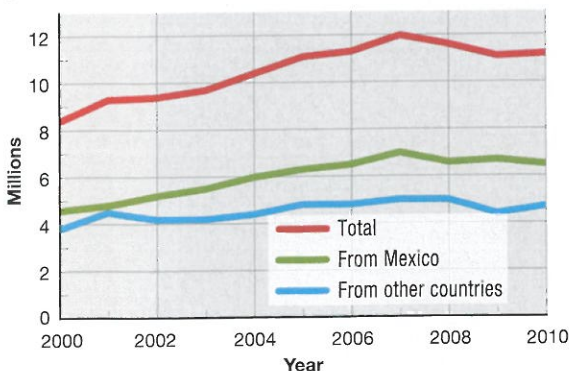
The number of people allowed to immigrate into the United States is at a historically high level, but the number who wish to come is even higher. Many who cannot legally enter the United States immigrate illegally. Those who do so are entering without proper documents and thus are called **unauthorized immigrants**.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS

The Pew Hispanic Center estimated that there were 11.2 million unauthorized immigrants living in the United States in 2010. The number increased rapidly during the first years of the twenty-first century (Figure 3-34). After hitting a peak in 2007, the figure declined because the severe recession that started in 2008 reduced job opportunities in the United States.

Other information about unauthorized immigrants, according to Pew Hispanic Center:

- **Source country.** Approximately 58 percent of unauthorized immigrants emigrate from Mexico. The remainder are about evenly divided between other Latin American countries and other regions of the world.
- **Children.** The 11.2 million unauthorized immigrants included 1 million children. In addition, while living in the United States, unauthorized immigrants have given birth to approximately 4.5 million babies, who are legal citizens of the United States.
- **Years in the United States.** The duration of residency in the United States has been increasing for unauthorized immigrants. In a 2010 Pew survey, 35 percent of unauthorized adult immigrants had resided in the United States for 15 years or more, 28 percent for 10 to 14 years, 22 percent for 5 to 9 years, and 15 percent for



**▲ FIGURE 3-34 NUMBER OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS TO THE UNITED STATES** Most unauthorized immigrants in the United States are from Mexico.

less than 5 years. A similar survey in 2000 showed a reverse distribution: 32 percent had been in the United States for less than 5 years, compared to only 16 percent for more than 15 years.

- **Labor force.** Approximately 8 million unauthorized immigrants are employed in the United States, accounting for around 5 percent of the total U.S. civilian labor force. Unauthorized immigrants were much more likely than the average American to be employed in construction and hospitality (food service and lodging) jobs and less likely to be in white-collar jobs such as education, health care, and finance.
- **Distribution.** California and Texas have the largest number of unauthorized immigrants. Nevada has the largest percentage.

### MEXICO'S BORDER WITH THE UNITED STATES

The U.S.–Mexico border is 3,141 kilometers (1,951 miles) long (Figure 3-35). Rural areas and small towns are guarded by only a handful of agents (Figure 3-36). Crossing the border on foot legally is possible in several places (Figure 3-37). Elsewhere, the border runs mostly through sparsely inhabited regions. The United States has constructed a barrier covering approximately one-fourth of the border (Figure 3-38). Several large urban areas are situated on the border, including San Diego, California, and Tijuana, Mexico, at the western end, and Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Mexico, at the eastern end. Driving across the border in the urban areas can be fraught with heavy traffic and delays (Figures 3-32 and 3-39).

A joint U.S.–Mexican International Boundary and Water Commission is responsible for keeping official maps, on the basis of a series of nineteenth-century treaties. The commission is also responsible for marking the border by maintaining 276 six-foot-tall iron monuments erected in the late nineteenth century, as well as 440 fifteen-inch-tall markers added in the 1970s. Actually locating the border is difficult in some remote areas.

