

Understanding Migration in the Circumpolar North

A Boreas Research Project

Oct. 15, 2006

Project Goals and Objectives

- The goal of the project is to describe and understand migration flows around the Circumpolar North through inter-disciplinary comparative research.
 - Most research is disciplinary and country or place specific.
 - Sparse data limits the ability to explain patterns for particular groups.
 - Patterns and importance of migration differ by region, demographic groups, and in response to public policies.
 - Data limits ability to determine the effect of important place specific traditional activities on migration.
 - Migration may involve long term social and cultural consequences for northern communities.

Project Goals and Objectives

1. Provide information on the determinants and consequences of migration across multiple regions of the Arctic using a variety of collected data including data from the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLiCA).
2. Provide a synthesis from a broad range of social science disciplines on migration patterns and experiences in specific regions organized around a set of stylized facts about migration in the North.

Project Participants

- Lee Huskey, University of Alaska Anchorage, USA
- Matt Berman, University of Alaska Anchorage, USA
- Stephanie Martin, University of Alaska Anchorage, USA
- Chris Southcott, Lakehead University, Canada
- Jack Hicks, University of Greenland
- Birger Poppel, University of Greenland
- Olle Westerlund, Umea University, Sweden

Collaborative Research Project

- To meet the synthesis (second) objective two workshops will be organized.
 1. The goal of the first workshop will be to identify what we know about migration in the north. Researchers from all disciplines will be invited to present papers on their work. An outcome of this workshop will be a set of stylized facts about migration and a set of hypotheses about the causes and consequences of migration in the North.
 2. Researchers from the first workshop will be invited to author international comparative papers that address the hypotheses generated in the first workshop. This work will be presented and critiqued at a second workshop.
 3. Both workshops will be held in the Circumpolar North to allow access not only to the research community but also to Northern residents.

Individual Projects

- IP1: Research Coordination and SLiCA Chukotka Research
- IP2: Canada SLiCA and Census Research
- IP3: Research with Greenland SLiCA
- Associate Project: Geographical and Occupational Mobility in Northern Sweden
- Related Project: Migration in the Arctic (North American Inuit), NSF funded project.

Individual Projects

- Chukhotka, Greenland, and Canada research uses SLiCA survey data which provides similar questions in each region.
- SLiCA survey asked questions about migration, employment, traditional activities, and perceptions about social conditions and quality of life.
- Analyze data at individual and community level to identify factors affecting migration decisions.
- Stylized facts would be identified and hypotheses from Workshop No. 1 would be explored.

SLiCA Migration Related Questions

- Where were you born?
- Have you ever lived outside of this community for a year or more?
 - If yes why did you live somewhere else and why did you move back?
- Have you ever considered moving away from this community in the last five years?
 - If yes, why have move considered moving away?
 - If no, why did you chose to remain in the community?
- During the past 12 months have you been away from the community for one month or more?
 - Reasons: work, education, illness, camp or cabin, vacation, family, participate in traditional activities (hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering), other.

Individual Projects

- Canadian project would also examine data from Canadian census and Nunvut-based questionnaire survey.
- Canadian project will examine non-Inuit “settler” migration patterns.
- The Swedish research will use data on Saami migration and examine migration behavior of the indigenous Saami and non-indigenous population in Northern Sweden.
- These projects will be coordinated by using similar data and asking similar questions. The hypotheses developed in the workshop will also serve as a organizing frame.

Related Project

- The migration research using both SLiCA and other data parallels NSF funded research on Inupiat migration in Alaska and Canada, Migration in the Arctic (#457662).
- The results of the Alaska research will be included in the workshops and in the development of stylized facts and hypotheses.

Migration in the Arctic

Subsistence, Jobs, and Well-being in Urban and Rural Communities

Lee Huskey^a, Matthew Berman^b, Lance Howe^b, Wayne Edwards^a,
Robert Harcharek^c, Jack Hicks^d, Stephanie Martin^b

^aDepartment of Economics, University of Alaska Anchorage,

^bInstitute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage

^cDepartment of Public Works, North Slope Borough

^dJack Hicks & Associates, Ilqaluit, Nunavut, Canada

This project studies patterns of migration of North American Inuit between rural communities, larger regional centers, and urban areas over the past several decades.

