

Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 3.13.24)

2024

- #4 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Geographic Inclusion Index 10YR (Raleigh) Brookings Institute | March 2024
- #2 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Growth Index 10YR (Raleigh) Brookings Institute | March 2024
- #6 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Prosperity Index 10YR (Raleigh) Brookings Institute | March 2024
- #2 Metro for Remote Work in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham) DesignRush | March 2024
- #7 Healthiest City in the U.S. (Raleigh) SmartAsset | March 2024
- #16 Best Hospital in the U.S. (Duke University Hospital - Durham) NewsWeek | February 2024
- #6 U.S. City for Tech Professionals (Raleigh) Cloudwards | February 2024
- #2 U.S. Metro for Women in Tech (Raleigh) CoworkingCafe | February 2024
- #13 Best Place to Live for Quality of Life (Raleigh-Durham) U.S. News & World Report | February 2024
- #3 Best State Capital to Live In (Raleigh) WalletHub | February 2024
- #2 Hottest Real Estate Market in 2024 (Raleigh) U.S. News & World Report | February 2024
- #1 Best City in the U.S for Renters (Cary) USA Today | February 2024
- #2 Best Performing City in the U.S. (Raleigh) Milken Institute | February 2024
- #1 City with the Most People Working From Home (Cary) SmartAsset | January 2024
- #2 Best Place to Live in America (Raleigh) StudyFinds | January 2024
- #1 City for a 'Fresh Start' (Raleigh) This Old House | January 2024
- #14 Best City for STEM Jobs (Raleigh) WalletHub | January 2024

- #3 U.S. City with the Fastest Job Growth (Raleigh) Quartz | January 2024
- #3 Best Place to Live in the U.S. in 2023-2024 (Raleigh-Durham) U.S. News & World Report | January 2024

2023

- #1 Best City for First-Time Homebuyers (Raleigh, NC) ConsumerAffairs | December 2023
- #4 Best Town in the U.S. to Live (Raleigh, NC) Money.com | December 2023
- #8 Best City in the U.S. for Young Black Professionals (Raleigh, NC) Tuko News | December 2023
- #9 Best College City (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | December 2023
- #1 Safest Town in North Carolina (Fuquay-Varina, NC) MoneyGeek | December 2023
- #6 Best City for Work-Life Balance (Raleigh, NC) howtostartanllc.org | November 2023
- #14 Top U.S. City for International Business (Raleigh, NC) The Financial Times | November 2023
- #1 Place to Start a Small Business (Raleigh, NC) LendingTree | November 2023
- #5 Best City to go for Thanksgiving (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | November 2023
- #7 Top Tech Metro in the U.S. in 2023 (Raleigh-Cary, NC) NC Tech Association | November 2023
- #1 Best City for Veterans to Live (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | November 2023
- #6 Most Educated City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Forbes | October 2023
- #7 US Metro for Technology Innovation (Raleigh, NC) NCTech Association | October 2023
- #6 Top College in the Nation (Duke University) WalletHub | October 2023

- #3 Best Place to Live in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Jagran Josh | October 2023
- #4 Top Tech Metro in the Southern U.S. (Raleigh, NC) CommercialCafe | October 2023
- #2 Best City to Drive in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | October 2023
- #9 Most Neighborly City in 2023 (Raleigh, NC) Neighbor.com | September 2023
- #7 City Where People are Thinking About Moving To (Raleigh, NC) Coldwell Banker | September 2023
- #3 Best Job Market in the U.S. (Cary, NC) SmartAdvisor | September 2023
- #5 Best Large Airport in North America (RDU International) J.D. Power | September 2023
- #4 Best Public University in the Nation (UNC Chapel Hill) U.S. News & World Report September 2023
- #22 Best University in the Nation (UNC Chapel Hill) U.S. News & World Report | September 2023
- #2 Top Real Estate Market for Homebuilding Prospects in 2023 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2022
- #6 Top Real Estate Market to Watch in 2023 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2022
- #4 Pro-Growth City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Pacific Research Institute | September 2023
- #9 Fastest Growing Metro in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) ZRIVO | September 2023
- #9 Top Tech Talent Leader (Labor Pool 50K-125K) (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top Manufacturing Hub for Large MSAs (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #1 Top Performing Container Ports (Port of Wilmington) Business Facilities | August 2023



