

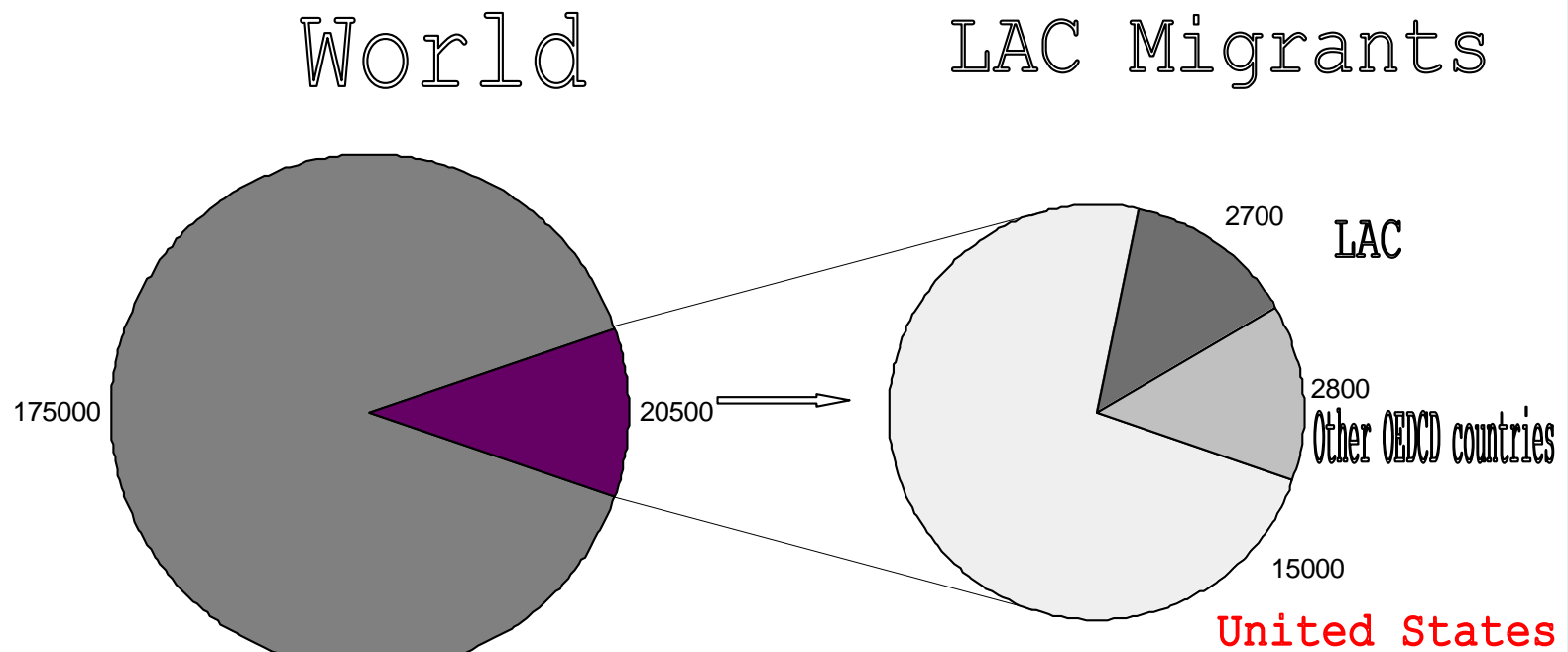
United Nations Expert Group Meeting on
International Migration and Development
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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A SUMMARY VIEW OF TRENDS AND PATTERNS

