

New Mover Studies: Sioux County

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Findings

This report highlights the findings and experiences of Sioux County respondents who were included in a survey of nonmetropolitan movers in Iowa.¹ The purpose of the study is to better understand the decisions and thoughts of people who have moved and what they think about the communities and areas where they have lived. With increased understanding about why people move, community leaders may be able to develop actionable strategies for attracting and retaining population.²

Eighty-four respondents from Sioux County participated in the survey, 37 who moved into the county, 38 who moved out, and nine who moved within the county but changed zipcode (Table 1). In many respects, the

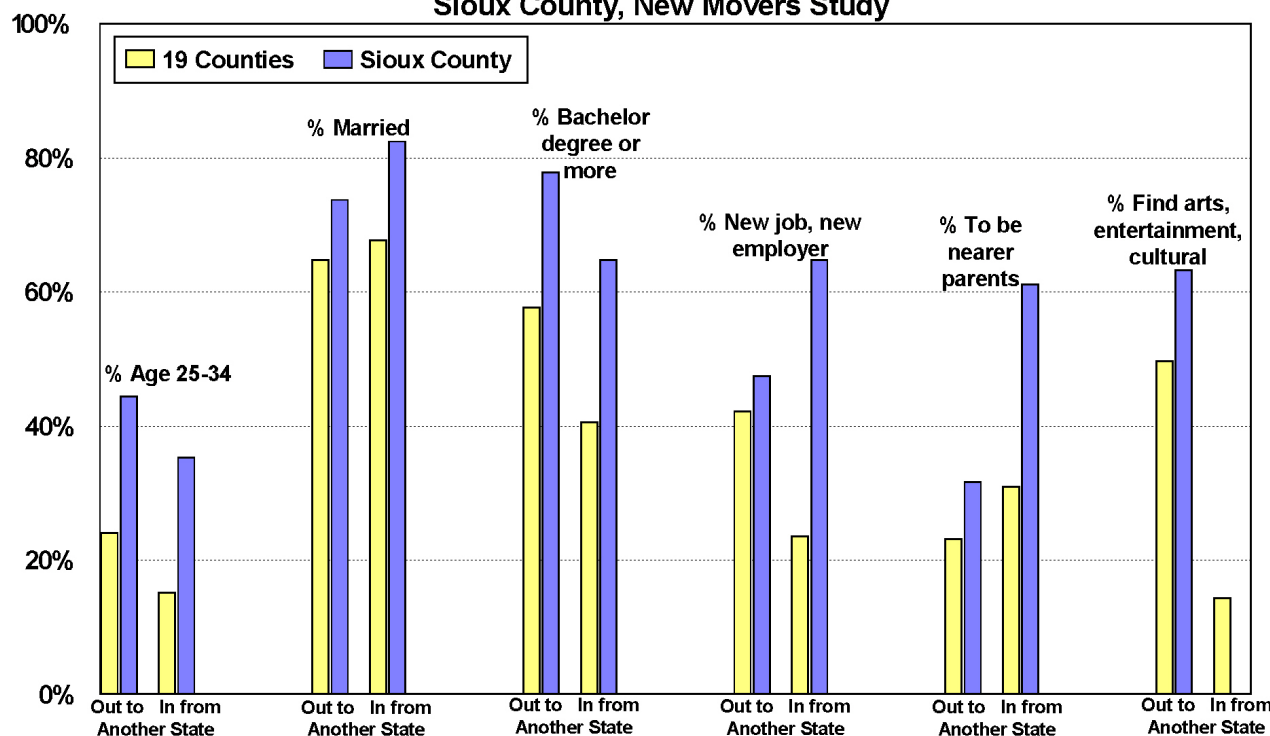
Sioux County participants shared similar characteristics and responses with the overall set of respondents, but in some aspects there were differences.

