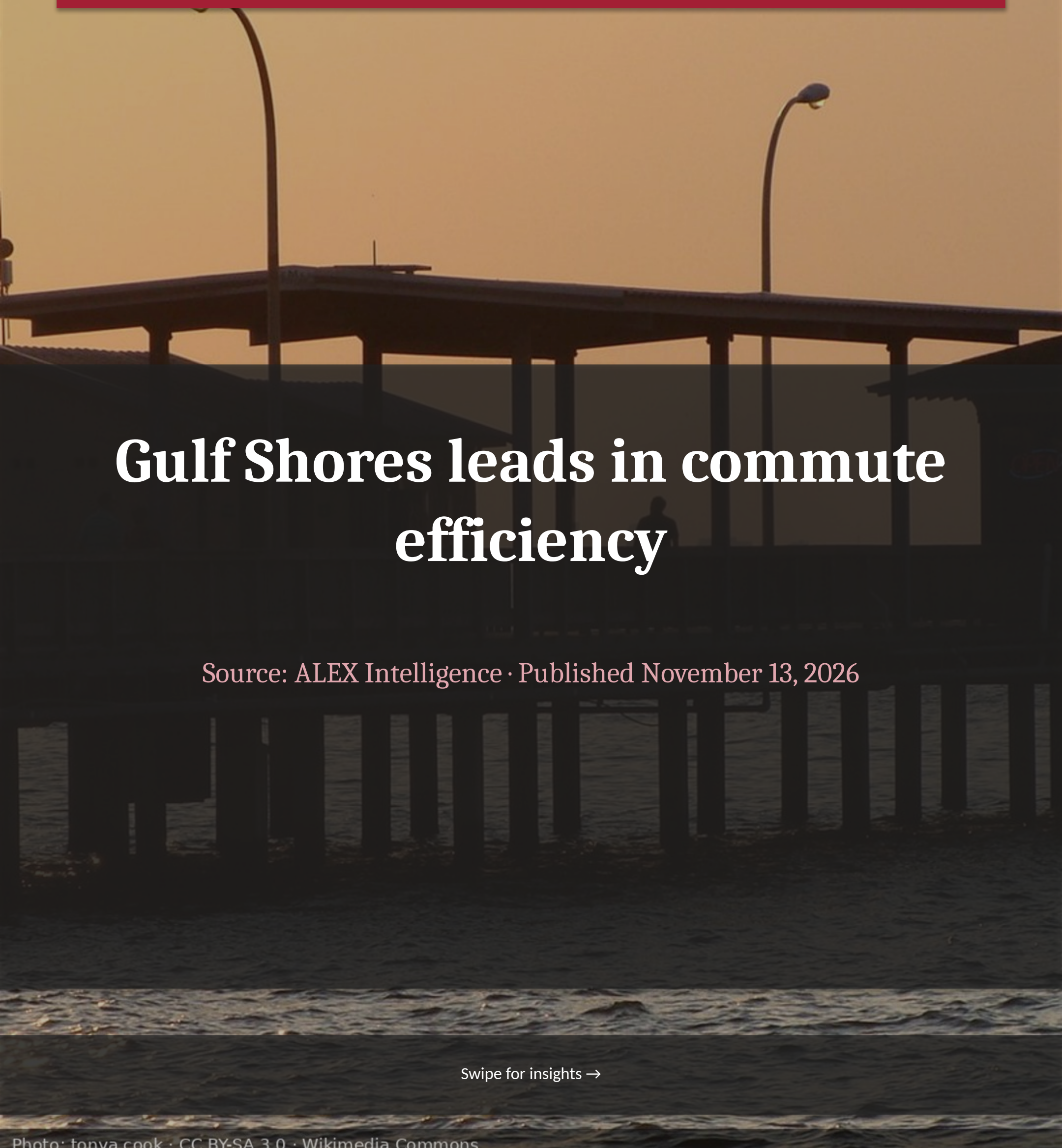
#1 of 8: Spread in Mean Commute Across the Market, in Minutes (2024)



Gulf Shores leads in commute efficiency

Source: ALEX Intelligence · Published November 13, 2026

Swipe for insights →

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THE DATA

7.4

Spread in Mean Commute Across the Market, in Minutes (2024)

The 7.4-minute spread between Robertsdale and Gulf Shores reflects a growing disparity in daily travel time across Baldwin County.

