Introduction to Demography
Pardee RAND Graduate School
2016 Spring Quarter

Professor Ernesto F. L. Amaral
Question about April 19 class: Migration

Instructions
Students are required to answer one question prior to each of the <u>five classes</u>. These questions
are going to be related to the main readings about demographic concepts and methods. Answers
should be no more than 350 words and students must email their answers to the professor by the
Monday before each class.

Question
"Changes in U.S. immigration and border policies enacted beginning in 1986 transformed what
had been a circular flow of male workers going to three states (California, Texas, and Illinois)
into a settled population of families living in 50 states while doubling the net rate of
undocumented migration and markedly accelerating undocumented population growth" (Massey
2015, p. 294).

Taking into account these findings presented by Douglas Massey and colleagues, as well as how
Mexicans were geographically distributed in the United States in 1930 (Figure 1), what do you
think the migration policy of the United States should be? Defend your answer and explain what
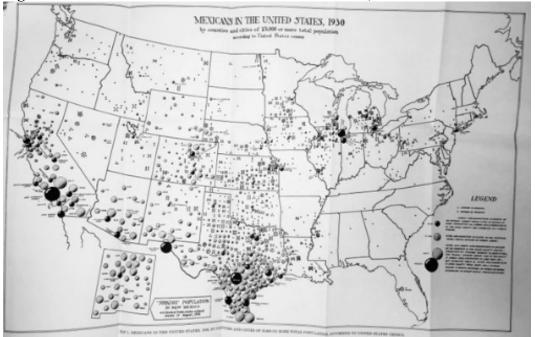would be the consequences, intended and unintended, of your proposed policy.

Figure 1. Distribution of Mexican laborers in the U.S., 1930

Source: Weeks Population Blog by John Weeks
(http://weekspopulation.blogspot.com/2016/03/latinos-in-new-south.html)

Extra material
A missing element in migration theories
Douglas S. Massey – September 2015
http://www.tplondon.com/journal/index.php/ml/article/view/568

Why border enforcement backfired?
Douglas S. Massey, Jorge Durand, Karen A. Pren – 2016
http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/684200

Great interactive map of immigration to places in the U.S.
John Weeks – February 3, 2016
http://weekspopulation.blogspot.com/2016/02/great-interactive-map-of-immigration-to.html

Latinos in the New South
John Weeks – March 17, 2016
http://weekspopulation.blogspot.com/2016/03/latinos-in-new-south.html