

MIGRATION AND HOUSING IN THREE PHILIPPINE CITIES

by

Hector B. Morada and Faith Gina J. Asence*

I. Introduction

The Philippine literature in migration has traditionally dealt with volume and direction of migration and migration differentials. Attempts to study the impacts of migration in the receiving areas are few. More specifically, studies relating migration and housing are virtually non-existent in the Philippine migration literature.

In this respect, this study is unique as housing characteristics are differentiated between migrants, movers and non-movers in three Philippine cities. This study makes use of the results of the 20 percent sample from the 1980 Census of Population and Housing for the Philippines, particularly the results for Metro Manila, Cebu City and Davao City.

II. Brief Migration History of the Philippines

Migration, especially in the process of regional economic development, urbanization and industrialization, is both an important cause and effect of social and economic changes" (Shaw, 1975:1). Migration is selective of specific sectors of the population and, thus, can effect significant changes not only in the size, but also in the composition as well, both of the population of the areas of origin and destination, even in a short period of time. As such, patterns of population movements may also be considered as an indicator of the disparity in the distribution of socio-economic resources

*Supervising Census Statistical Coordinator and Statistician I, respectively, of the National Statistics Office, Republic of the Philippines. The authors are solely responsible for the views and opinions expressed in this paper.

among geopolitical subdivisions of a country and, thus, may form as inputs to development planning activities of the government.

Population movements in the Philippines had been going on even before the coming of the Spaniards as evidenced by the barter trades between and among tribes and by the tribal wars and the subsequent domination of the conquered kingdoms. Unfortunately, no formal records of the extent, frequency and distance of moves made by the various population groups then are in existence. Earliest records of actual migratory moves were in the form of records of Spaniards coming into the country as religious functionaries or local administrators, clerks and soldiers. Organized attempts to measure migratory activities in the country did not come until the middle of the 20th century and were in the form of indirect estimates using the population censuses of 1939, 1948 and 1960. From such studies, the importance of some migratory moves were highlighted as rural-bound migration stream directed to the frontier agricultural lands of Mindanao, the Philippine southern group of islands, and the urban-bound stream directed mainly to the city of Manila which was then undergoing rapid development as the country recovered from the devastations of World War II. Some studies inferred that economic reasons, notably the desire to increase one's income, remained to be the major motive for moving as also may be surmised from the characteristics of provinces gaining in population through migration.

Using the results of the 1970 Census of Population, a study addressed the reversal in migration pattern ob-

served in the city of Manila. Results substantiated the observed responsiveness of the migrants to the development processes - those who move to the suburbs of Manila were generally younger, predominantly married and either head or spouse of the head of household, and were better educated compared to those they left behind. Since reasons for migration were not gathered in that census, it was inferred that these migrants were heads of newly formed families and the primary reason for moving into the suburban areas was to avail of better housing facilities which was lacking in the primate city of the Philippines.

Other studies indicated that those with smaller households size were found to be more mobile, as well as those engaged in non-stationary types of occupation and industry such as services and private employment. It was further observed that the number of in-migrants into one region (a group of provinces) significantly influenced further in-migration into the region. This result reflected the influence of kinship network, or the relative ease for people to move into an area where relatives or friends had moved into earlier.

The 70's ushered in the regional thrust in socio-economic development of the country. Inter-regional migration data for the 1970-1975 period indicated that although Metro Manila attracted the most migrants, it also lost a sizable portion of its population to the other regions. However, it was only in Metro Manila that a sizable portion of the population were migrants. During this period, migrants originating from the rural areas moving into the Metro Manila area outnumbered those coming from other urban areas. This phenomenon was explained by the stream of female migrants from the less developed areas of the country being absorbed into the services sector in the metropolis.

III. Data

This study made use of the 20 percent sample households in Metro Manila, Cebu City and Davao City. Summary household data were generated, linking these to the head of household and housing information. From this generated file, tables for this study were made.

In the process of the analysis, several records were discarded as these contained erroneous information. Moreover, household records with the head classified as immigrants were likewise discarded.

