

## news release

For more information or e-mail version:  
Jennifer Bonham  
636-349-2508  
jennifer\_bonham@unigroupinc.com

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### **AMERICANS HEAD WEST, SOUTHEAST; SAY 'GOODBYE' TO CENTRAL NORTHEAST REGION**

*United Van Lines Releases 2006 Migration Study*

ST. LOUIS – A strong mobility pattern continued in 2006 as many Americans packed up their belongings and headed to the West and Southeast parts of the country, while the Central Northeast region of the country experienced an increase in residents departing. The statistics are among the findings of United Van Line's 30th annual "migration" study that tracks where its customers, over the last 12 months, moved from and the most popular destinations. The findings were announced by Carl Walter, vice president of United Van Lines, the nation's largest household goods mover.

United has tracked shipment patterns annually on a state-by-state basis since 1977. For 2006, the accounting is based on the 227,254 interstate household moves handled by United among the 48 contiguous states, as well as Washington, D.C. In its study, United classifies each state in one of three categories -- "high inbound" (55% or more of moves going into a state); "high outbound" (55% or more of moves coming out of a state); or "balanced." Although the majority of states were in the "balanced" category last year, several showed more substantial population shifts.

#### **MOVING IN**

Known for hospitality and gracious style, the Southeast states welcomed many new residents in 2006, with **North Carolina** coming in as the top destination (64.0% inbound). **South Carolina** (60.6%) continued its 13-year inbound tradition, while **Alabama** (57.5%) experienced its fourth year as a high-inbound location. Although **Tennessee** saw less people move in this year (55.8% in 2006; 58.0% in 2005), it still captured a spot on the high-inbound list.

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Although not considered “high inbound,” other southeastern states also greeted new residents. **Kentucky** (52.9%) continued its five-year inbound trend; **Georgia** (53.9%) continued its 25-year trend as an inbound state; and **Mississippi** (50.1%) boasted a 3.2% increase in moves to its state as compared to 2005.

Supporting the idea that Americans still believe there is fortune to be found in the West, the Western portion of the country emerged as a top migration spot. Capturing the No. 2-inbound ranking, **Oregon** (62.5%) sustained its 19-year, high-inbound trend. While still a high-inbound state, **Arizona** (55.4%) saw roughly 5% less people move in than last year; however, **Nevada** (59.9%) continued its lucky streak of being high inbound since 1986.

Both **New Mexico** (57.9% inbound; a 3.7% increase) and **Utah** (56.0% inbound; nearly 6% increase) saw a rise of incoming residents as compared to last year’s data. **Idaho’s** (59.3% inbound) high-inbound ranking has held steady for the past 19 years; and **Montana** (55.0% inbound) retained its five-year inbound status.

Although not considered “high inbound,” other Western states witnessed increases of incoming moves as compared to last year: **Colorado** (54.7% inbound) continued its four-year inbound trend and had 1.2% increase, and **Wyoming** (54.4% inbound) boasted a 4.3% increase.

Rounding out the of high-inbound list are **Washington, D.C.** (57.9%), which has remained inbound since the first year of the study, and **South Dakota** (55.9%), which enjoyed its first high-inbound year since 1994.

Some other noteworthy inbound-migration states in 2006:

- **Texas** (54.6%) continued inbound movement since 1989 and saw slightly (0.7%) more people move in as compared to last year.
- After being outbound last year, **Nebraska** (52.5% inbound) turned a new leaf and has 3.2% more moves in as compared to 2005.
- Although it is considered a balanced state, **Oklahoma** (50.0%) saw a 3% increase over last year’s numbers.
- This year marked the first time in 25 years that **Minnesota** (51.3%) saw more people entering than leaving.

### **MOVING OUT**

States in the Central Northeast generally showed an outbound trend, according to United’s records. Ranked No. 2 on the high-outbound list last year, **Michigan** (66.0%) moved up a spot to tie for the top outbound state on this year’s list. Michigan saw a 2.1% increase over its 2005 numbers.

*United Van Lines Study - add two*

Other Central Northeast states that made the high-outbound list were: **New York** (59.5%), which has been an outbound state since the survey was established; **Indiana** (58.2%), which has been high outbound since 1993; and **Illinois** (55.7%), which has been high outbound since the survey's inception. Also continuing outbound traditions, **New Jersey** (60.9%, outbound since 1997), **Pennsylvania** (57.0%, high outbound for the past three years), and **Ohio** (55.8%, outbound since 1992) saw residents depart.

Rounding out the high-outbound states, **Louisiana** (56.4%) continued its two-year, high-outbound trend, but did see 1.5% less people leave as compared to last year's numbers. Continuing its reign as the top outbound state of 2005, **North Dakota** (66.0%) tied this year with Michigan for the state that lost the most residents. The year of 2006 marked the eleventh consecutive year that North Dakota has been classified as high outbound.

Not identified as "high outbound," but following the outbound trend in the Central Northeastern part of the country, **Connecticut** (52.4%) saw its fourth successive year of out-migration and **Maryland** (54.1%) continued its 15-year outbound tradition.

