

#1 in Construction Establishments Density — ALEX Intelligence 2026

#1 in U.S. Construction Density

Asheville's economic engine runs on building — not just housing, but infrastructure, trades, and resilience.

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THE DATA

17,404

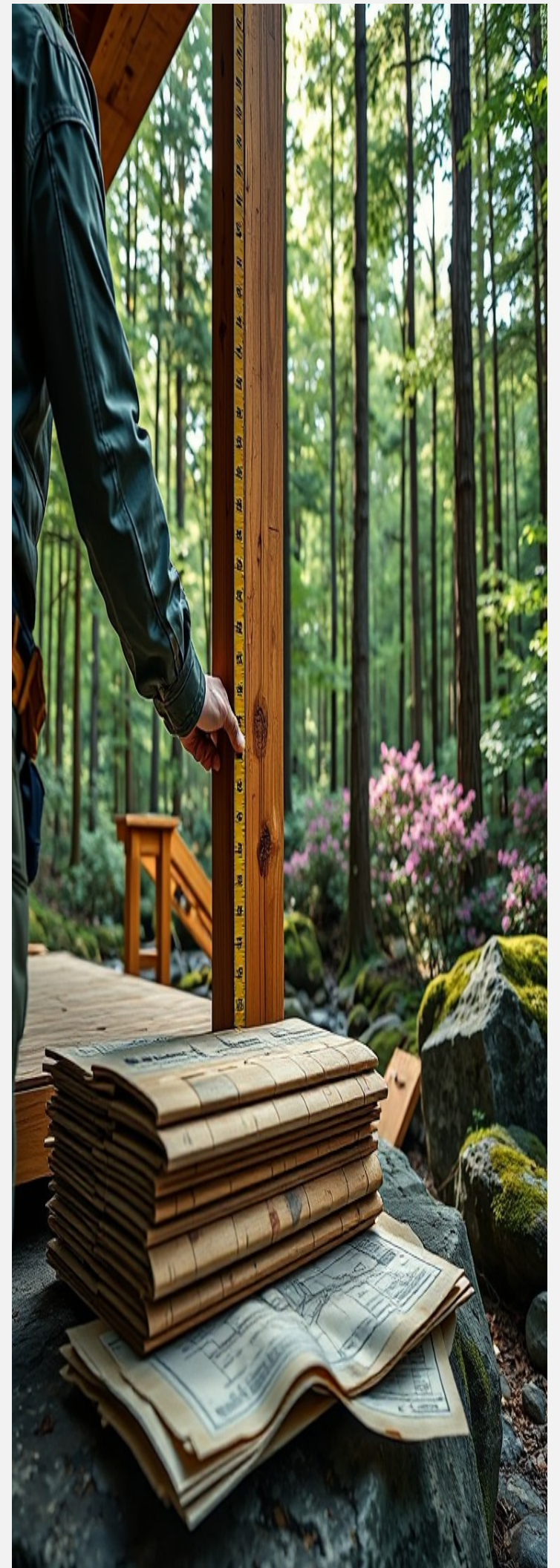
Construction Establishments (2022)

Los Angeles County leads the nation in construction establishments, but Asheville's regional concentration is unmatched for its size.

The U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns 2022 data reveals that Los Angeles County hosts 17,404 construction establishments — the highest in the nation. This reflects a national trend of urban construction dominance. However, for a mountain-based, mid-sized metro like Asheville, this density is not just notable — it's structural. It signals a deeply embedded construction economy that supports long-term real estate value, not just short-term speculation.

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

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-05-asheville-ind-23-county>



01

Density drives resilience

Asheville's construction establishment count isn't just a number — it's a proxy for economic depth. High density in a non-urban, non-coastal region indicates self-sufficiency in skilled labor, supply chains, and project execution. This reduces reliance on external contractors and mitigates inflationary shocks in materials and labor, making the housing market more stable than coastal counterparts with similar price appreciation.





02

Construction as infrastructure

The sheer number of active construction establishments in Asheville reflects a region preparing for long-term climate and demographic shifts. With rising wildfire risk, aging infrastructure, and increasing demand for sustainable housing, this density isn't just about building homes — it's about building resilience. The region's ability to execute complex projects at scale is a hidden competitive advantage, making it a magnet for remote workers, retirees, and firms seeking stable, future-proof real estate markets.

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Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902



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