The Sioux respondents in the study tended to be younger than the overall set of movers. For all of the mover groups for Sioux County, with the exception of those who went to other Iowa counties, the median age was eight to seventeen years younger than for the groups overall. For most groups, the proportion of movers for Sioux County age 25 - 34 was much higher and the proportion age 70 or older much lower than for the groups overall (Tables 1, 5; Figure 1). Somewhat higher percentages of the Sioux respondents were married and lower proportions were divorced than in the overall findings. More than half of the

Sioux County movers reported having a college bachelor degree, an unusually high proportion. As a result, many more of the movers for Sioux County, across any of the mover categories, had a college bachelor degree than did the movers overall (Tables 1, 5; Figure 1).

Reasons for moving varied among the respondents, but generally fell into those related to work, family, community, or housing. Work-related reasons were cited as most important for all the Sioux mover groups except those who moved within the county. In a similar fashion, many of the Sioux respondents said that taking a new job with a new employer was a factor in their moving decision. Nearly two-thirds of those who came to Sioux County from other states cited a new job (Table 2, Figure 1).

Figure 1: Selected Demographic and Moving Decision Factors, Sioux County, New Movers Study



Source: Community Vitality Center, New Movers Study

	Type and Direction of Move						
	Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Number of respondents	84	37	9	19	19	19	18
Median age in years	34.0	35.0	31.0	42.0	29.5	32.0	36.0
Selected age categories	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Age 25 – 34	37.0	37.1	55.6	21.1	38.9	44.4	35.3
% Age 70 or older	6.2	8.6	11.1	5.3	11.1	0.0	5.9
Gender	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Male	56.1	62.2	44.4	63.2	52.6	61.1	52.9
% Female	43.9	37.8	55.6	36.8	47.4	38.9	47.1
Marital status	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Never married	9.6	13.2	0.0	5.3	10.5	21.1	5.9
% Married	73.5	73.7	66.7	73.7	68.4	73.7	82.4
% Divorced or separated	9.6	7.9	11.1	10.5	15.8	5.3	5.9
% Widowed	7.2	5.3	22.2	10.5	5.3	0.0	5.9
Highest level of education completed	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Less than high school graduate	1.2	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
% High school graduate or equivalent	7.3	10.8	0.0	15.8	10.5	5.6	0.0
% Some college or vocational training	19.5	16.2	22.2	26.3	15.8	5.6	29.4
% Associate degree	15.9	16.2	0.0	21.1	31.6	11.1	5.9
% Bachelor degree or more	56.1	56.7	66.7	36.9	42.1	77.8	64.7
Most important reason for moving							
Number of reasons ¹	120	53	9	29	26	29	27
Type of reason	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Work, income, education, retirement	50.8	49.1	22.2	51.7	50.0	62.1	48.1
Family, friends, health	23.3	24.1	33.3	31.0	15.4	17.2	25.9
Community, services, amenities	15.0	12.1	0.0	13.8	19.2	10.3	22.2
Housing	8.3	3.4	44.4	0.0	11.5	6.9	3.7
Other	2.5	3.4	0.0	3.4	3.8	3.4	0.0

¹Number of reasons exceeds number of respondents because some respondents gave more than one reason.

New Mover Studies: Sioux County

Table 2. Factors in Moving Decision by Type and Direction of Move.

