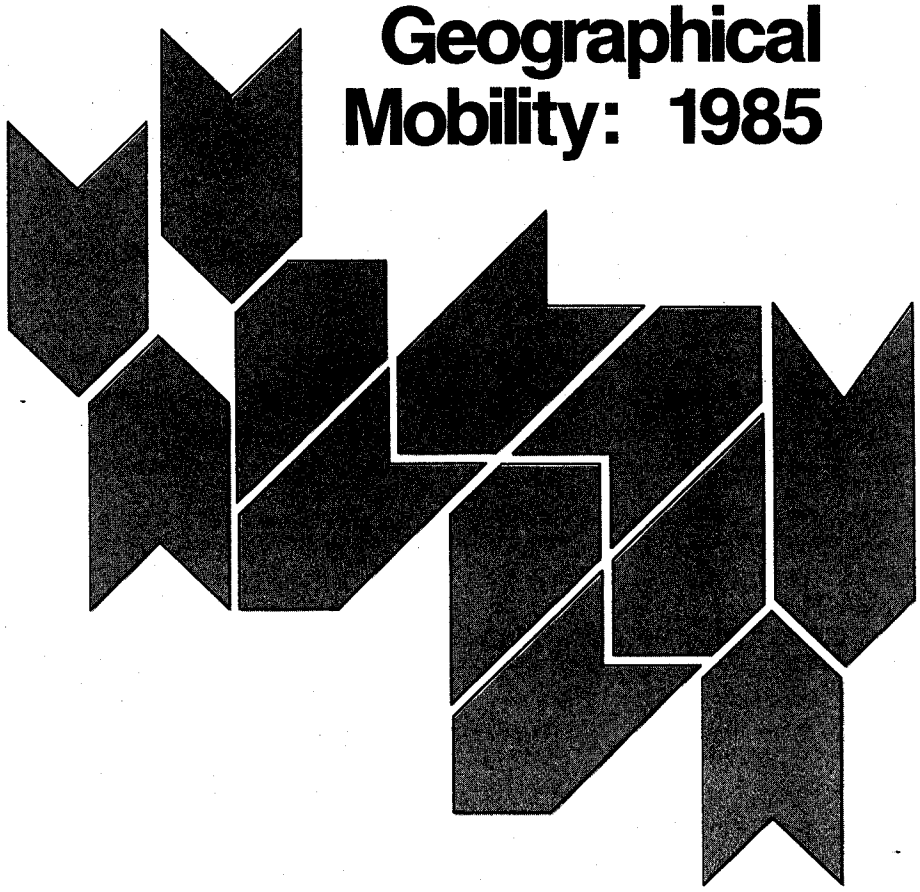
CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Population Characteristics

Series P-20, No. 420

Geographical Mobility: 1985



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— Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.

Geographical Mobility: March 1985

INTRODUCTION

This report provides information collected in March of 1985 on the geographical mobility of Americans. The text highlights some of the changes that have occurred since the previous report, with particular reference to the volume and rate of movement, changes in the types of movement, the characteristics of movers, and changes in interregional patterns of population movement. The report's detailed tables provide data on these and additional subjects.

In March of 1985, the Current Population Survey was in the midst of a major sample redesign. About half of the sample households surveyed that March were from the old sample and about half were in the new sample. Both samples were designed to represent regions; the new sample is also designed to represent States. The old sample was selected in 1972 and updated annually for new construction, demolitions, conversions, etc. The aggregate data for metropolitan areas as shown in the survey data from 1973 through 1984 represents metropolitan areas in 1972. The new sample is representative of metropolitan areas as defined in 1984 based on the results of the 1980 census.

The mixed sample in March 1985 adequately represents the Nation and the four census regions. Nevertheless, the data for migration between counties, States, and regions should be used with some caution, particularly when estimates are based on a small number of cases or when comparisons are made between numbers of similar magnitude. The metropolitan data, however, are not consistent with either the 1972 or 1984 metropolitan area definitions. Therefore, this report does not include any tabulations showing data for metropolitan areas or for migration within or between central cities, suburbs, and nonmetropolitan areas.

Data from two migration questions are presented in this report. The basic Current Population Survey question on residence 1 year earlier provides data on moving from March 1984 to March 1985 to compare with previous annual rates of moving. An additional question on residence 5 years earlier provides data on moving between March 1980 and March 1985 and measures longer term residential change. The same detailed tables are included for each migration interval. The text highlights findings for both periods.

HIGHLIGHTS

- A record number of Americans changed residences in the United States between March 1984 and March 1985. The 46.5 million persons who moved from one house or apartment to another during the period was not only a significant increase of 7.1 million persons from the 1983-84 period, but was also an all time high for the number of movers in a single year since data on annual mobility rates were first collected in the 1948 Current Population Survey.