In the 1980 Census of Population and Housing Metro Manila, consisting of four cities and thirteen municipalities, had been treated as a province. Also, the census, through the 20 percent sample, gathered information on the 1975 residence of household members aged 5 years old or older. With this information, households in the three Philippine cities were classified into migrants, movers, or non-movers based on the migration classification of the head:

For Metro Manila,

Migrants - are those households whose heads resided outside Metro Manila in 1975;

Movers - are those households whose heads resided in a different city or municipality of Metro Manila in 1975; and

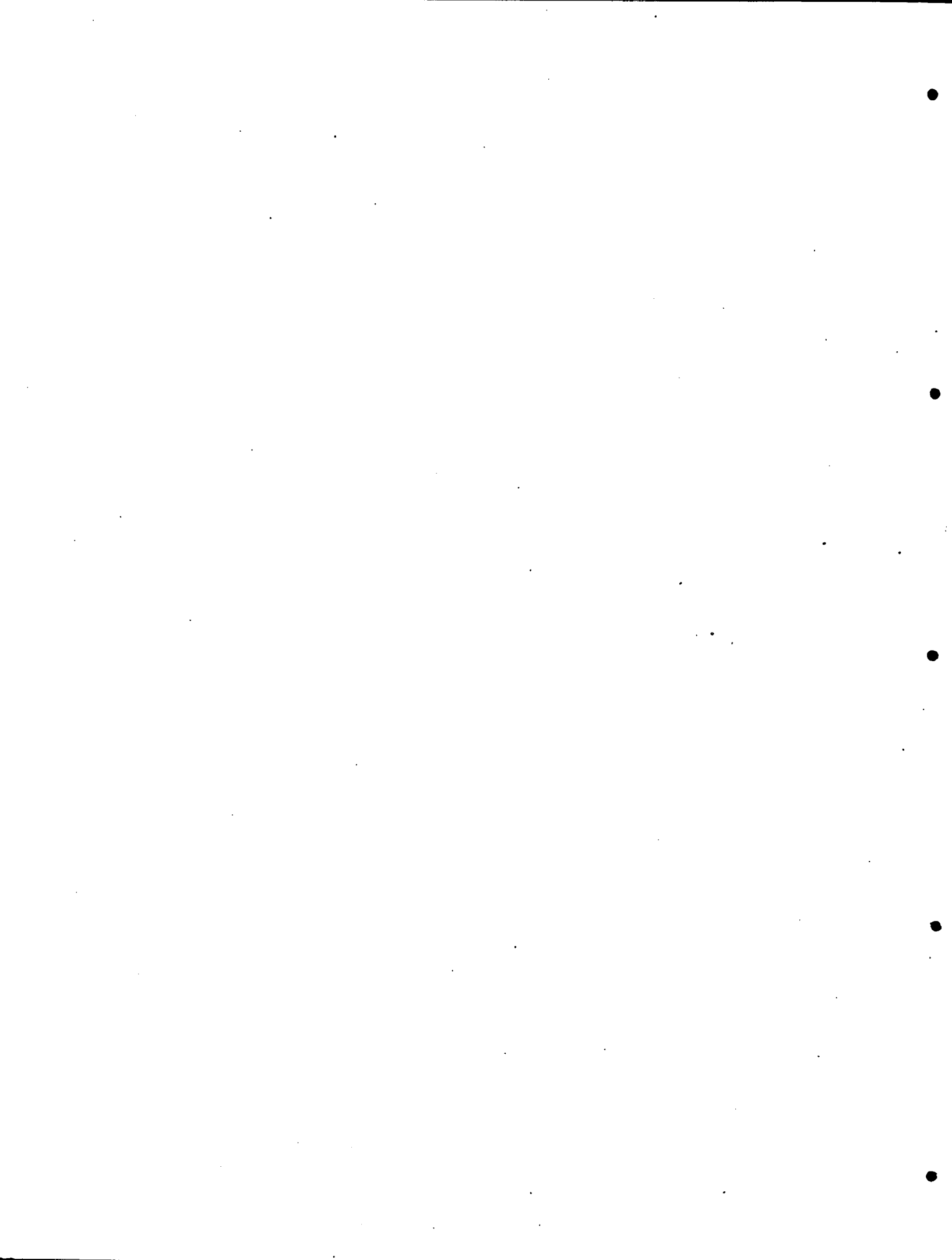
Non-Movers - are those households whose heads resided in the same city or municipality of Metro Manila in 1975; and

