



Charlotte's National Rankings and Accolades

2012

- #2 **Best Airport** Apr 2012 Travel + Leisure (of 22 major airports)
- #5 **Frequent Flier Favorite** Apr 2012 Trip Advisor (of U.S. airports)
- #8 **Clean Job Announcements, Q1 2010** Apr 2012 e2.org (of 50 states)
- #1 **Largest Population Increase (%) 2000-2010** Mar 2012 U.S. Census (of 42 urbanized areas of 1M+)
- #4 **Fastest Growing Job Market 2011** Mar 2012 Urbanophile (of 51 large MSAs)
- #5 **Most women-owned businesses** Mar 2012 Bizjournals.com (of 50 states)
- #5 **Overall Well-Being** Mar 2012 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index (of 190 large MSAs)
- #1 **Top Library for Children (ImaginOn: The Joe and Joan Martin Center)** Feb 2012 livability.com (of 500 children's libraries)
- #1 **Best Online Business Graduate Program (Gardner-Webb)** Jan 2012 U.S. News and World Report (of 160 programs)

2011

- #3 **Best Metro Area Investments for Real Estate** Nov 2011 Urban Land Institute (of 18 Metros less than 2 million)
- #1 **Lowest Violent Crime Rate** Oct 2011 Forbes.com (of 50 Largest Metros)
- #1 **Top Urban School District** Sept 2011 The Broad Foundation (of 75 School Districts)
- #1 **Happiest Young Professionals** Sept 2011 Forbes (of 20 Cities)
- #1 **Major Market of the Year** Sept 2011 Southern Business & Development
- #2 **"Manliest" City** Sept 2011 bestplaces.net (of 50 Large Cities)
- #1 **Least Expensive City for Business Travel** Aug 2011 Concur Technologies (of 25 Cities)
- #2 **Best Value City** July 2011 Kiplinger.com (of 353 MSAs)
- #8 **Next Biggest Boom Town** Jul 2011 Forbes (of 52 Largest Metros)
- #14 **Creative Cities** Jul 2011 creativecities.org (of 35 Cities)
- #14 **Vitality Index** Jul 2011 Creative Cities International (of 35 Cities)

- #1 **Most Profitable Biotech Industry** Jun 2011 Ernst & Young (of 50 States)
- #2 **Lowest Manufacturing Costs** Jun 2011 American Institute for Economic Research (of 50 States)
- #3 **Top State for Business** Jun 2011 CNBC (of 50 States)
- #4 **Family Hotspot** Jun 2011 (of 50 Largest Regions)
- #5 **Most Desirable Place to do Business** Jun 2011 Area Development Special Magazine (of 100 Cities)
- Top 4 Gold Medal Community** Jun 2011 National Recreation and Park Association (of All Large Counties)
- #1 **Home Price Increase** May 2011 bankrate.com (of 152 MSA)
- #2 **Top State for Business** May 2011 Chief Executive.net (of 50 States)
- #4 **Top Competitive States** May 2011 Site Selection (of 50 States)
- #7 **Highest Wages** May 2011 Business Journals (of 144 Southern MSAs)
- #10 **Economic Growth** May 2011 American Business Journals (of 50 States)
- Top 10 Great City for New Graduates** May 2011 Kiplinger.com (of US Cities Cities)
- Top 10 Best Economic Development Group** May 2011 Site Selection (of 15,000 Economic Development Groups)
- #8 **Business Friendliness** Apr 2011 fDi Magazine (of 405 Large Cities)
- #2 **FDI Strategy** Apr 2011 fDi Magazine (of 405 Large Cities)
- #5 **Economic Potential** Apr 2011 fDi Magazine (of 405 Large Cities)
- #3 **Potential to Attract Foreign Investments** Apr 2011 fDi Magazine (of 400 Large cities)
- #3 **City of The Future** Apr 2011 fDi Magazine (of 405 Large Cities)
- #4 **Best for Small Business** Apr 2011 American City Business Journals (of 100 Large Cities)
- #4 **Best place to start a small business** Apr 2011 bizjournals.com (of 100 Metros)
- #5 **Best Overall Health** Apr 2011 countyhealthrankings.org (of 100 NC Counties)
- #14 **Fastest Growing Metro** Apr 2011 Rice University (of 353 MSAs)
- Top 11 Comeback City for 2011** Apr 2011 Kiplinger.com (of All Cities)

