Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers: Seasonal Migration of the Elderly in Florida

Stanley K. Smith and Mark House
University of Florida

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ABSTRACT

America is a nation of movers, but many moves go unmeasured because official migration statistics focus on changes in place of usual residence, or the place one lives and sleeps most of the time. As a result, most migration statistics miss temporary moves such as the daily commute to work, short business trips, vacations, and seasonal migration. These temporary moves often have a substantial impact on the resident populations of both sending and receiving communities. In this paper, we analyze seasonal migration flows of the elderly (age 55+) in Florida. Using household survey data, we examine the characteristics of elderly non-Floridians who spend part of the year in Florida and of elderly Floridians who spend part of the year elsewhere. We attempt to determine the number, timing, and duration of seasonal moves and the origins, destinations, personal characteristics, and motivations of seasonal migrants. We also compare the characteristics of temporary migrants to those of other Florida residents. We believe this study provides insights into the mobility of Florida's older population that cannot be achieved by focusing solely on changes in place of usual residence.

Introduction

There have been many studies of elderly migration over the last several decades, covering issues as diverse as the characteristics of those migrants (e.g., Biggar, Longino, and Flynn 1980), the development of appropriate migration models (e.g., Wiseman 1980), regional migration patterns (e.g., Longino 1995), return migration (e.g., Stoller and Longino 2001), and the economic impact of elderly migration on destination areas (e.g., Serow 2003). In most studies, migration is defined as a change in one's place of usual residence. There are many moves, however, that do not lead to changes in place of usual residence; for example, the daily commute to work, short business trips, vacations, and seasonal shifts between warmer and cooler climates. We refer to moves that lead to changes in place of usual residence as "permanent migration" and moves that do not lead to such changes as "temporary migration." Although information on temporary migration is sparse, its impact on areas of origin and destination can be substantial.

In this paper, we analyze temporary migration flows of the elderly in Florida. We focus on moves that include an extended stay; that is, we do not consider daytime population mobility or short-term overnight visits. Defining the elderly as persons age 55 or older, we use household survey data to examine the characteristics of non-Floridians who spend part of the year in Florida and Floridians who spend part of the year elsewhere. We attempt to determine the number, timing, and duration of temporary moves and the origins, destinations, personal characteristics, and motivations of temporary migrants. We compare the characteristics of temporary migrants with those of persons who are not temporary migrants. Most of our analyses focus on the state as a whole, but we also compare temporary migration flows in two Florida counties, one with large numbers of temporary migrants and one with small numbers.

There have been considerably fewer studies of temporary migration than of permanent migration, in large part because of a lack of relevant data. There are no comprehensive sources of temporary migration data in the United States, for the elderly or any other demographic subgroup. As a result, studies of temporary migration must be based on sample surveys or symptomatic indicators of population change (e.g., Smith 1989). For many years, Florida has been the leading state of destination for elderly permanent migrants (e.g., Biggar 1980; Longino 1995); there is reason to believe it is the leading destination for elderly temporary migrants as well (e.g., Rose and Kingma 1989). Yet, to our knowledge, no previous study has analyzed both the in- and out-movements of older temporary migrants in Florida. We believe the present study provides insights regarding the mobility of the older population that cannot be achieved by focusing solely on changes in place of usual residence.

Data and Terminology

The data used in this study were collected through a series of monthly telephone surveys conducted by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida. The sample was selected using random digit dialing techniques and covered approximately 500 Florida households each month between September 2000 and December 2003. All respondents were age 18 or older and were selected as the adult household member who most recently had a birthday. Each respondent was asked a series of questions regarding his or her demographic characteristics, residency status, and migration behavior. In this paper, we restrict the analysis to the 7,041 respondents age 55+.

Because it was based on a telephone survey, the sample did not include most visitors staying in hotels, motels, campgrounds, or other types of lodging without direct outside telephone lines. The analysis thus excludes most short-stay tourists as well as some longer-

staying temporary residents. Consequently, estimates based on these data provide a lower bound regarding the number of temporary migrants entering and leaving Florida.

