

Ohio Population News: Migration in Ohio

The movement of people is a key force shaping population change, which can have both demographic and socioeconomic consequences. Consider the last five years—while the number of births to Ohio mothers was more numerous than the number of deaths of Ohio residents (a net gain of 217,877), the number of Ohio residents leaving the state was higher than the number entering (a net migration loss of 102,008). The resulting population gain between April 2000 and July 2005 **represents a growth rate of less than 1 percent, well below the national average of 5.3 percent.** This small increase in population masks an underlying condition—the combined effects of the out-migration of younger portions of the population and an overall aging of the remaining population.

This research brief examines population change in the State of Ohio by examining the patterns of internal and international migration along with the characteristics of in- and out-migrants. The results presented here are based on three sources of data: annual population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2000 decennial Census, as well as point estimates along with the public-use microdata from the 2004 American Community Survey (ACS). These data provide demographic and socio-economic characteristics of individuals and their families as well as basic information on migration to and from the State of Ohio.

Between the years 2000 and 2004, the average rate of net migration was -1.7, in other words more people moved out than moved in to the State of Ohio. Several counties around the state experienced high rates of loss: Hamilton (-13.2), Paulding (-10.3), and Cuyahoga (-10.1), while other counties such as Fairfield (18.5), Warren (32.9) and Delaware (44.7) experienced high net gains due to migration.

Figure 2: Age Distribution In- and Out-Migrants, Ohio 2004

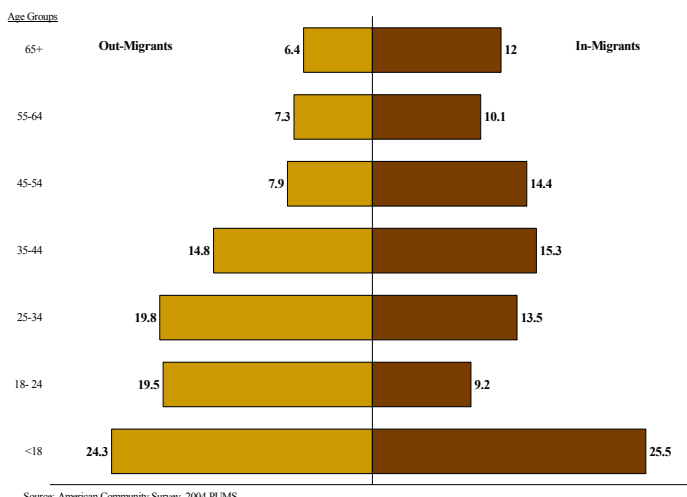
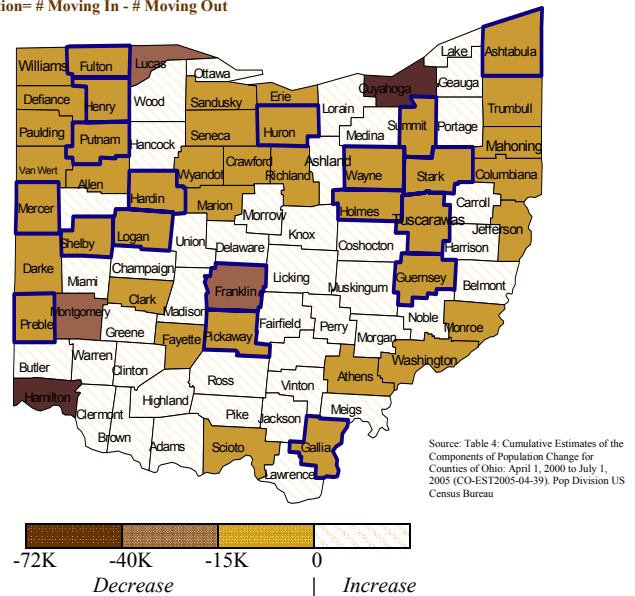


Figure 1: Cumulative Net Migration, 2000-2005

Net Migration = # Moving In - # Moving Out



The map above depicts estimates of cumulative net migration between April 2000 and July 2005 by county for the State of Ohio. **Counties that had a gain in population even in the face of a net loss due to migration are in outlined in bold.**

Age Distribution. The ACS asks respondents to indicate where they lived one year prior to the survey date. This information is used to understand the characteristics of migrants and non-migrants. Figure 2 is a population pyramid, which depicts the age distribution of out-migrants that left the state compared to the population of in-migrants that came to the state (on the right). Clearly, **there is a concentration of younger ages among those leaving the state—almost 40 percent of the out-migration stream was composed of those ages 18 to 34 compared with only 23 percent of the in-migration stream.** In addition, nearly twice as many in-migrants were ages 65 and over compared to out-migrants.

