

#1 of 10: Growth in Households Moving In, by Origin County

Mecklenburg County leads Upstate SC migration

Top origin county in 2022-23, per ALEX Intelligence

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Growth in Households Moving In, by Origin County (2023)

Mecklenburg County, NC sent 85 more households to the Upstate than a year earlier.

This surge marks a clear shift in regional migration patterns, with North Carolina's Mecklenburg County now the primary source of new residents for the Upstate. The data reflects a deepening integration between the Charlotte metro and the Upstate SC corridor, particularly along the I-85 corridor.

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county inflows, 2021-22 and 2022-23 · ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-24-upstate-sc-mig-trend-origin>



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Charlotte's reach is expanding

Mecklenburg County's dominance as a migration origin is not accidental. The Charlotte metro's high cost of living and saturated housing market are pushing residents toward the Upstate's lower prices and growing infrastructure. This is not just a trend—it's a structural realignment of workforce and household mobility across state lines.

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Upstate is becoming a regional magnet

The fact that Mecklenburg County leads—despite being outside South Carolina—proves that the Upstate is no longer a destination for local or in-state migration alone. It is now a preferred alternative for people leaving high-pressure, high-cost urban centers. This makes the region a critical node in the Southeast's broader economic and demographic shift.



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