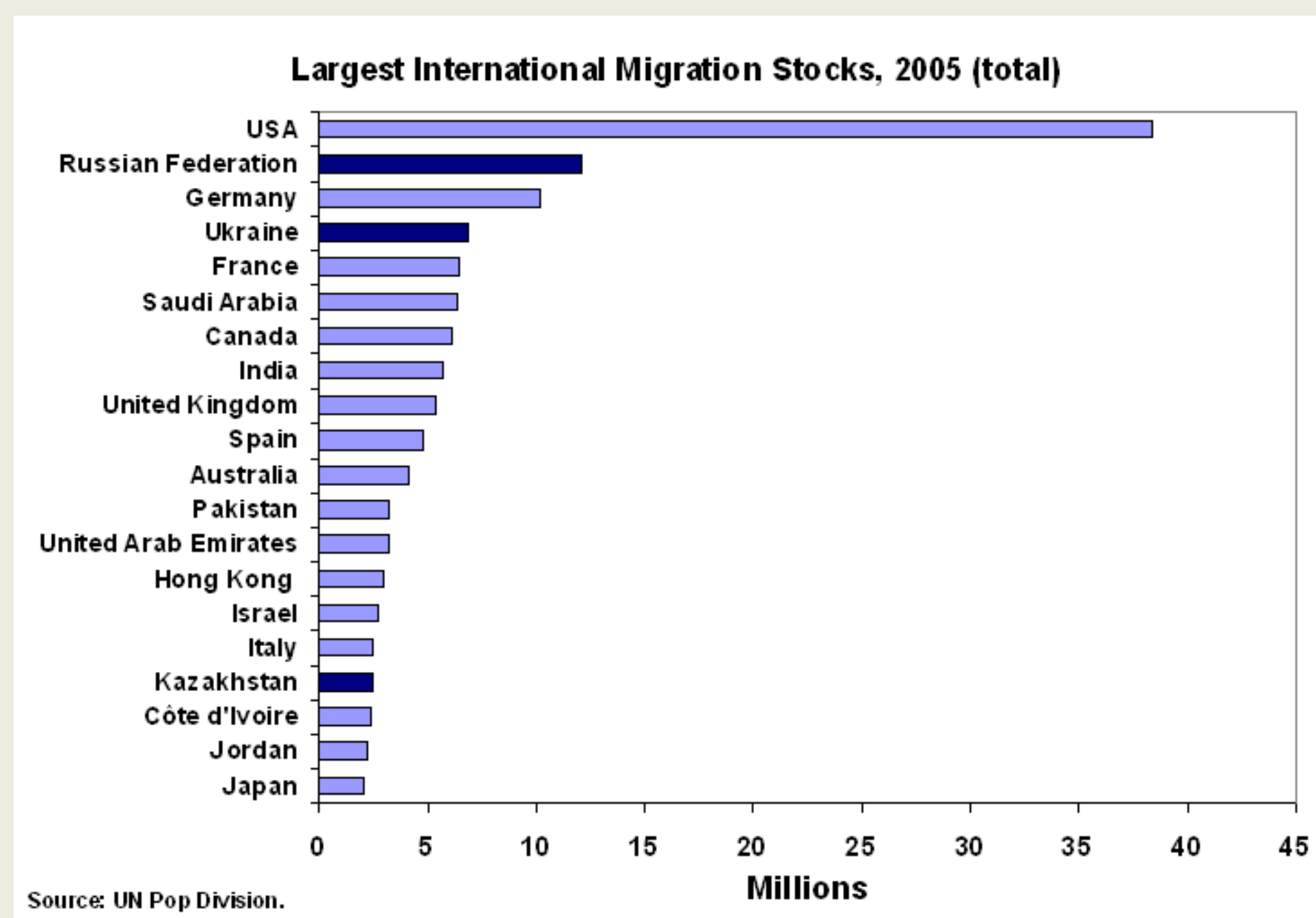
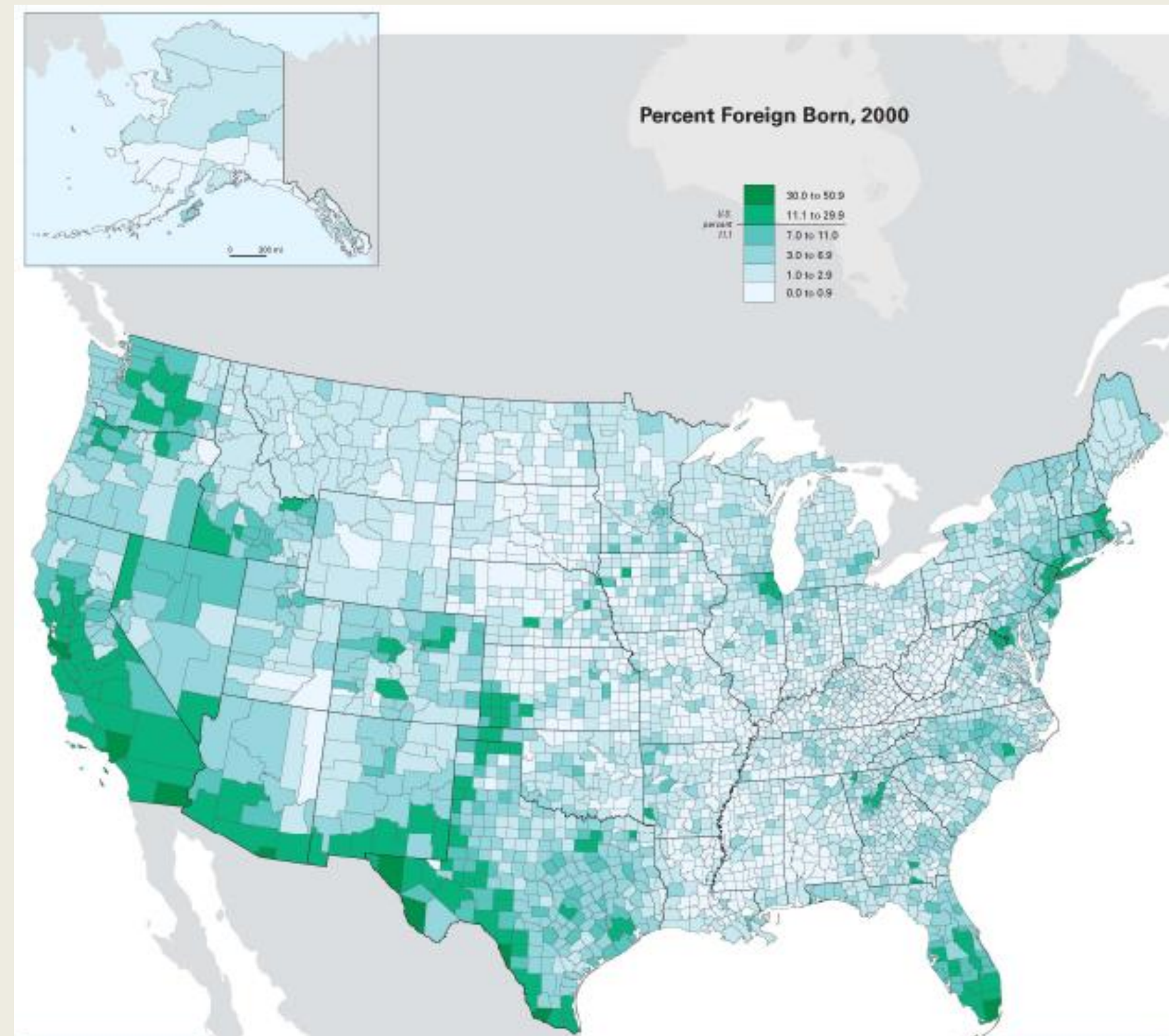