	Type and Direction of Move							
	Total	Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Number of respondents	84	38	37	9	19	19	19	18
Factors in Moving Decision	% Yes ¹	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes
Moved, commuted, same employer	10.1	11.4	8.6	11.1	12.5	11.8	10.5	5.6
Job transfer by employer to location	7.5	11.4	5.6	0.0	6.3	0.0	15.8	11.1
Laid off from previous job	2.5	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	0.0
New job with new employer	41.8	42.9	51.4	0.0	37.5	38.9	47.4	64.7
Moved to look for new job or work	16.3	17.1	16.7	11.1	6.3	11.1	26.3	22.2
Retired from previous employment	5.0	8.6	2.8	0.0	12.5	5.6	5.3	0.0
To be nearer parents	37.8	32.4	50.0	11.1	33.3	38.9	31.6	61.1
To be nearer children	12.3	13.9	13.9	0.0	17.6	22.2	10.5	5.6
To live with spouse or partner	22.2	24.3	19.4	25.0	27.8	16.7	21.1	22.2
To be nearer siblings, other relatives	39.0	35.1	52.8	0.0	33.3	44.4	36.8	61.1
To be nearer friends, acquaintances	29.6	32.4	27.8	25.0	33.3	38.9	31.6	16.7
Change in marital status	16.0	19.4	11.1	22.2	29.4	11.1	10.5	11.1
Place easier find spouse or partner	7.4	11.1	2.8	11.1	0.0	5.6	21.1	0.0
Decline in health	3.7	2.8	2.8	11.1	5.9	0.0	0.0	5.6
Take care aging parents	9.9	5.6	16.7	0.0	5.9	11.1	5.3	22.2
Find less congested place to live	21.0	13.9	33.3	0.0	23.5	27.8	5.3	38.9
Find safer place to live	22.2	8.3	38.9	11.1	11.8	33.3	5.3	44.4
Live in desirable natural environment	20.0	25.7	19.4	0.0	31.3	22.2	21.1	16.7
More outdoor recreation	24.7	33.3	19.4	11.1	17.6	38.9	47.4	0.0
Find arts, entertainment, cultural	21.0	36.1	11.1	0.0	5.9	22.2	63.2	0.0
Find simpler pace of life	25.9	30.6	27.8	0.0	47.1	22.2	15.8	33.3
Find more exciting lifestyle	24.7	36.1	19.4	0.0	11.8	33.3	57.9	5.6
Live someplace new, have fresh start	39.5	44.4	38.9	22.2	35.3	38.9	52.6	38.9
Lower cost of housing	23.5	11.1	30.6	44.4	17.6	27.8	5.3	33.3
Have lower taxes	18.5	13.9	25.0	11.1	11.8	16.7	15.8	33.3
Have better internet, tv, phone	6.2	5.6	8.3	0.0	0.0	11.1	10.5	5.6
Find better quality local schools	14.8	5.6	27.8	0.0	11.8	27.8	0.0	27.8
Opportunities children to achieve	18.5	13.9	25.0	11.1	11.8	27.8	15.8	22.2
Have more ethnic diversity	16.0	30.6	2.8	11.1	0.0	5.6	57.9	0.0
Have less ethnic diversity	1.2	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0

¹ Respondents could respond "Yes" to more than one factor.

		Type and Direction of Move												
		Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State	Total	% Yes ¹	%			
Number of respondents	84	38	37	9	19	19	19	18						
Previously had lived:		% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes
In current state	71.1	57.9	80.6	88.9	84.2	100.0	84.2	100.0	31.6	61.1				
In current county	40.8	16.7	53.1	100.0	35.3	62.5	35.3	62.5	0.0	43.8				
In or near current city/town	30.7	16.7	38.7	62.5	35.3	50.0	35.3	50.0	0.0	26.7				
Used source of information for move	% Yes ¹	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	
Internet	36.9	36.8	37.8	33.3	26.3	26.3	26.3	26.3	47.4	50.0				
TV, magazines, newspapers	17.9	18.4	16.2	22.2	10.5	26.3	10.5	26.3	26.3	5.6				
Current community resident	23.8	28.9	24.3	0.0	21.1	15.8	21.1	15.8	36.8	33.3				
Employer or co-workers	33.3	18.4	43.2	55.6	15.8	36.8	15.8	36.8	21.1	50.0				
Friends and acquaintances	33.3	42.1	29.7	11.1	31.6	21.1	31.6	21.1	52.6	38.9				
Family	42.9	42.1	48.6	22.2	42.1	42.1	42.1	42.1	42.1	55.6				
Travel or vacation to new location	15.5	26.3	8.1	0.0	21.1	0.0	21.1	0.0	31.6	16.7				
Attended school or college there	9.5	5.3	16.2	0.0	5.3	15.8	5.3	15.8	5.3	16.7				
Ease of finding housing at new location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Very difficult (1)	3.6	0.0	8.1	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	5.3	0.0	11.1				
Somewhat difficult (2)	25.3	27.0	27.0	11.1	16.7	15.8	16.7	15.8	36.8	38.9				
Neither difficult or easy (3)	22.9	21.6	21.6	33.3	22.2	26.3	22.2	26.3	21.1	16.7				
Somewhat easy (4)	15.7	18.9	8.1	33.3	16.7	10.5	16.7	10.5	21.1	5.6				
Very easy (5)	32.5	32.4	35.1	22.2	44.4	42.1	44.4	42.1	21.1	27.8				
Average rating finding housing (1 – 5)	3.48	3.57	3.35	3.67	3.89	3.68	3.89	3.68	3.26	3.00				
Household income for 2004	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Less than \$20,000 (1)	8.6	11.1	8.1	0.0	17.6	10.5	17.6	10.5	5.3	5.6				
\$20,000 - \$34,999 (2)	23.5	22.2	24.3	25.0	17.6	26.3	17.6	26.3	26.3	22.2				
\$35,000 - \$49,999 (3)	28.4	33.3	18.9	50.0	23.5	21.1	23.5	21.1	42.1	16.7				
\$50,000 - \$69,999 (4)	25.9	22.2	32.4	12.5	35.3	36.8	35.3	36.8	10.5	27.8				
\$70,000 - \$99,999 (5)	4.9	2.8	8.1	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	5.3	5.3	11.1				
\$100,000 - \$149,999 (6)	6.2	2.8	8.1	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	16.7				
\$150,000 or more (7)	2.5	5.6	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	5.9	0.0	5.3	0.0				
Average income category (1 – 7)	3.23	3.14	3.32	3.25	3.06	3.00	3.06	3.00	3.21	3.67				

