



ATLANTA RANKINGS 2025 MID-YEAR UPDATE

Rank	Ranking	Source	Release
BUSINESS & ECONOMY			
#1	Best City to Start a Career	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Start a Career (2025)"	May-25
#1	Metro with the Highest Share of Black-owned Businesses	LendingTree, "Number of Black-Owned Businesses Spikes As Atlanta Remains in Spotlight"	Feb-25
#1	Best City for Job Opportunities in Georgia	WalletHub, "Best Cities for Jobs"	Jan-25
#1	Best City for Young Professionals	Extra Space Storage, "Best Cities for Young Professionals in 2025"	May-25
#2	Greatest Increase in Black-Owned Businesses	Brookings, "Driving prosperity: How Black-owned businesses fueled recent economic growth"	Feb-25
#3	Best City for Entrepreneurs	CoworkingCafe, "Scottsdale, Miami & Atlanta Lead 2024's Best Cities for Entrepreneurs"	Sep-24
#3	Best City for Headquarters	Site Selection Magazine, "Site Selectors Survey: Why Site Selectors Love the South"	Jan-25
#3	Best City for Small Businesses	Entrepreneur, "These Are the 20 Best Cities for Small Businesses, According to a New Report"	Sep-24
#5	Top Meeting Destination in North America	Cvent, "Top 50 Meeting Destinations in North America"	Jun-25
#5	Top Large Manufacturing Hubs	Business Facilities, "2025 Metro Rankings: Markets Across U.S., Canada Lead Economic Growth"	Jun-25
#6	Top Metro for INC 5000 Companies	Inc. 5000, 2024	Aug-24
#6	Metro with the Most Corporate Headquarters	Business Facilities, "2025 Metro Rankings: Markets Across U.S., Canada Lead Economic Growth"	Jun-25
#7	Metro with the Most Fortune 500 Headquarters	Real Page, "Markets with the Most Fortune 500 Headquarters in 2025"	Jun-25
#8	Best Large City to Start a Business	WalletHub, "Best Large Cities to Start a Business"	Apr-25
#9	Tier 1 Metro with the Most Economic Development Projects	Site Selection, "Top Metros - Tier 1: Investment Keeps Sailing into the Windy City"	Mar-25
PEOPLE			
#2	Top Moving Destination	Penske, "Penske Truck Rental Announces 2024 Top Moving Destinations"	May-25
#3	Metro for Population Growth 2014-2024 (799K)	U.S. Census Bureau	Mar-25
#4	Top Metro for College-Educated Movers	Axios, "College-educated Americans are moving to Atlanta"	Mar-25
#8	Largest Metro Population (6.4M)	U.S. Census Bureau	Mar-25
#8	Metro for Population Growth 2023-2024 (75,134)	U.S. Census Bureau	Mar-25
REAL ESTATE			
#1	Top Region in the Southeast for Industrial Development	ARC, "ARC Board Adopts Major Update to Regional Freight Mobility Plan"	Mar-25
#1	Top Data Center Market for Leasing Activity	CBRE, "North America Data Center Trends H2 2024"	Feb-25
#1	Largest Increase in Under-Construction Data Centers	CBRE, "North America Data Center Trends H2 2024"	Feb-25
#3	Top Market for New-Home Sales Activity	ConsumerAffairs, "The 10 cities building (and selling) the most new homes"	May-25
#4	Most Attractive Market for Commercial Real Estate Investment	CBRE, "Atlanta Among Top Targets for Commercial Real Estate Investment in 2025"	Feb-25
#4	Top Cities for Rental Activity	Rental Housing Journal, "Top 5 Cities For Rental Activity First Quarter 2025"	May-25
#4	Busiest Markets for New Residential Construction	ConsumerAffairs, "The 10 cities building (and selling) the most new homes"	May-25
#5	Top U.S. Regions for Industrial Development	ARC, "ARC Board Adopts Major Update to Regional Freight Mobility Plan"	Mar-25
#5	City with the Highest Number of Building Permits Issued	ConsumerAffairs, "The 10 cities building (and selling) the most new homes"	May-25
#6	Highest Number of Office-to-Residential Conversion Units	RentCafe, "Record-Breaking 71K Apartments Set to Emerge From Office Conversions"	Feb-25
EDUCATION			
#1	Highest Increase in Fourth Grade Math and Reading Scores	The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Atlanta tops the nation with major 4th grade reading gains"	Feb-25
#1	Most Educated City in the US	Forbes, "What Are The Most Educated Cities In The U.S.? Top 100 Cities Ranked"	Aug-24
AIRPORT			
#1	World's Busiest Airport	The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Atlanta airport retains 'world's busiest' crown in 2024"	Apr-25
#1	Best Airport for Food & Drinks in the U.S.	Food & Wine, "The Top 10 US Airports for Food and Drink"	Apr-25

