

#1 in Texas Commute Length by City - ALEX Intelligence 2026

Canyon Lake Leads Texas in Commute Time

38.9-minute average commute — ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

38.9

Mean Commute to Work by City, in Minutes (2024)

Canyon Lake holds the longest average commute in the San Marcos–New Braunfels MSA.

This figure represents the true mean travel time to work across all non-home-based workers in Canyon Lake, derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2024 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. It is not a midpoint or a bucketed average, but a precise aggregate. The data reflects a growing trend in suburban sprawl, where residential development outpaces transit and job center consolidation.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 • ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-17-san-marcos-nb-commute-place-long>



01

Sprawl Is the New Normal

This is not a problem of infrastructure alone—it's a consequence of development patterns that prioritize housing volume over transit integration. The long commute is not a cost of living; it's a cost of location. For investors and residents alike, this demands a rethinking of what 'desirable' means in the MSA.

02

The Commute Is the Market Signal

This shift favors communities with mixed-use zoning, transit corridors, and employment hubs. For developers, the next frontier isn't more housing—it's smarter placement. For buyers, the most valuable asset may not be the backyard, but the minutes saved each day.



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