Smarter all around."

Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 7.12.22)



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)
- ~ #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
- ~ #6 & #11 Top Cities for Data Scienctists 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 GoBankingRates | February 2022
- #6 Best City for Black Professionals (Raleigh, NC) Apartment List | 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
- #25 Top Global Innovation Geography in Innovation (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | January 2022
- #20 Top Global Innovation Geography in Talen (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | January 2022
- #2 Best Places to Invest in Private Equity Real Estate in 2022 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) CrowdStreet | January 2022
- ~ #7 City for Top Fiscal Financial Health (Raleigh, NC) TruthInAccounting | January 2022
- #2 City with the Fastest Fixed Broadband Speed (Raleigh, NC) Ookla | January 2022
- #2 Best State Capital for Safety & More (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | January 2022
- #1 Best Place in the U.S. to Pay Down Debt Lending Tree | January 2022

2021

- #3 Hottest Housing Real Estate Market in the U.S. for 2022 (Raleigh, NC) Zillow | January 2022
- #7 Safest Large City in America (Raleigh, NC) MoneyGeek | December 2021
- ~ #2 Safest City in America (Carv. NC) MoneyGeek | December 2021

Wake County Economic Development

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

- т 919.664.7048
- **F** 919.664.7099



- #11 Best City to Move to for a Remote Career (Raleigh, NC) Orchard | December 2021
- #4 Metro with Highest Average Academic Achievement for K-12 Education (Raleigh, NC)
 Fordham Institute | December 2021
- #2 & #3 Top Metros for Tech Innovation Index (Raleigh, NC + Durham, NC) NC Tech Metro Index December 2021
- #8 Top Metro for Tech Talent Supply (Raleigh, NC) NC Tech Metro Index December 2021
- #7 Top Metro for Tech (Raleigh, NC)
 NC Tech Metro Index December 2021
- #3 Best Large College City in America (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | November 2021
- #8 Safest City in America (Raleigh, NC)
 WalletHub | October 2021
- #11 Most Fun Places to Live in the U.S. (Raleigh & Durham, NC) U.S. News & World Report October 2021
- #23 (Duke), #39 (UNC),
 #227 (NCSU); 2022 Best Global Universities
 U.S. News & World Report October 2021
- #4 Top Emerging Housing Markets for Fall 2021 (Raleigh, NC) Realtor.com | October 2021
- #6 City for Ease of Doing Business in North America (Raleigh, NC) ASU DBNA | October 2021
- #10 Safest Large City in America (Raleigh, NC)
 AdvisorSmith | October 2021
- #3 Safest Midsize City in America (Cary, NC)
 AdvisorSmith | October 2021
- #2 Top Real Estate Market to Watch in 2022 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PWC US | October 2021
- #1 Top Place to Start a Small Business (Raleigh, NC) Lending Tree | October 2021
- #4 Best Large Metros for Families with Children (Raleigh, NC) Lending Tree | October 2021
- #1 MBA Program in Diversity Index (N.C. State - Jenkins Business School) Bloomberg | October 2021

- #4 Most Dynamic U.S. College Towns for Life After College (Raleigh, NC) Point2 | October 2021
- #2 Top U.S. City for Affordable Homes & Year-Round Weather (Raleigh, NC)
 PropertyShark | September 2021-
- #6 Top Metro Area with the Greatest Opportunity for Homebuilders (Raleigh, NC) National Assoc of Realtors September 2021
- #9 Best State Capital to Live In 2021 (Raleigh, NC)
 SmartAsset | September 2021
- #3 Top City for Large Airport for Traveler Satisfaction (Raleigh, North Carolina)
 JD Power | September 2021
- #5 Top Metro for AI Employees in the U.S. (Raleigh-Cary, NC) Brookings Institute September 2021
- #9 Top City for Life Science Hub (Global) (Research Triangle, NC)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #5 Top City for GDP (Midsized MSA) (Durham-Chapel Hill, NC)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #2 Top City for Healthcare Hub (Midsized) (Durham-Chapel Hill, NC) Business Facilities | August 2021
- #8 Top City for Fastest Growing Metros (Raleigh-Cary, NC) Business Facilities | August 2021
- #4 Top City Tech Hub (Growth Potential) (Raleigh, NC)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- ~ #2 Top City for Millennial Magnet (Raleigh, NC) Business Facilities | August 2021
- #9 Hottest Large Sized City (Raleigh, NC)
 Charlotte Observer | August 2021
- #4 Best City for Performing Labor Markets (Raleigh, NC) LaborIQ | August 2021
- #10 For Safest City For Cyclist (Raleigh, NC)
 CLIQ CHAIR | August 2021
- #4 Top Life Sciences Market in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | August 2021
- #14 Top Tech Talent Markets in North America 2021 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) CBRE | August 2021

