# Geographical Mobility 

## Special Studies

From the local to the national level, residential mobility, internal migration, and immigration are critical in determining population growth and decline. In addition to its effect on geographic areas, migration also has a number of outcomes - such as economic opportunity or residential satisfaction - for individuals. Every ten years, the census asks individuals where they lived five years previously. This report examines data from
the same question asked in 1995 by the Current Population Survey (CPS), providing migration information for the first five years of the decade, a period not covered by the census. How populations change has implications for federal, state, and local governments, as well as for private industry.

This report examines data based on a 5 -year migration question from the March 1995 CPS. The 5 -year mobility question asks for information about respondents five years and older concerning whether they lived in the same dwelling five years previously. If the answer is no, then they are counted as movers. This type of question does not capture repeat migration (multiple moves during the 5 -year period) or return migration (people who leave a residence and return within the 5 -year period). Moves can be classified as intrastate or interstate. Intrastate
moves are those that occur within the same state, either within counties (intracounty) or between counties. Interstate moves are those that cross state boundaries, as well as movement from abroad (movers who leave the United States are not identified). Though not true in all cases, we treat these different types of moves as forming a distance continuum. That is, intracounty moves are described as the shortest, followed by intrastate moves, interstate mobility, and movement from abroad.

Table 1.
Five-Year Moving Rates: 1975-1980 to 1990-1995
(Numbers in thousands)

| Migration interval | Total, 5 years and older | Number of movers | Moving rate | Previous residence of movers (percent distribution) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Differen | county |  |
|  |  |  |  | Total | Same county | Same state | Different state | Movers from <br> abroad |
| 1990-1995 | 241,805 | 106,616 | 44.1 | 100.0 | 56.7 | 20.0 | 18.5 | 4.9 |
| 1985-1990 | 230,446 | 107,649 | 46.7 | 100.0 | 54.5 | 20.7 | 20.1 | 4.7 |
| 1980-1985 | 216,108 | 90,126 | 41.7 | 100.0 | 53.1 | 21.8 | 20.8 | 4.3 |
| 1975-1980 | 210,323 | 97,629 | 46.4 | 100.0 | 54.0 | 21.1 | 20.9 | 4.0 |

Source: 1995 March CPS; 1990 Census; 1985 March CPS; 1980 Census.

## Current Population Reports

By Jason P. Schachter

Table 2.

