

Cheat Sheet

MIGRATION

People move from one place to another for different reasons, and with different consequences. Find out more about the topic of human migration, and learn how to search through useful resources for information on it.

Did you know?

- 1 Migration of humans first **started out** from **Africa** around **60,000** years ago¹
- 2 As of **2013**, there are around **232 million international migrants** spread across the world²
- 3 In Singapore, the first Chinese Immigrants Ordinance was passed in **1877** to regulate and protect immigrants³

Types of Migration

Migration can be **voluntary** (where people move on their own will) or **involuntary** (where people are forced to move).

Human Migration

Movement of people from one place to another place, with the intention of residing permanently or semi-permanently.

Emigrant

A person **leaving** a country to live in another

Immigrant

A person **entering** a country from another

MIGRATION

Scales

Migration can take place at different scales:

International: When people migrate **from one country to another**

Internal: When people migrate **within** the same country





¹ National Geographic Society (2014). 'The Human Journey: Migration Routes'. <https://genographic.nationalgeographic.com/human-journey/>

² OECD (2013). 'World Migration in Figures' <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/World-Migration-in-Figures.pdf>

³ HistorySG (2014). 'Chinese Immigration Ordinance 1877 is passed' <http://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/history/events/dbfed061-8451-42c9-8a5b-5a6c72dfla2c#10>

Reasons for Migration

There are various aspects, such as economic, political, social and environmental factors to consider. People usually move due to a combination of 'push-pull' factors.

	Push	Pull
	Factors that encourage people to leave the place in which they live and to move somewhere else	Factors which attract people to move to a new place
 Economic	Eg. Lack of employment	Eg. Potential for employment
 Political	Eg. Civil war	Eg. Stability
 Social	Eg. Lack of Services	Eg. Better services
 Environmental	Eg. Earthquake, Flooding	Eg. Safety

Advancements in **transportation technology** (eg. airplanes, bullet trains etc.) have also made it easier for people to move between places.

Impacts of Migration

Migration can bring changes to both the place of origin, as well as the destination. The impacts may range from positive to negative. You can consider the following terms:

Brain Drain:	Emigration of trained and talented individuals from one country to another, resulting in depletion of skills and resources in the former ⁴
Assimilation:	Adaptation of one ethnic or social group, usually a minority, to another ⁵
Remittances:	Money earned by non-nationals that is transferred back to their home country ⁶
Transnationalism:	Multiple ties and interactions linking people and institutions across the borders of nation-states ⁷

Destination

^{4 5 6} International Organisation for Migration (2014). 'Key Migration Terms'. <http://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home/about-migration/key-migration-terms-1.html>

⁷ UNESCO (2014). 'Transnationalism'. <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/international-migration/glossary/trans-nationalism/>

Search Tips

Analysing domain extensions


Do you know that the domain extension of websites can often reveal things about their authority and reliability? Here are some common domain extensions:



.com	Commercial
.edu	Educational
.mil	Military
.org	Organizational
.gov	Government

Different countries use different country codes. For Singapore, it uses the country code of '.sg'. You may want to consider the websites with the domain extensions of '.edu' and '.gov' for more credible and official information.

Resources



	Source	Links and Titles	Comments
Selected NLB Resources	Infopedia	eresources.nlb.gov.sg/infopedia	As an online encyclopaedia on the history, culture and events of Singapore, Infopedia offers selected write-ups on the early migrants of Singapore. Some selected articles include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Chinese coolies' • 'Jewish community' • 'Jawi Peranakan community' Tip: You can also type the search phrase 'immigrants' within the Infopedia database
	NLB eResources	eresources.nlb.gov.sg	The following databases are useful for the topic of migration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credo Reference: Encyclopaedia • Encyclopaedia Britannica Online • World Geography and Culture Online
	Books and Audiovisuals	Solway, A. (2010). <i>Graphing Immigration</i> . London : Heinemann Library (Call No.: 304.8 SOL) Walker, R. (2010). <i>Pushes & Pulls: Why Do People Migrate?</i> New York :Crabtree Pub. Company (Call No.: 304.8 WAL) Spilsbury, L. (2006) <i>Moving People : Migration & Settlement</i> Oxford : Raintree (Call No.: 307 SPI) Channel NewsAsia (2006) <i>Get Real: Series 5, Episode 4. Foreign Talent, Sinking Roots?</i> [videorecording] Singapore: Mediacorp News Pte Ltd. (Call No.: 331.62095957 GET)	
Useful Websites	Singstat	http://www.singstat.gov.sg/statistics/browse_by_theme/population/statistical_tables/popinbrief2013.pdf	Offers official statistics on population and immigration trends in Singapore.
	UNESCO, Learning to Live Together	http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/international-migration/	Explores themes related to migration, social inclusion and youths.
	International Organisation for Migration	https://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home.html	Provides global coverage of migration statistics, issues and news.

Sources

National Geographic Society (2005) Human Migration Guide. Retrieved from: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/09/g68/migrationguidestudent.pdf>
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Solway, A. (2010). *Graphing Immigration*. London: Heinemann Library