This gap—7.4 minutes—measures the difference between the longest (Robertsdale, 29.5 minutes) and shortest (Gulf Shores, 22.1 minutes) average commute times in the county. It signals that while some communities are becoming increasingly accessible, others face rising isolation. This is not a national average, nor a seasonal fluctuation, but a persistent structural divide rooted in infrastructure and urban planning decisions.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-13-baldwin-county-commute-spread

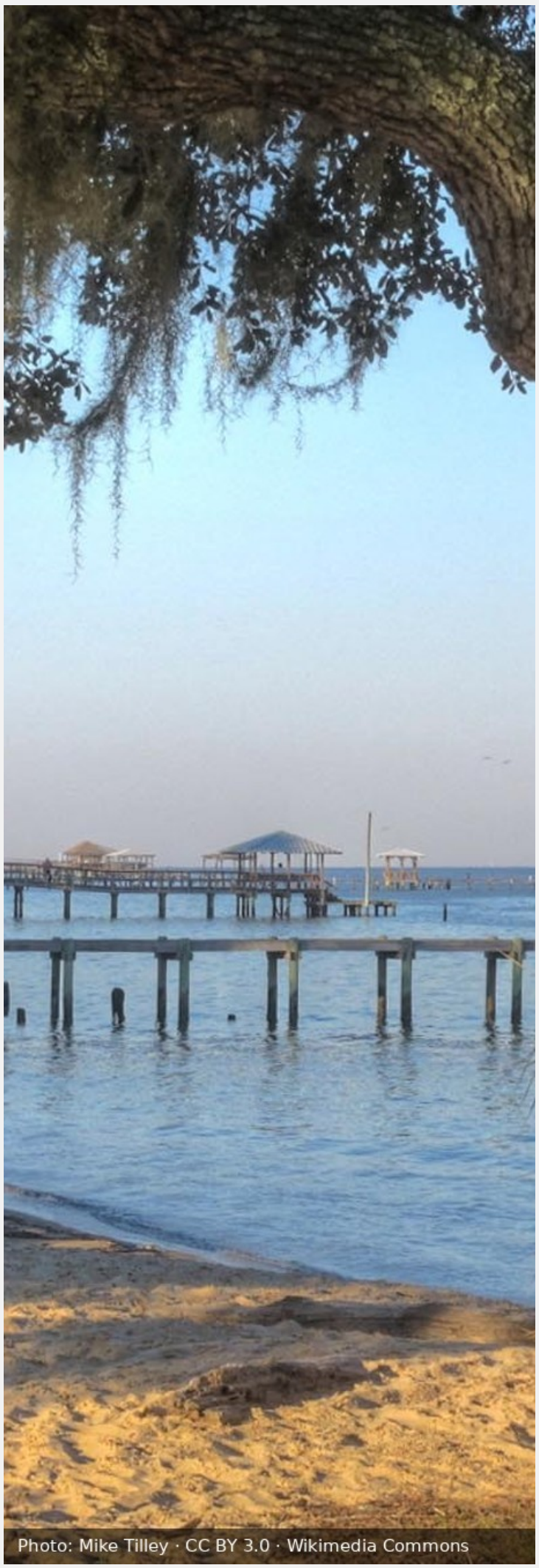


Photo: Mike Tilley · CC BY 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons

01

Commute efficiency drives real estate value

Gulf Shores' 22.1-minute average commute is not just a convenience—it's a competitive advantage in attracting remote workers and lifestyle buyers. In contrast, Robertsdale's 29.5-minute average reflects a growing friction point in the region's expansion. As digital nomadism and hybrid work increase, the ability to maintain short commutes without sacrificing coastal access becomes a premium feature. This is not just about time—it's about access to opportunity, community, and quality of life.

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02

The commute gap is a policy signal

The 7.4-minute spread is not a natural outcome but a policy artifact. Robertsdale, despite being the fastest-growing city in the county, lacks comparable transit connectivity. This suggests that future development incentives, zoning reforms, and transportation funding must be reevaluated to prevent long-term inequity. The market is already pricing in this divide—those who can afford to live in low-commute zones are gaining a strategic edge.

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

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