Migration Destinations in Post-Soviet Russia

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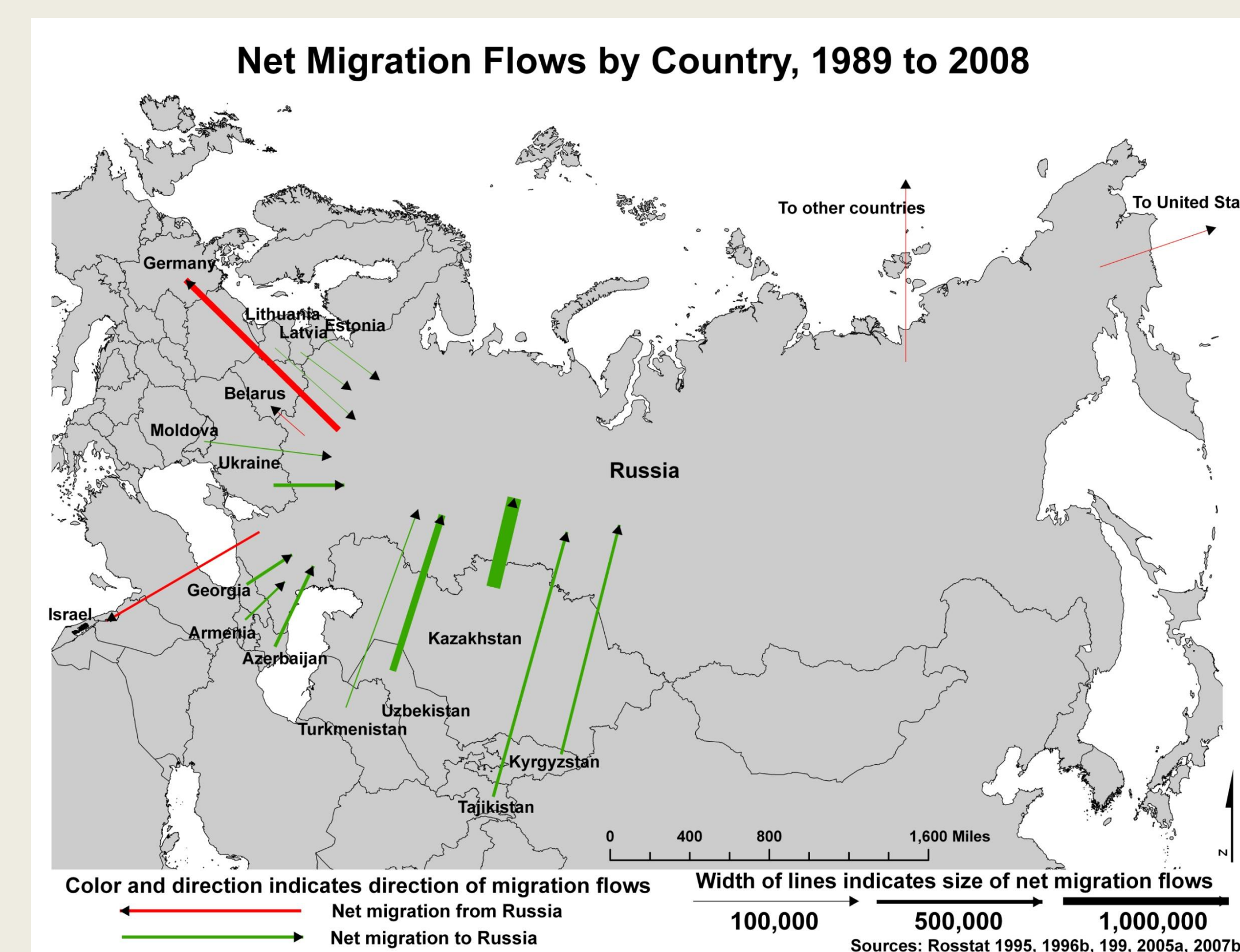