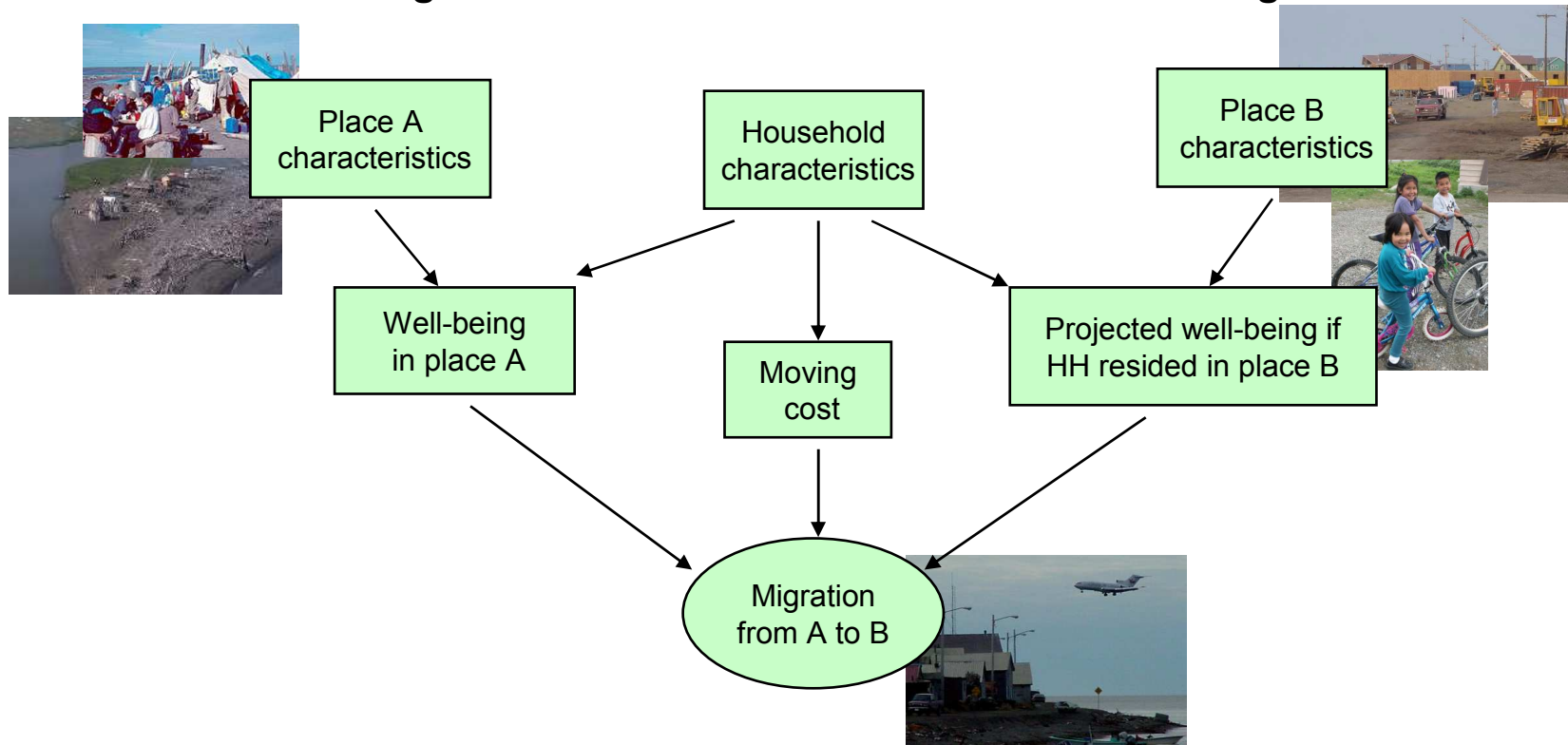
Main Research Questions

- **What are the causes and consequences of migration?**
 - What are the relative roles of subsistence opportunities and community quality of life amenities relative to income-earning employment opportunities?
 - What are gender and age differences in the pattern of migration responses to changes in community job and subsistence opportunities?
- **What is the role of national policies on migration decisions?**
 - What are the relative roles of subsistence opportunities and community quality of life amenities relative to income-earning employment opportunities?
 - What are gender and age differences in the pattern of migration responses to changes in community job and subsistence opportunities?
- **What are the long-term consequences of migration decisions?**
 - For example, comparing the Inupiat regions in Alaska to the Nunavut Territory of Canada, we ask whether Canadian Inuit are less mobile than Alaska Inupiat;
 - If so, to what extent can this be attributed to differences in policies in the two nations?