Jorge Martínez Pizarro

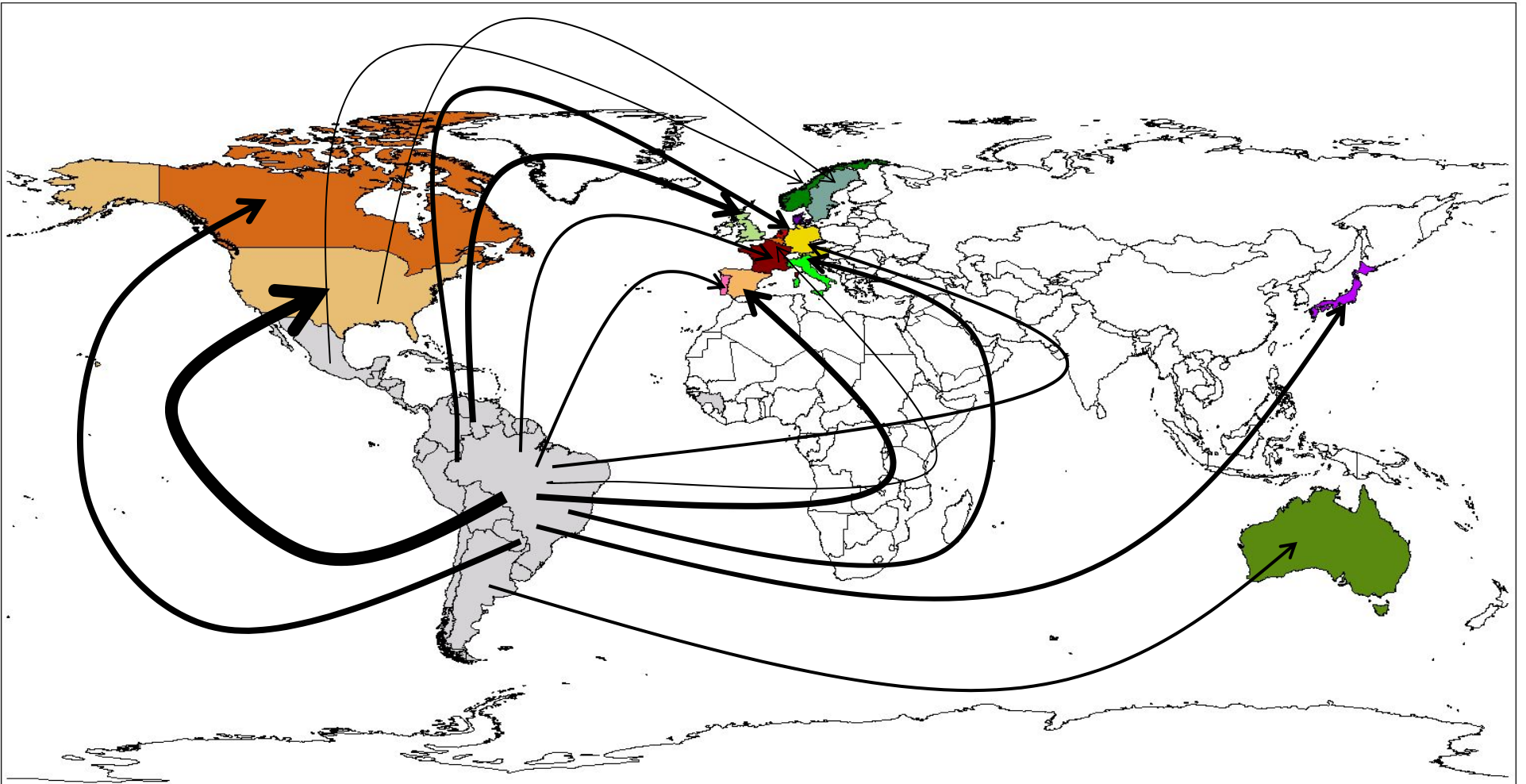
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)/
Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)
Santiago de Chile
www.eclac.cl

LAC migration in the world and main regions of destination, 2000 (number of migrants in thousands)



Three patterns of international LAC migration

- Immigration from overseas (population history)
- Intraregional migration (combination of factors)
- Emigration outside the region (mainly to the United States and other OECD countries)