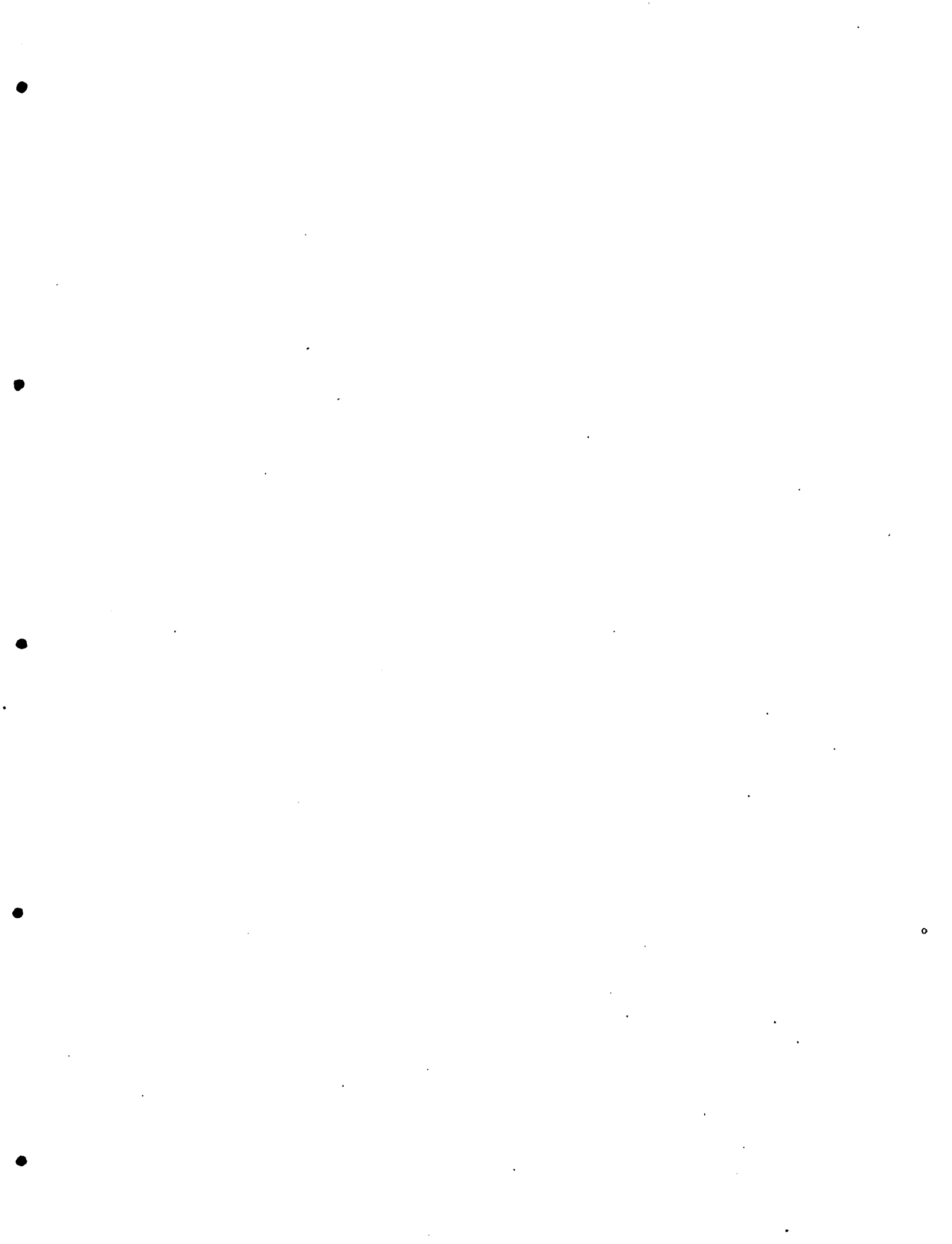
For Cebu City and Davao City,

Migrants - are those households whose heads resided outside their respective provinces in 1975;

Movers - are those households whose heads resided in a barangay in the same city in 1975; and

Non-Movers - are those households whose heads resided in the same barangay in 1975.





