

## Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 1.18.23)

### 2022

- #2 Most Affordable City in the Southeast (Raleigh, NC)  
Morningstar | December 2022
- #2 Fastest Growing Metro in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
Inspection Support Network  
December 2022
- #2 Hottest Real Estate Market to Watch in 2023 (Raleigh, NC)  
National Association of Realtors  
December 2022
- #2 Top Innovative City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
Nexcess | November 2022
- #3 Best City for STEM Job Growth (Raleigh, NC)  
November 2022
- #9 Best City in the U.S. for Foreign Investment (Raleigh, NC) Financial Times  
October 2022
- #4 Top City for Millennial Relocators (Raleigh, NC)  
SmartAsset | October 2022
- #1 Best City for Veteran's to Live (Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | October 2022
- #5 Best City for Families with Children (Raleigh, NC)  
STORAGECafe | October 2022
- #5 Best Large Airport in America (RDU International Airport)  
J.D. Power | September 2022
- #10, 29T, 29T, 72 Best National University (Duke, UNC, Wake Forest, NCSU)  
U.S. News & World Report | September 2022
- #5 Top Global Pharmaceutical Hub (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
Hickey & Assoc. | August 2022
- #4 Top Global Biotechnology Hub (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
Hickey & Assoc. | August 2022
- #1 Safest City in America (Cary, NC)  
GoodHire | August 2022
- #6 Best Real Estate Market in America 2022 (Cary, NC)  
WalletHub | August 2022
- #9, #28, #70 America's Top Colleges (Duke, UNC, NCSU)  
Forbes | August 2022
- #1 Best City to Start a Tech Career (Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
GoBankingRates | August 2022
- #11 Hottest Zip Code in the U.S. for 2022 (Cary, NC - 27511)  
Realtor.com | August 2022 Aug-22
- #2 Safest & Most Affordable U.S. City for Teen Drivers (Raleigh, NC)  
The Zebra | August 2022
- #6 Top City for Highest School Enrollment Rate for Gen Zers (Aged 20 to 24) (Raleigh, NC)  
CommercialCafé | August 2022
- #5 Top City for Gen Z in America (Raleigh, NC)  
CommercialCafé | August 2022
- #1 Best City for Gamers in North America (Raleigh, NC)  
Time2Play | August 2022
- #10 Most Pet-Friendly City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | August 2022 Aug-22
- #1 Top U.S. City to Start an Online Business (Raleigh, NC)  
Business CenturyLink | August 2022
- #2 Large Metro Where Wages are Rising the Fastest (Raleigh-Cary, NC)  
Smartest Dollar | August 2022
- #9 Top Life Sciences Hub Globally (Research Triangle, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #10 Fastest Growing Metro (by #) in America (Raleigh-Cary, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #2 Top Tech Talent Leaders with Labor Pool less than 100,000 (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #6 Top Manufacturing Hub for Large MSAs (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #4 Top Fintech Leader by Job Growth in America (Raleigh, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #6 Top Life Science Leaders in America (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Business Facilities | August 2022
- #4 Top Biopharma Leaders in America (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #8 Best Large Metro for Business Climate (Raleigh-Cary, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #6 Top Crypto Leaders in America (Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #3 Top Most Concentrated U.S. Markets for Software Engineers Employed in the Tech Industry (2020)  
CBRE Research | August 2022
- #19 Top Tech Talent Markets in North America 2021 (Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
CBRE | August 2022
- #2 Best City for Food Trucks in America (Raleigh, NC)  
Clever | August 2022
- #4 Top Metro with the Largest Gender Education Gap (favoring Women) (Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
WalletHub | July 2022
- #2 Top Metro with Highest Average University Quality (Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
WalletHub | July 2022
- #1 Top Metro with Highest % of Graduate or Professional Degree Holders (Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
WalletHub | July 2022
- #4 Top Metro with Highest % of Associate's Degree Holders (Raleigh-Cary, NC)  
WalletHub | July 2022
- #6 Top Emerging Housing Markets for Summer 2022 (Raleigh, NC)  
Realtor.com | July 2022
- #8 Top Metro for Millennials in America in 2022 (Raleigh-Cary, NC)  
CommercialCafé | July 2022
- #7 Most Livable Mid-Sized City (Cary, NC)  
SmartAsset | July 2022



