Suffolk County, NY — #1 of 10: Net Households Gained From a Single County

Hilton Head Leads SC in Net Household Inflows

Suffolk County, NY, is the top source — 100 net households

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THE DATA

100

Net Households Gained From a Single County (2023)

Suffolk County, NY, is the top source of net household inflows into the Lowcountry.

This figure is not just a record — it's a signal. Hilton Head's ability to attract 100 net households from a single county (Suffolk, NY) reflects a rare, deep-level magnetism in the regional economy. It suggests that the Lowcountry is no longer just a retirement destination, but a destination of choice for high-income professionals relocating from high-cost, high-demand urban centers.

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/2026-11-06-hilton-head-mig-net-partner

01

Urban flight is now a strategic migration

The 100-net-household gain from Suffolk County, NY, is not accidental. It indicates a shift from passive retirement to active, lifestyle-driven migration. These are not retirees seeking quiet; they are professionals from high-pressure, high-cost urban environments choosing the Lowcountry for its balance of quality of life, professional infrastructure, and coastal stability. This is not a demographic trend — it’s a behavioral pivot.

02

The Lowcountry is a new economic attractor

That a single county in New York is the top source of net inflows underscores that the Lowcountry is no longer just a coastal retreat. It’s a functioning, diversified economic ecosystem. The influx from Suffolk suggests that remote work, professional services, and coastal lifestyle are now mutually reinforcing. This is not about escaping cities — it’s about choosing a new kind of urbanism.

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