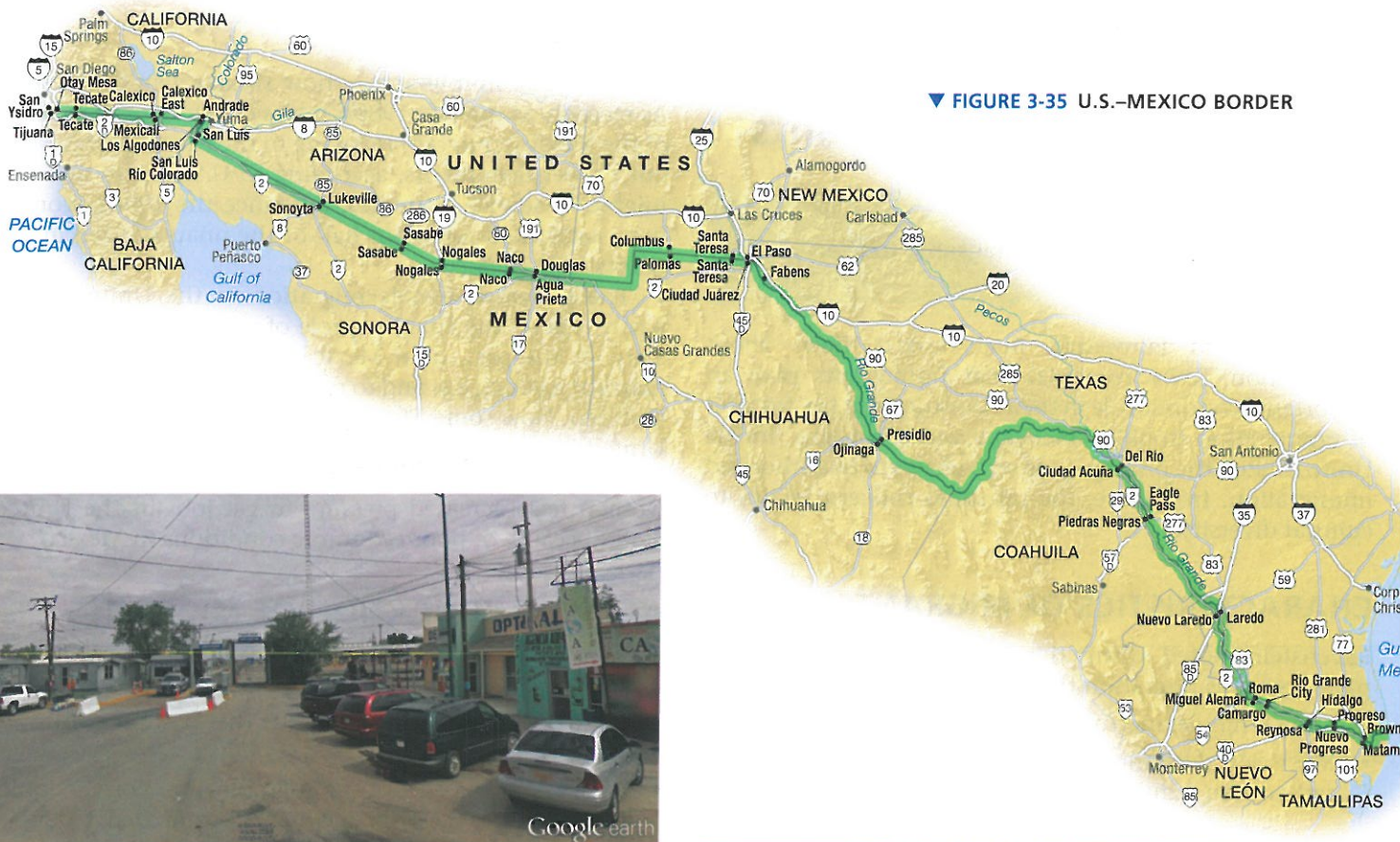
From the United States, the view to the south may seem straightforward. Millions of Mexicans are trying to cross the border by any means, legal or otherwise, in search of employment, family reunification, and a better way of life in the United States.

The view from Mexico is more complex. Along its northern border with the United States, Mexico is the source for unauthorized emigrants. At the same time, along its southern border with Guatemala, Mexico is the destination for unauthorized immigrants. When talking with its neighbor to the north, Mexicans urge understanding and sympathy for the plight of the immigrants. When talking with its neighbor to the south, Mexicans urge stronger security along the border.

