

Knoxville, TN — #2 of 10: Construction Establishments

# Knoxville leads TN in construction establishments

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published October 25, 2026

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## THE DATA

# 1,724

### Construction Establishments (2022)

Knoxville ranks #2 of 10 Tennessee metros on construction establishments.

This figure, derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns 2022, reflects sustained economic activity in the construction sector. With 1,724 active establishments, Knoxville's market is outpacing even Memphis, the state's second-largest metro, despite a tighter labor market and rising material costs. This level of activity signals confidence in long-term housing demand and infrastructure development.

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

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-25-knoxville-istand-23-msa>

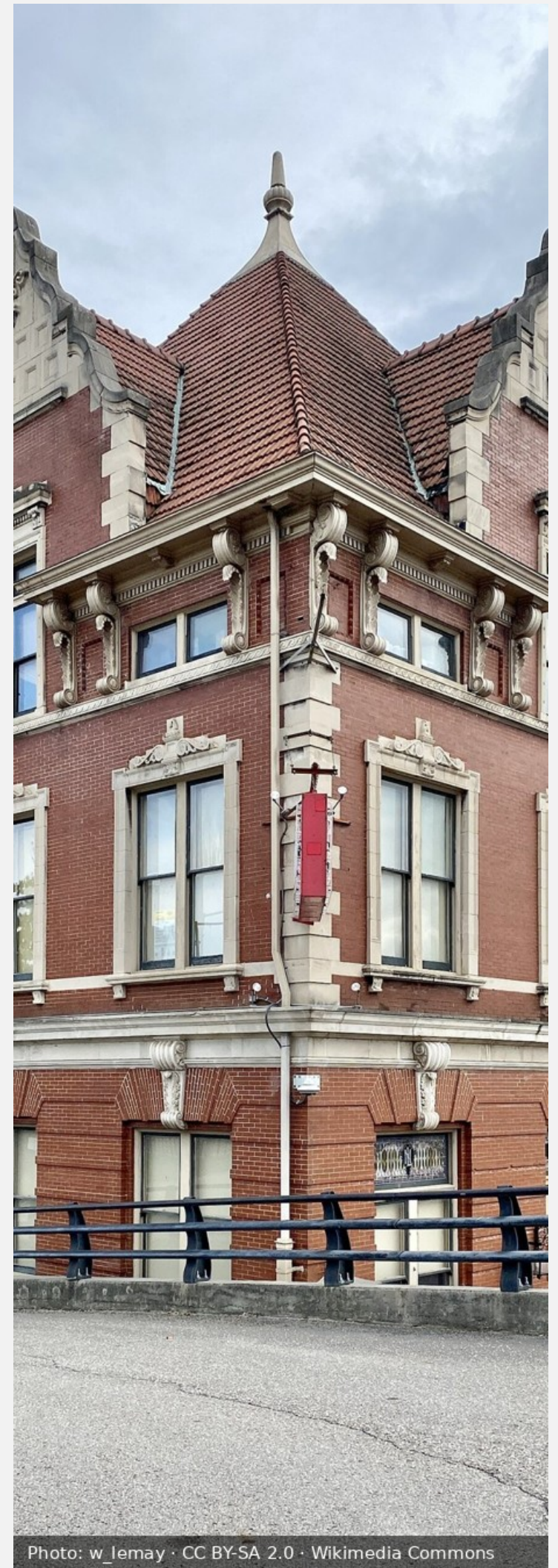


Photo: w\_lemay · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

The background image shows a multi-story brick building with many windows, partially obscured by a large, leafy green tree on the right. A semi-transparent red overlay covers the entire image, with the number '01' in white in the top left corner.

# 01

## Construction momentum fuels market resilience

The high count of construction establishments in Knoxville is not just a metric—it's a leading indicator of housing supply elasticity. This activity suggests that supply constraints are being actively addressed, which could moderate price growth in 2027 if construction continues at this pace.

# 02

## Labor and capital are flowing into East Tennessee

The concentration of construction establishments in Knoxville reflects a broader trend of capital and labor migration into East Tennessee. Unlike Nashville, where construction is dominated by large-scale commercial and mixed-use projects, Knoxville's activity is more residentially focused. This suggests a shift in investor interest toward affordable, family-oriented communities with strong long-term occupancy potential.



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