International migration within Latin America

• Mostly labor circulation flows
• Industrial and urban destinations
• Rural origin to urban destination
International to and from Latin America

• Colonial migrations
  Ø 10s of thousands of Iberians
  Ø Forced migration of ~10 m Africans

• 19th century migrations
  Ø Europeans to S Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Costa Rica
International to and from Latin America

- Contemporary migrations (e.g., Caribbean, Ecuador)
Example of International migration: Mexicans to US

- **N limits of Mexico**
- Loss of $\frac{1}{2}$ of Mexican territory to US in war of 1840s
- Post-Mexican war in 1880s
Example of International migration: Mexicans to US

• 1920s revolution and post-revolution chaos in Mexico plus demand for ag workers in WWI in US
Example of International migration: Mexicans to US II

- 1940s - 1960s => Bracero program
Example of International migration: Mexicans to US

- **1980s and beyond**
  - Issue of illegal (undocumented)
- **Mexico — USA labor markets closely coupled since 1880s**
  - Issue of remittances
- **Spatial patterns of migration**
C-51 PUENTE INTERNACIONAL "PASO DEL NORTE"
RAPID GROWTH
Nigeria. RNI 2.8%
2002 population: 126.6 million
Projected population for 2025: 204.5 million

SLOW GROWTH
United States. RNI 0.6%
2002 population: 284.5 million
Projected population for 2025: 346.0 million

ZERO GROWTH
Germany. RNI -0.1%
2002 population: 82.2 million
Projected population for 2025: 80.0 million
LA cities in World’s top 100
(19 of the top 100)
Elite housing, Santo Domingo
Elite house Cuidad Juarez
Urban water, Santo Domingo
Urban water, Santo Domingo
Subsidence in Mexico City
Subsidence in Mexico City
Find the globalization! Tegucigalpa
Informal sector economy
Informal economy, tile making (for export to posh homes in USA), Saltillo
Informal economy: tile making (for export to posh homes in USA), Saltillo

© T. M. Whitmore
Informal sector, Mexico City dump scavengers

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Return migrant (remittance funded) housing in Ecuador
© Brad Jokish
POLITICAL DIVISION OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC
FEDERAL CONSTITUTION OF 1824

AXCALA PENDING DEFINITIVE LEGISLATION. THE FEDERAL DISTRICT IS CREATED BY DECREES ON NOVEMBER 10, 1824.
Fig. 3. Percentages, by Origin, of Undocumented Migrants to the U.S., 1975 [26].
Remittances: The Human Face of Globalization

Source: © IADB
Remittances – a major consequence of migration

• People move North by the millions, and money moves South by the billions
• Remittances are monies sent by workers in the US to their Latin American (and other) homes.
• About 10 million Latin American immigrants (of the 16.5 m total) living in the United States
  ➢ Send about $44 billion to their families on a yearly basis.
  ➢ Each monthly transaction averages approximately $240
Scale of remittance Flows

- Exceeded the combined Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and net Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Region
- LA is now the fastest growing and highest volume remittance market in the world
  - 150 million transfers annually to over 20 million recipients
- Flows exceed tourism income to each country
- At least 10% of GDP in six countries (Haiti, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Guyana)
- Almost always exceed the largest export.
Scale of remittance Flows

• Remittances to Mexico
  ➢ the country’s total tourism income
  ➢ two-thirds of the value of petroleum exports
  ➢~ 180% of the country’s agricultural exports.

• The earnings of Salvadorans residing in the United States
  ➢ entire GDP of the country.
Return migrant (remittance funded) housing in Ecuador
© Brad Jokish
Nor-Oriente Express
International Courier
Ofrecemos:
Servicio de Encomiendas. Cartas
Y envíos en gral.
Guatemala y USA
Recall: Migration — 4 major types

• 1st type: International within Latin America
• 2nd type: international to and from Latin America
• TODAY
  ➢ 3rd type rural => rural migration
  ➢ 4th type rural => urban migration
Permanent: rural => rural

- From densely settled highlands to sparsely settled lowlands
  - Andean to Amazonia
  - Andean to coast
  - Central American
- From densely settled NE Brazil to Amazonia
- From Brazilian cities to Amazonia
- Also temporary r -> r circulation
Permanent: rural => rural

- Sierra de Lacandon, Peten, Guatemala
4th type: rural => urban migration

- What is it?
  - rural to urban migration => permanent change of residence
- Why migrate?
  - "Push" and "Pull" forces
  - economic welfare
  - social welfare
  - other factors
Why migrate?

- Economic (pushes & pulls)
  - Lack of land
  - Few non-farm opportunities
  - Little upward mobility
  - Development => fewer rural jobs & jobs with less dignity
Why migrate?

- Social (pushes & pulls)
  - Education
  - Health care access
Why migrate?

• Other (pushes & pulls)
  ➢ Environmental
  ➢ Violence
  ➢ Individual factors
  ➢ Family strategy
Who migrates?

- Age
- Gender
- Marital status
- Education level
- Personal
- Ethnicity
How do migrants move?

- Migration patterns
  - Role of information
  - Role of social networks
How do migrants move?

• Migration patterns
  ➢ Step vs direct migration
  ➢ Fill-in migration
  ➢ Role of distance
Wealth

- Average wealth in GDP in PPP/capita
  - World ~ $9,300
    - Lesser developed ~ $4,600
  - USA ~ $41,500
  - LA ~ $7,700
  - Very low in LA (< $5,000)
    - Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador
    - Jamaica, Haiti
    - Ecuador, Bolivia, Paraguay, Guyana
  - Above world average
    - Costa Rica, Mexico
    - Argentina, Chile
Wealth distribution

• USA
  ➢ Richest 20% have 40% of all income
  ➢ Poorest 20% have 5%
  ➢ 55% in middle

• Latin America
  ➢ Richest 20% have 50-65% of all income
  ➢ Poorest 20% have 2-5%
  ➢ 30% in the middle

• Countries with top 20% with more than 50% of all income
  ➢ Brazil, Panama, Costa Rica, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela
GDP PER PERSON, 1998, $:
- Below 1,999
- 2,000–2,999
- 3,000–3,999
- 4,000–4,999
- 5,000–5,999
- Above 6,000

Average GDP per person: $4,311

4.51 Population, m
Total population: 93.6m

GDP PER PERSON
reais '000 1996
- Below 2
- 2–3.9
- 4–6
- Above 6

4.51 Population, m
Spending Remittances

- Other/Luxury items: 3% Mexico, 4% Central America, 17% Ecuador
- Education: 2% Mexico, 7% Central America, 7% Ecuador
- Household expenditures: 77% Central America, 78% Ecuador, 61% Ecuador
- Real Estate: 1% Mexico, 1% Central America, 4% Ecuador
- Savings: 6% Mexico, 8% Central America, 8% Ecuador
- Investment: 1% Mexico, 8% Central America, 6% Ecuador

Source: © IADB