Along the Mexican–Guatemalan border, the Suchiate River is sometimes only ankle deep. Immigrants from other Latin American countries, especially El Salvador and Honduras, travel through Guatemala without need of a passport in order to cross into Mexico. Although a passport is needed



▼ FIGURE 3-35 U.S.-MEXICO BORDER



▲ FIGURE 3-36 U.S.-MEXICO BORDER: SMALL TOWN CROSSING  
There is no congestion crossing between Palomas, Mexico (foreground), and Columbus, New Mexico.



▲ FIGURE 3-38 U.S.-MEXICO BORDER: FENCE A fence separates Tecate, Mexico (right), from Tecate, California.



▲ FIGURE 3-37 U.S.-MEXICO BORDER: PEDESTRIAN CROSSING  
Pedestrians cross from Nueva Progreso, Mexico (foreground), to Progreso, Texas.

to cross the border from Guatemala into Mexico, the Mexican government estimates that 2 million people a year do so illegally. Some migrate illegally from Guatemala to Mexico for higher-paying jobs in tropical fruit plantations. For most, the ultimate destination is the United States.

**Pause and Reflect 3.4.2**

**Which border crossing between Mexico and the United States shown here does the border crossing between Mexico and Guatemala most resemble?**



▲ FIGURE 3-39 U.S.-MEXICO BORDER: URBAN CONGESTION Vehicles are backed up trying to move from Matamoros, Mexico (right), to Brownsville, Texas.



## Attitudes toward Immigrants

### Learning Outcome 3.4.3

#### Describe characteristics of immigrants to the United States.

Americans and Europeans share mixed views about immigration. They recognize that immigrants play an important economic role in their countries, but key features of immigration trouble Americans and Europeans. In the United States, the principal concern relates to unauthorized immigration. In Europe, the principal concern relates to cultural diversity.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANTS

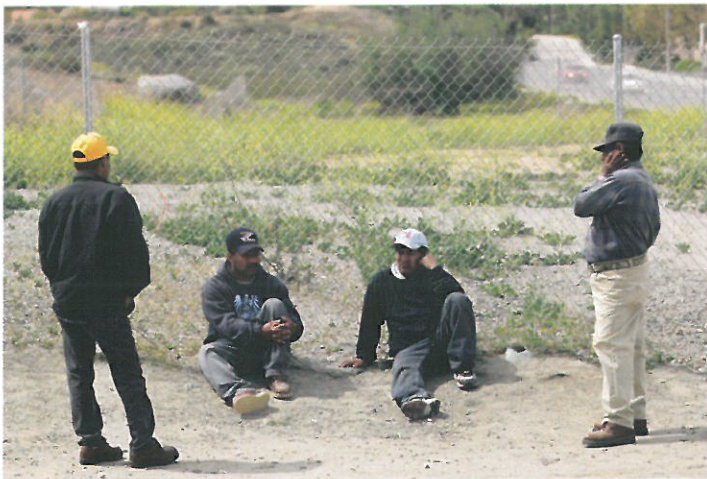
Ravenstein noted distinctive gender and family-status patterns in his migration theories:

- Most long-distance migrants are male.
- Most long-distance migrants are adult individuals rather than families with children.

### GENDER OF MIGRANTS

Ravenstein theorized that males were more likely than females to migrate long distances to other countries because searching for work was the main reason for international migration, and males were much more likely than females to be employed (Figure 3-40). This held true for U.S. immigrants during the nineteenth and much of the twentieth centuries, when about 55 percent were male. But the gender pattern reversed in the 1990s, and in the twenty-first century women constitute about 55 percent of U.S. immigrants.

Mexicans who come to the United States without authorized immigration documents—currently the largest



▲ **FIGURE 3-40** EMIGRANTS FROM MEXICO: MALE DAY LABORERS  
Day laborers from Mexico have crossed the border into San Diego, California, to look for temporary work.

group of U.S. immigrants—show similar gender changes. As recently as the late 1980s, males constituted 85 percent of the Mexican migrants arriving in the United States without proper documents, according to U.S. census and immigration service estimates. But since the 1990s, women have accounted for about half of the unauthorized immigrants from Mexico.

The increased female migration to the United States partly reflects the changing role of women in Mexican society. In the past, rural Mexican women were obliged to marry at a young age and to remain in the village to care for children. Now some Mexican women are migrating to the United States to join husbands or brothers already in the United States, but most are seeking jobs. At the same time, women feel increased pressure to get jobs in the United States because of poor economic conditions in Mexico.

