

Birmingham

Alabama's largest metro

Alabama's biggest metro, with the most varied mix of neighborhoods in the state — from walkable urban pockets to sprawling suburban communities over the mountain.

\$55,088 MEDIAN HH INCOME (JEFFERSON CO.)	~1.45% EFFECTIVE PROPERTY TAX	33 WALK SCORE (CITYWIDE)	82 WALK SCORE, CENTRAL CITY
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At a Glance

Median HH income	\$55,088 (Jefferson County, 2020 Census) — varies widely by suburb; Over-the-Mountain suburbs run well above this county baseline.
Property tax	~1.45% effective rate in the city (Ownwell, 2026) — higher than the state average due to layered city + county + school millage.
Walk Score	33 citywide (car-dependent); Central City neighborhood scores 82; ZIP 35203 is the most walkable at 77.
School systems	Depends on suburb: Birmingham City Schools, Hoover City, Vestavia Hills City, Mountain Brook City, Homewood City, Trussville City, or Shelby/Jefferson County Schools.

What It's Known For

UAB anchors a huge share of the local economy along with a strong banking sector. The Civil Rights District (16th Street Baptist Church, Civil Rights Institute, Kelly Ingram Park) draws visitors year-round, and the food and brewery scene is nationally recognized.

Major Employers

- UAB
- Southern Company
- Regions Bank
- Mercedes-Benz (Vance plant)
- Honda (Lincoln plant)
- Several large hospital systems

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Shopping & Groceries

Riverchase Galleria is Alabama's largest mall; The Summit is an upscale outdoor shopping center; downtown has its own retail district. Publix is widely available and Trader Joe's has locations at The Summit and in Hoover.

Distances

- ~60 mi to Tuscaloosa
- ~90 mi to Montgomery
- ~100 mi to Huntsville
- ~115 mi to Auburn
- ~250 mi to Mobile / Gulf Coast

Thinking about Birmingham?

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.