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TALENT ON THE MOVE: MIGRATION PATTERNS OF THE YOUNG AND COLLEGE-EDUCATED IN PRE- AND POST-RECESSION AMERICA

Migration Trends across the Largest Midwestern Metros

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FINDINGS

In the most recent period, 2012-2014, the Midwest's largest metro areas attracted and retained almost 37,000 YCE migrants (Table 1), which is almost double the number during the Great Recession period. Although the region's largest city, Chicago, recorded the largest net in-migration of YCEs (11,033) in 2012-2014, Kansas City recorded the highest NMQ of YCEs (18.6 percent), followed by Columbus, OH (18.5 percent) and Detroit (16.4 percent). Detroit's turnaround is particularly noteworthy; the Motor City metro posted the second highest change in NMQ values between the two periods (second only to Birmingham). Two metros reported a net out-migration of YCEs, one being Buffalo (-14.5 percent), and the other being Milwaukee (-7.0 percent).

Table 1. Top 50 Midwestern Metros w/ Net Migration Quotient and Net Migration Values, Migrants Ages 25-39 with a Bachelor’s degree or higher, 2012-2014 and 2008-2010

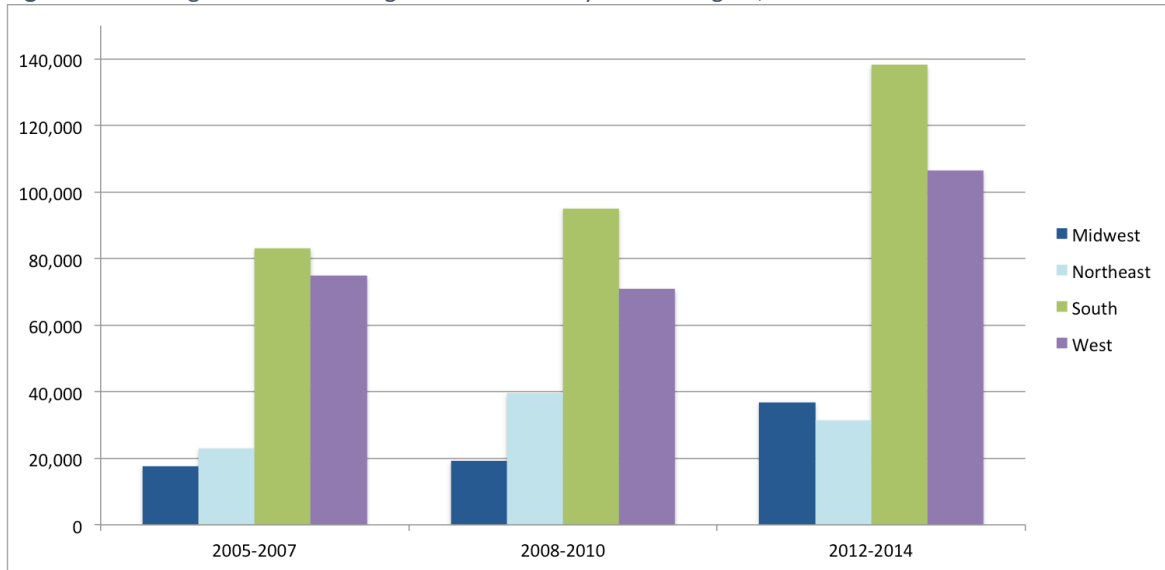
		2012-2014			2008-2010			Change, 2008-2010 to 2012-2014	
		Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient		Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient		Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient
Midwest	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	11,033	12.6	*	5,250	6.7		5,783	5.9
	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	2,405	13.4	*	1,379	8.4	*	1,026	5.0
	Cleveland-Elyria, OH	1,353	9.4		568	3.5		785	5.9
	Columbus, OH	4,035	18.5	*	1,750	9.1	*	2,285	9.3
	Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI	5,073	16.4	*	-671	-2.5		5,744	18.9
	Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, IN	879	4.5		2,196	15.2	*	-1,317	-10.7
	Kansas City, MO-KS	4,022	18.6	*	2,897	16.5	*	1,125	2.1
	Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	-923	-7.0		197	1.8		-1,120	-8.8
	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	5,908	16.2	*	2,413	8.3	*	3,495	7.9
	St. Louis, MO-IL	3,033	13.3	*	3,254	14.8	*	-221	-1.4
	TOTAL Midwest	36,818	12.9		19,233	7.7		17,585	5.2
	Decline in net in-migration between 2008-2010 and 2012-2014								
*	Metro NMQ value exceeds regional NMQ value								

