Migration Patterns

Domestic migration patterns illustrate worker flow within states and throughout the nation. As can be seen with this map, individuals come to DFW from all parts of the country. The reasons why they relocate range from quality of life to employment prospects to overall business climate.

In-Migration to DFW From Other Major Metro Areas: 2017 - 2021

Geography | In-Migration | Geography | In-Migration
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Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX | 81,420 | Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA | 18,465
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA | 58,570 | Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV | 17,520
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX | 44,880 | Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA | 16,575
Austin-Round Rock, TX | 43,515 | San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA | 16,555
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI | 34,970 | San Diego-Carlsbad, CA | 14,130
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA | 31,915 | San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA | 14,040
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ | 25,430 | Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA | 11,245
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL | 20,495 | Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL | 9,900
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO | 18,920 | Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH | 9,720

Source: PUMS Data, U.S. Census Bureau
**Inbound Migration Maps**

The Dallas-Fort Worth region grew faster than any other major U.S. metro between 2017 and 2021. A primary driver fueling that growth has been people moving into the region from domestic metropolitan areas. Newcomers generally comprise 40 percent of the region’s population increase.

DFW’s population surge reflects the growth of Texas. Forbes writes that Texas’ strong job market sustains the state’s vibrant population growth. Since the 2010 census, Texas has added more than 15 percent to its population, nearly two and one-half times California’s growth rate. The U.S. grew by just over six percent during the same period.

Each year Dallas-Fort Worth attracts approximately 90,000 individuals from across the U.S. who possess a bachelor’s degree or higher. Arguably, the only way to lure such a workforce is by offering good jobs that pay well, with excellent corporate cultures, or an environment conducive to starting a business.

**About the Maps**

The U.S. Census Bureau collects monthly survey data from 3.5 million households regarding commute times, jobs, wages, educational levels, and other information. The resulting Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) offer an anonymous snapshot of people living in the United States.

Coupled with Public-Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs)—geographies that have populations of between 100,000 and 400,000 people—researchers can determine migration trends over a given timeframe. Using 2017-2021 PUMS data, the Dallas Regional Chamber was able to determine in-migration patterns, both the place of origin, and equally important, where people are moving once they get to Dallas-Fort Worth.