Russia has the second-largest stock of migrants in the world after the United States. About 5 million of 14 million in Russia are “new” migrants, who moved after breakup of Soviet Union.



Much is known and there is an extensive literature on the destinations of migrants into the United States. Much less is known about the destination choices of migrants into Russia.

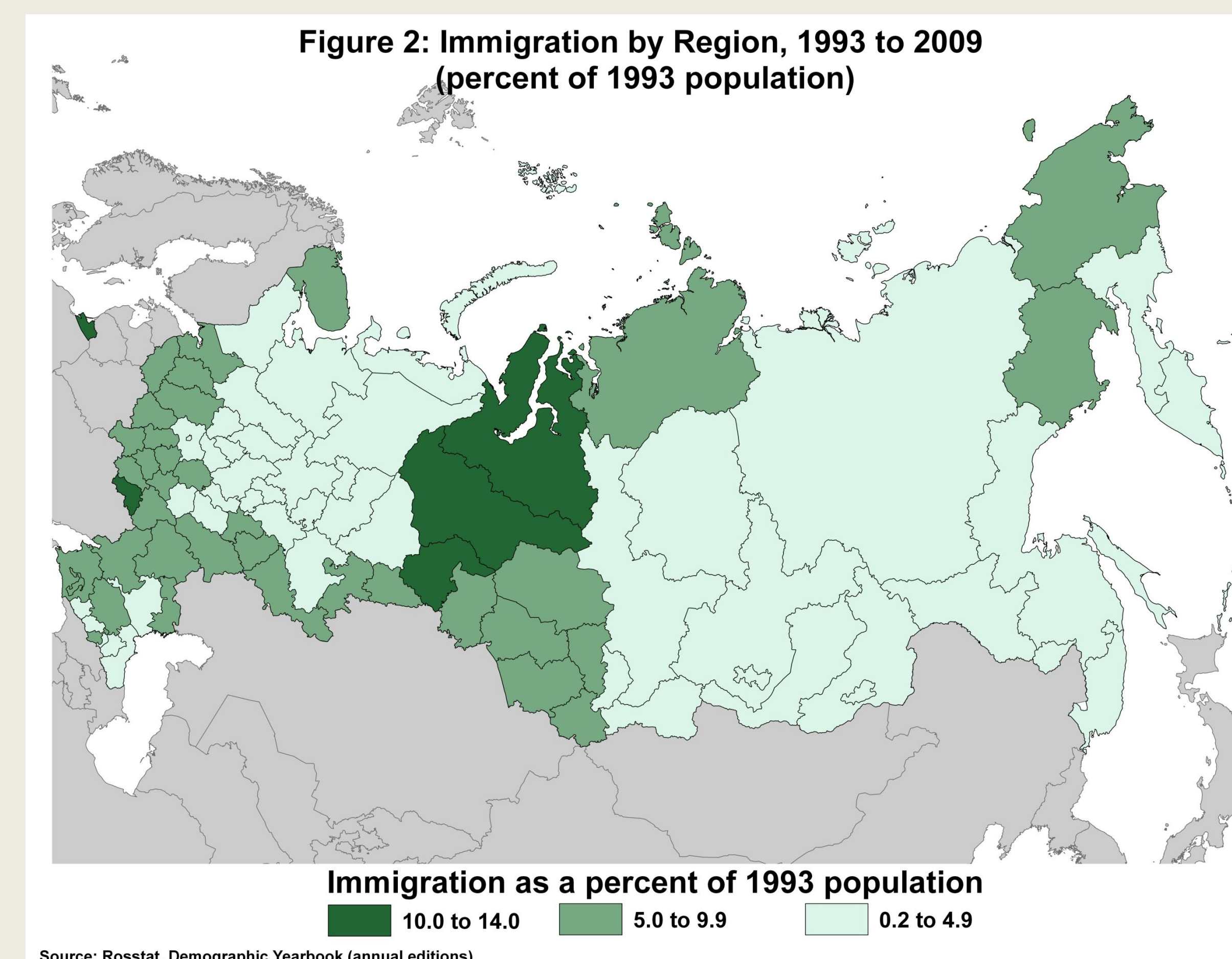
The paper tests three factors influencing destination choice of migrants in Russia 1) ethnic factors 2) economic factors such as large income disparities among Russian regions and 3) other factors, such as distance.



