



2026 RANKINGS

Texas is the Best State for Business for the 22nd year in a row, according to the 2025 survey of more than 650 US CEOs.
([Chief Executive](#), 4/28/25)

Austin had the third highest amount of headquarters relocations in the Nation, according to CBRE. Austin is only behind Dallas (with nearly three and a half times our population) and Miami (approximately two and half times our population.)
([CBRE](#), 4/6/2026)

Austin is ranked as the No. 5 metro for concentration of AI jobs in the US.
([Coworking Cafe](#), 3/18/26)

Austin ranks as the Best Major Metro in the US for Women-owned businesses based on 14 separate indicators across three categories: women's entrepreneurship, economic conditions and the local labor and talent pool.
([Coworking Cafe](#), 3/12/26)

Austin ranks at No. 9 in Milken's annual Best-Performing Cities assessment of economic growth and access to opportunities in U.S. metropolitan areas. Austin maintains its 19+ year streak of landing in the top 10 due to its labor market performance and a robust and diversified tech sector.
([Milken Institute](#), 1/27/26)

Austin, with 372 deals garnering \$7.9 billion in 2025, ranks fifth among U.S. metros for VC investment.
([Pitchbook](#), 1/14/26)

Austin is #3 on U-Haul's Top Growth Metros
([U-Haul](#), 1/6/2026)

Austin is #7 on Site Selection's North American Tech Hub Index
([Site Selection](#), 1/6/2026)



2025 RANKINGS

Texas is the Top State for exports and imports.

([Texas Comptroller](#), 10/30/25)

Austin ranks as the eighth Best City for Gen Zers based on their desired affordability and lifestyle amenities.

([Commercial Café](#), 10/6/25)

Austin ranks as the most the second Most Affordable Global City based on DWS Group's Affordability Review.

([DWS Group](#), 9/30/25)

Austin ranks as the tenth Best City for Launching a Manufacturing Business in 2025 based on affordability, talent access, energy costs, and overall business-friendly conditions.

([mie solutions](#), 09/25/25)

Austin ranks as the third Best City for Vegans & Vegetarians based on 17 key indicators of vegan and vegetarian friendly restaurants.

([WalletHub](#), 9/23/25)

Austin ranks as the 8th Best Coffee Cities in America based on 12 key indicators of coffee lover-friendliness.

([WalletHub](#), 9/17/25)

Texas has the nation's Best Corporate Tax Environment.

([Area Development](#), 03/25)

Austin has the 6th Best Business Climate among large metros.

([Business Facilities](#), 7/30/25)

Texas has the No. 1 State Business Climate.

([Business Facilities](#), 7/29/25)

Austin ranks as the fourth best community for recent college graduates based on hiring rates, cost of living, and starting salaries

([ADP Research](#), 7/18/25)

Texas is No. 2 on America's Top States for Business ranking.

([CNBC](#), 7/10/25)

Austin is the nation's biggest "boomtown," with a 14.6% growth in GDP, 9.4% growth in housing units, and 5.1% population growth from 2021 to 2023.

([LendingTree](#), 7/7/25)

Austin is No. 5 in Top Large Cities for Starting a Career after College ranking based on cities' strengths and attractions for young professionals.

([Coworking Café](#), 6/3/25)

Austin has received the second-most headquarters relocations in the entire country, with 82 between 2018 and 2024. Only Dallas is ahead with 100 in that time.

([Visual Capitalist](#), 05/28/25)

Leander, Pflugerville, and Cedar Park were ranked 8, 15, and 23 respectively on US News and World Report's "Best Places to Live". Austin was ranked third best place to live in the large city category and Round Rock was ninth in the medium city category. The ratings took into account affordability, quality of life, safety, and growth

([US News and World Report](#), 5/25)

AUSTIN IN THE NEWS

2024-2026



Austin is rated as the top innovation hub in the Southern U.S., out of the top 75 cities rated, including Houston, Miami, Washington, D.C. This was earned as a result of its strong performances across STEM employment, educational attainment, and patent activity.

([CommercialCafe](#), 5/22/25)

Austin is the No. 1 Rising Star in the US based on The Global Tech Ecosystem Index. Austin was also named as the No 5 Global Champion recognizing the biggest and most successful tech ecosystems globally and as the No 6 Density Leader for high performing, innovative ecosystems with strong output per capita.

([Dealroom.co](#), 5/21/25)

Austin is the most affordable market for housing rents of the Top 50 largest metros.

([Zillow](#), 5/21/25)

Austin was ranked as the No. 1 barbecue city in the US by Yelp users.

([Yelp](#), 5/16/25)

Austin is the Fifth Best city to start a career based on job-market saturation, housing affordability and commuter-friendliness.

