

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [The Determinants Of Declining Internal Migration](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.nber.org/papers/w32123>

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Publication	National Bureau of Economic Research
Publication Date	February 05, 2024

**Tweet:** The decline in internal migration in the US has been driven by increasing housing prices; potential wage gains from migration are being offset by housing-related factors.

**Summary:** A 10% increase in the origin wage is associated with a 3.5% decline in migration, while a 10% increase in the destination wage is associated with a 7.8% increase in migration. For housing, a 10% increase in origin home prices is associated with a 1.4% increase in migration, but a 10% increase in destination home prices is associated with a 2.6% decline in migration. These analyses show that wages on their own would have led to an increase in migration rates, primarily because migrants are increasingly responsive to high earnings levels in potential destination commuting zones (CZs). However, these wage effects have been more than offset by housing-related factors, which have increasingly impeded internal mobility. In particular, migration has become much less responsive to housing prices in the origin CZ, such that many households that would have left in response to high home prices several decades ago now choose to stay. Related: Movers And Money: Mapping the Flow of Income During the Pandemic and Southern Comforts and A \$100 Billion Wealth Migration Tilts US Economy's Center of Gravity South

**Primary Topic:** Demographics

**Topics:** Academic paper, Database, Demographics, GDP, Housing, Important!, Wages/Income, Weekly, Workforce

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