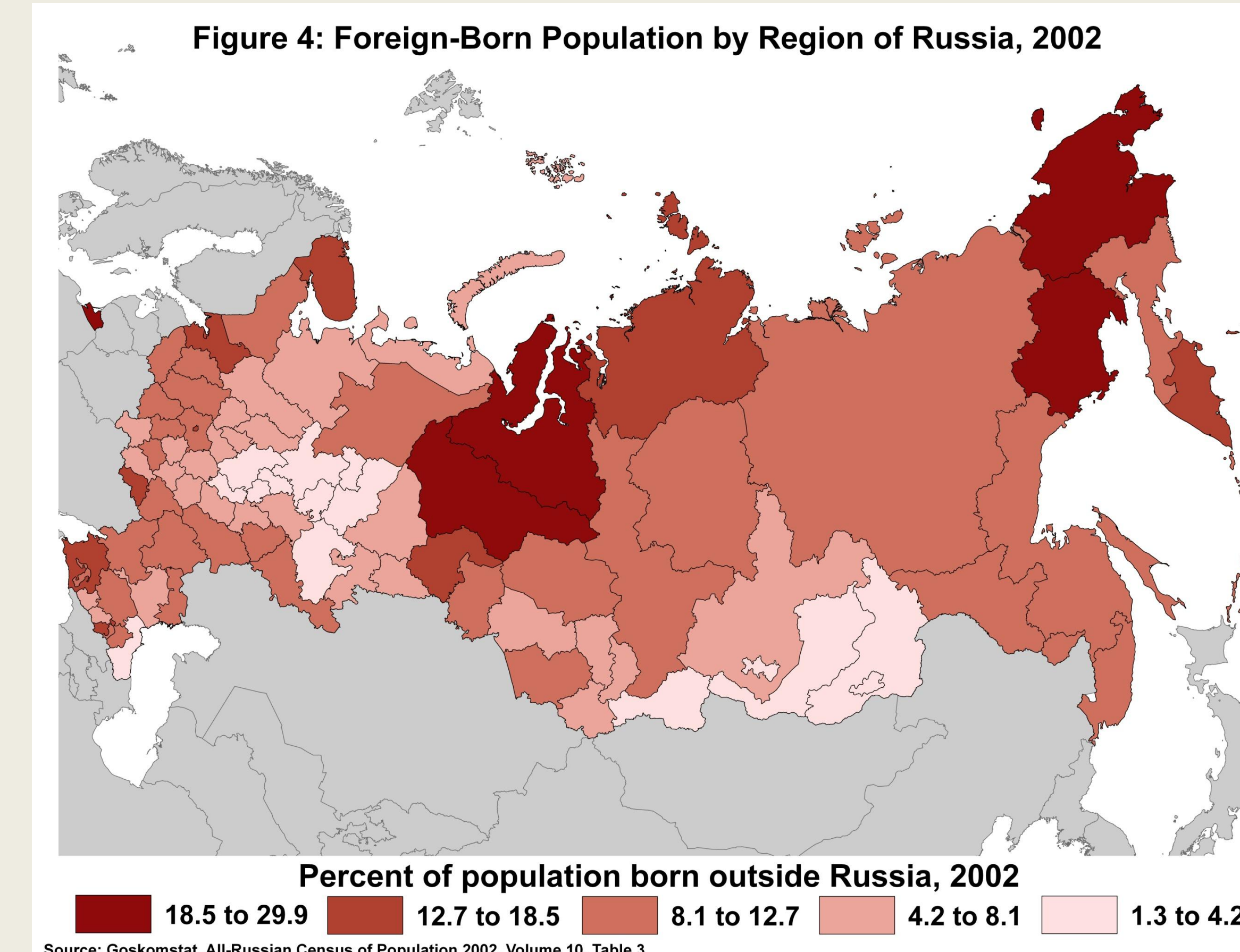
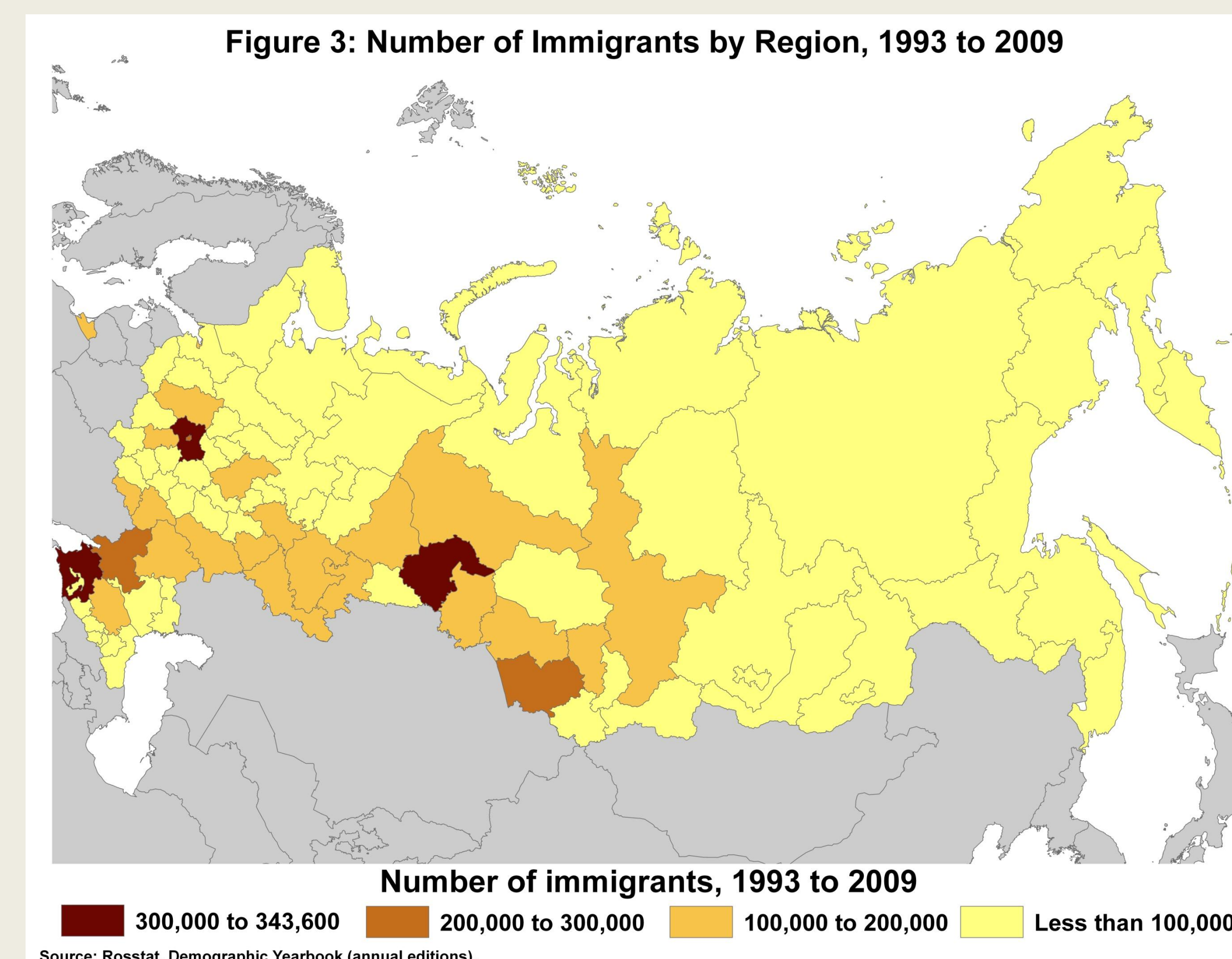
Russia has become the migration magnet within the Eurasia migration system.