### AGE AND EDUCATION OF MIGRANTS

Ravenstein also believed that most long-distance migrants were young adults seeking work rather than children or elderly people. For the most part, this pattern continues for the United States:

- About 40 percent of immigrants are young adults between the ages of 25 and 39, compared to about 23 percent of the entire U.S. population.
- Immigrants are less likely to be elderly people; only 5 percent of immigrants are over age 65, compared to 12 percent of the entire U.S. population.
- Children under 15 comprise 16 percent of immigrants, compared to 21 percent for the total U.S. population. With the increase in women migrating to the United States, more children are coming with their mothers (Figure 3-41).
- Recent immigrants to the United States have attended school for fewer years and are less likely to have high school diplomas than are U.S. citizens. The typical



▲ **FIGURE 3-41** EMIGRANTS FROM MEXICO: WOMEN AND CHILDREN  
AT A PARADE IN NEW YORK Children who have emigrated from Mexico display the Mexican flag at a Latinos Unidos parade in Brooklyn, New York.



unauthorized Mexican immigrant has attended school for four years, less than the average American but a year more than the average Mexican.

## IMMIGRATION CONCERNS IN THE UNITED STATES

Americans are divided concerning whether unauthorized migration helps or hurts the country (Figure 3-42). This ambivalence extends to specific elements of immigration law:

- **Border patrols.** Americans would like more effective border patrols so that fewer unauthorized immigrants can get into the country, but they don't want to see money spent to build more fences along the border. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has stepped up enforcement, including deportation of a record 390,000 unauthorized immigrants in 2010.
- **Workplace.** Most Americans recognize that unauthorized immigrants take jobs that no one else wants, so they support some type of work-related program to make them legal, and they oppose raids on workplaces in attempts to round up unauthorized immigrants. Most Americans support a path to U.S. citizenship for unauthorized immigrants.
- **Civil rights.** Americans favor letting law enforcement officials stop and verify the legal status of anyone they suspect of being an unauthorized immigrant. On the other hand, they fear that enforcement efforts that identify and deport unauthorized immigrants could violate the civil rights of U.S. citizens.
- **Local initiatives.** Polls show that most Americans believe that enforcement of unauthorized immigration is a federal government responsibility and do not support the use of local law enforcement officials to find unauthorized immigrants. On the other hand, residents of some states along the Mexican border favor stronger enforcement of authorized immigration.

The strongest state initiative has been Arizona's 2010 law that obligated local law enforcement officials, when practicable, to determine a person's immigration status. Under the Arizona law, foreigners are required to carry at all times documents proving they are in the country legally and to produce those documents upon request of a local law enforcement official. In 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down several provisions of the law.

Although it does not share a border with Mexico, Alabama enacted a similar measure in 2011. The Alabama law also prohibited or restricted unauthorized immigrants from attending public schools and colleges. On the other hand, Texas, which has the longest border with Mexico, has not enacted harsh anti-immigrant laws, and more than 100 localities across the country have passed resolutions supporting more rights for unauthorized immigrants—a movement known as “Sanctuary City.”

Controversy even extends to what to call the group of immigrants:

- *Unauthorized immigrant* is the term preferred by academic observers, including the authoritative Pew Hispanic Center, as a neutral term.
- *Undocumented immigrant* is the term preferred by groups that advocate for more rights for these individuals.
- *Illegal alien* is the term preferred by groups who favor tougher restrictions and enforcement of immigration laws.

Opposition to immigration into the United States predates the current era of most immigrants coming from Latin America and Asia. Hostility intensified when Italians, Russians, Poles, and other Southern and Eastern Europeans poured into the United States beginning in the late nineteenth century. Earlier European immigrants, mostly from Northern and Western Europe, had converted the forests and prairies of the vast North American interior into productive farms and had helped to extend U.S. control across the continent. By the early twentieth century, most Americans saw the frontier as closed and thought that therefore entry into the country should be closed as well.