- The annual rate of movement was also higher than during the previous year, increasing from 17.3 percent to 20.2 percent. This increase in the annual rate of movement continues the reversal of a long decline in annual rates of migration that began during the late 1960's and continued through the early years of this decade.

- Local movers (those who moved within the same county) accounted for most of the increase in moving between 1984 and 1985.

- As a region, the West gained population through internal migration, reversing what may have been a short-term aberration in regional mobility found in the previous year when the West failed to experience a net gain from other regions for the first time.

- The South did not show a significant net gain as a result of internal migration for the first time in several decades, but this may also be a short-term change in the usual patterns of mobility between regions.

- Rates of residential change for the 5-year interval between 1980 and 1985 (41.7 percent) remained lower than for the previous 5-year period (47.0 percent in 1975-80) because of very low annual rates between 1980 and 1983.

VOLUME OF MOVEMENT

The number of Americans who moved from one house or apartment to another in the United States between March 1984 and March 1985 increased significantly over the number who changed residences during the previous 1-year period. In March of 1985, an estimated 46.5 million persons reported moving from

one house or apartment to another in the previous year, an increase of 7.1 million movers over the 39.4 million who reported moving in 1984 (table A).

The 46.5 million persons who moved within the U.S. during the period was an all time high for the number of movers in a single year since data on annual mobility were first collected in the 1948 Current Population Survey. Primarily this was the result of the increased size of the total population rather than an increase in the proportion of the population that was moving.

RATES OF MOVEMENT

The increase in the volume of movement between 1983-84 and 1984-85 resulted in greatly increased rates of moving by Americans between the two periods. During the 1984-85 period, 20.2 percent of all persons 1 year of age and older moved to a new residence, compared with 17.3 percent in the previous year.

This high rate of moving is reminiscent of the rates of residential change found in the 1950's and early 1960's, when the annual rates of mobility fluctuated around 20 percent. Beginning in the late 1960's, annual rates of moving in the United States declined gradually to a low of 16.6 percent between March 1982 and March 1983 (table A).

TYPES OF MOVEMENT

The residential changes that make up the numbers and rates of moving have great variety, especially in the distance involved in the move. The kinds of moves made each year vary from local moves between apartments in the same building or to a different house in the same community, to moves from rural areas to distant cities in the same State, to long-distance moves from one State to another on an opposite coast, and even include moves into the United States from abroad. Table A shows data on the types of moves for selected annual periods since 1961.

As in previous years, the most frequent type of move during the current survey period was a local move within the same county. Between March 1984 and March 1985, 30 million persons changed residences within the same county, about two-thirds of the total movers during that period. The remaining movers were fairly evenly divided between movers between counties in the same State and those moving between States and from abroad.

Most of the 7.1 million increase between the 1983-84 and 1984-85 survey periods in the number of persons who moved was accounted for by the increase in persons who made local moves; that is, moves within the same county. The rate of local moving increased from 10.4 percent of the population in 1984 to 13.1 percent in 1985.

Table A. Annual Geographical Mobility Rates, by Type of Movement, for Selected 1-Year Periods: 1960-61, 1970-71, and 1980's

(Numbers in thousands)

Mobility period	Total movers	Residing in the United States at beginning of the period					Residing outside the United States at beginning of the period
		Total	Different house, same county	Different county			
				Total	Same State	Different State	Different region	
NUMBER								
1984-85	46,470	45,043	30,126	14,917	7,995	6,921	3,648	1,427
1983-84	39,379	38,300	23,659	14,641	8,198	6,444	3,540	1,079
1982-83	37,408	36,430	22,858	13,572	7,403	6,169	3,192	978
1981-82	38,127	37,039	23,081	13,959	7,330	6,628	3,679	1,088
1980-81	38,200	36,887	23,097	13,789	7,614	6,175	3,363	1,313
1970-71	37,705	36,161	23,018	13,143	6,197	6,946	3,936	1,544
1960-61	36,533	35,536	24,289	11,246	5,493	5,753	3,094	998
PERCENT								
1984-85	20.2	19.6	13.1	6.3	3.1	3.2	1.6	0.5
1983-84	17.3	16.8	10.4	6.5	3.1	3.4	1.5	0.8
1982-83	16.6	16.1	10.1	6.2	3.4	2.8	1.4	0.6
1981-82	17.0	16.6	10.3	6.2	3.3	3.0	1.6	0.5
1980-81	17.2	16.6	10.4	6.0	3.3	2.7	1.5	0.4
1970-71	18.7	17.9	11.4	6.4	3.6	2.8	2.0	0.5
1960-61	20.6	20.0	13.7	6.5	3.5	3.0	1.7	0.6