LATIN AMERICANS AND CARIBBEANS REGISTERED IN SELECTED OECD COUNTRIES. CIRCA 2000

→ Less than 20 000

→ 100 000 – 300 000

→ 20 000 – 99 000

→ 300 000 – 999 999

→ 14 000 000



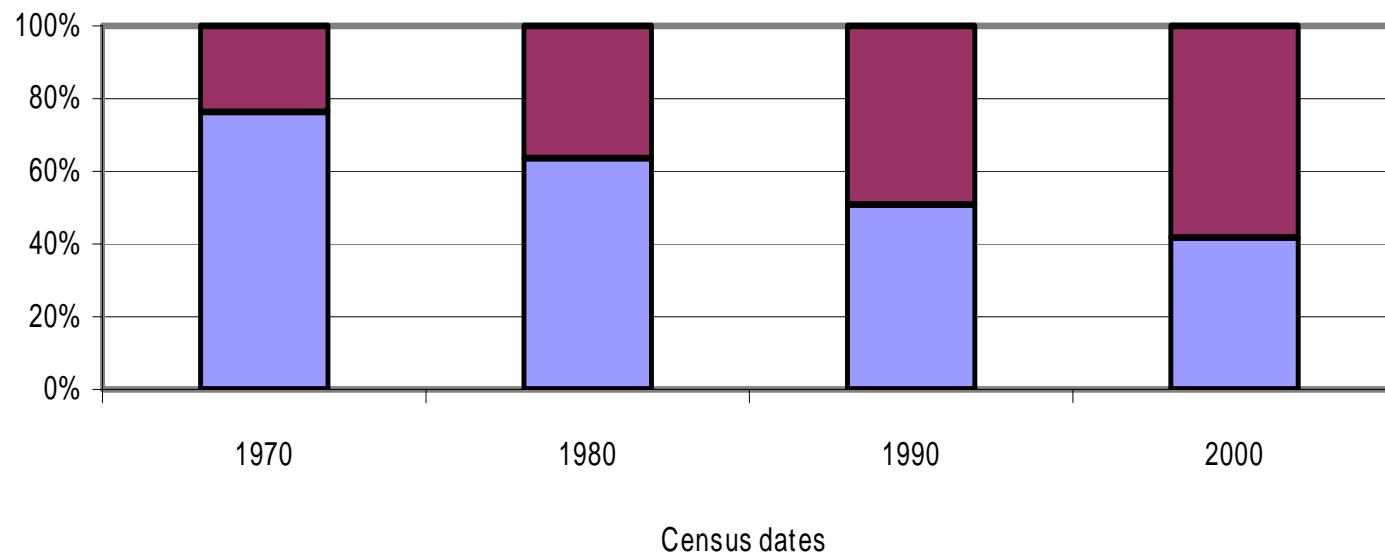
LATIN AMERICA: IMMIGRANT POPULATION BY ORIGIN
1970 - 2000

| Origin | Census rounds ^{a/} | | | | Annual growth rates | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------|------------|
| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 1970-1980 | 1980-1990 | 1990-2000 |
| Rest of world (immigration from overseas) | 3873420 | 3411426 | 2350441 | 1935499 | -1.3 | -3.7 | -1.9 |
| Percentage | 76.1 | 63.1 | 51.2 | 39.4 | | | |
| Latin America and the Caribbean (intraregional migration) | 1218990 | 1995149 | 2242268 | 2971888 | 4.8 | 1.2 | 2.8 |
| Percentage | 23.9 | 36.9 | 48.8 | 60.6 | | | |
| Total | 5092410 | 5406575 | 4592709 | 4907387 | 0.6 | -1.6 | 0.7 |
| Percentage | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | | | |

Source: Estimates prepared on the basis of IMILA data banks developed by ECLAC/ CELADE.

a/: For 1970, 16 countries were included; for 1980, 1990 and 2000, 14, 13 and 14 countries were included, respectively.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANT POPULATION PER ORIGIN. 1970-2000



- Latin America and the Caribbean (intraregional mig.)
- Rest of the world (overseas immigration)

LAC migration to the United States: what is new?

- Hispanic or Latino community constitutes the first ethnic minority
- Substantial increase in the number of immigrants from LAC (people born in countries of Mesoamerica, South America and the Caribbean)

**UNITED STATES: STOCKS OF IMMIGRANT POPULATION FROM LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN. 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 a/**