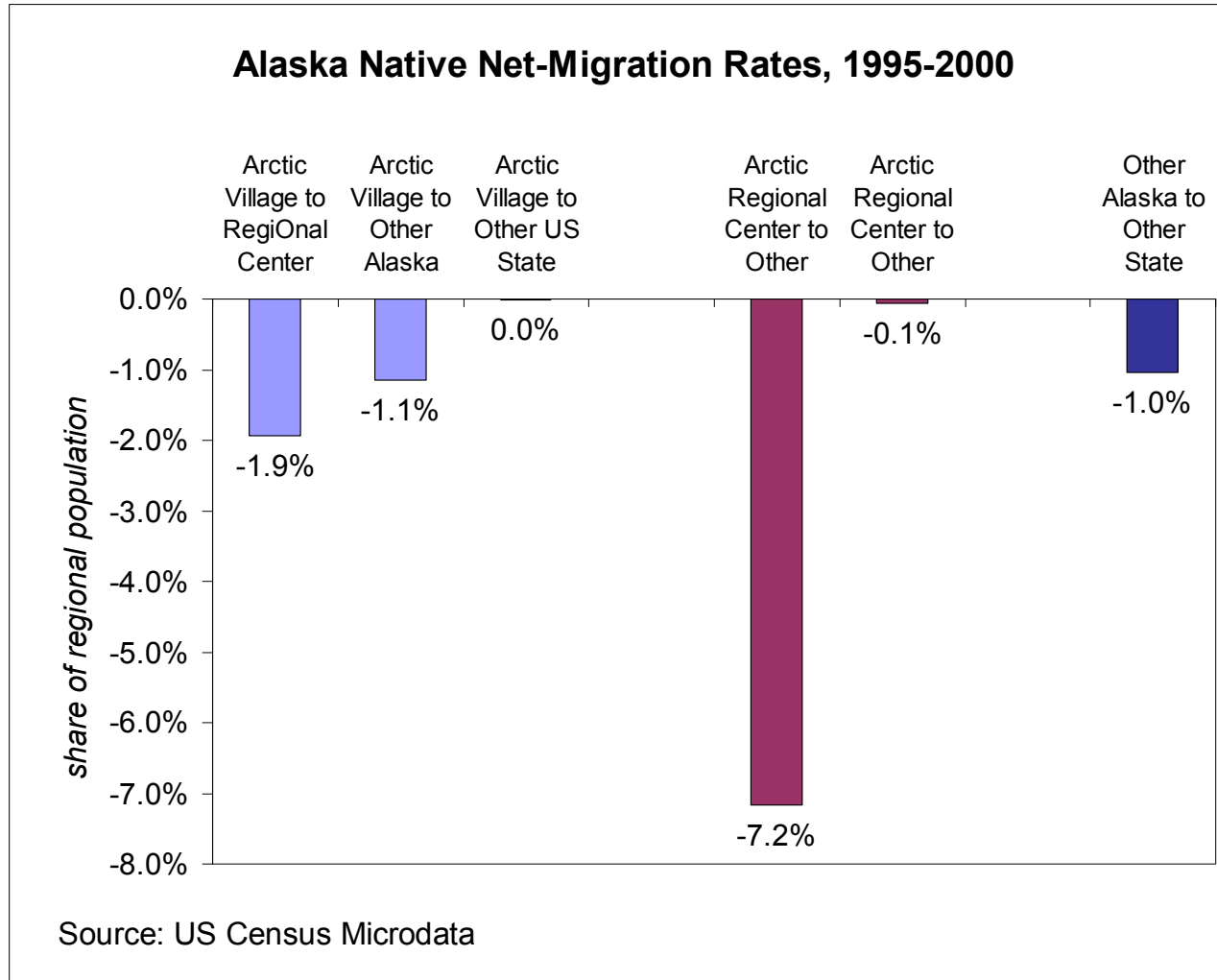
Approach

Our conceptual model of arctic migration starts from the basic idea that factors that influence relative well-being of living in different places provide incentives for individuals and households to move among these places. At the community level, then, migration provides an indicator of relative well-being.