Most local moves are undertaken to improve housing or neighborhood conditions or in response to changes in family situation or size, while long-distance moves are frequently in response to economic and job-related conditions and involve changes in labor markets.[1] Annual rates of moving can be influenced by short-term economic and housing market conditions that affect only the local area or the Nation as a whole, without affecting the long-term patterns of geographical mobility. Since most residential mobility is local moving (about two-thirds of the moves during the 1984-85 period), and since many of those local moves are for housing reasons, the decrease in mobility rates in the early 1980's has been attributed to the high mortgage interest rates that prevailed during that period. Similarly, it can be argued that the recent upswing in moving is the consequence of delayed residential changes that became economically feasible when interest rates dropped in 1984.

The rates at which persons in the United States make longer distance moves are very stable. (See table A.) At the same time the rates of local moving were changing so dramatically, the rate at which persons moved between States showed little or no significant change, remaining at about 3 percent.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MOVERS

Movers differ from other Americans in many ways. The propensity to move is particularly high for some groups. The following sections describe the differences in rates of moving by characteristics of movers as shown in table B and the detailed tables.

Age

Rates of geographical mobility are the highest for persons in their twenties, and then decline with increasing age. Many life-course events that occur during early adulthood contribute to this high rate of moving. The events include leaving school, entering into the labor force, early career mobility, service in the military, college attendance, establishing separate households, and getting married. In addition, young adults are more likely to be renters than homeowners. Data from the Annual Housing Survey, conducted by the Census Bureau for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, have shown that renters are 5 times more likely to move than homeowners.[2] These factors resulted in a geographical mobility rate of 38.3 percent between 1984 and 1985 for persons aged 20 to 24 years old and 36.5 percent for those 25 to 29 years old. As shown in table B, rates of moving after ages 20 to 29 decline with increasing age to a low of 6.1 percent for persons 65 years old and over. Rates of moving by children parallel the rates of their parents. Younger children, who usually have younger parents, move more frequently than older children. Pre-school children have the highest rates of moving (29.4 percent), while school-age children have lower rates of moving. (The slight upswing in the rate for young people ages 15 to 19 reflects the mixed nature of that age group with some of the older individuals beginning to leave their parental homes.)

Sex

Males are somewhat more likely to move than females; 21 percent of the men included in the 1985 Current Population Survey moved in the previous year as compared to 19.7 percent of women. The actual rates of moving for men may even be greater since persons in military barracks and prisons, where men are likely to be disproportionately represented, are not included in the Current Population Survey sample.

Education

Generally, persons with higher levels of education were more likely to move between 1984 and 1985 than persons with less education. As shown in table B, 13.9 percent of persons 18 years old and older with only an elementary school education moved in the previous year, while 19.5 percent of those with at least some high school and 21.7 percent of those with at least some college moved in the previous year. Persons with 5 or more years of college moved at a rate of 19.6 percent.

Since mobility rates for adults decrease with age, many of the differences in mobility rates by education are due to differences in age structure. This is especially apparent among those adults with only an elementary school education who have a median age of 62 years, compared with those with only a high school education (40 years) or persons who have attended college (37 years).

Rates of local moving are as high for persons with only a high school education as for those who attended college; both have higer rates of local moving than

[1]U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 154, *Reasons for Moving: March 1962 to March 1963,* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1966.

[2]U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Housing Reports, Series H-150-83, part D, *Housing Characteristics of Recent Movers,* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1985.

Table B. Selected Characteristics of Persons 1 Year and Older, by Mobility Status and Type of Movement: 1984-85

