

Top U.S. Metro for Precision Instrument Plants — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Los Angeles Leads U.S. in Precision Instrument Plants

289 plants — the epicenter of quantum hardware manufacturing infrastructure

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289

Precision Instrument Plants (2022)

Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, leads the nation in manufacturing plants for navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments.

This concentration reflects a deep, localized industrial ecosystem capable of producing the ultra-precise components required for quantum computing hardware. The clustering of these facilities—especially in NAICS 3345—suggests not just demand, but a mature supply chain for quantum-grade instrumentation, from cryogenic sensors to optical control systems.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2022, NAICS 3345 (Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments manufacturing) · ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-18-ai-quantum-ind-3345-msa>



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Manufacturing Density Drives Quantum Scalability

In contrast, regions with lower plant counts—like Boston or San Francisco—may lead in R&D but lack the industrial scale to sustain rapid hardware deployment. Los Angeles' lead suggests a shift: quantum progress is no longer just about theoretical breakthroughs, but about manufacturability.

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The Real Quantum Infrastructure Is Industrial

This data reveals a counterintuitive truth: the most advanced quantum research hubs are not necessarily where the most patents are filed or labs are built, but where the industrial capacity to build and test quantum hardware is already concentrated. The future of quantum computing is not just in algorithms or theory—it's in the factory floor.



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