

Social mobility definition assignment

[Sociology](#)



Social Mobility * In sociology and economics, as well as in common political discourse, social mobility refers to the degree to which an individual or group's status is able to change in terms of position in the social hierarchy. To this extent it most commonly refers to material wealth and the ability of an individual or group to move up the class system. Such a change may be described as "vertical mobility," by contrast with a more general change in position ("horizontal mobility").

Mobility is enabled in part by cultural capital (such as higher education or an authoritative accent), human capital (such as competence and effort in labor), social capital (such as support from one's social network), physical capital (such as ownership of tools), and symbolic capital (such as the worth of an official title). Many of these factors, however, ultimately remain intertwined with economic capital. Policy issues, such as welfare or the existence of public transport, may exercise significant influence.

Geographical factors may also be of importance. The extent to which a nation is open and meritocratic is of fundamental significance: a society in which traditional or religious caste systems dominate is unlikely to present the opportunity for social mobility. **The Effects on Social Stratification** * Social mobility can be said as a turning point to one's social status may it be from a lower form of status to a higher one or vice-versa. It is the ascendancy or descendancy of an individual or a group into a given societal hierarchy.

Stratification or the hierarchical arrangement of this is thus transformed due to this change in status of an individual or a group. On a micro or a macro scale level, this can affect the division of power and wealth or the

stratification itself on the society. * Each of the classes (upper class, middle class, lower class) or rank of stratification is divided into its members. This social ranking however is possible to change thus changing the hierarchy of the given society.