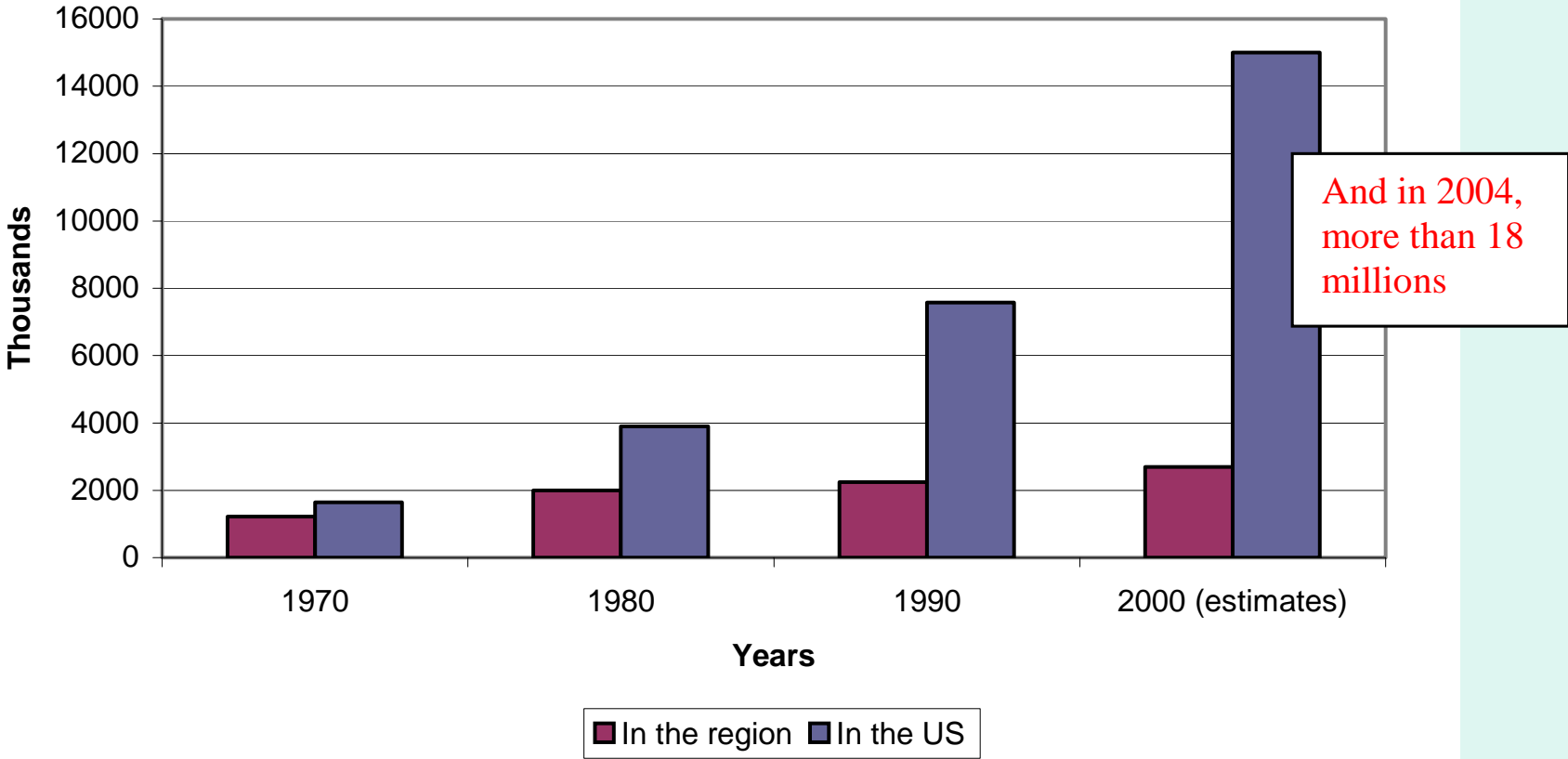
| Origin | Census dates | | | | Mean annual growth rates | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 1970-1980 | 1980-1990 | 1990-2000 |
| South America | 234233 | 493950 | 871678 | 1876000 | | | |
| Percentage | 13.6 | 11.3 | 10.4 | 13.0 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 7.7 |
| Mesoamerica b/ | 873624 | 2530440 | 5391943 | 9789000 | | | |
| Percentage | 50.6 | 57.7 | 64.4 | 67.6 | 10.6 | 7.6 | 6.0 |
| Caribbean | 617551 | 1358610 | 2107181 | 2813000 | | | |
| Percentage | 35.8 | 31.0 | 25.2 | 19.4 | 7.9 | 4.4 | 2.9 |
| Total | 1725408 | 4383000 | 8370802 | 14478000 | | | |
| Percentage | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 9.3 | 6.5 | 5.5 |

Source: IMILA Project, CELADE.

a/: 2000 corresponds to the Current Population Survey.

