

## Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 9.11.20)

### 2020

- #2 Best City to Drive in 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
- #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
- #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
- 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
- #1 Upcoming IT City in USA other than Silicon Valley (Raleigh, NC)  
CustomerThink | June 2020
- #2 Best City for New Grads 2020 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
Zumper | May 2020
- Top 10 City Best-Positioned to Recover From Coronavirus (Raleigh & Durham, NC)  
Moody's Analytics/Forbes May 2020
- #8 Best City in the U.S. to be Quarantined (Raleigh, NC)  
Zippia | April 2020
- #2 Fastest-Growing U.S. Metro from 2018-2019 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
US Census | March 2020
- Top 10 Metro in Percentage Growth from 2010 to 2019 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
US Census | March 2020
- #4 Best Real Estate Housing Market to Investment in 2020 (Raleigh, NC)  
Curbed.com | March 2020
- #9 Most Recession-Resistant City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
SmartAsset | March 2020
- #1 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Growth Index (Raleigh, NC)  
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #2 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Prosperity Index (Raleigh, NC)  
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #7 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Racial Inclusion Index (Raleigh, NC)  
Brookings Institute | March 2020
- #5 Top Southern U.S. City for Women Working in STEM (Raleigh, NC)  
Commercial Café | March 2020
- #6 Top iBuying Real Estate Markets for 2020 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
Ownerly.com | March 2020
- #4 U.S. City for Veterans to Live (Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | November 2019
- #2 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden (North Carolina)  
Ernst & Young | November 2019
- #2 State with Top Business Climate (North Carolina)  
Site Selection Magazine November 2019
- #5 Hottest Labor Market in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
Wall Street Journal | March 2020
- #2 Best State Capitals to Live In in the U.S. for 2020 (Raleigh, NC)  
WalletHub | February 2020
- #10 Top Fastest-Growing Large Cities in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC)  
CarInsuranceCompanies.com February 2020
- #5 Top City in U.S. for Live Music (Raleigh, NC)  
Rolling Stones | February 2020
- #5 Most Educated Large City in America (Raleigh, NC)  
Advisor Smith | February 2020



**Wake County  
Economic Development**

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

T 919.664.7048  
F 919.664.7099



- #3 Best Metro for Dating (Raleigh, NC) ApartmentList.com | February 2020
- #6 Life Sciences Employment Growth (2010-2019) (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Cushman & Wakefield February 2020
- #1 Best City for Jobs in 2020 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Glassdoor | February 2020
- #9 Best City in the U.S. to Move to Right Now (Raleigh, NC) Curbed.com | February 2020
- #3 Best Place for Millennials to Live and Work in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Commercial Café | January 2020
- #2 City for Best Quality of Life in the World (Raleigh, NC) Numbeo.com | January 2020
- #6 Hottest Demand Markets for Rental Investment in 2020 (Raleigh, NC) The Motley Fool | January 2020
- #8 Best City to Work from Home in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) SmartAsset | January 2020
- #3 Top U.S. Cities Defying the Job Hiring Odds (Raleigh-Durham, NC) LinkedIn | January 2020
- #1 Top Growth Cities of 2019 in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) U-Haul | January 2020
- #7 Best Metro for STEM Professionals in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | January 2020
- #1 U.S. Market for Residential Construction Permits in 2019 in the U.S. (per 10,000 people) (Raleigh, NC) Apartmentguide.com December 2019
- #3 and #16 Best U.S. Cities for Starting a Business in 2020 (Raleigh & Durham, NC) Inc. | December 2019
- #6 Metro Area Gaining the Most Innovation Jobs in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Brookings Institution December 2019
- Three Triangle Business Schools Ranked Among Top 50 Business Schools in U.S. (UNC #18, Duke #20, NCSU #47) Bloomberg | December 2019
- #10 University/College for Entrepreneurship in the U.S. (NCSU) Princeton Review | December 2019
- #2 (Tech Town) Best Place for IT Pros to Live an Work in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) CompTIA | December 2019
- #2 Lowest Yearly Delay per Auto Commuter for Large Metros (Raleigh, NC) Inrix | December 2019
- #8 Best City for High Salaries & Low Costs of Living (Raleigh, NC) Motley Fool | November 2019
- #8 City With Abundant Housing & Jobs in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) GoBankingRates.com November 2019
- #9 Top Talent Attraction Leaders in 2019 (Wake County, NC) EMSI | November 2019
- Top 10 U.S. Biopharma Clusters (Raleigh-Durham, NC) GEN | September 2019
- Top 20 Cities for Women to Start a Business (Raleigh, NC) Business.org | October 2019
- Top 2% for Best Small Cities in America (Apex & Holly Springs, NC) WalletHub | October 2019
- #3 Best Place for Business and Careers (Raleigh, NC) Forbes | October 2019
- #6 Best City for Young Professionals in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) GoBankingRates.com October 2019
- #1 Top Convention Center in North America (Raleigh Convention Center) Exhibitor | October 2019
- #2 Top Real Estate Market to Watch in 2020 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2019
- #5 Large Airport in the U.S. for Customer Satisfaction (RDU International Airport) JD Power | September 2019
- #8 Top City in the U.S. Where Techies Can Actually Afford to Live (Raleigh, NC) Realtor.com | September 2019
- #7 Best State Capital to Live In (Raleigh, NC) GoBankingRates.com September 2019
- #6 Most Surprising Cities to Live In If You Want To Make a Lot of Money (Cary, NC) GoBankingRates.com September 2019
- #4 Life Sciences Market (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | August 2019
- Top 10 Fastest-growing Tech Office Markets in the US (Raleigh-Durham, NC) CBRE | August 2019
- #5 Best City for Female Entrepreneurs in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) FitSmallBusiness.com | August 2019
- #10 Top Tech Talent Markets in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) CBRE | August 2019
- #11 Best Big City to Live in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | July 2019
- #8 Big City with the Healthiest Housing Market in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) SmartAsset | July 2019
- #4 Most Educated Cities in America (Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill) WalletHub | 2019
- #3 Fastest Growing Mid-Sized Metros in the U.S. (Apex, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #5 Top Tech Hub in the U.S. based on Job Concentration (Raleigh, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #4 Leading County for Wage Growth in the U.S. (Wake County, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #9 Top Startup Ecosystems in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #8 Leading Metro in STEM Jobs (Raleigh, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #7 Metro for Economic Growth Potential (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Business Facilities | July 2019

