

# **CIE Geography A-level**

5: Migration

**Detailed Notes** 

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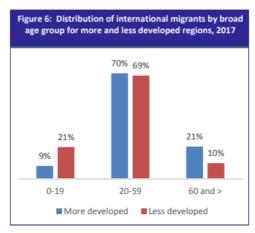
# Migration as a Component of Population Change

Migration is the **movement of people to an area or country**. According to the UN, a person is defined as a migrant if they have lived in their new place of residence **for 12 months or more**, or they **plan to** live in their new place of residence for over 12 months.

Migration can be split into international migration and internal migration. International migration is the movement from one country/ political state to another. Internal migration is the movement within a country, e.g. from one district or county to another.

#### **International migration patterns:**

- As of 2014, 230 million people lived in a country that wasn't their place of birth (approx. 3-4% of the global population). The number of people migrating internationally has risen rapidly since the mid-20th century.
- In the 1990s, international migration occurred mainly to world destinations like New York and Paris. Now, many cities in developing countries (e.g. Mumbai and Lagos) have become major hubs for migration.
- The increase in migration is majorly due to the globalisation of our world. The advancement
  of transport networks allow people to travel easily to other countries to live, work and visit.
  Also, a rise in global trading has encouraged a recent rise in international migrants (the
  highest since the collapse of empires). Most international migration is regionalised, for
  example Mexico to the USA or Poland to Germany.
- The majority (70%) of **international migrants** are within the working age.



(Source: https://www.un.org/en/development)

#### Internal migration patterns:

- The United Nations Development Programme estimated in 2000 that there were 740 million internal migrants globally, although this most likely does not consider smaller distances of internal migration, which are hard to trace.
- **Urbanisation** is the shift in the population from **rural to urban** areas. Urbanisation in many countries is the **largest form of internal migration**.
- Internal migration very much depends on the country and its socioeconomic character.











Internal Migrants Worldwide, by Education and Age

	Total Internal Migrants	Primary or less	Second- ary	College	Ages 15 to 29	Ages 30 to 49	Ages 50+
World	8%	5%	10%	13%	10%	8%	5%
Northern America	24%	*	23%	24%	33%	29%	14%
Australia/ New Zealand	18%	*	18%	21%	28%	20%	9%
Sub- Saharan Africa	12%	10%	15%	20%	14%	12%	7%
Middle East	12%	11%	13%	14%	13%	13%	9%
Latin America	10%	9%	11%	13%	12%	11%	6%
Developed Asia	10%	7%	10%	14%	12%	16%	6%
European Union	9%	5%	9%	13%	16%	11%	4%
North Africa	8%	7%	9%	12%	8%	9%	5%
Europe Other	6%	4%	6%	13%	8%	6%	3%
CIS	6%	5%	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%
Develop- ing Asia	5%	4%	6%	9%	6%	5%	3%

Based on surveys in 139 countries between 2011 and 2012

(source: https://news.gallup.com/poll/162488/381-million-adults-worldwide-migrate-within-countries.aspx)

# **Causes of Migration**

Push Factors reasons migrants wish to leave their current country/place of residence (pushing away)	Pull Factors reasons migrants wish to move to another country/place of residence (pulling towards).				
High unemployment, low job opportunity and low wages causing economic difficulty.	More job opportunities with higher wages and safer working standards.				
Environmental quality is low: lots of pollution, hazardous environment e.g. toxic waste, poor access to clean drinking water and	<b>Environment</b> is better, including living environment (access to clean water, sanitation, central heating in homes etc.).				
sanitation.  War or persecution in home country.	No wars/ persecution for beliefs, meaning people can live freely.				
Political unrest in home country.  Poor public services (education, healthcare	Public services are better (better education, better healthcare, emergency services)				
emergency services etc.).  Overall low quality of life.	More <b>leisure activities</b> and ways to enjoy yourself, especially due to a higher disposable income.				









<sup>\*</sup>Sample sizes too small to report.



