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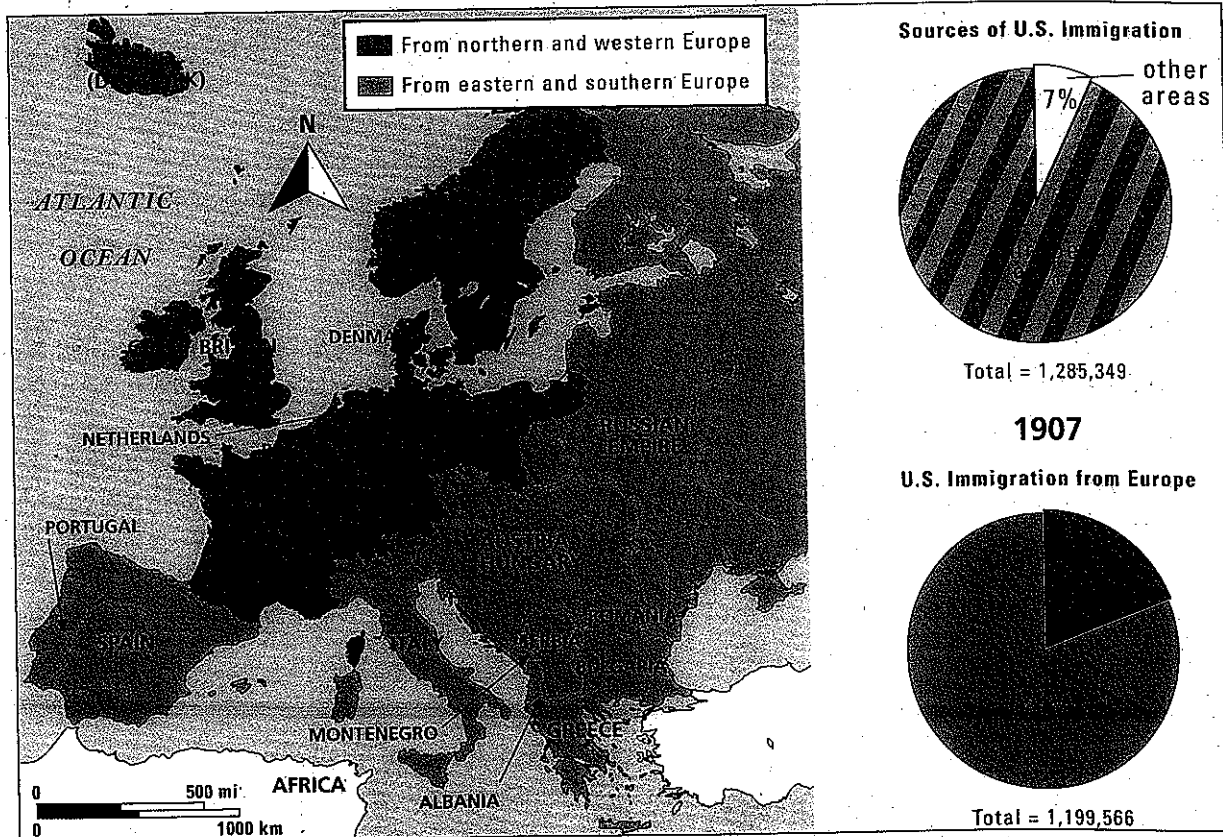
Geography Application

Immigration, 1907

Immigration from Europe in the late 1800s and early 1900s resulted in a change in U.S. culture. The people passing through Ellis Island at the time were "new immigrants." They were a type not seen in majority numbers before. They were Catholics and Jews, not Protestants. The immigrants came mainly from southern and eastern Europe, not northern and western Europe. They were Slavs, Serbs, Italians, and Hungarians.

The new immigrants also had an economic impact. In 1907, it was reported that foreign-born persons made up 14 percent of the U.S. population. At the same time, they made up half of the workforce. So,

the new immigrants had become a source of cheap labor. For example, a worker from Sweden earned about \$722 a year in 1907. In contrast, workers from southern Italy and Austria-Hungary made on average only about \$400 annually. U.S. labor organizations resented many of the immigrants. They felt that the immigrants' cheap labor took jobs away from and cut wages for U.S.-born workers. Worker organizations were especially upset that only 15 percent of the new immigrants getting these jobs had experience in industry. The map below gives details on the changing makeup of U.S. immigration.



Interpreting Maps and Text

1. Describe the typical immigrant that came to the United States before the late 1800s.

2. Describe the "new immigrants" coming to the United States.

3. What percentage of persons emigrating to the United States in 1907 came from Europe?

4. What percentage of those European immigrants came from northern and western Europe?

5. Into which of the two regions would you place an immigrant from Greece?

an immigrant from Germany?

6. Did an immigrant from Great Britain in 1907 come from a region of Europe that had the majority or minority of immigrants?

7. Generally, could an immigrant from Russia expect to earn more or less than an immigrant from Germany?

8. Approximately how many U.S. immigrants in 1907 did not come from Europe?