A government study in 1911 reflected popular attitudes when it concluded that immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe were racially inferior, “inclined toward violent crime,” resisted assimilation, and “drove old-stock citizens out of some lines of work.” A century later, many Americans have similar reactions to the arrival of large numbers of immigrants from Latin America and Asia.

### Pause and Reflect 3.4.3

In what ways are reactions to immigrants today similar to those of a century ago?

▼ **FIGURE 3-42 IMMIGRATION CONTROVERSY IN THE UNITED STATES** Demonstrations supporting (left) tighter immigration controls and (right) more rights for immigrants.





## IMMIGRATION CONCERNS IN EUROPE

### Learning Outcome 3.4.4

#### Compare American and European attitudes toward immigrants.

Attitudes toward immigration are also ambivalent in Europe. Europeans have more rights than ever before to migrate elsewhere within Europe, whereas non-Europeans face more restrictions than in the past.

**SOURCES OF EUROPEAN IMMIGRATION.** Agreements among European countries, especially the 1985 Schengen Treaty, give a citizen of one European country the right to hold a job, live permanently, and own property elsewhere. The removal of migration restrictions for Europeans has set off large-scale migration flows within the region. The principal flows are from the poorer countries of Europe to the richer ones, where job opportunities have been greater.

In recent years the largest flows within Europe have included (Figure 3-43):

- From Southeastern Europe, especially Romania, as well as Bulgaria, Albania, and Serbia, especially to Italy and Spain.
- From Eastern Europe, especially Poland, as well as Russia and Ukraine, especially to Germany, the United Kingdom, and Ireland.

- From Northern Europe, especially the United Kingdom and Germany, to attractive climates in Southern Europe, especially in Spain.

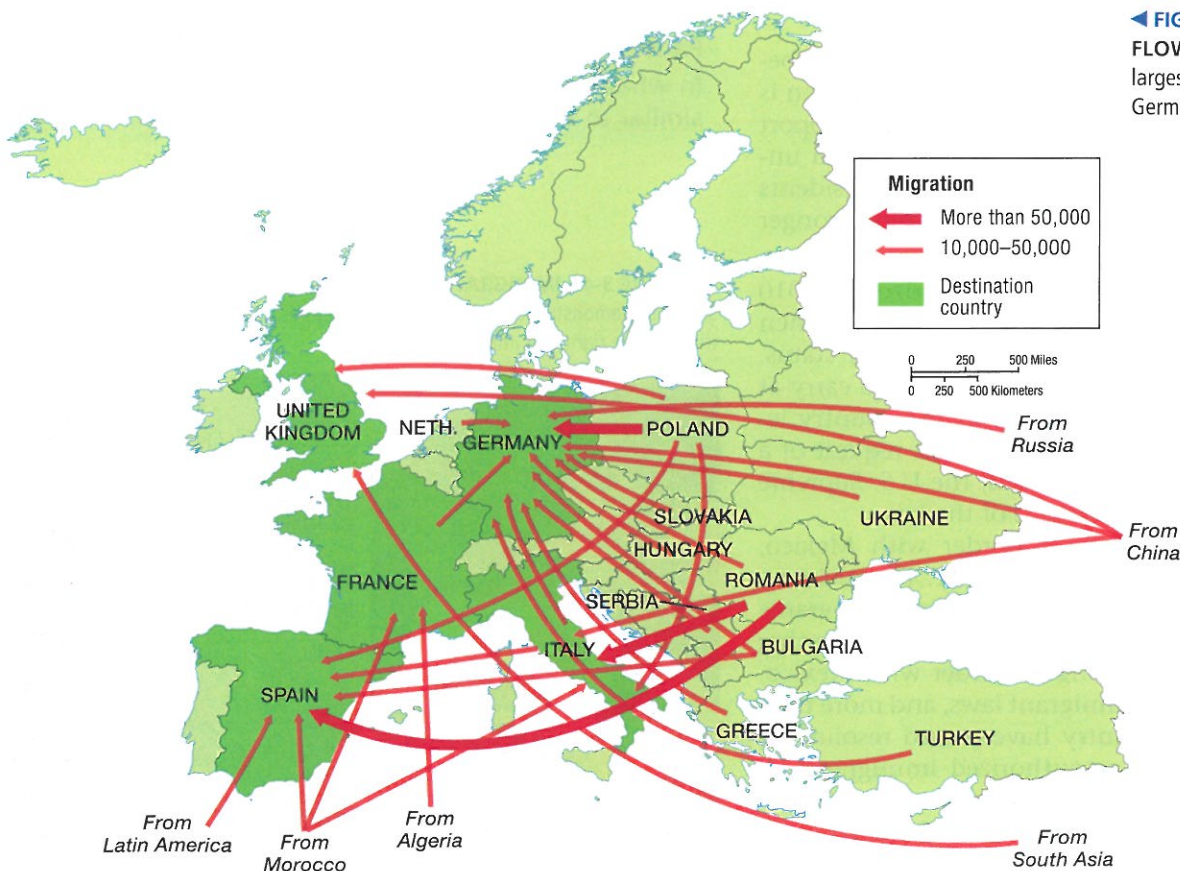
During the twentieth century, the largest flows within Europe were south to north, especially from Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain to France and Germany.

