

## Relocation Nation

By ANNA CHANG-YEN | Green Shoot Media

Despite the financial difficulties many people have experienced over the past decade, the numbers show we are still very much a nation on the move.

In 2012, the Census Bureau reported the first annual increase in “migration” between counties and states since the beginning of the Great Recession, proving Americans are keen to load up the moving truck in search of better opportunities.

Nearly 16.9 million people found a new place to call home, according to 2012 census data, with about 7 million people moving to a different state — the highest in five years. It was an increase of about 5 percent over 2010.

In a 2013 article, headlined “Americans Still Move Around More than Anyone Else in the World,” the Washington Post called the United States “one of the most mobile countries in the world.” With 24 percent of Americans reporting a move in the past five years, a Gallup survey showed, the U.S. charted one of the world’s highest rates of mobility, joined by New Zealand, Finland and Norway. By contrast, migration in China, due to government regulations, was around 5 percent, and Mexico put up similar numbers.



© FOTOLIA

Feeling like you need a new direction? The answers may be a move. Up to a quarter of Americans find a new home each year, according to data from the Census Bureau.

### WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

In a 2013 report, United Van lines noted a trend of people moving away from the north-east and Great Lakes areas, and pointed to Washington D.C. as a popular destination because of good federal government job opportunities that remained stable during the economic downturn. There also was a spike in people calling themselves Oregonians for the first time, according to Forbes.

States that typically see a large number of incoming

residents include North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Arizona, which tend to draw retirees, according to Forbes.

Although migration within the United States has been on the decline since the 1970s, Americans move a lot in general compared to other countries, according to the Census Bureau.

### MOVE IN YOUR FUTURE?

We move for new jobs, lower housing prices, education, family and life changes, and

better opportunities in general. So how can you know if it’s time to make a go of it in a new setting?

In July 2015, real estate website Trulia listed 11 signs that a move might do you good. From outgrowing your home or suddenly finding an empty nest, to a suddenly declining neighborhood to finding just the right time to buy or sell a home, each person or family faces unique impetuses to start packing.

Perhaps your home has finally recovered enough value

### REAL ESTATE 101

#### Movin’ On

Forbes dubbed 2015 “The year many residents of New Jersey told their state to ‘fuhgeddaboudit.’” Read the entire list of “The States People Are Fleeing” at <http://tinyurl.com/zkv2f6h>. Meanwhile, Florida topped 247WallSt.com’s list of “7 States Where Americans Are Moving.” Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/zvxwyde>.

to break even on a sale, or you’re looking to combine low real estate prices in a particular area with current low interest rates for a win-win. Losing your job or looking for a better position also could have you scanning the map for a new locale.

Whatever the reason you consider a move, remember that real estate prices should play an enormous role in your decision.

Think twice if you’re offered a higher salary in an area with disproportionately higher home prices. Housing is the largest monthly budget item for many families, and finding just the right fit can keep you financially sound for years to come.



© FOTOLIA

Feeling like you need a new direction? The answers may be a move. Up to a quarter of Americans find a new home each year, according to data from the Census Bureau.

## Relocation Nation

By ANNA CHANG-YEN | Green Shoot Media

**D**espite the financial difficulties many people have experienced over the past decade, the numbers show we are still very much a nation on the move.

In 2012, the Census Bureau reported the first annual increase in “migration” between counties and states since the beginning of the Great Recession, proving Americans are keen to load up the moving truck in search of better opportunities.

Nearly 16.9 million people found a new place to call home, according to 2012 census data, with about 7 million people moving to a different state — the highest in five years. It was an increase of about 5 percent over 2010.

In a 2013 article, headlined “Americans Still Move Around More than Anyone Else in the World,” the Washington Post called the United States “one

of the most mobile countries in the world.” With 24 percent of Americans reporting a move in the past five years, a Gallup survey showed, the U.S. charted one of the world’s highest rates of mobility, joined by New Zealand, Finland and Norway. By contrast, migration in China, due to government regulations, was around 5 percent, and Mexico put up similar numbers.

### WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

In a 2013 report, United Van lines noted a trend of people moving away from the northeast and Great Lakes areas, and pointed to Washington D.C. as a popular destination

because of good federal government job opportunities that remained stable during the economic downturn. There also was a spike in people calling themselves Oregonians for the first time, according to Forbes.

States that typically see a large number of incoming residents include North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Arizona, which tend to draw retirees, according to Forbes.

Although migration within the United States has been on the decline since the 1970s, Americans move a lot in general compared to other countries, according to the Census Bureau.

### MOVE IN YOUR FUTURE?

We move for new jobs, lower housing prices, education, family and life changes, and better opportunities in general. So how can you know if it’s time to make a go of it in a new setting?

In July 2015, real estate website Trulia listed 11 signs that a move might do you good. From outgrowing your home or suddenly finding an empty nest, to a suddenly declining neighborhood to finding just the right time to buy or sell a home, each person or family faces unique impetuses to start packing.

Perhaps your home has finally recovered enough value to break even on a sale,

or you’re looking to combine low real estate prices in a particular area with current low interest rates for a win-win. Losing your job or looking for a better position also could have you scanning the map for a new locale.

Whatever the reason you consider a move, remember that real estate prices should play an enormous role in your decision.

Think twice if you’re offered a higher salary in an area with disproportionately higher home prices. Housing is the largest monthly budget item for many families, and finding just the right fit can keep you financially sound for years to come.

### REAL ESTATE 101



### Movin' On

Forbes dubbed 2015 “The year many residents of New Jersey told their state to ‘fuhgeddaboutit.’” Read the entire list of “The States People Are Fleeing” at <http://tinyurl.com/zkv2f6h>. Meanwhile, Florida topped 247WallSt.com’s list of “7 States Where Americans Are Moving.” Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/zvxywde>.



### HOMESWISE GLOSSARY

**Periodic interest rate cap:** limit on the amount an adjustable rate mortgage’s interest rate can change from one adjustment interval to the next.

**First mortgage:** a real estate loan that creates a primary lien against real property.

**SOURCE:** Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions

# AD SPACE