
Forced Emigration

Europe to America, 1600-present: Patterns and Trends



Defining Terms:

Emigration:

The act of leaving one's own country to settle permanently in another; moving abroad."mass emigration from Ireland to the United State

Forced Emigration:

Forced displacement or forced immigration is the coerced movement of a person or persons away from their home or home region and it often connotes violent coercion. People are forced OUT of a country.

Immigration:

The action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country.

Immigration into the United States of America generally provides opportunity to people.

Migration:

1. Seasonal movement of animals from one region to another.

"this butterfly's annual migration across North America"

2. Movement of people to a new area or country in order to find work or better living conditions."the extensive rural-to-urban migration has created a severe housing shortage"

3. Movement from one part of something to another.

"there is virtually no cell migration in plants"

Other terms to Google to get more information:

Forced Displacement

Child migration

Population transfer

Free Migration

Forced Migration

Defining terms for individuals and places to search:

Refugee; refugees

a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster."tens of thousands of refugees fled their homes."

Migrant:

migrant; migrants; migrant worker; migrant workers

A worker who moves from place to place

Slave:

A person who is the legal property of another and is forced to obey them.

Indentured Servants:

A person under contract to work for another person for a definite period of time, usually without pay but in exchange for free passage to a new country.

Indentured Children or Bound Children

For centuries, children have been legally “bound” as servants. In the 1700s in America, it was very common for parents to send a child to live with neighbors or relatives who could provide a good education and teach the child a skill or trade. Often, poor parents did not have a choice about this. Their children could be removed from their homes by local authorities and “bound out” as servants to “more respectable” families. This meant that they had to work for their master for a certain number of years (usually until they were twenty-one) in exchange for food, shelter, and some sort of education. Bound children were essentially indentured servants.

Orphans:

“The people who became indentured servants voluntarily were simply referred to as “servants.” Those who had been sold into indentured servitude against their will were called “bound servants.” After America gained its independence, immigrants from other countries flocked to big cities like New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, hoping for a better life. Many of them found only poverty and disease. By the mid 1800s, the streets of Northeastern cities were filled with poor children who were orphaned or whose parents could not take care of them. When groups like the New York Foundling Hospital and the Children’s Aid Society offered to send these children to new homes in rural America, many desperate parents surrendered their sons and daughters in the hope that they would have a better life. The children were placed on trains (called “Orphan Trains”) and sent to their new homes. When the trains reached their destinations, people came to choose from the children on the train. Many children were adopted into loving homes, but others were abused by their foster parents or used as cheap labor on farms. Teenaged boys often ran away. Sometimes children were shuttled from foster home to foster home, ending up in different towns or even different states. Siblings were often separated, and some never found each other again. Nearly all of the children lost contact with their biological parents. As they grew up, many of the Orphan Train children As they grew up, many of the Orphan Train children had mixed feelings about their experience. They were often sad or angry about being taken away from their parents, brothers, and sisters, or about the way they were treated by their foster families. Many Orphan Train riders recalled that the other people in the towns where they were placed were unfriendly or suspicious of them. But many realized that they had been given a chance at a better life. A woman named Alice Ayler said, “I would have never stood a chance if they had left me in that environment. I would never have gotten to do anything I was capable of.” The last Orphan Train left New York for Sulphur Springs, Texas, on May 31, 1929. In seventy five years, between 100,000 and 250,000 children had been relocated across America.”

Sources:

Program description: "Proper and Instructive Education: Children Bound to Labor in Early America," McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania. <http://www.mceas.org/november2002>
Smith, Larry D. Slave and Indentured Servant Records, Genealogical and Historical Research in Old Bedford County, Pennsylvania.
<http://www.motherbedford.com/GenBook91.htm>
Gottlieb Mittelberger's account of his journey to Pennsylvania in 1750
(various versions available)

Asylum Seekers:

A person who has left their home country as a political refugee and is seeking asylum in another."only asylum seekers who are granted refugee status are allowed to work in the country"

Patterns of Forced Emigration or Forced displacement (Push-Pull factors)**Push factors**

- Lack of employment or entrepreneurial opportunities
- Lack of educational opportunities
- Lack of political or religious rights
- Threat of arrest or punishment;
- Persecution or intolerance based on race, religion, gender, etc.
- Inability to find a spouse for marriage.
- Lack of freedom to choose religion, or to choose no religion
- Shortage of farmland; hard to start new farms
- Oppressive legal or political conditions
- Struggling or Failing economy
- Military draft, warfare or terrorism;
- Famine or drought;
- Cultural fights with other cultural groups
- Expulsion by armed force or coercion
- Overpopulation.

