

*People in
Motion*

*Immigration and
Migration*

*The Colonial
Period*

The Puritans

1630s

Reasons for Immigration to New England:

- Desire to escape political repression
- Desire to find new economic opportunities and avoid economic recession in England
- Desire to escape restrictions on their religious practices

Great English Migration

- Numbered 50,000-70,000
- Over twice as many Puritans immigrated to the West Indies as New England

Migration to Appalachia

Proclamation of 1763

- Sets boundary along the crest of the Appalachians beyond which the colonists could not cross
- Designed to prevent costly conflicts with trans-Appalachian Indians

Primary Arrivals

- Scotch-Irish
- Germans
- English

Motivations

- Low price, availability of land

*Early
Nineteenth
Century
1800-1850*

Early Nineteenth Century

The Irish

- Ireland supplied the largest number of immigrants to the U.S. during the first half of the century
- Irish fled the devastating effects of the potato famine
- Mostly settled in urban areas along the Eastern Seaboard
- Many worked on canal and railroad construction projects

The Germans

- Germany supplied second-largest number of immigrants during the time period
- Germans fled the political turmoil in their homeland

The Know-Nothing Party

- America's first nativist political party
- Directed their hostility against Catholic immigrants from Ireland and Germany

*Late Nineteenth to
Early Twentieth
Century*

1880-1924

Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Century

Exodusters

- African Americans who fled the violence of the Reconstruction South in 1879 and 1880
- Most Exodusters migrated to Kansas

Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Century

The New Immigrants

- Prior to 1880, most immigrants were from the British Isles and Western Europe
- Beginning in the 1880s, New Immigrants came from small towns and villages in Southern and Eastern Europe
- The majority were from:
 - Italy
 - Russia
 - Poland
 - Austria-Hungary
- Settled primarily in large cities of the Northeast and Midwest
- Very few settled in the South

Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Century

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882

- First law in American history to exclude on the basis of ethnic background
- Prohibited immigration of Chinese to America
- Strongly supported by working-class Americans
- Reflected anti-immigration sentiment in California

Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Century

Nativist Opposition to the New Immigrants

- Practiced different religions
- Different languages and cultures
- Willing to work for lower wages than native-born Americans
- New Immigrants were not familiar with the American political system

Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Century

National Origins Act

- Primary purpose was to use quotas to restrict the flow of newcomers from Southern and Eastern Europe
- Quotas favored immigration from Northern and Western Europe
- Quotas discriminated against immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe
 - Primary reason for the decrease in European immigrants in the 1920s
 - Mexican and Puerto Rican immigrants increased because neither was restricted by immigration acts of 1921 and 1924

The Black Migration

Causes

- Jim Crow laws denied African Americans their rights as citizens
 - Forced to endure poverty and systematic discrimination
- Beginning in World War I, wartime demand for labor attracted blacks to cities in the North and West
- Black migration to North and West continued through World War II

Leaving the Rural South

- In 1915, the overwhelming majority lived in the rural South
- Attracted by the wartime demand for labor, they migrated to urban centers in the North and West

Immigration from Mexico

The Depression

- Many Mexicans returned to their homeland

Surge in Mexican Immigration

- Factors influencing 20th century immigration
 - Relaxation of immigration quotas in the 1960s
 - Desire to escape a crowded homeland with few economic opportunities
 - Desire to take advantage of better job opportunities in the United States
 - Desire to unite with family members who had previously immigrated to the U.S.

*Population
Shifts After
World War 2*

From Cities to Suburbs

The 1950s witnessed the beginning of a mass migration of middle-income Americans from cities to their surrounding suburbs

The movement to the suburbs was facilitated by the construction of the interstate highway system

From the Frostbelt to the Sunbelt

Beginning in the 1970s, the largest growth in population occurred in states below the 37th parallel, from Virginia to California

The 1970s witnessed a significant migration of Americans from the Frostbelt to the Sunbelt

- Migration has continued to the present

The South and West have experienced the greatest population gains since 1970

From Latin America and Asia to America

The last 25 years have witnessed a significant increase in immigration from Latin America and Asia

Latinos now make up nearly 33 percent of the population in Texas, Arizona, and California

- Make up 40% of the population in New Mexico