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Total, 1 year and older	Nonmovers	Type of geographical movement					
			Total	Local movement (within county)	Nonlocal movement			
					Between counties			Movers from abroad
					Total	Within States	Between States	
All persons	230,333	183,863	46,470	30,126	14,917	7,995	6,921	1,427
Age:								
1-4 years	14,225	10,041	4,184	2,855	1,249	646	603	80
5-9 years	16,566	12,765	3,802	2,562	1,128	550	578	112
10-14 years	17,226	14,192	3,034	2,061	879	461	418	94
15-19 years	18,325	14,683	3,641	2,341	1,123	631	492	177
20-24 years	20,466	12,627	7,839	5,031	2,559	1,443	1,116	249
25-29 years	21,106	13,400	7,705	4,994	2,476	1,378	1,098	235
30-44 years	51,051	40,569	10,482	6,618	3,553	1,814	1,740	311
45-64 years	44,549	40,409	4,139	2,646	1,360	741	619	133
65 years and over	26,818	25,177	1,640	1,017	589	332	257	34
Sex:								
Male	111,598	88,113	23,485	14,968	7,669	4,114	3,555	848
Female	118,735	95,751	23,434	15,158	7,248	3,882	3,366	1,028
Educational attainment:								
Total, 18 years and over	171,369	137,713	33,657	21,464	11,122	6,051	5,071	1,071
Elementary: 0 to 8 years	20,988	18,075	2,912	1,999	675	457	218	238
High school: 1 to 4 years	89,706	72,242	17,463	11,807	5,230	2,885	2,345	426
College: 1 year or more	29,763	23,294	6,470	3,361	2,860	1,444	1,416	249
5 years or more	12,014	9,660	2,353	1,233	1,014	467	547	106
Labor force status:								
Total, 16 years and over	178,587	143,766	34,821	22,200	11,496	6,240	5,256	1,125
Civilian labor force	114,256	89,032	25,224	16,423	8,145	4,626	3,519	656
Employed	105,550	82,930	22,620	14,820	7,246	4,204	3,042	554
Unemployed	8,706	6,102	2,603	1,602	899	422	478	102
Armed Forces	925	418	508	171	252	34	218	85
Not in the labor force	63,405	54,316	9,089	5,607	3,098	1,579	1,519	384
Region of residence:								
Northeast	48,713	41,679	7,034	4,653	2,153	1,182	971	228
Midwest	57,888	46,827	11,061	7,544	3,349	1,890	1,459	168
South	77,962	60,952	17,011	10,748	5,731	3,023	2,708	532
West	45,769	34,404	11,365	7,182	3,684	1,901	1,783	499
PERCENT								
All persons	100.0	79.8	20.2	13.1	6.5	3.5	3.0	0.6
Age:								
1-4 years	100.0	70.6	29.4	20.1	8.8	4.5	4.2	0.6
5-9 years	100.0	77.1	23.0	15.5	6.8	3.3	3.5	0.7
10-14 years	100.0	82.4	17.6	12.0	5.1	2.7	2.4	0.5
15-19 years	100.0	80.1	19.9	12.8	6.1	3.4	2.7	1.0
20-24 years	100.0	61.7	38.3	24.6	12.5	7.1	5.5	1.2
25-29 years	100.0	63.5	36.5	23.7	11.7	6.5	5.2	1.1
30-44 years	100.0	79.5	20.5	13.0	7.0	3.6	3.4	0.6
45-64 years	100.0	90.7	9.3	5.9	3.1	1.7	1.4	0.3
65 years and over	100.0	93.9	6.1	3.8	2.2	1.2	1.0	0.1
Sex:								
Male	100.0	79.0	21.0	13.4	6.9	3.7	3.2	0.8
Female	100.0	80.6	19.7	12.8	6.1	3.3	2.8	0.9
Educational attainment:								
Total 18 years and over	100.0	80.4	19.6	12.5	6.5	3.5	3.0	0.6
Elementary: 0 to 8 years	100.0	86.1	13.9	9.5	3.2	2.2	1.0	1.1
High school: 1 to 4 years	100.0	80.5	19.5	13.2	5.8	3.2	2.6	0.5
College: 1 year or more	100.0	78.3	21.7	11.3	9.6	4.9	4.8	0.8
5 years or more	100.0	80.4	19.6	10.3	8.4	3.9	4.6	0.9

Table B. Selected Characteristics of Persons 1 Year and Older, by Mobility Status and Type of Movement: 1984-85—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Total, 1 year and older	Nonmovers	Type of geographical movement					
			Total	Local movement (within county)	Nonlocal movement			
					Between counties			Movers from abroad
					Total	Within States	Between States	
Labor force status:								
Total, 16 years and over	100.0	80.5	19.5	12.4	6.4	3.5	2.9	0.6
Civilian labor force	100.0	77.9	22.1	14.4	7.1	4.0	3.1	0.6
Employed	100.0	78.6	21.4	14.0	6.9	4.0	2.9	0.5
Unemployed	100.0	70.1	29.9	18.4	10.3	4.8	5.5	1.2
Armed Forces	100.0	45.2	54.9	18.5	27.2	3.7	23.6	9.2
Not in the labor force	100.0	85.7	14.3	8.8	4.9	2.5	2.4	0.6
Region of residence:								
Northeast	100.0	85.6	14.4	9.6	4.4	2.4	2.0	0.5
Midwest	100.0	80.9	19.1	13.0	5.8	3.3	2.5	0.3
South	100.0	78.2	21.8	13.8	7.4	3.9	3.5	0.7
West	100.0	75.2	24.8	15.7	8.0	4.2	3.9	1.1

persons with only an elementary school education. Rates of moving longer distances are highest for persons with at least some college.

