

Migration of the Young, Single, and College Educated: 1995 to 2000

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Population change at every geographic level in the United States and elsewhere is strongly influenced by migration, both domestic and international. Young adults, defined here as those between the ages of 25 and 39, constitute a large share of migrants, perhaps because they are less risk-averse and have a longer time horizon to recoup an "investment" in migration. Their migration choices may be influenced by housing or employment preferences, or simply preferences for a particular set of local amenities. Occasionally, the places they choose may even be those that other migrants are leaving. For these reasons, the migration levels, patterns, and destinations of young people are examined in this report.

The population of young adults can be further disaggregated into those who are single and those who possess at least a bachelor's degree. Young, single, college-educated adults may be more willing to relocate in order to meet economic or lifestyle demands than married individuals, who could be constrained by location preferences of a spouse. College-educated individuals may benefit from a range of job opportunities. They may also bring intellectual and other resources to the areas where they choose to live. Understanding the migration trends of this group and how they differ from other parts of the population offers insights into their location preferences, including areas that may be more attractive than previously thought, based on general migration patterns. For example, large cities that are losing population through net outmigration may still be attracting

young, highly-educated individuals, making these places more dynamic than they would be otherwise.

Common Migration Terms

Inmigration: The movement of migrants into an area during a given period.

Outmigration: The movement of migrants out of an area during a given period.

Net Migration: The difference between immigration and outmigration during a given period. A positive net, or net immigration, indicates that more migrants entered the area than left it during that period. A negative net, or net outmigration, means that more migrants left the area than entered it.

Net Migration Rate: The net migration rate is based on an approximated 1995 population of people who were young, single, and college educated in 2000. This approximated population is the sum of people who reported living in the area in both 1995 and 2000, and those who reported living in that area in 1995 but lived elsewhere in 2000. The net migration rate is the 1995-to-2000 net migration, divided by the approximated 1995 population and multiplied by 1,000.

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The relative influence of this small population is far greater than its size would suggest. Immigration of young people, whether single or married, carries the potential of population growth through future childbearing. When the young people moving into an area are also college educated, they provide a measure of economic opportunity in the area, while simultaneously serving to raise the area's stock of "human capital." This increase, in turn, fosters future economic growth in sectors in which education plays a key role. Finally, immigration of young, single, college-educated people, especially to central cities of metropolitan areas, means an influx of people who may be willing not only to live in these areas but also to invest in them, stimulating economic development and the provision of services that might not otherwise exist.

This report is based on the Census 2000 long form question about where the respondent lived in 1995.¹ Linking these migration data to information on movers' age, educational attainment, and marital status gives a fuller picture of the characteristics of specific migration streams. This report looks at people who were between the ages of 25 and 39 at the time of that census. Movers in this age range could have been as much as 5 years younger when they moved and could have moved more than once during the 5-year period. This age range captures some post-college moves and later

¹ All decennial census migration data refer to the population 5 years old and over in 2000. Movers are defined as those who did not live in their residence 5 years previously. Thus, previous residence is measured 5 years prior to the census and does not track any other moves made within that 5-year period. Similarly, the census question on residence 5 years ago did not capture those who moved away from a place of residence and later returned to that same residence during that 5-year period.

adjustments due to career, housing, and lifestyle changes. In this report, *single* includes those who have never married and those who were widowed or divorced at the time of Census 2000. The *college educated* are those with at least a bachelor's degree.

This report begins by evaluating type-of-move characteristics between 1995 and 2000 by age group. It then compares migration of the young, single, and college educated with that of other segments of this age group. Finally, migration destinations of young, single, and college-educated people are shown for both states and selected metropolitan areas, and compared with migration destinations for the general population.

Over one-third of all movers between 1995 and 2000 were between 25 and 39 years old.

In 2000, people 25 to 39 years old were highly mobile; indeed, over one-third (33.8 percent) of all movers between 1995 and 2000 belonged to this age group. Table 1 shows that they were the least likely to report living in the same house in both 1995 and 2000.² In fact, over 60 percent changed residence, compared with less than 50 percent for the total population aged 5 and older.

Those in the younger age groups, 5 to 14 and 15 to 24, were also more likely than the total population to have moved between 1995 and 2000. Of course, many of the migrants or movers in these age groups were moving with parents who were likely to fall into the

² The estimates in this report are based on responses from a sample of the population. As with all surveys, estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling variation or other factors. All comparisons made in this report have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

mobile 25-to-39 age category. Data on the types of moves of the 25-to-39 age group show trends similar to those of the total population, with the majority of moves being intracounty, followed by moves from different counties in the same state, and then moves to different states. However, the percentage of the population moving from a different state was higher for the 25-to-39 age group than for all others.

Most young, single, and college-educated people moved between 1995 and 2000.

