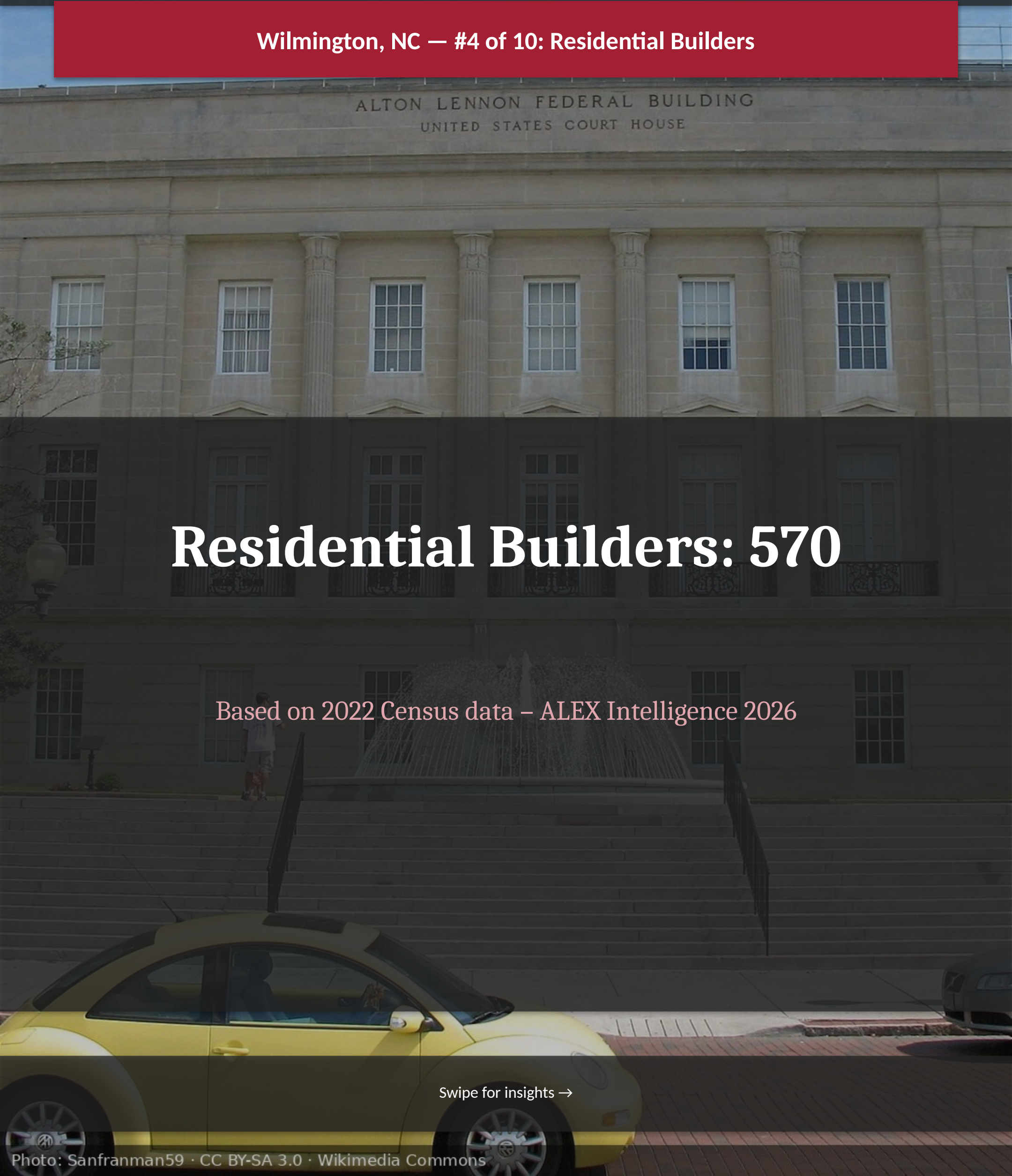
Wilmington, NC — #4 of 10: Residential Builders



Residential Builders: 570

Based on 2022 Census data – ALEX Intelligence 2026

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THE DATA

570

Residential Builders (2022)

Wilmington’s 570 active residential builders in 2022 place it fourth among North Carolina’s 15 metros.

This number reflects sustained demand for new housing, driven by population growth, coastal migration, and a resilient local economy. The construction sector is not just active — it is among the most robust in the state.



Photo: Idawriter · CC BY-SA 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2022, NAICS 2361 (Residential building construction) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-12-wilmington-istand-2361-msa

01

Wilmington’s construction engine is self-sustaining

With 570 residential builders, Wilmington is not merely reacting to demand — it is building the foundation for long-term growth. This level of activity suggests a mature and self-reinforcing housing ecosystem, where new homes attract residents, who in turn sustain construction activity.

The fact that it ranks fourth in the state, ahead of major metros like Greensboro and Winston-Salem, signals that Wilmington is not just a secondary market — it is a core growth engine within the state’s real estate landscape.

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02

Builder density fuels affordability resilience

High builder concentration correlates with competitive pricing and faster delivery timelines. In Wilmington, this density helps buffer against inflationary pressures and supply constraints that plague other markets.

This suggests that even as national construction costs rise, Wilmington's deep pool of builders enables a more agile response — reducing wait times and keeping new home prices more stable than in markets with fewer active builders.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

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