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



Killeen-Temple leads Texas in earnings gap narrowing

Source: ALEX Intelligence, November 11, 2026

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THE DATA

5.8%

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

This marks the largest narrowing of the earnings gap between newcomers and leavers among all Texas counties with comparable data.

The 5.8% reduction in the income gap between incoming and outgoing households in the Killeen-Temple MSA signals a significant shift in economic integration. As higher-income households increasingly move out and lower-income households move in, the market is experiencing a convergence in household earnings, a trend that is rare in rapidly growing Texas metros. This dynamic suggests that economic opportunity is becoming more evenly distributed across income levels.

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/2026-11-11-killeen-temple-mig-trend-agi

01

Migration is leveling the playing field

The narrowing earnings gap is not driven by a mass influx of high earners, but by a more balanced flow: higher-income departures are being matched by lower-income arrivals. This suggests that the Killeen-Temple market is evolving beyond a simple 'high-income migration' story. Instead, it reflects a deeper structural shift where the economic footprint of the region is broadening, with both military retirees and new service members contributing to a more inclusive labor and housing market. This is not a sign of affordability alone, but of integration.

02

Fort Cavazos drives convergence

The primary driver of this trend is Fort Cavazos, which continues to attract a diverse mix of military personnel and civilian contractors. Unlike typical military towns where high-income service members dominate, the Killeen-Temple area now sees a higher proportion of lower- and mid-tier military personnel, alongside civilian support staff. This demographic mix, combined with Baylor Scott & White's expansion, which brings in healthcare workers across wage bands, is reshaping the region's income distribution. The data suggests that the military and healthcare sectors are not just adding jobs — they are redefining the economic profile of the MSA.

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