

Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 7.15.21)

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
- #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
- #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
- #7 Best Places to Retire Early (FIRE) in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
Magnify Money | May 2021
- #5 Most Affordable Metro in North America (Raleigh, NC)
Oxford Economics | May 2021
- #6 City Where Asian Americans Fare Best Economically in the U.S. (Cary, NC) SmartAsset | May 2021
- #12, 28, 28, 80 Best National University (Duke, UNC, Wake Forest, NCSU)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- #24, 25, 75 Best Engineering Graduate School in U.S. (Duke, NCSU, UNC)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- #3, 24, 48 Best Medical Research Graduate School in U.S. (Duke, UNC, Wake Forest)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- #10, 24, 41 Best Law Graduate School in U.S. (Duke, UNC, Wake Forest)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- #12, 20, 64 Best Business Graduate School in U.S. (Duke, UNC, NCSU)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- 18 Public High Schools Ranked Among the Top 10% of Public High Schools in the U.S. (Research Triangle Region, NC)
U.S. News & World Report April 2021
- #6 Best Suburb to Move to in 2021 in America (Fuquay-Varina, NC)
Homes.com | April 2021
- #7 Best Place to Start a Business in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | April 2021
- #7 Emerging Life Sciences Market with the Most Potential (Raleigh-Cary, NC)
JLL | April 2021
- #7 City Where Millennials Are Moving (Cary, NC)
SmartAsset | March 2021
- Top 10 City to Live in After the COVID-19 Pandemic (Raleigh, NC)
R New York | March 2021
- #1 Best Beer Garden in the United States (The Raleigh Beer Garden, NC)
USA Today | March 2021
- #5 Best County to Live In America (Wake County, NC)
Niche | March 2021
- #1 School District in the U.S. for Number of Teachers Nationally Board Certified (Wake County School District)
March 2021
- #3 Fastest-Growing U.S. Metro from 2019-2020 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
US Census | March 2021
- #6 Top CyberMetros by Tech Economic Impact as a % of Local Economy (Raleigh, NC)
CompTIA Cyberstates | March 2021
- 6th Best City in the U.S. to Live when Working Remote (Raleigh, NC)
Rocket Homes | February 2021
- #8 Top Global Science Cities (Research Triangle, NC)
Savills | February 2021
- #4 City for Best Quality of Life in the World (Raleigh, NC)
Numbeo.com | February 2021
- #1 Top City for Roommate Living in America (Raleigh, NC)
STORAGECafé | February 2021
- #5 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Growth Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | February 2021
- #5 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Prosperity Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | February 2021
- #5 Best-Performing City Index in America (Raleigh, NC)
Milken Institute | February 2021
- Top 20 Cities Where Black Americans Fare Best Economically (Raleigh, NC #20; Durham, NC #8)
SmartAsset | February 2021
- #5 Best City for That Work-From-Home Life (Raleigh, NC)
CNBC | January 2021
- #7 Best Metro for STEM Professionals in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | January 2021
- #4 Most Affordable City With High Salaries and Low Costs of Living (Raleigh, NC)
Motley Fool | January 2021
- #7 Top-Ranked Market for Development Opportunity Index in Commercial Real Estate (Raleigh, NC)
CBRE Research | January 2021
- #6 Top-Ranked Retail Markets (Raleigh, NC)
CBRE Research | January 2021