#### **Processes of Migration**

Migration can take many forms:

Chain migration: the movement of people to an area, that consequently causes more
people to follow to that area. Chain migration is often described as perpetual or a cycle
because the migration of people cause more people to move, who cause more people to
move, etc. This is due to a number of reasons, such as the dispersing of families, or
word of mouth that encourages more people to relocate.

Chain migration is often **made possible** by immigration law, when **family members** of a citizen are given priority to migrate into a country.

They can then bring **their** family members, who bring **their** family, and so on.

- Stepped migration: the gradual movement from origin to destination through multiple moves that climb up the settlement hierarchy. For example, the migration from a village to a small town, then to a regional city, then to a capital city is stepped migration.
- Illegal immigration: migration that violates the law of the country being migrated to. This may refer to the movement into the country, or staying in the country when no longer legally allowed to e.g. a visa expiring.



There are important things to consider when thinking about migration:

- Governments control migration, meaning the process of migration is greatly influenced by a country's migration policies. For example, in the EU there is freedom of movement, allowing EU citizens to move, live, and work within other EU countries. In other countries, there are stricter immigration rules. In Australia, for example, there is an immigration points system, only allowing skilled citizens that will contribute to the economy to live there.
- Barriers, both physical and socioeconomic, limit migration. Many migrants have limited access to transport, or little money to migrate. Many must resort to illegal migration, where they face a dangerous migration process, such as the crossing of the Channel from Calais to South England (using small boats, hiding in lorries etc.). Borders also act as a constraint, especially where border enforcement is used.
- There may be long application processes in order to apply for citizenship, refuge, or a right to work in countries, predominantly in international migration. These application processes can be costly and take a very long time, leaving people uncertain about their future.











# **Internal Migration**

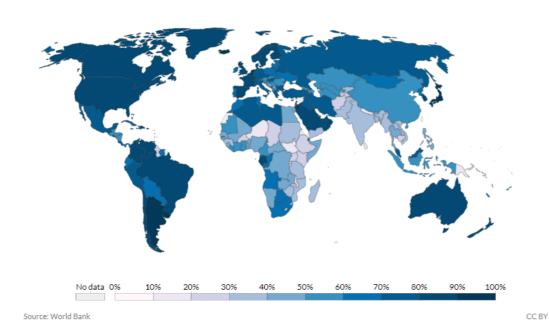
# **RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

The movement of people from rural areas to urban areas is a form of urbanisation, as it is the movement of people into urbanised areas. Internally, rural-urban migration overtakes other forms of migration in the majority of countries, although the rates of this migration differ widely.

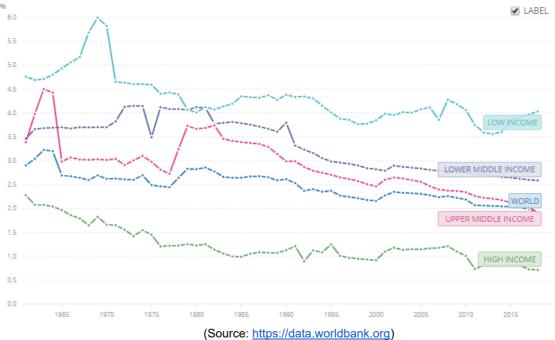
The proportion of people living in urban areas compared to rural areas as well as the rate of urban population growth can be indicators for how urbanisation differs in different regions.





















It must be considered that **urbanisation data** may also include **international migration**, as it is difficult to pinpoint exactly where the migrants have come from. However, the data provides a good indication of the overall trends in urbanisation for each country.