While migration within Europe has become easier and more common, it has become more difficult for non-Europeans to immigrate to a European country. During the twentieth century, large numbers of Turks and North Africans migrated to Europe. Germany's Turkish population remains the largest group of non-Europeans in Europe.

**OPPONENTS OF IMMIGRATION.** Most European countries are now in stage 4 of the demographic transition (very low or negative NIR) and have economies capable of meeting the needs of their people. The safety valve of emigration is no longer needed. To the contrary, population growth in Europe is fueled by immigration from other regions, a trend that many Europeans dislike.

Hostility to immigrants has become a central plank in the platform of political parties in many European countries. These parties blame immigrants for crime, unemployment, and high welfare costs. Above all, the anti-immigration parties fear that long-standing cultural traditions of the host country are threatened by immigrants who adhere to different religions, speak different languages, and practice different food and other cultural habits. From the standpoint of these parties, immigrants represent a threat

**FIGURE 3-43** MIGRATION FLOWS WITHIN EUROPE The largest flows are from Poland to Germany and from Romania to Spain.





to the centuries-old cultural traditions of the host country (Figure 3-44).

The severe global recession of the early twenty-first century has reduced the number of immigrants to the United States and Europe. With high unemployment and limited job opportunities in the principal destination countries, potential migrants have much less incentive to risk the uncertainties and expenses of international migration. Countries such as Ireland, Portugal, and Spain that had become destinations during the late twentieth century once again have net out-migration.

#### Pause and Reflect 3.4.4

How are attitudes towards immigrants similar in the United States and Europe?

**EUROPEANS AS EMIGRANTS.** The inhospitable climate for immigrants in Europe is especially ironic because Europe was the source of most of the world's emigrants, especially during the nineteenth century. Application of new technologies spawned by the Industrial Revolution—in areas such as public health, medicine, and food—produced a rapid decline in the CDR and pushed much of Europe into stage 2 of the demographic transition (high NIR). As the population increased, many Europeans found limited opportunities for economic advancement. Migration to the United States, Canada, Australia, and other regions of the world served as a safety valve, draining off some of that increase.

The emigration of 65 million Europeans has profoundly changed world culture. As do all migrants, Europeans brought their cultural heritage to their new homes. Because of migration, Indo-European languages are now spoken by half of the world's people (as discussed in Chapter 5), and Europe's most prevalent religion, Christianity, has the world's largest number of adherents (see Chapter 6). European art, music, literature, philosophy, and ethics have also diffused throughout the world.

Regions that were sparsely inhabited prior to European immigration, such as North America and Australia, have become closely integrated into Europe's cultural traditions. Distinctive European political structures and economic systems have also diffused to these regions. Europeans also planted the seeds of conflict by migrating to regions with large indigenous populations, especially in Africa and Asia. They frequently imposed political domination on existing populations and injected their cultural values with little regard for local traditions. Economies in Africa and Asia became based on raising crops and extracting resources for export to Europe rather than on growing crops for local consumption and using resources to build local industry. Many of today's conflicts in former European colonies result from past practices by European immigrants, such as drawing arbitrary boundary lines and discriminating among different local ethnic groups.



▲ **FIGURE 3-44 IMMIGRATION CONTROVERSY IN FRANCE** Demonstrations supporting (top) more rights for immigrants and (bottom) tighter immigration controls.

