## Contents

List of Figures and Tables  xi
Acknowledgments  xv

### Population Geography: An Introduction  
1

- **What Is Population Geography and Why Study It?**  3
- **What Is the Geographical Perspective?**  5
- **Current Research Themes and Contributions of Population Geographers**  7
- **Overview of the Book**  8
  - **Focus: The Importance of Spatial Scale**  9
  - **Methods, Measures, and Tools: Tools of the Population Geographer**  11

### Chapter 1  World Population  15

- **A Brief History of World Population Growth**  15
- **The Demographic Transition**  18
- **Future Population Scenarios: Who Gains and Who Loses?**  21
- **Conclusion**  28
  - **Study Questions**  28
  - **Focus: Population Growth Regimes in India, Germany, and the United States**  29
  - **Methods, Measures, and Tools: Graphical Representation**  31
  - **Methods, Measures, and Tools: Population Estimates and Projections**  36

### Chapter 2  Population Data  41

- **What Is a Population?**  42
- **Types of Data**  43
- **Data Sources**  44
- **Data Quality**  48
- **Conclusion**  50
  - **Study Questions**  50
  - **Focus: Census Data and the American Community Survey (ACS)**  50
  - **Methods, Measures, and Tools: Working with Data**  56
Chapter 3  Population Distribution and Composition 59

Population Distribution 59
Population Composition 61
Conclusion 69

Study Questions 70
Focus: The Changing Face of the US Population 70
Focus: Aging in China 74
Methods, Measures, and Tools: Life Tables 74

Chapter 4  Fertility 79

Fertility Patterns 79
What Determines Fertility? 81
Fertility Levels: Too High or Too Low? 86
Africa’s Fertility Transition? 89
Women’s Reproductive Health 92
Conclusion 93

Study Questions 94
Focus: Contrasting Fertility Rates and Choices in North America and Uganda 94
Methods, Measures, and Tools: Measuring Fertility 96

Chapter 5  Mortality 99

Mortality Transitions 100
Differences in Mortality 102
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (IPDs) 107
HIV/AIDS 110
Conclusion: The Future of Mortality 118

Study Questions 121
Focus: Mortality Differences—the United States, Mexico, and Zimbabwe 122
Methods, Measures, and Tools: Measuring Mortality 125

Chapter 6  Internal Migration 127

Defining Migration 128
Why Do People Migrate? 130
Theories of Internal Migration 133
Migrant Selectivity and Migrant Characteristics 139
The Migration Process 141
Conclusion 142

Study Questions 143
Focus: Contemporary Internal Population Movement in the United States 143
Methods, Measures, and Tools: Measuring Migration 147