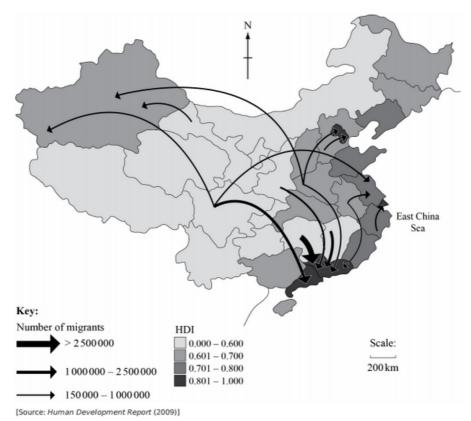
#### **Causes of Rural-Urban Movements**

Rural-urban migration occurs for a number of reasons. The most **common reasons** behind rural-urban migration are as follows:

#### • Economic Reasons:

- Rural employment opportunities are heavily agriculture dominant, especially in lower income countries. Not only is this industry relatively low earning in many parts of the world, but there are also several risks involved. Natural hazards such as droughts and floods can severely affect agricultural yields. Furthermore, commercial agriculture is hard to compete with in many regions and farmers may often struggle to make profits.
- In contrast, urban areas generally have more employment opportunities, both in number and variety. The promise of more economic stability is a pull factor for many, causing them to migrate to urban areas.

For example, since the late 1970s, China has experienced the largest internal migration flows in history, with over 150,000,000 people moving from rural areas to urban areas. Many rural migrants moved to the coastal cities of China in search for higher incomes from factory work.



This <u>video</u> from The Economist (<u>https://youtu.be/KNXg-kYk-LU</u>) talks about internal rural-urban migration in China.











 Many graduates from university, for example, migrate to cities due to the job opportunities in their specific industry, whereas the industry is not as represented in rural areas.

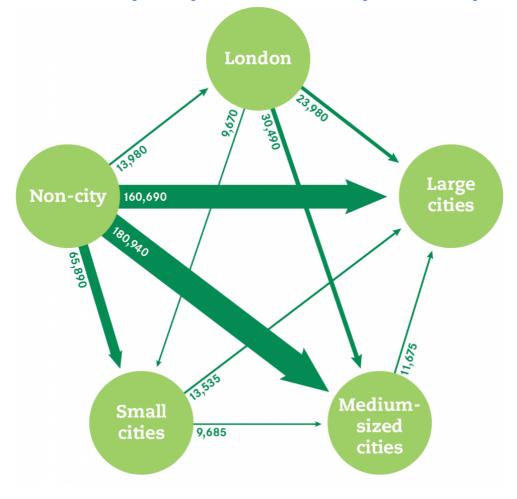
#### Social Reasons:

- Many people, especially young people, can often feel isolated in rural areas.
   Those seeking a more diverse, culturally rich lifestyle with more opportunities may choose to move to urban areas, especially cities.
- Public services in urban areas are generally better than in rural areas as there are increased investments within urban areas. Healthcare, education, water and sanitation, transport, housing etc. may be better in urban areas, especially in low to middle income countries where there are few investments in places other than urban areas.

#### Education:

- People moving for education is a high urban-rural flow all over the world. Colleges and universities are highly concentrated within cities, causing many young people to move to cities to study.
- According to a Centreforcities publication, in England and Wales in 2014, "those moving from one region to another to go to university accounted for approximately one fifth of all movements in 2014 in England and Wales".

www.centreforcities.org/reader/great-british-brain-drain/migration-students-graduates/













Rural to urban migration has multiple impacts on both the area being migrated to (the destination area), and the area being emigrated from (the source area).

# Impacts of Rural-Urban Migration

# Impacts on destination area

### Larger workforce, especially in the economically active age bracket, which contributes to the economy as well as improving productivity.

- More people moving into cities for education (such as university) bringing a well-educated population to work high skilled jobs, referred to as a 'brain gain'.
- The rapid urbanisation in areas leads to overpopulation of cities. This can put pressures on services such as healthcare and housing.
- A larger population leads to more waste and higher consumption levels. This can cause environmental degradation, e.g. air pollution due to more vehicles being on the road which causes congestion.
- The influx of migrants may cause local people to be unhappy with their area changing to cater for the migrants, which may lead to political problems.
- Quality of life may deteriorate as the area does not have the resources to cope.
   Squatter settlements can arise due to too many people moving to cities and not being able to afford to live within the city.
- Population structure is altered to be younger, as many young people between the ages of 20-35 move to urban areas.

