

satisfactory degree of accuracy; and (2) that most intermunicipal movers are likely to undergo changes in their community ties and living arrangements. This approach is admittedly arbitrary and is subject to its inherent limitations. Some intermunicipal movers (e.g., migrants between Rockcliffe Park and the east end of the city of Ottawa) may well be shorter-distance movers than some intramunicipal movers (e.g., movers from one end of a large metropolitan city to its other end). So long as area boundaries are used as a basis for distinguishing between migratory and non-migratory movement, this type of problem is unavoidable.

Mobility Status and Type of Movement.—In the 1961 Census, the population was divided into the following categories according to mobility status and type of movement: non-movers—persons who resided in the same dwelling on June 1 in both 1956 and 1961; intramunicipal movers—persons who lived in one dwelling on June 1, 1956, but in another within the same municipality five years later; intraprovincial migrants—persons who lived in a given municipality on June 1, 1956, but in another municipality within the same province five years later; interprovincial migrants between contiguous provinces and between non-contiguous provinces; and migrants from abroad—both Canadian-born and foreign-born. These categories were adopted as rough approximations to a scale of distance of movement spanned. Obviously, the same type of problem as is associated with the definition of migration is involved in this scale. Some interprovincial migrants, for example, may have crossed only a boundary road, while some intraprovincial migrants may have travelled hundreds of miles. On the average, however, distance of movement increases as we go down the list.

Gross and Net Migration.—The total number of migrants into an area and the total number of migrants out of an area both represent gross migration. The first group is defined as in-migration and the second group as out-migration, so long as movement took place within Canada. The balance between the two represents net migration, which may be either net in-migration or net out-migration.

It should be noted, however, that the figure for gross movement falls short of the total number of moves made during the 1956-1961 period because of (1) deaths of movers prior to the 1961 Census and (2) persons who moved more than once over the period, since only one move could be counted in the Census. (In fact, those who returned to their original residence before June 1, 1961 would be in the category of non-movers, since mobility status was measured in terms of the usual place of residence on June 1 in 1956 and in 1961.)

Basic Findings*

Mobility Status of Canada's Population, 1956-1961.—Of the estimated 15,300,000 persons five years of age or over residing in private households in Canada at the time of the 1961 Census, 6,500,000 or 42 p.c. changed their usual place of residence within Canada at least once over the preceding five-year period. Nearly 60 p.c. of these proved to be movers within the same municipality. To put it differently, one out of every four residents in Canada in 1961 was an intramunicipal mover during the five-year period 1956-1961. Of the remaining 40 p.c. of the internal movers, four fifths moved from one municipality to another within the same province, and only one fifth crossed the provincial boundaries. An overwhelming majority of movers in Canada during this period thus appear to have been short-distance movers.

Urban-Rural Differences in Mobility Status.—The dominance of short-distance movers prevailed for all types of communities. The mobility rate, or the number of movers of a given type per 100 population, shows a consistent drop from one category of

* Only a brief summary of the basic findings on the mobility of the total population five years of age or over is presented here. A more detailed analysis is given in a chapter on "Mobility of Population in Canada, 1956-1961," in the *General Review, the 1961 Census of Canada Report, Vol. VII*, and in a forthcoming census monograph on this subject.