

#1 in Birmingham, #1 in Alabama — ALEX Intelligence 2026

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ALEX Intelligence 2026 – Top Counties Sending Households

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THE DATA

22.9%

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

This concentration reveals a deep regional integration within central Alabama, where economic and demographic flows are tightly bound to a small cluster of neighboring counties. The dominance of Tuscaloosa, Madison, and Talladega suggests that Birmingham functions not as a distant destination but as a regional anchor for residents from nearby communities. This pattern reflects strong intra-state mobility, driven by job opportunities, education access, and housing affordability.

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 is a regional feedback loop

This localized migration pattern also reduces exposure to long-distance, speculative inflows. Unlike markets dependent on remote in-migration, Birmingham's growth is rooted in existing regional infrastructure and social networks. This makes the market more stable, less prone to overheating, and more predictable in its long-term trajectory.

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The data hides more than it shows

For policymakers and developers, this means that planning based solely on the top three counties risks underestimating future demand from emerging corridors. The current data is a snapshot of the most visible flows, but the next wave of migration may come from places not yet visible in the official records. This is not a weakness—it's a signal that the market is still evolving.



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