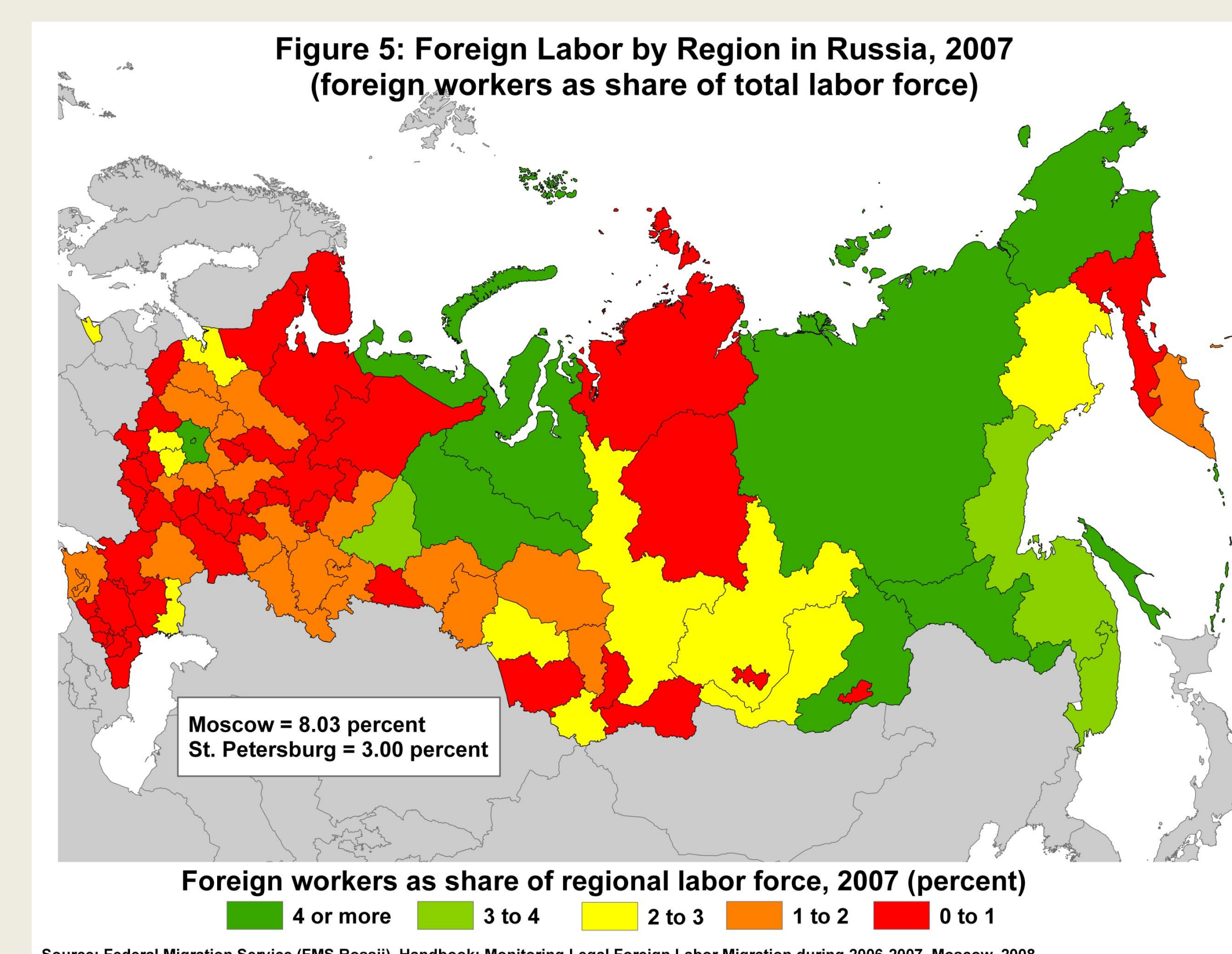
Russia is divided into 89 regions, which are the units of analysis. Data for the study are from migration flow statistics, and data on place-of-birth in the 1989 and 2002 population censuses, and labor migration statistics.



