#1 of 10: Change in the Income Gap Between Arriving and Departing Households

Aurora’s income gap is narrowing fastest in Colorado

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published November 04, 2026

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THE DATA

6.9%

Change in the Income Gap Between Arriving and Departing Households (2023)

Aurora and the eastern Denver metro narrowed the earnings gap between incoming and outgoing households faster than any other county in the state.

This 6.9% reduction in the income gap—measured from IRS migration data between 2021-22 and 2022-23—indicates a significant shift in the socioeconomic composition of the region. It suggests that households moving into Aurora are not only more diverse in income level but also that outgoing residents are increasingly leaving with lower earnings. This dynamic may reflect rising affordability pressures or targeted retention strategies that attract mid-tier earners.

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/2026-11-04-aurora-mig-trend-agi

01

Equity is shifting in real time

The narrowing income gap is not a sign of convergence—it’s a structural recalibration. As higher-income households leave and lower-income ones enter, the market is undergoing a subtle but profound reclassification of who can afford to live here. This trend may signal that Aurora is becoming less dependent on high-wage inflows and more resilient to economic volatility, even as affordability challenges persist. The shift is not driven by policy alone but by behavioral patterns in migration that favor economic stability over exclusivity.

02

The real winner is long-term stability

This trend benefits long-term residents more than new arrivals. As the gap narrows, the risk of displacement due to sudden income shocks diminishes. The data implies that Aurora is developing a more balanced housing ecosystem—one where income disparities are less likely to trigger mass outflows or speculative bubbles. This is not a market for rapid wealth accumulation, but one that may offer greater predictability, making it increasingly attractive to families and professionals seeking lasting roots.

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