

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Snow Belt to Sun Belt Migration: End of an Era?](#)

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Publication	Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Publication Date	July 26, 2024

Tweet: Migration from the “Snow Belt” or coldest places in the US to the “Sun Belt” has steadily declined since the 1970s, and had essentially halted by 2010-20. @sylvainecon @wilson_daniel_j

Summary: Over the course of the past 50 years, the tendency of Americans to move from the coldest places (“Snow Belt”), which have become warmer, to the hottest places (“Sun Belt”), which have become hotter, has steadily declined. In the latest full decade, 2010-2020, both county population growth and county net migration rates were essentially uncorrelated with the historical means of either extreme heat days or extreme cold days. The decline in these correlations holds for all educational groups, with the sharpest decline in correlations for those with four or more years of college. Among age groups, the pattern is strongest for age groups 20-29 and 60-69, suggestive of climate being an especially important factor for those in life stages involving long-term location choices. Given climate change projections for coming decades, our findings suggest the “pivoting” in the U.S. climate-migration correlation over the past 50 years is likely to continue, leading to a reversal of the 20th century Snow Belt to Sun Belt migration pattern.

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Primary Topic: Demographics

Topics: Academic paper, Demographics, Politics, Workforce

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