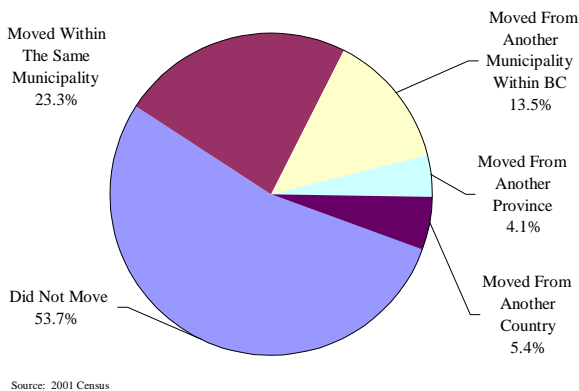


Feature Article: Mobility and Migration

The results from the 2001 census (20% sample) show that close to 1.7 million people residing in British Columbia on May 15, 2001 lived at a different address five years previously, in 1996. The percentage of the people five years of age and older who moved dropped to 46% from the 55% who moved between 1991 and 1996.

Figure 1: BC Mobility 1996 to 2001



The reduction in mobility was likely a result of the weaker BC economy as well as the aging of the population, as older people tend to move less.

Of the BC residents who did move between 1996 and 2001, approximately 50% moved within the same

Table 1: BC 5 Yr. Mobility Status

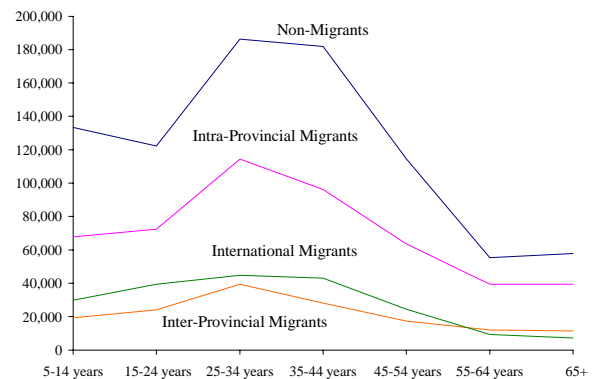
Mobility Status.	# of People	% of Total Move	% of
Population <u>5 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER</u>	3,661,940	-	-
Non-Movers (Did Not Move)	1,967,860	53.7	-
Non-Migrants (Moved Within The Same Municipality)	851,485	23.3	50.3
Intraprovincial Migrants (Moved From Another Municipality Within BC)	493,215	13.5	29.1
Interprovincial Migrants (Moved From Another Province)	151,720	4.1	9.0
International Migrants (Moved From Another Country)	197,670	5.4	11.7

Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada

municipality, 29% moved to a different municipality within the province, 9% moved in from another province, and nearly 12% had arrived from another country.

In general, young adults tend to move more often than people in other age groups with those 65 and older moving the least. The most mobile age group in BC were those between 25 and 34. Approximately 75% of this group moved at some point between 1996 and 2001. While more of the people in this age group tend to move, the distance

Figure 2. Movers by Age Group



they move varies little from the other age groups. Most people regardless of age tend to move shorter rather than longer distances. Just over 10% of those 25 to 34 who moved came from another

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Table 2: 5 Yr. Mobility by Age Group

Mobility Status	Age Groups							
	Total	5-14 years	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65+
Non-movers	1,967,860	251,575	253,980	130,850	303,970	377,000	261,920	388,575
Movers	1,694,085	250,040	258,150	384,835	349,290	219,985	116,000	115,790
Non-migrants	851,485	133,390	122,180	186,255	181,910	114,580	55,295	57,880
Migrants	842,600	116,645	135,975	198,570	167,370	105,410	60,705	57,920
Internal migrants	644,935	86,940	96,490	153,865	124,415	80,965	51,450	50,815
Intraprovincial migrants	493,215	67,755	72,465	114,355	96,230	63,570	39,490	39,345
Interprovincial migrants	151,720	19,190	24,025	39,500	28,180	17,395	11,960	11,465
External migrants	197,670	29,705	39,490	44,710	42,960	24,440	9,260	7,100
Total - Mobility status 5 years ago	3,661,940	501,610	512,130	515,675	653,255	596,985	377,915	504,360
Percentage of age group who move	46.3%	49.8%	50.4%	74.6%	53.5%	36.8%	30.7%	23.0%

Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada

province, a figure matched by those 55 to 64 and followed closely by those 65 and over. However, over 86,000 people between 20 and 40 years of age no longer resided in BC, making up approximately 50% of those who left the province since 1996.