The survey followed Census Bureau guidelines regarding residency status. Respondents were asked if Florida was their usual place of residence, or the place they lived and slept most of the time. Most reported that it was, but 5% of the population age 55+ reported that Florida was not their usual place of residence. Following traditional terminology, we call this group "snowbirds" (e.g., Happel and Hogan 2002; Krout 1983; McHugh and Mings 1991; Longino 1995). As we show later, snowbird migration in Florida follows a strongly seasonal pattern.

Permanent residents of Florida may also be temporary migrants at one time or another. The survey asked Florida residents about their travel patterns during the past year. More than 12% of the population age 55+ reported that they spent more than 30 consecutive days at a location other than their usual place of residence during the previous year. Following Hogan and Steinnes (1996), we call these temporary migrants "sunbirds." Sunbird migration also follows a clear seasonal pattern in Florida, albeit not as strong as the pattern for snowbirds. Finally, we call permanent residents of Florida who did not spend more than 30 consecutive days away from home "stayers." This group accounted for 83% of all survey respondents age 55+.

State-level Analyses

Not surprisingly, the number of temporary residents included in the survey fluctuated considerably over the course of the year (Table 1). More than 10% of elderly survey respondents in January and February reported that they were not permanent residents of Florida, compared to around 1% in August and September. This seasonal pattern is consistent with prior expectations and with findings reported elsewhere (e.g., Hogan and Steinnes 1996; Krout 1983; McHugh and Mings 1991; Truly 2002). Using these proportions and a 2005 estimate of almost 5.1 million

permanent residents age 55+, we estimate that there were more than 700,000 snowbirds in Florida at the peak of the 2004-2005 snowbird season but only 40,000 will be in the state during the late summer.

(Table 1 about here)

More than 12% of Florida's permanent residents age 55+ reported that they spent more than 30 consecutive days somewhere other than their place of usual residence during the previous year. Given the size of Florida's elderly population in 2005, these data imply that approximately 620,000 sunbirds left home for at least a month during the year. The proportions differed considerably by age, as sunbirds accounted for 9% of the population age 55-64, 15% of the population age 65-74, and 13% of the population age 75+ (Table 2). Opportunities for temporary migration are fewer for the 55-64 age group because of job responsibilities and for the 75+ age group because of health limitations.

(Table 2 about here)

As we show later, about 92% of temporary out-migrants left the state and 8% went to some other location in Florida. What about out-migration from other places? Very few studies have considered temporary migration from the perspective of the sending (rather than the receiving) region. For those that have, the results have been roughly similar to those reported here. Krout (1983) reported that 13.0% of the population age 60+ in a New York county lived in a different state for at least two months of the year. Hogan and Steinnes (1998) reported that 10.1% of Arizona's population age 60+ left the state for at least four consecutive weeks and 9.2% of Minnesota's population age 60+ left for at least five consecutive weeks. Not surprisingly, most temporary migrants left New York and Minnesota during the winter and left Florida and Arizona during the summer. Although these studies are insufficient for drawing

general conclusions, it is noteworthy that all the estimates of temporary out-migration fell within a fairly narrow range of 9%-13%.

There were substantial differences in the age/sex composition of snowbirds, sunbirds, and stayers (Table 3). Males accounted for 55% of snowbirds, 48% of sunbirds, and 45% of stayers. The proportion male for stayers is similar to the proportion for the U.S. population age 55+ (44% in 2000), suggesting that males are positively selected among temporary migrants, especially for snowbirds.

(Table 3 about here)

Overall, snowbirds were slightly older than sunbirds and both groups were older than stayers. Several interesting patterns emerged when males and females were analyzed separately. For stayers, females were considerably older than males, reflecting their greater life expectancies. For snowbirds, males were considerably older than females. This most likely reflects the high proportion of snowbirds that were married and the tendency for husbands to be several years older than their wives. For sunbirds, age distributions for males and females were about the same, with females having slightly higher proportions for ages 55-64 and 75+ and males slightly higher proportions for ages 65-74.