About three-quarters of young, single, and college-educated adults reported moving between 1995 and 2000 (Table 2), including nearly 80 percent of those living in central cities in 2000. About one-quarter of young, single, and college-educated central city residents in 2000 moved from another state. The percentages moving were slightly lower for their counterparts living in the suburbs (portions of metropolitan areas outside central cities) or in nonmetropolitan territory in 2000, but were still around 70 percent.³ In each case, the percentages were much higher than those reported for the full 25-to-39 age group in Table 1 (64.9 percent). Regardless of location of current residence, a plurality of moves made by young, single, college-educated adults tended to be intracounty. However, the percentage moving from a different state was almost double that of the 25-to-39 age group as a whole: 22.6 percent compared with 12.4 percent. The young, single, and college educated who lived outside of metropolitan areas (in nonmetropolitan territory) in 2000 were more likely than their

³ This report uses the June 30, 1999, metropolitan area definitions. For readability, names of metropolitan areas have been abbreviated in the text.

Table 1.
Type of Move by Age Group: 1995 to 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Age in 2000	Total	Same residence (nonmovers)	Movers					
			Total	Same county	Different county, same state	Different state	From abroad ¹	
Number								
Age 5 and over	262,375,152	142,027,478	120,347,674	65,435,013	25,327,355	22,089,460	7,495,846	
5 to 14	41,226,481	20,866,791	20,359,690	12,309,113	3,655,374	3,310,971	1,084,232	
15 to 24	38,937,032	16,680,899	22,256,133	10,490,510	5,509,477	4,257,134	1,999,012	
25 to 39	62,660,694	22,015,684	40,645,010	21,374,337	8,697,378	7,753,683	2,819,612	
40 to 64	84,571,973	55,632,219	28,939,754	16,541,635	5,767,799	5,281,458	1,348,862	
65 and over	34,978,972	26,831,885	8,147,087	4,719,418	1,697,327	1,486,214	244,128	
Percent								
Age 5 and over	100.0	54.1	45.9	24.9	9.7	8.4	2.9	
5 to 14	100.0	50.6	49.4	29.9	8.9	8.0	2.6	
15 to 24	100.0	42.8	57.2	26.9	14.1	10.9	5.1	
25 to 39	100.0	35.1	64.9	34.1	13.9	12.4	4.5	
40 to 64	100.0	65.8	34.2	19.6	6.8	6.2	1.6	
65 and over	100.0	76.7	23.3	13.5	4.9	4.2	0.7	

¹This category includes movers from foreign countries, as well as movers from Puerto Rico, U.S. Island Areas, and U.S. minor outlying islands.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

central city or suburban counterparts to have moved from a different county in the same state, although these moves could have been to the fringes of metropolitan areas expanding beyond their official boundaries.

Whether married or single, young people with a college education were more likely to move than those without a college degree.

About 72.3 percent of young, married, and college-educated adults moved between 1995 and 2000. This percentage was slightly lower than for the single and college educated in this age group (75.0 percent), but both percentages were higher than for young people with less education. Around 63.2 percent of young single people without a college degree changed residence, as did 60.9 percent of young married people without a college degree (see Table 2).

Young, single, and college-educated individuals living in central cities in 2000 were more likely to have moved than their counterparts in suburban or nonmetropolitan territories. The same is true of young, married, and college-educated individuals. However, of these two groups, those who were single were more likely to have changed their state of residence than those who were married. Those who were married were more likely to have stayed within the same county when they changed residence than to have moved from a different county or different state.

Among those aged 25 to 39 in 2000, a majority of both single and married people without a college degree moved between 1995 and 2000, although the likelihood was lower than for their more educated counterparts. Noncollege-educated young singles living in central cities in 2000 were the

most likely to have moved in the previous 5 years (64.6 percent), but the numbers are very close to those for other types of geography. Young singles without a college degree living outside metropolitan areas in 2000 were the least likely to have changed residence — but still, 60.3 percent moved. Young married people with less education were slightly less likely than their single peers to have moved, with the largest difference arising between the segments of these two groups that lived in nonmetropolitan territory in 2000. Single and less-educated individuals living outside metropolitan areas in 2000 were more likely to have changed their state of residence over the past 5 years than were their metropolitan counterparts.

Compared with the more educated groups, the less educated 25- to 39-year olds, both married and single, were much less likely to have moved from a different state

Table 2.