## Five-Year Moving Rates by Selected Characteristics:

 1990-1995| Selected characteristics | Moving rate | Previous residence of movers (percent distribution) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Same county | Different county |  | Movers from abroad |
|  |  |  |  | Same state | Different state |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 to 9 years | 55.0 | 100.0 | 59.9 | 18.3 | 17.3 | 4.5 |
| 10 to 14 years. | 45.5 | 100.0 | 59.4 | 17.6 | 18.2 | 4.8 |
| 15 to 19 years. | 41.7 | 100.0 | 60.9 | 16.6 | 15.7 | 6.8 |
| 20 to 24 years | 62.9 | 100.0 | 52.8 | 21.9 | 18.9 | 6.5 |
| 25 to 29 years. | 74.7 | 100.0 | 52.8 | 21.1 | 20.2 | 5.8 |
| 30 to 34 years. | 63.2 | 100.0 | 55.9 | 21.2 | 18.1 | 4.7 |
| 35 to 39 years. | 50.3 | 100.0 | 57.1 | 20.1 | 18.3 | 4.6 |
| 40 to 44 years. | 41.9 | 100.0 | 58.3 | 19.5 | 18.4 | 3.8 |
| 45 to 54 years. | 32.0 | 100.0 | 57.9 | 19.9 | 18.4 | 3.9 |
| 55 to 64 years. | 24.2 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 21.6 | 19.5 | 3.7 |
| 65 to 74 years. | 17.1 | 100.0 | 55.6 | 20.6 | 20.7 | 3.1 |
| 75 to 84 years | 14.7 | 100.0 | 56.9 | 21.5 | 19.5 | 1.9 |
| 85 years and over | 18.7 | 100.0 | 55.1 | 22.0 | 22.0 | 0.8 |
| Race and Hispanic Origin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White non-Hispanic | 41.5 | 100.0 | 54.0 | 22.4 | 20.7 | 2.9 |
| Black non-Hispanic | 47.6 | 100.0 | 66.4 | 15.1 | 15.1 | 3.4 |
| Asian and Pacific Islander non-Hispanic | 54.0 | 100.0 | 47.8 | 13.9 | 14.1 | 24.2 |
| Hispanic | 55.6 | 100.0 | 64.8 | 12.7 | 10.0 | 12.6 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 44.6 | 100.0 | 55.8 | 20.1 | 19.0 | 5.1 |
| Female | 43.6 | 100.0 | 57.5 | 19.9 | 18.0 | 4.6 |
| Housing Tenure |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Owner occupied | 31.2 | 100.0 | 57.1 | 21.8 | 18.7 | 2.6 |
| Renter occupied | 72.0 | 100.0 | 56.4 | 18.3 | 18.2 | 7.1 |
| Education <br> (For those age 25 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 9th grade. . . . . . . | 33.6 | 100.0 | 63.8 | 13.5 | 11.4 | 11.4 |
| 9th-12th grade, no diploma | 38.2 | 100.0 | 65.9 | 17.7 | 12.4 | 4.0 |
| High school graduate. . . . . | 37.5 | 100.0 | 60.7 | 19.6 | 16.5 | 3.2 |
| Some college or AA degree . | 43.7 | 100.0 | 54.7 | 22.0 | 19.9 | 3.4 |
| Bachelor's degree | 48.4 | 100.0 | 47.7 | 23.5 | 23.6 | 5.0 |
| Prof. or graduate degree. | 42.8 | 100.0 | 42.3 | 23.2 | 28.5 | 6.1 |
| Marital Status <br> (For those age 15 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married . | 39.9 | 100.0 | 54.0 | 20.8 | 20.2 | 5.0 |
| Divorced or Separated | 54.7 | 100.0 | 60.4 | 21.0 | 15.9 | 2.6 |
| Widowed | 22.1 | 100.0 | 60.0 | 20.0 | 16.6 | 3.4 |
| Never married | 49.1 | 100.0 | 56.7 | 19.7 | 17.6 | 6.0 |
| Family Income (In 1994, for those age 15 and older) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$10,000 . . . . . . | 49.2 | 100.0 | 63.4 | 16.5 | 14.9 | 5.2 |
| \$10,000 to \$19,999 | 47.1 | 100.0 | 56.9 | 18.7 | 18.0 | 6.4 |
| \$20,000 to \$29,999 | 46.5 | 100.0 | 56.0 | 19.9 | 19.5 | 4.6 |
| \$30,000 to \$39,999 | 44.2 | 100.0 | 56.6 | 20.8 | 18.0 | 4.6 |
| \$40,000 to \$49,999 | 41.1 | 100.0 | 56.7 | 21.0 | 18.9 | 3.4 |
| \$50,000 to \$59,999 | 39.5 | 100.0 | 55.8 | 23.3 | 18.6 | 2.4 |
| \$60,000 to \$74,999 | 36.4 | 100.0 | 53.8 | 23.3 | 20.0 | 2.9 |
| \$75,000 and over | 36.3 | 100.0 | 49.8 | 23.0 | 24.0 | 3.3 |
| Employment Status (For those age 16 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employed. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 47.3 | 100.0 | 56.4 | 21.5 | 18.1 | 4.0 |
| Unemployed | 54.6 | 100.0 | 58.1 | 17.2 | 19.0 | 5.7 |
| Not in labor force | 32.9 | 100.0 | 55.4 | 19.0 | 19.0 | 6.7 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast | 33.9 | 100.0 | 60.0 | 19.0 | 14.5 | 6.5 |
| Midwest | 42.4 | 100.0 | 59.0 | 22.8 | 15.5 | 2.6 |
| South | 46.1 | 100.0 | 53.2 | 20.5 | 22.4 | 4.0 |
| West | 51.9 | 100.0 | 57.6 | 17.3 | 17.8 | 7.2 |

About 107 million people moved during the 5 -year period, most within the same county.

Between March 1990 and March 1995, 106.6 million people or 44.1 percent of the population moved (Table 1). This rate is slightly lower than the 46.7 percent moving rate between 1985 and 1990, as reported in the 1990 census. ${ }^{1}$ Of the 106.6 million people who changed residence between 1990 and 1995, 56.7 percent moved within the same county, 20 percent moved to a different county in the same state, 18.5 percent moved between states, and 4.9 percent moved to the United States from abroad.