Migration as an Indicator of Relative Well-being



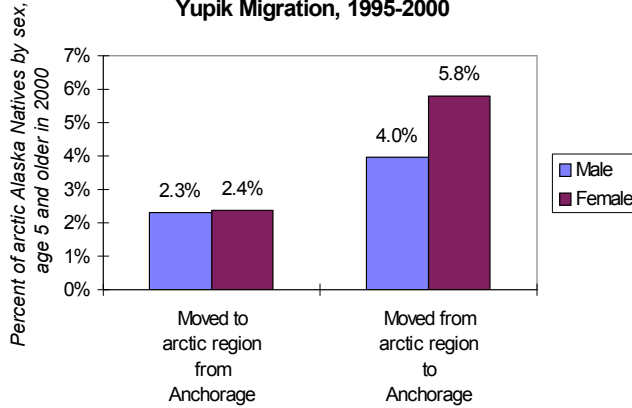
Patterns of movement from village to regional center: how does Canada differ?



Differences in migration patterns by gender and education between Inupiaq and Yupik in arctic Alaska and Inuit in arctic Canada raise interesting questions for future research.

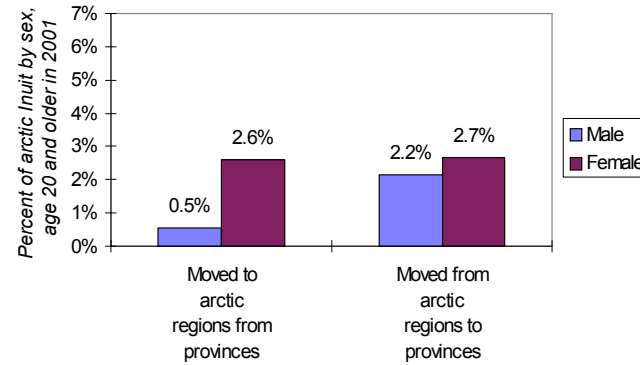
Women are more mobile than men in both arctic Alaska and arctic Canada. But net out-migration from arctic Alaska is greater for women, while net out-migration from arctic Canada is greater for men.

Gender Differences in Arctic Alaska Inupiaq and Yupik Migration, 1995-2000



Source: Estimated from U.S. Census 2000, County-to-County Migration Patterns CD

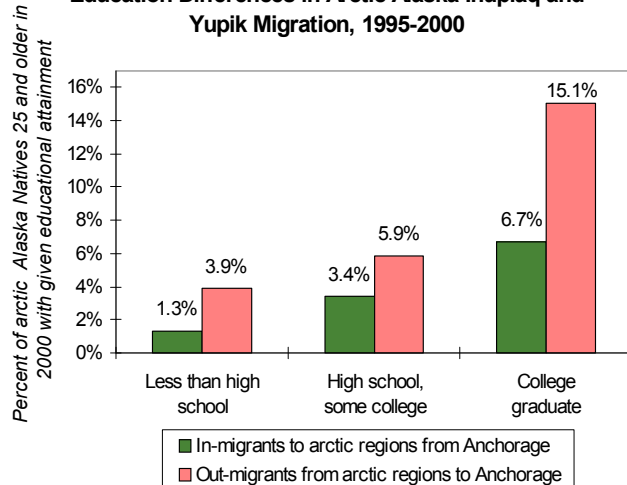
Gender Differences in Canada Arctic Inuit Migration, 1996-2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census Public Use Microdata File

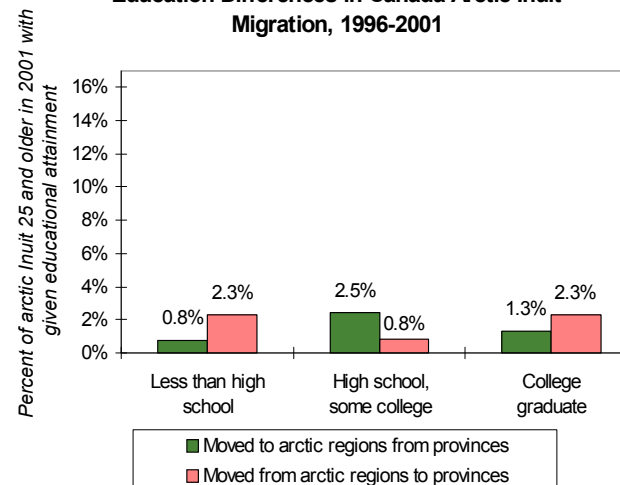
Educational attainment levels are similar in arctic Alaska and arctic Canada. But in Alaska, unlike Canada, more educated individuals are much more likely to leave the Arctic.