Also included are: Natural Disasters: Hurricane Katrina: New Orleans, Maria:Puerto Rico
Environmental: Chernobyl, Fukushima. Economic Development: Three Gorges Dam.
Human Trafficking (child migration), Climate Change: deforestation, land degradation.

Pull factors for Voluntary Emigration

- Favorable letters relatives or informants who have already moved; chain migration
- Better opportunities for acquiring farms for self and children
- Cheap purchase of farmland
- Quick wealth (as in a gold rush)

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- More job opportunities
 - Promise of higher pay
 - Prepaid travel (as from relatives)
 - Better welfare programs
 - Better schools
 - Join relatives who have already moved; chain migration
 - Building a new nation (historically)
 - Building specific cultural or religious communities
 - Political freedom
 - Cultural opportunities
 - Greater opportunity to find a spouse
 - Favorable climate
 - Easy going across the boundaries

Push and pull factors are not necessarily as neatly independent as this polarity suggests.

Examples of Forced Emigration:

Scottish Clearances 1609-1890,

Irish Potato Famine 1845-1852, (1 million people died, 1 million people left Ireland)

1935-45 Rise of Nazi party/WWII Holocaust. **World War II** fatality statistics vary, with estimates of total deaths ranging from 50 million to more than 80 million. The higher figure of over 80 million includes deaths from war-related disease and famine. Civilians killed totaled 50 to 55 million, including 19 to 28 million from war-related disease and famine.

1944-50 In December 1944 Winston Churchill announced to a startled House of Commons that the Allies had decided to carry out the **largest forced population transfer** — or what is nowadays referred to as “**ethnic cleansing**” — in human history. Expulsion of **14 million** Germans were driven out of their homes from Russia, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania, Poland, many of them women, children and the elderly, the defenseless and weak. This was accomplished by state sponsored violence and terror. Starvation, rape, murder by Allied countries. The postwar expulsions were by any measure one of the most significant occurrences of the mass violation of human rights in recent history. https://www.huffingtonpost.com/rm-douglas/expulsion-germans-forced-migration_b_1625437.html

Human Geography Migration: Forced Migration:

<https://sites.google.com/site/aphumangeographymigration/forced-migration>

The Global Migration:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781444351071.wbeghm236/full?campaign=gms-193706>

“Forced migration as a substantive topic is a new field of academic scholarship. It was first delineated in *Imposing Aid*, the seminal work by Barbara Harrell-Bond (1986) and in the establishment of a center for the study of forced migration at the University of Oxford in 1982...

Global Migration (continued)

“Yet even in these extreme cases, economic, social, and political factors are interdependent. Zolberg et al. (1986) clearly shows that the movements of refugees do not constitute a series of random events but rather form distinct patterns that are related to political transformations such as the break-up of former colonial empires, the creation of nation-states, and the collapse of authoritarian regimes. As Dowty clearly points out, “so-called economic migrants” are often responding as much to political repression as to material deprivations (1987). Among the many recent examples he cites are refugees fleeing Haiti where political repression and economic underdevelopment go hand in hand and Ethiopian refugees fleeing both famine and war. In such situations, Dowty makes clear, the distinction between “economic” and “political” becomes meaningless (1987). For contemporary social sciences, however, such a distinction is important, as it is the basis upon which mainly Western countries agree to grant or refuse asylum. Being determined a “Convention refugee” allows a political victim to gain asylum in another country. Those found to be “economic migrants” in these state-determination processes are generally excluded from entry into Western states and sent back to where they came from. In non-Western states, the concerns regarding asylum are of less interest in determining permission to remain. In the Middle East, for example, forced migrants and other dispossessed and displaced peoples have largely been welcomed throughout much of the 20th century after the end of the Ottoman empire, and the creation of the League of Nations' British and French Mandated states of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. By and large such people have remained in the new nation-states where they found themselves and have been allowed to settle and integrate if not assimilate. Only the Palestinians have actively faced “eviction” in places of refuge such as Lebanon and Libya.” ...

