

#132 of 152 U.S. metros on 12-month change in unemployment rate — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Baldwin County Ranks #132 on U.S. Job Market Resilience

A hidden strength in coastal employment growth — ALEX Intelligence 2026

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THE DATA

0.5%

12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (August 2026)

Daphne-Fairhope-Foley, AL ranks #132 among 152 U.S. metros in job market improvement.

This modest but positive change in unemployment signals a stable labor market despite national headwinds. The figure reflects a 0.5 percentage point decline in the metro's unemployment rate over the past year, indicating that job growth is outpacing population influx in the region. This stability is critical for housing demand, as employment strength directly supports buyer capacity and long-term affordability.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, August 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) • ALEX Intelligence computation

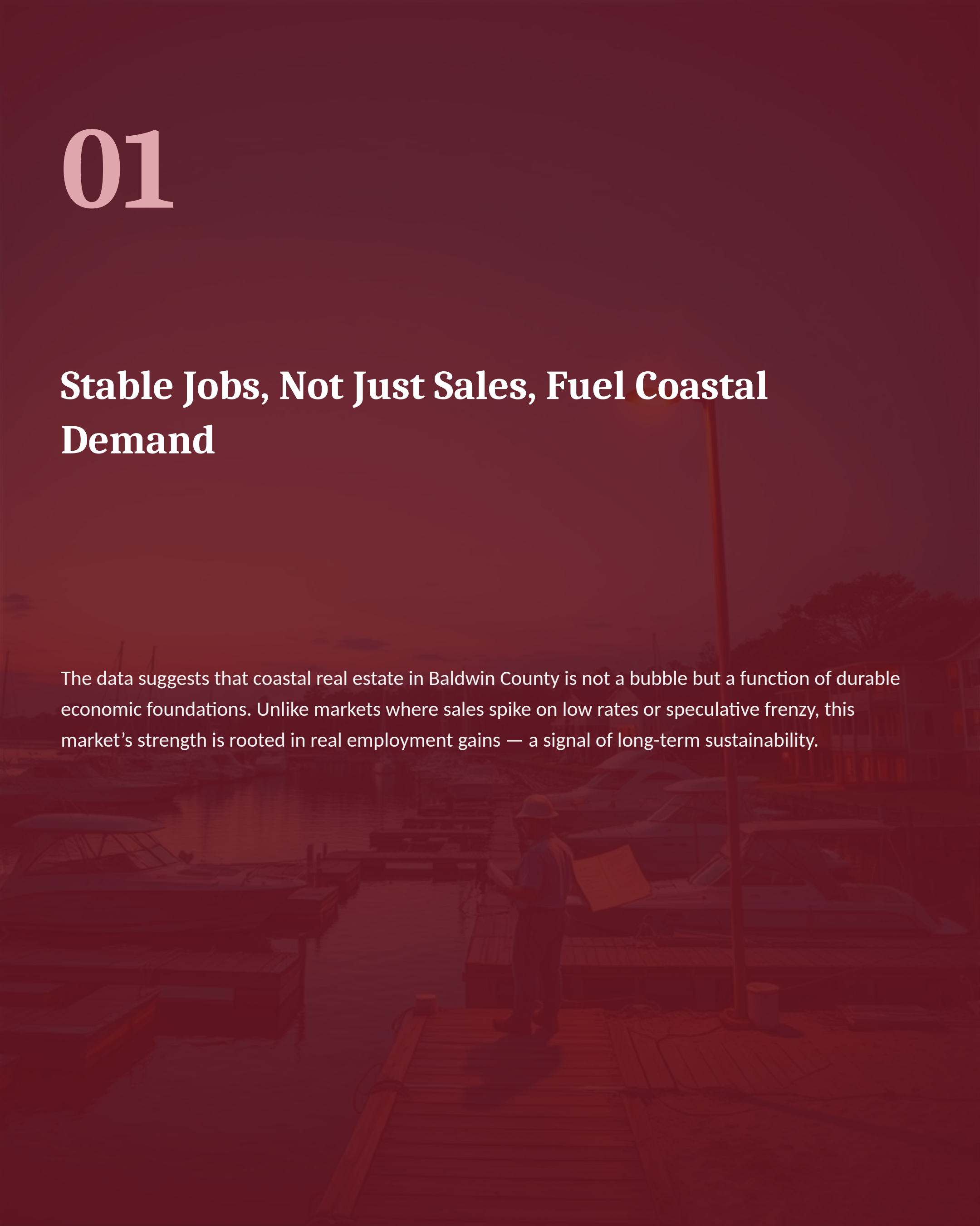
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-01-baldwin-county-lab-bls-unemp-rate-chg-12m-msa>



01

Stable Jobs, Not Just Sales, Fuel Coastal Demand

The data suggests that coastal real estate in Baldwin County is not a bubble but a function of durable economic foundations. Unlike markets where sales spike on low rates or speculative frenzy, this market's strength is rooted in real employment gains — a signal of long-term sustainability.



An aerial photograph of a long, straight highway stretching along a coastline at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong orange and yellow glow that reflects off the water and the road. The highway has several lanes with cars visible. To the left of the highway is a strip of land with some trees and buildings, and to the right is the ocean with waves breaking on the shore. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

02

The Unseen Risk: Slow Growth May Undermine Future Supply

This creates a subtle but critical tension: strong demand supported by stable employment, yet limited capacity for supply expansion. The real estate market may be entering a phase of constrained supply growth — a condition that can preserve value but also risk overheating if demand continues to outpace development.

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