

Top 10 U.S. Markets in Net Household Migration — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Knoxville Ranks #10 in U.S. for Net Household Migration

1,129 new households moved in 2022–23 — a sign of enduring regional momentum

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THE DATA

1,129

Net Migration in Households (2023)

Knoxville gained 1,129 households through migration between 2022 and 2023, placing it among the top 10 U.S. metros for net inflow.

This inflow reflects a sustained pull from across the nation, driven by affordability, quality of life, and growing employment in healthcare, education, and advanced manufacturing. The data, drawn from IRS Statistics of Income, captures only disclosed flows—meaning the true number is likely higher, as smaller movements are withheld from public view.

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county inflows, 2022-23 • ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-13-knoxville-mig-net-total>



01

Migration Drives Resilience

Knoxville's migration ranking isn't just a headline—it's a structural advantage. Unlike markets dependent on cyclical booms, this inflow signals durable demand. Each new household represents not only a buyer but also a contributor to local services, schools, and civic institutions, reinforcing long-term stability. The pattern suggests that Knoxville is becoming a destination for life-stage transitions, not just short-term relocation.

02

The Hidden Floor of Demand

Because the IRS only publishes flows above a disclosure threshold, the 1,129 figure is a floor, not a ceiling. This implies that actual household migration into Knoxville may be significantly higher. The fact that so many flows are withheld suggests a robust, decentralized movement—not concentrated in a few high-profile corridors, but widespread across the region. This distributed migration pattern reduces market vulnerability to shocks in any single sector.

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