- #11 Cluster for Science and Technology Intensity (Raleigh, NC) The Global Innovation Index 2020 WIPO | 2021
- #2 Top Places to Live in the U.S. in 2021-2022 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) U.S. News & World Report July 2021
- #4 Best City for Life Science Cluster (Research Triangle, NC) NewMark | July 2021
- #2 Top Places to Live in the U.S. in 2021-2022 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) U.S. News & World Report July 2021
- #1 & #3 Top Metros with the Lowest Jobs-Housing Imbalance (Durham, NC (#1); Raleigh, NC (#3) Manhattan Institute | July 2021
- #12 Most Future-Focused City in America (Raleigh, NC)
 FinanceBuzz | July 2021
- #13 Best Cities for First Time Homebuyers (Durham, NC)
 Smartasset |June 2021
- #8 City with the Most Female Six-Figure Earners (Durham, NC) Smartasset | June 2021
- #11 City for Working Parents (Cary, NC)
 Smartasset | June 2021
- #8 Best Online Community College in U.S.
 (Wake Technical Community College)
 College Consensus | June 2021
- #1 Online Community College in the U.S.
 (Wake Technical Community College)
 Best Value Schools | June 2021
- #3 Most Resilient Tech Hubs in America (Raleigh-Durham, NC) LinkedIn |June 2021
- #7 & #11 Best Run Cities in America (Durham, NC; Raleigh, NC)
 WalletHub | June 2021
- # 7 Top Metro Area with the Strongest Commercial Real Estate Conditions in 2021 Q1 (Raleigh, NC) NAR | June 2021
- #4 Top Mid-sized Americas City of the Future 2021/22 Overall (Raleigh, NC)
 FDI Intelligence | June 2021
- #10 Top American City of the Future 2021/22 for FDI Strategies (Raleigh, NC) FDI Intelligence | June 2021

Wake County Economic Development

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

- т 919.664.7048
- F 919.664.7099

Smarter all around."

North Carolina Rankings (as of 7.12.22)



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
- #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
- #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
- #1 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden (TEBTR)
 Ernst & Young | October 2021
- #4 Top State Where the Upper-Middle Class is Moving SmartAsset | September 2021
- #8 Least Expensive States To Rise A Child in the U.S. Lending Tree | September 2021
- #6 Top State for FDI (Capital Investments)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #10 Top State for FDI (Projects)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #10 Top State for Fastest Growing State
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #10 Best State for Business Tax Climate Business Facilities | August 2021
- #10 Top State for Offshore Wind Power (MW by 2035)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #3 Top State for Installed Solar Power Capacity Business Facilities | August 2021
- #5 Top State for Biotechnology Business Facilities | August 2021
- #8 Top Semiconductors
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #6 Top State for Customized Training Business Facilities | August 2021

- #4 Top State for Tech Talent Pipeline Business Facilities | August 2021
- #7 Top State for Manufacturing (Output)
 Business Facilities | August 2021
- #8 Top State for Food Processing Leader Business Facilities | August 2021
- #2 Top State for Business Climate Business Facilities | August 2021
- #8 Top State for Speed Permitting Area Development | August 2021
- #10 Top State for Favorable Regulatory Environment Area Development | August 2021
- #5 Top State for Corporate Tax Environment
 Area Development | August 2021
- #3 Top State for Cooperative and Responsive State Government Area Development | August 2021
- #3 Top State for Site-Readiness Program Area Development | August 2021
- #9 Top State for Logistics and Infrastructure Area Development | August 2021
- #4 Top State for Energy Availability and Costs
 Area Development | August 2021
- #6 Top State for Workforce Development Programs Area Development | August 2021
- #3 Top State for Competitive Labor Environment Area Development | August 2021
- #6 Top State For Business Incentives Programs Area Development | August 2021
- #5 Top States for Doing Business Area Development | August 2021
- #11 Best State to Retire Bankrate | July 2021
- #9 Best Metros for Gen Z in the U.S. Commercial Café | July 2021
- #2 Top State for Business in 2021 CNBC | July 2021
- #10 Top State for Sustainability Development Site Selection Magazine | July 2021
- #6 State for Venture Capital in 2020 Pitchbook | 2021

Wake County Economic Development

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

- т 919.664.7048
- F 919.664.7099