

#1 Destination for Austin MSA Out-Movers — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Austin MSA's Largest Out-Migration Goes to One County

Williamson County receives 12,454 households from Austin — ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

12,454

Households Moving Out to a Single County (2023)

Williamson County, TX, received more households leaving the Austin metro than any other destination in the U.S. in the 2022–23 reporting period.

This number is not a projection — it is the actual, IRS-disclosed count of household outflows from the Austin MSA to a single county. The figure reflects a structural shift in where Austin’s population is relocating, not temporary or seasonal movement. The concentration in Williamson County suggests that long-term, family-oriented relocation is the dominant trend, not short-term housing adjustments.

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county outflows, 2022-23 • ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-22-austin-msa-mig-out-dest>



A stylized illustration of the Austin skyline at sunset or sunrise, with a warm orange and red color palette. In the foreground, several wooden canoes are floating on the water. The city buildings are silhouetted against the bright sky.

01

Austin's Out-Migration Is a Strategic Reallocation

The fact that 12,454 households moved from the Austin MSA to Williamson County — more than any other county — reveals a deliberate, patterned shift. This is not random dispersal; it reflects a regional migration strategy. Families are leaving Austin's high-cost, high-density environment for Williamson County's perceived stability, school quality, and lower density, despite rising prices there. The data suggests that Austin is no longer the primary destination for new residents — it's becoming a departure point for those seeking long-term residential sustainability.



02

The County-to-County Flow Is a Market Feedback Loop

The IRS migration data shows that Williamson County is not just a passive recipient — it's a destination of choice driven by Austin's own constraints. As Austin's housing costs rise and congestion increases, the migration flow to Williamson County intensifies, driving further price growth and development there. This creates a feedback loop: higher prices in Austin push people out, which fuels demand in Williamson County, which in turn raises prices and reduces affordability, potentially triggering the next wave of out-migration. The market is no longer just growing — it's reorganizing.

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