

# Where are They Coming From? Where Do They Go? A Study of Migration For 1997-1998

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The IRS develops county-to-county migration flow data for a state by matching the social security numbers of primary taxpayers from one year to the next. Information on taxpayers' social security numbers is drawn from the IRS Individual Master File, which contains a record for each IRS Form 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ individual tax return filed by citizens and resident aliens. The most recent migration flow data for Indiana and other states from the Internal Revenue Service have been obtained by matching the social security numbers from federal tax returns filed in 1997 (for the year 1996) with those on tax returns filed in 1998 (for the year 1997). When a social security number match is found, the counties of residence for 1997 and 1998 are compared to determine if they are the same. If the county addresses match, then the taxpayer's number of personal exemptions are counted as non-migrants. If the county addresses do not match, then the taxpayer's number of personal exemptions are counted as out-migrants from the county listed on the return filed in 1997 and as in-migrants into the county listed on the return filed in 1998. Conclusions about county migration flow can then be drawn.

Nevertheless, actual migration flow may be understated, since tax returns that did not match based on social security number are not included. And there are other possible migrants not represented in the data set, including those not required to file tax returns because their income was below the required minimum for filing, persons whose only income was from social security payments, persons whose income was primarily from a vested interest in a retirement plan, and immigrants.

## Movement Between Indiana and Other States

Between 1997 and 1998, in-migration to Indiana was estimated at 115,500; out-migration was estimated at 116,600. The resulting net-migration figure for Indiana for the period was negative, with an estimated 1,100 more people leaving the state than entering it. The estimated negative net-migration figure represents a reverse from previous years in the decade when Indiana experienced positive net-migration. Specifically, net-migration was estimated at 13,400 from 1994 to 1995, 10,200 from 1995 to 1996 and 3,400 from 1996 to 1997.

The largest number of in-migrants to Indiana were from neighboring states: Illinois (18,800), Ohio (11,400), Kentucky (9,700) and Michigan (9,200). Almost 44% of the domestic in-migration to the Hoosier State was from one of these four neighboring states. Indiana attracted large numbers of new residents from Florida (7,400), California (5,800), Texas (5,400), Tennessee (3,500), foreign countries (3,500)

and North Carolina (2,700). Hoosiers moving to other states tended to move to neighboring states or to states in the South or West: Illinois (13,200), Florida (11,300), Ohio (10,400), Kentucky (9,200), Michigan (9,100), Texas (6,800), California (5,100), Tennessee (4,700), Georgia (3,700) and North Carolina (3,400). Almost 37% of the domestic out-migration from Indiana was to one of the state's four immediate neighbors.

Indiana experienced positive net-migration (with more people entering Indiana than leaving Indiana to/from other areas) with each of its neighboring states between 1997 and 1998, particularly in the case of Illinois (5,600), Ohio (1,000), Kentucky (500) and Michigan (where in-migration and out-migration are running about equal). Non-neighboring states that accounted for large numbers of net in-migrants to Indiana were foreign countries (1,600), California (700), New York (500), Pennsylvania (400) and Virginia (400). States that accounted for the largest number of net out-migrants from Indiana were Florida (3,900), Texas (1,400), Arizona (1,400), Tennessee (1,200) and Georgia (1,200).

