

## Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 1.8.25)

### 2025

- #5 Best City for Headquarters (Raleigh, NC) | Site Selection | January 2025
- #7 Top U-Haul Growth Metro (Raleigh, NC) | U-Haul International | January 2025

- #5 Best College City (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | October 2024
- #15 (Duke University), #41 (UNC-Chapel Hill), #81 (North Carolina State University) Best College in the U.S. in 2025 (Durham, Chapel-Hill, Raleigh) | WalletHub | October 2024
- #3 Best City to Start a Career (Raleigh, NC) | Elevate Leadership | September 2024

#2 Best City in the U.S. for Gamers (Raleigh, NC) | Niche Gamer | August 2024

- #1 U.S. Metro for Healthcare AI Job-seekers (Raleigh-Durham, NC/RTP) | All in Healthcare | August 2024

- #10 Top U.S. City for Gen Zers in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | TheStreet | August 2024

### 2024

- #6 Safest City in the U.S. (Cary, NC) | Money Geek | December 2024

- #7 Largest Public Research University in the U.S. (UNC-Chapel Hill) | National Science Foundation | December 2024

- #9 Largest Overall Research University in the U.S. (UNC-Chapel Hill) | National Science Foundation | December 2024

- #5 City for STEM Job Growth Index (Raleigh, NC) | RCLCO | December 2024

- #3 Top Work from Home City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | Axios | December 2024

- #6 Best Place to Live in the U.S in 2025-2026 (Raleigh, NC) | U.S. News & World Report | December 2024

- #9 Top Job-Magnet Suburb in 2024 (Wake Forest, NC) | movebuddha | November 2024

- #7 Top Job-Magnet Suburb in 2024 (Cary, NC) | movebuddha | November 2024

- #6 Best Place to Retire in 2025 (Raleigh, NC) | U.S. News & World Report | November 2024

- #1 'Boomtown' in North Carolina (Apex, NC) | GoBankingRates | October 2024

- #5 Top Market in High-Tech Software/Services Job & Office Rent Growth (Raleigh, NC) | CBRE | November 2024

- #8 Top U.S. Biopharma Hub of 2024 (RTP, Raleigh/Durham) | R&D World | November 2024

- #3 Best City for Veterans to Live (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | November 2024

- #1 (Duke University Hospital), #2 (UNC Hospital), #3 (UNC-REX Hospital), #8 (WakeMed) Best Hospitals in the State for 2025 (Newsweek) | November 2024

- #7 Best City for Job Hunters (Raleigh, NC) | EBN | October 2024

- #8 City with the Highest Homeownership Rates (Raleigh, NC) | National Mortgage News | October 2024

- #1 Best City to Drive In (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | October 2024

- #6 Best Small City to Live in the Nation (Apex, NC) | WalletHub | October 2024

- #10 Fastest Growing Cities by # (Raleigh, NC) Business Facilities | August 2024

- #4 Top Performing Ports (Port of Wilmington, NC) Business Facilities | August 2024

- #5 Top Metro for Quality of Life (Raleigh, NC) Business Facilities | August 2024

- #10 Top Manufacturing Hub (Small) (Raleigh-Cary, NC) Business Facilities | August 2024

- #6 Top Life Sciences Hub (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Business Facilities | August 2024

- #9 Nicest City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | Preply | September 2024

- #45, #59 Top Colleges in the U.S. (Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill) | Wall Street Journal | September 2024

- #8 Best U.S. City for Dog Owners in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | insurify | September 2024

- #1 Healthiest County in North Carolina (Wake County, NC) | Microsoft Start | August 2024

- #14 Best Location for Entrepreneurs to Start a Business (Raleigh, NC) | CoworkingMag | August 2024

- #4 Most Underrated City (Raleigh, NC) | Microsoft Start | August 2024

- #10 Top U.S. City for Healthy Living (Raleigh, NC) | Hers | August 2024

- #6 Best Tech Talent (Raleigh/Durham, NC) | Business Facilities | August 2024

- #2 Best Broadband Speed (Raleigh, NC) | Business Facilities | August 2024

- #7 Best Agritech Industry (Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, NC) | Business Facilities | August 2024

- #2 Best Business Climate (Large) (Raleigh/Cary, NC) | Business Facilities | August 2024

- #6 Most Desirable City to Live in (Raleigh, NC) | Clever Real Estate | August 2024

- #6 City with the Nicest Residents (Raleigh, NC) | Clever Real Estate | August 2024

- #5 Top Metro by Tech Economic Impact as a Percent of Local Economy (Raleigh, NC) CompTIA Cyberstates | March 2024

- #1 Most Popular Urban Area to Move to in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | movebuddha | July 2024

- #2 Best City for Remote Workers in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Yahoo! Life | July 2024

- #10 Best City for Single Individuals in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Microsoft Start | July 2024

- #4 Best Hidden Gem Picnicking Spot in the U.S. (Lake Johnson Park, Raleigh, NC) | mixbook | July 2024

- #11 Best Hospital in the Nation in 2024 (Duke University) | U.S. News & World Report | July 2024

