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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 Western Metros

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FINDINGS

In the West, Seattle recorded the largest NMQ gain of YCEs (31.6%), followed by San Francisco (28.5 percent), Portland (26.3 percent), and San Jose (26.1 percent) (Table 4). During the Great Recession, as well as the post-recession recovery period, only four metros outpaced the West's regional gain in YCE net-migration: 1) Phoenix, 2) Denver, 3) San Francisco, and 4) San Jose.

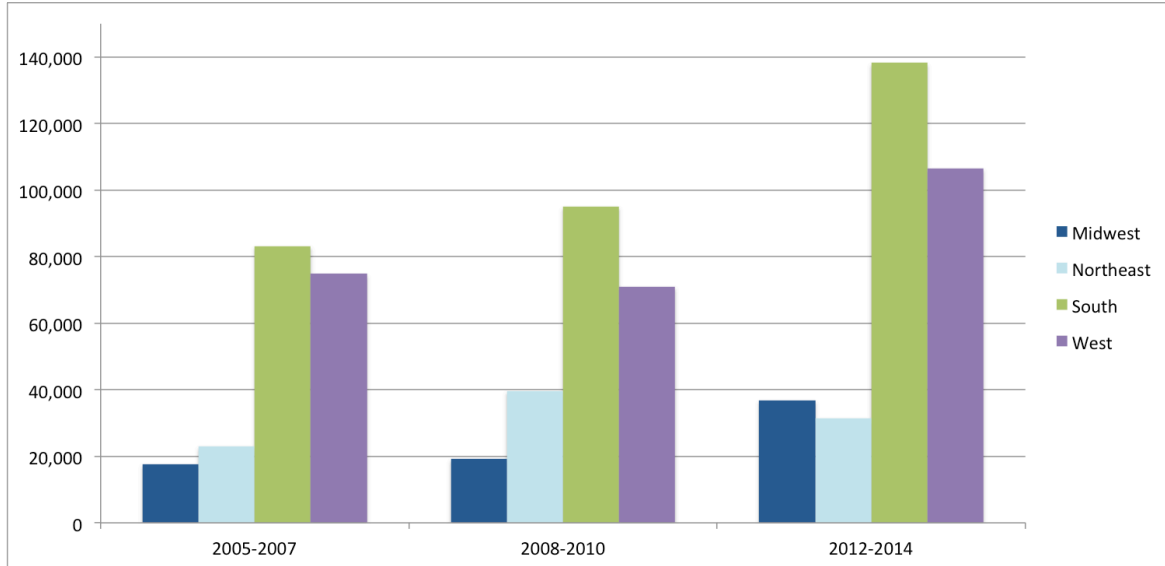
Table 1. Top 50 Western Metros w/ Net Migration Quotient and Net Migration Values, Migrants Ages 25-39 with a Bachelor’s degree or higher, 2012-2014 and 2008-2010

		2012-2014			2008-2010		Change, 2008-2010 to 2012-2014	
West		Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient		Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient	Net Migrants	Net Migration Quotient
	Denver-Boulder, CO#	12,659	25.1	*	5,710	16.6	6,949	8.5
	Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, NV	520	3.3		200	1.4	320	1.8
	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	15,166	14.3		10,976	11.2	4,190	3.1
	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	8,670	23.4	*	4,655	13.3	4,015	10.1
	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA	8,236	26.3	*	7,530	29.2	706	-2.9
	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	1,100	4.2		3,245	13.6	-2,145	-9.4
	Sacramento--Roseville--Arden-Arcade, CA	921	4.4		2,994	14.9	-2,073	-10.5
	Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	1,480	7.3		1,618	10.4	-138	-3.1
	San Diego-Carlsbad, CA	5,095	11.7		5,349	14.3	-254	-2.6
	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA	24,224	28.5	*	11,607	16.2	12,617	12.3
	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	12,572	26.1	*	6,101	17.7	6,471	8.5
	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	17,405	31.6	*	12,780	28.5	4,625	3.1
	TOTAL West	108,048	20.0		72,765	16.0	35,283	4.0
	Decline in net in-migration between 2008-2010 and 2012-2014							
*	Metro DE value exceeds regional total							

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

Although metro areas in the South attract and retain the highest number of YCE net in-migrants, metro areas in the West have almost identical net migration rates (Figure 1). Also, the growth in the volume of net in-migration of YCEs between the Great Recession and post-recession periods—71,000 to 107,000, or 49 percent growth—is the highest of any region.