Type of Move by Residence and Selected Education and Marital Status Categories: 1995 to 2000(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Comparison group and residence in 2000	Total	Same residence (nonmovers)	Movers				
			Total	Same county	Different county, same state	Different state	From abroad ¹
YOUNG, SINGLE, COLLEGE EDUCATED							
Number	6,198,996	1,551,865	4,647,131	1,783,717	1,117,059	1,398,926	347,429
Metropolitan	5,726,903	1,418,625	4,308,278	1,667,028	1,009,143	1,299,646	332,461
Central city	2,935,746	629,051	2,306,695	914,330	453,991	738,733	199,641
Suburb	2,791,157	789,574	2,001,583	752,698	555,152	560,913	132,820
Nonmetropolitan	472,093	133,240	338,853	116,689	107,916	99,280	14,968
Percent	100.0	25.0	75.0	28.8	18.0	22.6	5.6
Metropolitan	100.0	24.8	75.2	29.1	17.6	22.7	5.8
Central city	100.0	21.4	78.6	31.1	15.5	25.2	6.8
Suburb	100.0	28.3	71.7	27.0	19.9	20.1	4.8
Nonmetropolitan	100.0	28.2	71.8	24.7	22.9	21.0	3.2
YOUNG, MARRIED, COLLEGE EDUCATED							
Number	10,678,309	2,956,768	7,721,541	3,236,445	1,840,991	1,983,929	660,176
Metropolitan	9,461,684	2,559,720	6,901,964	2,916,901	1,580,778	1,773,876	630,409
Central city	3,090,394	760,697	2,329,697	1,047,098	384,514	611,936	286,149
Suburb	6,371,290	1,799,023	4,572,267	1,869,803	1,196,264	1,161,940	344,260
Nonmetropolitan	1,216,625	397,048	819,577	319,544	260,213	210,053	29,767
Percent	100.0	27.7	72.3	30.3	17.2	18.6	6.2
Metropolitan	100.0	27.1	72.9	30.8	16.7	18.7	6.7
Central city	100.0	24.6	75.4	33.9	12.4	19.8	9.3
Suburb	100.0	28.2	71.8	29.3	18.8	18.2	5.4
Nonmetropolitan	100.0	32.6	67.4	26.3	21.4	17.3	2.4
YOUNG, SINGLE, NOT COLLEGE EDUCATED							
Number	17,566,620	6,470,733	11,095,887	6,530,181	2,224,817	1,703,491	637,398
Metropolitan	14,530,996	5,264,937	9,266,059	5,556,334	1,729,731	1,397,151	582,843
Central city	6,790,989	2,402,063	4,388,926	2,786,808	630,030	650,623	321,465
Suburb	7,740,007	2,862,874	4,877,133	2,769,526	1,099,701	746,528	261,378
Nonmetropolitan	3,035,624	1,205,796	1,829,828	973,847	495,086	306,340	54,555
Percent	100.0	36.8	63.2	37.2	12.7	9.7	3.6
Metropolitan	100.0	36.2	63.8	38.2	11.9	9.6	4.0
Central city	100.0	35.4	64.6	41.0	9.3	9.6	4.7
Suburb	100.0	37.0	63.0	35.8	14.2	9.6	3.4
Nonmetropolitan	100.0	39.7	60.3	32.1	16.3	10.1	1.8
YOUNG, MARRIED, NOT COLLEGE EDUCATED							
Number	28,216,769	11,036,318	17,180,451	9,823,994	3,514,511	2,667,337	1,174,609
Metropolitan	22,057,666	8,288,218	13,769,448	8,014,891	2,605,281	2,090,500	1,058,776
Central city	7,831,455	2,794,691	5,036,764	3,097,973	655,959	748,165	534,667
Suburb	14,226,211	5,493,527	8,732,684	4,916,918	1,949,322	1,342,335	524,109
Nonmetropolitan	6,159,103	2,748,100	3,411,003	1,809,103	909,230	576,837	115,833
Percent	100.0	39.1	60.9	34.8	12.5	9.5	4.2
Metropolitan	100.0	37.6	62.4	36.3	11.8	9.5	4.8
Central city	100.0	35.7	64.3	39.6	8.4	9.6	6.8
Suburb	100.0	38.6	61.4	34.6	13.7	9.4	3.7
Nonmetropolitan	100.0	44.6	55.4	29.4	14.8	9.4	1.9

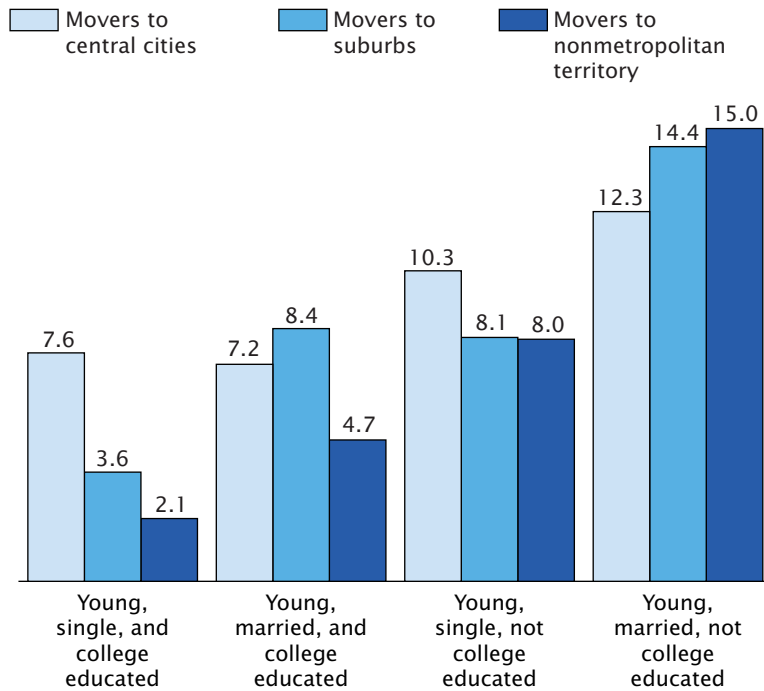
¹This category includes movers from foreign countries, as well as movers from Puerto Rico, U.S. Island Areas, and U.S. minor outlying islands.