- #7 Most Livable Small City in the U.S. (Apex, NC) | SmartAsset | July 2024

- #3 Best Business Climate in America in 2024 (Raleigh-Cary, NC) | Business Facilities | July 2024

- #4 Best Up-and-Coming Suburb for the Middle-Class to Live in 2024 (Morrisville, NC) | GoBankingRates | July 2024



**Wake County  
Economic Development**

800 South Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202

☎ 919.664.7000



**Wake County  
Economic Development**

800 South Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202

☎ 919.664.7000

- #1 Best City for a High Quality of Life without Financial Sacrifices (Yahoo! Finance) | Raleigh, NC | July 2024

- #6 U.S. College for Students Looking for Love (NCSU - Raleigh, NC) | Renthop | July 2024

- #5 Large City with the Fastest Growing Housing Market (Raleigh, NC) | Storage Café | July 2024

- #14 Most Improved City in Economic Mobility (Raleigh, NC) | Business North Carolina | July 2024

- #2 Most Affordable U.S. City for Remote Workers (Cary, NC) | Coworking Café | July 2024

- #1 Most Renter-Friendly City in America (Raleigh, NC) | CNBC | July 2024

- #2 Fastest-Growing U.S. City (Raleigh, NC) | The Ascent | July 2024

- #1 City for College Grads (Raleigh, NC) | Bloomberg | July 2024

- #3 Best Metro for Millennials (Raleigh, NC) | Commercial Café | July 2024

- #5 Top City for Tech Jobs (Raleigh, NC) | Fullstack Academy | January 2024

- #3 Most Concentrated Market for Software Engineers Employed in the Tech Industry (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE | 2022

- #10 Best City for Food Trucks in America (Raleigh, NC) | Food & Wine | April 2023

- #6 U.S. City With the Highest Number of Move-Ins (Raleigh, NC) | Pods.com | May 2024

- #7 Most Educated City in the U.S. (Raleigh-Cary, NC) | WalletHub | July 2024

- #3 Best Place for Millennials to Live and Work in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | Commercial Café | July 2024

- #2 City with the Best Roads in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | Insider Monkey | June 2024

- #3 Top City Homebuyers Should Be Buying In Post-Pandemic (Raleigh, NC) | Microsoft Start | June 2024

- #3 Best City for Renters (Raleigh, NC) | Forbes Advisor | June 2024

- #7 Best City for New Graduates in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Zumper | June 2024

- #11 Best-Run City in America (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | June 2024

- #7 Most Attractive Mid-Sized U.S. City for College Grads to Start a Career (Cary, NC) | CoworkingCafe | June 2024

- #10 Top U.S. Market for Medtech Talent (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #6 Top U.S. Market for Number of Biological/Chemical Technicians as % of all Occupations (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #9 Top U.S. Market for Total Degrees/Certificates Awarded in Specialities of Biomedical & Biological Sciences (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #2 Top U.S. Market for Density of Core Life Sciences R&D Occupations (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #8 Top U.S. Market for Number of Core Life Sciences R&D Occupations (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #6 Top U.S. Market for Life Sciences R&D Talent (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | CBRE Research | June 2024

- #15 Friendliest City in the South (Cary, NC) | Southern Living | May 2024

- #5 Best Place to Live for Quality of Life in the U.S. in 2024-2025 (Raleigh, NC) | U.S. News & World Report | May 2024

- #3 Best Job Market in the U.S. (Cary, NC) | smartasset | May 2024

- #3 Largest Population Surge City (Raleigh, NC) | U.S. Census | May 2024

- #23 Best Place to Start a Career (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | May 2024

- #1 Best City for Renters (Cary, NC) | USA Today | April 2024

- #4 Top Rental Market for College Graduates (Raleigh, NC) | Realtor.com | May 2024

- #6 Best Place to Live in the U.S. in 2024-2024 (Raleigh, NC) | U.S. News & World Report | May 2024

- #3 U.S. City with the Fastest Growing Job Market (Raleigh, NC) | Microsoft Start | May 2024

- #2 Best Place to Live in the Southeast (Cary, NC) | Livability | May 2024

- #8 Best U.S. City to Start a Business in in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | USA Today | April 2024

- #8 Top U.S. Metro for MBA Students & Graduates (Raleigh, NC) | CoworkingCafe | April 2024

- #10 Top City for Millennials in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Hire a Helper | April 2024

- #12 Best City to Buy a Fixer-Upper (Raleigh, NC) | StorageCafe | April 2024

- #18 Top U.S. City Most People Moved to (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | Yahoo Finance | April 2024

- #7 Best Small City to Start a Business (Morrisville, NC) | WalletHub | April 2024

- #7 Happiest City in the U.S. in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Smartasset | April 2024

- #5 Best City to Move to In North Carolina in 2024 (Cary, NC) | USA Today | April 2024

- #11 Happiest City in 2024 in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | SmartAsset | April 2024

- #10 Best State for Remote Workers (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | April 2024

- #4 Best City for Pet Owners in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Forbes | April 2024

- #30 Best Graduate School in 2024 (N.C. State University's College of Education) | U.S. News & World Report | April 2024

- #1 Best County to Live in North Carolina (Wake County, NC) | Stacker | April 2024