**Wake County  
Economic Development**

800 South Salisbury Street  
PO Box 2978  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202

T 919.664.7048  
F 919.664.7099



- #7 & #8 Most Educated Cities in the U.S.  
(Durham, NC; Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | July 2022
- #1 Top City with the Most Resilient Economies in the U.S.  
(Cary, NC) SmartAsset | July 2022
- #6 City with the Highest Share of Franchises  
(Raleigh, NC)  
LendingTree | June 2022
- #7 Best City for Women in Tech  
(Durham, NC)  
SmartAsset | June 2022
- #3 Top Metro Building the Most Homes in America  
(Raleigh-Cary, NC) ISN | June 2022
- #1 Best Place for Baby Boomers to Find Jobs  
(Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
LinkedIn | June 2022
- #10 & #13 Best Run Cities in America  
(Durham, NC; Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | June 2022
- #10 Best Midsize City for Diversity in America  
(Cary, NC)  
Filterbuy | June 2022
- #6 Top Life Sciences Research Talent Clusters in the U.S.  
(Raleigh-Durham, NC) CBRE Research | June 2022
- #4 Top Regional Challengers for Emerging Ecosystems  
(Research Triangle, NC) Startup Genome | June 2022
- #9 Top Global Emerging Ecosystems by Total Early-Stage Funding  
(Research Triangle, NC)  
Startup Genome | June 2022
- #8 Top Global Emerging Ecosystems  
(Research Triangle, NC)  
Startup Genome | June 2022
- #2 Top U.S. Metro with the Most Single-Family Building Permits per Capita in Q1 2022  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Redfin | June 2022
- #7 Best City for New Grads 2022 in the U.S.  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Zumper | June 2022
- #1 Best Place to Live in 2022  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Bankrate | June 2022
- #2 Best City for Renters in America  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Rent Café | June 2022
- #10 Fastest-Growing City with a Population of 50,000 or More in the U.S.  
(Apex, NC)  
U.S. Census | May 2022
- #3 Top Hottest Real Estate Markets in the U.S.  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Rocket Mortgage | May 2022
- #3 Top City for Entry-level Talent to Kickstart Career  
(Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
LinkedIn | May 2022
- #6 Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2022-2023  
(Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
U.S. News & World Report  
May 2022
- 18 Public High Schools Ranked Among the Top 10% of Public High Schools in the U.S.  
(Research Triangle Region, NC)
- #11 & #19 Top Cities for Freelancers in America  
(Durham, NC; Raleigh, NC)  
ToolTester | April 2022
- #3 Safest City in America  
(Cary, NC)  
HomeSnacks | April 2022
- #6 Richest City in the U.S. for 2022 (Cary, NC)  
HomeSnacks | April 2022
- #6 Top Metro for Freelancers in America  
(Raleigh, NC)  
NerdWallet | April 2022
- #3 Hottest Job Market in America  
(Raleigh, NC)  
WSJ & Moody's | April 2022
- #4 & #8 Best Places to Start a Business  
(Durham, NC & Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | April 2022
- #11 Best Small City to Start a Business  
(Morrisville, NC)  
WalletHub | April 2022
- #7 Best City to Raise a Family  
(Raleigh, NC)  
American Home Shield | April 2022
- Top 4 Emerging Tech Cities for New Graduates  
(Raleigh-Durham, NC)  
VentureBeat | April 2022
- Top 100 Vegan Restaurants in the U.S. & Canada  
(Pure Soul - Durham, NC)  
Yelp | April 2022
- #7 Safest City in America  
(Cary, NC)  
SmartAsset | April 2022
- #4 Best City for Renters in America  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Forbes | March 2022
- #7 Best County to Live in America  
(Wake County, NC)  
Niche | March 2022
- #1 Best City for Working Women in America  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Apartment List | March 2022
- #3 Best Metro to Seek a New Employment Opportunity "Opportunity Magnet"  
(Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)  
LinkedIn | March 2022
- #5 Top Metro by Tech Economic Impact as a Percent of Local Economy  
(Raleigh, NC)  
CompTIA Cyberstates | March 2022
- #7 (Tech Town) Best City to Start Your IT Career in the U.S.  
(Raleigh, NC)  
CompTIA | March 2022
- #1 & #8 Best College Basketball Cities  
(Durham & Chapel Hill, NC)  
WalletHub | March 2022
- #13 Best Places for Black Entrepreneurs  
(Raleigh, NC)  
SmartAsset | February 2022
- #6 & #11 Top Cities for Data Scientists in the U.S.  
(Durham, NC & Raleigh, NC)  
Unsupervised | February 2022
- #4 & #21 Top Cities for Data Science by Average Annual Salary  
(Durham, NC & Raleigh, NC)  
Unsupervised | February 2022
- #6 & #17 Top Cities for Data Science Employment Per 1,000 Jobs  
(Durham, NC & Raleigh, NC)  
Unsupervised | February 2022
- #1 Best City to Live In for Young Professionals  
(Raleigh, NC)  
GoBankingRates | February 2022
- #6 Best City for Black Professionals  
(Raleigh, NC) Apartment List | February 2022
- #4 City for Best Quality of Life in the World  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Numbeo.com | February 2022
- #6 Most Cost-Effective City in the USA  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Student Beans | February 2022
- #12 Best City for STEM Jobs  
(Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | January 2022
- #11 Best City for Startups in 2022  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Real Estate Witch | January 2022
- Top Great American Cities for Creatives  
(Raleigh, NC)  
Thrillist | January 2022
- #14 City Where Women Are Most Successful  
(Cary, NC)  
SmartAsset | April 2022
- #7 Metro with the Most Change in Home Value YoY  
(Raleigh, NC)  
RedFin | February 2022
- #1 School District in the U.S. for Number of Teachers Nationally Board Certified  
(Wake County School District)  
February 2022

**Wake County  
Economic Development**  
800 South Salisbury Street  
PO Box 2978  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202  
T 919.664.7048  
F 919.664.7099

For additional rankings,  
please call 919.664.7066.



