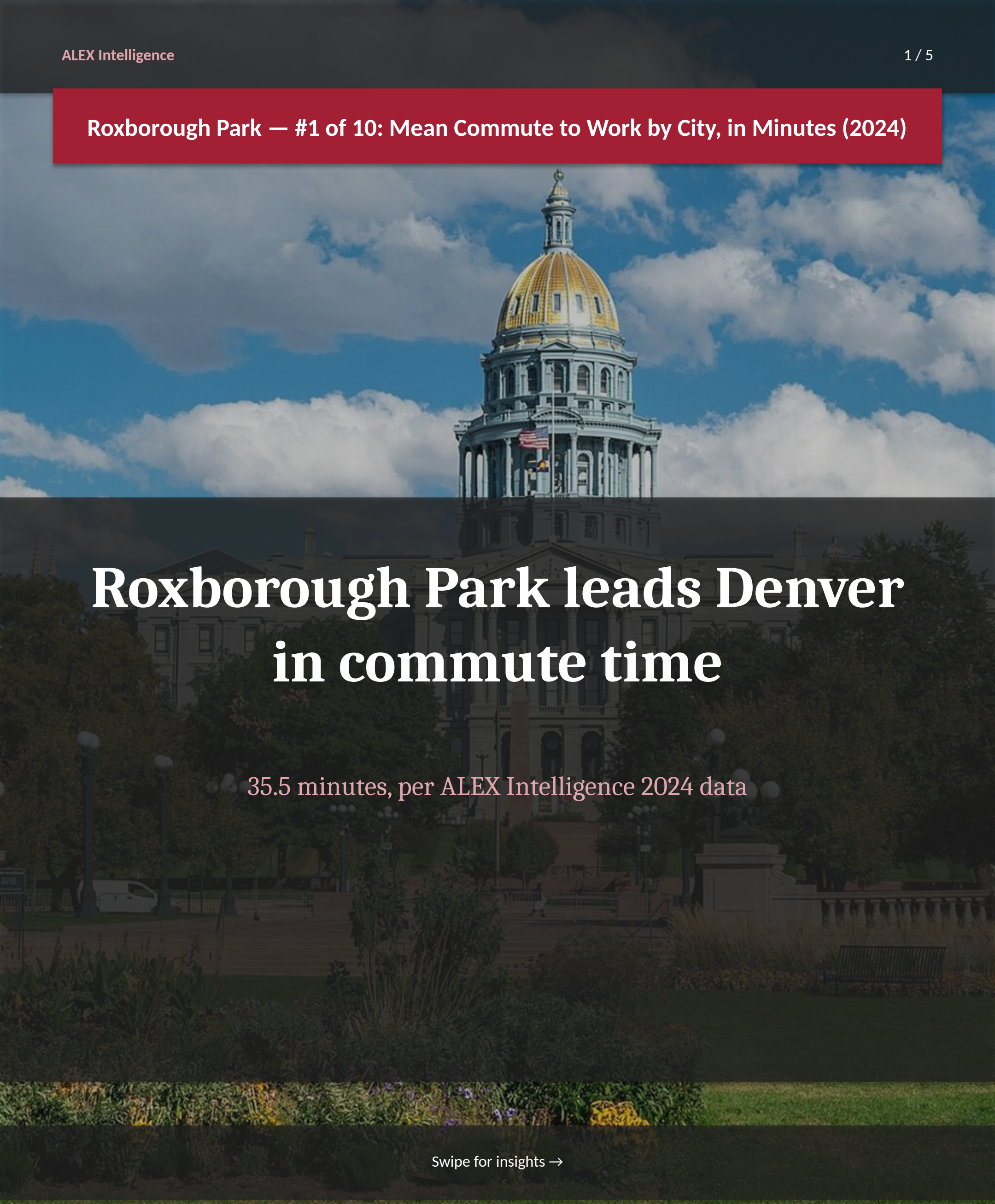
Roxborough Park — #1 of 10: Mean Commute to Work by City, in Minutes (2024)



Roxborough Park leads Denver in commute time

35.5 minutes, per ALEX Intelligence 2024 data

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THE DATA

35.5

Mean Commute to Work by City, in Minutes (2024)

Roxborough Park has the longest average commute among Denver-area cities, with residents traveling 35.5 minutes to work on average.

This figure reflects a growing spatial disconnect between where people live and where jobs are concentrated. Roxborough Park's high commute time is not due to poor transit access but to its location on the western edge of the Denver metro, far from major employment centers in downtown, Tech Center, and the Central Corridor. The data underscores a deeper trend: as housing affordability declines in central Denver, residents are pushed farther out—into areas with longer commutes, higher transportation costs, and reduced quality of life.



Photo: Steve Hicks from Liverpool, UK · CC BY 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2024 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-15-denver-commute-place-long

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Commuting is the new affordability metric

The 35.5-minute commute in Roxborough Park is not just a number—it’s a proxy for displacement. As housing prices in central Denver outpace income growth, families are forced to trade proximity to work for lower rents. This shift is accelerating the sprawl of the Denver metro, with long commutes becoming the new normal for middle- and upper-income professionals. The cost of this trade-off is not just time, but also fuel, vehicle depreciation, and reduced household flexibility. This data reveals that commute length is now a leading indicator of where affordability pressures are most acute.

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The commute premium is a hidden cost of exclusion

In areas like Roxborough Park, where commute times exceed 35 minutes, the cost of living is not just measured in rent or mortgage payments. Yet, these areas are often marketed as 'family-friendly' or 'quiet,' masking the economic trade-offs. The data shows that even in high-income neighborhoods, long commutes are a structural consequence of unaffordable central housing. This suggests that true affordability must include access to jobs—not just housing prices.

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