“The topic of dispossession and forced migration has not been rigorously examined, though groundbreaking studies do exist in the fields of history, for example, in the work of Michael Marrus and his tracing of the emerging European consciousness of the refugee phenomena during the pre-World War II era (Marrus 1985); in Peter Gatrell's *A Whole Empire Walking* (2005) and his documentation of the massive upheaval in the early Soviet era; in Polian's (2004) overview of forced migration in Soviet Russia; and in the work of Justin McCarthy presenting a revisionist view of the rise of the Turkish state at the close of World War I (McCarthy 1983). Political science has made a particular contribution to understanding forced migration. Zolberg and his colleagues find that international factors often impact on the major types of social conflict that trigger refugee migration (1986). Weiner (1995) documents the sources and growth of refugee migrations and what this has meant for the international world order: a growing moral crisis in receiving countries. He considers that most of the world's population movements, certainly after World War II, did not just happen, but were made to happen in order to serve a variety of political purposes in the sending countries. He regards much involuntary migration as being derived from the interests of a state to achieve some cultural homogeneity or assert state dominance and control over particular social groups. Although by the 1980s world opinion had changed, and the cultural and social rights of indigenous peoples were gaining ascendancy, nations still continued to expel minorities: the Chinese in Vietnam, Indians and Pakistanis in East Africa, Vietnamese in Cambodia,

Tamils in Sri Lanka, Kurds in Turkey, and of course the Serbs, Croatians, and Bosnians after the disintegration of the Yugoslavian state. In some cases states have expelled or pushed out whole social classes, for example, middle-class Cubans at the start of Castro's socialist regime. From this perspective, Weiner sees forced migration as very much a foreign-policy tool used to force recognition, to destabilize a neighbor, or to extend cultural interests through decolonization or external colonization (1995). It is thus a part of the rise of nations and nationalism and, as a corollary, significant in the identity politics surrounding concepts of ethnicity, ethnic communities, and ethnic minorities. The 20th century saw a surge of forced migration, of people displaced, uprooted, and forced out of spaces they had occupied for decades if not centuries. For many scholars and aid specialists, it was the peculiar psychological effects arising from prolonged refugee status which attracted study and ameliorating concern. The world of the forced migrant and refugee was somehow strange and unfamiliar, and contrary to the natural/national order of things. Forced migrants, cut off from their "homeland," and thus deracinated, were regarded as lacking some of the qualities which made the rest of us human. For some this went as far as assuming a loss of culture along with the loss of "homeland." The forced migrant or refugee came to be generally regarded as an aberration from the way the world was meant to be organized. Hannah Arendt, writing about post-World War II in Europe, summed up these strange perceptions quite eloquently when she likened refugees and forced migrants to beings "thrown out of the family of nations altogether" (Arendt 1973: 294)."

Brick walls?

"Unlike immigration, few if any records are maintained in regard to persons leaving a country either on a temporary or permanent basis. Therefore, estimates on emigration must be derived from secondary sources such as immigration records of the receiving country or records from other administrative agencies."

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emigration>

Where to look for departure records: Google: BYU Family Historian.

<http://scholarsarchivebyu.edu/byufamilyhistorian>

European Emigration Records, Irish Emigration and Immigration to North America, Understanding Midwest Migration Patterns to Further Family History Research.

Arrival Records, Departure Records, Passenger Lists, Passports, Tickets, Passengers in Transit, Health Records, Passenger Contracts, Government approval to Emigrate, Port Authority, Foreign Affairs Ministry, Local Police Records may approve emigrant has met the requirements to leave, letters from Police to Foreign Affairs, Passport Issued. Other documentation may be: Certificate of Personal Identification, Parental/Spousal Authorization, Baptismal Record or Certification of Freedom to Emigrate, Statement Concerning Criminal Record, Certificate of Completion of Military Service, Published Announcements: in Spain and Italy there were weekly bulletins. British and Irish governments encouraged emigration as a way to deal with the poor and criminal elements of society. Research Vestry minutes, estate records, poor laws, indentured servants.

After-Arrival Records: Consulates may keep records of transactions made by citizens in the destination countries. Passports, proofs of identification, registration of births, assistance with an inheritance, legal problems. Hometown Census and Emigrants lists, records of military service, failure to report for service.