Compared with prior 5-year periods since 1975, 1990-1995 saw a continued proportionate increase in shorter moves (intracounty), while longer moves tended to decline. Moves within the same county reached a new high ( 56.7 percent), while interstate moves and moves to a different county in the same state both dropped to new lows ( 18.5 percent and 20.0 percent, respectively). The proportion of movers from abroad increased from 4.0 percent in the 1975-1980 period to 4.9 percent most recently.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF MOVERS

Moving rates differ by age, race, Hispanic origin, income, housing tenure, marital status, education, and employment status ${ }^{2}$. Since the CPS identifies these socioeconomic characteristics, it lends itself well to this analysis. Table 2 shows mobility rates by many of these basic characteristics.

[^0]Figure 1.
Five-Year Moving Rates by Age: 1990-1995
(Percent)


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, March 1995 Current Population Survey.

## 25 to 29 year olds had the highest moving rates.

Moving rates were highest for young adults, as 74.7 percent of 25 to 29 year olds moved during the 1990-1995 period. About 63 percent of 20 to 24 year olds and of 30 to 34 year olds also moved during this period. For older ages, the rate continued to fall, at least until very advanced ages: by ages 75 to 84 , the rate was only 14.7 percent. Moving rates tended to be higher for young adults because of their relatively higher frequency of life course events (such as marriage, child birth, or a new job).

## Hispanics and Asians and Pacific Islanders were highly mobile.

Hispanics and non-Hispanic Asians and Pacific Islanders had the highest moving rates (about 55 percent). Non-Hispanic Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites had lower moving rates ( 47.6 percent and 41.5 percent, respectively). NonHispanic Blacks and Hispanics were most likely to make the shortest distance moves (within the same
county). Not including moves from abroad, non-Hispanic Whites had the highest intercounty and interstate moving rates among the given racial and ethnic groups. Non-Hispanic Asian and Pacific Islanders were by far the most likely to have moved from abroad (24.2 percent). Hispanics were also much more likely than non-Hispanic Blacks or nonHispanic Whites to have come to the United States from abroad (including Puerto Rico) during the 5 -year period.

Table 3 shows that some of the mobility differences between Hispanics and non-Hispanic Whites can be attributed to age. Although Hispanic moving rates are higher than non-Hispanic Whites in every age category, the difference is particularly great among 5 to 19 year olds. Standardized overall moving rates show that even if the Hispanic population had the same age distribution as the nonHispanic White population, the moving rate would still have been higher for Hispanics (49.3 percent compared with 41.5 percent). Non-Hispanic Asian and Pacific Islanders' moving rates are only higher for age groups over 50 , yet the standardized overall moving rate is still higher than that of nonHispanic Whites (51.4 percent compared with 41.5 percent).

## Lower-income groups were more likely to move than higher-income groups.

People in families in lower-income categories were more likely to move than those in higher-income categories. Almost 50 percent of those living in families with income less than $\$ 10,000$ per year moved during the 5 -year period, compared with about 36 percent of those living in families with income over $\$ 75,000$. Some of the disparity in moving rates between low- and high-income groups may reflect differences in homeownership patterns, particularly the higher proportion of renters among families with low incomes.

Table 3.
Five-Year Moving Rates by Race and Hispanic Origin and Age: 1990-1995

| Age | White nonHispanic | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Black } \\ \text { non- } \\ \text { Hispanic } \end{array}$ | Asian and Pacific Islander nonHispanic | Hispanic (of any race) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5 to 19 years | 44.3 | 51.9 | 52.8 | 57.7 |
| 20 to 29 years | 68.8 | 65.6 | 68.8 | 72.4 |
| 30 to 39 years | 55.8 | 55.1 | 66.7 | 62.7 |
| 40 to 49 years | 36.4 | 42.0 | 47.5 | 45.9 |
| 50 to 64 years | 25.6 | 25.2 | 38.0 | 31.8 |
| 65 years and over | 15.7 | 18.9 | 31.8 | 20.3 |
| Total. | 41.5 | 47.6 | 54.0 | 55.6 |
| Standardized mobility rate . | *41.5 | 43.9 | 51.4 | 49.3 |

[^1]
## Renters were more likely to move than homeowners.

