



**Push Factors**

**Pull Factors**

## Immigrant Stories Fact Sheet

My name is Clara. I came from Guatemala in 2008. I came to live with my aunt in Tucson, Arizona, because in Guatemala I didn't have much of a chance for a good education. Many girls only go to school until they are 13, and then they get married. There are more chances for me to be successful here in America. I miss my family in Guatemala because they couldn't come with me. I have a brother that lives there with my mother and father. For now, I am trying my best to get my education. That is the most important thing to my family back in Guatemala. I feel lucky to have an aunt that is an American citizen. She helps me try my best in school.

My name is Nia. I am from Jamaica. I came to the United States in the 1990s when I was only 13 years old. My grandmother wanted to bring me much earlier, but the paperwork that she had to file took 10 years to be accepted. I miss Jamaica very much. The people there are more fair than in the United States. My family says that I will have a better life here and there will be more opportunities for me to do well in America. Some of my other family members have come to the United States to live since I came here. We now live in Connecticut.

My name is Imre. When I was a little boy in Hungary in the 1950s, my father and mother were killed in the war that was tearing our country apart. My brother and I traveled as orphans, living in the streets and begging for any food that we ate. We traveled all over Europe before I was able to come to America. My brother stayed behind in Europe. I felt alone at first, but then I met the woman that I married. We moved to Phoenix, Arizona, because there were jobs available for hard-working immigrants at the time. I didn't speak English when I first got here, but I learned enough to do simple jobs like sweeping factories and parking lots. I am happy to live in a safe place like America.

My name is Lan. I am from Vietnam. My stepdad was an American that fought in the war in Vietnam. He met my mother in Vietnam in the 1970s, fell in love, and married her. Once the war was over, he wanted to move back to the United States so that my 3 sisters, 2 brothers and I could have a better life. There wasn't much risk of war in the United States. We now live in Eugene, Oregon. Not only did we all come to the United States...but my grandmother Hong came with us too. It is nice having all of the family together. I speak English now almost all of the time.

My name is Catherine. I came from Ireland in the 1840s. When I was a little girl, we ran out of food in Ireland. My mother and brother and father and I had just enough money to pay for a cheap ticket on a boat from Ireland to America. When we got here, we had to stay in a small room with another family that came from Ireland. Even though it was crowded, we still had a little more food than we did in Ireland. Sometimes, people that weren't from Ireland would talk badly about my family. They didn't want me here because they said I could get them sick. I didn't understand this, because I felt healthy. All ended up all right though.

My name is Carlo, but here they call me Charles. I came from Italy. I came to New Orleans, Louisiana, in the early 1900s. I delivered huge blocks of ice when I came here. It was great having a job, but it was hard work! I had a mule that used to help me carry the giant blocks of ice through the streets. I got married here and had seven children. I came here with nothing but my clothes. I made a little bit of money working hard. I was able to have a house and raise my children the right way. They said that America was the land of opportunity. I guess they were right.

My name is Moses. I came from Sudan in Africa three years ago. My mother and three sisters brought me to America to be free from my father. In Africa, my dad used to hit my mother and me. There are lots of bad things, like war, happening in Sudan. I am happy that my mother brought me to America where I can go to school and eat school lunches. The people at the refugee center help us keep our apartment and they are teaching my mom how to speak English. It is much safer here than in Sudan for many reasons. I think it was a good thing that we came here.

My name is Ling. I came from China to help build the railroad in the United States in 1873. The work was hard, but there were many of us working together. The goal was for the United States to have train tracks run from coast to coast. Not only were Chinese people helping build the railroad, but also some Irish and Italians were too. There weren't many women that came for this kind of work. Sometimes I wished I was home. I was glad to be here and working though. China isn't easy to get back to. There's a lot of water separating the United States from Asia.