([WalletHub](#), 5/12/25)

Austin ranks as a Top 10 One-way Move location highlighting areas that see a high level of migration.

([Penske Truck](#), 5/2/25)

For the 21st year in a row, Texas was named the Best State for Business in annual survey of U.S. CEOs.

([Chief Executive](#), 4/28/25)

Austin is No. 4 on annual ranking of the United States Most Dynamic Metros based on data for area growth, young-firm prevalence and employment, education, income and other factors summarizing a region's vitality.

([Heartland Forward](#), 2/15/25)

For the 13th year in a row, Texas claims the Governor's Cup for total qualified projects in 2024. On a projects per capita basis, Texas ranks 4th.

([Site Selection](#), 3/3/25)

Austin ranks as the No. 6 Hardest-Working City in the US based on 11 key metrics including average weekly work hours and share of workers with multiple jobs.

([WalletHub](#), 2/25/25)

Austin ranks as the Best State Capital to live in the U.S. based on 48 key indicators including affordability, economic well-being, quality of life, education and health care.

([WalletHub](#), 2/17/25)

Austin ranks as the 5th most "Smart City" among the Top US metros based on tech-driven urban development, sustainable policies and tech job opportunities.

([CoworkingCafé](#), 02/19/25)

Austin is expected to deliver more Affordable housing in 2025 than any other market in the US with 3,452 units expected to come online.

([Yardi Matrix](#), 02/10/25)

Austin was named as a 2024 Visionary Digital Inclusion Trailblazer by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance due to its efforts to close the digital divide.

([National Digital Inclusion Alliance](#), 02/4/25)

Austin was ranked as the 6th Best Place to Get Married in the U.S. based on cost, venues, vendors, and services.

([WalletHub](#), 02/4/25)



Austin ranks at No. 6 in Milken's annual Best-Performing Cities assessment of economic growth and access to opportunities in U.S. metropolitan areas. Austin maintains its decade-plus streak of landing in the top 10 due to its labor market performance and a robust and diversified tech sector.

([Milken Institute](#), 1/14/25)

Austin is one of the Top 10 North American Tech Hubs.

([Site Selection](#), 1/25)

Austin, with 354 deals garnering \$3.5 billion in 2024, ranks seventh among U.S. metros for VC investment.

([Pitchbook](#), 1/10/24)

Kyle, TX (zip 78640) is one of the Hottest Zip Codes in the U.S., ranking 10th, based on the number of homes that went into contract within 90 days of their listing in 2024. ([Opendoor](#), 1/8/25)

Austin is one of the Top 5 U-Haul Growth Metros in annual ranking of metros seeing the largest net gains of movers taking one-way equipment into and out of a metro area in the last year.

([U-Haul](#), 1/3/25)

2024 RANKINGS

Austin ranks No. 7 in annual Leading Metro Locations report ranking of the 53 largest U.S. metros based on overall economic health. In the Prime Workforce Availability ranking, Austin is No. 2.

([Area Development](#), 12/19/24)

Austin is No. 2 in ranking of the South's Best Metros for Tech in 2024. Metros were evaluated based on tech establishments and jobs density and growth, median tech earnings and growth, patent activity, presence of tech organizations, and overall quality of life.

([Commercial Café](#), 12/19/24)

Texas is the No. 3 State to Start a Business in analysis based on data reflecting tax policies, the growth rate of small businesses, the likelihood of business survival, overall economic health, and workforce-related statistics.

([B2B Reviews](#), 12/18/24)

Austin is among the Top 10 Best Cities in America according to survey conducted by real estate agent matching service Clever asking Americans to rate the 50 most populous U.S. metros on 9 quality of life metrics.

([Clever](#), 12/16/24)

Austin is America's Pickleball Capital in 2024 according to analysis produced by in-person leisure learning marketplace TeachMe.To.

([TeachMe.To](#), 12/15/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Best Cities for Singles in 2025 based on comparison more than 180 U.S. cities across 35 key indicators of dating-friendliness.

([WalletHub](#), 12/3/24)

Austin is the 6th most fun city in the United States based on 65 key measures gauging the range of activities offered in each city.

([WalletHub](#), 12/2/24)

Austin is No. 3 on ranking of the Top 100 Cities Where America's Happiest Workers Thrive based on survey of 3,000 workers across the nation on job satisfaction.

([resume.io](#), 11/19/24)

OpenTable's Top 100 Restaurants of 2024 list includes 10 in Texas and 7 of those are in Austin.

([OpenTable](#), 11/19/24)

Texas has the No. 1 State Business Climate. In addition to garnering the overall ranking, Texas was first in the Executive Survey portion of the rankings.