Seventy-two percent of renters (people in renter-occupied housing units) moved during the 5-year period, compared with 31.2 percent of homeowners (people in owner-occupied housing units). Distance moved was not much affected, however: similar percentages of owners and renters moved within the same county, and to different states. However, a higher percentage of renters than owners were movers from abroad.

## Divorced people were more likely to move than married or single people.

Among those 15 years and older, divorced and separated people were most likely to have moved, followed by people who had never married, and then by married people. Widowed people were least likely to have moved. Age could explain some of this variation, particularly the higher moving rates of those never married and the low rates of widowed people.

## The highly educated were more likely to move.

People 25 years and older with at least some college education were more likely to move than those with only a high school education or less. Those with a bachelor's degree had the highest moving rate (48.4 percent), while those with less than a $9^{\text {th }}$ grade education had the lowest ( 33.6 percent). Further education creates more job opportunities for the individual, possibly increasing one's chance of moving for job-related reasons.

In addition, movers with at least some college education were likely to have moved longer distances. For instance, 28.5 percent of moves made by those with professional or graduate degrees were to a different state, compared with just 12.4 percent of moves made by those with only 9 to 12 years of education. This difference could indicate that better educated people move longer distances for better paying jobs.

Finally, those with less than a $9^{\text {th }}$ grade education had the highest percentage (11.4 percent) of moves from abroad. Second highest were those with professional or graduate degrees ( 6.0 percent), followed by those with bachelors' degrees (5.0 percent). This rate could reflect the dichotomous nature of the immigrant/foreign population, which consists of both highly and not so highly educated people.

## The unemployed were more likely to move than the employed.

Unemployed people were more likely to have moved than the employed ( 54.6 percent compared with 47.3 percent). Those not in the labor force have the lowest mobility rate at 32.9 percent, which may reflect the high number of elderly and retired people in this category.

Though overall mobility rates between men and women are similar, there are some gender differences among the unemployed, whose moving rates were 52.1 percent for men and 58.0 percent for women (Table 4). This gender difference for the unemployed is only statistically significant for nonHispanic Whites. Employed Hispanic men tend to move more than employed Hispanic women, but there are no significant gender differences among other racial and ethnic groups.

## REGIONAL MOVEMENTS

The migration of people within the country changes the distribution of population. This section examines net migration changes and the
characteristics of migrants among the regions of the United States (Northeast, Midwest, South, and West).

Migration rates vary among regions depending on both region and historical period. As shown in Figure 2, both the South and West have been magnets for migrants coming from the Northeast and Midwest regions since the mid1960s. Although this is still generally the case, data in this report show a slowdown in net loss from the Midwest, and no net gain in the West due to internal migration ${ }^{3}$.

## High mobility rates were found in the West.

In the 1990-1995 period, the mobility rate was higher for Western residents- 51.9 percent - than for those in other regions (see Table 2). The second highest rate was for Southerners (46.1 percent), followed by Midwesterners at 42.4 percent. Northeastern residents had the lowest mobility rate - 33.9 percent. Residents of the South and West were more likely to have made longdistance moves (to another state or from abroad) than Midwestern and Northeastern residents (26.4 percent and 25.0 percent compared with 18.1 percent and 21.0 percent, respectively) ${ }^{4}$.

[^2]Table 4
Five-Year Moving Rates by Employment Status, Sex, and Race and Hispanic Origin: 1990-1995

| Race and Hispanic origin | Employed |  | Unemployed |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Total | 47.5 | 47.1 | 52.1 | 58.0 |
| White non-Hispanic. | 45.3 | 46.0 | 48.8 | 55.4 |
| Black non-Hispanic . | 48.8 | 48.0 | 55.7 | 57.1 |
| Hispanic (of any race) | 61.3 | 54.7 | 61.5 | 67.9 |

Table 5.
Migration Flows, Inmigrants, Outmigrants, and Net
Internal Migration by Region: 1990-1995
(Numbers in thousands)

| From residence in 1990 | To residence in 1995 |  |  |  | Total outmigration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Northeast | Midwest | South | West |  |
| Total inmigration. | 1,162 | 2,191 | 4,682 | 2,269 |  |
| Northeast. . . . . . . . | --- | 387 | 1,586 | 505 | 2,478 |
| Midwest | 281 | --- | 1,613 | 749 | 2,643 |
| South . | 613 | 1,025 | --- | 1,015 | 2,653 |
| West. | 268 | 779 | 1,483 | --- | 2,530 |
| Net migration ..... | *-1,316 | *-452 | *2,029 | -261 |  |

* The net migration flows are significantly different from zero.


