



ATLANTA RANKINGS 2026 MID-YEAR UPDATE

Rank	Ranking	Source	Release
BUSINESS & ECONOMY			
#1	Top City for Recent Grads	CoworkingCafe, "The Best U.S. Cities to Launch a Career, Ranked by Jobs, Income & Livability"	Jun-26
#1	Best Place to Start a Career	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Start a Career"	May-26
#1	Best City for Remote Workers	CoworkingCafe, "Remote Work Capitals: America's Best Cities for Telecommuting"	Nov-25
#1	Highest Share of Black-Owned Business	Lendingtree, "For 4th Year in Row, Atlanta Has Highest Share of Black-Owned Businesses"	Feb-26
#1	Alpharetta - Top Career Hotspots Under 250,000 Residents	CoworkingCafe, "The Smart Move: Big On Career Opportunities Outside the Big Cities"	Jan-26
#2	MSA for HQ Job Growth (2015-2025)	Georgia Power Economic Development	Jan-26
#2	Professional Opportunities	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Start a Career"	May-26
#2	Best City for Headquarter Projects	Site Selection, "SITE SELECTORS SURVEY: Go Where You're HAPPY"	Jan-26
#2	Best City for Young Professionals	Extra Space Storage, "Best Cities for Young Professionals in 2026"	Nov-25
#5	Top Metro for Economic Development Projects	Site Selection, "The 2025 Governor's Cup"	Mar-26
#5	Most Quality Ranked Workplaces	Inc., "Best Workplaces 2026"	Jun-26
#5	Top Large Manufacturing Hubs	Business Facilities, "2025 Metro Rankings: Markets Across U.S., Canada Lead Economic Growth"	Jun-25
#6	Most Corporate Headquarters Attraction 2018-2024	Business Facilities, "2025 Metro Rankings: Markets Across U.S., Canada Lead Economic Growth"	Jun-25
#6	Top Meeting Destination in North America	Northstar, "Orlando Tops Cvent 2026 Meeting Destinations List"	May-26
PEOPLE			
#3	Highest Population Growth 2024-25	U.S. Census Bureau	Mar-26
#3	Fastest Growing Foreign-born Population of the 20 Largest Metros	Georgia Power Economic Development	Jan-26
#3	Lawrenceville - Most Diverse Suburb in America	Niche, "2026 Most Diverse Suburbs in America"	Mar-26
#6	Largest Metro Population (6.48M)	U.S. Census Bureau	Mar-26
REAL ESTATE			
#1	City That Gives You the Most Home for the Price	Realtor.com, "September 2025 Luxury Housing Report: More for Your Money"	Oct-25
#1 (T)	City with the Largest Drop in Rental Unit Pricing	Realtor.com, "Rents Are Dropping Across the U.S.—These 3 Metros Have Had the Biggest Price Cuts"	Sep-25
#2	Best Market for Homebuyers	Zillow, "Zillow's Best Markets for Home Buyers in 2026: Where Buyers Have Leverage and Upside"	Jan-26
#2	Most Attractive Market for Commercial Real Estate Investment	CBRE, "Atlanta Among Top Targets for Commercial Real Estate Investment in 2026, CBRE Survey Finds"	Jan-26
#4	Best Market for First-Time Homebuyers	Zillow, "Best Markets for First-Time Home Buyers in 2026"	Apr-26
#4	Top City to Invest in Real Estate	Norada, "20 Best U.S. Cities to Invest in Real Estate in 2026"	Jun-26
EDUCATION			
#2	Best College Social Environment	WalletHub, "Best College Towns in America"	Oct-25
#3	Quality of Engineering Universities	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals"	Feb-26
#7	Best College Town	WalletHub, "Best College Towns in America"	Oct-25
#8	Higher Education R&D Expenditure	Site Selection, "The 2026 Site Selectors Survey"	Jan-26
TECHNOLOGY			
#2	Best Metro Area for STEM Professionals	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals"	Feb-26
#3	Top North American Tech Hub	Site Selection, "TECH HUBS: DFW Overtakes DC in North American Tech Hub Index"	Jan-26
#3	Largest Data Center Market	Colliers, "2026 Data Center Marketplace"	Mar-26
#4	Most STEM Professional Opportunities	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Metro Areas for STEM Professionals"	Feb-26
#4	Highest Annual Data Center Market Growth	Colliers, "2026 Data Center Marketplace"	Mar-26
#4	Fastest Growing Market for Tech Degree Completions	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent"	Sep-25
#5	Top Tech Education Market	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent"	Sep-25
#6	Top Metro for Information Industry Employment	Georgia Power Economic Development	Jan-26
#6	Most Tech Degree Completions	CBRE, "Scoring Tech Talent"	Sep-25
#7	Tech Talent Hub	JLL, "Talent Hubs 2025"	Sep-25
#8	Most Tech Job Postings	Dice, "The Defensive Job Market"	Feb-26
#9	Highest Tech Salaries (Cost of Living Adjusted)	CompTIA, "State of the Tech Workforce 2026"	Mar-26
#9	Top U.S. Global Startup Ecosystem	Startup Blink, "Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2026"	May-26
#10	Highest Tech Employment	CompTIA, "State of the Tech Workforce 2026"	Mar-26



