



Research Brief

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U.S. Census Bureau Releases 2006 State-to-State Migration Flows for Pennsylvania: New York and New Jersey most closely tied to Pennsylvania

MIDDLETOWN, Pa –The U.S. Census Bureau recently released information on State-to-State Migrations for Pennsylvania from the 2006 American Community Survey. This data documents the migration patterns of residents in and out of Pennsylvania for 2005 to 2006.

Pennsylvania residents' state-to-state migration flows were most commonly to and from nearby states, with New Jersey and New York being the most common destination and origin of people who moved into or out of Pennsylvania. Of the people who moved out of Pennsylvania to a different state, 10.5 percent moved to New Jersey (23,970 people), and 9.6 percent moved to New York (22,032 people). One notable exception to this trend was Florida, where 9.2 percent of the out-of-state movers settled (21,007 people). Florida was followed by North Carolina (6.7 percent) and Maryland (6.3 percent) in the rank of Pennsylvania out-migration.

Of the population that moved into Pennsylvania during 2005-2006, New York and New Jersey were also the biggest contributors to domestic in-migration: former New York residents comprised 17.2 percent of new Pennsylvania residents (43,294 people), while New Jersey contributed 16.9 percent (42,717 people). Many more Maryland residents moved into Pennsylvania than out (22,968 in-movers versus 14,470 out-movers), pushing the percent of in-migration from Maryland to 9.1 percent. Maryland was followed by Florida (7.5 percent) and Ohio (5.6 percent) in the rankings of in-migration states.

The number of Pennsylvania residents moving to Midwestern and Western states was significantly smaller. The lowest-ranked five states for Pennsylvania out-movers were: Nebraska (0.0 percent, or 101 people), South Dakota (0.1 percent or 187 people), Wyoming (0.1 or 268 people), Alaska (0.2 percent or 454 people) and Montana (0.2 percent or 495 people).

The makeup of the lowest-ranked states for in-movers was similar, with Wyoming (no movers), North Dakota (0 percent or 66 people), and Idaho (0.1 percent or 174 people) making up the bottom three. One exception to the trend was Hawaii, which had far fewer people moving from Hawaii to Pennsylvania than the reverse: 242 people, or 0.1 percent of in-movers, moved from Hawaii to Pennsylvania, while 1,956 people moved from Pennsylvania to Hawaii during the same time period (0.9 percent of out-movers). Hawaii was followed by Montana in the bottom five states for Pennsylvania in-movers (260 people or 0.1 percent).

The data also show that 1,306,488 Pennsylvania residents moved in 2005-2006, but did not leave the state.

Table 1. Most Common Origins for Pennsylvania In-Migrants, 2006

Residence 1 year ago	Percent of In-Movers	Current Residence in Pennsylvania
New York	17.2%	43,294
New Jersey	16.9%	42,717
Maryland	9.1%	22,968
Florida	7.5%	18,837
Ohio	5.6%	14,106

Table 2. Most Common Destinations for Pennsylvania Out-Migrants, 2006

Current Residence	Percent of Out-of-State Movers	Residence 1 year ago in Pennsylvania
New Jersey	10.5%	23,970
New York	9.6%	22,032
Florida	9.2%	21,007
North Carolina	6.7%	15,361
Maryland	6.3%	14,470

Source: 2006 American Community Survey (State-to-State Migrations Table)

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's National State Data Center Program.

Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.