## Impacts on source area

- Relaxed pressure on services, potentially leading to better healthcare, lowered house prices, less crime etc.
- Underpopulation can arise when too many people leave rural areas. This can lead to many jobs being unfilled and less money being contributed to the economy.
   Businesses can close, services can be put under pressure etc. due to a lack of workers.
- Unemployment can be high in source areas of rural-urban migration, as underpopulation and lack of investment leads to less jobs.
- Skilled and educated workers leave to find better economic opportunity in urban areas, causing a 'brain drain' and leaving the area with the less skilled and educated to support the economy.
- Underpopulation can cause dereliction,
   e.g. abandoned businesses, empty houses.
- Population structure is altered to be older, as economically active people, especially around the age of 30, are more likely to migrate. This leads to more pressure on services, such as care for the elderly.
- In many countries, men are more likely to migrate, altering the population structure to have a higher proportion of women. An example of this is in Poland.











# **URBAN-RURAL MIGRATION**

Although rural-urban migration is the **largest internal flow** in the majority of countries, urban-rural migration is still a **very large and important movement**. This type of movement is **most common in higher income countries**, where people have the choice to **move away from urban areas**.

The movement of people from urban areas to rural areas is known as counter-urbanisation.

#### **Causes of Urban-Rural Migration**

Search for a better quality of life: Crime, overpopulation, pollution, and high cost of
living are all major push factors away from urban areas. For people seeking a quieter,
potentially less costly lifestyle, rural areas can be an ideal place to move to. For older
people who are retiring and are no longer tied to urban areas for economic opportunity,
rural areas can also be seen as a better option.



View of the Yorkshire Dales (Source: www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-38520092)

- Increased investments into rural areas: In high income countries especially, rural
  areas are not as isolated as they may have been. There are now more job opportunities
  as well as better services, meaning people may not be put off moving to a rural area.
- More links to other places: Better transport links, the ability to work from home etc. means
  that people find it increasingly easier to live in rural areas and still find economic
  opportunities. For example, there is the opportunity to commute into cities due to better
  transport links being developed.











# Impacts of Urban-Rural Migration

# Impacts on destination area

- Potentially brings a larger workforce who contribute to the economy as well as improving productivity.
- In rural areas where services and housing have not developed for larger populations, there could potentially be an increased pressure on services. For example, not enough homes to support the migrating population.
- Increased pressure on housing can lead to rises in house prices. Middle-class urban migrants can afford to buy houses due to higher wages and more money after selling an expensive urban home. This can stop rural locals from getting onto the property ladder, especially younger people.
- A larger population leads to more waste and higher consumption levels. This leads to environmental degradation.
- The influx of migrants may cause local people to be unhappy with their area changing to cater for the migrants, which may lead to political problems. E.g. locals may be unhappy with new housing builds.
- A large proportion of urban-rural migrants are older people, as many choose to retire in rural areas. This can cause the population structure to be older.
- An older population structure can then lead to issues with an ageing population, e.g. needing to provide for the elderly population.

## Impacts on source area

- Potentially relaxed pressure on services as people have left the urban area, which can lead to better healthcare, lowered house prices, less crime etc.
- In extreme cases, struggling industrial areas may go through deindustrialisation as there is not a large enough working population to support industry. This has a series of knock-on effects, such as dereliction and economic decline in the area.
- A decrease in the wealthier, older population could potentially affect businesses in urban areas, as less money is being spent in the area. This can cause a decline in business and economic activity.
- Especially in inner city areas where areas are mainly residential, urban-rural migration can lead to these urban areas struggling to cope. A lower population and less money in the area can cause businesses to struggle or close, dereliction, an increase in crime, unemployment, and many other socioeconomic issues.
- The average age of the area may be younger (as the older, richer people move away whereas the younger people generally cannot afford to move).
- The younger population could lead to more issues, such as a rise in anti-social behaviour.