Note: The young are those who were aged 25 to 39 in 2000; the single are those who were never married, or were widowed or divorced in 2000; and the college educated are those who had at least a bachelor's degree in 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Figure 1.
**Percent of Movers to Specified Destinations:
 1995 to 2000**

(Percent of immigrants. Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

between 1995 and 2000 and more likely to have made an intracounty move (especially those living in central cities: 41.0 percent for the single and less educated and 39.6 percent for their married counterparts). This gap may reflect different reasons for moving, with single and educated people better able to move longer distances for work-related reasons and married individuals more motivated to move for quality-of-life reasons (better housing and schools in a nearby county or neighborhood, for example).

Young, single, and college-educated adults represented a higher proportion of people migrating to central cities than to the suburbs or nonmetropolitan territory.

As Figure 1 shows, young, single, and college-educated adults represented a larger share of immigration into central cities (7.6 percent) than into the suburbs (3.6 percent) or nonmetropolitan territory (2.1 percent). In contrast, young, married, college-educated individuals made up a larger share of total immigration to the suburbs than to the

remaining two locations (8.4 percent, compared to 7.2 and 4.7 percent). The young, single, and not college educated represented a higher proportion of immigration to central cities (10.3 percent), whereas the young, married, and not college educated were a larger proportion of migration to nonmetropolitan territory (15.0 percent) than to the other two types of area.

Two main types of migration destinations characterized moves made by young, single, and college-educated people.

In addition to having high moving rates, young, single, and college-educated individuals were also distinguished by the specific destinations they chose. Data on which locations tended to attract net immigration of the young, single, and college educated – especially when those areas lost people from overall net outmigration – may offer clues about the amenities this group preferred.

Table 3 shows state migration characteristics for young, single, and college-educated people between 1995 and 2000. Net migration numbers and rates for the population 5 and over are shown on Table 3, as well, for comparison purposes. Two main conclusions can be drawn from this information (see Figure 2). First, several states that were powerhouses of domestic migration between 1995 and 2000 were also popular destinations for the young, single, and college educated, for example, Nevada and Georgia, which had domestic net immigration rates of 151.5 and 48.6 for

Table 3.