Education Differences in Arctic Alaska Inupiaq and Yupik Migration, 1995-2000



Source: Estimated from U.S. Census 2000, County-to-County Migration Patterns CD

Education Differences in Canada Arctic Inuit Migration, 1996-2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census Public Use Microdata File



SLiCA

Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic

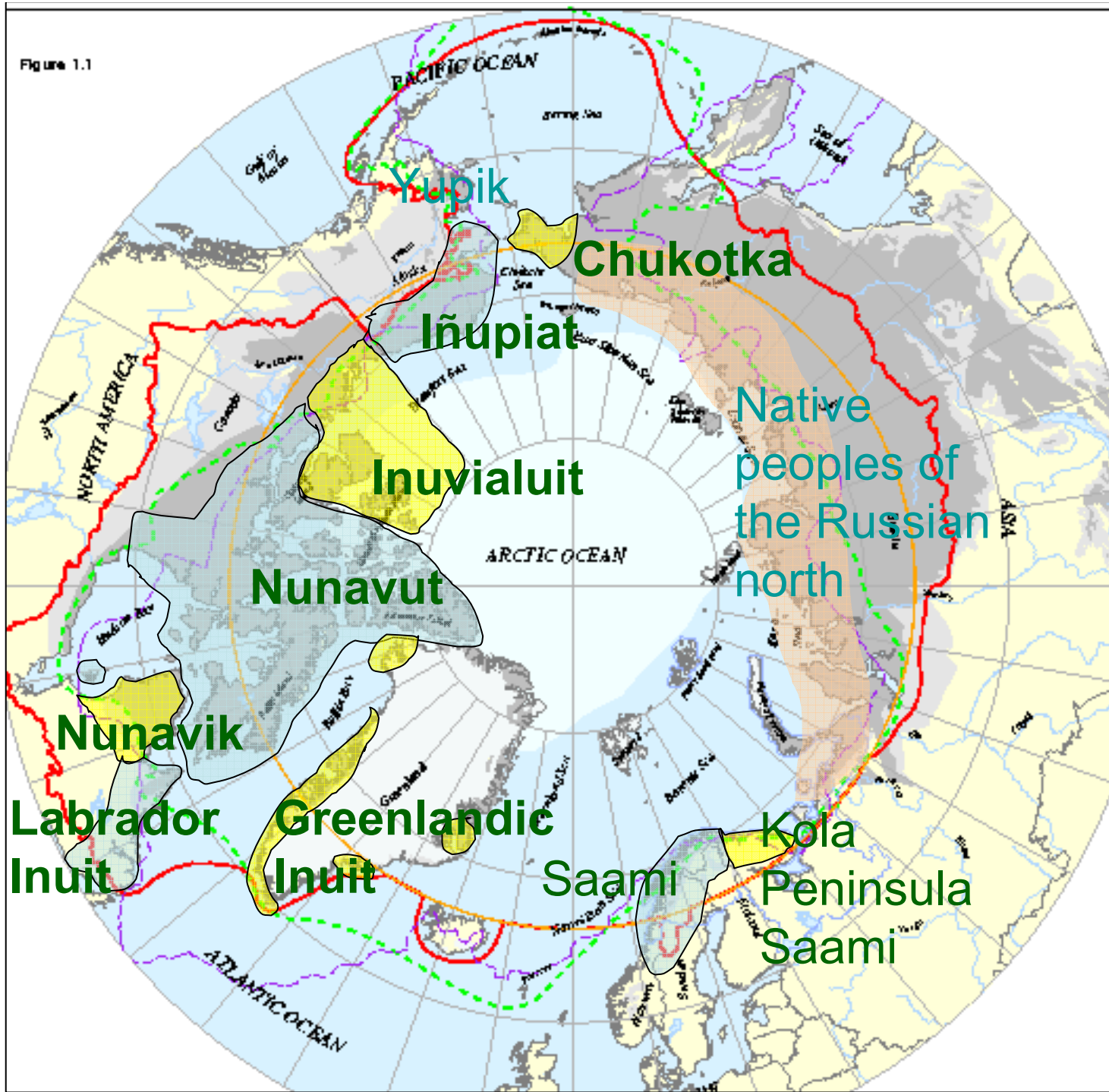
Selected Living Condition Indicators for Individuals and Households of the 1994 Greenland Living Conditions Survey