¹ Respondents could respond “Yes” to more than one source.

New Mover Studies: Sioux County Table 4. Income Comparison Between Locations, Satisfaction with Previous and Current Locations, and Doing Move Over Again by Type and Direction of Move.		Type and Direction of Move						
		Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Total		38	37	9	19	19	19	18
Number of respondents	84	38	37	9	19	19	19	18
Current location income compared with previous location income	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Significantly lower income (1)	4.9	0.0	10.8	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	16.7
Somewhat lower income (2)	12.2	18.9	8.1	0.0	27.8	5.3	10.5	11.1
About same income (3)	31.7	18.9	35.1	75.0	27.8	31.6	10.5	38.9
Somewhat higher income (4)	37.8	40.5	40.5	12.5	33.3	52.6	47.4	27.8
Significantly higher income (5)	13.4	21.6	5.4	12.5	11.1	5.3	31.6	5.6
Average comparison income (1 – 5)	3.43	3.65	3.22	3.38	3.28	3.47	4.00	2.94
Satisfaction with previous location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very dissatisfied (1)	11.9	13.2	13.5	0.0	15.8	15.8	10.5	11.1
Somewhat dissatisfied (2)	15.5	23.7	8.1	11.1	21.1	10.5	26.3	5.6
Neither dissatisfied or satisfied (3)	9.5	13.2	5.4	11.1	15.8	5.3	10.5	5.6
Somewhat satisfied (4)	33.3	26.3	37.8	44.4	31.6	31.6	21.1	44.4
Very satisfied (5)	29.8	23.7	35.1	33.3	15.8	36.8	31.6	33.3
Average satisfaction previous (1 – 5)	3.53	3.23	3.73	4.00	3.10	3.63	3.37	3.83
Satisfaction with current location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very dissatisfied (1)	7.3	10.5	5.7	0.0	15.8	5.6	5.3	5.9
Somewhat dissatisfied (2)	8.5	5.3	14.3	0.0	10.5	22.2	0.0	5.9
Neither dissatisfied or satisfied (3)	4.9	5.3	5.7	0.0	10.5	11.1	0.0	0.0
Somewhat satisfied (4)	32.9	28.9	40.0	22.2	15.8	33.3	42.1	47.1
Very satisfied (5)	46.3	50.0	34.3	77.8	47.4	27.8	52.6	41.2
Average satisfaction current (1 – 5)	4.02	4.03	3.83	4.78	3.68	3.56	4.37	4.12
Would do move over again	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Definitely not (1)	3.7	0.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	11.8
Probably not (2)	4.9	2.7	5.6	11.1	5.6	10.5	0.0	0.0
Undecided (3)	12.2	10.8	13.9	11.1	11.1	15.8	10.5	11.8
Probably yes (4)	35.4	40.5	36.1	11.1	50.0	21.1	31.6	52.9
Definitely yes (5)	43.9	45.9	36.1	66.7	33.3	47.4	57.9	23.5
Average rating do move over (1 – 5)	4.11	4.30	3.86	4.33	4.11	3.95	4.47	3.76

