Chapter 6: Population Geography

Introduction to Geography
Lehman College GEH 101
Spring 2011
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- Quiz next week
- Mid-term exams
- Make up for absences
- Term papers/outline
Population Geography

- Number, composition, and distributions of people
- Demography: The statistical study of human populations
- Spatial analysis: distributions across space
- Population dynamics and migration
- How does population change reflect socioeconomic conditions?
Global Population Clusters
Natural Population Change

- **Population change = natural change + net migration**
  - **Natural change = birth rate – death rate**
  - **Birth (death) rate:** number of births (deaths) per 1,000 people
  - These rates are actual measurements
  - 2009: 1.986% (19.86 per 1,000), 0.837%, 1.113%

- **Population Growth Rate:** Rate of change in population over a year
  - e.g.: Growth rate of +1.1% means that if current pop. is 5,000, then next year there will be approx. 5,000 + 1.1%*5,000 = 5,055 people
  - World natural increase 1.1% (2% in 1975)
Rates of Natural Population Growth
Natural Population Change

- **Total fertility rate (TFR):** expected number of children born per average woman over her reproductive lifetime (~15-49 years)
  - Based on the sum of the current reproductive rates for each age range
  - *Different* from the birth rate (actual births in a year)
  - Birth rate depends on population structure, TFR doesn’t
- Global TFR: 2.7 (2.1 - 2.3 is the replacement rate)
- What does the current TFR mean for population change?
Total Fertility Rates

- 6.0 or more
- 4.1–5.9
- 2.6–4.0
- 2.1–2.5 (replacement level)
- Less than 2.1
U.N. Population Projections

What Causes Population Growth?

Life Expectancy at Birth

- Pre-Industrial Era: 30-40 yrs
- 65 yrs today
- Uneven throughout world
Demographic Transitions

- Industrialization and urbanization tend to slow population growth
- Historically, this was a long process that depended on empire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Industrial</th>
<th>Modern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Post-/Industrial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Urban</td>
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</tbody>
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High birth and death rates $\rightarrow$ Low birth and death rates
Stages of Demographic Transition

1. High birth/high death rates - no growth
   - Children as assets for (re)production
   - High mortality due to disease, war, famine

2. High birth/low death rates - population boom
   - Public health -> infant mortality decreases, longer life expectancy
     - sanitation, sewage, germ theory
   - Food and resource security: increased output and production chains (colonialism/empire)

3. Low birth/low death rates - no growth or negative growth
   - Urbanization, education, women work outside the home, birth control
   - Children as liabilities/choice
Demographic Transition in Former Colonies

- Arrested development (slows the transition)
  - Slavery and exploitation -> premature death
  - Revolution and war -> premature death
  - Uneven development: Industrialization, export substitution
- Population booms
  - Increased Food Security: Green Revolution, international trade, import substitution
  - Health Infrastructure: sanitation, sewage and clean water
- Urbanization? Education? Forms of production?
Leading Causes of Death

- **Former colonies:**
  - Preventable (during childbirth)
  - Infectious, parasitic, contagious
  - Food insecurity

- **Colonial powers:**
  - Age-induced degenerative
  - Cancers
  - Obesity-related
    - Cardio-vascular
    - Diabetes
Malthusianism

- Thomas Malthus: population grows exponentially, food supply grows linearly
- “Stop helping the poor because they’re taking away resources from the rich”
“The world currently produces enough food for everybody, but many people do not have access to it.”

“There is enough food in the world today for everyone to have the nourishment necessary for a healthy and productive life.”

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXrN9HhnCcM
Neo-Malthusianism

- Neo-Malthusianism: since 1950s, population control as a cure for poverty, structural adjustment programs (SAP)
- Arable land?
- Technological innovation (e.g., green tech, agriculture)
- Social justice/political economy: Scarcity is produced through uneven development (food prices, export substitution)
- Reproductive: Woman’s body and choice
- Deep ecology/sustainability: reduce consumption
- Anti-racist and post-colonial: White minority vs. non-white populations
Migration

- Population change = natural change + net migration
- Net migration = in-migration (immigration) - out-migration (emigration)
- Migration: permanent or long term relocation (residence + work)
Migration since 1500
European Migration in 19th-20th Centuries
Forced Movement of Slaves out of Africa

[Map showing the routes of slave trade from Africa to the Americas, including British North America, Spanish America, French Caribbean, Dutch Caribbean, and South America.]
Spatial Scales of Migration

- Within a city
- Rural -> urban (urbanization)
- Regional (within a country)
- International

- Diffusion rates influenced by:
  - labor skills, languages, culture, social networks, ideas, money, etc.
Causes of Migration: Push/Pull Factors

- Economic (unemployment/opportunity)
- Social services (health care, education)
- Political (wars, ethnic and religious prosecution/democracy)
- Environmental (pollution, desertification/Sun-belt, snow-birds)
- Lifestyle (retirees, gay communities)
- Cultural (ethnic enclaves, migration chains, chances of finding courtship)
Who is Migrating?

- Voluntary: Younger, risk taking, healthier, working age, 40-60% female
- Forced (slavery, refugees)
- Family reunification
- Return migration (temporary, sojourners)
- Indigenous vs. migrant populations
Contemporary International Immigration

- 3% of world population
- 20-30 million undocumented migrants
- From developing to industrialized nations
  - Demand for labor
  - Economic in/stability
- From developing to developing nations (1/3 of migrants)
  - Language, culture, religion, political refugees
Impacts of International Migration

- **Economic:**
  - Alleviate unemployment at home
  - Cheap labor and brain drain
  - Inequalities between rich and poor countries
  - Workers’ remittances (more $$$ than international aid)

- **Population structure**

- **Political:** welfare and services

- **Cultural change, added diversity**
White Collar Migrants

- 25% of doctors trained in Africa works abroad
  - working conditions, pay, political stability
- Teachers and Doctors for Oil (Cuba to Venezuela)
- Filipino health care workers
- Professionals as political refugees
Term Paper Discussions

- How does the uneven allocation and use of natural resources factor into the processes (political, economic, and socio-cultural) that shape your topic?
- What are the impacts on natural resources (extractive, destructive, or otherwise)?
- What is the role, if any, of sustainable planning and development?
- What specific populations are affected by your topic and what are their demographic characteristics?
- What is the relationship to human migration?