([Site Selection](#), 11/24)

Austin is the Best U.S. City for Nightlife. According to an analysis of Lyft rides on weekend nights, 23% of all rides were to bars and entertainment venues.

([Stacker](#), 11/21/24)

Austin ranks 2nd among major metros for concentration of Highly Digital Computer, Engineering and Management jobs. Highly digital CEM jobs account for 15.5% of jobs in Austin and these jobs have increased over 124% since 2010.

([Brookings Institution](#), 11/19/24)

Austin is No. 1 on WalletHub's list of the Best Cities for Veterans to Live which compares the 100 largest U.S. cities across 19 key indicators including the number of military skill-related jobs, veteran income growth, and the availability of VA health facilities, and other variables.

([WalletHub](#), 11/7/24)

Austin is the No. 2 City with the Healthiest Population in ranking of the 46 largest cities across 8 measures related to chronic health conditions.

([Forbes Advisor](#), 10/28/24)



Austin is the Best College Town in America according to ranking of 400 U.S. cities based on 31 key indicators of academic, social and economic opportunities for students.

([WalletHub](#), 10/28/24)

Austin is No. 2 on ranking of the Most Dog Friendly Cities in the U.S. The top 50 cities were evaluated based on factors making a city a dog-friendly travel destination.

([Tractor Supply](#), 10/25/24)

Austin is one of the Top Innovation Hubs to Watch. The editors note that "Austin's innovation landscape brings together research, development, and collaboration, positioning it as a 'hub of hubs' where groundbreaking advancements flourish."

([Business Facilities](#), 10/16/24)

Austin is the U.S. metro area with the highest share (nearly one-quarter) of remote/hybrid workers in 2023. Dominant industries in Austin like business and financial services and information technology offer remote opportunities and, at the same time, Austin's strong economy and quality of life attract professionals from around the country.

([Coworking Mag](#), 10/1/24)

The University of Texas at Austin ties for 7th in Top Public Schools 2025 ranking by *U.S. News & World Report*.

([U.S. News & World Report](#), 9/23/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Coffee Cities in America in ranking of the 100 largest cities based 12 indicators of "coffee-lover friendliness."

([WalletHub](#), 9/18/24)

Austin ranked No. 5 overall in CBRE's 2024 Scoring Tech Talent report, moving up one spot as its tech talent workforce grew 29.1% between 2018 and 2023, the highest growth rate of any U.S. tech market. Austin also ranks in the top 10 for workers specialized in AI.

([CBRE](#), 9/4/24)

Austin is the 16th best city in the world for entrepreneurs and the 6th best in the U.S.

([SumUp](#), 8/22/24)

Austin is slated to deliver over 21,500 new apartment units in 2024—more than any other metro except New York and Dallas—according to analysis of Yardi Matrix construction data for new apartment buildings of 50 or more units across all U.S. metropolitan areas.

([RentCafe](#), 8/22/24)

Austin is the No. 1 startup hotspot based on ranking of metro areas with the highest concentrations of Inc. 5000 companies per capita.

([Inc.](#), 8/21/24)

Austin is No. 5 on World's Best Nightlife Cities ranking.

([TimeOut](#), 8/14/24)

Austin is the No. 1 Hot Spot for Corporate Headquarters in ranking based on number of headquarters located in a city or metro area, and the type of resources a location offers to the central operations of a business.

([Business Facilities](#), 8/8/24)

Among large cities, Austin offers the Best Business Climate.

([Business Facilities](#), 8/8/24)

Texas has the nation's Best Corporate Tax Environment.

([Area Development](#), 03/24)

Austin ranks No. 2 among the top 50 metros for improvements in income among those born to low-income families in income mobility study measuring changes in household income for people born to low-income parents across successive generations.

([Opportunity Insights](#), 7/25/24)

AUSTIN IN THE NEWS

2024-2026



Austin is the best city in the U.S. to start a business, ranking in the top 10 for five out of the eight factors providing evidence that a city encourages innovation and entrepreneurship.

([USA Today](#), 7/24/24)

Austin is America's Top Rental Market in ranking of cities and towns with 75,000+ population within the 50 largest metro areas for availability of affordable renting options, job opportunities, commute times, and access to urban amenities.

([Realtor.com](#), 7/24/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Cities with the Most Green Job Postings.

([Lightcast](#), 7/17/24)

Texas is No. 3 on America's Top States for Business ranking which scores all 50 states on 128 metrics in 10 broad categories of competitiveness. The categories Texas ranks first in are Workforce and Technology & Innovation. The state ranks second in Economy.