Community Vitality Center, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

New Mover Studies: 19 County Overall Findings

Table 5. Age, Gender, Marital Status, Education, and Most Important Reason for Moving by Type and Direction of Move.

	Type and Direction of Move							
	Total	Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Number of respondents	737	327	366	85	206	207	121	159
Median age in years	46.0	42.0	48.0	45.0	43.0	44.0	41.0	53.5
Selected age categories	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Age 25 – 34	21.3	22.0	18.9	24.7	20.9	21.7	24.0	15.1
% Age 70 or older	13.2	9.8	14.5	20.0	10.2	12.6	9.1	17.0
Gender	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Male	54.5	57.7	50.4	54.8	54.6	46.1	63.0	56.1
% Female	45.5	42.3	49.6	45.2	45.4	53.9	37.0	43.9
Marital status	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Never married	12.0	15.8	8.6	10.7	13.8	10.8	19.3	5.7
% Married	62.4	61.8	61.9	64.3	60.1	57.4	64.7	67.7
% Divorced or separated	16.3	13.3	20.5	14.3	16.8	25.0	7.6	14.5
% Widowed	9.4	9.0	9.1	10.7	9.4	6.9	8.4	12.0
Highest level of education completed	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Less than high school graduate	5.1	5.8	4.1	7.2	6.8	3.5	4.2	5.0
% High school graduate or equivalent	17.3	16.7	16.3	25.0	20.0	17.6	11.0	14.6
% Some college or vocational training	28.3	26.0	30.3	28.6	31.2	29.3	16.9	31.6
% Associate degree	10.6	11.8	10.7	9.5	12.7	12.7	10.2	8.2
% Bachelor degree or more	38.8	39.7	38.5	29.8	29.3	37.0	57.6	40.5
Most important reason for moving								
Number of reasons ¹	1,011	458	498	115	289	288	169	210
Type of reason	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Work, income, retirement, education	38.4	47.2	36.5	15.7	45.0	36.1	50.9	37.1
Family, friends, health	22.3	18.1	27.5	13.9	20.8	23.3	13.6	33.3
Community, services, amenities	22.0	22.0	21.9	19.1	18.0	21.2	29.0	22.9
Housing	15.7	10.5	12.4	50.4	13.8	17.0	4.7	6.2
Other	1.6	2.2	1.6	0.9	2.3	2.3	1.8	0.5

¹Number of reasons exceeds number of respondents because some respondents gave more than one reason.

New Mover Studies: 19 County Overall Findings

Table 6. Factors in Moving Decision by Type and Direction of Move.