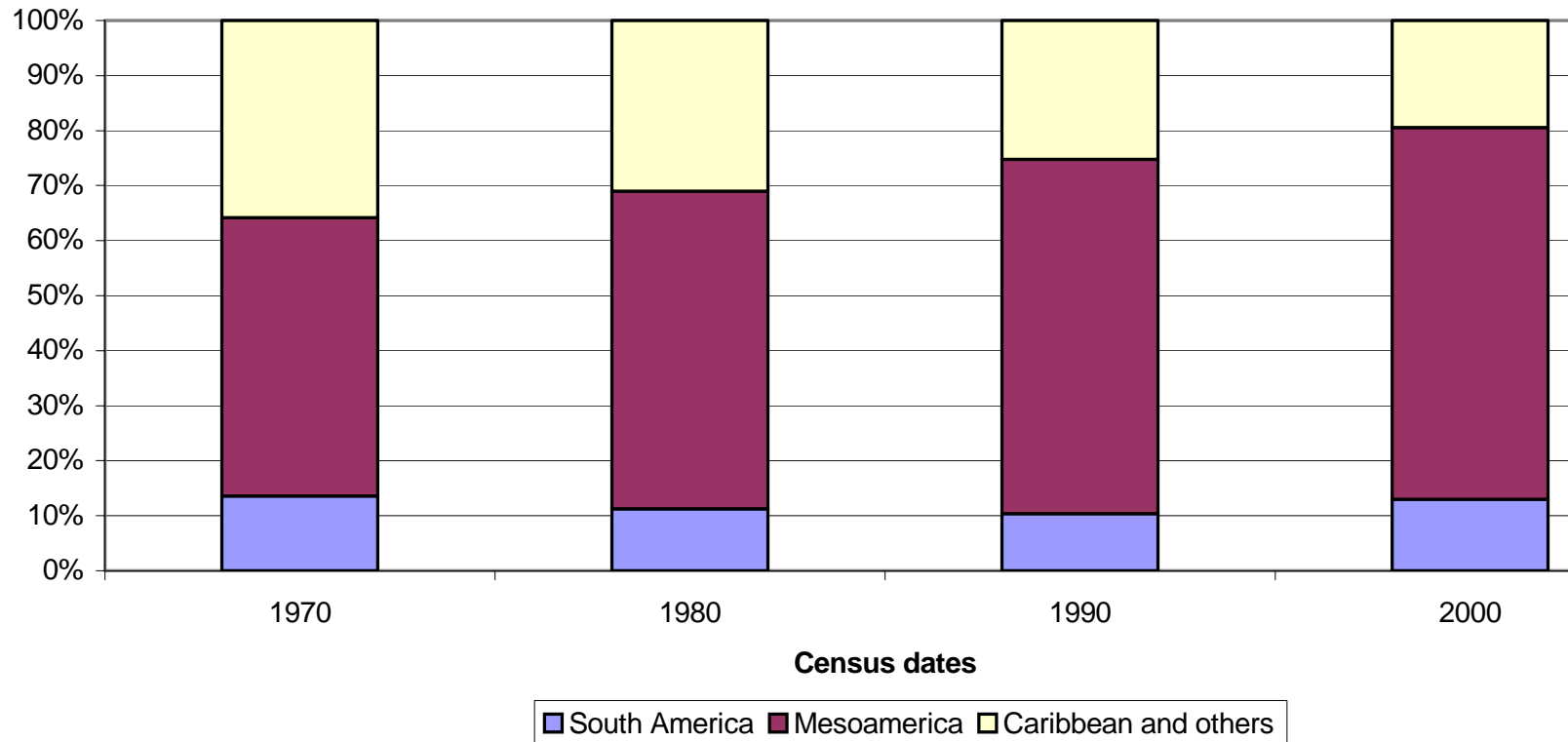
b/: Comprises Mexico and Central America.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS REGISTERED IN THE REGION AND IN THE UNITED STATES 1970- 2000