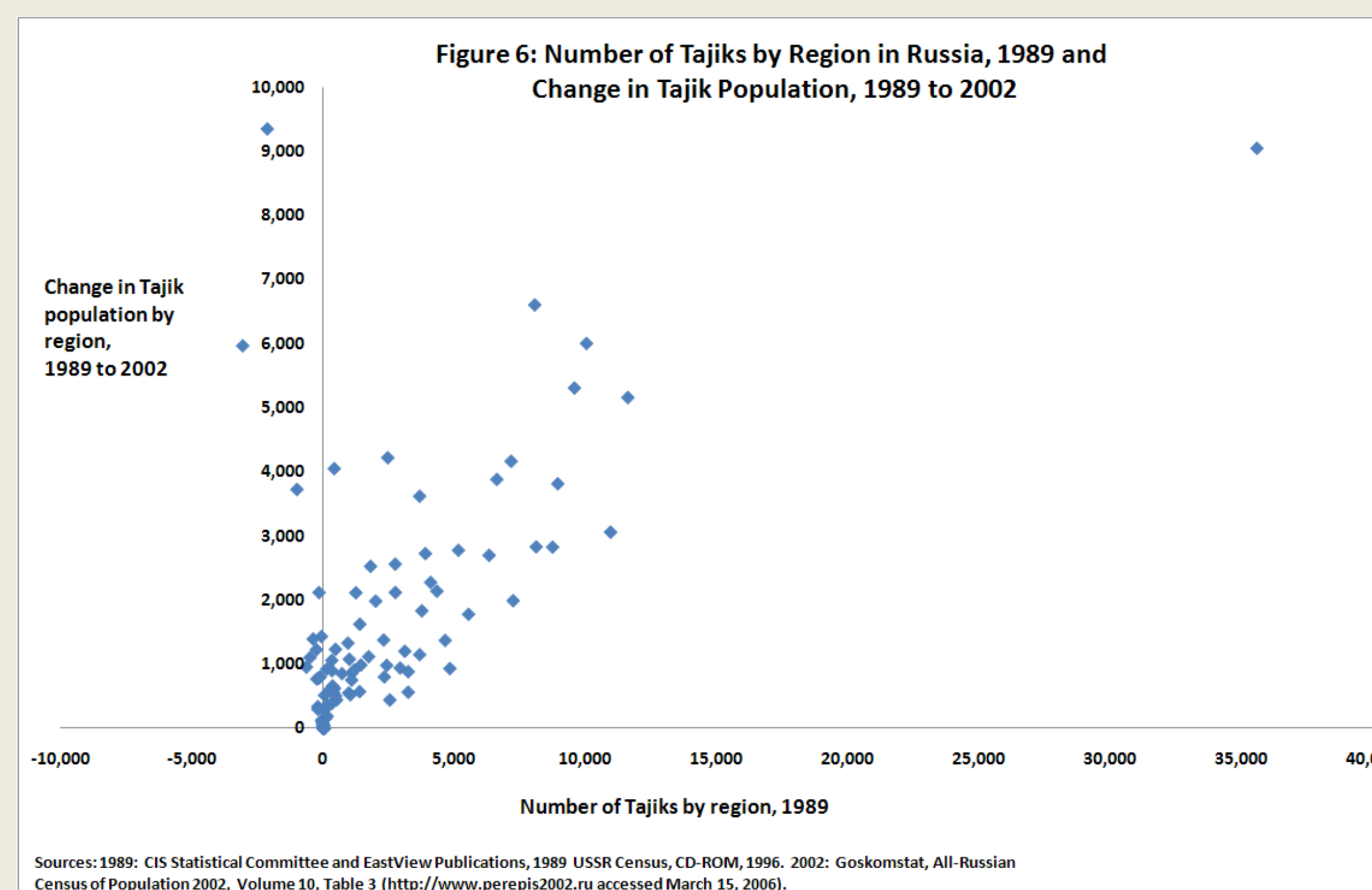
Border regions and regions of economic growth are main destinations, while migrants are concentrated .



