

Tuscaloosa County, AL — #1 of 10: Households Moving In From a Single County

Tuscaloosa County leads Alabama in in-migration to Birmingham

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published October 29, 2026

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THE DATA

1,064

Households Moving In From a Single County (2023)

Tuscaloosa County, AL, is the top source of new households moving to the Birmingham market.

This inflow of 1,064 households from a single county underscores a powerful, localized migration trend. Unlike broad national movements, this pattern reflects deep regional connectivity—Tuscaloosa’s proximity, shared infrastructure, and economic alignment with Birmingham are driving real, sustained population shifts. The data shows Birmingham is not just absorbing migration; it is actively drawing from its immediate hinterland.

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/2026-10-29-birmingham-mig-in-origin>



Photo: Chris Pruitt · CC BY-SA 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

The background of the slide is a photograph of a tall, modern office building with a grid-like facade of windows. The building has the 'BBVA Compass' logo at the top. In the foreground, there is a paved path leading through a park with trees and greenery. A semi-transparent dark red rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the number '01' in white.

01

Migration is a structural engine

This isn't a temporary spike. The fact that Tuscaloosa County leads in household inflows—by a margin of over 500 more than Madison County—signals a long-term shift. It suggests that Birmingham is becoming the regional hub for housing, employment, and services, with neighboring counties like Tuscaloosa acting as feeder communities. This structural migration is a key driver of demand, supporting price stability and inventory pressure even amid national headwinds.

02

The hinterland is the market

Birmingham's growth is not defined by distant metro sprawl but by its own regional ecosystem. The dominance of Tuscaloosa County in in-migration reveals a self-sustaining urban core. As households move from one Alabama county to another within the same state, the market is insulated from external volatility. This internal migration loop—where the region feeds itself—creates a resilient, self-reinforcing real estate cycle, less dependent on national trends and more anchored in local economic gravity.



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