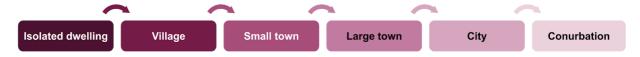






# STEPPED MIGRATION & URBAN-URBAN MIGRATION

As previously mentioned, stepped migration is the gradual movement from **origin** to **destination** through **multiple moves that climb up the settlement hierarchy**. For example, the migration from a village to a small town, then to a regional city, then to a capital city is stepped migration.



One reason behind why stepped migration occurs is due to migrants gaining knowledge and experience in urban areas, allowing them to move up the settlement hierarchy. Migrants may gain confidence and feel ready to move to a more urbanised area, and this process repeats again and again as the migrants move up the hierarchy.

Furthermore, the economic benefits of living in an urbanised area may provide migrants with the wealth necessary to move to an even more urbanised area (e.g. a city, where living costs are more expensive). Many occupations also require employees to move to increasingly more urban areas as the employee works their way up. For example, in a public sector job, where managerial roles are often concentrated within larger cities.

As the stepped migration process continues, urban-urban movements are common higher up the settlement hierarchy. Urban-urban migration is where migrants move from one urban area to another urban area. These movements are between separate urban areas, not within the same urban area (movements within the same urban area are known as intra-urban movements).

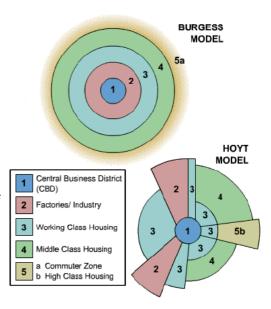
Urban-urban movements are generally from the poorer, less developed **economic periphery** regions to the richer, more developed **economic core** regions. For example, **in Brazil**, many people choose to move from the poorer urban areas in the north-east (such as Salvador) to the richer urban areas in the south-east (such as Rio).

# INTRA-URBAN MIGRATION

Intra-urban migration is the movement of people within urban settlements.

As seen on the **two different models of urban land use**, an urban area is generally split up into different **areas**. Migrants **move** between these different areas, and this intra-urban migration is generally dependent on **income** and **demographic**.

As people get older, earn more **money**, and have **families**, they may choose to migrate to different parts of the city. General trends for intra-urban migration are shown below: (https://14yonena.wordpress.com)





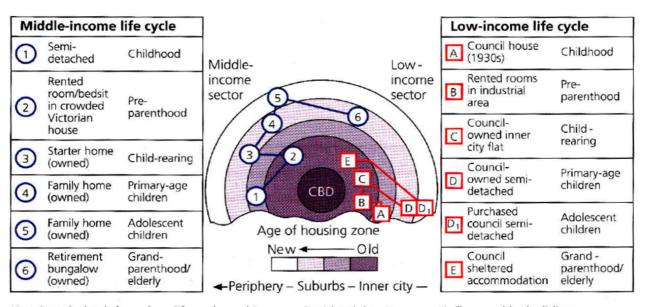








#### Older Young Young Retirement **Families Families** People Age Young people generally Older families with When young people At retirement age, have lower incomes, have families they often adolescent children people often migrate may move into more meaning they generally move out of the inner again to higher cost live in rented city for more space and expensive housing as housing. This may be accomodation in inner a safer lifestyle. The they progress retirement villages or city areas and industrial outer suburbs often professionally and have high cost housing in areas. This have cheaper housing, more income to buy concentrated wealthy accommodation is which is beneficial for higher quality housing. areas. Affluent city common for university young families who may This is generally closer homes areas are usually students, for example. be on lower incomes. to the city centre. away from the suburbs. Affluent Inner Inner **Outer Suburbs**



Suburbs

Areas

Housing choice is based on life cycle and income. Residential patterns are influenced by building societies, landowners, local authorities/housing associations, and free choice.

Source: Advanced Geography: Concepts & Cases, P. Guinness & G. Nagle (Hodder Education, 1999), p.104

Intra-urban movements can have impacts on urban areas.

