

## Raleigh/Wake County Rankings (as of 7.10.24)

### 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 Specialties 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 Millenials 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
- #6 Very Large Metro in the U.S. for Overall Prosperity Index 10YR (Raleigh) Brookings Institute | March 2024
- #2 Metro for Remote Work in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham) DesignRush | March 2024
- #7 Healthiest City in the U.S. (Raleigh) SmartAsset | March 2024

**Wake County  
Economic Development**  
800 South Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2202  
☎ 919.664.7000



- #16 Best Hospital in the U.S. (Duke University Hospital - Durham) NewsWeek | February 2024
- #6 U.S. City for Tech Professionals (Raleigh) Cloudwards | February 2024
- #2 U.S Metro for Women in Tech (Raleigh) CoworkingCafe | February 2024
- #13 Best Place to Live for Quality of Life (Raleigh-Durham) U.S. News & World Report | February 2024
- #3 Best State Capital to Live In (Raleigh) WalletHub | February 2024
- #2 Hottest Real Estate Market in 2024 (Raleigh) U.S. News & World Report | February 2024
- #1 Best City in the U.S for Renters (Cary) USA Today | February 2024
- #2 Best Performing City in the U.S. (Raleigh) Milken Institute | February 2024
- #1 City with the Most People Working From Home (Cary) SmartAsset | January 2024
- #2 Best Place to Live in America (Raleigh) StudyFinds | January 2024
- #1 City for a 'Fresh Start' (Raleigh) This Old House | January 2024
- #14 Best City for STEM Jobs (Raleigh) WalletHub | January 2024
- #3 U.S. City with the Fastest Job Growth (Raleigh) Quartz | January 2024
- #3 Best Place to Live in the U.S. in 2023-2024 (Raleigh-Durham) U.S. News & World Report | January 2024
- #4 Best Town in the U.S. to Live (Raleigh, NC) Money.com | December 2023
- #8 Best City in the U.S. for Young Black Professionals (Raleigh, NC) Tuko News | December 2023
- #9 Best College City (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | December 2023
- #1 Safest Town in North Carolina (Fuquay-Varina, NC) MoneyGeek | December 2023
- #6 Best City for Work-Life Balance (Raleigh, NC) howtostartanllc.org | November 2023
- #14 Top U.S. City for International Business (Raleigh, NC) The Financial Times | November 2023
- #1 Place to Start a Small Business (Raleigh, NC) LendingTree | November 2023
- #5 Best City to go for Thanksgiving (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | November 2023
- #7 Top Tech Metro in the U.S. in 2023 (Raleigh-Cary, NC) NC Tech Association | November 2023
- #1 Best City for Veterans to Live (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | November 2023
- #4 Fastest Growing Venture Capital Ecosystems in the World (2017-2023) (Raleigh, NC) Pitchbook | October 2023
- #8 Top Real Estate Market for Homebuilding Prospects in 2024 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2023
- #9 Top U.S. Real Estate Markets to Watch in 2024 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC | October 2023
- #6 Top Metro by Life Science Space Currently Open (3Q 2023) (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC | October 2023
- #6 Most Educated City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Forbes | October 2023
- #7 US Metro for Technology Innovation (Raleigh, NC) NCTech Association | October 2023
- #6 Top College in the Nation (Duke University) WalletHub | October 2023
- #3 Best Place to Live in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) Jagran Josh | October 2023
- #4 Top Tech Metro in the Southern U.S. (Raleigh, NC) CommercialCafe | October 2023
- #2 Best City to Drive in in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) WalletHub | October 2023
- #1 Top Biomanufacturing Market in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | September 2023
- #5 Top Life Sciences Cluster in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) JLL | September 2023
- #9 Most Neighborly City in 2023 (Raleigh, NC) Neighbor.com | September 2023
- #7 City Where People are Thinking About Moving To (Raleigh, NC) Coldwell Banker | September 2023
- #3 Best Job Market in the U.S. (Cary, NC) SmartAdvisor | September 2023
- #5 Best Large Airport in North America (RDU International) J.D. Power | September 2023
- #4 Best Public University in the Nation (UNC Chapel Hill) U.S. News & World Report | September 2023
- #22 Best University in the Nation (UNC Chapel Hill) U.S. News & World Report | September 2023
- #2 Top Real Estate Market for Homebuilding Prospects in 2023 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2022
- #6 Top Real Estate Market to Watch in 2023 (Raleigh-Durham, NC) PwC US | October 2022
- #4 Pro-Growth City in the U.S. (Raleigh, NC) Pacific Research Institute | September 2023
- #9 Fastest Growing Metro in the U.S. (Raleigh-Durham, NC) ZRIVO | September 2023
- #9 Top Tech Talent Leader (Labor Pool 50K-125K) (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #8 Top Manufacturing Hub for Large MSAs (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #1 Top Performing Container Ports (Port of Wilmington) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #4 Top Millennial Magnets (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #6 Top Metro in Life Sciences Growth (Raleigh-Durham) Business Facilities | August 2023
- #3 Best Large Metro for Business Climate (Raleigh-Cary) Business Facilities | August 2023

## 2023

- #1 Top Large County in the U.S. for Remote Worker Share (Wake County, NC) Lightcast | December 2023
- #12 Top Large County in the U.S. for Talent Attraction (Wake County, NC) Lightcast | December 2023
- #10 Top Large County in the U.S. for Talent Competitiveness Effect (Wake County, NC) Lightcast | December 2023
- #10 Top Metros in Per Capita Venture Capital Investment (\$4.3K) (Durham, NC) Pitchbook | December 2023
- #1 Best City for First-Time Homebuyers (Raleigh, NC) ConsumerAffairs | December 2023

### Wake County Economic Development

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Raleigh, NC 27601-2202

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For additional rankings,  
please call 919.664.7066.