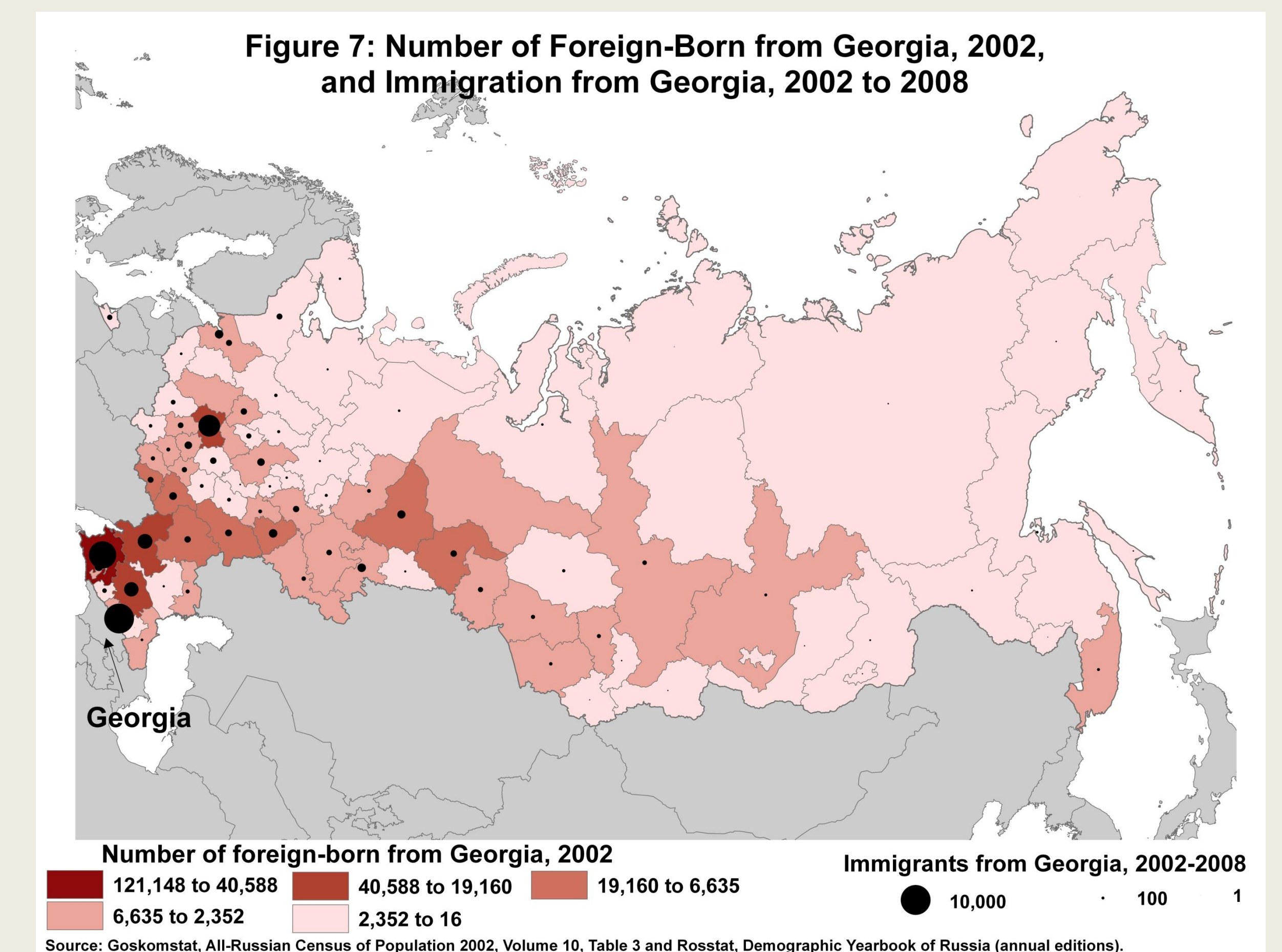
There are large variations in the percent foreign-born among the regions of Russia, some attributable to Soviet-era flows and some more recent.