There were several differences in the marital status of the three groups (Table 4). Three-fourths of all snowbirds were married, compared to 59% of sunbirds and 56% of stayers. Snowbirds had higher proportions married for both males and females, but the differences were particularly great for females, with 67% married for snowbirds compared to only 45% and 44% for the other two groups, respectively. It appears that married couples are positively selected in the inflow of snowbirds to Florida, but not in the outflow of sunbirds.

(Table 4 about here)

Table 5 describes the racial/ethnic characteristics of these three groups. Snowbirds were overwhelmingly white (94%) and almost none were Hispanic. Sunbirds had almost as high a proportion white (93%), but 4% were Hispanic. Only 89% of stayers were white and almost 8% were Hispanic.

(Table 5 about here)

Table 6 summarizes several other characteristics. Snowbirds had a mean age of 69.7 years, a mean education of 14.5 years, and a mean income of $63,476; slightly less than 12% were employed. Sunbirds were a bit younger than snowbirds, with a mean age of 69.1 years. They had a slightly higher educational level (14.7 years), but a lower mean income ($58,998). Just under 17% of sunbirds were employed. Stayers were younger than the other two groups (68.1 years), somewhat less educated (14.0 years), and had a substantially lower mean income ($45,212) in spite of having a higher proportion employed (29%).

(Table 6 about here)

Snowbirds enjoyed better health than sunbirds and both appeared to be healthier than stayers (Table 7). More than 62% of snowbirds rated their health as very good or excellent, compared to 55% of sunbirds and 49% of stayers. Conversely, less than 13% of snowbirds rated their health as fair or poor, compared to 17% of sunbirds and 22% of stayers.

(Table 7 about here)

As these tables show, snowbirds and sunbirds tend to be more similar to each other than to stayers. Tables 8-14 provide several additional comparisons of snowbirds and sunbirds. On average, snowbirds were away from home for longer periods of time than sunbirds (Table 8). Almost two-thirds of snowbirds spent more than three months at their secondary place of residence, compared to only 30% of sunbirds.

(Table 8 about here)

Not surprisingly, snowbirds flocked to Florida during the winter months (Table 9). Approximately 80% of all snowbirds in the sample resided in Florida during January, February, and March, compared to less than 10% in June, July, August, and September. Conversely, sunbirds generally traveled during the summer. More than half of sunbirds visited their secondary residences in June and July, compared to only 10-13% during the months from November to April. Clearly, the migration flows of both groups (especially snowbirds) are seasonal in nature and both can be correctly classified as the subgroup of temporary migrants known as seasonal migrants.

(Table 9 about here)

The places of origin for snowbirds were similar—but not identical—to the places of destination for sunbirds (Table 10). Almost 75% of snowbirds came from the Northeast or Midwest, but only 55% of sunbirds had secondary residences in those regions. Just over 12% of snowbirds came from other southern states, but 18% of sunbirds traveled to those states and another 8% remained in Florida (for those going to other southern states, North Carolina was by far the favorite destination). Approximately 10% of both groups had origins or destinations in foreign countries, but 82% of international snowbirds came from Canada whereas only 21% of sunbirds going abroad had a secondary residence in Canada. Canadians are much more prevalent among snowbirds than sunbirds because Canadian citizens lose their Medicare benefits if they spend more than six months abroad each year (Longino 1995).

(Table 10 about here)

Almost 80% of snowbirds came to Florida because of its warm winters; all other reasons were of minor importance (Table 11). This is a common finding in studies of seasonal migration

to sunbelt states (e.g., Hogan 1987; Krout 1983; Martin, Hoppe, Larson, and Leon 1987). In contrast, less than 10% of sunbirds left their homes primarily for weather-related reasons. More than half traveled to their secondary residences primarily to visit family and friends and 16% for recreational purposes. Escaping the state's hot summers may play a secondary role in the travel plans of Floridians, but it does not appear to be the major factor.

(Table 11 about here)

Snowbirds have a longer history of traveling to a secondary residence than sunbirds (Table 12). Only 12% of snowbirds have been coming to Florida for less than five consecutive years and 35% have been coming for 15 years or more. In contrast, 41% of sunbirds have been going to their secondary residences for less than five consecutive years and only 23% for 15 years or more.

