

# Best Places for Business and Careers

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Special Report

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Page 1 ▾

RANK	METRO AREA	COST OF DOING BUSINESS <sup>1</sup>	JOB GROWTH <sup>2</sup>	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT <sup>3</sup>	POPULATION (THOU)
1	Raleigh NC	27	35	12	978
2	Provo UT	67	17	30	465
3	Boise ID	19	19	84	560
4	Des Moines IA	49	64	50	531
5	Knoxville TN	14	49	88	662
6	Albuquerque NM	34	56	53	813
7	Durham NC	33	124	6	462
8	Fayetteville AR	11	8	140	417
9	Nashville TN	42	47	82	1,438
10	Olympia WA	113	21	40	233
11	Ogden UT	58	33	96	499
12	Gainesville FL	52	67	13	243
13	Naples FL	79	3	46	317
14	Richmond VA	26	72	64	1,193
15	Lincoln NE	15	114	24	284
16	Edison NJ	174	93	25	2,323
17	Tallahassee FL	81	68	16	339
18	Mercer County NJ	156	46	20	368
19	Omaha NE	69	113	60	821
20	Spokane WA	47	60	97	447
21	Charlotte NC	44	91	54	1,563
22	Tampa-St. Petersburg FL	104	26	129	2,691
23	Asheville NC	10	70	127	398
24	Winston-Salem NC	7	121	110	455
25	Atlanta GA	119	100	36	5,064