This fascinating study compares and contrasts the immense internal migration movements in China and Indonesia. Over the next two decades, approximately two-thirds of the rural labour force is expected to migrate, transforming their respective societies from primarily rural to urban based.

‘The Great Migration represents a milestone in the study of Chinese migration. After two decades of research on the largest migration in human history, the authors seek to contextualize this process by contrasting it with rural–urban migration in Indonesia. Moreover, their carefully constructed data set offers the potential to study the evolution of this dynamic process over time from a variety of perspectives. . .’

– Kenneth Roberts, The China Journal

‘After a quarter century of double-digit growth, 135 million rural migrants were living in China’s cities by 2007. This massive migration exceeds anything else recorded in human history. Based on new survey data, The Great Migration explores cause and effect while comparing China’s restrictive with Indonesia’s liberal migration policies. The result is the best book on rural–urban migration thus far.’

– Jeffrey G. Williamson, Harvard University and University of Wisconsin, Madison, US