

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

According to the U.S. Census, almost half of the people in the United States move to a different residence, at least once, every five years. In 2000, 44 percent of Wisconsin residents reported that they resided in a different residence in 1995. Seventy percent of those who lived somewhere else in 1995 moved to their current residence from a different city or town.

In his recent book "Restless Nation," James Jasper notes that only nomadic tribes move more often than Americans. We expect high mobility, and find it, in the Madison area, especially those areas predominated by university students. For example, 86 percent of the residents of the 53703 ZIP code area reported that

For 1995	Same dwelling	Different dwelling/same municipality	Different municipality
Madison	39%	29%	32%
Dodgeville	59%	18%	23%
Stoughton	45%	21%	34%
Portage	49%	19%	32%
Wisconsin	56%	15%	29%

SOURCE: U.S. Census/UW Extension

they lived in a different residence five years ago. However, UW Extension Professor Andy Lewis notes that five-year mobility rates in small-town Wisconsin also are relatively high, at nearly 50 percent in many localities. The accompanying table provides mobility rates for several area communities. Similar data for other Wisconsin localities can be found at: www.uwex.edu/ces/cced/indicate.html.