BC went from being the most popular residential destination in Canada in the 1991 and 1996 period, with high positive net inter-provincial migration of approximately 150,000 people, to having negative net inter-provincial migration, with 23,000 more people leaving the province than entering. But BC was not alone in the negative net inter-provincial

migration category, as only three provinces had positive net inter-provincial migration between 1996 and 2001. Alberta led the nation with close to 120,000 followed by Ontario with over 50,000 and Prince Edward Island with approximately 140 more people to have arrived than to have left. Quebec, Saskatchewan, and Newfoundland /Labrador had higher negative net migration figures than BC. Of the 151,725 people to move to BC from other provinces, most came from Ontario (34.8%) followed closely by those from Alberta (31.9%). Together these two provinces provided over 100,000 new residents to BC.

Table 3: 5 Yr. Interprovincial Mobility

Province	In	Out	Net
Alberta	242,225	122,810	119,415
Ontario	242,500	190,605	51,895
Prince Edward Island	7,895	7,755	140
Nunavut	2,515	2,845	-330
Nova Scotia	53,000	54,295	-1,295
Yukon Territory	3,735	6,490	-2,755
Northwest Territories	5,735	8,910	-3,175
New Brunswick	32,640	41,060	-8,420
Manitoba	42,600	61,185	-18,585
British Columbia	151,725	175,330	-23,605
Saskatchewan	42,605	67,535	-24,930
Newfoundland and Labrador	16,070	47,105	-31,035
Quebec	62,420	119,745	-57,325
Canada	905,670	905,670	0

Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada

Table 4: Movers to BC (5 Yr. Mobility)

Province	Movers to BC
Ontario	52,830
Alberta	48,335
Quebec	13,705
Manitoba	12,280
Saskatchewan	10,820
Nova Scotia	4,825
Yukon Territory	2,450
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,370
New Brunswick	2,220
Northwest Territories	1,260
Prince Edward Island	375
Nunavut	255
Total to move to BC	151,725

Source: 2001 Census, Statistics Canada

Feature Article: Mobility and Migration

Over 85% of the people who moved to BC from outside of Canada, took up residence in the Greater Vancouver Regional District, making up almost 10% of the population aged 5 and over. The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District had the next largest proportion of new migrants from other countries at 3.3%, followed by the Fraser Valley Regional District and the Capital Region which fell from 4% in 1996 to 2.7% in 2001. People from other countries made up under 2% of the population in the rest of the province.

Approximately 44% of the people coming to BC from other provinces

moved to the GVRD, followed by 12% to the Capital RD, and over 6% to the Central Okanagan RD. For people moving within the province (from other municipalities plus movers within the same municipality) the Regional Districts with large urban centres were the most active. The GVRD had 48% of these migrants followed by the Capital RD with 9.6% and the Fraser Valley RD with 6.7%.

Movers from within the province made up over a third of the population in most of the Regional Districts. Squamish-Lillooet had the largest portion of these movers at 43.9%,

Table 5: Regional District 5 Yr. Mobility

Regional District	Population 5 Yrs of Age Plus	Non- Movers	Non- Migrants	Intra- provincial Migrants	Inter- provincial Migrants	Inter- national Migrants
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District	28,570	18,185	6,690	3,010	550	130
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District	37,675	23,165	7,105	6,200	950	260
Capital Regional District	306,410	163,570	79,405	36,690	18,425	8,325
Cariboo Regional District	61,415	37,615	12,970	9,000	1,200	635
Central Coast Regional District	3,510	2,195	630	550	95	30
Central Kootenay Regional District	53,735	32,825	9,670	8,065	2,455	715
Central Okanagan Regional District	138,725	69,225	35,165	22,355	9,705	2,275
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District	45,575	26,095	8,120	8,200	2,720	440
Comox-Strathcona Regional District	90,725	50,900	21,150	13,420	4,285	970
Cowichan Valley Regional District	67,700	40,260	12,680	11,735	2,400	630
East Kootenay Regional District	53,030	30,800	10,765	6,410	4,450	605
Fraser Valley Regional District	218,440	115,095	52,880	37,020	7,380	6,070
Fraser-Fort George Regional District	88,965	50,985	24,970	9,530	2,910	570
Greater Vancouver Regional District	1,861,975	970,840	432,825	223,410	66,785	168,120
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District	37,940	23,055	8,860	4,640	1,075	305
Kootenay Boundary Regional District	30,045	19,910	4,650	4,010	1,205	270
Mount Waddington Regional District	12,210	6,970	2,950	1,965	280	50
Nanaimo Regional District	119,810	64,350	27,115	20,475	6,000	1,870
North Okanagan Regional District	68,945	37,900	15,045	11,950	3,300	750
Northern Rockies Regional District	5,260	2,620	1,405	705	510	20
Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District	72,775	40,400	14,490	13,350	3,355	1,175
Peace River Regional District	50,790	26,120	13,110	7,475	3,610	475
Powell River Regional District	18,700	11,965	4,075	2,060	450	155
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District	20,055	11,525	4,930	2,845	575	180
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District	30,875	14,120	7,575	5,980	2,180	1,015
Stikine Region	1,230	745	165	205	95	20
Sunshine Coast Regional District	24,270	13,495	4,670	4,935	865	305
Thompson-Nicola Regional District	112,575	62,940	27,410	17,030	3,900	1,300
British Columbia	3,661,945	1,967,860	851,485	493,220	151,720	197,665