## Only the South experienced a net gain of internal migrants.

As Table 5 indicates, over two million more people moved into the South than left it in the 1990-1995 period. The Northeast and Midwest experienced net losses due to internal migration, with the Northeast losing 1.3 million people and the Midwest losing 452,000.

The apparent net migration loss in the West is not large enough to be significantly different from zero. However, the 1990-1995 period marks the first time the West did
not experience a net migration gain in the 5 -year periods since 19651970 (see Figure 2), although the net gain has been slowly declining since the 1975-1980 period. The Northeast and Midwest had continual net migration losses over the 30 -year period, while the South experienced a net migration gain in each 5 -year period. However, the Midwest lost fewer people between 1990 and 1995 than during any other of the 5 -year periods since 1970, and net losses have declined steadily in the Midwest since the 1980-1985 period.

Figure 2.
Five-Year Net Internal Migration by Region: 1965-1970 to 1990-1995
(Numbers in thousands)


Source: 1970 Census; 1975 March CPS; 1980 Census; 1985 March CPS; 1990 Census; 1995 March CPS

## Both young and old moved to the South, left the Northeast.

Table 6, with selected characteristics of migrants for regions, shows that the South gained more people than it lost for most age groups in the 1990-1995 period. For instance, the South experienced a net gain of 528,000 people ages 5 to 19; 262,000 people ages 20 to 29 ; and 607,000 people ages 45 to 74 . The Northeast lost people from almost all age groups, experiencing net losses of 357,000 people ages 5 to 19 ; 291,000 people ages 20 to 29 ; and 297,000 ages 45 to 74 . The only other significant difference was found in the Midwest, where more 45 to 64 year olds left than came into the region.

## Blacks moved to the South, left the Northeast and Midwest.

While regional migration patterns for non-Hispanic Whites are similar to those for the country as a whole, some variation is found among migration patterns for other racial and ethnic groups. The South gained 358,000 non-Hispanic Blacks, while there was a net loss of non-Hispanic Blacks from the Northeast and Midwest, and no significant difference in the size of the in and out migration flows for the West. The South gained 282,000 Hispanics through internal migration, while the Northeast and the West had more Hispanics move out than move in (net losses of 145,000 and 97,000, respectively).

## The South gained people of all educational levels, while the Northeast lost them.

The South gained people age 25 and older across all educational backgrounds. In contrast, the Northeast had a net loss of people age 25 and older across all education groups. The West had a net loss of people with some college education and with less than a high school education. The Midwest had a net loss of people with professional or graduate degrees, as well as with a high school education or less.

Table 6.

## Inmigration, Outmigration, and Net Internal Migration for Regions by Selected Characteristics: 1990-1995

(Numbers in thousands)