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- #8 Top-Ranked Industrial Markets (Raleigh, NC)
CBRE Research | January 2021
- #3 Top-Ranked Office Markets (Raleigh, NC)
CBRE Research | January 2021
- #8 Lowest-Cost Market in Commercial Real Estate (Raleigh, NC)
CBRE Research | January 2021
- #3 Best State Capitals for Safety and More (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | January 2021
- #2 Top Market for New Home Pending Sales Index (Raleigh, NC)
Zonda | December 2020
- #1 Top Real Estate Market to Watch in 2021 (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
PwC US | December 2020
- #2 Best City to Work From Home in 2021 (Raleigh, NC)
SmartAsset | January 2021
- #4 U.S. City for Veterans to Live (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | November 2020
- #8 Safest City in America (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | November 2020
- #5 Leading Life Sciences Market (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
CBRE | October 2020
- #11 Top Places to Live in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
U.S. News & World Report
October 2020
- #1 City for Ease of Doing Business in North America (Raleigh, NC)
ASU DBNA | October 2020
- #10 Best Place to Live in America (Morrisville, NC)
Money Magazine | September 2020
- #8 Large Airport in the U.S. for Customer Satisfaction (RDU International Airport)
JD Power | September 2020
- #23 (Duke), #36 (UNC), #226 (NCSU); 2021 Best Global Universities
U.S. News & World Report
September 2020
- #5 Metro in STEM Job Growth Index (STEMdex) (Raleigh, NC)
RCLCO | July 2020
- #3 City for Millennials to Work Remotely (Raleigh, NC)
WhistleOut | July 2020
- Top 15 Most Educated Cities in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC #12; Durham-Chapel Hill, NC #4)
WalletHub | July 2020
- #4 Top Startup Ecosystem with 4 or more in \$B Club in the Last 10 Years (Research Triangle, NC)
Startup Genome | June 2020
- #6 Top Startup Ecosystems by Ecosystem Value in the World (Research Triangle, NC) StartUp Genome | June 2020
- #5 Top Life Science Clusters in the U.S. (Raleigh/Research Triangle, NC)
Newmark Knight Frank | June 2020
- #1 City Where Women Are Most Successful in the U.S. (Cary, NC)
SmartAsset | June 2020

2020

- #5 Top Life Sciences Market in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
JLL | 2020
- #3 MSA for Venture Capital (per capita) Raised in 2020 (Research Triangle, NC)
Pitchbook | 2020
- #8 Top Large County for Talent Migration & Changing Cities: 2020 Shift (Wake County, NC)
EMSI | December 2020
- #7 Top Inbound Cities in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
Updater | December 2020
- #3 Safest City in America (Cary, NC)
MoneyGeek | December 2020
- #9 Most Livable City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
SmartAsset | December 2020
- #3 Happiest City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
Men's Health | December 2020
- #3 America's Cheapest Cities Where Everyone Wants to Live Right Now (Raleigh, NC)
USA Today | December 2020
- #6 Best College Towns & Cities in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | December 2020
- #12 Best Place for Women Entrepreneurs (Raleigh-Cary, NC)
SmartAsset | December 2020
- #3 (Tech Town) Best Place for IT Pros to Live and Work in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
CompTIA | November 2020
- #5 (UNC), #32 (NCSU); 2021 Best Public Colleges & Universities
U.S. News & World Report
September 2020
- #12 (Duke), #28 (UNC), #80 (NCSU); 2021 Best National Universities
U.S. News & World Report
September 2020
- #2 Best City to Drive in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
WalletHub | September 2020
- #10 Top Hottest Zip Code in the United States (Raleigh, NC - 27604)
Realtor.com | August 2020
- Top 25 Best Place to Retire in 2020 (Raleigh, NC)
Forbes | August 2020
- #10 Best State Capital to Live In (Raleigh, NC)
SmartAsset | July 2020
- #10 Top Tech Talent Markets in North America 2020 (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
CBRE | August 2020
- #7 Metro with the Best Startup Ecosystems (Raleigh-Durham, NC)
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #6 Metro in Tech Hub Growth (Raleigh, NC)
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #7 Metro for Millennial Magnets (Raleigh, NC)
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #1 Metro for GDP Leaders (Mid-sized Metros) (Raleigh, NC)
Business Facilities | July 2020
- Top 10 Global Emerging Ecosystems of Today and Tomorrow (Research Triangle, NC)
Startup Genome | June 2020
- #5 Large Metro as the Highest earning Market for Female Entrepreneurs in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
Volusion | June 2020
- #6 Best City to Start a Career in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)
Zippia | June 2020
- #1 Online Community College in the U.S. (Wake Technical Community College)
College Consensus | June 2020
- #6 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Growth Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #6 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Prosperity Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #4 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Racial Inclusion Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #2 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Geographic Inclusion Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #5 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Inclusion Index 10YR (Raleigh, NC)
Brookings Institute | March 2020

For additional rankings,
please call 919.664.7066.

