

## Raleigh Recognition: Recent "Best Of" Awards

### Men's Health: Politically Engaged City

Men's Health magazine ranked Raleigh the most politically engaged city in America. The rankings were based on percentages of active registered voters, ballots counted, percentage of income donated in the current presidential election, campaign spending, votes cast in the 2008 primary and votes cast in recent elections for governor and senate. -- **Men's Health magazine, September 2008**



### Milken Institute: A Best Performing City

The Raleigh-Cary metropolitan area is ranked number two in the nation's "Top 100 Best Performing Cities" in an annual economic performance index released by Milken Institute/Greenstreet Real Estate partners. The annual study ranks metropolitan areas by how well they are creating and sustaining jobs and economic growth. The Raleigh-Cary area rose from number 10 in 2007. -- **September 2008**



### MSNBC: America's Best City

MSNBC.com ranks Raleigh America's best city. "Raleigh, N.C., it seems, is the best place to be in the U.S. right now. It ranks No. 1 in Forbes' 2008 list and was also top in 2007 – consistent placement among these lists is truly rare. It ranks No. 2 in Kiplinger's list this year. The city is also Fortune Small Business magazine's No. 20 place to live and launch." -- **June 2008**



### Kiplinger's: A Top Urban Area

Kiplinger's Personal Finance names the Triangle the second best urban area in the U.S. It highlighted undeniable data: population growth since 2000 of 19.9 percent; percentage of the work force in the creative class, 36.1 percent; cost of living index, 99 with 100 being the national average; median household income of \$56,150; and income growth of 10.3 percent since 2000. This ranking dubbed Houston the best in America and Omaha, Neb., the third best. -- **July 2008**



### Forbes: Recession-Proof Local Economy

Forbes magazine ranks the Triangle's economy as fifth on a list of 10 recession-proof local economies. -- **May 2008**

### Best Place For Young Adults

A study conducted by American City Business Journals ranked the Raleigh-Durham market as the best in the nation for young adults, defined as ages 20 to 34. The study examined 10 factors, including growth rates of employment and per capita income, unemployment, percentage of people holding bachelor's degrees and median rent in the nation's 67 largest metropolitan areas. Austin was ranked second, Washington, D.C., third. Charlotte placed seventh. -- **May 2008**

### Fortune: A Best Place To Live And Launch

Raleigh's growing tech industry, support of entrepreneurs and the \$2.5 billion renaissance downtown place the Capital City at No. 20 in Fortune's "Best Places to Live and Launch." -- **May 2008**

### Rachel Ray: Best City For Singles

Raleigh is named "The Best American City for Singles" in Every Day with Rachel Ray magazine. -- **January 2008**

### Late 2007 honors

- Money magazine ranks the Triangle the seventh top appreciating metro area. **(December 2007)**
- MarketWatch list Raleigh in the top 25 places for retirement jobs. **(November 2007)**
- The Association of University Research Parks names North Carolina State University's Centennial Campus the top research science park. **(November 2007)**
- North Carolina is listed as the number one business climate in the U.S. by Site Election. **(November 2007)**

### Fall 2007 honors

- The National Policy Research Council names Wake County the third hottest

economic development spot. **(September 2007)**

- The U.S. Census Bureau list Raleigh the third techiest city in America. **(September 2007)**
- Bizjournals list Raleigh as the 12th best market for female execs and women business owners. **(August 2007)**

#### Forbes: Best Place To Sell A Home



Raleigh is the best place in the nation to sell a home, according to an analysis by Forbes.com. Forbes cited Raleigh's "moderate growth and disciplined building" for keeping its real estate market healthy. The analysis used market and real estate data to rate cities by sales rate, recent sales trends and price stability. -- **July 2007**

Business Facilities ranks Raleigh work force America's 15th best educated. -- **July 2007**

#### One Of The Best Cities For Young Singles



Raleigh joins Washington, Denver, Austin and Lexington, Ky., in **Kiplinger magazine's salute to the best cities for young singles**. Among Kiplinger's criteria: "Four young singles, two factors can be crucial to choosing where to live: Can I afford the rents? And what can I do there? Raleigh is 99 on the cost-of-living index with 100 being the national average." -- **June 2007**

#### Prevention: Leading Walking City



Raleigh is named the **12th "best walking city in the U.S."** by Prevention magazine. The criteria used were: percentage of population that walks for exercise; use of mass transit; parks per square mile; points of interest per square mile; average winter/summer temperatures; and percentage of athletic shoe buyers. -- **July 2007**

#### Forbes: Best Place To Do Business



"After three years as runner-up, Raleigh grabs the top spot on our list," Forbes magazine wrote in announcing the Capital City's placement as **the best place in the U.S. to do business**. Factors: Raleigh's economy has expanded 6 percent annually over the past three years; business costs are 13 percent below the national average and 38 percent of the labor force has a college degree. -- **May 2007**

#### Third Best Area For African-Americans



**Black Enterprise magazine** named Raleigh-Durham the third best area in American for African Americans. The listing cited higher education, technology and health care as reasons for the exalted ranking, along with the cost of operating a business being 12 percent below the national average. -- **May 2007**