| Selected characteristics | Northeast |  |  | Midwest |  |  | South |  |  | West |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | In | Out | Net | In | Out | Net | In | Out | Net | In | Out | Net |
| Total. | 1,162 | 2,478 | *-1,316 | 2,191 | 2,643 | *-452 | 4,682 | 2,653 | *2,029 | 2,269 | 2,530 | -261 |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 to 9 years | 83 | 237 | *-154 | 243 | 221 | 22 | 462 | 240 | *222 | 201 | 291 | -90 |
| 10 to 14 years | 88 | 179 | *-91 | 218 | 195 | 23 | 377 | 233 | *143 | 173 | 248 | -75 |
| 15 to 19 years | 61 | 173 | *-112 | 141 | 163 | -22 | 296 | 133 | *163 | 118 | 148 | -30 |
| 20 to 24 years | 154 | 323 | *-169 | 256 | 324 | -68 | 487 | 336 | *151 | 295 | 208 | 87 |
| 25 to 29 years | 195 | 317 | *-122 | 346 | 390 | -44 | 594 | 483 | 111 | 392 | 338 | 54 |
| 30 to 44 years | 372 | 711 | *-339 | 670 | 773 | -103 | 1,411 | 830 | *581 | 727 | 865 | -138 |
| 45 to 64 years | 159 | 362 | *-203 | 240 | 425 | *-185 | 750 | 289 | *461 | 269 | 342 | -73 |
| 65 to 74 years | 22 | 116 | *-94 | 41 | 83 | -42 | 197 | 51 | *146 | 54 | 63 | -9 |
| 75 years and over | 27 | 59 | -32 | 36 | 69 | -32 | 108 | 57 | 51 | 40 | 27 | 14 |
| Race and Hispanic Origin |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Black non-Hispanic | 80 | 304 | *-224 | 156 | 261 | *-105 | 608 | 250 | *358 | 197 | 224 | -27 |
| Asian and Pacific Islander non-Hispanic | 37 | 44 | -7 | 24 | 56 | -32 | 84 | 72 | 12 | 94 | 67 | 27 |
| Hispanic. | 51 | 196 | *-145 | 112 | 151 | -39 | 434 | 152 | *282 | 165 | 262 | *-97 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 593 | 1,246 | *-653 | 1,152 | 1,320 | *-168 | 2,347 | 1,370 | *977 | 1,134 | 1,289 | *-155 |
| Female. | 569 | 1,231 | *-662 | 1,038 | 1,323 | *-285 | 2,335 | 1,283 | *1,052 | 1,135 | 1,241 | -106 |
| Housing Tenure |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Renter occupied. | 637 | 1,234 | *-597 | 1,052 | 1,336 | *-284 | 2,219 | 1,445 | *774 | 1,315 | 1,208 | 107 |
| Education <br> (For those age 25 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 9th grade . . . . . . | 11 | 54 | *-43 | 57 | 95 | *-38 | 186 | 67 | *119 | 49 | 87 | *-38 |
| 9th-12th grade, no diploma. | 46 | 99 | *-53 | 71 | 135 | *-64 | 243 | 74 | *169 | 49 | 100 | *-51 |
| High school graduate | 181 | 398 | *-217 | 345 | 449 | *-104 | 791 | 464 | *327 | 368 | 373 | -5 |
| Some college or AA degree. . | 157 | 384 | *-227 | 361 | 434 | -73 | 888 | 452 | *436 | 387 | 522 | *-135 |
| Bachelor's degree | 208 | 374 | *-166 | 350 | 385 | -35 | 575 | 412 | *163 | 372 | 334 | 38 |
| Prof. or graduate degree | 171 | 255 | *-84 | 150 | 242 | *-92 | 378 | 240 | *138 | 258 | 219 | 39 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Divorced or separated | 110 | 185 | *-75 | 203 | 283 | *-80 | 434 | 254 | *180 | 197 | 223 | -25 |
| Widowed | 28 | 88 | *-60 | 43 | 75 | *-32 | 151 | 48 | *103 | 38 | 48 | -10 |
| Never married | 358 | 735 | *-377 | 537 | 662 | *-125 | 1,039 | 650 | *389 | 630 | 516 | *114 |
| Family Income (In 1994, for those age 15 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than \$9,999. . . . . . . | 280 | 660 | *-380 | 535 | 721 | *-186 | 1,259 | 634 | *625 | 537 | 596 | -59 |
| \$10,000 to \$19,999. | 210 | 469 | *-259 | 403 | 511 | *-108 | 921 | 508 | *413 | 413 | 458 | -45 |
| \$20,000 to \$29,999. | 145 | 275 | *-130 | 241 | 306 | *-65 | 513 | 349 | *164 | 309 | 278 | 31 |
| \$30,000 to \$39,999. | 106 | 205 | *-99 | 190 | 217 | -27 | 338 | 176 | *162 | 166 | 203 | -37 |
| \$40,000 to \$49,999. | 53 | 100 | *-47 | 71 | 121 | *-50 | 160 | 112 | *48 | 127 | 80 | *47 |
| \$50,000 to \$59,999. | 52 | 52 | 0 | 61 | 75 | -14 | 92 | 84 | 8 | 68 | 60 | 8 |
| \$60,000 to \$74,999. | 38 | 69 | *-31 | 47 | 40 | 7 | 91 | 82 | 9 | 65 | 50 | 15 |
| \$75,000 and over | 54 | 93 | *-39 | 76 | 91 | -15 | 159 | 99 | *60 | 100 | 106 | -6 |
| Employment Status <br> (For those age 16 and over) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employed | 667 | 1,300 | *-633 | 1,223 | 1,401 | *-178 | 2,283 | 1,453 | *830 | 1,270 | 1,289 | -19 |
| Unemployed | 55 | 87 | *-32 | 70 | 103 | -33 | 197 | 119 | *78 | 98 | 111 | -13 |
| Not in labor force. | 229 | 595 | *-366 | 378 | 616 | *-238 | 1,182 | 492 | *690 | 405 | 491 | *-85 |