Labor Force and Employment Status

The labor force and employment status shown in this report is the person's status as of the survey date; that is, the person's status after the move and not necessarily at the time of the move. Persons who were unemployed at the survey date in 1985 may have been employed before the move and looking for work in the new location; others may have been unemployed in 1984 and moved to take a new job.

The data on geographical mobility of the population by labor force and employment status reveal the extremely high rates of moving by persons in the Armed Forces at the time of the survey. In 1985, about 55 percent of those persons interviewed who were in the military had moved in the preceding year; about half of those had moved between States. The actual rates of movement for all persons in the military may even be higher since those living in barracks and other group quarters on military installations at the time of the survey are not included in the Current Population Survey.

Persons in the civilian labor force in 1985 had much lower rates of moving than persons in the military. Unemployed persons were more likely to have moved in the preceding year (29.9 percent) than employed persons (21.4 percent). The lowest mobility rates were found for persons that were of working age (16 years old or over) but who were not in the labor force in 1985. Persons who are not in the labor force include individuals who are retired or students or others who do not work outside their home by choice, as well as the discouraged unemployed who have given up looking for work. Only 14.3 percent of those persons who were not in the labor force in 1985 reported moving in the previous year.

REGION OF RESIDENCE

Mobility rates differ greatly from one region of the country to another. People living in the West at the survey date had the highest rate of mobility, 24.8 percent in the 1984-85 period, as compared with 21.8 percent for people in the South, 19.1 percent for people in the Midwest, and only 14.4 percent for residents of the Northeast. Local mobility within each region paralleled the differences found in the overall rates of moving for the four regions. The West had the highest rates of local moving (15.7 percent), followed by the South with 13.8 percent moving locally. Rates of longer distance moving were also highest for the South and the West, with about 3.5 percent of the persons in each region reporting they had made an interstate move in the previous year. The Midwest had nearly as high a rate of local moving (13.0 percent) as found in the South, but the region had much lower rates of interstate mobility (only 2.5 percent). The Northeast had the lowest rates of moving for local and nonlocal moves within the United States.

INTERREGIONAL MOBILITY

The effect of migration on the distribution of the population of the United States among the four major regions (the Northeast, the Midwest, the South, and the West) are shown in table C. A total of 3.6 million persons moved from one region to another in the period between March 1984 and March 1985. This was an increase of 100,000 over the number moving between regions in the previous 1-year period. The largest interregional flow was from the Midwest to the South (582,000). The South had large gains from all of the other three regions, but also returned large numbers of migrants to each of the other regions, especially to the Midwest and the West. The West had its biggest gain from the South (498,000), but also had a fairly large gain from the Midwest (329,000). Both the Midwest and the Northeast had larger gains from the South than from any other region, although the Midwest also had a large flow of migrants from the West.

Table C. Movement Between Regions: 1984-85 and 1983-84

(Numbers in thousands)

Region moved from	Total	Region moved to			
		Northeast	Midwest	South	West
1984-85:					
Total movers	3,647	482	842	1,329	994
Northeast	691	(X)	124	400	167
Midwest	1,053	142	(X)	582	329
South	1,169	269	402	(X)	498
West	734	71	316	347	(X)
1983-84:					
Total movers	3,540	487	820	1,399	834
Northeast	578	(X)	124	355	99
Midwest	1,102	105	(X)	624	373
South	973	252	359	(X)	362
West	887	130	337	420	(X)

X Not applicable.

The results of these interregional flows, net migration for each region during the 1984-85 period as well as for several recent periods in the past, are shown in table D. The 1983-84 period was the only time that the West did not have a significant net gain of population through internal migration and may even have had a net loss. This change was not from a decrease in the number of inmigrants attracted to the West, but was apparently more the result of an increase in the number of outmigrants from the West. This outmigration may have been attributable to the decline in the market for the products of extraction industries such as soft coal and shale oil that resulted when the oil glut reduced the price of foreign oil products dramatically. This change was only transitory, however, since the 1984-85 data show a recovery and return to the traditional pattern of net inmigration to the West from the other three regions.