My name is Paul. I am from Germany. My father was a farmer. We moved to the United States in the early 1900s because there were too many people living in Germany. Even though my dad was a great farmer, back in Germany we didn't have enough land to grow enough food for our own family to live off of. We learned English quickly and built a place to live on our land. The work was hard because we first had to clear all the land before we could grow crops. Our only friends lived miles away. I felt lucky to have my family, but I could tell that my dad was lonely a lot. America wasn't as easy of a life as other German immigrants wrote and told us about.

My name is Ricardo. I am from Cuba, but I came to America in 1961. There are about a million other Cubans that have moved to the United States. Many Cubans live in Miami, Florida. We like to live near each other so that we don't feel too far from home. It's nice having a Cuban for a neighbor, one that speaks your language (Spanish) and cooks and eats the same kind of food you do. Most people that have come from Cuba like me are unhappy with the way the Cubans run their government. In the United States, a person has specific rights, based on the Constitution. In Cuba, the government decides what is best for a person. It is much safer to live in America.

# Lesson

# 4

# Migration

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

To describe the various types of migration

## READING STRATEGY

Create a table like the one below. List and describe the three types of migration.

MIGRATION	
TYPE	DESCRIPTION

## TERMS TO KNOW

migration, refugees

Have you ever considered why and how people move from one continent to another? Since the last Ice Age, humans have moved in large numbers from one continent or region to another. These large-scale permanent movements of people, as well as smaller permanent flows of people from place to place, are known as **migration**.

## Modern Migration

Since 1700, there have been both voluntary and forced movements of people from one continent to another. **Map 4-4** shows the major movements of large groups of people from one continent to another. As you can also see from this map, all of Australia and New Zealand, and large portions of North America, South America, and Asia are inhabited by people who are descended from immigrants.

## Types of Migration

There are three types of migrations: voluntary, reluctant, and forced. Voluntary migration occurs when people move from one place to another because they believe that life's circumstances will be improved in the new location. In the United States today, the populations of southern states are increasing largely due to migration of people from northern states. In general, these people believe that a better economic situation and a milder climate will improve their living conditions.

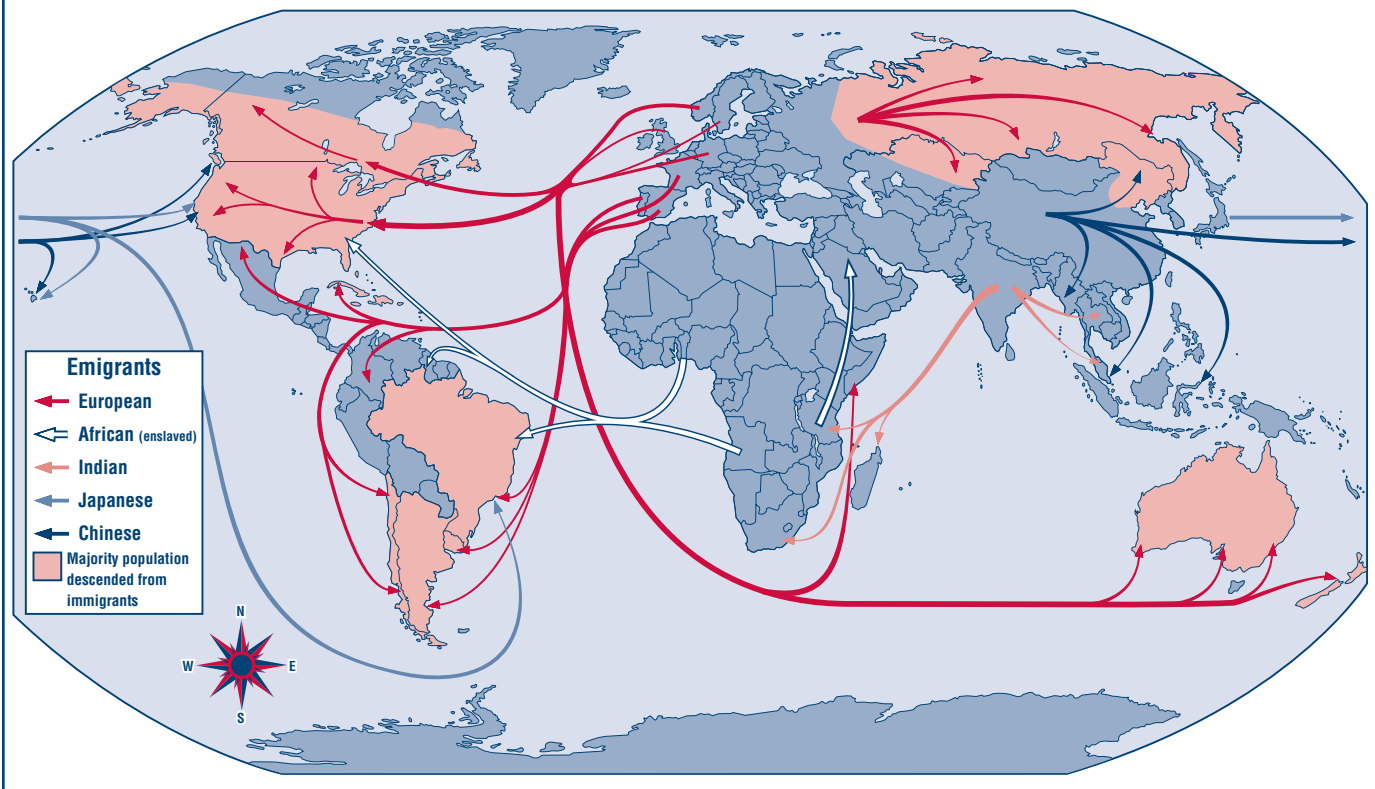
Reluctant migration often occurs when living conditions become intolerable in the current location. For example, people in Afghanistan have left the country to escape the harsh rule of the Taliban government. Many of these people become **refugees**, or people who flee their country because of persecution or danger. Although most refugees plan to return home after the danger has passed, many are never able to return to their homeland.