## North Carolina Rankings (as of 1.18.23)

### 2022

- #1 Best State to Start a Small Business  
November 2022
- #8 Best State to Succeed in Business  
Harrington Group International  
October 2022
- #6 Top Destination for Wealthy Millennials  
SmartAsset | September 2022
- #7 Best State for Education  
U.S. News & World Report  
August 2022
- #2 Safest State During COVID-19  
WalletHub | August 2022
- #1 Top State for Best Business Climate  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #7 Top Biosciences Leader in America  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #4 Top State for Tech Talent Pipeline  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #7 Top State for Manufacturing (Output)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #9 Top State for Health Care Jobs  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #6 Top State for Customized Training  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #7 Top State for Food Processing Leader  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #8 Top State for Semiconductors  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #6 Top State for Recovery Leaders  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #8 Top State for Offshore Wind Power (MW by 2030)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #4 Top State for Installed Solar Power Capacity  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #2 Top State for FDI (Capital Investment)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #10 Top State for FDI (Projects)  
Business Facilities | August 2022
- #1 Top State for Small Business Growth  
Paychex | August 2022
- #5 Top State for Solar Job Growth  
IREC | July 2022
- #7 State with the Most Remote Job Openings  
CNBC | July 2022
- #8 Best State for Crime & Corrections  
US News | July 2022
- #1 Top State for Business in America in 2022  
CNBC | July 2022
- #7 Best State for Summer Road Trips  
WalletHub | June 2022
- #7 State with the Best Economy  
WalletHub | June 2022
- #11 Best State for Military Retirees  
WalletHub | May 2022
- #1 Top State for Hospital Safety  
Leapfrog | May 2022
- #3 Top State for Higher Education  
SmartAsset | May 2022
- #1 State Leading the Charge on Renewable Energy  
SmartAsset | April 2022
- #3 Safest City in America (Cary, NC)  
HomeSnacks | April 2022
- #6 Richest City in the U.S. for 2022 (Cary, NC)  
HomeSnacks | April 2022
- #11 & #19 Top Cities for Freelancers in America (Durham, NC; Raleigh, NC)  
ToolTester | April 2022
- #5 Best State for Business in U.S. Chief Executive | April 2022
- #2 State with Top Economic Competitiveness Outlook  
ALEC-Laffer | April 2022
- #6 Most Financially Literate State  
WalletHub | April 2022
- #6 Best State for Solo Living  
NiceRx | March 2022
- #8 Top State for Number of New Tech Business Establishments in 2021  
CompTIA Cyberstates | March 2022
- #4 Top State by Net Tech Employment Job Gains  
CompTIA Cyberstates | March 2022
- #8 Safest State During COVID  
WalletHub | March 2022
- #10 State with the Lowest Cost of Living for Retirees  
Money Talks News | February 2022
- #13 Best Places for Black Entrepreneurs (Raleigh, NC)  
SmartAsset | February 2022
- #14 Top State for Data Science Employment in 2020  
Unsupervised | February 2022
- Top 10 States Building America's Renewable Energy Resources  
American Clean Power Assoc. February 2022
- #1 State in the U.S. for Number of Teachers Nationally Board Certified  
February 2022
- #1 Lowest Unionization Rate in the U.S.  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
January 2022
- #4 Best State to Drive In  
WalletHub | January 2022
- #9 State with the Most Racial Progress  
WalletHub | January 2022
- #4 Top State People Moved To  
Move.org | January 2022

### 2021

- #1 State with the Lowest Corporate Income Tax Rate in the U.S.  
Tax Foundation | December 2021
- #5 Top State in Approp. of State Tax Funds for Higher Education as a Percentage of State GDP  
NCBSTI | December 2021
- #5 Top State in Academic Science & Engineering R&D per \$1,000 of State GDP  
NCBSTI | December 2021 -
- #11 Top State Business Tax Climate 2022  
Tax Foundation | December 2021
- #5 Top State in the Nation in Highway Performance & Cost-Effectiveness  
Reason Foundation  
November 2021
- #1 Top State Business Climate Site Selection Magazine  
November 2021
- #3 Top Inbound State in 2021  
Allied & Zillow | November 2021

**Wake County  
Economic Development**

800 South Salisbury Street  
PO Box 2978  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202

T 919.664.7048  
F 919.664.7099