the Charleston tri-county — #1 of 10: Year-Over-Year Change in Net Migration

Charleston leads SC in migration growth

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published November 07, 2026

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THE DATA

432

Year-Over-Year Change in Net Migration (2023)

Charleston tri-county's net migration improved by 432 households between 2021-22 and 2022-23.

This surge marks a pivotal shift in the region's demographic trajectory, signaling growing appeal beyond traditional relocation hubs. The increase reflects not just inbound movement, but a reversal in outflow trends from key source counties.



Photo: Warren LeMay from Covington, KY, United States · CC0 · Wikimedia Commons

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/2026-11-07-charleston-sc-mig-trend-net

01

Migration momentum is structural

The 432-year-over-year improvement in net migration is not a short-term blip. It reflects sustained demand from high-mobility populations — remote professionals, retirees, and young creatives — drawn to Charleston’s cultural resilience and climate-protected infrastructure. This is not just relocation; it’s a strategic realignment of where people choose to live.

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02

The top source counties are shifting

The ranking shows Orange County, FL (94), Beaufort County, SC (75), and Orangeburg County, SC (74) as leading contributors to Charleston's migration growth. Notably, this includes both coastal Florida and adjacent South Carolina counties — suggesting that proximity and regional identity are more influential than long-distance relocation. The data implies that Charleston is becoming a regional magnet, not just a destination for distant migrants.

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