Migrations that occur as the result of force leave the migrants with no choice. The decision to relocate is made solely by people other than the migrants themselves. The migration of Africans to the Americas during the 1500s to the 1800s is an example of forced migration. During that period, 10 to 12 million Africans were forcibly moved to the Western Hemisphere. During the Soviet era, the government forcibly relocated millions of people to Siberia. In 1996, the African country of Tanzania expelled ethnic Hutus who had sought refuge from fighting in their own country of Rwanda.



## MAP 4-4

## Principal Migrations of Recent Centuries



Source: Daniel Noin, *Geographie de la Population* (Paris: Masson, 1979).

## Using Your Skills

### A RECALLING FACTS

Use the reading and **Map 4-4** to complete the sentences.

1. The permanent movement of people from place to place is called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A person who moves to a new city to take a job is participating in \_\_\_\_\_ migration.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ leave their country to find safety in another place.
4. According to **Map 4-4**, people migrated from \_\_\_\_\_ to all other inhabited continents.
5. According to **Map 4-4**, people have migrated from Japan to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## B PRACTICING MAP SKILLS

Use **Map 4-5: Westward Shift of Population, 1790–2000** below to answer the following questions in the space provided.

1. In which general direction is the population of the United States moving?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. During which decade did the largest shift occur? \_\_\_\_\_

3. During which decade did the population move south more rapidly than it moved west? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why does the symbol for the population center change in 1960?