Domestic Migration of People Who Were Young, Single, and College Educated, and for the Population Aged 5 and Over: 1995 to 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Area	Young, single, and college educated				Population aged 5 and over	
	Inmigrants	Outmigrants	Net migration		Net migration	
			Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
Nevada	13,651	6,863	6,788	281.8	233,934	151.5
Colorado	49,665	31,803	17,862	157.7	162,633	43.8
Georgia	63,306	38,639	24,667	150.5	340,705	48.6
Arizona	34,850	25,586	9,264	109.9	316,148	74.3
Oregon	24,296	17,940	6,356	103.5	74,665	24.6
Washington	39,469	27,800	11,669	96.5	75,330	14.3
California	170,270	97,233	73,037	92.7	-755,536	-24.6
North Carolina	44,925	37,706	7,219	50.2	337,883	48.4
Texas	74,350	57,537	16,813	48.7	148,240	8.1
Florida	69,053	58,599	10,454	40.1	607,023	44.0
Alaska	3,984	3,598	386	38.9	-30,498	-51.0
Virginia	58,572	52,097	6,475	38.4	75,730	11.9
Maryland	42,126	37,768	4,358	32.2	-19,723	-4.1
Minnesota	25,681	23,962	1,719	15.5	29,169	6.5
Tennessee	23,581	22,264	1,317	15.2	146,314	28.7
Illinois	69,250	65,416	3,834	12.4	-342,616	-29.7
Idaho	5,276	5,189	87	5.9	33,847	29.6
District of Columbia	25,428	25,320	108	2.5	-45,331	-81.7
Massachusetts	60,198	61,260	-1,062	-4.6	-54,708	-9.4
New York	113,055	119,666	-6,611	-11.3	-874,248	-48.8
New Jersey	43,138	45,922	-2,784	-13.0	-182,829	-23.7
Delaware	5,536	5,767	-231	-13.9	17,383	24.9
South Carolina	15,775	18,321	-2,546	-40.7	132,205	37.2
Missouri	23,259	27,945	-4,686	-47.0	46,053	9.0
Kentucky	10,912	14,323	-3,411	-62.0	34,127	9.2
Connecticut	22,155	28,470	-6,315	-69.7	-64,610	-20.5
Hawaii	6,738	8,895	-2,157	-69.8	-76,133	-65.4
Utah	7,524	9,637	-2,113	-69.8	25,296	13.1
Maine	5,693	7,399	-1,706	-80.1	3,640	3.1
Michigan	26,639	42,657	-16,018	-86.7	-91,930	-10.0
Ohio	32,053	50,462	-18,409	-88.2	-116,940	-11.0
Arkansas	5,215	7,853	-2,638	-90.4	42,116	17.4
New Mexico	9,240	12,127	-2,887	-93.3	-29,945	-17.8
Kansas	11,250	16,275	-5,025	-104.7	-7,792	-3.2
Wisconsin	17,004	28,228	-11,224	-107.7	7,282	1.5
Wyoming	2,856	3,670	-814	-109.2	-12,527	-26.6
Pennsylvania	41,264	70,838	-29,574	-112.4	-131,296	-11.4
New Hampshire	8,005	11,159	-3,154	-114.8	27,903	25.0
Alabama	10,868	18,649	-7,781	-116.3	25,823	6.3
Oklahoma	7,877	13,850	-5,973	-125.9	16,887	5.4
Louisiana	12,103	21,834	-9,731	-130.2	-75,759	-18.1
Nebraska	6,120	10,331	-4,211	-130.3	-15,353	-9.7
Mississippi	6,041	11,013	-4,972	-134.1	26,930	10.4
Indiana	17,379	31,713	-14,334	-142.3	21,625	3.9
Vermont	5,222	7,474	-2,252	-143.5	2,254	4.0
Rhode Island	6,526	10,751	-4,225	-147.0	3,236	3.4
Montana	4,557	7,307	-2,750	-161.5	-5,166	-6.1
West Virginia	3,695	8,386	-4,691	-197.1	-10,754	-6.3
South Dakota	2,152	4,883	-2,731	-215.9	-12,468	-17.6
Iowa	9,100	20,791	-11,691	-220.1	-33,012	-12.1
North Dakota	2,044	5,750	-3,706	-282.0	-25,207	-40.6

¹The net migration rate is based on an approximated 1995 population, which is the sum of people who reported living in the area in both 1995 and 2000, and those who reported living in that area in 1995, but lived elsewhere in 2000. The net migration rate is the 1995-to-2000 net migration, divided by the approximated 1995 population and multiplied by 1,000.

Notes: A negative value for net migration or the net migration rate is indicative of net outmigration, meaning that more migrants left an area than entered it, between 1995 and 2000. Positive values reflect net immigration to an area.

Census 2000 migration data include Puerto Rico among all movers from abroad. Because this report focuses solely on domestic migration, Puerto Rico has been excluded from this table. Puerto Rico migration data are available on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/migration.html.

The young are those who were aged 25 to 39 in 2000; the single are those who were never married, or were widowed or divorced in 2000; and the college educated are those who had at least a bachelor's degree in 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



Figure 2.
**Net Domestic Migration of People Who Were Young,
 Single, and College Educated*, and for the Total Population
 Aged 5 and Over: 1995 to 2000**