Table D. Annual Inmigration, Outmigration, and Net Migration, for Regions: 1980's

(Numbers in thousands)

Period	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
1980-81:				
Inmigrants	464	650	1,377	871
Outmigrants	706	1,056	890	710
Net migration	-242	-406	+487	+161
1981-82:				
Inmigrants	473	793	1,482	931
Outmigrants	685	1,163	1,012	819
Net migration	-212	-370	+470	+112
1982-83:				
Inmigrants	439	661	1,211	880
Outmigrants	625	947	973	645
Net migration	-186	-286	+238	+235
1983-84:				
Inmigrants	487	820	1,399	834
Outmigrants	578	1,102	973	887
Net migration	-91	-282	+426	-53
1984-85:				
Inmigrants	482	842	1,329	994
Outmigrants	691	1,053	1,169	734
Net migration	-209	-211	+160	+260

The Northeast region also shows an atypically low net outmigration for the 1983-84 period that is not statistically different from zero, but seems to have returned to the more familiar, and significant, net loss in 1984-85. The Midwest shows a continual net loss due to internal migration when annual data for the last 5 years are examined. The South was a big gainer between 1983 and 1984 when the West lost migrants, or at least, failed to gain migrants. The South did not show a significant net gain due to internal migration between 1984 and 1985 because of an increase in the number of outmigrants without a compensating increase in the number of inmigrants. Although the net difference between inmigrants and outmigrants for 1984-85 period was not significantly different from zero, neither was it signicantly different from the net gain of the previous year.

MOVEMENT FROM ABROAD

During the 1984-85 period, about 1.4 million persons moved to the United States from abroad. These persons include not only foreign immigrants but also citizens moving to the 50 States from Puerto Rico and other outlying areas of the United States and other Americans, including military personnel and their dependents,

returning from overseas. The flow of movers from abroad in 1985 was somewhat greater than in recent years, an increase of nearly 350,000 over the 1.1 million who entered the United States in the previous year. The rate of movement from abroad also increased slightly from 0.5 percent in 1983-84 to 0.6 percent in 1984-85.

The destinations of movers to the United States from abroad (shown in table B) parallel the destinations of interregional movers within the United States. The South and the West were the recipients of the greatest numbers of movers from abroad, both because of the preponderance of military bases in these areas and because of the proximity of California and Texas to Mexico (which is the chief source of immigrants to this country).

FIVE-YEAR MIGRATION PATTERNS

The Effect of Interval Length

A longer migration interval frequently shows different patterns of mobility than shorter intervals. Fluctuations in annual rates and short-term changes in geographic patterns of movement can be smoothed out and hidden by later moves or cancelled altogether when a longer migration interval is used for analysis. Therefore, rates of moving in a 5-year period are generally more stable than annual rates of moving. The 5-year interval data are useful in comparing long-term changes in migration propensities, particularly the effects of migration on population redistribution. These data are also useful because they are not so sensitive to transitory changes in migration patterns; it is frequently just as important to know what has not changed as well as what has changed.

It should be noted that the rates of moving for a 5-year interval are not 5 times the rates for an annual period. For example, in 1985, 20.2 percent of the population 1 year old and over reported moving in the previous year, but only 41.7 percent reported they had moved at least once during the 5-year period between 1980 and 1985. Since only a small proportion of the population makes more than one move in a year, the number of persons moving in a single year can be used to estimate the number of *moves* made as well as the number of *movers*. A 5-year mobility interval, however, counts the number of persons who make *one or more* moves in that period. No assumption as to the number of *moves* can be made because a significant proportion of the movers may have made more than one move during the interval. In addition, a few people who move out of a residence during the 1-year period may move back to that same residence before the end of the 5-year interval and, therefore, would not be counted as movers in the longer interval at all.

Rates of moving

The data in table E, rates of moving for successive 5-year periods from 1970-75 to the current survey year, indicate a decline in the 5-year rates of moving between the 1975-80 and 1980-85 intervals—from 47.0 percent to 41.7 percent. Table E shows the 1970-75 data as originally published and also with imputations to estimate the number of persons who moved but who did not report their previous residence. Comparing the 1970-75 data with imputations to the 1975-80 and 1980-85 data, a decline is seen in the percentage of the population making local moves in the most recent period. The percent moving within the same county declined from about 25 percent in 1970-75 and 1975-80 to about 22 percent in 1980-85. This decline in rates of local (same county) moving mirrors the declines in annual rates of local moving seen between 1980 and 1983 (shown in table A), but gives no indication of the recent and dramatic increase in annual rates of local moving since then.

Characteristics of Movers

With the exception of age, the same general patterns of mobility are found for a 5-year migration interval as

Table E. Five-year Geographical Mobility Rates: 1980-85, 1975-80, and 1970-75

Migration interval	Total	Same house	Total movers	Different house in the United States					Movers from abroad	Moved, residence not reported
				Total	Same county	Different county				
						Total	Same State	Different State		
1980-85	100.0	58.3	41.7	39.9	22.1	17.8	9.1	8.7	1.8	NA
1975-80	100.0	53.0	47.0	45.1	25.8	19.3	10.2	9.1	1.9	NA
1970-75	100.0	51.5	48.5	41.3	24.2	17.1	8.4	8.6	7.2	*
1970-75, allocated	100.0	54.1	48.5	43.9	25.2	18.8	9.5	9.3	2.0	NA

NA Not applicable.