#### CHECK-IN: KEY ISSUE 4

##### Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?

- ✓ Immigration is tightly controlled by most countries.
- ✓ The United States has more than 11 million unauthorized immigrants, mostly from Mexico.
- ✓ Americans and Europeans are divided on how to regard immigrants, especially unauthorized ones.



# Summary and Review

## KEY ISSUE 1

### Where Are Migrants Distributed?

On a global scale, the largest flows of migrants are from Asia to Europe and from Asia and Latin America to the United States. The United States receives by far the largest number of migrants.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.1.1:** Describe the difference between international and internal migration.

- Migration can be international (between countries, either voluntary or forced) or internal (within a country, either interregional or intraregional).

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.1.2:** Identify the principal sources of immigrants during the three main eras of U.S. immigration.

- The United States has had three main eras of immigration. The principal source of immigrants has shifted from Europe during the first two eras to Latin America and Asia during the third (current) era.

**THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.1:** What is the impact of emigration on the place from which migrants depart?

**GOOGLE EARTH 3.1:** The Lower East Side Tenement Museum, at 103 Orchard St. in New York City, shows what life was like for European immigrants. Which of the three principal eras of immigration to the United States does the Tenement Museum describe?



## KEY ISSUE 2

### Where Do People Migrate Within a Country?

Historically, interregional migration was especially important in settling the frontiers of large countries such as Russia, Canada, the United States, China, and Brazil. The most important intraregional migration trends are from rural to urban areas within developing countries and from cities to suburbs within developed countries.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.1:** Describe the history of interregional migration in the United States.

- Migration within the United States has primarily occurred from east to west, though at varying rates. Recently, interregional migration has also occurred from north to south.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.2:** Describe interregional migration in Russia.

- The world's largest country has a distinctive pattern of interregional migration, a legacy of the era of Communist rule.

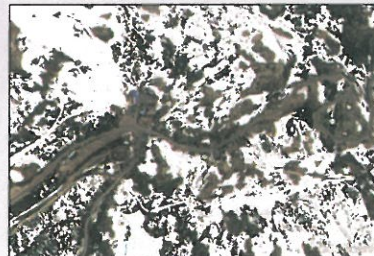
**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.3:** Describe interregional migration in Canada, China, and Brazil.

- Canada, China, and Brazil also have unequal population distributions. Canadians have been migrating from east to west, Chinese have been migrating from the rural interior to the large coastal cities, and Brazilians from the large coastal cities to the interior.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.4:** Explain differences among the three forms of intraregional migration.

- Three intraregional migration patterns are from rural to urban areas, from urban to suburban areas, and from urban to rural areas.

**THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.2:** In recent years, has your community seen net in-migration or net out-migration? What factors explain your community's net migration?



**GOOGLE EARTH 3.2:** The Donner Pass, through the Sierra Nevada Mountains, was one of the most difficult obstacles for early immigrants to the west. What is now the principal route through the area?

## Key Terms

**Asylum seeker** (p. 92) Someone who has migrated to another country in the hope of being recognized as a refugee.

**Brain drain** (p. 96) Large-scale emigration by talented people.

**Chain migration** (p. 97) Migration of people to a specific location because relatives or members of the same nationality previously migrated there.

**Circulation** (p. 78) Short-term, repetitive, or cyclical movements that recur on a regular basis.

**Counterurbanization** (p. 91) Net migration from urban to rural areas in more developed countries.

**Emigration** (p. 78) Migration from a location.

**Floodplain** (p. 92) The area subject to flooding during a given number of years, according to historical trends.

**Forced migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement, usually compelled by cultural factors.

**Guest worker** (p. 95) A term once used for a worker who migrated to the developed countries of Northern and Western Europe, usually

from Southern and Eastern Europe or from North Africa, in search of a higher-paying job.

**Immigration** (p. 78) Migration to a new location.

**Internal migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement within a particular country.

**Internally displaced person (IDP)** (p. 92) Someone who has been forced to migrate for similar political reasons as a refugee but has not migrated across an international border.