City

- As certain demographics are concentrated within certain areas of urban settlements, this
  can potentially segregate people of different ages and of different incomes.
- In times where housing is limited, richer people can still afford to buy houses whereas less well-off people cannot. This means house prices may be **driven up** in already more expensive urban areas, further segregating people as well as making it difficult for **young families** to get on the property ladder and **buy their own home**.
- In areas that generally **older people migrate to**, there may be issues arising from an older population, e.g. more healthcare needed.
- Social issues such as crime and burglary can be concentrated within inner city areas, where generally a similar demographic of low-income people live.











## **International Migration**

There are **different types** of international migrants: those who migrate **voluntarily** and those who are **forced** to migrate.

**Economic migrants** - People who have moved **voluntarily** for reasons of work and improved quality of life.

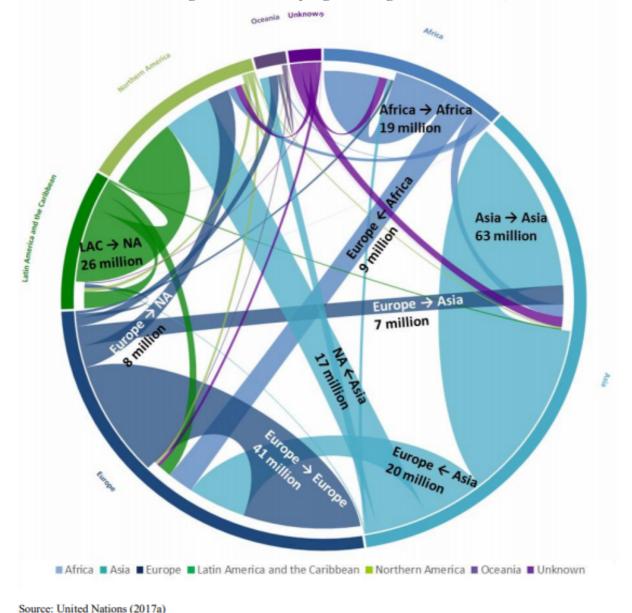
**Refugees** - People who have been forced to leave their homes and travel to another country due to fleeing **conflict**, **political or religious persecution**. They have been granted permanent or temporary residency by the host country or the UN refugee agency (UNHCR).

**Asylum seekers** - People who have **left their country** and are seeking **asylum** in another. They are waiting to be granted residency and to become a refugee.

The majority of international migration is migration to a high income country.

**14.1% of high income country populations** are made up of international migrants, whereas only **1.6% of low income country populations** are made up of international migrants.

Number of international migrants classified by region of origin and destination, 2017













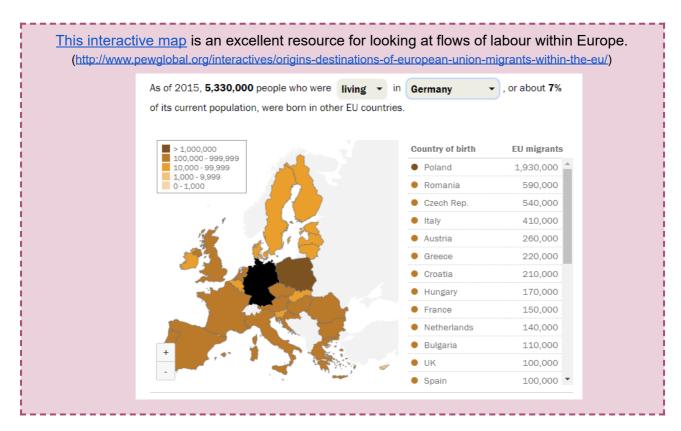
Within continents, the three major labour flows are between:



Asia - 63 million people moved to a different area of Asia while living in Asia in 2017, making it the largest labour flow in the world. The largest flows are between South Asia to West Asia; 5 million migrated from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh to Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain. This movement is usually for better job prospects as Western Asia is generally wealthier.

Europe - 41 million moved to other areas within Europe in 2017. Germany holds the largest amount of European migrants. The majority of German immigrants have moved from Eastern European countries such as Poland (1.9 million living in Germany), Romania (590,000 migrants), and the Czech Republic (540,000 migrants). The UK has the second highest amount of European migrants within the EU, with 700,000 from Poland and 500,000 from Ireland.