(Table 12 about here)

Almost 90% of snowbirds and 94% of sunbirds owned homes at their usual place of residence (Table 13). These proportions were somewhat higher than for stayers (87%). However, whereas 81% of snowbirds owned homes at their secondary places of residence in Florida, only 63% of sunbirds owned homes at their secondary places of residence. The lower rates of secondary home ownership for sunbirds than snowbirds is consistent with the shorter length of stay at their secondary residences.

(Table 13 about here)

One-third of snowbirds reported that it was likely or very likely that they would move permanently to their secondary place of residence (Table 14). Spending winters in Florida thus appears to be a precursor to a permanent move for a substantial number of snowbirds. In fact,

for all persons aged 55+ moving to Florida between 2000 and 2003, 23% reported that they had lived part of the year in the state prior to moving.

(Table 14 about here)

Spending summers elsewhere is not as likely to be a precursor to a permanent move for sunbirds; only one in six reported that it was likely or very likely that they would move permanently to their secondary place of residence. However, it should be noted that many sunbirds had already made such a move: 56% reported that their secondary residence was once their place of usual residence. Sunbird migration thus reflects the well-known pattern of return migration (e.g., DaVanzo and Morrison 1981; Serow and Charity 1988; Stoller and Longino 2001), but it is carried out through temporary rather than permanent moves.

Extension: County Comparisons

The analysis thus far has focused on the state as a whole. However, it is likely that there are substantial differences in flows of older temporary migrants among local areas within Florida. To investigate this possibility, we over-sampled two counties between November 2000 and March 2001. Sarasota County is located on the southwest coast of Florida and was home to 326,000 permanent residents in 2000. It has one of the oldest populations in the state and is a favored destination of wintertime temporary residents. Seminole County is located in the center of the state and had 365,000 permanent residents in 2000. It has one of the youngest populations in the state and does not appear to be the destination of many wintertime temporary residents.

Table 15 shows the distribution of survey respondents by residency status and month. Almost 14% of the survey respondents age 55+ in Sarasota County were temporary residents, compared to less than 2% of the respondents in Seminole County. There was no clear timing pattern in Seminole County, but temporary residents in Sarasota County were most heavily

concentrated in January and February, when they accounted for 18% of the respondents. Based on these results, it appears that Sarasota County had more than 31,000 snowbirds during the peak of the 2000-2001 season, compared to just over 1,000 in Seminole County. Furthermore, 10.6% of the permanent residents age 55+ in Sarasota County reported that they spent more than 30 consecutive days away from home during the previous year, compared to only 2.9% in Seminole County (not shown here). Clearly, temporary migration patterns vary considerably from one local area to another, even in a state with large numbers of such migrants.

(Table 15 about here)

Conclusions

The picture that emerges, then, is that older temporary migrants entering and leaving Florida tend to be non-Hispanic whites with relatively high incomes and educational levels. Many are permanent residents of the state, but most are not. They are highly seasonal, typically coming to Florida for the winter and leaving for the summer. They enjoy better health, have higher proportions married, and are less likely to be employed than those who are not temporary migrants. These characteristics are consistent with those found in most studies of temporary migration of the elderly (e.g., Hogan and Steinnes 1998; Krout 1983; McHugh 1990; Monahan and Greene 1982; Sullivan 1985). In fact, they are consistent with the characteristics reported in most studies of retirement migration in general (e.g., Biggar et al. 1980; Longino 1995; Speare and Meyer 1988).

There has been considerable discussion regarding whether seasonal migration is primarily a precursor to or a substitute for permanent migration (e.g., Hogan and Steinnes 1996; McHugh 1990; Sullivan 1985). Some people spend substantial amounts of time in an area before moving there permanently, whereas others visit frequently over a period of years but never make a

permanent move. We found that almost one in four older persons moving to Florida between 2000 and 2003 had previously lived in the state on a seasonal basis; for them, seasonal migration was a precursor to a permanent move. However, two-thirds of the snowbirds in the sample reported that it was unlikely or very unlikely that they would move to the state permanently; for them, seasonal migration is likely to be a substitute for permanent migration. Although seasonal migration can play either role, in Florida it appears to be a substitute for permanent migration more frequently than a precursor.