**International migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement from one country to another.

**Interregional migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement from one region of a country to another.

**Intervening obstacle** (p. 96) An environmental or cultural feature of the landscape that hinders migration.

**Intraregional migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement within one region of a country.

**Migration** (p. 78) A form of relocation diffusion involving a permanent move to a new location.



## KEY ISSUE 3

### Why Do People Migrate?

Migration is induced by a combination of push and pull factors. People feel compelled (pushed) to emigrate from a location for political, environmental, and economic reasons. Similarly, people are induced (pulled) to immigrate because of the political, environmental, and economic attractiveness of a new location.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.3.1:** Provide examples of political, environmental, and economic push and pull factors.

- People migrate because of a combination of push and pull factors. These factors may be political, environmental, and economic. Most people migrate for economic push and pull reasons.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.3.2:** Summarize the flows of migrant workers in Europe and Asia.

- People migrate for temporary work, especially from developing countries to developed countries, where they take jobs that are not desired by local residents.

**THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.3:** What factors motivated your family or your ancestors to migrate?

**GOOGLE EARTH 3.3:** This is Gulfport, Mississippi, on August 29, 2005, just after Hurricane Katrina hit. Set the time slider for July 11, 2005. What evidence of flood damage can be seen in the August 29 image?



**Migration transition** (p. 79) A change in the migration pattern in a society that results from industrialization, population growth, and other social and economic changes that also produce the demographic transition.

**Mobility** (p. 78) All types of movement between location.

**Net migration** (p. 78) The difference between the level of immigration and the level of emigration.

**Pull factor** (p. 92) A factor that induces people to move to a new location.

**Push factor** (p. 92) A factor that induces people to leave old residences.

**Quotas** (p. 96) In reference to migration, laws that place maximum limits on the number of people who can immigrate to a country each year.

**Refugees** (p. 92) People who are forced to migrate from their home country and cannot return for fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion.

**Unauthorized immigrants** (p. 98) People who enter a country without proper documents to do so.

**Voluntary migration** (p. 80) Permanent movement undertaken by choice.

## KEY ISSUE 4

### Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?

Migrants have difficulty getting permission to enter other countries, and they face hostility from local citizens once they arrive. Immigration laws restrict the number of immigrants who can legally enter the United States. In Europe and Southwest Asia, temporary workers migrate to perform menial jobs.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.1:** Identify the types of immigrants who are given preference to enter the United States.

- Immigration is tightly controlled by most countries. The United States gives preference to immigrants with family members already in the country and to those who have special job skills.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.2:** Describe the population characteristics of unauthorized immigrants to the United States.

- The United States has more than 11 million unauthorized immigrants, who are in the country without proper documents. Most have emigrated from Mexico.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.3:** Describe characteristics of immigrants to the United States.

- In the past, most immigrants were males, but now an increasing share of immigrants to the United States are women and children.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.4:** Compare American and European attitudes toward immigrants.

- Americans and Europeans have divided and ambivalent attitudes toward the large number of immigrants, especially those arriving without proper documentation.

**THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.4:** Should the United States admit more or fewer immigrants for family reunification, or for job skills, or by random lottery?



**GOOGLE EARTH 3.4:** Gerard Street is the center of Chinatown in London, England. Why do you think the street has been closed to vehicular traffic?

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## Chapter

# 4 Folk and Popular Culture



Why is the man in the middle wearing a sweater to work?  
Page 109



Why are these people posing for the camera? Page 117

### KEY ISSUE 1

**Where Are Folk and Popular Leisure Activities Distributed?**

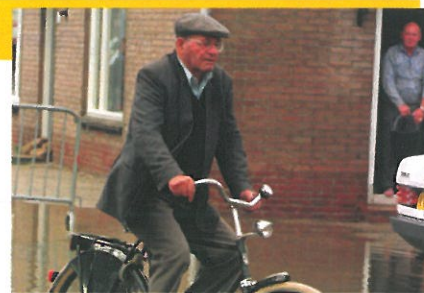


### What We Do For Fun p. 109

Music and sports can be folk or popular. The differences between them involve geography.

### KEY ISSUE 2

**Where Are Folk and Popular Material Culture Distributed?**



### Coke or Pepsi? p. 116

We all need food, clothing, and shelter. How we provide for these needs says a lot about our society's culture.