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

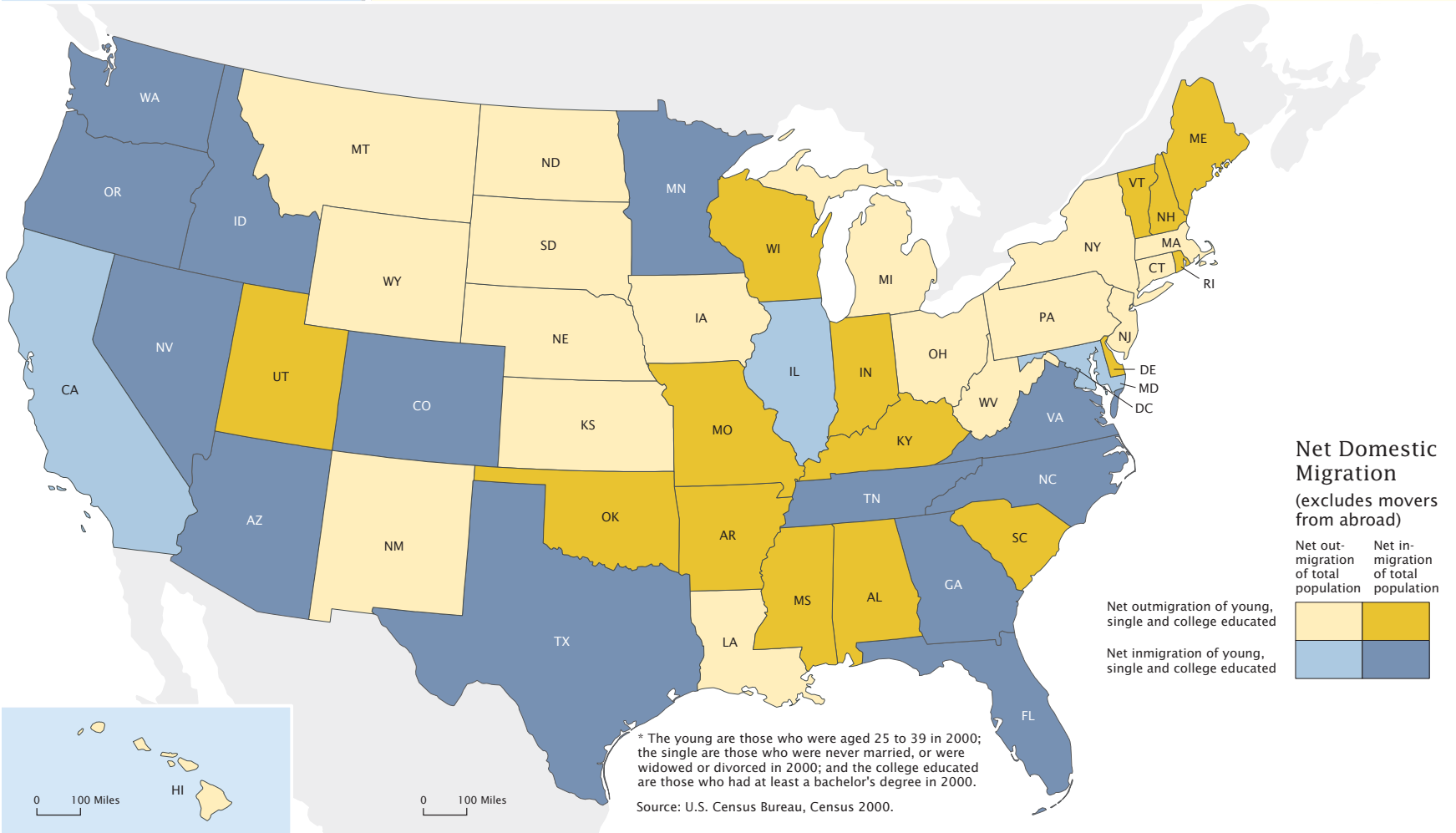


Table 4.

Top Net Domestic Migration Rates for Metropolitan Areas for Young, Single, and College Educated: 1995 to 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Metropolitan area of residence in 2000	Total population in 2000	Immigrants	Outmigrants	Net migration	
				Number	Rate ¹
Naples, FL MSA	251,377	1,815	779	1,036	483.2
Las Vegas, NV–AZ MSA	1,563,282	11,608	4,764	6,844	408.7
Charlotte–Gastonia–Rock Hill, NC–SC MSA	1,499,293	18,620	8,529	10,091	344.3
Atlanta, GA MSA	4,112,198	61,758	29,871	31,887	282.2
Portland–Salem, OR–WA CMSA	2,265,223	23,454	12,125	11,329	268.4
Denver–Boulder–Greeley, CO CMSA	2,581,506	41,851	22,172	19,679	264.0
Phoenix–Mesa, AZ MSA	3,251,876	29,209	15,441	13,768	250.5
Dallas–Fort Worth, TX CMSA	5,221,801	48,277	24,428	23,849	236.2
Boise City, ID MSA	432,345	3,173	1,741	1,432	231.7
Portland, ME MSA	243,537	3,861	2,434	1,427	214.7
San Francisco–Oakland–San Jose, CA CMSA	7,039,362	103,641	54,173	49,468	198.9
Seattle–Tacoma–Bremerton, WA CMSA	3,554,760	40,044	22,490	17,554	194.5
Kansas City, MO–KS MSA	1,776,062	15,574	9,112	6,462	184.8
Orlando, FL MSA	1,644,561	16,343	10,458	5,885	181.4
Myrtle Beach, SC MSA	196,629	1,431	985	446	164.5
Fort Myers–Cape Coral, FL MSA	440,888	2,129	1,546	583	160.7
Salinas, CA MSA	401,762	2,854	2,137	717	157.7
West Palm Beach–Boca Raton, FL MSA	1,131,184	9,256	6,518	2,738	153.3
Nashville, TN MSA	1,231,311	13,480	9,180	4,300	151.3
Fort Walton Beach, FL MSA	170,498	1,379	1,064	315	148.5

¹The net migration rate is based on an approximated 1995 population, which is the sum of people who reported living in the area in both 1995 and 2000, and those who reported living in that area in 1995, but living elsewhere in 2000. The net migration rate is the 1995-to-2000 net migration, divided by the approximated 1995 population and multiplied by 1,000.

Because of sampling error, net migration rates shown in this table may not be significantly different from each other or from net migration rates for metropolitan areas not included in this table.

Notes: A negative value for net migration or the net migration rate is indicative of net outmigration, meaning that more migrants left an area than entered it between 1995 and 2000. Positive values reflect net immigration to an area.