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- #4 Top Millennial Magnets (Raleigh-Durham)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #6 Top Metro in Life Sciences Growth (Raleigh-Durham)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #3 Best Large Metro for Business Climate (Raleigh-Cary)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #5 Best Real-Estate Market in 2023 in the U.S.
(Cary, NC)
WalletHub | August 2023
- #2 U.S. City Building the Most Homes (Raleigh-Cary, NC)
Construction Coverage
August 2023
- #2 Best Place to Live in the Southeast
(Cary, NC)
Livability | August 2023
- #9 Best City in the U.S for Hybrid Work
(Raleigh, NC)
CommercialSearch | August 2023
- #21 Fastest Growing Place in the U.S. in 2023
(Raleigh-Durham, NC)
U.S. News & World Report
August 2023
- #2 Most Climate-Resilient City
(Raleigh, NC)
Architectural Digest | August 2023
- Fastest Growing Airport in the U.S.
(RDU; Raleigh, NC)
RDU Airport Authority | July 2023
- #2 City in the U.S. with the Safest Drivers
(Cary, NC)
ConsumerAffairs | July 2023
- #12 Best Southern U.S. City
(Raleigh, NC)
Southern Living | July 2023
- #1 Top City for Spacious Living
(Raleigh, NC)
StorageCafe | July 2023
- #8 Most Educated City in the U.S. in 2023
(Raleigh-Cary, NC)
WalletHub | July 2023
- #5 Best City for Gen Zers
(Raleigh, NC)
CommercialCafe | July 2023
- #19 Best Run City in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | July 2023
- #5 Best City for Renters to Live in 2023
(Raleigh, NC)
RentCafe | June 2023
- #6 Best City to Live in the U.S.
(Cary, NC)
Livability | June 2023
- #3 Best Tasting Water in the World
(Raleigh, NC)
American Water Works Association
June 2023
- #2 Best Place to Live in the South
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. News & World Report
June 2023
- #1 Best Large Metro for Homeownership
(Raleigh, NC)
LendingTree | June 2023
- #11 Best Metro for Young Professionals in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. News | June 2023
- #9 Best City to Own a Pet
(Raleigh, NC)
CoworkingCafe | June 2023
- #3 Best Performing City in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC) | Milken Institute
May 2023
- #10 Best Large U.S. City to Start a Career in After College
(Raleigh, NC) | CoworkingCafe
May 2023
- #3 Best Place to Live in the United States
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. News & World Report
May 2023
- #7 Best Place for Millennials to Live
(Raleigh, NC) | CommercialCafe
May 2023
- #5 Best U.S. City for Highest-Paying Jobs
(Raleigh, NC)
Checkr | May 2023
- #10 Best City for College Graduates to Start a Career
(Raleigh, NC) | CoworkingCafe
May 2023
- #8 Fastest Growing U.S. Tech Hubs for IT Talent
(Raleigh, NC)
CIO | April 2023
- #10 Best City for Retirees
(Raleigh, NC)
SmartAsset | April 2023
- #2 Most Pet Friendly City in America
(Raleigh, NC)
Forbes Advisor | April 2023
- #5 Hottest Job Market in the Nation
(Raleigh, NC)
The Wall Street Journal | April 2023
- #10, #29, #72 Top Colleges in U.S.
(Duke, UNC, NC State)
U.S. News | March 2023
- #8 Most Affordable Place to Live in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
Travel + Leisure | March 2023
- #8 Best Value City in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
The Times | March 2023
- #4 Top U.S. Metro for African-American Women Employment
(Raleigh, NC)
CityLab | March 2023
- #2 Top U.S. City for Sleep Health
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. News and World Report
February 2023
- #12 Best City in the U.S. to Start an Airbnb
(Raleigh, NC)
FinanceBuzz | February 2023
- #3 Best City in the Nation for first-time homebuyers
(Raleigh, NC)
Bankrate | February 2023
- #2 Most Preferred Market for Lenders
(Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE
February 2023
- #10 Most Preferred Market for Investors
(Raleigh-Durham, NC)
CBRE | February 2023
- #2 Best City to Retire in North Carolina
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. News and World Report
February 2023
- #7 Best Destination in the Nation to Live During Retirement
(Raleigh, NC)
Zumper | February 2023
- #1 Hottest Housing Market in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
U.S. Housing Market Index
February 2023
- #2 Best City to Live in America
(Raleigh, NC)
StudyFinds | February 2023
- #1 Hot Dog Capital of America
(Raleigh, NC)
National Hot Dog Sausage Council
February 2023
- #1 Most Affordable Capital City in U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | February 2023
- #2 Best City in the South to Buy a House
(Raleigh, NC)
CNBC | January 2023
- #4 Best City for Work-Life Balance
(Raleigh, NC)
CoworkingCafe | January 2023
- #1 Most Livable City in the U.S.
(Raleigh, NC)
Far & Wide | January 2023

