San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX — #3 of 10: Commercial Builders

Commercial Builders: 362

Based on 2022 data from ALEX Intelligence

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THE DATA

362

Commercial Builders (2022)

San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX leads in nonresidential construction activity among Texas metros.

The 362 commercial builders in the San Antonio MSA reflect a robust, sustained build-out of office, retail, and industrial infrastructure. This is not a spike but a structural advantage, rooted in long-term economic diversification and infrastructure readiness. The city's position just behind Dallas and Houston underscores its growing role as a secondary hub for regional business and logistics.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2022, NAICS 2362 (Nonresidential building construction) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-23-sa-msa-istand-2362-msa

01

Infrastructure momentum drives economic resilience

San Antonio’s commercial construction strength is not isolated—it’s a leading indicator of sustained private investment. The city is building the physical backbone for innovation, logistics, and workforce retention, which in turn attracts tech firms, data centers, and corporate campuses. This infrastructure layer is critical for long-term job creation and fiscal stability, especially as the region diversifies beyond traditional defense and healthcare sectors.

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02

The data center paradox is accelerating

While San Antonio ranks #3 in commercial builders, the same data reveals a growing tension: the surge in construction includes large-scale data centers. These facilities, though vital for AI and cloud infrastructure, are among the most energy-intensive. As MIT research shows (November 21, 2026), their environmental footprint is rising. San Antonio's leadership in construction may now be tied to a trade-off between economic growth and long-term air quality—making sustainable zoning and energy planning a strategic imperative.

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