The young are those who were aged 25 to 39 in 2000; the single are those who were never married, or were widowed or divorced in 2000; and the college educated are those who had at least a bachelor's degree in 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

the total population.⁴ These states appear to be attractive destinations for multiple segments of the population. Other states, however, saw net outmigration of the general population but still attracted young, single, and college-educated individuals. California and Illinois illustrate this phenomenon. The District of Columbia had one of the highest net outmigration rates between 1995 and 2000

⁴ These migration rates and other state and regional migration data and trends for 1995-2000 for the general population are discussed in U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, *Domestic Migration Across Regions, Divisions, and States: 1995 to 2000*, by Rachel S. Franklin, Census 2000 Special Reports, CENSR-7, Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.

when the entire population is considered, yet managed to break even when only the young, single, and college educated are considered. Other states, such as New York, had lower net outmigration rates for the young, single, and college educated than those seen for the migrating population as a whole. In contrast, several states experienced net immigration of the general population between 1995 and 2000, but net outmigration of young, single, and college-educated individuals. Examples of these types of states are Utah, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Missouri.

Varying migration destinations of young, single, and college-educated

adults are also evident at the metropolitan area level (Table 4). Many of their favored destinations are the same as for the entire population. The Las Vegas, Atlanta, and Charlotte areas, for example, all saw a great deal of growth through net immigration between 1995 and 2000.⁵ Many of the metropolitan areas with high net immigration rates in 2000 for the total 5 years

⁵ For more information on migration data and trends in metropolitan areas between 1995 and 2000, see U.S. Census Bureau, 2003, *Migration and Geographic Mobility in Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan America: 1995 to 2000*, by Jason P. Schachter, Rachel S. Franklin, and Marc J. Perry, Census 2000 Special Reports, CENSR-9, Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.

Table 5.
Net Domestic Migration Rates for the 20 Largest Metropolitan Areas for the Young, Single, and College Educated: 1995 to 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Metropolitan area of residence in 2000	Total population in 2000	Immigrants	Outmigrants	Net migration	
				Number	Rate ¹
New York–Northern New Jersey–Long Island, NY–NJ–CT–PA CMSA	21,199,865	132,437	107,306	25,131	37.4
Los Angeles–Riverside–Orange County, CA CMSA	16,373,645	95,712	62,714	32,998	92.3
Chicago–Gary–Kenosha, IL–IN–WI CMSA	9,157,540	70,971	52,221	18,750	73.1
Washington–Baltimore, DC–MD–VA–WV CMSA	7,608,070	90,851	65,382	25,469	102.4
San Francisco–Oakland–San Jose, CA CMSA	7,039,362	103,641	54,173	49,468	198.9
Philadelphia–Wilmington–Atlantic City, PA–NJ–DE–MD CMSA	6,188,463	35,791	38,382	-2,591	-16.9
Boston–Worcester–Lawrence, MA–NH–ME–CT CMSA	5,819,100	61,738	57,002	4,736	21.9
Detroit–Ann Arbor–Flint, MI CMSA	5,456,428	27,407	28,591	-1,184	-10.2
Dallas–Fort Worth, TX CMSA	5,221,801	48,277	24,428	23,849	236.2
Houston–Galveston–Brazoria, TX CMSA	4,669,571	30,901	19,497	11,404	139.2
Atlanta, GA MSA	4,112,198	61,758	29,871	31,887	282.2
Miami–Fort Lauderdale, FL CMSA	3,876,380	24,157	18,393	5,764	75.6
Seattle–Tacoma–Bremerton, WA CMSA	3,554,760	40,044	22,490	17,554	194.5
Phoenix–Mesa, AZ MSA	3,251,876	29,209	15,441	13,768	250.5
Minneapolis–St. Paul, MN–WI MSA	2,968,806	28,760	18,511	10,249	123.5
Cleveland–Akron, OH CMSA	2,945,831	14,948	15,911	-963	-15.8
San Diego, CA MSA	2,813,833	30,701	23,618	7,083	99.5
St. Louis, MO–IL MSA	2,603,607	15,043	14,427	616	11.6
Denver–Boulder–Greeley, CO CMSA	2,581,506	41,851	22,172	19,679	264.0
Tampa–St. Petersburg–Clearwater, FL MSA	2,395,997	16,172	11,687	4,485	116.1

¹The net migration rate is based on an approximated 1995 population, which is the sum of people who reported living in the area in both 1995 and 2000, and those who reported living in that area in 1995 but lived elsewhere in 2000. The net migration rate is the 1995-to-2000 net migration, divided by the approximated 1995 population and multiplied by 1,000.

Notes: A negative value for net migration or the net migration rate is indicative of net outmigration, meaning that more migrants left an area than entered it between 1995 and 2000. Positive values reflect net immigration to an area.

