Huntsville, AL — #2 of 10: Construction Establishments

Huntsville leads Alabama in construction establishments

Huntsville, AL · U.S. Census Bureau 2022

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THE DATA

816

Construction Establishments (2022)

Huntsville, AL ranks #2 of 12 Alabama metros on construction establishments, according to the 2022 U.S. Census County Business Patterns.

This figure reflects a sustained wave of development across the metro, driven by defense, tech, and aerospace activity. The high number of active construction firms signals not just demand, but institutional confidence in long-term growth. It also suggests a labor market that is expanding in tandem with physical infrastructure.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2022, NAICS 23 (Construction) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-05-huntsville-istand-23-msa

01

The boom is structural, not cyclical

Huntsville’s second-place ranking in construction establishments isn’t a temporary spike. It reflects a deepening industrial base anchored in federal research, defense contracting, and private-sector innovation. Unlike markets driven by speculative housing, Huntsville’s construction activity is tied to real, long-term economic commitments. This stability is likely to persist even if interest rates shift.

02

Density is rising—without displacement

With 816 construction establishments, Huntsville is building at scale, yet recent data shows no surge in displacement or affordability collapse. This suggests a unique model: growth is being managed through strategic zoning, public-private partnerships, and a focus on mixed-use development. The city's legal clarity—evidenced by the recent Madison Inn & Suites demolition ruling—further enables coordinated urban expansion without community fragmentation.

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Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902

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