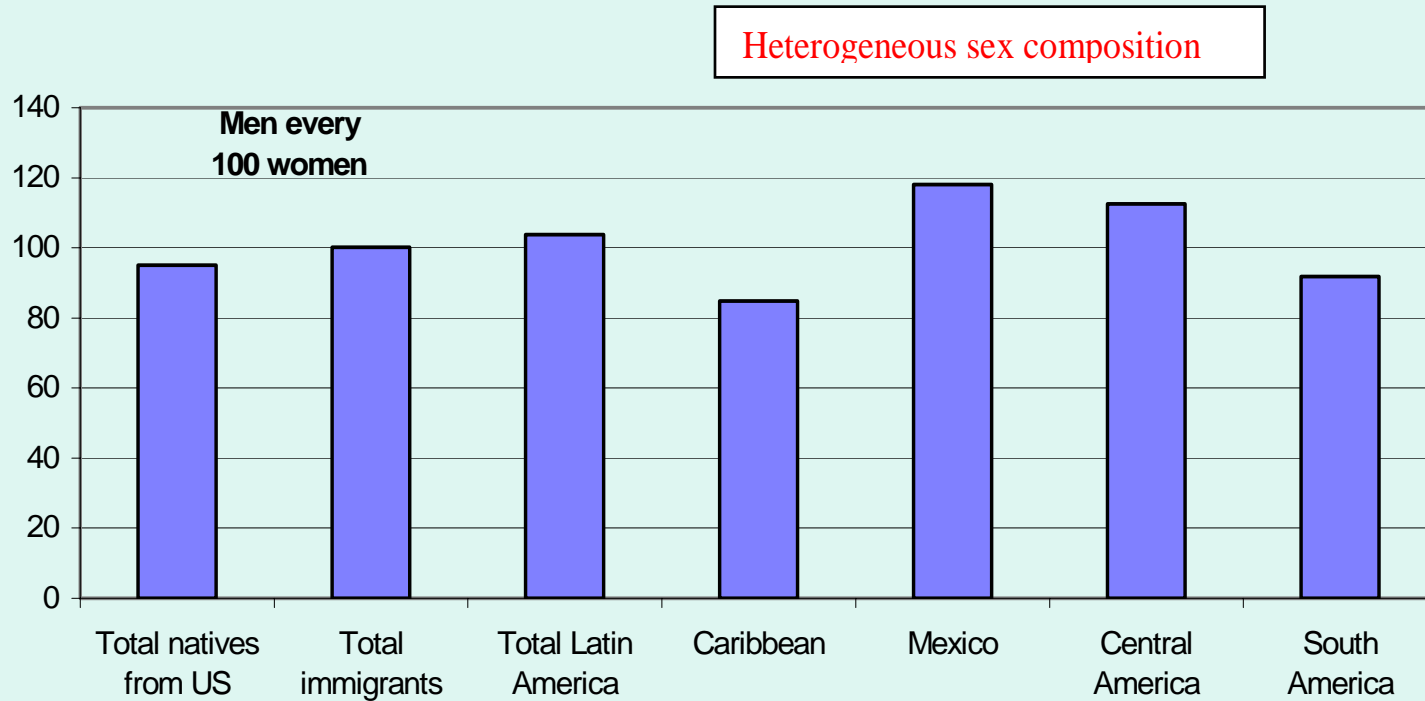
Source: IMILA Project, CELADE.

UNITED STATES: PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANT POPULATION FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. 1970-2000