The young are those who were aged 25 to 39 in 2000; the single are those who were never married, or were widowed or divorced in 2000; and the college educated are those who had at least a bachelor's degree in 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

and over population were locations of large universities, but for the young, single, and college-educated population several of the top places to move were larger metropolitan areas, such as Seattle, Washington; Kansas City, Missouri; or Nashville, Tennessee.

The largest metropolitan areas also served as destinations for young, single, and college-educated movers between 1995 and 2000 (Table 5). Of the 20 largest metropolitan areas in 2000, only three experienced net outmigration rates of young, single, and college-educated people: Philadelphia (16.9), Detroit (10.2), and

Cleveland (15.8).⁶ Other large metropolitan areas, which saw overall net domestic outmigration of people between 1995 and 2000, experienced net immigration of young, single, and college-educated people during this period. The New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Washington-Baltimore areas, for example, were all popular destinations for the young, single, and college educated, but had net outmigration rates for the general population of 44.4, 37.6, 36.8, and

⁶ Although the point estimates for Detroit and Cleveland are negative, they are not statistically different from zero. The positive point estimate for St. Louis was not significantly different from zero.

8.6, respectively. Also, as seen at the state level, many metropolitan areas that gained in total population through net immigration also had net immigration of young, single, and college-educated individuals. Atlanta, Denver, and Dallas-Fort Worth are good examples of this phenomenon.

Young, single, and college-educated people were more mobile and sometimes chose different locations than the total population.

Although people aged 25 to 39 tended to be more mobile than people in other age groups between 1995 and 2000, those

who were single and college educated were even more likely to move and to move farther (crossing state boundaries) when they did move. Young, married, and college-educated individuals were almost equally as likely to have moved. Those who were young and less well educated, whether married or single, were slightly less likely to have moved than those with more education, and when they did, were more likely to stay within the same county.

At both the state and metropolitan levels, migration destinations of young, single, and college-educated adults can be divided into two broad categories. The first is made up of those areas that acted as migration magnets for multiple segments of the population — Georgia and Atlanta, for example. The second type of area is characterized by an overall net outmigration of people between 1995 and 2000 but net immigration of young, single, and college-educated people. Large metropolitan areas such as New York and Chicago are prime examples of this second type of destination.

ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

The data contained in this report are based on the sample of households who responded to the Census 2000 long form. Nationally, approximately 1 out of every 6 housing units was included in this sample. As a result, the sample estimates may differ somewhat from the 100-percent figures that would have been obtained if

all housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters had been enumerated using the same questionnaires, instructions, enumerators, and so forth. The sample estimates also differ from the values that would have been obtained from different samples of housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters. The deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples is called the sampling error.

In addition to the variability that arises from the sampling procedures, both sample data and 100-percent data are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the various complex operations used to collect and process data. Such errors may include: not enumerating every household or every person in the population, failing to obtain all required information from the respondents, obtaining incorrect or inconsistent information, and recording information incorrectly. In addition, errors can occur during the field review of the enumerators' work, during clerical handling of the census questionnaires, or during the electronic processing of the questionnaires.

Nonsampling error may affect the data in two ways: (1) errors that are introduced randomly will increase the variability of the data and, therefore, should be reflected in the standard errors; and (2) errors that tend to be consistent in one direction will bias both sample and 100-percent data in that direction. For

example, if respondents consistently tend to underreport their incomes, then the resulting estimates of households or families by income category will tend to be understated for the higher income categories and overstated for the lower income categories. Such biases are not reflected in the standard errors.

While it is impossible to completely eliminate error from an operation as large and complex as the decennial census, the Census Bureau attempts to control the sources of such error during the data collection and processing operations. The primary sources of error and the programs instituted to control error in Census 2000 are described in detail in *Summary File 3 Technical Documentation* under Chapter 8, "Accuracy of the Data," located at www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf.

All statements in this Census 2000 report have undergone statistical testing and all comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level, unless otherwise noted. The estimates in tables, maps, and other figures may vary from actual values due to sampling and nonsampling errors. As a result, estimates in one category may not be significantly different from estimates assigned to a different category. Further information on the accuracy of the data is located at www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf. For further information on the computation and use of standard errors, contact the Decennial Statistical Studies Division at 301-763-4242.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on decennial migration products, including additional tables and other product announcements, is available on the Internet and can be accessed via the Census Bureau's decennial migration Web page at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/migration.html.

The decennial migration Web page contains additional detailed migration tables not included in this report and migration-related Census 2000 Special Reports.

For more information on decennial migration products, please contact:

Population Distribution Branch
Population Division
U.S. Census Bureau
301-763-2419

or send e-mail to: pop@census.gov.

Information on other population and housing topics is presented in the Census 2000 Brief and Census 2000 Special Reports Series, located on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html.

These series present information about race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and other social, economic, and housing characteristics.

Census 2000 information and data can also be accessed via the Census 2000 Gateway Web page at www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html.

For more information about Census 2000, including data products, call our Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636) or e-mail webmaster@census.gov.