

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

79.8% of new households come from just three states

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published October 30, 2026

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THE DATA

79.8%

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

This concentration reflects a deeply regional migration pattern, with Alabama, Georgia, and Florida dominating inbound flows to the Birmingham metro.

The data reveals that nearly four in five new households in Birmingham originate from only three states, signaling a strong regional pull. This level of concentration is unmatched across Alabama's major metros, suggesting a localized, not national, migration trend. It also implies that market dynamics are shaped more by intra-Southeastern movement than by broader national shifts.

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/2026-10-30-birmingham-mig-state-top3>



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01

Migration is hyper-local, not national

Birmingham's inbound migration is not a national phenomenon but a regional one. The top three states—Alabama, Georgia, and Florida—account for nearly 80% of new households, indicating that economic, cultural, and geographic proximity drive movement. This suggests that Birmingham's appeal is not as a national destination, but as a regional hub within the Southeast corridor, where people seek affordability, infrastructure, and access to urban amenities without the coastal cost premium.

02

The state's largest market is also its most insular

Despite being the largest metro in Alabama, Birmingham's migration pattern is unusually insular. The dominance of in-state and neighboring state flows means the city is not attracting diverse national talent streams. This could limit long-term demographic diversification and innovation potential, especially if the region fails to expand its economic appeal beyond the Southeast. Yet it also suggests strong internal cohesion, with existing residents, businesses, and institutions reinforcing one another through shared regional identity.



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