TECHNOLOGY

#1	Top Smart City in the U.S.	ProptechOS, "These cities are best prepared for a 'smart city' future in 2025"	May-25
#1	Smartest U.S. City for Connectivity and Infrastructure	ProptechOS, "These cities are best prepared for a 'smart city' future in 2025"	May-25
#2	Largest Data Center Market in the World by Inventory Capacity	CBRE, "Global Data Center Trends 2025"	Jun-25
#3	Top Cities for Cybersecurity and IT Careers	Liquid Web, "Top Cities for Tech Jobs"	Feb-25
#4	Best Metro for STEM Professionals	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals (2025)"	Jan-25
#4	Top Ten Data Center Markets (Global)	Cushman & Wakefield, "2025 Global Data Center Market Comparison"	May-25
#4	Top Ten Data Center Markets (Americas)	Cushman & Wakefield, "2025 Global Data Center Market Comparison"	May-25
#5	Best Tech Job Market in the U.S.	ProptechOS, "These cities are best prepared for a 'smart city' future in 2025"	May-25
#5	Top Education Market for Tech Degrees	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent 2024"	Sep-24
#6	Smartest U.S. City for Green Infrastructure	ProptechOS, "These cities are best prepared for a 'smart city' future in 2025"	May-25
#6	Top Market for Tech Degree Completions	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent 2024"	Sep-24
#8	Most STEM Professional Opportunities	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals (2025)"	Jan-25
#10	Top City for Senior-Level Tech Jobs	Liquid Web, "Top Cities for Tech Jobs"	Feb-25
#10	Highest Tech Employment	CompTIA, "State of the Tech Workforce 2025"	Mar-25
#10	Highest Concentration of AI Specialty Talent in the U.S.	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent 2024"	Sep-24
#11	Tech Talent Hub	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent 2024"	Sep-24
#12	Top Cities in the U.S. for Startup Ecosystems	StartupBlink, "Startup Ecosystem Rankings 2025"	May-25

QUALITY OF LIFE

#1	Best City to Live in the Continental United States	Forbes, "The 20 Best Cities To Live In The World, According To A 2025 Report"	Jun-25
#1	Best City for Recent College Grads	CoworkingCafe, "Top Cities for Grads in 2025: Atlanta Takes Back the Top Spot"	Jun-25
#1	Best City for First-Time Homebuyers Among Fastest Growing Markets	ConsumerAffairs, "The 10 cities building (and selling) the most new homes"	May-25
#1	Best Place to Live on the U.S. East Coast	Travel + Leisure, "This Southern City Was Named the Best Place to Live on the East Coast"	Aug-24
#1	Best Cities for Black Homebuyers	AJC, "Atlanta ranked as best U.S. city for Black homebuyers"	Oct-24
#1	Top Cold Weather U.S. City for Winter Holidays	WalletHub, "Best Winter Holiday Destinations"	Oct-24
#1	Best U.S. City for Christmas	WalletHub, "Best Cities for Christmas"	Dec-24
#1	Best City for Singles	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Cities for Singles"	Dec-24
#1	Johns Creek - Best Places to Live in the U.S.	U.S. News, "The 25 Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2025-2026"	Jun-25
#2	Best City to Live in the United States	Forbes, "The 20 Best Cities To Live In The World, According To A 2025 Report"	Jun-25
#2	Top Metro Area to Visit in the Summer	WalletHub, "Best Summer Travel Destinations"	May-25
#2	Best Place to Go for Thanksgiving	WalletHub, "Best Places to Go for Thanksgiving"	Nov-24
#3	Best Cities for Renters to Live	RentCafe, "Best Cities for Renters to Live in 2025: Southern Cities Sweep Top 10"	Jun-25
#3	Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker	MovieMaker, "The Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker in 2025"	Jan-25
#4	Most Fun Cities in America	WalletHub, "Most Fun Cities in America "	Dec-24
#4	Best City for Recreation	WalletHub, "Best and Worst Cities for Recreation"	Jul-25
#4	Best Places to Get Married in the U.S.	WalletHub, "Best Places to Get Married"	Feb-25
#5	Best State Capitals to Live In	WalletHub, "Best State Capitals to Live In"	Feb-25
#5	Best Cities to Celebrate Easter	WalletHub, "Best Places to Celebrate Easter"	Apr-25
#6	Best State Capitals for Quality of Life	WalletHub, "Best State Capitals to Live In"	Feb-25
#8	Best Places to Live in the U.S. For Young Adults	Travel + Leisure, "11 Best Places to Live in the U.S. For Young Adults"	Jan-25
#9	Most Affordable Major Cities in the United States	Motley Fool Money, "The 10 Most Affordable Cities With High Salaries and Low Costs"	May-25
#9	Top Southern U.S. City	Southern Living, "The South's Best Cities 2025"	Mar-25
#9	Best Places for a Staycation	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Cities for Staycations"	Jun-25
#10	Best Retirement City in the U.S.	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Retire"	Sep-24
#11	Best Foodie City in America	WalletHub, "Best Foodie Cities in America"	Sep-24
#29	Most Livable City in the World	Forbes, "The 20 Best Cities To Live In The World"	Jun-25

MISCELLANEOUS

#6	Most Dog-Friendly City in the U.S.	Tractor Supply Co, "The Most Dog-Friendly Cities In The U.S. Revealed"	Jan-25
#12	Top City for International Tourism	Condé Nast, "The 15 most visited cities in the United States"	Jan-25