- #3 Best County to Live in America in 2024 (Wake County, NC) | Niche | April 2024

- #29, #60, #94 Top University Worldwide for Patents (Duke University, N.C. State University, UNC Chapel Hill) | NAI | April 2024

- #9 Metro to Start a STEM Business (Raleigh, NC) | CYTENA | April 2024

- #1 Best City for Corporate Workers in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Checkr | March 2024

- #2 Best City to Move to in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Forbes | March 2024

- #6 Most Tech-Savvy City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) | Cloudwards | March 2024

- #9 Most Improved Metro for EV Infrastructure (Raleigh-Durham, NC) | ISeeCars | March 2024

- #4 Best U.S. City to Get Your MBA (Raleigh, NC) | BusinessBecause | March 2024

- #1 Top Metro for Career Growth (Raleigh, NC) | moveBuddha | March 2024

- 18 & #21 Best Colleges for Future Leaders (Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill) | TIME | March 2024

- #9 Best City in the South in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | Southern Living | March 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

For additional rankings,  
please call 919.664.7066.



## North Carolina Rankings (as of 1.8.25)

### 2025

- #12 Top State with Evolving Interest in AI Careers (North Carolina) | Bookipi | January 2025
- #2 Best Business Climate States (North Carolina) | Site Selection | January 2025
- #5 Top State People Moved to in 2024 (North Carolina) | United Van Lines | January 2025
- #3 Top U-Haul Growth State (North Carolina) | U-Haul International | January 2025

### 2024

- #14 Top State for Mathematics Education (North Carolina) | World Population Review | December 2024
- #3 Top Inbound State for Movers in 2024 (North Carolina) | North American Moving Services | December 2024
- #3 State Where Businesses Are Most Likely to Succeed (North Carolina) | Simply Business | December 2024
- #1 Best State to Start a Business in 2025 (North Carolina) | B2B Reviews | December 2024
- #11 Top State for Construction (North Carolina) | Associated Builders and Contractors | December 2024
- #4 Top State Americans are Choosing to Move to (North Carolina) | U.S. Census Bureau | November 2024
- #8 Best State for Yoga Lovers (North Carolina) | Caldera Spas | November 2024
- #1 Best State for Manufacturing in 2024 (North Carolina) | Site Selection Group | November 2024
- #6 State for Job Opportunities in Video Game Industry (North Carolina) | Entertainment Software Association | November 2024
- #4 State with the Highest Hospital Safety Grade Ratings (North Carolina) | LeapFrog Group | November 2024
- #8 Top U.S. State for Foreign Trade Zone Economic Impact (North Carolina) | Site Selection Magazine | November 2024
- #2 Top State for 2024 Executive Survey (North Carolina) | Site Selection Magazine | November 2024

- #3 Top State Business Climate (North Carolina) | Site Selection Magazine | November 2024
- #12 State with the Best Tax Code in the Country (North Carolina) | Tax Foundation | November 2024
- #5 Best College City (Raleigh, NC) | WalletHub | October 2024
- #9 Top State for Semiconductors (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #5 Top State for Solar Power (Installed MW) (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #5 Top State with the Fastest Growing Population (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #9 Top State for Agribusiness (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #3 Top State for EV Investment (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #10 Top State for Cybersecurity (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #9 Top State for Foreign Direct Investment (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #2 Top State for Best Business Climate (North Carolina) Business Facilities | August 2024
- #5 Top State for Site Readiness Programs (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #6 Top State for Workforce Training Programs (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #8 Top State for Logistics & Infrastructure (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #4 Top State for Energy Availability & Costs (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #10 Top State for Favorable Regulatory Environment (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #2 Top State for Favorable Property Tax Environment (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #2 Top State for Corporate Tax Structure (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024

- #5 Top State for Cooperative & Responsive State/Local Gov.t (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #6 Top State for Climate Risk & Resilience (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #7 Top State for Business Incentive Programs (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #4 Top State for Availability of Sites (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #1 Top State for Access for Qualified Labor (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #5 Top State for Cost of Doing Business (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #5 U.S State Most Likely to Produce NFL Stars (North Carolina) | Rainbet | September 2024
- #4 Top State for Doing Business in 2024 (North Carolina) | Area Development | September 2024
- #4 State with the Best Economy in 2024 (North Carolina) | ClearanceJobs | September 2024
- #3 Best Workforce in America (North Carolina) | CNBC | September 2024
- #9 Best State for Clean Energy (North Carolina) | American Clean Power Association | August 2024
- #14 'Most Fun State' in the U.S. (North Carolina) | WalletHub | August 2024
- #5 Life Sciences Hub (North Carolina) | Business Facilities | August 2024
- #9 Tech Talent Pipeline (North Carolina) | Business Facilities | August 2024
- #8 Customized Workforce Training (North Carolina) | Business Facilities | August 2024
- #4 Best Corporate Tax Climate (North Carolina) | Business Facilities | August 2024
- #6 Most Desirable State to Live in (North Carolina) | Clever Real Estate | August 2024
- #1 Top State to Enjoy Craft Breweries (North Carolina) | Bet Carolina | August 2024