## 2019

- Top 10 Outperforming Metro Markets in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC ) National Assoc. of Realtors December 2019
- Top Teaching Hospital in the U.S. (UNC Rex Healthcare) Leapfrog Group | December 2019
- Top 10 Healthiest Cities in America (Raleigh, NC) Mindbody | December 2019
- #1 Top Trending U.S. Destination (Raleigh, NC) HotelTonight | December 2019
- Top 10 Cities Where Jobs Will Be In 2020 (Raleigh, NC) Forbes | December 2019
- #9 Metro That Has Changed The Most Since the 2010's (Raleigh, NC) ApartmentList.com December 2019

### 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 9.11.20)

### 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
- #5 Best State for Black Entrepreneurs FitSmallBusiness.com February 2020
- #3 Top Growth State of 2019 U-Haul | January 2020
- #4 Top Southern State for Site Selection Incentives Global Trade Governor's Cup January 2020
- #9 State for Semiconductors Business Facilities | July 2019
- #3 State for Biotechnology Strength Business Facilities | July 2019
- #8 State for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Projects Business Facilities | July 2019
- #4 State for Tech Jobs Growth Business Facilities | July 2019
- #4 State for Unmanned Aerial Systems Business Facilities | July 2019
- #9 State for Solar Power (% of Electricity) Business Facilities | July 2019
- #2 State for Installed Solar Power Capacity Business Facilities | July 2019
- #9 State for Manufacturing Employment Business Facilities | July 2019
- #8 State for Workforce Training Business Facilities | July 2019
- #1 State for Economic Growth Potential Business Facilities | July 2019

### 2018

- #10 Fastest Growing State in the U.S. Census Bureau | December 2018
- #1 Best State for Business in America Forbes | November 2018
- #2 State with Top Business Climate Site Selection Magazine November 2018
- #4 Highest Migration Increase in the U.S. from 2015 to 2016 American City Business Journals September 2018
- #6 Top State for Doing Business Area Development | September 2018
- Top 10 for State's Fiscal Health Condition Mercatus Center | October 2018
- #1 State for Textile Mills Business Facilities | July 2018
- #1 State in the South with the Largest Amount of Craft Breweries NC Craft Brewers Guild 2018
- #2 State for Installed Solar Power Capacity Business Facilities | July 2018

### 2019

- #1 Best State for Business in America (North Carolina) Forbes | December 2019
- #3 Top State for Business CNBC | July 2019
- #7 Best State for Retirement in the U.S. BankRate.com | July 2019
- #4 Best State for Business Chief Executive | July 2019
- #10 State for Opportunity Zones Business Facilities | July 2019

**Wake County  
Economic Development**

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

T 919.664.7048  
F 919.664.7099