

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

**79.5% of new households come
from just three states**

Source: ALEX Intelligence, October 26, 2026

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THE DATA

79.5%

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

Boulder County's migration is exceptionally concentrated, with nearly four in five new households coming from Colorado, California, and Texas.

This level of geographic concentration — 79.5% — signals a highly selective, non-diverse influx of residents. The dominance of Colorado, California, and Texas suggests that migration is driven by shared economic, lifestyle, and climate preferences. This pattern is not random but reflects a coordinated movement of talent, capital, and demand from high-income, high-mobility populations into a single, high-opportunity corridor.

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/2026-10-26-boulder-mig-state-top3>

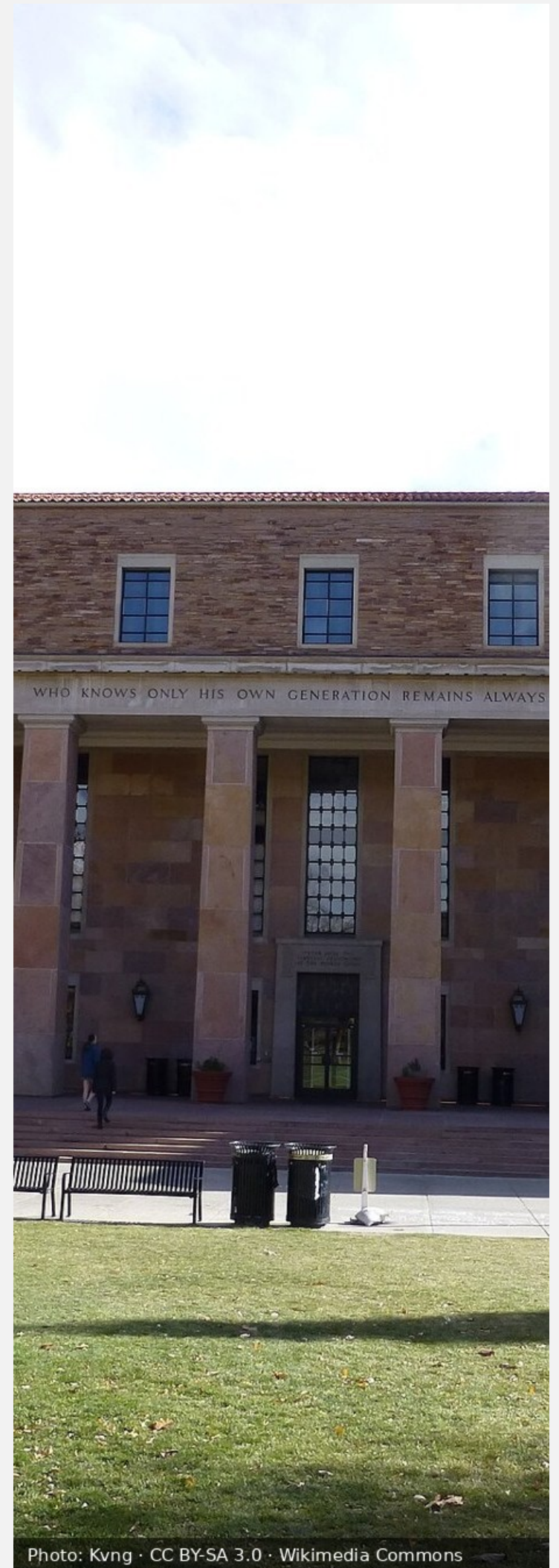


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Migration fuels inequality

The overwhelming concentration of new arrivals from only three states — all with high cost of living and strong tech or professional sectors — exacerbates existing income disparities. As these households settle, they increase demand for high-end housing, services, and amenities, pushing up prices and rents faster than local wages can keep pace. This creates a feedback loop where affordability declines, even as income growth is concentrated among newcomers, widening the gap between long-term residents and new arrivals.

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The market is self-reinforcing

Boulder's migration pattern is not a one-time surge but a self-sustaining cycle: the presence of a large, affluent, and connected population attracts more of the same, reinforcing the county's identity as a magnet for high-earning professionals. This dynamic reduces the likelihood of broad-based economic diversification and increases dependency on a narrow cluster of industries. Over time, this could limit innovation in non-tech sectors and make the local economy more vulnerable to shifts in national talent flows or policy changes in California or Texas.



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