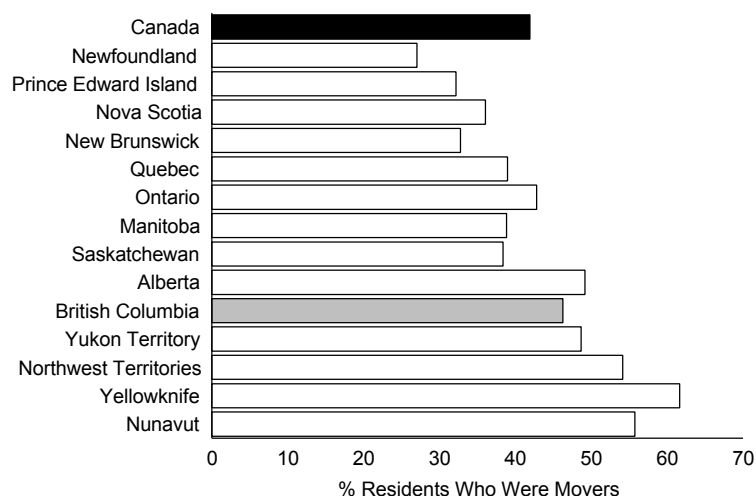


## Special Feature: Mobility and Migration During 1996–2001

Almost half (46%) of population who lived in British Columbia at the time of the 2001 Census had changed their residence at least once over the period from 1996 to 2001 . . .



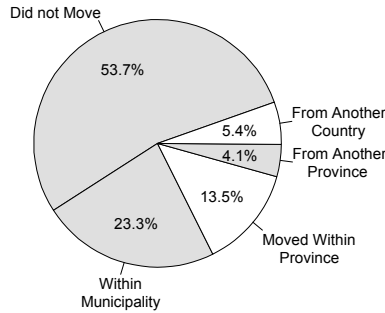
Movers can be divided into two main categories, namely, non-migrants and migrants. Non-migrants are those who moved within the same municipality and migrants are those who move between different municipalities (intra-provincial), from another province (inter-provincial) or from another countries (external). In 2001, B.C. had a higher percentage of movers than the national average. Of those who had moved in B.C. between 1996 and 2001, about half moved within the same municipality, 26 per cent moved from a different municipality but remained in the province, 9 per cent from another province, and 12 per cent from another country.

Movers in B.C. tended to be young to middle aged. Two in every three B.C. residents aged 35-39 were movers. Elderly were less likely to move as only about 23 per cent of the population aged 65 or older were movers. However, when seniors moved they were more likely to remain within the same municipality than did movers in other age groups. Female movers slightly outnumbered their male counterparts. Approximately 51 per cent of the B.C. movers were female.

**B.C. Population 5 Years and Over By Mobility Status (Place of Residence 5 Years Ago)**  
(2001 Census - 20% Sample)

Mobility Status \ Ages	Total	5-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+
Non Movers	1,967,855	406,870	154,700	203,785	364,960	448,965	388,575
Non Migrants	851,490	191,665	149,070	199,135	148,685	105,065	57,870
Intraprovincial migrants	493,215	95,865	100,720	111,530	77,085	68,660	39,355
Interprovincial migrants	151,720	27,615	37,645	32,690	22,205	20,105	11,460
External migrants	197,670	49,430	41,085	46,405	35,240	18,410	7,100
Total	3,661,945	771,440	483,220	593,540	648,165	661,215	504,365