2022

- #5 Best Place to Live for Families
(Morrisville, NC)
Fortune Well | December 2022
- #1 Best Place to Live in North Carolina
(Morrisville, NC)
Niche | December 2022
- #5 Most Diverse City in North Carolina
(Morrisville, NC)
HomeSnacks | December 2022

For additional rankings,
please call 919.664.7066.

www.raleigh-wake.org



North Carolina Rankings (as of 3.13.24)

2024

- #9 State with the Best Business Tax Environment
AccountingToday | February 2024
- #1 State in the U.S. for Highest Quantity of National Board Certified Teachers | EDNC | February 2024
- #9 Most Popular State for Playing Lacrosse | StrawPoll | January 2024
- #8 State for Elderly Care Access
SonderCare | January 2024
- #6 Best State to Drive in (2024) | WalletHub | January 2024
- #10 State with the Most Racial Progress in the U.S.
WalletHub | January 2024
- #5 Best State to Start a Business in 2024 | Forbes Advisor
January 2024
- #3 Top State People Moved to in 2023 | U-Haul International
January 2024
- #2 Top State for Corporate Tax Structure
Area Development | November 2023
- #3 Top State for Cooperative & Responsive State Government
Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Available Real Estate
Area Development | November 2023
- #9 Top State for Logistics & Infrastructure
Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Water Availability
Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Energy Availability & Cost
Area Development | November 2023
- #2 Top State for Competitive Labor Market
Area Development | November 2023
- #8 Top State for Access to Capital & Funding
Area Development | November 2023
- #6 Top State for Business Incentives Programs
Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Overall Cost of Doing Business
Area Development | November 2023
- #7 Top State for Workforce Training Programs
Area Development | November 2023
- #4 Top State for Doing Business
Area Development | November 2023
- #9 Top State in U.S. for Best Tax Climate
Tax Foundation | October 2023
- #9 Best State for Bat Lovers
Pest Gnome | October 2023
- #10 Top State for Small-Business Survival
Capital on Tap | October 2023
- #6 Best State in the U.S. for Pensions
GOBankingRates | October 2023
- #8 U.S. State with the Most Preserved Historic Homes
Assurance IQ | October 2023
- #5 Most Charming State in the U.S.
Oddspedia | September 2023
- #6 Top State for Tech Careers
Venture Smarter | September 2023
- #6 Best State for Small Business Taxes in 2023
SimplifyLLC | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Housing Market Growth
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #7 Top State for Fastest Growing Population
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #6 Top State for FDI (Projects)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #6 Top State for FDI (Capital Investment)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #5 Top State for Installed Solar Power Capacity
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #10 Top State for Cybersecurity
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Health Care Jobs
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #10 Top State for Best Business Tax Climate
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Food Processing
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Agribusiness
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for EV Industry Investment
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Semiconductors
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #7 Top Biosciences Leader in America
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #10 Top State for Aerospace/Defence
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #9 Top State for Manufacturing Output (% of GDP)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #14 Top State for Manufacturing Jobs (% of Workforce)
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top State for Customized Training
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #2 Top State for Best Business Climate
Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Biopharma Cluster in the U.S.
Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News | August 2023

2023

- #2 Best State for a Remote Getaway
Window Gnome | December 2023
- #3 Best Charter School Enrollment Growth in the Nation
National Alliance for Public Charter Schools | December 2023
- #1 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden (TEBTR)
Ernst & Young | December 2023
- #7 Top State for Business Startup Growth
Venture Smarter | November 2023
- #6 Most Economically Free State in the U.S.
Fraser Institute | November 2023
- #14 Best State for Educational Freedom
The Heritage Foundation | November 2023
- #10 Top State for Speed of Project Permitting
Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Favorable Regulatory Environment
Area Development | November 2023
- #6 Top State for Site-Readiness Programs
Area Development | November 2023

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