([CNBC](#), 7/11/24)

Austin is No. 8 in Most Educated Cities in ranking of the 150 largest metro areas based on 11 measures representing educational attainment, attainment gaps, and quality of education (public schools and higher education).

([WalletHub](#), 7/2/24)

Austin is 5th on America's Boomtowns: Cities for Economic Growth ranking of 31 cities with 500,000+ population for performance over the last 4 years on key economic and social indicators.

([CoworkingCafé](#), 7/2/24)

Austin has the Best Business Climate among large metro areas in annual ranking report from *Business Facilities*.

([Business Facilities](#), 6/27/24)

Texas ranks as the Top State for the Semiconductor Industry according to *Business Facilities* ranking based on factors pertinent to site selection teams for business relocation and expansion investments.

([Business Facilities](#), 6/25/24)

Austin is No. 15 on Resonance's 2024 America's Best Cities "place power" ranking based on statistical performance and qualitative evaluations by locals, visitors and prospective residents to determine the most desirable places to live, work or visit. Outdoors and nightlife were highlighted rankings (both at 8th).

([Resonance Consultancy](#), 6/25/24)

Texas ranks as the Best Business Climate. A focus on economic strength, regulatory and tax climate, infrastructure, and workforce availability is central to the Best Business Climate designation.

([Business Facilities](#), 6/24/24)

Austin ranks 3rd among markets offering the best combination of wages, hiring, and affordability for new college graduates according to analysis of ADP data representing more than 4 million people aged 20 to 29 at 27,000+ employers in the 55 largest U.S. metros.

([ADP Research](#), 6/24/24)

Austin is No. 11 in the U.S. and No. 27 globally in annual Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking.

([Startup Genome](#), 6/10/24)

Austin is the 4th Best City for Renters in ranking of the 95 largest cities across 21 metrics spanning affordability, availability, amenities, lifestyle and safety.

([Forbes Advisor](#), 6/7/24)

The University of Texas System ranks 3rd for number of patents awarded in 2023.

([National Academy of Inventors](#), 6/4/24)

Austin is No. 3 on U.S. Smart Cities in 2024 ranking based on metrics related to connectivity and infrastructure, sustainability and the tech job market for the nation's 48 largest cities analyzed by PropTechOS. Austin also ranked as the city with the Best Smart City Infrastructure.



([SmartCitiesDive](#), 5/30/24)

Austin ranks 7th in the U.S. and 17th globally in Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2024 ranking of 1,000 cities and 100 countries using an algorithm applied to quantifiable data reflecting the quantity, quality and business environment of each startup ecosystem.

([StartupBlink](#), 5/30/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Energy Star Cities ranking of metro areas with the most Energy Star certified buildings.

([U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#), 5/22/24)

Austin is No. 9 on Best Places to Live in America in 2024-2025 ranking according to *U.S. News & World Report* analysis of the 150 largest cities.

([U.S. News & World Report](#), 5/21/24)

Austin is one of the 15 Friendliest Cities in the South according to *Southern Livings* readers poll focused on places with 40,000 or more population. Weird, lively, laidback, inviting, and genuine were words readers used to describe Austin.

([Southern Living](#), 5/21/24)

Three of the four fastest growing cities with 50,000 or more population in 2023 were in the Austin metro area: Georgetown ranked No. 1 with 10.6% growth over the last year, Kyle ranked No. 2 with 9.0%, and Leander ranked No. 4 with 7.6%.

([U.S. Census Bureau](#), 5/15/24)

Austin is No. 3 on ranking of 2024's Most Popular Boating Cities in America based on boat rental and charter activity on Austin's expansive waterways, notably Lake Austin and Lake Travis.

([getmyboat.com](#), 5/15/24)

Austin is No. 1 in Top Rental Markets for College Graduates in ranking of 313 cities in the 50 largest metro areas based on rental affordability and availability, job market favorability, culture, and liveliness.

([Realtor.com](#), 5/7/24)

Austin is the Best City to Start a Business in ranking of the 46 most populous metros based on startup activity including startup job creation, overall economic growth, and other indicators.

([USA Today](#), 4/30/24)

For the 20th year in a row, Texas was named the Best State for Business in annual survey of U.S. CEOs.

([Chief Executive](#), 4/24/24)

Austin ranks 7th on Hottest Job Markets list from the *Wall Street Journal* and stands out as having the highest labor force participation rate among large metros.

([Wall Street Journal](#), 4/8/24)

Austin is one of The World's Top Startup Cities, ranking 16th globally and 8th nationally based on analysis of the scale and maturity of their venture capital ecosystem over the past six years.