		TOWNS	SETTLEMENTS
HOUSING	m ² per household	79,3 m ²	54,6 m ²
	% of housing units with > 1 person per room	36,1 %	56,1 %
EMPLOYMENT/ UNEMPLOYMENT	Employed	68	58
	Unemployed	12	21
EDUCATION	No vocational training	47	68
INCOME	Gross household income	241.000 DKK	143.000 DKK

Emerging Questions

- Why do people, if they are able to move, prefer living in places where living conditions measured by traditional indicators are poorer?
- If staying in more remote areas and in harsh climates is a consequence of a choice, which are the main reasons/priorities and how do we measure them?

Figure 1.1

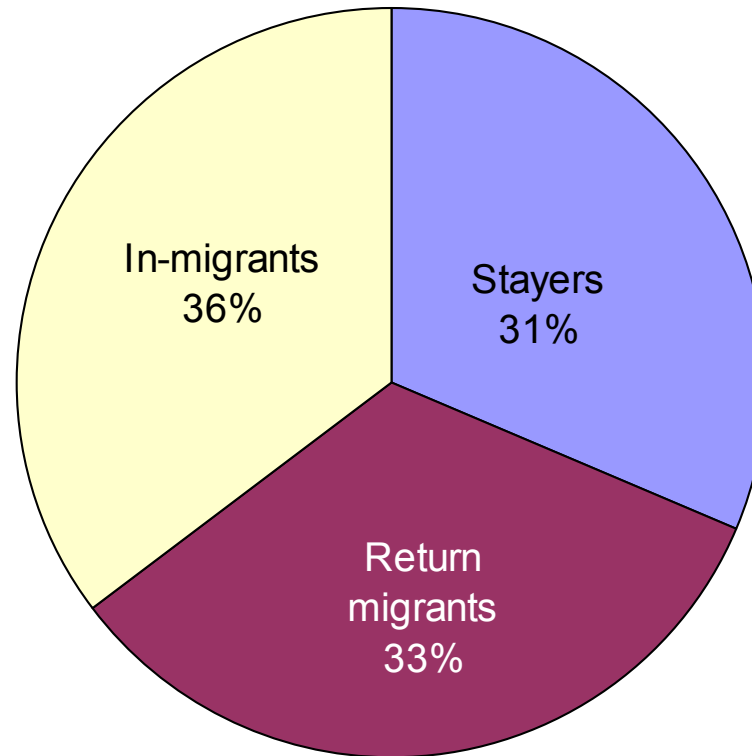


**Inuit
Settlement
Regions
Sampled**

Living Conditions Dimensions

- Communication and Technology
- Community Viability
- Discrimination
- Education
- Employment/Harvest
- Environment/Resource management
- Family relations and social networks
- Health
- Household economy
- Housing
- Identity management
- Justice/Safety
- Language
- Mobility
- Political resources
- Religion/spirituality
- Work/Leisure

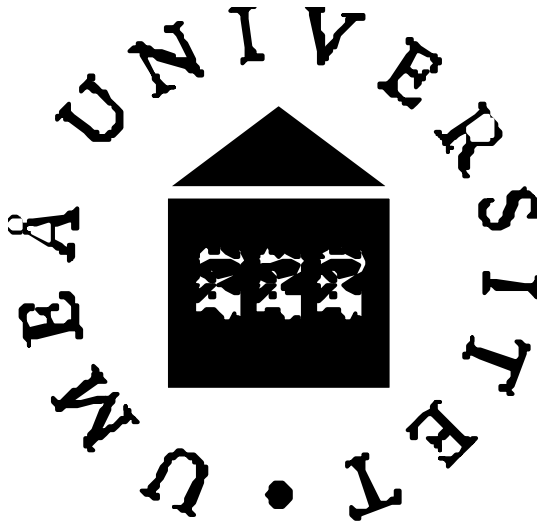
Community residents – life time migration status



