

# TOP OF THE LIST

After being named the top state for business by CNBC for two consecutive years, North Carolina fell to No. 2 in 2023. However, the state continues to land companies investing millions and billions of dollars, and its education system, quality of life, business incentives and collaboration between government agencies score high in rankings

## #1 REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

*Site Selection* magazine

## #2 AMERICA'S TOP STATE FOR BUSINESS

*CNBC* cable business network

## #2 BEST BUSINESS CLIMATE

*Business Facilities* magazine

## #4 BEST BUSINESS TAX CLIMATE

*Business Facilities* magazine

## #4 TOP U.S. BUSINESS CLIMATES

*Site Selection* magazine

## #5 BEST STATE TO START A BUSINESS

*Forbes* magazine

## #7 TOP STATES FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

*Area Development* magazine

# LARGEST CITIES

RANK	CITY	POPULATION
1	CHARLOTTE	911,609
2	RALEIGH	489,921
3	GREENSBORO	302,756
4	DURHAM	297,981
5	WINSTON-SALEM	255,417
6	FAYETTEVILLE	209,975
7	CARY	177,197
8	WILMINGTON	123,756
9	HIGH POINT	117,206
10	CONCORD	113,371
11	ASHEVILLE	97,036
12	GREENVILLE	92,136
13	GASTONIA	83,983
14	JACKSONVILLE	72,543
15	APEX	71,958
16	HUNTERSVILLE	64,147
17	CHAPEL HILL	63,288
18	BURLINGTON	60,380
19	KANNAPOLIS	57,706
20	MOORESVILLE	56,517
21	ROCKY MOUNT	55,427
22	WAKE FOREST	54,242
23	WILSON	48,098
24	HOLLY SPRINGS	46,052
25	HICKORY	45,415
26	INDIAN TRAIL	43,740
27	FUQUAY-VARINA	41,010
28	GARNER	38,211
29	SALISBURY	37,805
30	MONROE	37,275
31	GOLDSBORO	34,239
32	NEW BERN	33,917
33	MORRISVILLE	32,431
34	SANFORD	32,371
35	CORNELIUS	31,792
36	STATESVILLE	30,560
37	LELAND	30,264
38	CLAYTON	30,151
39	MATTHEWS	30,101
40	THOMASVILLE	27,984
41	KERNERSVILLE	27,876
42	ASHEBORO	27,819
43	MINT HILL	27,152
44	WAXHAW	23,353
45	SHELBY	22,105
46	CLEMMONS	21,495
47	CARRBORO	21,319
48	HARRISBURG	21,019
49	KNIGHTDALE	20,957
50	GRAHAM	20,330

source: N.C. Office of State Budget and Management  
(Population as of July 1, 2023)