



Migration during the Great Depression

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- An estimated **500,000** Americans migrated from the dry Midwest to California in the **“Okie Migration”** (Gutmann et al., 2016).



What I am studying

I am studying **migration patterns during the Great Depression**

because I want to find out **what movement was caused or impaired by the conditions in the 1930s**

in order to help my reader understand **how crisis drives mass mobility, and vice versa.**



Outline

Tentative claim: During the Great Depression, attempts both locally and federally to change normal migration patterns were sometimes only effective at self-preservation in the short-term (e.g., in the case of the Dust Bowl) and otherwise not at all effective in curbing any of the crises' effects.



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- **Subclaim:** Environmental factors
 - Evidence: Dust bowl (increased migration)
- **Subclaim:** Reduction of immigration (forced and voluntary)
 - Evidence: Mexican repatriation (forced migration)
 - Evidence: Irish immigration (limiting mobility)



Annotated Bibliography [1]

Article: “Migration in the 1930s: Beyond the Dust Bowl”

This summarizes the results of statistical research that aims to find statistically-significant correlation between domestic migration events in the U.S. using 1940 census data (including 1935 whereabouts) and agricultural data from throughout the 1930s. The paper looks at attributes of (especially agricultural) and net population flux per county, and ecodivisions. The results confirm other research that the majority of the migration is tightly coupled to ecological factors, but also acknowledge that some regional patterns cannot be explained by their model, and a study on a per-individual basis may be more informative.

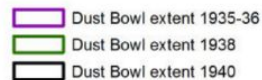
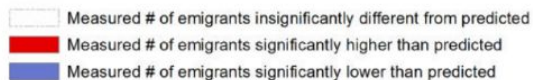
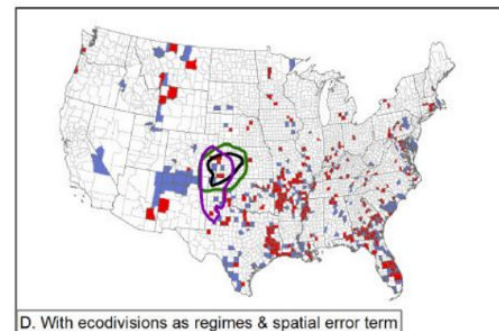
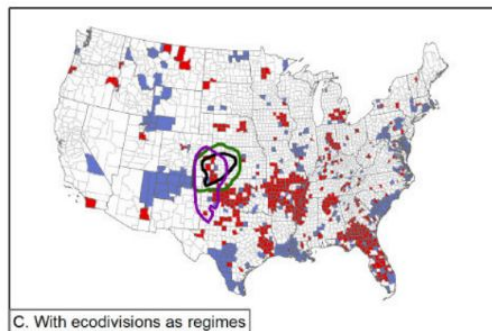
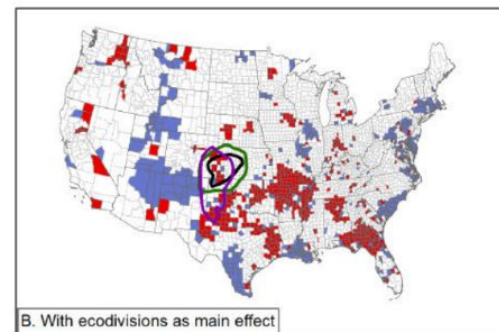
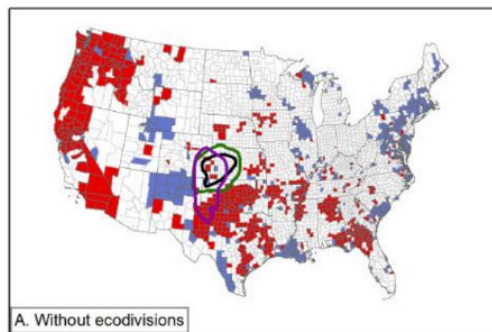
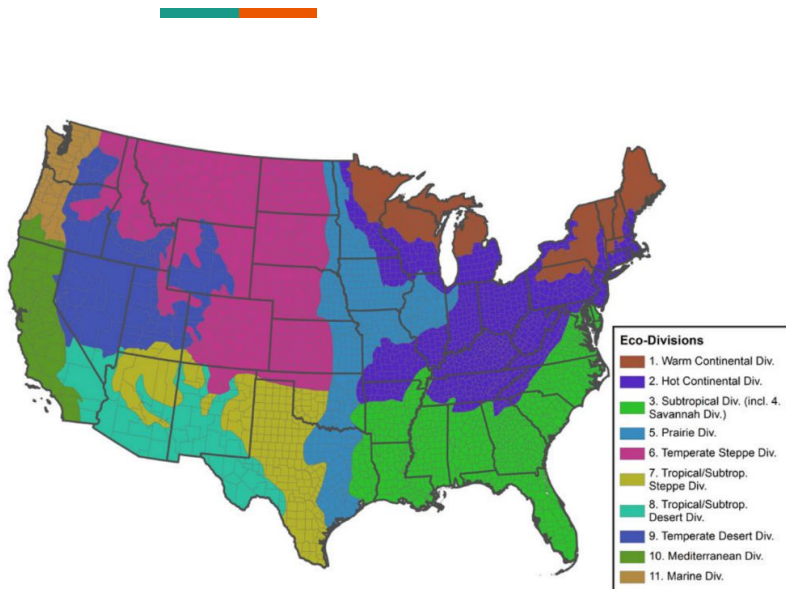


Figure 10.

Mapped residuals of four different implementations of the crop failure model.



Annotated Bibliography [2]

Article: “Transatlantic Connections and the Sharp Edge of the Great Depression”

This article focuses on how Irish emigration to the U.S., which had played a significant economic role in the former since the Irish famine, was severely disrupted by the Great Depression. Immigration was not impacted much by American immigration laws during the early 20th century, but many Irish breadwinners in America lost the earnings of the last decade in the stock market. Some others were too embarrassed to not be able to support their families and cut off contact; others who returned to Ireland were shunned from society; thus migration to the United States caused major economic and social strife in Ireland, even if the stock market and ecological effects didn't affect Ireland directly.



Annotated Bibliography [3]

Article: “Mexican Repatriation and the Possibility for a Federal Cause of Action: A Comparative Analysis on Reparations”

This report discusses the Mexican Repatriation Act, a policy instituted by President Hoover to free up jobs for Americans from 1929 to 1944 to deport an estimated 500,000 to 2,000,000 Mexicans (mostly U.S. citizens) to Mexico. Many Mexican workers had come to the U.S. in the early 20th century, but they were always “second-class citizens”: low-paid and an easy scapegoat during the Great Depression. More specifically, it aims to address the question of its justice and if a federal bill is necessary to aid in reparation for damages caused by it (after California Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed such a bill).



References

- Gutmann, Myron P., et al. "Migration in the 1930s: Beyond the Dust Bowl." *Social Science History*, vol. 40, no. 4, 2016, pp. 707–740., doi:10.1017/ssh.2016.28.
- O'Brien, Matthew J. "Transatlantic Connections and the Sharp Edge of the Great Depression." *Éire-Ireland*, vol. 37 no. 1, 2002, p. 38-57. *Project MUSE*, doi:10.1353/eir.2002.0003.
- Ray, Eric L. "Mexican Repatriation and the Possibility for a Federal Cause of Action: A Comparative Analysis on Reparations." *The University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*, vol. 37, no. 1, 2005, pp. 171–196. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/40176606. Accessed 21 Feb. 2020.