Relatively, a greater number of migrants, 36.1 percent dwelt in one room housing units compared to the movers, 34.3 percent or the non-movers 31.4 percent. Yet, relatively more number of mover households, 58.2 percent dwelt in housing units with less than 30 square meters of floor area compared to the migrant households with 52.7 percent and non-mover household with 50.0 percent (See Table 7).

While migrant households appeared to be disadvantaged in housing unit ownership and with respect to the number of rooms in the housing unit, this group showed greater advantages in terms of other housing amenities. A great majority of the migrant households, 74.1 percent used electricity as source of power for light in comparison to the mover households, 70.9 percent and the non-mover households, 66.5 percent. Similarly, a greater proportion of migrant households were in access to community water system as source of water for drinking, kitchen and laundry purposes. A greater proportion of migrant households, 55.3 percent than mover, 40.6 percent and non-mover, 39.4 percent households used LPG or kerosene as fuel for cooking purposes. Moreover, a greater proportion of migrant households, 38.6 percent than mover, 33.4 percent or non-mover, 33.0 percent households enjoyed greater privacy and sanitation by having toilets which were for the exclusive use of their respective households. With respect to ownership of household appliances as radio, T.V. and refrigerator, in general, the migrant households appeared to be the most advantaged group followed by the non-mover then by the mover households.

Average household size in Cebu City is small - 5.03 individuals per household. Variations, however, were observed among the different groups of households. Among the three groups of households, the non-movers obtained the largest average household size of 5.07 per-

sons, followed by the movers with 4.76 persons, then by the migrants with 4.54 persons.

As may be observed from Table 8, among the non-movers, the largest household size was found among those residing in single housing units with 5.12 person, while the smallest was observed among those residing in improvised dwelling units with 4.26 persons. A similar pattern was observed among the movers - 4.85 persons in single housing units and 3.95 persons in improvised housing units. Among the migrants, a different pattern emerged. Households in duplexes obtained the largest average household size with 5.09 persons, while the smallest was found among the apartment dwellers with 4.26 persons.

Household size also appeared to be related to the type of occupancy. Among the different types of households, size of households declined as ownership and control of the housing unit diminished - from owner to tenant/lessee to subtenant/sub-lessee. The household size of a relatively unclear category, "rent-free", fell between the owner and the tenant/lessee groups indicating some other forms of arrangements between the subject households and the owner or controller of the housing unit.

C. Davao City

The total number of households considered in the analysis were 21,752 of which 89.8 percent (19,530) formed the non-mover category, 6.6 percent (1,438) of the migrant category and 3.6 percent (784) of the mover category. In Table 9, it is observed that although majority of the household migration categories resided in single houses, their relative sizes differed - 87.4 percent of non-mover households resided in single houses, while 86.5 percent and 84.0 percent, respectively of mover and migrant households resided in the same. Only 3.2 per-

cent of the migrant households dwelt in improvised housing unit, while 3.6 percent and 3.7 percent resided in this type of housing unit among the non-movers and movers, respectively.

In Table 10, it may be noted that majority of the non-mover, 69.1 percent and mover, 64.5 percent households owned the units they were occupying, while only a little above two out of five or 45.1 percent migrant households owned their dwelling units. However, only about a third of the migrant households were tenants or lessees of the units where they resided.