#1 Largest County Mar 2011 US Census (of 50 Counties)

Top 16 Best Places To Retire Mar 2011 Forbes (of All Cities)

#9 Best Housing Recovery Bet Feb 2011 CNNmoney.com (of 381 Housing Markets)

#11 Best Shopping Cities Jan 2011 (of 25 Cities)

#13 Highest Technology and Science Index Jan 2011 Milken Institute (of 50 States)

2010

#1 Top State Business Climates Nov 2010 (of 25 States)

#1 Best Place for Companies to Thrive Nov 2010 (of 50 States)

#3 50 Best Community Colleges Oct 2010 (of 50 Community Colleges)

#3 Best States for Business Oct 2010 Forbes.com (of 50 States)

#4 Change in Employment, Q409-Q110 Sep 2010 Brookings Institute (of 100 Metros)

#15 College Destination Index Sep 2010 American Institute for Economic Research (AIER — of 20 Mid-Sized Metros)

#3 Economic Health Aug 2010 Tampa Bay Partnership (of 6 SE. Regions)

#5 Economic Growth Potential Aug 2010 (of 10 Metros)

#5 Workforce Training Leaders Aug 2010 s (of 50 States)

#6 Best Business Climate Aug 2010 (of 50 States)

#1 Best Airport Jul 2010 International Air Transport Association (IATA — of All Airports)

#5 Best City for Education Jul 2010 www.parenting.com (of 10 Cities)

#14 Top Sustainable Metros Jul 2010 Online (of MSAs)

#11 Economic Strength Ranking May 2010 Policom Corporation (of 366 MSA)

Top 10 Best Economic Development Group May 2010 (of 15,000 Economic Development Groups)

#7 Top Places to Live Apr 2010 Relocate-America.com (of 100 Cities)

#4 Best Affordable Suburbs Mar 2010 Businessweek (of 52 Cities)

#8 Largest Rent Decrease over Year Mar 2010 (of 26 Metros)

#12 Riskiest City for Cybercrimes Mar 2010 Symantec Corporation (of 50 Large Cities)

Top 10 Places to go from renting to owning home Jan 2010 (of 42 Metros)

2009

#7 Best Place for Small Business Startups Oct 2009 Small Business (of 50 Largest Metros)

#2 Best Cities for Entrepreneurs Sep 2009 (of 50 Large Cities)

#1 Top 10 Metros for Economic Growth Potential Aug 2009 Business Facilities (of 10 Metros)

#10 America's Best Cities Aug 2009 (of 100 Large Cities)

#2 America's 25 Best Places to Move Jul 2009 Forbes.com (of 25 Cities)

#8 Largest Airport Jul 2009 Airports.org (of All Cities)

#9 Best Sports Cities Jul 2009 (of 100 Cities)

#12 Best Places to Live and Work for Young Professionals Jun 2009 Next Generation Consulting (NGC) (of Large Cities)

#5 Mind magnet / Youth magnet city May 2009 / Brookings Institution (of 20 Metros)

#15 Top 25 Cities for Your Career May 2009 WomenCo (of 25 Cities)

#1 Corporate Aviation Support Apr 2009 (of 34 Airports)

#3 Large Cities: Top Five Best Economic Potential Apr 2009 (of 400 Large cities)

#3 Large City of the Future Apr 2009 (of 400 Large cities)

#9 Top North American Cities of the Future Apr 2009 (of 400 Cities)

#1 Top State for Data Centers Feb 2009 GlobeSt.com (of 10 States)

#2 Manliest City Feb 2009 Sperling's Best Places (of 50 Metros)

#2 Best Places to Start and Grow a Company Feb 2009 bizjournals.com (of 100 Metros)

#15 Emptiest City Feb 2009 (of 75 Largest MSAs)

#1 States with the Largest and Fastest-Growing Immigrant Populations Jan 2009 Migration Policy Institute (of 50 States)

#3 Most Popular Move Destination Jan 2009 United Van Lines (of 100 Metros)