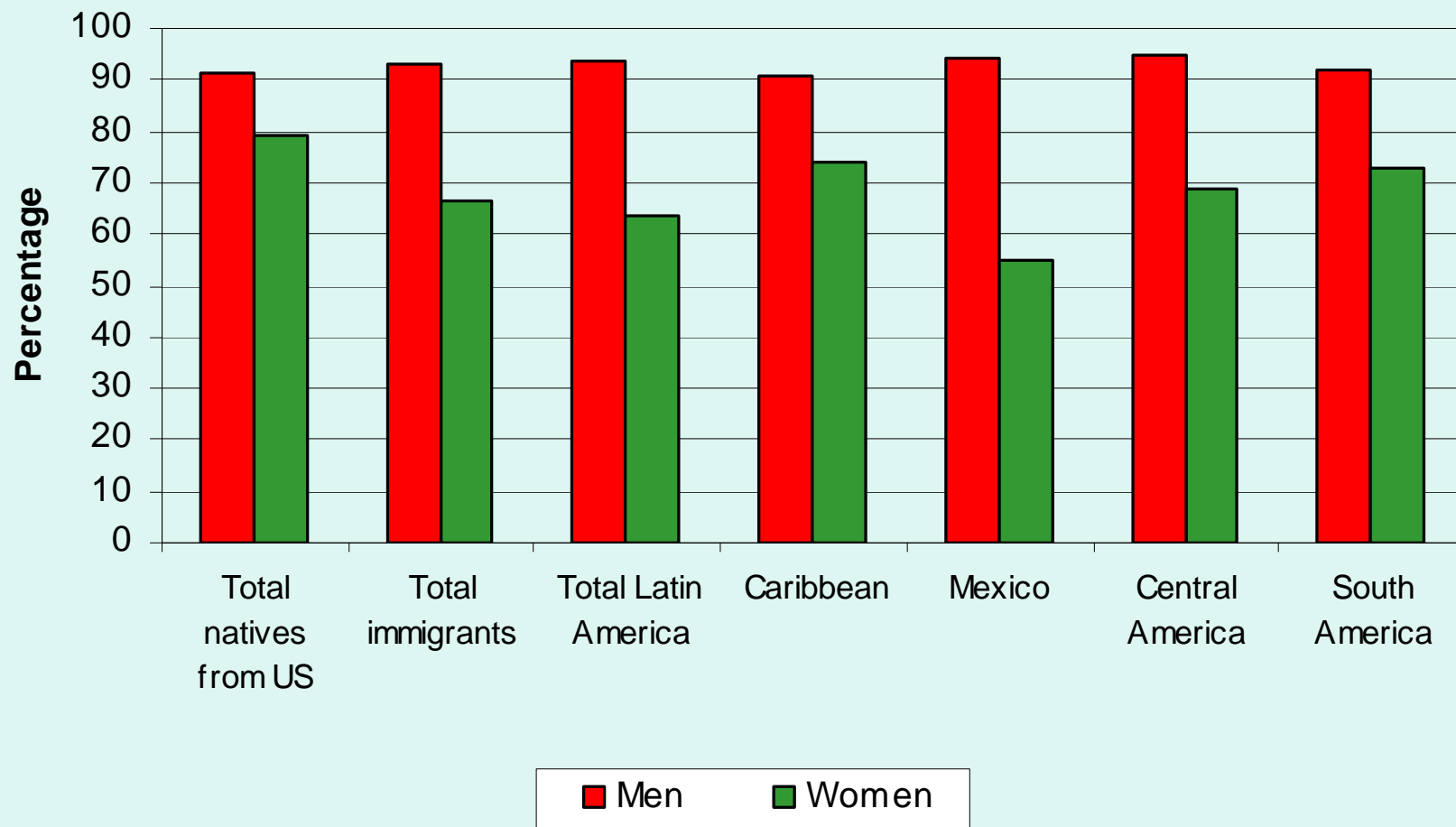
Source: Villa y Martínez (2002), based on IMILA data. For 2000 the information was taken from the Current Population Survey. Mesoamerica comprises Mexico and Central America.

UNITED STATES: SEX RATIO OF NATIVE AND IMMIGRANT POPULATION. 2000



Source: Schmidley (2001), based on the Current Population Survey, 2000.

UNITED STATES: PERCENTAGE OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION OF NATIVE AND IMMIGRANT POPULATION, BY SEX, 2000



Source: IMILA Project, CELADE.

Some structural factors behind migration

- Asymmetries of development processes (*the great divide*): substantial differences in GDP per capita, labor market (wage levels and labor opportunities, scarce possibilities for the creation of jobs), poverty
- Historical ties, system of interactions (Mexico)
- Socio-political exclusion, persistence of social inequity
- Opening of internal markets to world trade, new technologies

...and some additional factors behind migration

- Changes in labor demand in the United States
- Images of globalization: communication and consumption patterns
- Transnational social networks: migration feedback

Migration to other OECD countries

- Nearly 3 million people in 2000
- Spain, Canada, Japan and Australia are the most important countries of destination
- Citizenship recognition
- Different admission programs

LATIN AMERICANS AND CARIBBEANS REGISTERED IN SELECTED COUNTRIES. ESTIMATES CIRCA 2000

| Country where present | Total |
|---|------------------|
| Australia | 74 649 |
| Austria ^a | 2 308 |
| Belgium | 4 962 |
| Canada | 575 955 |
| Denmark | 865 |
| France ^a | 41 714 |
| Germany | 87 614 |
| Israel | 78 259 |
| Italy | 116 084 |
| Japan | 284 691 |
| Netherlands | 157 745 |
| Norway | 14 937 |
| Portugal | 25 531 |
| Spain | 840 104 |
| Sweden | 19 930 |
| Total Europe | 1 811 794 |
| United Kingdom ^b | 500 000 |
| Total countries with information | 2 825 348 |

