#191 of 401 U.S. metros on median monthly owner cost — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Memphis Ranks #191 on Owner Cost

The most affordable metro in the U.S. for homeownership — ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

$1,195

Median Monthly Owner Cost (2024)

This figure places Memphis among the most affordable housing markets in the nation.

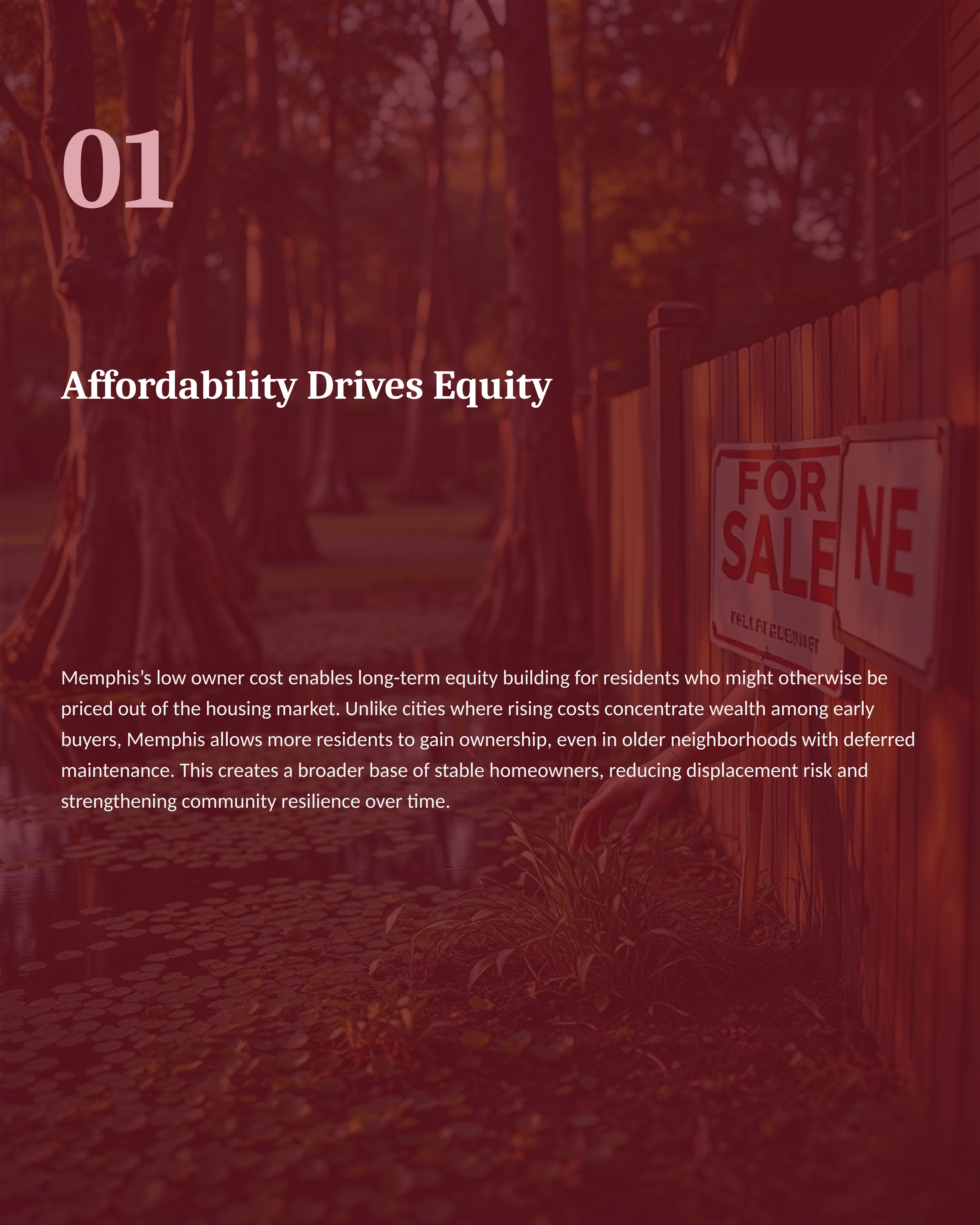
At $1,195, Memphis's median monthly owner cost is less than half that of the top-ranked San Jose metro. This affordability is not a sign of stagnation but a strategic advantage in attracting remote workers, entrepreneurs, and long-term residents seeking stability without financial strain. The low barrier to entry supports homeownership equity and enables wealth accumulation in a city where income growth has historically lagged behind national averages.