Declines in Youth. From 1990 to 2004, the number of Ohio residents ages 25 to 34 declined by roughly 19 percent statewide. In fact, almost all of Ohio's 88 counties saw large declines in this age group, with some declines (Putnam, Paulding and Cuyahoga) as high as 33 percent. **However, it is important to note that a majority of this decline is due to the movement of the Baby Boomers into the older age groups.** For example, in 1990, four out of five residents ages 25 to 34 were part of the Baby Boom generation—a large group of Americans born between the years of 1946 and 1964. In 2004, these individuals are in an older age bracket, 39 to 48.

Nonetheless, **a decline in the proportion of the population that is made up of young earners—earners who start families, buy homes, and contribute to the tax base—might have serious economic consequences in the coming years.**

Further concern arises from an examination of the 2000 Decennial Census which finds clear educational differences between those ages 25 to 34 who left the State of Ohio and those who moved into the state—well over half (52 percent) of those who left had at least a Bachelor's degree or higher compared with just 46 percent who moved to the state in the same age group.

In-Migrants, Out-Migrants and Immigrants 2004

Past research has shown that the likelihood of moving varies by age, educational attainment and income status. The odds of moving decline with age (until retirement), and increase with high levels of education. Other research has examined the motivations for moving, **finding that the nonpoor are more likely to move for economic reasons than are the poor, while the poor are more likely to move for family-related reasons.** While the ACS does not collect information on the motivations or reasons for either leaving or coming to Ohio, it does collect information on age, race/ethnicity, educational attainment and poverty status (Table 1).

Table 1: Selected Characteristics of Ohio In- and Out- Migrants, 2004

	In-Migrants		Out-Migrants
	Moved from another state	Moved from another country	Moved to another state
Median Age	27.3	28.2	27.0
Male	50.2	53.1	45.9
Female	49.8	46.9	54.1
Non-Hispanic White	70.9	44.3	79.7
Black alone	13.5	16.8	12.2
Asian alone	3.2	26.6	0.5
Hispanic(of any race)	11.0	11.1	2.3
Highest Education Attainment (25 years and older)			
Not a high school graduate	16.5	11.4	9.6
High school graduate	19.5	25.6	23.5
Some college or associate's degree	25.2	16.7	27.6
Bachelor's Degree	25.7	28.6	23.7
Graduate Degree	13.1	17.8	15.6
Below 100% of the poverty level	21.3	29.6	21.5

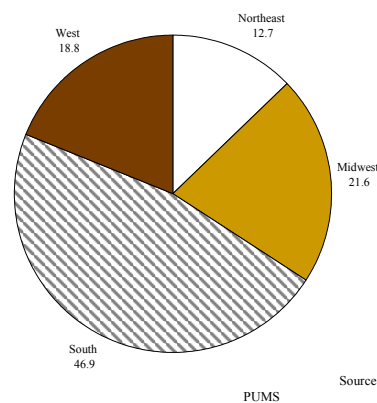
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey Tables and PUMS files.

Note: these are point estimates and are subject to sampling variability.

Immigrants. During 2005, Ohio received just fewer than 17,000 legal permanent residents from other countries: **39 percent came from Asian countries, 19 percent from African countries, 25 percent from European countries, and 17 percent from North/South American countries.** The single largest contributor in 2005 was India with almost 2000 individuals seeking legal permanent residence.

Sources Used: "Why People Move? Exploring the 2000 March Current Population Survey" 2001. Jason Schacter. Available online <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p23-204.pdf>
 US Dept of Homeland Security. Yearbook of Immigration Statistics Legal Permanent Resident Flow by State of Residence and Region and Country of Birth: Fiscal Year 2005 available online <http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/shared/statistics/yearbook/LPR05.htm>

Figure 3: Where are they going?

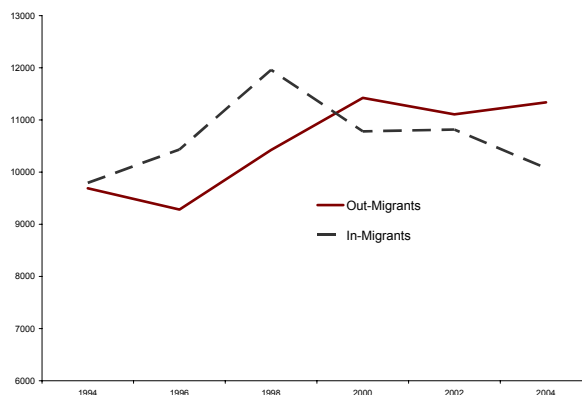


Source: ACS 2004,

PUMS

Estimates from the 2004 ACS suggest that among Ohio residents ages 1 and older who left the state in the last year, a majority headed south.

Figure 4: Migration of College Freshman 1994- 2004



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) National Center for Education Statistics

The National Center for Education Statistics collects information on the residence of first-time college degree seeking undergraduate students who were high school seniors the previous year. These data (presented in Figure 4) show levels of Ohio first-time freshman who attend college in another state (out-migrants). Also included are the numbers of incoming freshman from outside the state (in-migrants). While the majority of Ohio's high school seniors who go on to college attend an Ohio institution (roughly 59,000 in 2004), the data indicate a trend toward higher levels of out-migration.