#### Forbes: Top City For Employment



Named **the top city for employment** by Forbes magazine. -- **February 2007**

#### Forbes: Second-Best Place To Do Business



Forbes Magazine found Raleigh to be **the second best city in which to do business** out of the 200 U.S. metropolitan areas it rated. "People continue to flock to Raleigh. Unemployment is low. Employers like the low business costs and educated workforce," the magazine stated. -- **May 2006**

#### The City Of Higher Education

Data collected by the Census Bureau's American Community Survey shows that **49.7 percent of Raleigh residents age 25 and over residents have a bachelor's degree or higher**. That is the third highest average in the United States following Seattle at 51.3 percent and San Francisco at 51.0 percent. -- **January 2006**

#### SVLG: Best Overall Value

The **Silicon Valley Leadership Group** rated eight high-tech areas in the U.S. on the basis of several parameters, including housing costs, quality of education, traffic, the



environment and taxes. The Triangle was ranked as the best overall value, ahead of California's famed Silicon Valley, Boston or Austin. -- **September 2005**



#### Kiplinger Magazine "Cool City"

Raleigh lands on Kiplinger magazine's **list of the seven "cool cities" in the United States**. Its description of the Capital City reads: Raleigh "is as hot as it gets, thanks to a healthy job market, a billion-dollar downtown rehab, top universities and plentiful, inexpensive housing." The other cities on the list include Nashville, Minneapolis, Denver, Atlanta, Athens, Ga.; and Austin. -- **September 2005**



#### Forbes: Second-Best Place To Do Business

Forbes magazine ranks Raleigh-Durham **number two in the nation as "Best Places for Business and Careers"** -- **May 2005**



#### Nation's Fastest-Growing Work Force

The Triangle has **the nation's fastest-growing work force** in the life-sciences industries, and the best success rate for bringing biotechnology research ideas to market, according to a study by **the Milken Institute**, a Santa Monica, Calif., economic think tank. Overall, the Triangle ranked fifth behind traditional life-sciences hot spots Boston, Philadelphia, New York and the San Francisco Bay area. It beat regions such as San Diego, Seattle and Chicago. -- **June 2005**



#### Nurturing Region For Biotechnology

The Triangle was ranked third among the nation's metropolitan areas as a nurturing region for biotechnology companies according to a new study of regional biotechnology centers conducted by **the Milken Institute**, a nonprofit think tank based in Santa Monica, Calif. Only San Diego and Boston ranked higher than Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill. -- **June 2004**



#### America's Hottest Boom Town

Business 2.0 ranks the Triangle as **America's hottest boom town**, a sizzling destination poised to create more high-paying jobs than San Jose, Calif., Washington or Atlanta. The national business magazine ranks Raleigh-Durham #1 among 61 U.S. metropolitan areas with populations of at least 1 million when it comes to creating jobs for an elite "creative class" of knowledge workers. Charlotte ranked 19th. -- **February 2004**



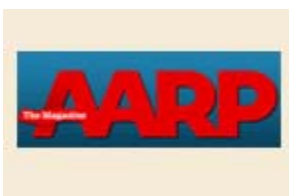
#### Esquire: Raleigh A "City That Rocks"

Esquire magazine lists Raleigh as **No. 4 on its list of "Cities that Rock"** Pittsburgh comes in at 1, followed by Denver and Minneapolis. Trailing after Raleigh are Gainesville, Fla.; Fresno, Calif.; Cincinnati; New Orleans; Phoenix/Tempe and San Francisco. "These are places we think have been overlooked. Any one of these cities could be the next spot where something grows, the next great band to spring up." -- **April 2004**



#### MSN.com: Best Place To Live In U.S.

Website MSN.com lauds Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill for having "the warmth and charm of a small Southern town, while still being large enough to provide all the amenities of big-city living. The Portland, Ore., firm that did the rankings put the area atop the list as **the "Best Place to Live" in America**. -- **July 2003**



#### AARP: "Reinvent Your Life" In Raleigh

AARP Magazine list the Triangle **the third best place to "reinvent your life"** in America. -- **July 2003**

**Best Place To Live And Work**

A publication known as Employment Review named the Triangle **the "No 1 Best Place to Live and Work in America."** -- **July 2003**

**Forbes: Ninth Best City for Singles**

Raleigh-Durham is listed as **the ninth Best City for Singles**, which was created by Forbes.com. The announcement stated that the area is has a good potential for job growth over the next five years, a cheap haunt to get the essentials. And the area is "relatively cool." The judgment was founded on six factors -- 1) number of singles, 2) job growth, 3) nightlife, 4) culture, 5) cost of living alone and 6) coolness. --**June 2003**

**Forbes: Third-Best Place For Careers**

Forbes magazine listed Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill as **the third best metropolitan area in the United States for business and career development**, looking at -- among other things -- job growth. The survey examined 147 metropolitan areas nationwide. -- **May 2003**

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