SLiCA - A Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic; Inuit, Saami and the Indigenous Peoples of Chukotka

www.arcticlivingconditions.org

- *Supported by:*
 - *Inuit Circumpolar Conference, ICC*
 - *Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, RAIPON*
 - *Sámi Council*
- ***Adopted as an Arctic Council project under the auspices of the Sustainable Development Working Group, SDWG at the Ministerial meeting in Barrow, October 2000. Included in the Sustainable Development Action Plan, SDAP 2004-2006.***
- *Funded by:*
Nordic Council of Ministers, NMR, The Greenland Home Rule Government, The Commission for Scientific Research in Greenland, KVUG, The Barents Secretariat, Nordic Arctic Research Programme, NARP, Danish Research Council for the Social Sciences, SSF, Swedish Research Council for the Social Sciences, Ministry of the interior – Dept. of municipalities, Norway, The Joint Committee on Research Councils for Nordic Countries, NOSS, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, SSHRC, National Science Foundation, NSF, Statistics Canada.
- *International coordinator: Ilisimatusarfik, University of Greenland: www.ilisimatusarfik.gl*
- SLiCA contacts:
Project Chief Birger Poppel: bipo@ilisimatusarfik.gl
Program Director Jack Kruse: afjack@uaa.alaska.edu



Geographical and occupational mobility in northern Sweden

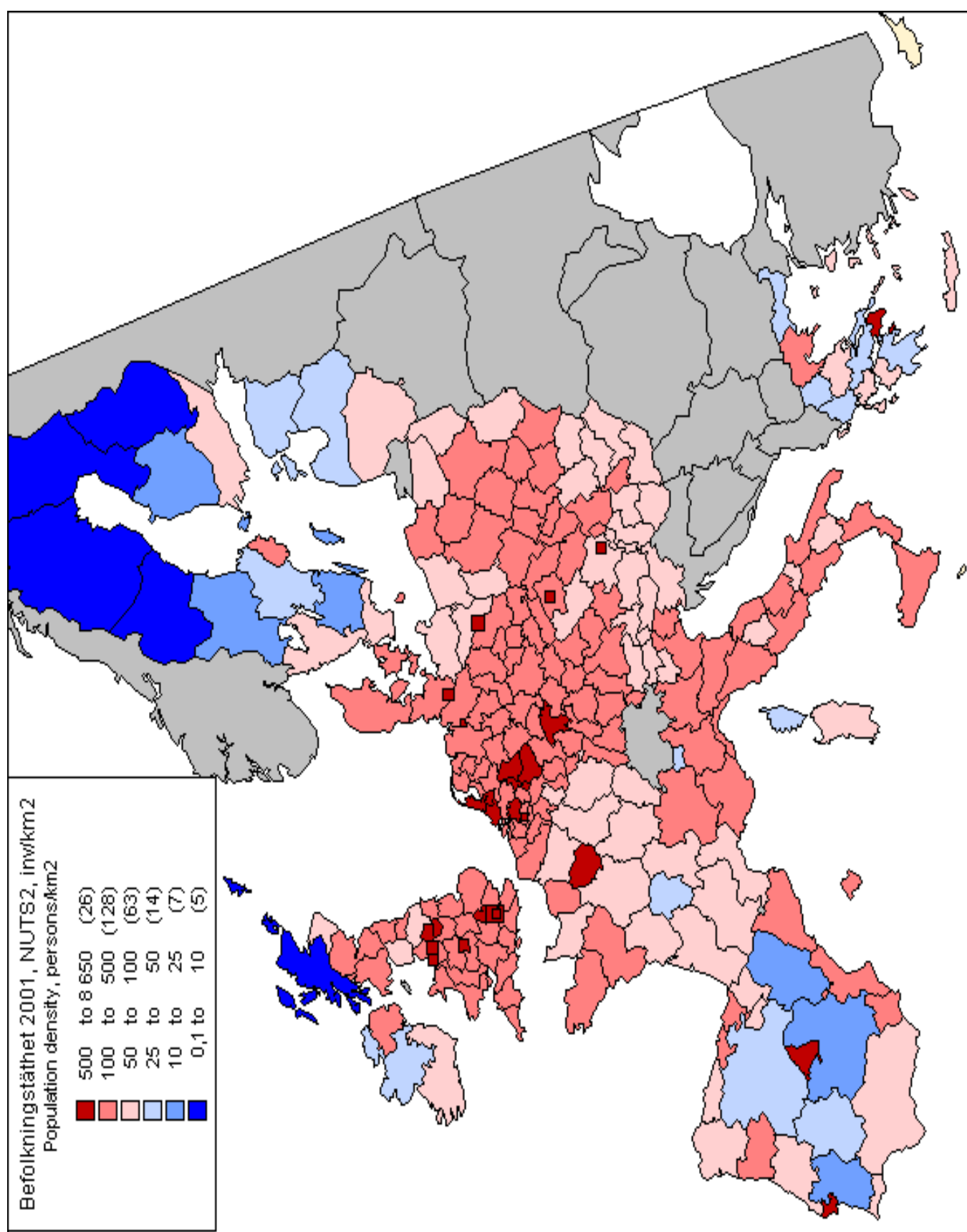
**Olle Westerlund
Department of Economics
Umeå University
Sweden**

