

#1 of 10: Share of Arriving Households From the Top Three Counties

Birmingham's Migration Is Surprisingly Concentrated

Top 3 counties supply 22.9% of incoming households

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THE DATA

22.9%

Share of Arriving Households From the Top Three Counties (2023)

This measure reflects the degree to which new residents to the Birmingham metro are drawn from a narrow geographic base.

The fact that only three counties—Tuscaloosa, Madison, and Talladega—account for nearly a quarter of all inbound households underscores a high degree of regional concentration in migration patterns. This clustering suggests that Birmingham is not merely a regional magnet but a deeply embedded destination within a tightly defined intra-state network of population movement.

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/2026-10-12-birmingham-mig-county-top3>



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Migration Concentration Builds Local Resilience

This tight clustering of migration sources creates a self-reinforcing feedback loop: people moving from neighboring counties bring with them existing social, familial, and economic ties to the Birmingham metro. These embedded connections reduce transaction friction, accelerate integration, and strengthen long-term homeowner retention. As a result, the market benefits from lower turnover and more stable demand than in more diffuse or nationally sourced markets.

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The Cost of Being a Regional Hub

While concentration supports stability, it also heightens sensitivity to local shocks. If any of the top three sending counties experiences a downturn—economic, environmental, or demographic—it could trigger a sudden drop in Birmingham’s inflow. This dependency creates a vulnerability that is invisible in broad national metrics but critical for long-term strategic planning. Real estate professionals must monitor the health of these three source counties not just as adjacent markets, but as vital lifelines.



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