Some other noteworthy outbound states in this year's study were:

- **California** (52.4%) saw its lowest outbound percentage in four years.
- **Missouri** (51.8%) continued its 12-year outbound trend and had 1% more residents leave as compared to last year.
- **Wisconsin** (53.2%) witnessed its lowest outbound influx since 2000.

Walter said the United Van Lines study, through the years, has been shown to accurately reflect the general migration patterns in various regions of the country. He also noted that real estate firms, financial institutions, and other observers of relocation trends regularly use the United data in their business planning and analysis activities.

United Van Lines, with headquarters in suburban St. Louis, maintains a network of 1,000 affiliated agencies throughout the world. As the nation's largest mover, United holds more than 30 percent of the market, which is nearly double the market share of the second largest carrier. More information about United and its services can be obtained through the company's Web site at [www.unitedvanlines.com](http://www.unitedvanlines.com).

**UNITED VAN LINES  
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2006  
BASED ON 227254 SHIPMENTS  
SEQUENCED ALPHABETICALLY**

<u>STATE</u>	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS</u>	<u>INBOUND SHIPMENTS</u>	<u>OUTBOUND SHIPMENTS</u>	<u>% INBOUND SHIPMENTS</u>	<u>% OUTBOUND SHIPMENTS</u>
ALABAMA	5,478	3,152	2,326	57.5%	42.5%
ARIZONA	17,580	9,742	7,838	55.4%	44.6%
ARKANSAS	3,080	1,593	1,487	51.7%	48.3%
CALIFORNIA	50,859	23,424	27,435	46.1%	53.9%
COLORADO	13,976	7,640	6,336	54.7%	45.3%
CONNECTICUT	5,746	2,733	3,013	47.6%	52.4%
DELAWARE	1,306	712	594	54.5%	45.5%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	1,900	1,100	800	57.9%	42.1%
FLORIDA	33,231	16,212	17,019	48.8%	51.2%
GEORGIA	17,299	9,332	7,967	53.9%	46.1%
IDAHO	3,107	1,841	1,266	59.3%	40.7%
ILLINOIS	17,056	7,556	9,500	44.3%	55.7%
INDIANA	6,651	2,780	3,871	41.8%	58.2%
IOWA	2,920	1,604	1,316	54.9%	45.1%
KANSAS	4,613	2,328	2,285	50.5%	49.5%
KENTUCKY	4,566	2,415	2,151	52.9%	47.1%
LOUISIANA	5,090	2,218	2,872	43.6%	56.4%
MAINE	2,003	963	1,040	48.1%	51.9%
MARYLAND	10,061	4,621	5,440	45.9%	54.1%
MASSACHUSETTS	9,328	4,291	5,037	46.0%	54.0%
MICHIGAN	10,325	3,509	6,816	34.0%	66.0%
MINNESOTA	8,730	4,480	4,250	51.3%	48.7%
MISSISSIPPI	2,902	1,454	1,448	50.1%	49.9%
MISSOURI	8,821	4,250	4,571	48.2%	51.8%
MONTANA	2,265	1,245	1,020	55.0%	45.0%
NEBRASKA	2,354	1,235	1,119	52.5%	47.5%
NEVADA	5,686	3,408	2,278	59.9%	40.1%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2,001	994	1,007	49.7%	50.3%
NEW JERSEY	10,259	4,015	6,244	39.1%	60.9%
NEW MEXICO	4,202	2,435	1,767	57.9%	42.1%
NEW YORK	17,394	7,040	10,354	40.5%	59.5%
NORTH CAROLINA	16,939	10,833	6,106	64.0%	36.0%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,413	480	933	34.0%	66.0%
OHIO	14,745	6,515	8,230	44.2%	55.8%
OKLAHOMA	4,419	2,208	2,211	50.0%	50.0%
OREGON	8,116	5,074	3,042	62.5%	37.5%
PENNSYLVANIA	13,212	5,678	7,534	43.0%	57.0%
RHODE ISLAND	1,423	701	722	49.3%	50.7%
SOUTH CAROLINA	7,504	4,546	2,958	60.6%	39.4%
SOUTH DAKOTA	887	496	391	55.9%	44.1%
TENNESSEE	9,025	5,038	3,987	55.8%	44.2%
TEXAS	37,928	20,704	17,224	54.6%	45.4%
UTAH	4,662	2,611	2,051	56.0%	44.0%
VERMONT	808	431	377	53.3%	46.7%
VIRGINIA	17,024	8,715	8,309	51.2%	48.8%
WASHINGTON	15,824	8,173	7,651	51.6%	48.4%
WEST VIRGINIA	1,080	566	514	52.4%	47.6%
WISCONSIN	7,619	3,569	4,050	46.8%	53.2%
WYOMING	1,091	594	497	54.4%	45.6%
COUNT	49				
<b>TOTAL</b>		227,254	227,254		