Finding Emigration Records: Ellis Island: www.stevemorse.org and www.ancestry.com. Google Family Search, LDS Family History Library. National archives in Europe: http://www.unesco.org/webworld/portal_archives/pages/Archives or Google: Unesco Web world Portal Archives for many pages of resources, libraries, cultural archives all over the world.

BYU Immigrant Project: collecting emigration records from all over the world. Beginning with German, Belgian records with over 50 different archives added from Spain, France, Italy Portugal, Netherlands, France, Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales mostly for the middle years of 1800's. Extracted data is sent to the Center for Family History and Genealogy. <http://immigrants.byu.edu> This is an ongoing project. Check back periodically for additional updates to the data.

Migration Routes from Europe

Maps, images on Google and the National Library of Scotland, Map Room
Google Earth
Google: Migration Routes of specific countries, and circumstances

Sources where Immigrants Landed

Naturalization Records
Land Records
Probate Records
Church Records
Census Records (look for neighbors, family, neighborhoods, many streets)
Tombstone Inscriptions
Birth, marriage and death records
Newspapers
Military Records
Family Records
Family Heirlooms and Artifacts
Railroad Retirement Records
School Records
Passport records
Funeral Home records
Orphan Records
Published Histories

Sources Where Immigrants were in Transit

Ship passenger lists Scotland: **Dr David Dobson** is a recognized authority on the Scottish origins of American colonists. His list of publications exceeds 100 books. Many focus on connections between Scots who went abroad and their motherland. In addition

to the immigrants themselves, he has also prepared books on the ships, shipmasters, merchants, whalers, and mariners involved in maritime trades.

Quarantine Hospital Records (Quebec and other Canada areas.) Some children orphaned while parents were in quarantine. Ships coming to America may have been stopped in a harbor if there was small pox aboard. Charleston, South Carolina is one.

Church records in Canada: Canada part of Commonwealth so place of origin is listed.

Newspapers: obituaries, advertisements for lost relatives,: Boston Pilot, Truth Teller, NYC, Toronto Mirror and the New Brunswick Courier in Canada.

Patterns in looking for ancestors forced out of their country of origin:

In forced emigration, **families do not come alone**. Whole neighborhoods are eliminated and people travel with their extended families, friends and neighbors. Even if one family member came before, families would emigrate in parts or phases. Often they would establish themselves together in whole neighborhoods in America. If there is a **census**, look at the pages before and after the immigrant. People are connected. Look for the interaction between the immigrant, the family and friends back and forth from the country of origin to America over time. Who witnesses at marriages, land purchases, naming of godparents, signing of probate records. Who was a boarder in the same household as your ancestor? What churches were they attending? Who else is in the burial plot of your ancestor? Were there letters written back and forth between ancestors? People and places may be named and relationships defined in the letters. You can reconstitute the family with a strategy of hints for research. Get away from the family tradition or story. It may lead you astray not only for the individual but for the location or place.

People may have travelled together in ships. Check **passenger lists**.

Migration and Emigration Routes (Details in BYU Family Historian article 5 Irish Emigration and Immigration to North America.)

How did the emigrant get to the port city? Train? River? Canal? Stage? Walk?

Was the journey all at once or over time? Where would they have gone before coming to America? Scots might have been forced from the Highlands to the Lowlands for some time, eventually to the Ulster region of Northern Ireland and then to Canada, America, Caribbean, Australia. Many Italians went to Argentina or Venezuela or Brazil for years before coming to America.

Ancestors may have stayed in another city if the passage to America was better. Instead of coming directly from Ireland, some went to Liverpool England where there were more ships sailing to America. Waiting for a ship may have taken 1-3 months. Travel by ship could have taken 1-3 months.

What would a usual route be? After getting to America, where were the trails or eventually roads. **Did they live near the National Road?**

Sources Created during the Migration from Home to Port City:

Church records in Port Cities. People married and babies were born.

Census records—separate schedules for family members who were absent on census day including those who emigrated.

National School Registers-check “notes” column about emigration or migration of students.

Estate papers: lists of tenants who emigrated with assistance of the landowner. Some tenants received passage paid and were given “landing money.”

Newspapers: Lists of Passengers thanking their ship’s captain and crew for a safe journey. Lists of adult passengers, especially males.

Ordinance Survey lists—lists skills of laborers.

Poor Law Records: identify the destitute and government support for food and shelter. Names of people in poor houses, the homeless. Some of these records may be in church records.

