

### Who migrates – Where to and where from?

1. The main movement of population in today's world is from developing countries in the south to developed countries in the north. People who choose to migrate usually move to richer countries than where they were born. People move to places where they think the quality of life will be better for them.
2. This movement of population is inevitable and necessary. In the north, there is a shortage of young, skilled workers and the population is ageing. There is a need for younger people in these countries. In the south, on the other hand, people often live in under-privileged conditions with few opportunities. Many young people in these countries aspire to a better life and are attracted by the richer countries in the north. So, potentially, there is a mutual beneficial situation: the north needs young, skilled workers and the south has an abundance of young, skilled workers with few or no job opportunities.
3. Because of this population movement, the migrant population in most OECD countries is now between 5% and 15% of the total population. In some countries this percentage is even higher. In Australia, 25% of the population was born outside the country. In Canada 19% of the population is foreign-born. Today in Europe there are 33 million residents born outside Europe. In the USA, 35 million residents were born elsewhere. Russia, France, Germany, and Ukraine have 5 million each.
4. In a globalised world, this movement of population is inevitable. These days, many developed countries would not be able to operate without a large population of foreign workers.

**Reading task:** Read the text again and match the two parts of the statistics.

A	B
a) Between 5% and 15%	1. The percentage of foreign-born residents in Australia.
b) 25%	2. The number of foreign-born residents in Europe.
c) 19%	3. The migrant population in most OECD countries.
d) 33 million	4. The number of foreign-born residents in the USA.
e) 35 million	5. The number of foreign-born residents in Russia, France, Germany and Ukraine.
f) 5 million	6. The percentage of foreign-born residents in Canada.