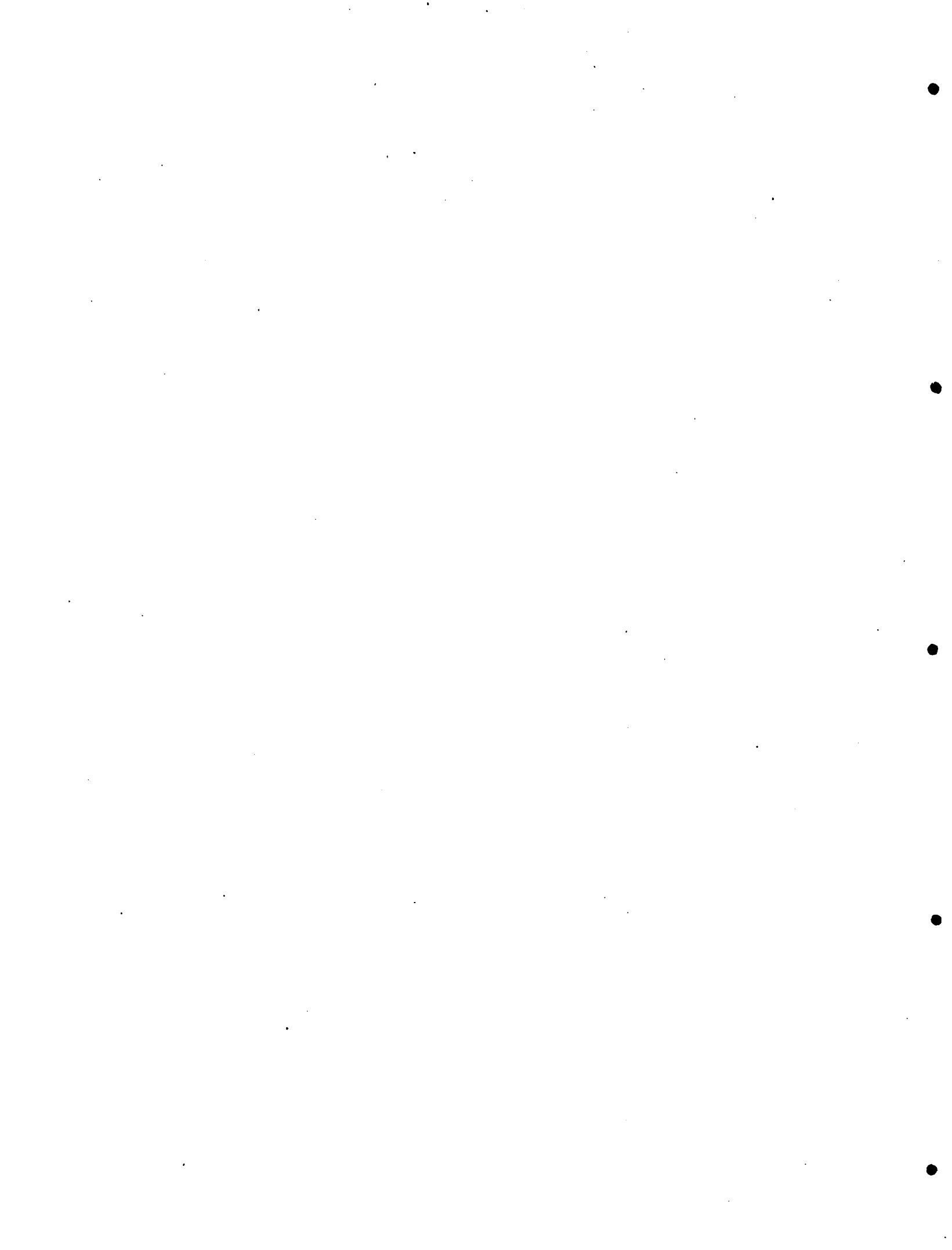
In Table 11, it is observed that relatively more movers, 27.0 percent dwelt in one-room housing units compared to the migrants, 24.5 percent or the non-movers, 22.0 percent. Likewise a great number of mover households, 66.8 percent resided in housing units with less than 30 sq.m. of floor area compared to the migrants with 57.2 percent and the non-mover households with 54.5 percent. Relatively, more migrant households, 67.3 percent used electricity as source of energy for light than the mover, 66.7 percent and non-mover households, 59.7 percent. Also, a greater proportion of migrant households used water from the community water system for drinking, kitchen and laundry purposes. Similarly, more migrant households, 35.5 percent than mover, 25.7 percent and non-mover, 26.5 percent used LPG or kerosene as fuel for cooking. The migrant and non-mover households enjoyed the privilege of having toilets for their exclusive use more than the mover households. Regarding household appliances, 80.7 percent of non-movers owned radio while 77.8 percent and 75.4 percent of mover and migrant household respectively, owned radio. Moreover, for TV and refrigerator ownership,

migrants appeared to be the most advantaged followed by the non-movers and the mover households.

