

TOPIC 6.7: IMMIGRATION

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Learning Obj. 1

- Explain how cultural and economic factors affected migration patterns over time.

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- A. As cities became areas of economic growth featuring new factories and businesses, they attracted immigrants from Asia and southern and eastern Europe.

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Overview

- 1850-1900: 16.2 million immigrants
- 1900-1910: 8.8 million
- [Interactive Immigration Map](#)

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- push factors
 - displaced farmworkers (mechanization)
 - overcrowding of cities
 - religious persecution
- pull factors
 - political and religious freedom
 - economic opportunity
 - inexpensive passage

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New Immigrants (European)

- Origin
 - southern and eastern Europe
 - Italian, Greek, Polish, Russian



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- Characteristics
 - poor and illiterate
 - unaccustomed to democracy
 - Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish
 - gravitated towards poor ethnic neighborhoods



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- "birds of passage"
 - young men contracted for unskilled jobs
 - save money, return home



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New Immigrants (Asian)

- Burlingame Treaty (1868)
 - unrestricted immigration to work on Transcontinental Railroad
 - leads to 1/3 of miners being of Asian descent



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- B. Urban neighborhoods based on particular ethnicities, races, and classes provided new cultural opportunities for urban dwellers.

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Ethnic Neighborhoods

- Advantage
 - Could maintain own language, culture, churches, etc
- Disadvantage
 - Tenements, filth, disease, crime

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TOPIC 6.8: REPOSSES TO IMMIGRATION

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Learning Obj. 1

- Explain the various responses to immigration in the period.

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- A. Increasing public debates over assimilation and Americanization accompanied the growth of international migration.

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Restrictions on Immigration (European)

- Restrictions of 1882
 - against "undesirables"
 - paupers, criminals, etc
- Contract Labor Law of 1885
 - to protect American workers
- Literacy Test (1917)



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- Support of Restrictions
 - unions
 - lowered wages, broke strikes
 - American Protective Association
 - against Roman Catholics
 - social darwinists
 - south and eastern immigrants were biologically inferior



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Restrictions on Immigration (Asian)

- Working Men's Party of California (1877)
 - Dennis Kearney
 - kick the Chinese out



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- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
 - banned all new immigration from China



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