

Huntsville

Alabama's tech and aerospace hub

Named the #1 place to live in the U.S. by Livability's 2026 rankings, Huntsville is driven by Redstone Arsenal, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, and a fast-growing engineering job market.

\$74,714 MEDIAN HH INCOME	~0.48% EFFECTIVE PROPERTY TAX	24 WALK SCORE (CITYWIDE)	69 WALK SCORE, DOWNTOWN
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At a Glance

Median HH income	~\$74,714 (DataUSA) — the highest of the metros covered in this guide.
Property tax	~0.48% effective in Huntsville proper; ~0.56% average across Madison County (Ownwell / PropertyTaxByState, 2026).
Walk Score	24 citywide (car-dependent); Downtown Huntsville scores 69.
School systems	Huntsville City Schools, Madison City Schools (ranked #3 in the state), Madison County Schools.

What It's Known For

Cummings Research Park is the 2nd-largest research park in the U.S., and the area has a younger, more transplant-heavy population than most of the state — a lot of people moving here are doing exactly what you might be considering.

Major Employers

- NASA Marshall Space Flight Center
- Redstone Arsenal
- Boeing
- Polaris
- Huntsville Hospital
- Cummings Research Park tenants

Shopping & Groceries

Bridge Street Town Centre offers 70+ stores, restaurants, and a lakeside entertainment district. Huntsville has more Publix locations than any other Alabama city (7), plus a Trader Joe's on Mid City Drive.

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Distances

- ~100 mi to Birmingham
- ~150 mi to Tuscaloosa
- ~185 mi to Montgomery
- ~340-360 mi to Mobile

Thinking about Huntsville?

Tell me your budget and priorities and I'll help you figure out if this is the right fit — or connect you with a trusted local agent if it's outside my direct coverage. Reach out any time at krysten@yoursweethomealabama.com.