From 2007 to 2008, 1,824 Missourians moved into the Southwest WIA while 2,137 moved out of the region to another county in the state.

The map to the left shows the net flows of migrants for the Southwest WIA within Missouri. The in-migration flows primarily originated in adjacent counties. The highest out-migration flows were to Greene and Christian counties. The Southwest resident’s job locations are also shown in the map. Most residents work within the WIA cities of Joplin and Neosho. A large number of residents commute outside of the region to Kansas City, St. Louis, or Springfield locations. Workforce clusters within this region correlate with certain migration patterns. WIA in-migration tends to originate from counties adjacent to workforce clusters located within the Southwest region. WIA out-migration is found in larger metropolitan areas where Southwest commuters work.

Greene County experienced the highest inflow and outflow numbers, and caused the most drain from the Southwest WIA with a -146 net flow. Taney County followed with a -111 net flow to Southwest. The highest positive net flow came from Jackson County with 68.
Net Migration from Outside Missouri

From 2007-2008, 2,550 people moved to the Southwest WIA from outside of Missouri while 2,515 moved out of the region and state altogether. The Southwest WIA gains high net positive inflows from Kansas, Oklahoma, and California. The primary negative outflow is to Benton County, AR, with the remaining high negative outflows distributed between Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas counties.

This migration dataset is collected by the IRS every year by comparing county codes on citizen tax return forms. If the county code is different from the previous year, that person/household is considered to be a migrant.