* Include with "Abroad".

for annual rates when the characteristics of movers are examined. When age patterns of movers are examined for the longer interval, the highest rates of moving are found for 25- to-29-year-olds rather than for persons in their early twenties at the end of the period. (See table F.) The mobility rates for the 5-year interval are lower for persons in their early twenties than for those in their late twenties because the youngest of this age group, those 20 years of age in 1985, were only 15 years old in 1980— an age with fairly low rates of moving. However, those at the upper end of the age cohort who were 25 in 1985 were already 20 in 1980—a group with very high rates of moving. The highest incidence of moving in a 5-year interval is experienced by persons in their late twenties, as reflected in the rates shown in table F for the cohort aged 25 to 29 in 1985; all of these persons were in their twenties throughout the 5-year migration period.

Table F. Five-Year Geographical Mobility Rates, by Age and Sex: 1980-85

Age and sex	Total	Same house	Total movers	Different house in the United States					Movers from abroad
				Total	Same county	Different county			
						Total	Same State	Different State	
5 years and over	100.0	58.3	41.7	39.9	22.1	17.8	9.1	8.7	1.8
5 to 9 years	100.0	47.9	52.1	50.0	29.8	20.2	9.6	10.6	2.1
10 to 14 years	100.0	57.8	42.2	40.5	23.9	16.6	8.2	8.4	1.7
15 to 19 years	100.0	64.6	35.6	33.4	19.2	14.2	7.4	6.8	2.2
20 to 24 years	100.0	39.1	60.9	58.0	30.8	27.2	14.7	12.5	2.9
25 to 29 years	100.0	26.5	73.5	70.4	37.7	32.7	16.7	16.0	3.2
30 to 34 years	100.0	40.9	59.1	56.5	31.8	24.7	12.7	12.0	2.6
35 to 44 years	100.0	58.8	41.2	39.4	21.7	17.7	8.6	9.1	1.8
45 to 54 years	100.0	72.9	27.1	26.2	14.1	12.1	6.2	5.8	0.9
55 to 64 years	100.0	79.0	21.1	20.2	10.4	9.8	5.2	4.5	0.9
65 years and over	100.0	83.5	16.5	16.2	9.2	6.9	3.6	3.3	0.3
Male	100.0	57.5	42.5	40.5	22.2	18.2	9.2	9.0	2.1
Female	100.0	59.1	40.9	39.4	22.1	17.3	9.0	8.4	1.5

Interregional Migration

Regional patterns of migration remain substantially unchanged since the late 1960's when 5-year intervals are examined. (See table G.) Like the overall rates of moving, the longer interval tends to smooth out annual fluctuations in regional patterns. Between 1980 and 1985, the South and the West continued to gain more population through migration from other regions than they lost. The 1960 census was the first time that data on inmigration and outmigration showed a net gain for the South. In the early 1970's, the South, which extends as far west as Texas and Oklahoma, increased its share of the gain over the West as compared with its share during the late 1960's. In the late 1960's, the nets for the two regions were about equal; since 1970 the South's net has been much larger than the West's.

Regional patterns do not necessarily reflect the circumstances in individual States or portions of States during the 5-year period. Data for States from the 1980 census[3] show that while a region may have a net gain or

Table G. Five-Year Inmigration, Outmigration, and Net Migration, for Regions: Selected Periods

(Numbers in thousands)

Period	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
1980-85:				
Inmigrants	1,218	1,901	4,428	2,641
Outmigrants	2,240	3,426	2,530	1,992
Net migration	-1,022	-1,525	+1,898	+649
1975-80:				
Inmigrants	1,106	1,993	4,204	2,838
Outmigrants	2,592	3,166	2,440	1,945
Net migration	-1,486	-1,173	+1,764	+893
1970-75:				
Inmigrants	1,057	1,731	4,082	2,347
Outmigrants	2,399	2,926	2,253	1,639
Net migration	-1,342	-1,195	+1,829	+708
1965-70:				
Inmigrants	1,273	2,024	3,142	2,309
Outmigrants	1,988	2,661	2,486	1,613
Net migration	-715	-637	+656	+696
1955-60:				
Inmigrants	1,044	1,702	2,490	2,488
Outmigrants	1,683	2,545	2,435	1,062
Net migration	-639	-842	+56	+1426

[3]U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1980 Census of Population and Housing, *Geographical Mobility for States and the Nation*, PC80-2-2A, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1985.

loss of population for a particular period, not every State shares equally in that gain or loss, and some States may not even have a net change in the same direction. For example, the net gain to the South was not shared by all States in the South—Mississippi, Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia showed net losses for the 1975-80 period, while the South as a whole showed a net gain of 2 million persons. The vast majority of the South's gain in population due to migration in that period was made by Florida (+823,227) and Texas (+574,007). Conversely, while the Northeast as a whole lost population because of migration, upper New England (Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont) had net gains of population due to migration.

