

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION: Facing the Challenge NOTES

- 160 million people were living outside their country of birth
- they would be the world's 6th largest country
- most people will never cross a national border
- more than 80% of the world's population live in less developed countries, and most international migrants move from one less developed nation to another.
- 40% live in a handful of developed countries, including the USA
- Migration rates have not increased very much for two reasons:
 1. inertia: Most people lack the desire and drive to leave home and move away from family and friends.
 2. the movement of people across a country's borders is controlled by national governments. Governments have significant capacity to regulate migration through passports, visas, and border controls.
- There are just five major countries that officially welcome international migrants as permanent residents:
 1. USA 2. Canada 3. Australia 4. New Zealand 5. Israel
- 800,000 immigrants are admitted to the USA each year.
- most people are not accepted as official immigrants, most are refugees.
- argument that industrialized countries need young migrants for economic and demographic reasons:
 1. Migrants keep social security systems viable and slow population aging; people are the "ultimate resource"
 2. More people meant more creativity and growth
- some say only military force can prevent shiploads or armies of poor migrants attempting to sail or march into rich countries, threatening their security.
- world's migrants make up less than 3% of the world's population.
- at least 90% of Mexicans live in Mexico and not in the United States.
- Reasons the U.S. immigration policy does little to thwart international terrorists:
 1. procedures for obtaining visas and id documents do not deter potential criminals from entering the country.
 2. illegal entry into the country is relatively easy, even without visas, because of the long and lightly guarded national border.
 3. U.S. government does not track the movements of foreigners inside the country.
 4. There has been little cooperation or information-sharing among countries about terrorist suspects.
- Changes that could help:
 1. visa issuance and entry inspections
 2. border controls
 3. interior enforcement
- Globalization has made more people aware of conditions and opportunities abroad.
- some current migration streams reflect flow between former colonies and their colonizers, e.g., India and Pakistan to UK and the Philippines to the USA.
- most of the changes that would reduce unwanted migration lie within the less developed countries that are the source of most migrants.
- comparative advantage: countries specialize in producing those goods in which the country has a comparative advantage, e.g., Mexico can produce TV sets cheaper than the USA and the USA can produce corn cheaper than Mexico.
- "expanded trade between the sending countries and the USA is the single most important remedy" for unwanted migration into the USA.
- accelerate the pace of job creation in emigration countries.
- FDI: Foreign Direct Investment: leads to factories and other job-creating workplaces
- ODA: Official Development Assistance: funds given or lent to developing nations to speed their economic and job growth.
- aid must be linked to economic policy reforms in developing countries.
- Managing Migration: three basic facts:
 1. Most people never cross national borders to live or work in another country.
 2. Half of the world's migrants move from one less developed country to another.
 3. A diverse group of countries, from Italy and Spain to South Korea, have successfully made the transition from net emigration to net immigration areas.
- immigrants to the USA are more likely than native-born adults to have a graduate degree or higher, but they are also less likely than nonimmigrants to have a high school education.
- International migration is likely to increase in coming decades, and sending and receiving countries will need to make difficult decisions about how to manage the flow.