Africa - 19 million people move within African countries. Movement in Africa, especially Sub-saharan Africa is between neighbouring countries, as moving is costly and the majority of these countries are low income countries. The countries with the largest migrant populations are South Africa (around 4000), Côte d'Ivoire (around 2200), and Nigeria (1200). South Africa and Nigeria are also the wealthiest African countries (GDP), which may be why they have the highest labour flows.











Between continents, the largest labour flows are:



Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) to North America - 26 million people emigrated from Latin America and the Caribbean to North America in 2017, making it the 3rd largest global labour flow, and the largest flow from one continent to another. Nearly 22 million migrants are from Latin America, whereas around 4 million are from the Caribbean.



Latin America migrant populations are highest in California (5.4 million), Texas (3 million) and Florida (nearly 3 million). The majority of Latin America emigration is from Mexico (11.5 million people).

Caribbean migrant populations are the highest in Florida (1.6 million) and New York (1 million). The majority of Caribbean migrants of North America are from Cuba (nearly 1.2 million)



Asia to Europe - 20 million migrants move to areas of Europe from Asia. Around 12% of all migrating Asians (including those migrating to different areas of Asia) live in Europe. Germany, England, France and Spain are the European countries with the highest number of Asian migrants. Germany is the highest, with over 1 million people from Kazakhstan living in Germany, and over 250,000 from



both Iran and Iraq. England's largest Asian population is from India (840,000 people), and also has high populations of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis. France and Spain have large amounts of Eastern and South Eastern Asians, such as those from Vietnam, China, and the Philippines.



Asia to North America - 17 million Asian migrants moved to North America in 2017. The majority of Asian migrants are from Eastern Asia (4 million), South Eastern Asia (4 million) and South Central Asia (3.5 million). These migrants live mainly in California (nearly 4 million) and New York (1.2 million). Migrants from China make up the majority of Asian migrants in the USA specifically (2.5 million), followed by India (2.2 million)

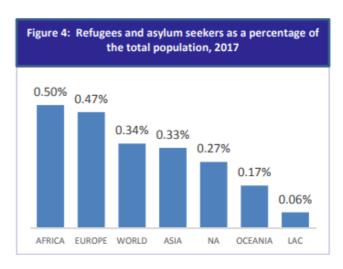


and the Philippines (1.9 million).

#### **Refugee Flows**

In total, refugees and asylum seekers make up around 10% of all international migrants. The large majority of refugee flows are concentrated within the developing regions. 4 out of 5 refugees are hosted within developing regions. The largest refugee populations are in Turkey (3.1 million), Jordan (2.9 million) and the State of Palestine (2.2 million).

(source:www.un.org/)



Note: NA = Northern America; LAC = Latin America and the Caribbean











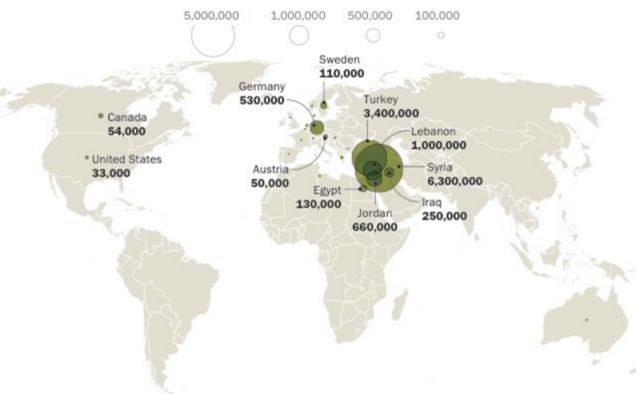
#### **Major Refugee Flows**

There are an estimated **70.8 million** refugees globally. The list below covers the top 4 source countries of refugees, as well as the **main refugee flows** associated with these countries.



Syria has the largest number of refugees out of every country in the world (6.7 million). The majority of these refugees have remained in the Middle East, and it is estimated that around half of all Syrian refugees are internally displaced within Syria.