[^3]
## SUMMARY

Analysis of the March 1995 CPS shows that for 1990-1995, mobility rates varied by a number of characteristics including age, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, income, employment status, and housing tenure. During this period, people who were 20 to 29 years old, of races other than White, unemployed, divorced, renting, or in families with lower incomes were more likely to move than their demographic counterparts. Regional data, limited to domestic migration, show continued net gain in the South with continued net loss in the Northeast and Midwest. For the first of the 5 -year periods since data have been collected, the West did not have a net gain of migrants.

## SOURCE OF DATA

Most estimates in this report come from data collected in the March 1995 CPS, but some estimates are based on data collected in the CPS and the decennial census of earlier years. The Census Bureau conducts the CPS every month but collects the data on residential migration only in March. The 5 -year migration question is only asked in the middle of each decade, providing a fairly comparable time series of migration data for 5-year periods.

## ACCURACY OF ESTIMATES

Statistics from sample surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and meet the Census Bureau's standards for statistical significance. Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey was designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately
answers are coded and classified. The Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process-including the overall design of surveys, testing the wording of questions, reviewing the work of interviewers and coders, and statistical review of reports.

The CPS employs ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but how it affects different variables in the survey is not precisely known. Moreover, biases may also be present when people who are missed in the survey differ from those interviewed in ways other than the categories used in weighting (age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin). All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on statistical standards and the computation and use of standard errors, contact Alfred Meier, Demographic Statistical Methods Division, at 301-4574220 or on the Internet at Alfred.G.Meier@census.gov.

## DETAILED INFORMATION

A set of detailed tabulations consisting of 29 tables from the 1995 March CPS shows more detailed characteristics of movers and nonmovers by type of move, for the United States and regions. The electronic version of these tables is available on the Internet at the Census Bureau's World Wide Web site (www.census.gov). Once on the site, go to "Subjects A to Z," then click on " $M$," and finally on "Migration."

An abbreviated paper version (without the race and geographic repeats) is available as PPL-137 for $\$ 27.50$. To receive a paper copy, send a request for "PPL-137, Geographical Mobility: 1990-1995," along with a check or money order in the amount of $\$ 27.50$ payable to Commerce-Census-88-00-9010, to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, P.O. Box 277943, Atlanta, GA 30384-7943, or call the Population Division's Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422. A copy of these tabulations will be made available to any existing Current Population Report P23 subscriber without charge, provided that the request is made within 3 months of the issue date of this report. Contact the Statistical Information Office on 301-457-2422.

## CONTACTS

Statistical Information Staff
pop@census.gov
301-457-2422
Jason Schachter
jason.p.schachter@census.gov
301-457-2454

## USER COMMENTS

The Census Bureau welcomes the comments and advice of users of our data and reports. If you have any suggestions or comments, please write to:

Chief, Population Division
U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233
or send e-mail to:
pop@census.gov


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Comparisons between data from the CPS and the decennial census must be made with caution because of sampling and nonsampling variability. Data from the decennial census are for the total resident population of the United States, whereas data from the March CPS are for the civilian noninstitutional population plus members of the armed forces living off post or with their families on post, and thus they are not totally comparable.
    ${ }^{2}$ All characteristics of individuals are measured in 1995.

[^1]:    * Standardized by age, White non-Hispanic as reference category.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ These regional migration data do not include immigration from abroad, but rather are limited to moves among regions of the United States.
    ${ }^{4}$ The percentage of residents in the South and West who made long-distance moves are not statistically different from each other.

[^3]:    *The net migration flows are significantly different from zero.