Source: 2001 Census of Population, Statistics Canada

Feature Article: Mobility and Migration

followed by the Central Okanagan Regional District (41.5%), and the Fraser Valley Regional District (41.2%). All three of the Kootenay RDs had among the lowest percentage of people to have moved from within the province, a distinction shared with the Stikine Region and the Powell River RD.

Only three RDs had more movers than non-movers. They were the Squamish-Lillooet, the Northern Rockies, and the Central Okanagan Regional Districts with 45.7%, 49.7%, and 49.9% non-movers respectively.

The three RDs that had the most people with the same address five years earlier were Kootenay Boundary, Powell River, and Alberni-Clayoquot with 66.3%, 64.0%, and 63.7% respectively. This statistic may be misleading in that it ignores the number of people who have moved out of the area and therefore should not be confused with stability. Sub-provincial out-migration figures have not been released to date. It is likely that these areas have had a considerable amount of out-migration.

Table 6: Regional District 5 Yr. Mobility of (% of Population 5 Yrs. of Age Plus)

Regional District	Non-Movers	Non-Migrants	Intra-provincial Migrants	Inter-provincial Migrants	Inter-national Migrants
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District	63.7%	23.4%	10.5%	1.9%	0.5%
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District	61.5%	18.9%	16.5%	2.5%	0.7%
Capital Regional District	53.4%	25.9%	12.0%	6.0%	2.7%
Cariboo Regional District	61.2%	21.1%	14.7%	2.0%	1.0%
Central Coast Regional District	62.5%	17.9%	15.7%	2.7%	0.9%
Central Kootenay Regional District	61.1%	18.0%	15.0%	4.6%	1.3%
Central Okanagan Regional District	49.9%	25.3%	16.1%	7.0%	1.6%
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District	57.3%	17.8%	18.0%	6.0%	1.0%
Comox-Strathcona Regional District	56.1%	23.3%	14.8%	4.7%	1.1%
Cowichan Valley Regional District	59.5%	18.7%	17.3%	3.5%	0.9%
East Kootenay Regional District	58.1%	20.3%	12.1%	8.4%	1.1%
Fraser Valley Regional District	52.7%	24.2%	16.9%	3.4%	2.8%
Fraser-Fort George Regional District	57.3%	28.1%	10.7%	3.3%	0.6%
Greater Vancouver Regional District	52.1%	23.2%	12.0%	3.6%	9.0%
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District	60.8%	23.4%	12.2%	2.8%	0.8%
Kootenay Boundary Regional District	66.3%	15.5%	13.3%	4.0%	0.9%
Mount Waddington Regional District	57.1%	24.2%	16.1%	2.3%	0.4%
Nanaimo Regional District	53.7%	22.6%	17.1%	5.0%	1.6%
North Okanagan Regional District	55.0%	21.8%	17.3%	4.8%	1.1%
Northern Rockies Regional District	49.8%	26.7%	13.4%	9.7%	0.4%
Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District	55.5%	19.9%	18.3%	4.6%	1.6%
Peace River Regional District	51.4%	25.8%	14.7%	7.1%	0.9%
Powell River Regional District	64.0%	21.8%	11.0%	2.4%	0.8%
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District	57.5%	24.6%	14.2%	2.9%	0.9%
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District	45.7%	24.5%	19.4%	7.1%	3.3%
Stikine Region	60.6%	13.4%	16.7%	7.7%	1.6%
Sunshine Coast Regional District	55.6%	19.2%	20.3%	3.6%	1.3%
Thompson-Nicola Regional District	55.9%	24.3%	15.1%	3.5%	1.2%
British Columbia	53.7%	23.3%	13.5%	4.1%	5.4%

Source: 2001 Census of Population, Statistics Canada

Feature Article: Mobility and Migration

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