



Sign In

[2009](#) | [2008](#) | [2007](#) | [2005](#) | [2004](#) | [2003](#)
[Large Cities | Small Cities](#) | [Large Cities | Small Cities](#) | [Large Cities | Small Cities](#) | [Large Cities | Small Cities](#) | [Large Cities | Small Cities](#) | [Large Cities | Small Cities](#)

2009 Best Performing Cities - 200 Largest Metros

200 Largest Metros List **View 124 Smallest Metros List**

- 1-25
- 26-50
- 51-75
- 76-100
- 101-125
- 126-150
- 150-175
- 176-200

The 2009 Milken Institute/Greenstreet Real Estate Partners Best-Performing Cities Index ranks U.S. metropolitan areas by how well they are creating and sustaining jobs and economic growth. The components include job, wage and salary and technology growth. The full report can be downloaded [here](#).

- Scroll over the map below to see the ranked metros in each state and click through for more metro-specific data in that state.
- Click through the full list of ranked metros (see additional tabs for full list) on the left for job growth, wage and salary and other data.
- Find a specific metro by typing in any part of the metro name in the table below.
- NEW! Compare metro data side by side with another metro of your choice.
- NEW! Best Performing Cities time series - see how regional and national economic trends have shaped the top 20 rankings since 1999.

Best Performing Cities 1 - 25

2009 Rank **2008 Rank** **Metropolitan Area**

1	4	Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA
2	13	Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood, TX MSA
3	3	Salt Lake City, UT MSA
4	7	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX MSA
5	16	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX MSA
6	21	Durham, NC MSA
7	9	Olympia, WA MSA
8	5	Huntsville, AL MSA
9	14	Lafayette, LA MSA
10	2	Raleigh-Cary, NC MSA
11	15	San Antonio, TX MSA
12	29	Fort Worth-Arlington, TX MD
13	23	Dallas-Plano-Irving, TX MD
14	37	El Paso, TX MSA
15	45	Wichita, KS MSA
16	88	Corpus Christi, TX MSA
17	17	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA MD
18	40	Baton Rouge, LA MSA
19	72	Tulsa, OK MSA
20	20	Greeley, CO MSA
21	8	Tacoma, WA MD
22	48	Fort Collins-Loveland, CO MSA

2009 Best Performing Cities

[Click here for a printable view](#)
[Click here for Excel version](#)
 Please credit any use of this data to Milken Institute.

- 23 54 Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, AR MSA [↗](#)
- 24 67 Shreveport-Bossier City, LA MSA [↗](#)
- 25 41 Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV MD [↗](#)

Click on any of the links across the top to re-rank the metros by that category.

2009 Rank	2008 Rank	Metropolitan Area	City Code	State	5-yr job growth *1 2003-2008		1-yr job growth *2 2007-2008		5-yr wages/salaries *3 growth 2002-2007	
					Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank
1	4	↗ Austin-Round Rock, TX MSA	MAUS	TX	112.92	6	103.04	4	109.66	19
2	13	↗ Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood, TX MSA	MKIL	TX	108.23	18	104.15	1	117.43	4
3	3	↗ Salt Lake City, UT MSA	MSAY	UT	109.51	10	101.14	44	107.77	29
4	7	↗ McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX MSA	MMCA	TX	118.13	1	103.60	3	116.02	7
5	16	↗ Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX MSA	MHOU	TX	108.55	16	102.70	7	108.92	21
6	21	↗ Durham, NC MSA	MDUR	NC	106.70	28	102.15	13	102.87	68
7	9	↗ Olympia, WA MSA	MOLY	WA	107.64	23	102.13	14	106.63	39
8	5	↗ Huntsville, AL MSA	MHUN	AL	107.75	20	102.33	9	106.79	37
9	14	↗ Lafayette, LA MSA	MLAA	LA	107.68	22	101.73	23	111.22	16
10	2	↗ Raleigh-Cary, NC MSA	MRAL	NC	113.09	5	101.30	33	108.06	28

MSA = metropolitan statistical area
MD = metropolitan division

Footnotes *1 | *2 | *3 | *4 | *5 | *6 | *7 | *8 | *9

Biggest Gainers

Spots Climbed	2009 Rank	2008 Rank	Metropolitan Area
101	48	149	Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT MSA ↗
96	88	184	New Haven-Milford, CT MSA ↗
94	45	139	Cambridge-Newton-Framingham, MA MD ↗
94	86	180	Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY MSA ↗
92	89	181	Rochester, NY MSA ↗
86	73	159	Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY MSA ↗
82	94	176	Norwich-New London, CT MSA ↗
80	54	134	Utica-Rome, NY MSA ↗
77	79	156	Worcester, MA MSA ↗
72	16	88	Corpus Christi, TX MSA ↗
72	51	123	Bethesda-Frederick-Gaithersburg, MD MD ↗
68	80	148	Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL MSA ↗
67	84	151	New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA MSA ↗
66	72	138	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY MSA ↗

Biggest Decliners

Spots Declined	2009 Rank	2008 Rank	Metropolitan Area
-124	157	33	Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent, FL MSA ↗
-111	184	73	Merced, CA MSA ↗
-102	141	39	Jacksonville, FL MSA ↗
-101	120	19	Myrtle Beach-North Myrtle Beach-Conway, SC MSA ↗
-89	169	80	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL MSA ↗
-88	99	11	Orlando-Kissimmee, FL MSA ↗
-87	114	27	Boise City-Nampa, ID MSA ↗
-85	136	51	Clarksville, TN-KY MSA ↗
-79	176	97	Bradenton-Sarasota-Venice, FL MSA ↗
-76	98	22	Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro--Franklin, TN MSA ↗
-74	104	30	Ocala, FL MSA ↗
-72	150	78	Port St. Lucie, FL MSA ↗
-72	155	83	Naples-Marco Island, FL MSA ↗
-70	162	92	Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach, FL MSA ↗

60	65	125	Binghamton, NY MSA ↗	-70	175	105	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach, FL MD ↗
60	111	171	Peabody, MA MD ↗				
57	61	118	Boston-Quincy, MA MD ↗	-70	131	61	Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano-Deerfield Beach, FL MD ↗
57	43	100	Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Goleta, CA MSA ↗	-68	115	47	Fresno, CA MSA ↗
55	127	182	Springfield, MA MSA ↗	-64	102	38	Montgomery, AL MSA ↗
54	112	166	Columbus, GA-AL MSA ↗	-63	166	103	Stockton, CA MSA ↗
				-62	179	117	Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, FL MD ↗
