

# Massachusetts exodus: people are leaving the Commonwealth in record numbers, fewer people moving in

*Massachusetts ranked seventh on the list of states people moved out of the most last year, up from eighth in 2020.*

A recent study by United Van Lines has revealed that not only are fewer people moving to the Bay State, but they are also fleeing in record numbers. The billion-dollar company is a worldwide leader in domestic and international moving and/or relocation services.

Approximately 58% or 2,984 of the 5,183 of their shipments that involved Massachusetts last year were outbound, ranking the Commonwealth 7th in the nation. Only California, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York had higher rates of outbound migration. In 2020, the Bay State ranked 8th and then officials warned that the state's high housing costs and need for remote work could start a downward trend for outward migration from the state – something reflected in this year's numbers.

Causes for the migration from highest to lowest:

- Retirement (37.5%)
- New Job or transfer (35%)
- Family reasons (17.5%)

As for inbound migration, Massachusetts was ranked 47th for the second year in a row. South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, and other states on the top 10 list for inbound migration tended to be more rural than the outbound migration list. For a second straight year, Massachusetts was 47th on

the list for inbound migration.