Spain is the
second country
of destination

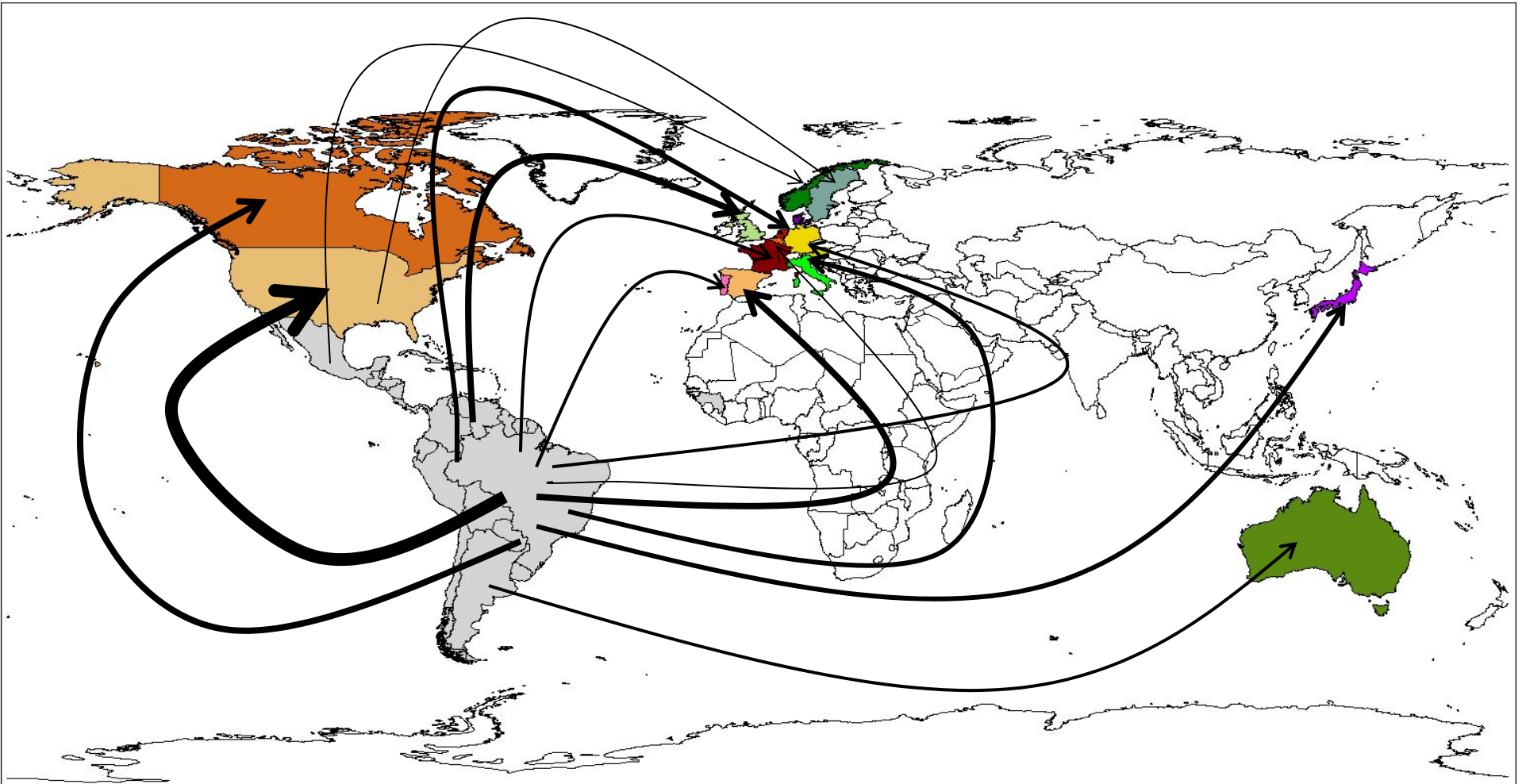
Source: IMILA Project, CELADE.

^a: 1990 data. ^b: Rough estimate by Thomas-Hope (2002).

Governance of international migration

Various measures need to be taken, including:

- promoting the deliberate incorporation of migration into the agenda of the international community;
- signing and ratifying the international instruments on the protection of migrants and also taking steps to ensure that the provisions of those instruments are effectively fulfilled;
- consolidating and extending the areas of authority on migration in the various regional and subregional multilateral agreements;
- establishing explicit bilateral agreements both between Latin American and Caribbean countries and between those countries and others outside the region which are recipients of migration flows from the region



LATIN AMERICANS AND CARIBBEANS REGISTERED IN SELECTED OECD COUNTRIES. CIRCA 2000