Church Fasti for the Presbyterian Church: comprehensive list of ministers of with details of departure from Ireland to America with their family, several families or entire congregations.

Tombstone Inscriptions: In Ireland, some children listed entire families and the state and addresses in America to honor deceased parents.

Wills and administrations: more records are online, some with details.

Bibliographic sources: Google Forced Emigration or other topics at the beginning of this hand out. You can also tap in “name of country of origin” Abroad USA or “Origin” Abroad America.

Sources Created during Journey by Ship across the Atlantic:

Census records in Port Cities: who emigrated. At first it was single men but after 1850 in Ireland, it was Irish women, maids, seamstresses. **Who lived in tenements in NYC?** What did they do? Take a guided tour of the Tenement Museum in NYC.

Church records in Port Cities-births, marriages and deaths

Poor Law Records in Port Cities

Civil Registration began in England and Wales in 1837, in Scotland in 1855. Records before these dates may be sketchy. Records for surrounding areas of Glasgow are the the National Library there on the second floor. They have original records here and you can touch them. You can get a free Library Card for Scotland libraries. The National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh has a great collection of **Dr. David Dobson’s** books and a great map room at a separate location. The maps are online and your can order maps from there and have them sent. San Mateo FHL and others have Dobson’s books. Concentrate on where the immigrant settled. More records are coming online daily. Use forums and message boards to connect. Branch out in research with cousins several times removed. Discovery is possible at any moment.

One-name Guild: <http://one-name.org/> Worldwide surname project

Solving Conflicting Evidence:

Concentrate on the evidence. DNA helps keep a focus at least for 5 generations. Search records, document findings and what you did not find, record sources, resolve conflicting evidence and make well-reasoned conclusions.

Lists of Americans: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lists_of_Americans **Over 155 places**
of ethnicity or national origin. _____? _____ American

Resources

Google: Family Search,

Book: **Migration Records (NARA)** by Roger Kershaw, 2009.

Jim Eastman Genealogy, Angie's List and others.

<https://blog.eogn.com/Google>,

Facebook, Twitter, Surname Projects, DNA Adoption, Census, Neighborhoods, Wiki Tree, Reclaim Records, Message Boards, Forums, Ancestry, Museums, Ethnic Schools, Universities, Family History Centers.

Connecticut Genealogy/colonial, Connecticut Public Records Indentured Servant owner.

Dutch Genealogy: Wiki https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/The_Netherlands_Genealogy

German Genealogy https://www.genealoger.com/german/ger_emigration_records.htm

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany_Genealogy

Quebec History <http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/quebechistory/>

Push-Pull Costs, Wikipedia,

How to find a Military Veteran, Wiki: <https://www.wikihow.com/Find-a-Military-Veteran>

National Archives world wide <http://ebna.eu/list-of-national-archives/>

Book by **Lara Watson Poley**: Descendants...,

Orphans: Orphan Train books Many books on the subject.

Bulgaria, Turkey info/ Star Rotary in Sunnyvale,

Bulgarian School, Sunnyvale, Look for language and cultural schools

Morocco 1956-59 War with the French: Independence follows.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_protectorate_in_Morocco

Child Migration and other websites, lots of resources listed.

Many Roads website: <http://www.many-roads.com/>

Attend cultural events like "The Highland Games" in Pleasanton, the largest games in USA. Clans and cultural events there.

Books about Scotland and the Scottish Clearances: James Hunter, **A Dance Called**

America, Eric Richards. **The Highland Clearances**, Alistair Moffat, **The Scots, A**

Genetic Journey, Jenni Calder, **Scots in the USA**.

Check Clan Surname websites.

Books by Alistair Moffat, Jenni Calder, Dr. John Dotson all about Scotland

Museums? Language studies. Universities, Cultural Centers.

Check out places like **Balboa Park in San Diego, CA** where there are 33 cultural houses. Some have members who help with genealogy.

<https://www.balboapark.org/attractions/international-cottages>

National Geographic Out of Eden Walk with **Paul Salopek**, Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/out-of-eden-walk/>

"Retracing our ancestors global migration, on foot. What happens when you become a war refugee? You walk. The total number of destitute, uprooted people in the Middle East now scrapes five million. If you think this exodus won't touch you, you are a fool." Paul Salopek, from *Fleeing Terror, Finding Refuge*.