Estimated number of displaced Syrians, 2017



(Source: www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/01/29/where-displaced-syrians-have-resettled/)

Conflict, drought, and natural disasters have led to 2.7 million Afghan refugees being displaced worldwide currently, and millions more in the past. The Soviet-Afghan war, The Civil War, The Taliban Rule, and the current war in Afghanistan have all lead to millions of people taking refuge in other countries for decades.



**95**% of all Afghan refugees are hosted **Pakistan and Iran**. **Pakistan** hosts the most refugees (around 1.4 million).







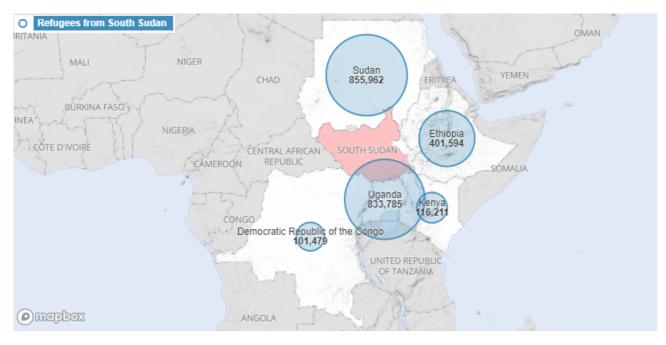






Prolonged **conflicts** and **severe famines** have led to 2.3 million refugees from South Sudan, making it the third largest refugee population currently.

(Source: data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan?id=3093)



Around 1.1 million refugees from the Rohingya ethnic group have fled Myanmar since 2015 to escape persecution. Since 2017, it is estimated that around 700,000 refugees have relocated to Bangladesh, making it the largest hosting country of Rohingya refugees.

#### Satellite images show destroyed Rohingya village













# **Impacts of International Migration**

Impacts	Country that people are migrating to.	Country that people are emigrating from.
cial	o Societal multiculturalism. o Those fleeing from conflicts or poor quality of life may have a better life in countries they move to. o Migrants can contribute to society, e.g. services such as healthcare.	o Relaxed pressure on services, meaning people may have a better quality of life as there could be better access to healthcare, lower house prices etc.
Socia	o Overpopulation can cause pressure on services such as healthcare o Conflicts between nationals and migrants due to negative effects of migration.	o <b>Underpopulation</b> could cause more pressure on services (less people working so many jobs are left unfilled). o As many migrants are more desperate for work than nationals, they may be vulnerable to <b>exploitation</b> , such as poor working conditions and low wages.
ntal	o Larger workforce for environmental protection.	o Possibly reduces <b>waste</b> , fuel usage, emissions etc. as there are <b>less people.</b>
Environmenta	o Higher demand for environmentally unsustainable resources (e.g. need for housing, waste, fuel) when population increases in an area.	o Smaller workforce for environmental protection and conservation, e.g. more derelict businesses and houses, less people employed for waste removal etc.
nic	o Migrants become intertwined in work forces and do often unwanted jobs, as well as pay taxes.	o Workers send <b>remittances</b> back to their home country, helping their economy to grow.
Econon	o May become <b>dependent</b> on the migrant workers, causing issues e.g. if migrants stop coming. o <b>Lack of jobs</b> for nationals o Remittances do not benefit host country's economy.	o <b>Skilled workers leave</b> to work in HICs, meaning unskilled people are left to keep the economy running. o Home country may be <b>dependent</b> on remittances, so a change in circumstance may be detrimental to the economy.











# Politica

- o Countries that accept large quantities of migrants often have strong ties with the home country, decreasing likelihood of conflict.
- o Possible political disagreements due to overpopulation, causing international disputes. E.g. the UK leaving the EU partly because of free movement of EU migrants.

  o Laws/policies may be introduced

to limit population.

- o Relaxed pressure on services and resources can decrease political conflicts and tensions, e.g. less criticism of the government for doing a poor job.
- o **Population policies**/ laws may be put to get the **workforce** to grow, e.g. encouraging more migration or more births. Population control may be seen as a restriction of freedom.