([Pitchbook](#), 4/18/24)

Austin is No. 3 on annual ranking of the United States Most Dynamic Metros based on data for area growth, young-firm prevalence and employment, education, income and other factors summarizing a region's vitality.

([Heartland Forward](#), 4/3/24)

Science, technology, engineering & math occupations account for 11.5% of all jobs in Austin in 2023, making Austin the 5th most concentrated in STEM among large U.S. metros.

([U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), 4/3/2024)

Austin ranked No. 4 among top metros for net tech employment job gains, and the metro ranked No. 3 among the top cities for tech economic impact as a percent of the local economy with 22.2%.

([CompTIA](#), 4/3/24)

AUSTIN IN THE NEWS

2024-2026



Austin, ranking as the 8th largest Innovation Geography globally and 3rd in the Americas, is also the No. 1 Market to Watch globally based in its low tax environment, strong cultural scene, improving air connectivity, Big Tech presence, and the highly regarded University of Texas at Austin.

([JLL](#), 3/25/24)

Austin ranks 4th among U.S. Cities that Could Incubate the Next Great Quantum Technology Ecosystem in examination of regions with the research, entrepreneurship, ready workforce, and pro-innovation institutions needed to join the top echelon of quantum hotspots (Chicago, Colorado, Massachusetts and California).

([The Quantum Insider](#), 3/4/24)

Austin is the IDC Smart Cities North America Award winner in the Smart Buildings category for Whisper Valley, the largest sustainable community of zero-energy capable homes in the nation.

([International Data Corporation](#), 3/24/24)

East Eleventh Street in Austin ranks at No. 3, in “The 30 coolest streets in the world” ranking from urban culture-focused publisher *Time Out*.

([Time Out](#), 3/13/24)

Austin is the Best City for Entrepreneurs in ranking of the top 50 American cities based on small business funding opportunities and tax burden.

([The Zebra](#), 3/11/24)

Austin ranks No. 1 for Growth, No. 4 for Prosperity, and No. 6 for Inclusion in annual Metro Monitor rankings based on economic performance data over the last decade in the nation’s 54 largest metro areas.

([Brookings Institution](#), 3/5/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Hardest-Working Cities in America in ranking of the 116 largest U.S. cities on measures of employment, work schedules, volunteering and other measures.

([WalletHub](#), 2/19/24)

Austin is the Best-Performing City in annual assessment of economic growth and access to opportunities in U.S. metropolitan areas. Austin’s success is due to its labor market performance and a robust tech sector exhibiting fast and balanced growth.

([Milken Institute](#), 2/6/24)

Austin is one of the Top 10 Best Cities for Tech Jobs in 2024.

([Indeed](#), 1/29/24)

Time Out’s surveyed city-dwellers globally and 100+ well-traveled staff writers and editors on the affordability and quality of food and cultural scenes, beauty, and everything that makes cities great places to live and visit. Austin ranked 8th in the U.S. and 42nd globally in this sixth annual Best Cities in the World list.

([Time Out](#), 1/23/24)

Austin leads list of the Top 5 Cities to Move Your Business to in 2024. Austin’s entrepreneurial vibrancy, favorable tax climate, skilled workforce, and embrace of creativity and collaboration contributed to making it an exceptional hub for business.

([Iron Mountain](#), 1/21/24)

Austin is No. 4 on annual Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker “because Austin is in many ways the model for a thriving film scene outside of New York City or Los Angeles.”

([MovieMaker](#), 1/19/24)

Austin is the Best City for STEM Professionals according to comparison of the 100 largest metros across 21 key metrics including per capita job openings for STEM grads, salary growth for STEM jobs, university engineering programs, patent activity, and R&D spending, as well as quality of life.

([WalletHub](#), 1/17/24)

Austin, with 439 deals garnering \$3.9 billion in 2023, ranks sixth among U.S. metros for VC investment.

([Pitchbook](#), 1/10/24)



Austin ranks 8th nationally and 43rd globally in ranking of the world's best cities (principal cities with metro populations of 1 million+) based on measures contributing to the key factors of livability, lovability and prosperity that define each city's "Place Power."

([Resonance Consultancy](#), 1/6/24)

Texas is *Business Facilities* 2023 State of the Year based on its business-friendly environment, including legislation and incentives, workforce development programs, and the breadth of companies selecting the state for corporate relocation and expansion projects.

([Business Facilities](#), 1/5/24)

Austin is No. 5 on ranking of the Best Places to Find a Job based on analysis of 31 indicators of job-market strength across 180 U.S. cities.

([WalletHub](#), 1/4/24)

Austin ranks as the 5th hottest destination for one-way movers

([U-haul](#), 1/3/24)