## North Carolina Rankings (as of 7.10.24)

### 2024

- #7 Most Educated City in the U.S. (Raleigh-Cary, NC) | WalletHub | July 2024
- #7 Best State for a Summer Road-Trip (North Carolina) | WalletHub | June 2024
- #4 State Americans are Eager to Relocate to (North Carolina) | Click Storage | June 2024
- #9 Best U.S. State for Hiking (North Carolina) | KURU | June 2024
- #8 Best State to Be a Nurse for New Graduates (North Carolina) | nurse.com | June 2024
- #7 State with the Most Civic Engagement in Racial Equality (North Carolina) | WalletHub | June 2024
- #8 Best State Economy in the U.S.A. (North Carolina) | WalletHub | June 2024
- #3 State for Gen Z Migration (North Carolina) | StorageCafe | May 2024
- #5 Top State in Tourism Visitation (North Carolina) | Visit NC | May 2024
- #5 Friendliest Dog State in the U.S. (North Carolina) | Showsight Magazine | May 2024
- #5 Best State for Business in U.S. (North Carolina) Chief Executive | May 2024
- #8 Best U.S. City to Start a Business in 2024 (Raleigh, NC) | USA Today April 2024
- #4 State with the Most Solar Capacity (North Carolina) | Climate Control | April 2024
- #5 Best State for Renters in 2024 (North Carolina) | Consumer Affairs | April 2024
- #7 Best State for Outdoor Lovers (North Carolina) | StudyFinds | April 2024
- #25 Greenest State in the U.S. (North Carolina) | WalletHub | April 2024
- #4 Top State for Future Economic Outlook (North Carolina) | ALEC | April 2024
- #5 State with Best Access to Pet-Friendly Spaces (North Carolina) | Forbes | April 2024
- #3 State with the Highest Population Increase since 2022 (North Carolina) | Yahoo News | March 2024
- #16 Top U.S. State for AI Jobs (North Carolina) | Yahoo Finance | March 2024
- #7 Sunniest State in the U.S. (North Carolina) | Yahoo Finance | March 2024
- #14 Best State to Retire on a Budget in 2024 (North Carolina) | Seniorly | March 2024
- #7 Top State for Women-Owned Businesses (North Carolina) | Clarify Capital | March 2024
- #9 State with the Best Business Tax Environment | AccountingToday | February 2024
- #1 State in the U.S. for Highest Quantity of National Board Certified Teachers | EDNC | February 2024
- #9 Most Popular State for Playing Lacrosse | StrawPoll | January 2024
- #8 State for Elderly Care Access | SonderCare | January 2024
- #6 Best State to Drive in (2024) | WalletHub | January 2024
- #10 State with the Most Racial Progress in the U.S. | WalletHub | January 2024
- #5 Best State to Start a Business in 2024 | Forbes Advisor January 2024
- #3 Top State People Moved to in 2023 | U-Haul International January 2024
- #3 Top US School Districts for # of National Board Certified Teachers (Wake County, NC) | NBPT | January 2024
- #8 Top State for Job Growth (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023
- #2 Best State for a Remote Getaway | Window Gnome | December 2023
- #3 Best Charter School Enrollment Growth in the Nation | National Alliance for Public Charter Schools | December 2023
- #1 Lowest State & Local Tax Burden (TEBTR) | Ernst & Young | December 2023
- #7 Top State for Business Startup Growth | Venture Smarter | November 2023
- #6 Most Economically Free State in the U.S. | Fraser Institute | November 2023
- #14 Best State for Educational Freedom | The Heritage Foundation | November 2023
- #10 Top State for Speed of Project Permitting | Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Favorable Regulatory Environment | Area Development | November 2023
- #6 Top State for Site-Readiness Programs | Area Development | November 2023
- #2 Top State for Corporate Tax Structure | Area Development | November 2023
- #3 Top State for Cooperative & Responsive State Government | Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Available Real Estate | Area Development | November 2023
- #9 Top State for Logistics & Infrastructure | Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Water Availability | Area Development | November 2023
- #5 Top State for Energy Availability & Cost | Area Development | November 2023
- #2 Top State for Competitive Labor Market | Area Development | November 2023
- #8 Top State for Access to Capital & Funding | Area Development | November 2023
- #7 Top State for Skilled Job Growth (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023

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- #5 Top State for Talent Attraction (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023
- #4 Top State for Talent Competitiveness Effect (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023
- #6 Top State for Migration (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023
- #7 Top State for Skilled Job Growth (North Carolina) | Lightcast | December 2023