

Moving Service Provider Releases Moving Trends

Annual Long Distance Moving Trends Report shows more people are moving South. ABF U-Pack Moving reports more leaving Northeast states while Texas is a hot spot, the next best thing to paradise.

Fort Smith, AR (Vocus) January 3, 2010 -- Texas is the next best thing to paradise according to an annual report by national moving service ABF U-Pack Moving®. Each year the company, which specializes in <u>long distance moving</u>, reviews the migration patterns of customers over a 12-month period. The annual report offers insights into national moving trends.

In a review of cities with populations of 100,000 or more, Honolulu had the highest percentage of inbound moves by the company in 2009, with inbound moves accounting for 87% of all the city's moves. The next two highest cities were Beaumont, Texas with 71% and Waco, Texas with 69%. Texas posted a total of eight cities — the most of any state in the union — to the list. In addition to Beaumont and Waco were Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Wichita Falls and Corpus Christi.

Business development manager, Kay Lynn Clay laughs, "Seems no one wants to leave Honolulu! The city usually tops our list for inbound moves. Texas has become increasingly popular as well. There is a definite trend for <u>relocation</u> to the South and Southeastern regions of the country by U-Pack customers."

Southern and Southeastern cities with populations of 100,000 or more and 60% inbound moves were predominant. Louisiana and North Carolina each posted four cities, the second highest number by state. Other than Honolulu, the only city outside of this region to make the list is Billings, Montana.

When asked why long-distance moving trends are important, Clay states, "The trends observed by a moving company are important for the same reasons the census is important. Movers can identify early the possible population shifts that directly impact our daily lives." Clay adds that at census time these trends affect things such as public funding and the number of electoral votes states receive.

The report also examines outbound moving trends for cities with populations of 100,000 or more. In 2009 Detroit, Michigan. had the highest percentage of outbound moves with 71%. The states providing the most cities to the high outbound list were Michigan and California with three each. These included Detroit, Flint and Lansing in Michigan and Stockton-Modesto, Long Beach and Fresno in California. Connecticut provided two with Hartford and New Haven.

So where are the new <u>best places to live</u>? Trends from moving companies could be an indicator. With a national census in 2010, it should be interesting to see how trends from the moving service match with the new data. (Statistics are available to the media for all cities serviced by the company.)

ABF U-Pack Moving is a leader in the self-move industry with a network of 281 service centers nationwide. U-Pack specializes in affordable do-it-yourself moving, combining the professional driver and equipment of traditional full-service moving companies with the cost savings of a rental truck. Visit http://www.upack.com/ for more information.

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