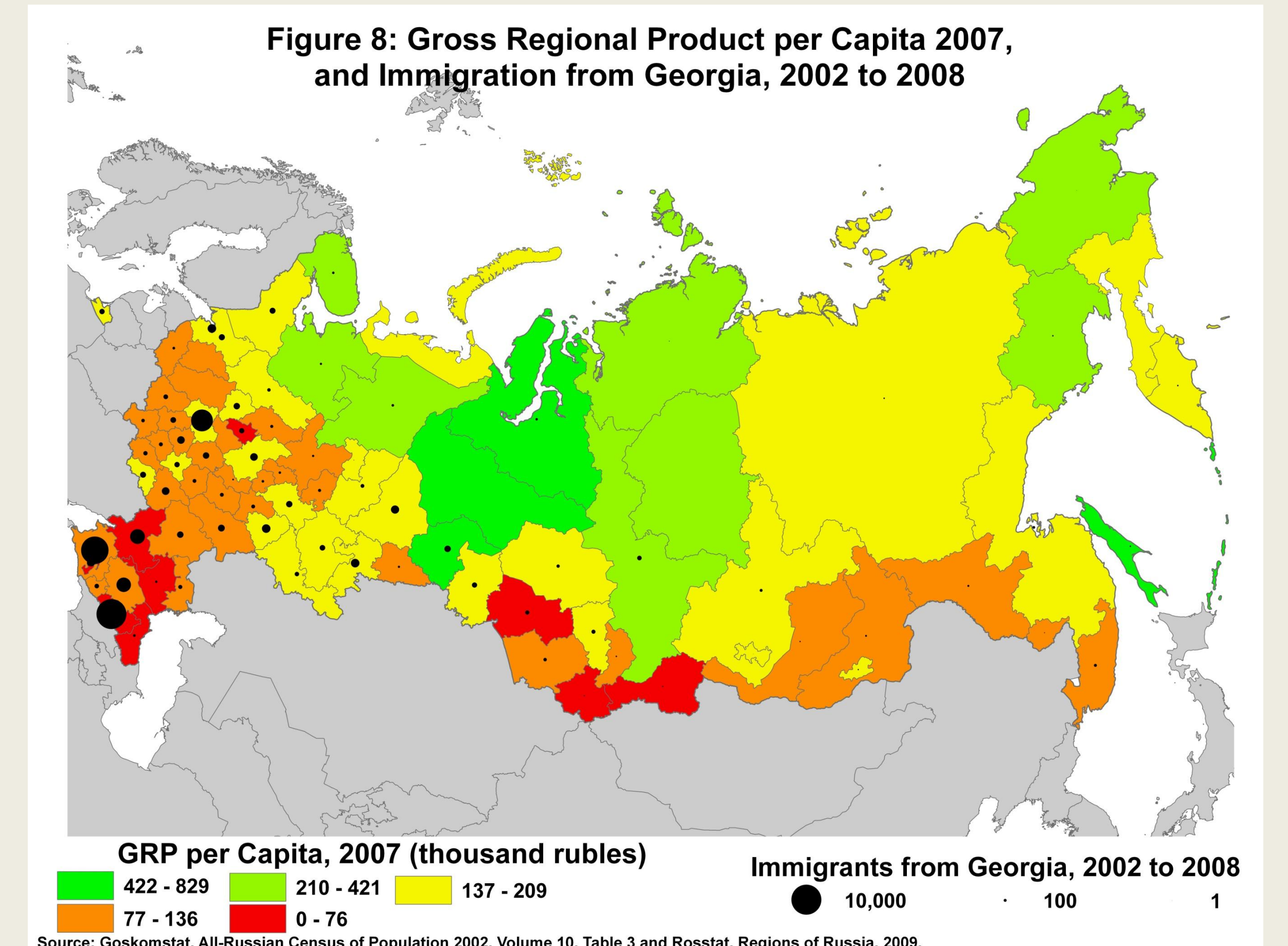
Starting in 2007, Russia instituted a new system for registering labor migrants, but there are significant undercounts.



There are strong correlations between the regions with large numbers of ethnic kin and immigration of persons from those countries.



The presence of other ethnic kin or people from the same country is a major factor in destination choice.



Regional disparities in Russia are large and this factor has some influence on destination choice of migrants but it is not as significant a factor, similar to other countries.

Acknowledgements

Research for this paper is part of a project titled “People, Power, and Conflict in the Eurasian Migration System”, with support from the program, Social and Behavioral Dimensions of National Security, Conflict, and Cooperation, National Science Foundation (NSF award number 0904817).