Not only do many snowbirds come to Florida each year, but many permanent residents leave the state for substantial periods of time, often to a place of previous residence. This "counterflow" is often overlooked in studies of seasonal migration. We found that more than half the sunbirds leaving the state were returning to a place where they had lived previously. Clearly, ties with family, friends, and places are not completely severed when older people change their place of permanent residence. Seasonal migration allows both snowbirds and sunbirds to enjoy many of the benefits of a new location without giving up all the benefits of a previous location.

We believe that snowbirds and sunbirds are two different manifestations of the same basic phenomenon; namely, the tendency for many older persons to spend part of the year in one location and part in another. We found that many sunbirds were former snowbirds who spent part of the year in Florida before moving to the state permanently. Many snowbirds will eventually become sunbirds, moving to the state permanently but still spending several months each year at a previous place of residence. These two groups share the same seasonal migratory patterns and many of the same demographic characteristics. As suggested by Hogan and Steinnes (1996), snowbirds and sunbirds are really two species of the same genus.

The two groups are not identical, however. We found that snowbirds generally had higher incomes, higher proportions married, lower proportions employed, better health, and longer stays at their secondary residences than sunbirds. What caused these differences? At this point, we do not know. Very few studies have simultaneously considered the inflow of snowbirds, the outflow of sunbirds, and the relationship between the two. Further research is needed before we can fully understand the similarities and differences between these two types of temporary migrants.

We estimate that more than 700,000 snowbirds were in Florida at the peak of the 2004-2005 winter season and that approximately 340,000 sunbirds will leave the state during the summer. Given Florida's estimated permanent population of 5.1 million persons age 55+ in 2005, these numbers imply that approximately 5.8 million older persons resided in the state during the winter and just over 4.7 million during the late summer, a swing of 23 percent from the low season to the high. The swing is even greater for some local areas because the geographic distribution of temporary migrants throughout the state is very uneven. These fluctuations have a substantial impact on traffic patterns, sales tax collections, the seasonal demand for goods and services, and many other aspects of life in Florida. For private companies and government agencies attempting to develop budgets, create plans, or conduct analyses, an accurate accounting of these fluctuations is essential. It might also be noted that, in any given year, the number of older seasonal migrants coming to Florida far exceeds the number of older persons moving to the state permanently.

Temporary migration of the elderly is not unique to Florida. Large seasonal inflows have been reported at the state or local level in Arizona (e.g., Sullivan 1985; Happel and Hogan 2002), Texas (e.g., Martin et al. 1987), Massachusetts (e.g., Cuba 1988), Spain (e.g., Gustafson 2002),

and Mexico (e.g., Truly 2002). Large seasonal outflows have been reported at the state or local level in Arizona (e.g., McHugh, Hogan, and Happel 1995), Minnesota (e.g., Hogan and Steinnes 1996), and New York (e.g., Krout 1983). Many other places undoubtedly have large numbers of elderly temporary migrants, but they have not been well-documented because of the lack of reliable data. These numbers are likely to increase over time as incomes grow and the baby boom generation ages.

Migration status at the beginning of the twenty-first century can be defined more properly as a continuum than a dichotomy. Many types of migration can be observed, ranging from a single change in one's place of permanent residence, to semi-annual seasonal moves with no change in permanent residence, to a continuous series of short-term moves with no single place of permanent residence (e.g., Bell and Ward 2000; Jobes 1984; Zelinsky 1971). Simply classifying people as migrants or non-migrants does not capture these differences or reflect the diversity found within the broad migration experience. We hope the coming years will see efforts devoted to the development of a richer classification system and the collection of more comprehensive data.

Without some accounting for the effects of temporary migration, a full understanding of the migratory patterns of older persons (or any other group) will never be achieved. The magnitude of temporary migration flows and the impact of those flows on both sending and receiving regions underscore the importance of such an undertaking.