Sources: Integrated PUMS (Ruggles et al. 2012). American Community Survey (ACS) 2008-2010, 3-year estimates, and 2012-2014 (combined 1-year files).

To explore regionally specific migration patterns in more depth, we dissected migration flows into three distinct components: 1) intraregional migration (i.e., domestic migration exchanges from *within* a given region), 2) interregional migration (i.e., domestic migration exchanges *across* regions), and 3) international in-migration (i.e., immigration).

During 2005-2007, large metro areas in the Midwest attracted and retained nearly 20,000 net YCE individuals through net in-migration (Figure 1). In 2012-2014, YCE net in-migration to large Midwestern metros doubled to nearly 40,000.

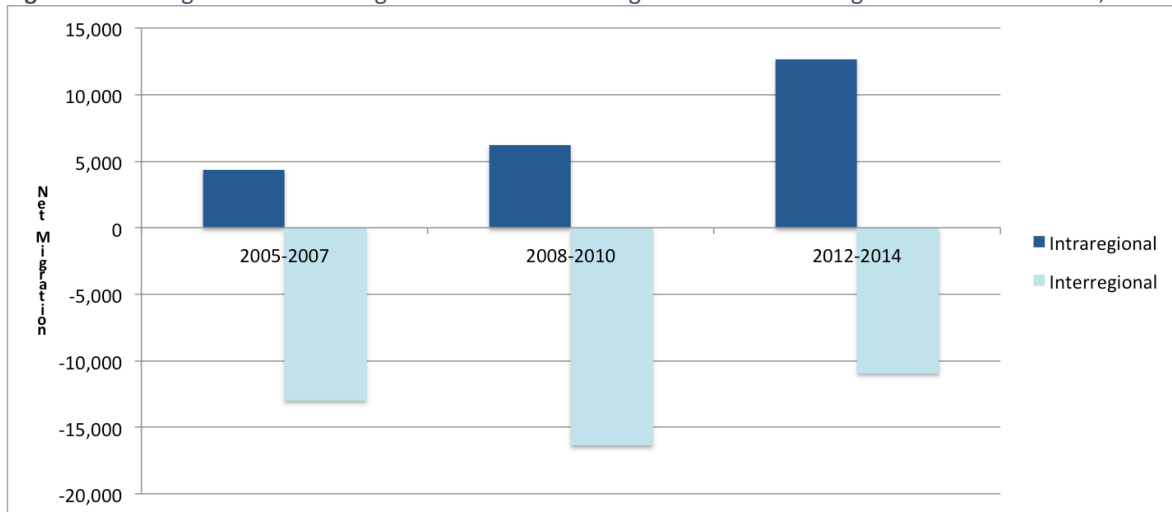
Figure 1. Net Migration for the Largest U.S. Metros by Census Region, 2005-2014



Sources: Integrated PUMS (Ruggles et al. 2012). American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2012, 3-year estimates, and 2012-2014 (combined 1-year files).

The increase in net domestic in-migration of YCEs is principally the result of two factors: 1) capturing a higher share of YCE migrants from other areas within the Midwest (intraregional domestic net in-migration more than doubled from 6,000 to 13,000 between 2008-2010 and 2012-2014, respectively) and, 2) losing fewer net YCE out-migrants to other U.S. regions, specifically large Metros in the Northeast (domestic interregional net out-migration declined from 16,000 to 11,000 between 2008-2010 and 2012-2014, respectively) (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Intraregional and Interregional Domestic Net Migration Flows for Large Midwestern Metros, 2005-2014



Sources: Integrated PUMS (Ruggles et al. 2012). American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2012, 3-year estimates, and 2012-2014 (combined 1-year files).