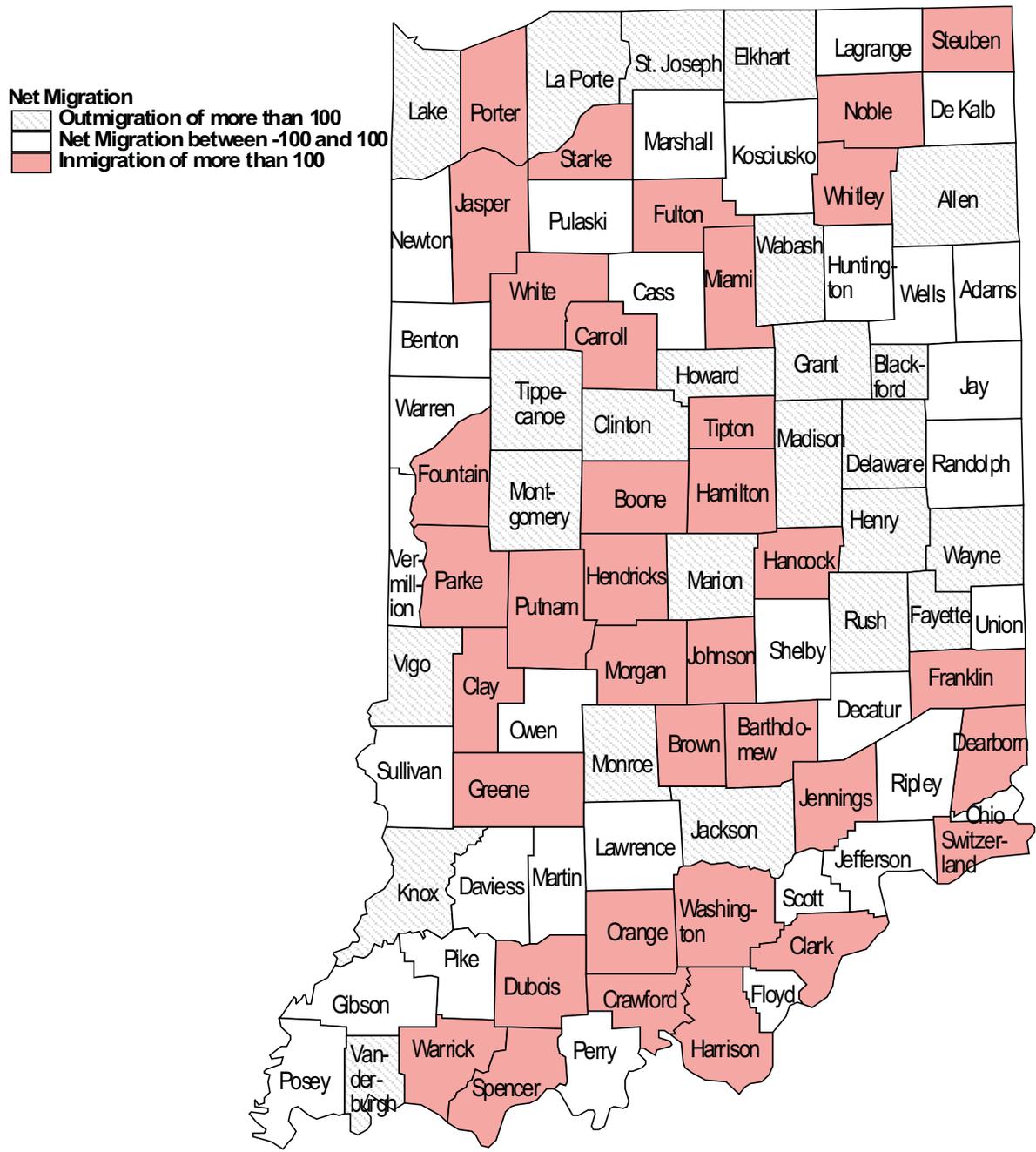
## Indiana County-to-County Migration

Indiana counties experiencing the largest amount of net in-migration included Hamilton (5,400), Hendricks (2,500), Johnson (1,800), and Hancock (1,000). Counties with positive net-migration between 500 and 700 were Porter, Boone, Dearborn and Washington. Counties with the largest number of net out-migrants were Marion (5,600), Lake (2,300), St. Joseph (1,300) and Madison (1,100). (Net migration between 1997 and 1998 can be seen in **figure 1**)

### •Hamilton County

Hamilton has been the fastest-growing county in Indiana in the 1990s. Between 1997 and 1998, Hamilton county experienced in-migration of 16,300 and out-migration of 10,900 for a net in-migration estimate of 5,400 persons. About 61% of the people moving into Hamilton county were from other Hoosier counties, with 39% of the total in-migrants from neighboring Marion county. About 51% of the people moving out of Hamilton county moved to other Indiana counties, with 27% of the out-migrants moving to Marion county. With 6,400 in-migrants from Marion county and 2,900 out-migrants to Marion county, a net in-migration figure of over 3,500 persons from Marion to Hamilton counties accounted for 65% of Hamilton county's total net in-migration estimate. The largest number of in-migrants to Hamilton county from other states were from Ohio (690), Illinois (430), Michigan (320), California (270), Missouri (180), Texas (170) and Kentucky (150). The largest number of out-migrants moving to other states went to Ohio

