

## 8.8 Global Connections

The map shows migration streams around the world. The color of each country reflects its wealth in terms of average income per person. The starbursts show areas of armed conflict, or warfare, from 1990 through 2008.

### Why might some regions “push” more migrants than they “pull”?

Two big push factors drive migration streams today: poverty and conflict. Both factors come together in Africa. In most of the world, poverty has decreased since 1990. In parts of Africa, it has grown worse. Africa has also seen a large number of wars in that time. These conditions have forced many Africans to flee their homelands. Some stay in nearby refugee camps, and others emigrate.

### Why might other regions “pull” more migrants than they “push”?

Migrants generally are attracted to developed regions. Often emigrants move to the developed region nearest their homeland. For North Africans, this is Europe. For Latin Americans, it is the United States or Canada.

**How does migration change the places people leave and those they come to?** The effects of migration are complicated. Some nations depend on immigrant labor, but native-born workers may feel that immigrants take jobs. Immigrants pay taxes but put pressure on services. When workers migrate, they may create a brain drain. They leave their families when they migrate, but the money they send home will improve their families’ lives. Also immigrants may return home to bring new skills and work for increased democracy.

## Migration Streams Around the World



Sources: World Bank. *The State of the World Atlas* by Dan Smith, London: Penguin Group, 1999.