Average size of household in Davao is small - 5.26 individuals per household. However, it can be observed that household size varied among the different groups. The largest average household size was obtained by the non-movers, 5.3 percent, followed by the movers, 5.1 percent and the migrant households, 4.7 percent.

Among the non-movers, the largest households size was found among those residing in single housing units, 5.4 persons, while the smallest was observed among those residing in improvised dwelling units, 4.6 persons. A different pattern may be observed among the movers. The largest household size of 5.3 persons may be found among those residing in apartment and the smallest was observed among those residing in commercial dwelling units, 3 persons. Also, for the migrants the largest households size was found among those residing in single housing units, 4.8 persons while the smallest may be found among those residing in commercial dwelling units.

It may also be observed that there exist a relationship between household size and type of occupancy. For the migrant group, the largest households with 5.16 persons may be found among those who own the housing units they occupy. On the other end, the smallest household with 4.25 persons were found among those who occupy their units as tenant/lessees. For the mover and non-mover category a similar pattern may be observed. The largest household size, 5.58 and 5.12 persons respectively owned the units they occupy while the smallest, 4.0 and 4.51 persons respectively may be found among those who occupied their units as sub-tenants.



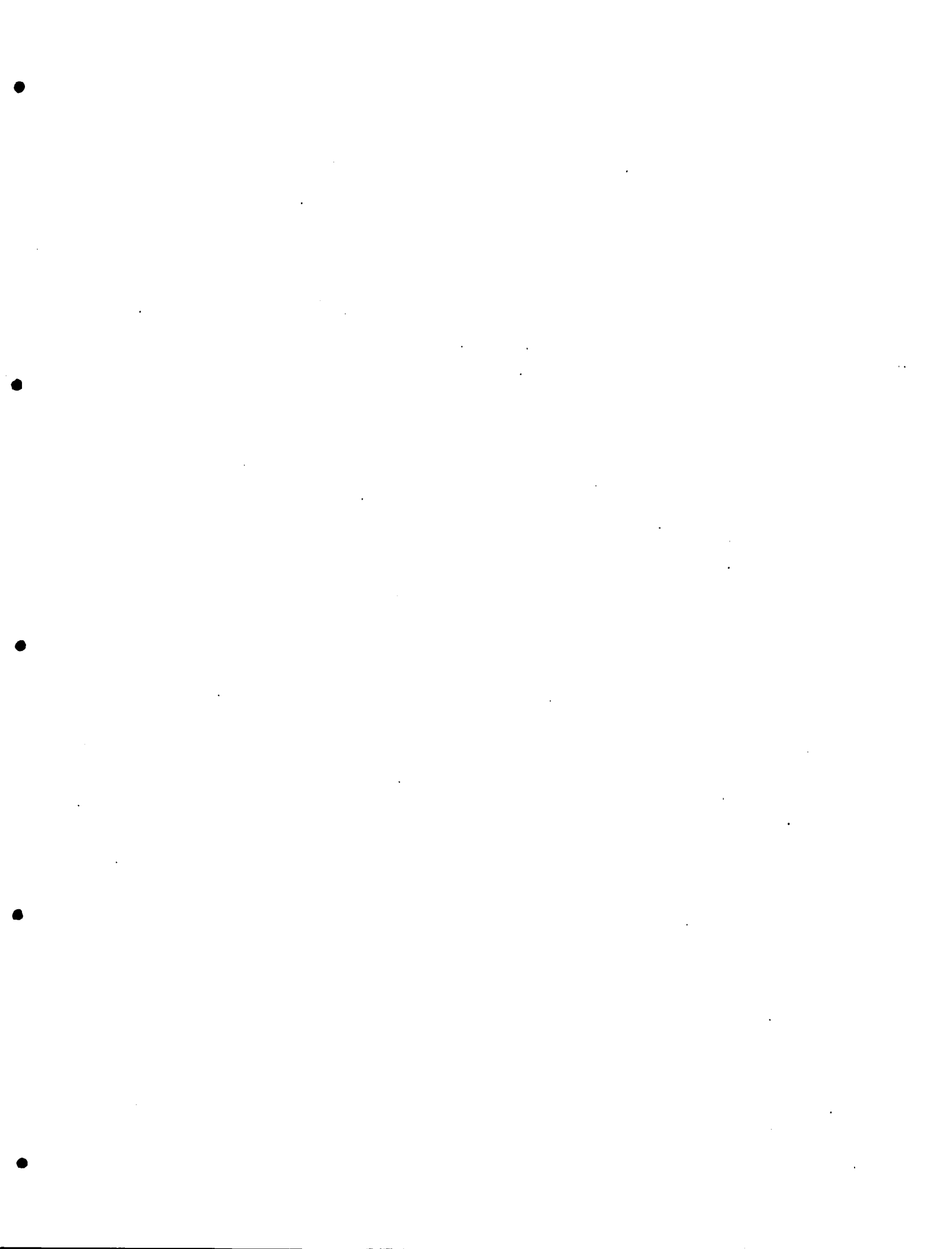


Table 9. Distribution of Sample Households by Migration Type and by Type of Housing: Davao, Philippines, 1980

Migration Type Type of Housing	Migration Type		
	Migrant	Mover	Non-mover
Single House	1,208	678	17,060
	84.0	86.5	87.4