Figure 1  
 Indiana County Net Migration, 1997-1998



(340), Florida (280), Illinois (280), Texas (220), Michigan (200), California (180) and Arizona (170). States that accounted for the largest number of net in-migrants (after accounting for outflow) to Hamilton county included Ohio (250), Illinois (160), Michigan (120), Wisconsin (110), Kentucky (100) and California (100). States that accounted for the largest number of net out-migrants from Hamilton county included Florida (190), Arizona (80) and Georgia (70).

#### •Marion County

Marion county has experienced population decline in the last three years. Despite positive natural increase for the county (births exceeding deaths), recently the county's increasing level of net out-migration has resulted in net out-migration exceeding natural increase. Between 1997 and 1998, Marion county was estimated to have an in-migration figure of 36,000 persons, and an out-migration figure of 44,000 persons for a net out-migration estimate of 8,000 persons. About 55% of the persons moving into Marion county were from other Hoosier counties, with 33% of the county's total in-migrants from the eight counties surrounding Marion. About 61% of the persons moving out of Marion county moved to other Indiana counties, with 46% of the county's total out-migrants moving to one of Marion county's eight neighboring counties. Of the 20,400 persons moving from Marion county to a neighboring county, the largest numbers of persons moved to Hamilton county (6,400), Johnson county (4,300) and Hendricks county (4,200). Marion county's in-migration from other states was estimated to be 15,800 and its estimated out-migration to other states was 16,800, for a net out-migration figure of 1,000 persons between 1997 and 1998. The largest number of in-migrants from other states were from Illinois (1,600), Florida (1,200), Ohio (1,200), California (1,100) and Michigan (700). The largest number of out-migrants from Marion county moved to Florida (1,700), Ohio (1,300), Illinois (1,200), Texas (900) and California (800). States that accounted for the largest number of in-migrants to Marion county included Illinois (400), California (300), foreign countries (200) and New York (200). States that accounted for the largest number of out-migrants from Marion county were Florida (500), Texas (300), Georgia (300) and Arizona (200).

#### •Lake County

Like Marion county, Lake county has experienced population loss in recent years, due to net out-migration exceeding natural increase. The county experienced in-migration of 14,500 persons between 1997 and 1998 and out-migration of 16,800 persons, for a net out-migration estimate of 2,300 persons. Lake county experienced net out-migration to other Hoo-

sier counties and net in-migration from other states due to a large amount of net in-migration from neighboring Illinois. About 3,500 persons moved from other Indiana counties to Lake county, while 6,400 persons moved from Lake county to other Hoosier counties, for a net out-migration of 2,900 persons. The largest number of Hoosiers that moved between Lake county and other Indiana counties moved to or from Porter county, Lake county's neighbor to the east. 1,900 persons or 53% of the Hoosiers who moved into Lake county were from Porter county, while 3,100 persons or 48% of the Lake county residents who moved to other Indiana counties moved to Porter county. The result was a net-migration from Lake county to Porter county of about 1,200 persons. 6,400 persons moved from Illinois to Lake county between 1997 and 1998, while 3,600 persons moved from Lake county to Illinois, resulting in a net in-migration estimate of 2,800 persons. With net out-migration of 2,900 persons to other Indiana counties, and with net in-migration of 2,800 persons from Illinois, the overall migration picture for Lake county is completed by looking at migration estimates between the county and states other than Illinois. Lake county experienced net out-migration with other states, with an in-migration estimate of 4,500 persons and an out-migration estimate of 6,700 persons for a net out-migration figure of 2,200 persons. The largest numbers of net out-migrants from Lake county were accounted for by the states of Florida (400), Arizona (300) and Texas (200).