RELATED REPORTS AND DATA PRODUCTS

Statistics on the geographical mobility of the population of the United States have been collected annually in the Current Population Survey since 1948. Tabulations from these annual surveys are contained in Current Population Reports, Series P-20. Previous reports for the 1980's are Series P-20, No. 407, *Geographical Mobility: March 1983 to March 1984*; Series P-20, No. 393, *Geographical Mobility: March 1982 to March 1983*; Series P-20, No. 384, *Geographical Mobility: March 1981 to March 1983*; and Series P-20, No. 377, *Geographical Mobility: March 1980 to March 1981*.

Microdata computer files are also available for each of the Current Population Survey's Annual Demographic Files (March Supplement) beginning with 1968. The 1985 tape is available from Data User's Services Division, Customer Services (Tapes), U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233; telephone (301) 763-4100. Technical documentation comes with the tape or is available separately from the Data Access and Use Staff of the Data User's Services Division, at the same address, telephone (301) 763-2074, and should be cited as Current Population Survey: March 1985: Technical Documentation.

Geographical mobility researchers may wish to utilize data from two other current surveys conducted by the Bureau of the Census. The American Housing Survey (formerly Annual Housing Survey), conducted since 1973, contains a broad array of data pertaining to residential mobility for the Nation as a whole and for selected metropolitan areas. The Survey of Income and Program Participation, begun in 1984, is a series of panel surveys, initiated annually, in which national samples of individuals are reinterviewed every 4 months for a period of 2 1/2 years. Details concerning data products from both of these current surveys are available in the *Census Catalog and Guide: 1985* (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1985).

The Bureau of the Census also publishes annual State population estimates, which contain net migration estimates for States, and population projections that employ a variety of migration assumptions. Recent reports including net migration for States include *State Population and Household Estimates to 1985, with Age and Components of Change,* Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 998. National population projections for the next century are available in *Projections of the Population of the United States, by Age, Sex, and Race: 1983 to 2080,* Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 952. Projections for individual States that incorporate net migration assumptions based on interstate movement during the 1970-80 period are available in *Provisional Projections of the Population of States, by Age and Sex: 1980 to 2000,* Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 937.

Various forms of geographical mobility data are also collected as part of the decennial census. Each decennial census since 1850 has collected information on place of birth and current location of residence. In addition, the decennial censuses of 1940, 1960, 1970, and 1980 asked where individuals resided 5 years previously; i.e., in 1935, 1955, 1965, and 1975. The 1950 census asked where individuals resided in 1949. Tabulations and microdata computer files are available from each of these censuses.

Tabulations from the 1980 Census of Population are available by States in General Social and Economic Characteristics, Series PC80-1-C, and in Detailed Population Characteristics, Series PC80-1-D; in three Supplementary Reports: *State of Residence in 1975 by State of Residence in 1980,* PC80-S1-9; *Residence in 1975 for States by Age, Sex, Race, and Spanish Origin,* PC80-S1-16; and *Gross Migration for Counties: 1975 to 1980,* PC80-S1-17; and in two Volume 2, Subject Reports: *Geographical Mobility for States and the Nation,* PC80-2-2A and *Geographical Mobility for Metropolitan Areas,* PC80-2-2C.

Table Finding Guide—Subjects, by Type of Mobility, Migration Interval, and Table Number

Subject	Annual migration (1984-85)		Five-year migration (1980-85)	
	Overall mobility	Regional mobility	Overall mobility	Regional mobility
General and Social Characteristics				
Age:				
Single years of age	1	—	11	—
Age groups	2,4,5,7,8	2,3,6,10	12,14,15,17,18	13,19,20
Race	—	3,9	—	13,19
Years of school completed	7	9,10	17	19,20
Marital status	8	—	18	—
Families	4,5,6	9,10	14,15,16	19,20
Families by presence or ages of own children	5,6	—	15,16	—
Economic Characteristics				
Employment status	8	9,10	18	19,20
Occupation	—	9,10	—	19,20
Income in 1984	5	—	15	—
Above or below poverty level	—	9,10	—	19,20