To more clearly illustrate the above point, consider Table 2, which illustrates the YCE migration flows by domestic region, as well as international in-migration, for the Chicago metro region. First, between the two periods, Chicago recorded almost 1,500 more domestic intraregional YCE in-migrants (from other large metros across the Midwest), while at the same time gross domestic intraregional out-migration of YCEs remained virtually unchanged. Second, in 2008-2010, the migration exchange with Northeastern metros resulted in Chicago losing more than 2,000 net out-migrants, but by 2012-2014, Chicago reversed its loss and gained more than 2,000 net in-migrants from large metro areas in the Northeast.

Table 2. Gross In and Out Regional Domestic Migration Flows and Immigration, Chicago Metro Area, 2008-2014

	2008-2010	2012-2014
In-Migration		
Midwest	12,682	14,105
Northeast	5,500	7,344
South	6,617	9,577
West	5,700	5,407
Total Domestic	30,499	36,433
International	11,331	12,876
Total In-Migration	41,830	49,309
Out-Migration		
Midwest	12,605	12,735
Northeast	7,510	5,118
South	8,038	11,229
West	8,427	9,194
Total Out-Migration	36,580	38,276
Net Migration	5,250	11,033

Sources: Integrated PUMS (Ruggles et al. 2012). American Community Survey (ACS) 2008-2010, 3-year estimates, and 2012-2014 (combined 1-year files).

Appendix 1. 50 Largest Metropolitan Regions by Population, 2014.

Metropolitan Area (Abbreviation in charts)	Population
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA (NYC)	20,092,883
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA (LA)	13,262,220
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (CHI)	9,554,598
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX (DFW)	6,954,330
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX (HOU)	6,490,180
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD (PHI)	6,051,170
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV (WSH)	6,033,737
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL (MIA)	5,929,819
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA (ATL)	5,614,323
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH (BOS)	4,732,161
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA (SFO)	4,594,060
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ (PHX)	4,489,109
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA (RSB)	4,441,890
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (DET)	4,296,611
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA (SEA)	3,671,478
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI (MSP)	3,495,176
San Diego-Carlsbad, CA (SD)	3,263,431
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (TSP)	2,915,582
St. Louis, MO-IL (STL)	2,806,207
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD (BAL)	2,785,874
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO (DEN)	2,754,258
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC (CLT)	2,380,314
Pittsburgh, PA (PIT)	2,355,968
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA (PDX)	2,348,247
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX (SAT)	2,328,652
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL (ORL)	2,321,418
Sacramento--Roseville--Arden-Arcade, CA (SAC)	2,244,397
Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN (CIN)	2,149,449
Kansas City, MO-KS (KC)	2,071,133
Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, NV (LAS)	2,069,681
Cleveland-Elyria, OH (CLE)	2,063,598
Columbus, OH (CMH)	1,994,536
Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, IN (IND)	1,971,274
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA (SJ)	1,952,872
Austin-Round Rock, TX (AUS)	1,943,299
Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro--Franklin, TN (NSH)	1,792,649
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC (VB)	1,716,624
Providence-Warwick, RI-MA (PRV)	1,609,367
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI (MIL)	1,572,245
Jacksonville, FL (JAX)	1,419,127
Memphis, TN-MS-AR (MEM)	1,343,230
Oklahoma City, OK (OKC)	1,336,767
Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN (LOU)	1,269,702
Richmond, VA (RCH)	1,260,029
New Orleans-Metairie, LA (NOL)	1,251,849
Raleigh, NC (RDU)	1,242,974
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT (HRT)	1,214,295
Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	1,153,340
Birmingham-Hoover, AL (BHM)	1,143,772
Buffalo-Cheektowaga-Niagara Falls, NY (BUF)	1,136,360

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.