Duplex	80	41	886
	5.6	5.2	4.5
Apartment	76	31	595
	5.3	4.0	3.0
Improvised	46	29	696
	3.2	3.7	3.6
Commercial	21	3	193
	1.5	0.4	1.0
Others	7	2	100
	0.5	0.3	0.4
No. of Households	1,438	784	19,530

Table 10. Distribution of Sample Households by Migration Type and by Type of Occupancy of Dwelling Unit: Davao, Philippines, 1980

Migration Type Type of Occupancy	Migration Type		
	Migrant	Mover	Non-mover
Owner	649	506	13,495
	45.1	64.5	69.1
Tenant/Lessee	486	157	3,553
	33.8	20.0	18.2
Sub-tenant/Sub-lessee	14	6	150
	1.0	0.8	0.8
Rent-free	289	115	2,332
	20.1	14.7	11.9
No. of Households	1,438	784	19,530

Table 11. Percentage of Households in Selected Housing Characteristics by Type of Migration: Davao, Philippines, 1980

Selected Housing Characteristics	Migration Type		
	Migrant	Mover	Non-mover
One Room Housing Unit	24.5	27.0	22.0
Less than 30 square meters			
of floor area	57.2	66.8	54.5
Electricity as source			
of light	67.3	66.7	59.7
Community water system			
as source of water for			
a) Drinking	22.0	13.9	17.4
b) Kitchen use	20.4	12.4	16.6
c) Washing clothes	19.1	11.7	15.1
Fuel for cooking			
a) Liquefied Petroleum			
Gas	21.5	14.3	15.8
b) Kerosene	14.0	11.4	10.7
Toilet for Exclusive use			
of Households	28.4	17.9	22.9
Ownership of Households			
Appliances			
a) Radio	75.4	77.8	80.7
b) T V	24.5	23.2	24.3
c) Refrigerator	22.9	19.0	21.1
Number of Sample			
Households	1,438	784	19,530

Table 12. Average Size of Households by Migration Type by Type of Housing and Occupancy: Davao, Philippines, 1980

Household Size Type of Housing and Occupancy	Migration Type		
	Migrant	Mover	Non-mover
Type of Housing			
Single	4.749	5.173	5.379
Duplex	4.387	4.390	4.918
Apartment	4.553	5.290	5.018
Improvised	4.065	4.276	4.695
Commercial	3.619	3.000	5.192
Type of Occupancy			
Owner	5.157	5.581	5.624
Tenant/Lessee	4.253	4.140	4.668
Sub-tenant	4.286	4.000	4.507
Rent-free	4.366	4.270	4.549