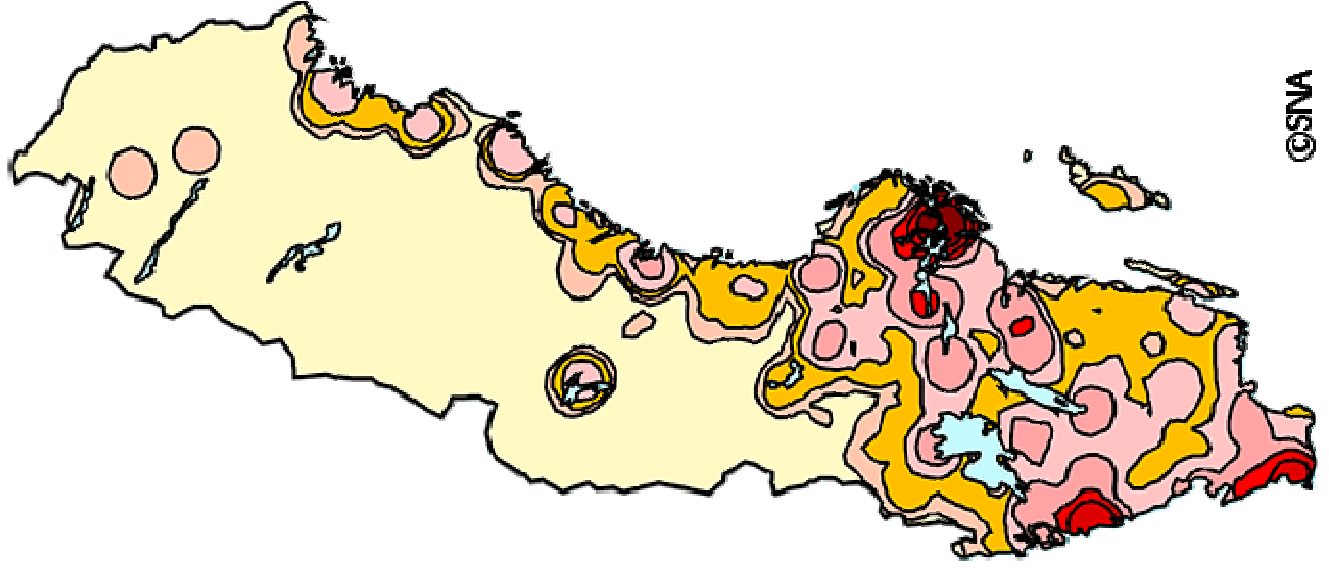


Empirical studies of:

- the determinants of migration, commuting, and occupational mobility
- the economic consequences of mobility

Population: individuals living in the arctic and the near arctic region of Sweden during the period 1985-2003.





©SNA

The project will unfold in two parts:

1. study of the whole population in the region
2. study of the indigenous Saami population.

The latter part is dependent on the accessibility
to special data



The main questions for research are:

1. How is migration, commuting and occupational mobility affected by individual characteristics, regional labour market conditions, and other regional attributes?
2. What are the economic outcomes of mobility for migrants, commuters and for those who changes occupation ?
3. Which are the determinants for return migration back to the inland of Norrland ?
4. Which are the differences between the Saami population and the other population regarding research questions 1), 2) and 3)?