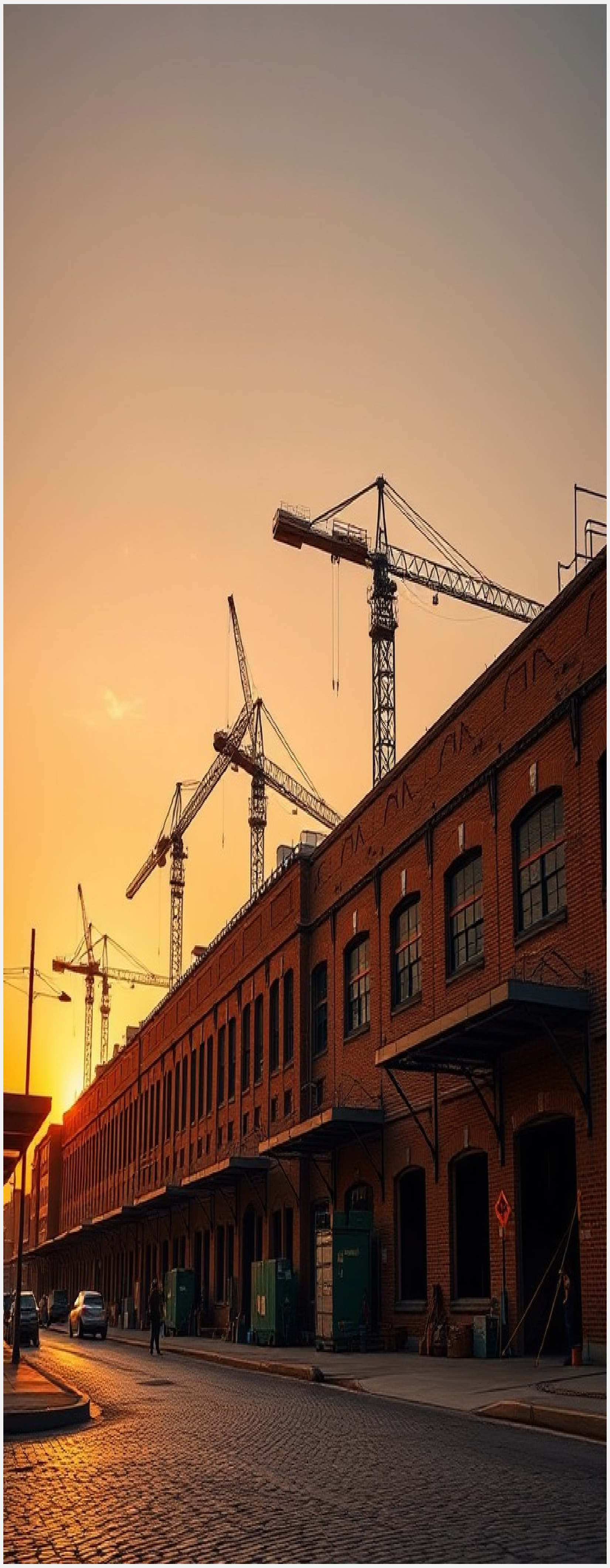
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-28-memphis-standing-owner-cost-msa

01

Affordability Drives Equity

Memphis’s low owner cost enables long-term equity building for residents who might otherwise be priced out of the housing market. Unlike cities where rising costs concentrate wealth among early buyers, Memphis allows more residents to gain ownership, even in older neighborhoods with deferred maintenance. This creates a broader base of stable homeowners, reducing displacement risk and strengthening community resilience over time.





02

Investment Follows Stability

The affordability of Memphis housing is not a weakness—it is a magnet for industrial and residential investment. As seen in Articast Jackson's expansion into Madison County, low ownership costs attract manufacturing and logistics firms seeking cost-efficient labor and housing ecosystems. This creates a virtuous cycle: affordability supports job creation, which sustains housing demand, and in turn reinforces long-term market stability.

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