	Type and Direction of Move							
	Total	Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Number of respondents	737	327	366	85	206	207	121	159
Factors in Moving Decision	% Yes ¹	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes
Moved, commuted, same employer	14.2	12.6	13.3	28.8	16.7	18.8	5.5	6.4
Job transfer by employer to location	7.6	9.8	7.1	1.3	7.8	4.0	13.4	11.0
Laid off from previous job	4.9	7.9	3.4	0.0	8.3	3.1	7.1	3.9
New job with new employer	26.7	34.3	24.7	3.8	29.7	25.6	42.1	23.5
Moved to look for new job or work	16.5	19.4	15.9	5.0	15.0	13.6	27.0	18.8
Retired from previous employment	14.4	11.1	16.9	12.2	10.8	14.6	11.7	19.9
To be nearer parents	23.7	21.0	30.5	7.5	19.7	30.2	23.1	30.9
To be nearer children	20.1	21.3	22.3	7.4	24.4	19.7	16.0	25.6
To live with spouse or partner	15.0	15.5	14.3	16.5	17.6	19.0	12.0	8.0
To be nearer siblings, other relatives	30.5	26.6	38.4	11.1	24.7	34.3	29.7	43.6
To be nearer friends, acquaintances	29.6	29.3	32.6	21.5	30.7	34.8	27.0	29.6
Change in marital status	13.2	12.1	13.3	16.0	12.6	16.0	11.1	9.8
Place easier find spouse or partner	7.9	12.7	4.2	3.7	9.6	5.5	17.9	2.6
Decline in health	10.4	7.6	11.5	12.3	8.6	7.0	6.0	17.4
Take care aging parents	5.9	5.1	7.6	1.2	4.5	5.5	6.0	10.4
Find less congested place to live	28.2	15.2	39.2	27.2	20.6	32.3	6.0	48.1
Find safer place to live	26.1	15.9	35.9	18.5	21.3	30.0	6.8	43.5
Live in desirable natural environment	35.8	29.9	43.5	25.9	31.0	43.8	28.2	43.1
More outdoor recreation	29.3	28.3	31.7	22.2	24.2	36.1	35.0	26.0
Find arts, entertainment, cultural	23.7	36.1	15.8	6.2	28.1	16.9	49.6	14.3
Find simpler pace of life	36.8	25.2	49.6	24.7	30.0	44.8	16.9	55.8
Find more exciting lifestyle	22.4	31.3	17.7	8.6	25.0	21.4	41.9	13.0
Live someplace new, have fresh start	41.4	39.5	43.2	37.0	38.2	43.8	41.7	42.5
Lower cost of housing	31.7	20.1	41.5	32.9	26.3	35.3	9.5	49.4
Have lower taxes	25.5	18.6	34.0	15.9	18.5	30.3	19.0	38.8
Have better internet, tv, phone	8.3	12.4	6.2	1.2	11.6	8.5	13.8	3.3
Find better quality local schools	14.0	12.1	17.3	8.6	13.7	16.6	9.4	18.2
Opportunities children to achieve	19.3	20.7	19.2	14.8	20.8	19.0	20.5	19.5
Have more ethnic diversity	10.3	16.9	5.9	1.2	9.6	7.0	29.3	4.6
Have less ethnic diversity	4.4	2.6	6.3	3.7	3.1	4.0	1.7	9.2

¹ Respondents could respond “Yes” to more than one factor.

		Type and Direction of Move							
		Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State	Total
Number of respondents	737	327	366	85	206	207	121	159	
Previously had lived:	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes
In current state	77.2	73.9	77.6	97.5	95.5	96.9	36.8	53.5	
In current county	38.6	28.3	34.3	100.0	33.9	36.5	31.5	33.9	
In or near current city/town	34.2	28.5	32.3	69.9	34.0	35.6	18.7	27.9	
Used source of information for move	% Yes ¹	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes	% Yes
Internet	31.2	35.2	30.3	14.1	26.7	24.6	49.6	37.7	
TV, magazines, newspapers	22.3	24.8	20.5	20.0	22.8	22.7	28.1	17.6	
Current community resident	22.0	21.4	23.0	18.8	19.4	20.8	24.8	25.8	
Employer or co-workers	23.6	26.3	23.5	16.5	25.2	24.2	28.1	22.6	
Friends and acquaintances	36.6	39.4	35.0	34.1	36.4	38.6	44.6	30.2	
Family	41.2	37.0	44.0	42.4	37.4	41.5	36.4	47.2	
Travel or vacation to new location	14.2	15.6	15.8	2.4	10.2	12.6	24.8	20.1	
Attended school or college there	6.9	7.0	6.3	7.1	7.3	3.9	6.6	9.4	
Ease of finding housing at new location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very difficult (1)	8.8	5.9	12.2	9.4	7.8	9.3	2.5	16.0	
Somewhat difficult (2)	20.6	24.2	18.1	18.8	23.0	18.6	26.3	17.3	
Neither difficult or easy (3)	16.5	15.2	15.3	21.2	14.7	17.2	16.1	12.8	
Somewhat easy (4)	22.4	22.7	23.1	20.0	23.5	23.5	21.2	22.4	
Very easy (5)	31.6	32.0	31.4	30.6	30.9	31.4	33.9	31.4	
Average rating finding housing (1 – 5)	3.47	3.51	3.43	3.44	3.47	3.49	3.58	3.36	
Household income for 2004	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than \$20,000 (1)	17.3	16.0	18.8	19.0	18.0	18.4	12.6	19.4	
\$20,000 - \$34,999 (2)	23.0	21.6	23.3	26.6	25.0	24.3	16.0	21.9	
\$35,000 - \$49,999 (3)	18.2	18.2	17.7	22.8	18.0	20.4	18.5	14.2	
\$50,000 - \$69,999 (4)	18.5	18.2	19.1	15.2	18.0	21.4	18.5	16.1	
\$70,000 - \$99,999 (5)	12.4	13.8	11.9	8.9	12.5	12.6	16.0	11.0	
\$100,000 - \$149,999 (6)	7.7	8.5	7.2	3.8	6.5	1.5	11.8	14.8	
\$150,000 or more (7)	2.9	3.8	1.9	3.8	2.0	1.5	6.7	2.6	
Average income category (1 – 7)	3.20	3.33	3.11	2.95	3.10	2.96	3.71	3.32	

