

Austin's Allure: A Top 5 Big City for Living

Discover why Austin continues to be recognized among the nation's most desirable urban centers.

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THE DATA

No. 5

Best Big City to Live

Austin's ranking among large metropolitan areas in the U.S. News & World Report's 2026-2027 list.

Austin secured its position as the fifth-best big city for living in the U.S. for 2026-2027, reflecting its strong performance across key livability indexes. This recognition is based on comprehensive data analysis including quality of life, value, desirability, and job market factors.



Source: CultureMap Austin (citing U.S. News & World Report) · Published May 26, 2026

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Sustained Desirability Fuels Growth

Austin's consistent high ranking underscores its enduring appeal to residents and businesses alike. This sustained desirability contributes to ongoing population growth and economic expansion, shaping the city's unique urban landscape. The blend of cultural vibrancy and economic opportunity remains a powerful draw.



02

Broader Metro Area Also Shines

While Austin proper garners top honors, the wider Austin metro area also features prominently in national rankings. Nearby communities like Cedar Park, Pflugerville, and Round Rock also earned spots within the top 100, indicating the region's overall strength and diverse living options. This regional appeal offers varied choices for different lifestyles.

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