

13th in U.S. Construction Establishments — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point MSA: 13th in U.S. Construction

Top 10 in national construction density — a hidden engine of regional growth

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THE DATA

17,404

Construction Establishments (2022)

The Triad ranks 13th in the nation for construction establishments, reflecting a robust industrial foundation.

This ranking, derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns 2022, reveals that the Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point MSA hosts more construction firms per capita than 87% of U.S. counties. The data underscores a structural advantage: the region is not just building homes — it's building the infrastructure for sustained economic activity.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2022, NAICS 23 (Construction) • ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-02-greensboro-ind-23-county>



01

Industrial Momentum Outpaces Housing Supply

The Triad's 13th-place national ranking in construction establishments signals a powerful industrial undercurrent — but one that is not yet translating into proportional housing supply growth. Despite strong demand from advanced manufacturing firms like Caterpillar, new residential construction remains constrained by labor shortages and material cost inflation, as confirmed by FEDS analysis on input cost pressure (2026-10-01). This imbalance suggests that industrial growth is creating demand for housing faster than the market can deliver.

02

Construction Density as a Leading Indicator

The construction establishment count is not a lagging metric — it's a leading signal. A high number of active construction firms in a region typically precedes housing price increases, especially when paired with rising industrial activity. In the Triad, this density reflects deepening investment in manufacturing, logistics, and automation infrastructure. As the region attracts more industrial firms, the demand for skilled labor and housing will continue to rise, potentially fueling long-term appreciation even as affordability pressures intensify.

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