¹ Respondents could respond “Yes” to more than one factor.

New Mover Studies: 19 County Overall Findings

Table 8. Income Comparison Between Locations, Satisfaction with Previous and Current Locations, and Doing Move Over Again by Type and Direction of Move.

	Type and Direction of Move							
	Total	Moved Out Of County	Moved Into County	Within County, Different Zipcode	Out To Different Iowa County	In From Different Iowa County	Out To Another State	In From Another State
Number of respondents	737	327	366	85	206	207	121	159
Current location income compared with previous location income	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Significantly lower income (1)	11.0	6.9	16.1	3.8	7.0	11.8	6.8	21.8
Somewhat lower income (2)	12.1	10.7	13.3	7.5	11.9	9.8	8.5	17.9
About same income (3)	41.9	38.2	41.7	63.8	46.8	46.6	23.7	35.3
Somewhat higher income (4)	23.1	29.2	19.2	17.5	26.9	20.1	33.1	17.9
Significantly higher income (5)	11.8	15.0	9.7	7.5	7.5	11.8	28.0	7.1
Average comparison income (1 – 5)	3.13	3.35	2.93	3.18	3.16	3.10	3.67	2.71
Satisfaction with previous location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very dissatisfied (1)	11.2	11.4	11.5	9.4	12.7	12.1	9.2	10.7
Somewhat dissatisfied (2)	14.7	14.8	15.9	11.8	16.1	16.0	12.5	15.7
Neither dissatisfied or satisfied (3)	12.7	16.9	9.0	15.3	17.6	11.7	15.8	5.7
Somewhat satisfied (4)	29.0	26.5	29.0	29.4	27.3	26.2	25.0	32.7
Very satisfied (5)	32.5	30.5	34.5	34.1	26.3	34.0	37.5	35.2
Average satisfaction previous (1 – 5)	3.57	3.50	3.59	3.67	3.38	3.54	3.69	3.66
Satisfaction with current location	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very dissatisfied (1)	7.6	8.7	7.8	4.7	9.3	6.9	7.7	9.0
Somewhat dissatisfied (2)	8.1	7.8	9.5	5.9	9.8	7.4	4.3	12.2
Neither dissatisfied or satisfied (3)	6.6	5.9	8.4	3.5	7.3	6.9	3.4	10.3
Somewhat satisfied (4)	29.4	27.6	29.5	28.2	24.9	27.1	32.5	32.7
Very satisfied (5)	48.3	50.0	44.8	57.6	48.8	51.7	52.1	35.9
Average satisfaction current (1 – 5)	4.03	4.03	3.94	4.28	3.94	4.09	4.17	3.74
Would do move over again	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Definitely not (1)	3.2	3.1	3.6	1.2	2.0	2.9	5.1	4.4
Probably not (2)	5.1	4.3	4.7	9.4	4.9	4.9	3.4	4.4
Undecided (3)	9.7	8.7	10.4	7.1	8.3	6.8	9.3	15.2
Probably yes (4)	33.2	35.1	33.0	29.4	38.2	35.4	29.7	29.7
Definitely yes (5)	48.9	48.8	48.4	52.9	46.6	50.0	52.5	46.2
Average rating do move over (1 – 5)	4.20	4.22	4.18	4.24	4.23	4.25	4.21	4.09

