

#1 Source of Inbound Households in Houston MSA — ALEX Intelligence 2026

# Travis County Leads Houston In-Migration

3,422 households moved from Austin's core to Houston in 2022–23

Swipe for insights →

## THE DATA

# 3,422

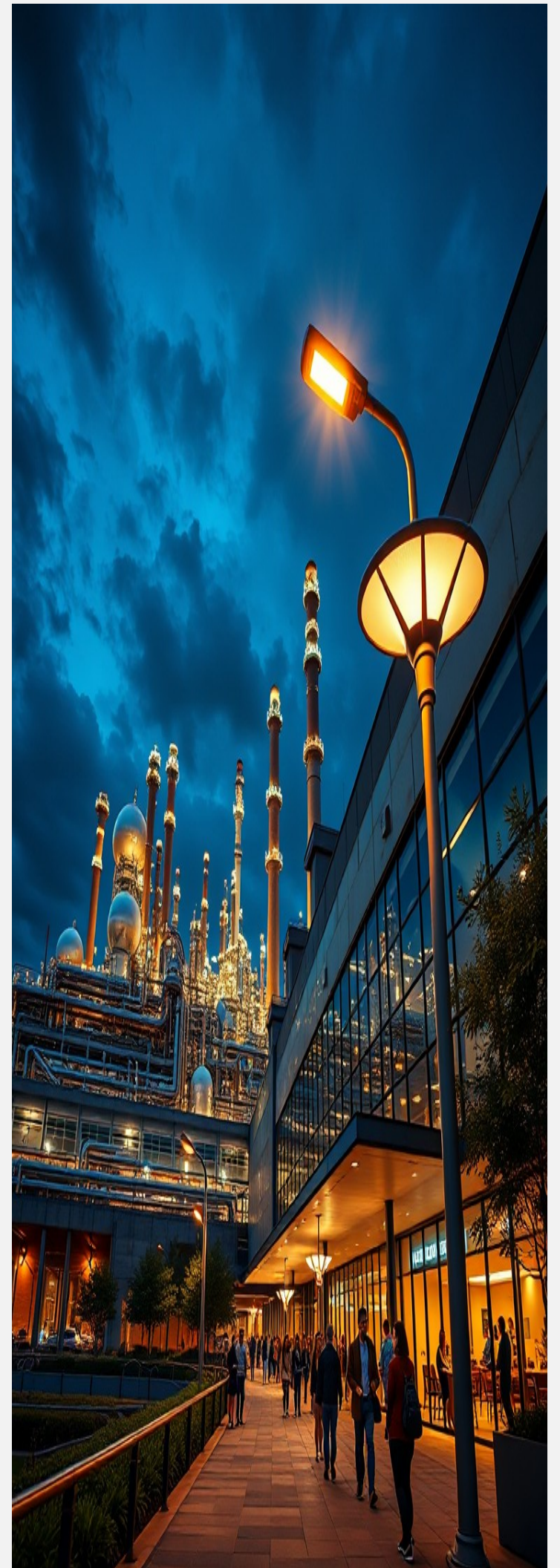
### Households Moving In From a Single County (2023)

Travis County, TX, is the top origin of new households in the Houston MSA.

This figure represents the largest single-county inflow into the Houston metro in the 2022-23 reporting period. It underscores a structural shift in regional migration, with Austin's rising cost of living and housing scarcity driving residents to Houston's more affordable real estate corridor. The data reflects a growing trend of intra-Texas migration, not just from high-cost urban centers but from the state's most dynamic innovation economy.

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/2026-09-23-houston-msa-mig-in-origin>



# 01

## Austin's Housing Crisis Fuels Houston Growth

The migration from Travis County is not random—it is a direct consequence of Austin's escalating housing affordability crisis. As median home prices in Austin exceed \$600,000 and rent growth outpaces wage gains, households are seeking stability in the Houston MSA, where median prices remain under \$400,000. This exodus is not a temporary spike but a long-term repositioning of the Texas urban hierarchy, with Houston emerging as the new economic and residential frontier for displaced Austin residents.



# 02

## Houston's Market Is Being Rebuilt by Austin

This inflow is reshaping Houston's housing market in ways beyond supply. New residents bring higher education, tech-sector experience, and demand for walkable neighborhoods, which is accelerating investment in mixed-use districts like the West Loop and Memorial City. The shift also pressures local infrastructure and public services, but it also injects capital into the rental and new construction markets. Houston is no longer just absorbing migration—it is becoming the beneficiary of Austin's urban exhaustion.

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