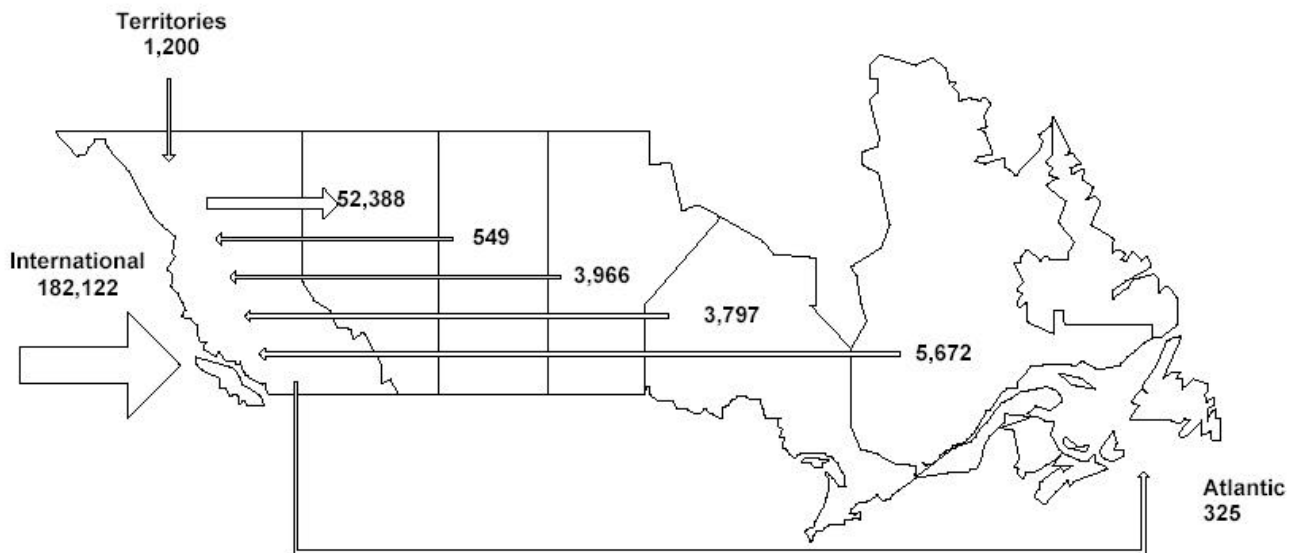
## B.C. Population by Mobility Status 1996-2001



Source: 2001 Census

Tracking of interprovincial migration (ie. migration between provinces) indicated that B.C. lost population to other parts of Canada over the period of 1996-2001. While B.C. was the most popular destination for interprovincial migrants from other provinces/territories during the first half of the decade, there was a net loss of 37,500 persons during the later part of the decade. This was a net result of an inflow of 241,000 people combined with a high outflow of 278,500 persons. Over the 1996-2001 period, Alberta was the source for the majority of migrants arriving in B.C., but that province was also the destination for a large number of B.C. residents leaving the province. In fact, with the exception of Alberta, B.C. gained population in net terms from most other provinces, and only had a small net loss of population to the Atlantic region. The net loss of 52,388 people to Alberta was the single biggest drain of B.C.'s population over the 1996-2001 period.

### Net Population Movement For British Columbia Jul 1996 to Jun 2001 Net Inflow : 144,593 Persons



Immigrants to B.C. (migrants from another country) more than made up for the loss of the province's population due to interprovincial migration. During the period 1996-2001, a total of 204,000 immigrants (including temporary residents from overseas) came

to B.C. and 38,000 emigrants left B.C. to other countries. This resulted in a total net international migration of 182,000 people. Discounting the net loss of 37,500 interprovincial migrants, B.C. still had a total net gain of 145,000 people from all sources over the five-year period 1996-2001.

Among all census metropolitan areas (CMA) in the province, Vancouver had the highest number of movers. Approximately 53 per cent of the B.C. movers resided in the Vancouver CMA in 2001, followed by the Victoria CMA (8.1%) and Kelowna CMA (4.1%). The Vancouver CMA had a higher proportion of international migrants due to the fact that a very high number of recent immigrants chose to settle in the Vancouver area. CMAs outside the lower mainland area tended to have a relatively higher proportion of intraprovincial migrants and movers within the same municipality.

#### **B.C. Population Aged 5 and Over by Mobility Status by Selected CMA**

<b>CMA</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non-Movers</b>	<b>Moved Within Municipality</b>	<b>Moved Within Province</b>	<b>Moved From Another Province</b>	<b>Moved From Another Country</b>
Vancouver	1,861,975	970,840	432,825	223,405	66,785	168,120
Victoria	293,155	155,520	77,200	34,625	17,795	8,020
Kelowna	138,730	69,225	35,160	23,355	9,705	2,275
Abbotsford	135,100	71,080	33,280	21,335	4,455	4,955
Kamloops	81,610	44,215	22,100	11,440	2,880	975