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New Mover Studies: Sioux County

Family factors were part of the reason for moving for many Sioux movers. Across most of the mover categories, more respondents from Sioux County said they moved to be closer to their parents or to be closer to siblings or other relatives than did the movers overall. Sixty-one percent of those who came to Sioux from other states said they moved to be closer to parents or siblings or other relatives (Tables 2, 6; Figure 1).

The Sioux respondents were similar to those in other counties in that the respondents who came into Sioux County were more likely than those who left to say that wanting a less congested or a safer place to live was a factor in their moving decision. Those moving out to other states were much more likely than those who moved in from other states to say they wanted more arts, entertainment, or cultural activities or a more exciting lifestyle. Sixty-three percent of the respondents leaving Sioux County to go to other states said that wanting more arts or entertainment was a factor in their decision (Tables 2, 6; Figure 1).

The movers coming into Sioux were more likely than those leaving to cite wanting better quality local schools as a factor in their move. Those leaving Sioux for other states were the most likely (57.9%), across all the groups and counties, to say they wanted more ethnic diversity (Tables 2, 6).

Sixty-one percent of the movers coming to Sioux from other states had previously lived in Iowa, a somewhat higher proportion than for the overall set of respondents. Among the group coming to Sioux from other states, half reported

Table 9. Mover Categories and Type and Direction of Move.

Category	Type and Direction of Move
A: <i>Within County, Zipcode change</i>	Moved within one of the 19 study counties but changed zip code.
B: <i>Out To Another Iowa County</i>	Moved out of one of the study counties to another county in Iowa.
C: <i>In From Another Iowa County</i>	Moved from another county in Iowa into one of the study counties.
D: <i>Out To Another State</i>	Moved out of one of the study counties to another state.
E: <i>In From Another State</i>	Moved from another state into one of the study counties.

that finding housing was somewhat to very difficult, but these same respondents were more likely than the overall to report that their income would be higher in Sioux County than in the location where they had lived previously (Tables 3-4, 7-8).

A large majority of the movers coming into Sioux, whether from other counties in Iowa or other states, said they were somewhat to very satisfied with their new location, however, among those coming from other states, fewer than one-fourth said they would definitely do their move over again (Table 4).

The goal of this study is to better understand the experiences of people who have moved. This report focuses on the findings for Sioux County and highlights some of the similarities and differences with the findings for the entire set of 19 counties. Because the number of respondents in any one county is small, the overall findings and trends are likely the best guidelines as community residents and leaders think about possible next steps. The overall objective is to help community leaders better understand household moving trends so they can develop actionable strategies to address the reasons why people come, why people leave, enhance the qualities that cause people to stay, and thus stabilize or increase their populations.²

The Study

These research results are from a survey of nonmetropolitan movers in 19 selected counties in Iowa that included Sioux County.¹ People who had moved either into or out of these 19 counties were identified through a purchased database and were mailed a survey in the fall of 2005. The survey asked questions about the respondent's previous location as well as their current location, reasons for moving, satisfaction with multiple factors in their communities, as well as their demographic, social, and economic situation. Five categories of movers are used to examine the results (Table 9). Most respondents had moved during 2003 through 2005 and 737 respondents who met the study criteria replied for an overall response rate of 35 percent. The estimated response rate for Sioux County was 41.6 percent.

Notes

1. Previous reports, a description of the study, the counties included, and the survey questionnaire are available on the Community Vitality Center web site at: www.cvcia.org.
2. Previous reports contain examples of possible next steps and strategies that community leaders might consider.

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