\_\_\_\_\_

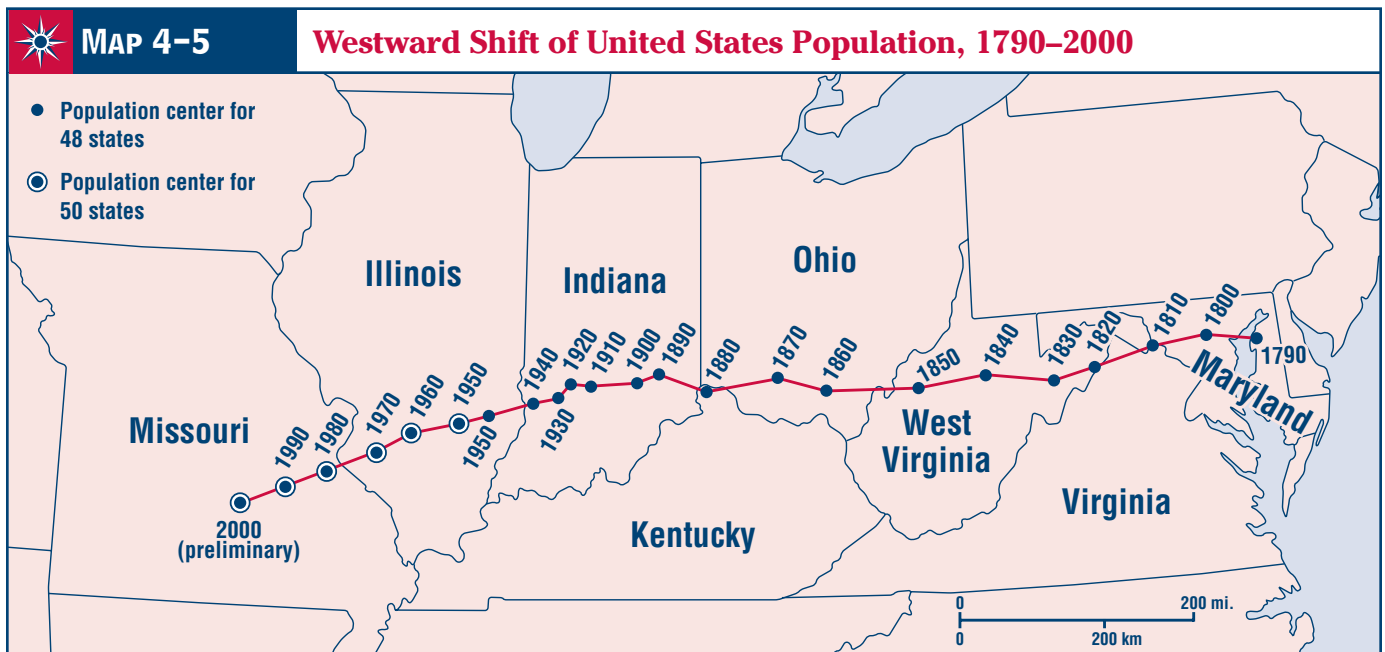
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Why do you think mapmakers needed to indicate this change with a symbol?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



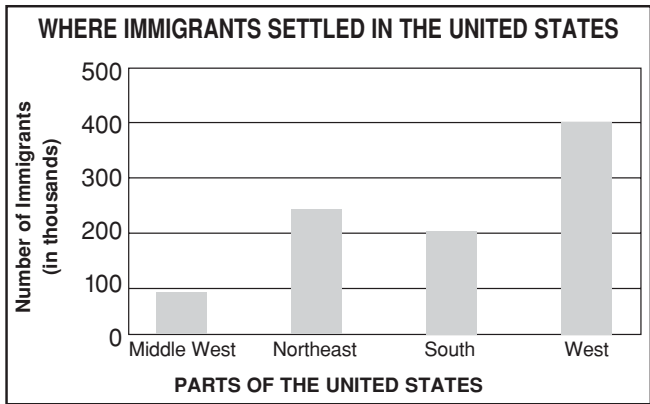
The center of population is defined as the point at which a rigid map of the United States would balance, reflecting the identical weights of all residents on the census date.

Source: *Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities*, 2001.

# ↔ An Immigrant

An **immigrant** is a person who leaves one country to live in another country. People leave a country for many reasons. Long ago, the Pilgrims left their country and sailed across the ocean to America. They wanted freedom to follow their own religion.

