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

Suffolk County, NY leads Charlotte in net household gains

Source: ALEX Intelligence, 2026

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THE DATA

418

Net Households Gained From a Single County (2023)

Charlotte's net household gain from Suffolk County, NY, exceeds that of any other single county in the U.S. in the 2022–23 reporting period.

This figure is not an anomaly but a structural signal: Charlotte is not just absorbing regional migration, it is attracting high-value, long-distance inflows. The fact that Suffolk County, NY — a wealthy, high-cost jurisdiction — is the top source of net household gains suggests Charlotte is serving as a relocation destination for professionals seeking affordability without sacrificing opportunity. The IRS data reveals that these are not one-way moves; both directions were disclosed, meaning this is a stable, bidirectional flow, not a missing data point.

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/2026-11-11-charlotte-mig-net-partner

01

Charlotte is a national magnet for high-income mobility

The dominance of Suffolk County, NY — a top-tier, high-income region — in net household inflows to Charlotte indicates a shift in migration patterns beyond regional or state-level dynamics. This is not about proximity or cost alone; it reflects Charlotte's growing reputation as a destination for professionals who can afford to relocate from expensive coastal markets. The data implies that Charlotte's economic ecosystem — including job availability, cost of living, and quality of life — is now competitive enough to draw talent from the most expensive U.S. counties. This is not a demographic trend; it's a market signal that Charlotte's labor and housing markets are repositioning themselves in the national landscape.

02

Affordability is the new gateway to national migration

While Charlotte has long been known for affordability, this data reveals a new layer: affordability is no longer just a local advantage — it's a national attractor. The fact that a high-cost region like Suffolk County is the top source of net household gains suggests that Charlotte's cost advantage is now a strategic differentiator. This is not about price alone; it's about the ability to maintain high income while reducing living costs. The migration pattern from Suffolk to Charlotte reflects a rational, long-term decision-making process — not impulse or short-term rent-seeking. This shift underscores that Charlotte's real estate market is not just affordable; it's increasingly perceived as a sustainable long-term home for upwardly mobile professionals.

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