

Lexington — #1 of 10: Homes Owned Free and Clear

Lexington leads NC in homes owned free and clear

50.6% of homes are mortgage-free — ALEX Intelligence 2026

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THE DATA

50.6%

Homes Owned Free and Clear (2024)

Lexington leads the Greensboro-Winston-Salem-High Point MSA and North Carolina in free-and-clear ownership.

This figure reflects a deep-rooted pattern of long-term homeownership, equity accumulation, and generational wealth preservation. With over half of homes in Lexington carrying no mortgage, the city stands as a rare example of financial resilience in a high-rate environment.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 • ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-16-greensboro-free-and-clear-place-mkt>



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01

Wealth is self-sustaining

In Lexington, mortgage-free ownership isn't just a statistic — it's a structural advantage. Households with no debt are better positioned to weather economic volatility, reinvest in property, or support local business without leverage strain. This creates a self-reinforcing cycle of stability and capital formation within the community.

02

The cost of freedom is long-term

The high rate of free-and-clear homes suggests decades of steady, incremental equity growth — likely tied to stable employment, low turnover, and conservative financial behavior. For newer buyers in the MSA, this implies that today's entry barriers may be harder to overcome, as wealth is concentrated in long-settled, low-turnover communities.



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