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AIRPORT			
#1	World's Busiest Airport	Airports Council International, "World's Busiest Airports Revealed in Latest Global Rankings"	Apr-26
QUALITY OF LIFE			
#1	Best Place to Live in the U.S. for Young Adults	Travel + Leisure, "8 Best Places to Live in the U.S. for Young Adults, According to Real Estate Experts"	Feb-26
#1	Best Summer Travel Destination	WalletHub, "Best Summer Travel Destinations"	May-26
#1	Best Place to Move After College	Extra Space Storage, "12 Best Places to Move After College"	May-26
#1	Most Exciting City in the U.S.	Finance Buzz, "The 10 Most Exciting Cities in America"	Jul-25
#1	Best City for Singles	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Cities for Singles"	Dec-25
#1	Atlantic Station - Best Neighborhood to Live in America	Niche, "2026 Best Neighborhoods to Live in America"	Mar-26
#1	World's Longest Linear Arboretum	Atlanta Business Chronicle, "Beltline proclaimed as world's longest linear arboretum"	Mar-26
#2	Most Livable City in the U.S.	The Economist, "The world's most, and least, liveable cities in 2026"	Jun-26
#2	Best U.S. City for Gen Z	CommercialCafe, "Best Cities for Gen Z in 2025 & Beyond: Which Areas Are Most Livable for Young People?"	Oct-25
#3	Best Quality of Life	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Start a Career"	May-26
#3	Best State Capital to Live In	WalletHub, "Best State Capitals to Live In"	Feb-26
#3	Quietest City in the U.S.	Secret Atlanta, "Atlanta Is Officially One Of The Quietest Major Cities In The Entire World, Ranking Just Behind Munich, Germany"	Jul-25
#4	Best City for Recreation	WalletHub, "Best and Worst Cities for Recreation"	Jul-25
#4	Most Fun City in America	WalletHub, "Most Fun Cities in America"	Dec-25
#4	Family-Friendly Attractions	Best Cities, "2026 America's Best Cities Report"	Jun-26
#5	Johns Creek - Best Place to Live in the U.S.	U.S. News, "250 Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2026-2027"	May-26
#5	Midtown - Best Neighborhood to Live in America	Niche, "2026 Best Neighborhoods to Live in America"	Mar-26
Top 5	Great North American Biking Cities	The New York Times, "Great North American Biking Cities"	Jun-26
#6	Best City for Retirees	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Places to Retire"	Sep-25
#6	Highest Share of Green Space	Best Cities, "2026 World's Best Cities Report"	Nov-25
#7	Most Affordable City in the World	Bloomberg, "Austin, Salt Lake City Top Global List of Most Affordable Cities"	Oct-25
#7	Best City for an Active Lifestyle	WalletHub, "Best & Worst Cities for an Active Lifestyle"	Jan-26
#9	Metro Gaining the Most Movers	U-Haul, "U-Haul Growth Index: Top U.S. Growth Metros and Cities of 2025 Announced"	Jan-26
#9	Fittest City in the U.S.	Times Entertainment, "Top 10 fittest US cities of 2025: Is yours on the list?"	Jul-25
SPORTS			
#1	Best Sports Business City	Sports Business Journal: Best Sports Business Cities: Atlanta's Moment	May-26
#1 (T)	Best World Cup Venue	The Athletic, "World Cup stadium rankings: Which venue is best for atmosphere, location and suitability for soccer?"	Jun-26
#1	Mercedes-Benz Stadium - Best NFL Stadium Food	USA Today, "Game day gourmet: 10 best NFL stadiums for food"	Aug-25
#2	Mercedes-Benz Stadium - Best NFL Stadium	USA Today, "Experience epic game day magic at the 10 best NFL stadiums"	Aug-25
MISCELLANEOUS			
#4	Best Place to Get Married	WalletHub, "Best Places to Get Married"	Feb-26