The American Community Survey (ACS) may be a good place to start. The ACS currently uses a two-month residency rule: If a person resides in an area for more than two months, he or she is considered to be a resident of that area. The decennial census, on the other hand, focuses on one's place of usual residence. If the ACS collected information on both place

of usual residence and place of temporary residence, people could be counted in either place, depending on how the data were tabulated. Not only would this provide an excellent source of temporary migration data, it would also make it possible to develop ACS residency rules that are consistent with those used in the decennial census. This could have important benefits for the construction of post-censal population estimates. We hope the Census Bureau will investigate the potential costs and benefits of developing a two-part residency rule for the ACS.

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Table 1. Respondents by Residency Status and Month

Month	Permanent	%	Temporary	%	Total
JAN	522	87.7	73	12.3	595
FEB	548	89.7	63	10.3	611
MAR	477	91.7	43	8.3	520
APR	492	92.0	43	8.0	535
MAY	500	97.5	13	2.5	513
JUN	507	98.3	9	1.7	516
JUL	495	98.6	7	1.4	502
AUG	499	98.8	6	1.2	505
SEP	653	99.2	5	0.8	658
OCT	620	97.3	17	2.7	637
NOV	644	94.8	35	5.2	679
DEC	719	93.4	51	6.6	770
Total	6,676	94.8	365	5.2	7,041

Table 2. Sunbirds as a Proportion of Permanent Residents, by Age

Age	Permanent Residents	Sunbirds	%
55-64	2,582	242	9.4
65-74	2,219	332	15.0
75+	1,775	225	12.7
Total	6,576	799	12.2

Table 3. Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers by Age and Sex

Age and Sex	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%	Stayers	%
Total	360	100.0	799	100.0	5,777	100.0
55-64	106	29.4	242	30.3	2,340	40.5
65-74	148	41.2	332	41.6	1,887	32.7
75+	106	29.4	225	28.2	1,550	26.8
Male	198	100.0	387	100.0	2,584	100.0
55-64	55	27.8	113	29.2	1,088	42.1
65-74	76	38.4	168	43.4	876	33.9
75+	67	33.8	106	27.4	620	24.0
Female	163	100.0	412	100.0	3,193	100.0
55-64	51	31.3	129	31.3	1,252	39.2
65-74	72	44.2	164	39.8	1,011	31.7
75+	40	24.5	119	28.9	930	29.1

Table 4. Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers by Marital Status and Sex

Sex and Mar. St.	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%	Stayers	%
Total	360	100.0	799	100.0	5,777	100.0
Married	270	75.0	475	59.4	3,246	56.2
Not Married	90	25.0	324	40.6	2,531	43.8
Male	198	100.0	387	100.0	2,584	100.0
Married	161	81.3	290	74.9	1,840	71.2
Not Married	37	18.7	97	25.1	744	28.8
Female	163	100.0	412	100.0	3,193	100.0
Married	109	66.9	185	44.9	1,406	44.0
Not Married	54	33.1	227	55.1	1,787	56.0

Table 5. Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers by Race and Hispanic Origin

Race	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%	Stayers	%
White	335	94.1	737	92.7	5,105	88.8
Black	5	1.4	15	1.9	307	5.3
Asian & P.I.	1	0.3	4	0.5	20	0.3
Amer. Indian	3	0.8	4	0.5	54	0.9
Other	10	2.8	26	3.3	201	3.5
Two or more	2	0.6	9	1.1	60	1.0
Total	356	100.0	795	100.0	5,750	100.0
Hispanic						
Yes	1	0.3	34	4.3	449	7.8
No	359	99.7	766	95.7	5,329	92.2
Total	360	100.0	800	100.0	5,926	100.0

Table 6. Selected Demographic Characteristics of Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers

Characteristic	Snowbirds	N	Sunbirds	N	Stayers	N
Mean Age	69.7 years	365	69.1 years	808	68.1 years	5,826
Mean Education	14.5 years	365	14.7 years	808	14.0 years	5,826
Mean Income	$63,476	269	$58,998	647	$45,212	4,622
% Employed	11.6%	361	16.9%	804	28.8%	5,806

Table 7. Health Status of Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers

Health Status	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%	Stayers	%
Excellent	98	27.4	190	23.7	1,203	20.8
Very Good	125	34.9	253	31.5	1,638	28.3
Good	90	25.1	226	28.1	1,677	29.0
Fair	37	10.3	102	12.7	887	15.3
Poor	8	2.2	32	4.0	378	6.5
Total	358	100.0	803	100.0	5,783	100.0

Table 8. Number of Months Spent at Secondary Residence by Snowbirds and Sunbirds

Number of Months	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
<=3	118	33.2	279	70.1
4-6	204	57.5	96	24.1
7+	33	9.3	23	5.8
Total	355	100.0	398	100.0

Table 9. Number of Snowbirds and Sunbirds Residing at Secondary Residence, by Month

Month	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
JAN	264	79.0	41	10.9
FEB	271	81.1	45	12.0
MAR	266	79.6	41	10.9
APR	206	61.7	49	13.0
MAY	77	23.1	94	25.0
JUN	25	7.5	164	43.6
JUL	26	7.8	207	55.1
AUG	23	6.9	203	54.0
SEP	26	7.8	139	37.0
OCT	77	23.1	79	21.0
NOV	157	47.0	49	13.0
DEC	184	55.1	50	13.3
Total	334	---	376	---

Table 10. Region of Primary Residence for Snowbirds and Secondary Residence for Sunbirds

Region	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
Northeast	135	38.0	268	35.4
Midwest	131	36.9	151	19.9
South (not Florida)	43	12.1	135	17.8
Florida	---	---	58	7.7
West	12	3.4	66	8.7
Canada	28	7.9	17	2.2
Other foreign	6	1.7	63	8.3
Total	355	100.0	758	100.0

Table 11. Reason for Visiting Secondary Residence

Reason	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
Weather/Climate	287	79.1	38	9.5
Health	11	3.0	15	3.7
Job/Business	8	2.2	24	6.0
Visit family or friends	15	4.1	207	51.6
Recreation/vacation	24	6.6	64	16.0
College/military	0	0.0	1	0.2
Other	18	5.0	52	12.9
Total	363	100.0	401	100.0

Table 12. Number of Consecutive Years Traveling to Place of Secondary Residence

Number of Years	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
<5	38	12.2	149	40.6
5-9	75	24.1	66	18.0
10-14	90	28.9	66	18.0
15-19	46	14.8	29	7.9
20-24	26	8.4	24	6.5
25+	36	11.6	33	9.0
Total	311	100.0	367	100.0

Table 13. Ownership of Primary and Secondary Residence

PRIMARY RESIDENCE

Ownership	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%	Stayers	%
Yes	327	89.8	754	93.9	5,015	86.7
No	37	10.2	49	6.1	770	13.3
Total	364	100.0	803	100.0	5,785	100.0

SECONDARY RESIDENCE

Ownership	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
Yes	297	81.4	253	63.1
No	68	18.6	148	36.9
Total	365	100.0	401	100.0

Table 14. Likelihood of Moving Permanently to Place of Secondary Residence

Likelihood	Snowbirds	%	Sunbirds	%
Very likely	51	14.5	30	7.7
Likely	65	18.5	34	8.7
Unlikely	120	34.1	122	31.2
Very unlikely	116	33.0	205	52.4
Total	352	100.0	391	100.0

Table 15. Respondents by Residency Status and Month: Sarasota and Seminole Counties

Sarasota County

Month	Permanent	%	Temporary	%	Total
NOV 2000	62	89.9	7	10.1	69
DEC 2000	117	91.4	11	8.6	128
JAN 2001	117	81.8	26	18.2	143
FEB 2001	85	82.5	18	17.5	103
MAR 2001	62	89.9	7	10.1	69
Total	443	86.5	69	13.5	512

Seminole County

Month	Permanent	%	Temporary	%	Total
NOV 2000	32	97.0	1	3.0	33
DEC 2000	58	98.3	1	1.7	59
JAN 2001	55	100.0	0	0.0	55
FEB 2001	53	98.1	1	1.9	54
MAR 2001	45	97.8	1	2.2	46
Total	243	98.4	4	1.6	247