Part I, Illinois Migration Patterns, Overview:

- Between 1992 and 2006, the population of Illinois increased by 1,650,928 through natural increase (births-deaths). However, Illinois lost 784,988 residents due to net out migration (residents moving out exceeded those moving in). Therefore, the net increase of Illinois residents was 865,940 in the 15-year time period.
- On average, 181,253 people moved into Illinois each year, while 233,583 people moved out of Illinois. As a result, Illinois lost 52,333 people because of migration, translating into a loss of $1,682 million in personal income per year.
- Illinois has strong gross migration ties with (in descending order) California, Indiana, Florida, Wisconsin, Missouri, Texas, Foreign (international migration), Michigan, Iowa, Ohio, and Arizona. In terms of net migration, Illinois gained households from international migration, Michigan, and Ohio, while it lost households to Florida, Arizona, Wisconsin, Indiana, Texas, California, Georgia, and Missouri. (See Figure 1)
- The average household size and income for those who moved into Illinois was 1.86 people and $42,430 respectively. Those leaving Illinois had an average household size of 1.92 people and an average household income of $48,320. However, people who stayed in Illinois had the largest household size with an average of 2.21 people per household and the highest average household income with $51,592 per year.
- Over the period of 1992 to 2006, the out-migration of Illinois reached its peak in 1999 and afterwards it has declined. In contrast, in-migration began to increase starting in 2002. The combination of these two trends resulted in a decline of the net out-migration in Illinois from 2003 to 2006. (See Figure 2)
- Migration across the national border is the biggest source of net in-migration for Illinois. From 1992 to 2006, Illinois gained 150,221 immigrants, compared with a loss of 92,903 emigrants. This resulted in a net gain from foreign migration of 57,317 people. The average household income for international immigrants and emigrants was smaller compared to that of domestic inbound migrants and outbound migrants, $20,050 and $37,580, respectively.

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1 This report is based on Internal Revenue Service 1992 to 2006 annual State-to-State and County-to-County Migration Data.
2 Internal Revenue Service migration data reported in terms of household, population, and income changes. We use the population change in most cases unless noted.
Figure 1: In/Out and Net Migration of Illinois 1992-2006

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

Figure 2: In Migration Out Migration and Net Migration in Illinois, 1992-2006

Source: Internal Revenue Service.
Part II, Illinois Major Geographic Divisions Migration Patterns:

- In terms of net migration, Chicago has always performed less well than Illinois as a whole, where other MSAs and rural Illinois have performed relatively better than Illinois. (See Figure 3)
- Chicago’s average gross migration rate was 10.2% with 0.31 million households moving in and out each year. On average, people who moved into Chicago had smaller household sizes and lower household incomes than people who moved out of Chicago.
- Rural Illinois gained in population in the early 1990s, but after 1995 it started to lose population. On average, rural Illinois lost 2,432 residents at a rate of -0.17% per year.
- Other metropolitan areas in Illinois lost population up until 2003, and then they started to gain in population in 2004. However, on average, the other nine metropolitan areas lost 2,354 residents at a rate of -0.13% per year.
- The gross migration rates for rural Illinois and other MSAs were lower than that of Chicago. The gross migration rates were consistent for the whole time period except in 2004, when Chicago’s gross migration jumped up while the gross migration rates of rural Illinois and other MSAs dropped. (See Figure 4)

Figure 3: Illinois Net-Migration Rate in Major Geographic Divisions, 1992-2006

Source: Internal Revenue Service.

3 The net migration in a metropolitan area is the sum of the net migrations in each county within that metropolitan area.
Part III, Illinois County Level Migration Patterns

- In between 1992 and 2006, Cook, Du Page, Lake, Will, and Kane Counties had the largest number of people moving in and out of their counties. However, in terms of the gross migration rate, Kendall, Jackson, Kane, De Kalb, and Boone were in the top five positions, with gross migration rates of 22.0%, 20.5%, 17.2%, 16.8%, and 16.7%, respectively.
- The top five winners in terms of net migration from 1992 to 2006 were Will, Kane, McHenry, Kendall, and Lake, with gains of 166,308; 53,624; 51,914; 43,348; and 22,690 residents, respectively. On the other hand, Cook, Du Page, Peoria, Champaign, and Macon were the bottom five, losing 1,002,964; 67,779; 15,947; 15,058; and 14,376 residents, respectively.
Figure 5: In/Out and Net Migration by Counties 1992-2006

Legend
GROSS9206
850,000

- Blue: In-Migration 1992-2006

Net Migration 1992-2008
- White: Loss 1000 and more
- Light Gray: Loss less than 1000
- Gray: Gain less than 1000
- Dark Gray: Gain 1000 and more

Source: Internal Revenue Service.
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