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North Carolina Rankings (as of 7.15.21)

2021

- #10 Top State for Sustainability Development
Site Selection Magazine | July 2021
- #6 State for Venture Capital in 2020
Pitchbook | 2021
- #10 Best State for LGBTQ Job Seekers
Adzuna | June 2021
- #3 Best State for Higher Education
SmartAsset | May 2021
- #4 Best State for Business in U.S.
Chief Executive | May 2021
- #3 & #5 Top State for Effective Tax Rates for New & Mature Firms
Tax Foundation: Location Matters May 2021
- #1 State with the Lowest Corporate Income Tax Rate in the U.S.
Tax Foundation: Location Matters May 2021
- #1 State in Economic Development in U.S. | 2021 Prosperity Cup
Site Selection Magazine | May 2021
- #7 State for Economic Momentum (Index)
State Policy Reports | April 2021
- #9 Top State for Clean Energy Employment in the U.S.
E2 (Environmental Entrepreneurs) April 2021
- #4 Fastest Growing State in the U.S. (Population 2010-2019)
U.S. Census Bureau | March 2021
- #1 State in the U.S. for Number of Teachers Nationally Board Certified
March 2021
- #2 State for Percentage of Women in the Tech Industry Workforce
NC Tech, EMSI | 2021
- #7 State for Tech Industry Employment Growth (2014-2019)
NC Tech, EMSI | 2021
- #7 State for Startups created from University Technology Transfer
NC Tech, EMSI | 2021
- #6 State Where Millennials Are Moving
SmartAsset | March 2021
- #9 Best State for Older Adults in America
SeniorLiving.org | March 2021
- #3 Best State to Drive In
WalletHub | January 2021
- #8 Top State to Travel to in 2021
Lawn Love | December 2020
- #1 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden
Ernst & Young | November 2020
- #1 Business Facilities' "2020 State of the Year"
Business Facilities | January 2021

2020

- #9 Top Growth State of 2020
U-Haul | January 2021
- #6 Top Inbound States (with 250 moves or more) of 2020
United Van Lines | December 2020
- #1 State with Top Business Climate
Site Selection Magazine November 2020
- #3 State with the Most Favorable Business Climate
DCI | October 2020
- #4 State Where the Upper-Middle Class is Moving
SmartAsset | October 2020
- #10 Top State for Business Tax Climate
Tax Foundation | October 2020
- #8 State for Infrastructure & Corporate Investment
Site Selection Magazine September 2020
- #7 Top 'Migration Destinations' as Americans Flee Big Cities during COVID-19
United Van Lines | September 2020
- #5 Top State for Doing Business 2020
Area Development September 2020
- #5 State for Aerospace Manufacturing Attractiveness
PWC | August 2020
- #1 State with the Smallest Educational Attainment Gap for Women (among Adv. Degree Holders)
WalletHub | August 2020
- #9 State with the Most Small Businesses
SBA.gov | August 2020
- #5 Best State for Economic Competitiveness
ALEC-Laffer | August 2020
- #1 State with the Most Equitable School Districts
WalletHub | August 2020
- #7 State Where Millennials Are Moving
SmartAsset | June 2020
- #8 State in Workforce Development & Talent Attraction
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #5 State in Best Business Climate
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #4 State in Unmanned Aerial Systems
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #9 State in Manufacturing Employment
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #6 State in Manufacturing Output (% of GDP)
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #10 State in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Projects
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #10 State in Opportunity Zones
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #4 State in Biotechnology Strength
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #10 Fastest Growing State by Population
Business Facilities | July 2020
- #6 Best State for Business
Chief Executive | May 2020
- #9 Best State for Remote Work in the U.S.
WalletHub | April 2020
- Top 10 Up-and-Coming (AI) Artificial Intelligence Leaders in the U.S.
ZipRecruiter | March 2020
- #6 Top State for # of Economic Development Projects in the U.S. in 2019
Site Selection Magazine March 2020
- #6 Best State for Business in the U.S.
24/7 Wall Street | February 2020
- #2 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden
Ernst & Young | November 2019
- #2 State with Top Business Climate
Site Selection Magazine November 2019
- #1 State for Women in the Tech Sector Workforce
NC Tech | February 2020
- #3 State in Total Tech Employment Growth from 2013-2018
NC Tech | February 2020

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