**Directions** Look at the bar graph and the table. Answer the questions.



IMMIGRANTS TO THE UNITED STATES	
CONTINENT	NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS
Africa	27,000
Asia	357,000
Australia	2,000
Europe	145,000
North America	384,000
South America	55,000
<b>Total 1992 Immigration</b>	<b>970,000</b>



- From which continent did most immigrants come?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How many immigrants came from Asia?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Which part of the United States became home to the most immigrants?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think more immigrants settled in the Northeast and West than in the other areas of the United States?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What are some reasons a person would immigrate?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Lesson

# 5

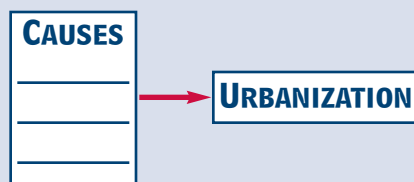
# Urbanization

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

To explain the reasons for urbanization

## READING STRATEGY

Create a diagram like the one below.  
List three causes of urbanization.



## TERMS TO KNOW

urban areas, rural areas, urbanization

In developed, or industrialized countries the number of people living in **urban areas**, or cities and towns, is high. In fact, more people live in urban areas than in the countryside. Cities and towns attract people looking for jobs and for better services such as health care and transportation systems. In developing countries, or countries in the process of industrializing, more people tend to live in **rural areas**, often on farms. However, the number of people moving to, and living in urban areas is on the rise.

## Urban Migration


The worldwide trend toward **urbanization**, or the movement to cities, has two basic causes. In some areas, people are *pushed* from rural areas to urban areas for survival. In the Sahel countries, for example, where desertification makes the land unable to sustain life, people are forced into cities and towns to look for food, work, and shelter. In other cases, people are *pulled* to urban areas by the opportunities that exist. Such opportunities may include safety, food, job prospects, better schools and health care, and so on.


Most industrialized parts of the world—North America, Europe, and East Asia—are the most urbanized. They have the highest percentage of their total populations living in cities. For example, **Figure 4-5** shows the percent of urban population for selected European countries. Notice that all of the countries listed have urban populations over 50 percent. As the world continues to industrialize, we can expect increases in urban populations. This is especially true of developing countries. Look at **Figure 4-6**. What generalization can you make about the level of industrialization in this region?

## Effects of Urbanization

As urban areas grow and spread out, the amount of arable land declines. Some researchers fear that such changes will eventually lead to significant food shortages. When urbanization occurs quickly, cities are often unprepared for the influx of new inhabitants. Slums, hazardous living conditions, and problems with services such as utilities and roads may result. Overcrowding results in increased air and water pollution.

As technology continues to become a part of our everyday lives, some researchers predict that the trend of urbanization in industrialized countries may slow. When people can work from remote locations, more people may chose to live in rural areas, rather than crowded urban areas.

 <b>FIGURE 4-5</b>		<b>Urbanization in Europe</b> (selected countries)
Country	Percent of Urban Population	
Austria	65	
Belgium	97	
France	74	
Germany	86	
Luxembourg	88	
Netherlands	62	
Switzerland	68	

 <b>FIGURE 4-6</b>		<b>Urbanization in South-east Asia</b> (selected countries)
Country	Percent of Urban Population	
Cambodia	16	
Indonesia	39	
Laos	17	
Malaysia	57	
Myanmar	27	
Philippines	47	
Thailand	30	

Source: Population Reference Bureau, 2000–2002.

## Using Your Skills

### A RECALLING FACTS

Use the reading and **Figures 4-5** and **4-6** to answer the questions.

- Which types of countries have a larger percentage of urban population—developed or developing? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which European country in **Figure 4-5**, has the highest percentage of urban population? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which Southeast Asian country in **Figure 4-6**, has the highest percentage of urban population? \_\_\_\_\_
- What often occurs when urban areas grow rapidly?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How do large urban areas affect the environment? \_\_\_\_\_

### B RECALLING FACTS

Imagine that you live in a rural village in Southeast Asia and that you are considering moving to the country's capital city. In the spaces below list the push and pull factors that may contribute to your decision.

Push Urbanization	Pull Urbanization