

THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STRUCTURAL CHANGE OF STATE ECONOMY  
AND INTERSTATE MIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES: A REGRESSION ANALYSIS

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION: THE PROBLEM AND SETTING

#### The Design of Study

Migration represents the areal mobility of human population. It is considered the major mechanism in which the population redistributes itself spatially in response to different socio-economic opportunities and constraints. In the United States, approximately 20 percent of the nation's population is estimated to be affected annually by the migration process.<sup>1</sup>

When people move from one location into another, it is noted that certain regularities tend to characterize the movement. This fact that -- migration is not a random behavior but subject to a certain systematic order -- has invited many attempts to generalize the motivational and behavioral pattern of migration, making it one of the most studied aspects of human behavior.<sup>2</sup>

A number of viewpoints are prevalent in the migration literature with respect to the way the various components of the forces affecting migratory patterns are identified and generalized. Even with the diversity of viewpoints that have emerged, a commonly shared viewpoint maintains that migration is a

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1 The areal moves are classified on a distance scale; intracounty moves which usually involve a change of residence within commuting distance of a given job, intercounty shifts involving a change to a new job and interstate movement. The Bureau of Census defines the latter two movements, intercounty, or Intra-State movement, and Inter-State movement as migration. During 1950-1960, approximately 9 percent of the population was affected by Interstate movement. See U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, "Current Population Characteristics," Series P-20, Np.171, April 30, 1968

2 Halil Sanli reported over 7,000 studies conducted by American and foreign scholars on the subject of human migration. See Halil Abiahim Sanli, "Effects of Metropolitan Area Attractiveness on Intermetroplitan Migration", unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, New York University, 1971, pp. 2