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

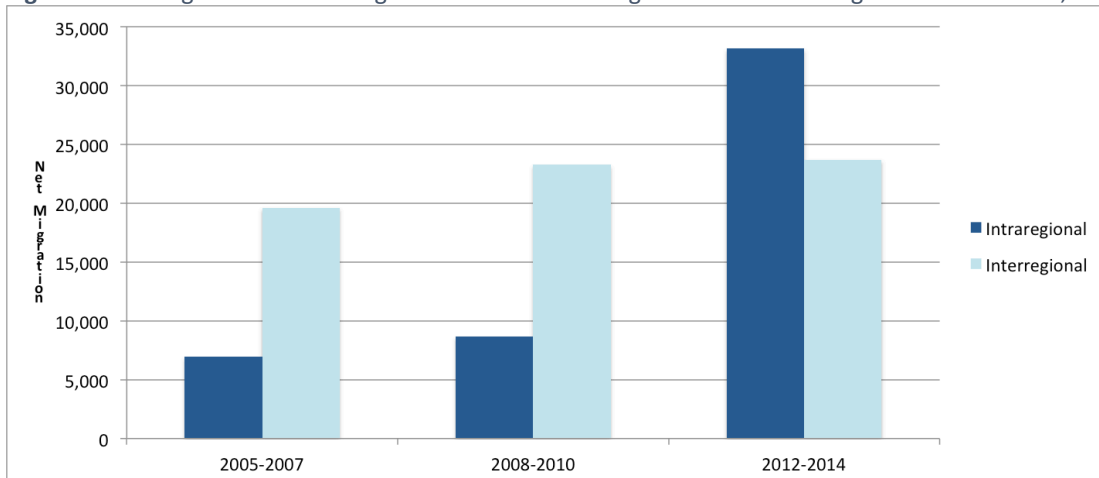


Sources: Integrated PUMS (Ruggles et al. 2012). American Community Survey (ACS) 2010-2012, 3-year estimates, and 2012-2014 (combined 1-year files).

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).

What’s driving most of this growth in Western metro areas is a combination of increases among intraregional and interregional net in-migration levels. From 2008-2010 to 2012-2014 for example, intraregional and interregional net YCE in-migration increased from 1,200 to 6,900 (475 percent increase), and 15,300 to 30,500 (99 percent increase) (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Intraregional and Interregional Domestic Net Migration Flows for Large Western 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 what's happening in many Western metros, consider YCE migration flows for the Phoenix, AZ metro region. The Phoenix metro region attracted and retained almost double its volume of net YCE in-migration—4,700 compared to 8,700—between the Great and post-recession periods, respectively. Phoenix accomplished this by: 1) turning its net intraregional out-migration of YCE individuals (to other areas in the West) into net in-migration stream (-600 to 2,600 between the two periods) and, 2) increasing its volume of net interregional YCE in-migration (2,100 to 2,700).

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

	2008-2010	2012-2014
In-Migration		
Midwest	4,530	3,474
Northeast	1,564	2,116
South	3,896	4,332
West	6,752	9,502
Total Domestic	16,742	19,424
International	3,107	3,446
Total In-Migration	19,849	22,870
Out-Migration		
Midwest	2,950	2,414
Northeast	1,334	1,305
South	3,605	3,531
West	7,305	6,952
Total Out-Migration	15,194	14,202
Net Migration	4,655	8,668

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.