

2008 Best Performing Cities

Small 124 Cities List

2008 Rank	2007 Rank	Metro code	Metropolitan area	5-yr job growth 2002-2007		1-yr job growth 2006-2007		5-yr wages/salaries growth 2001-2006		1-yr wages/salaries growth 2005-2006		Job growth 3/07-3/08		5-yr relative HT GDP growth 2002-2007		1-yr relative HT GDP growth 2006-2007		High-Tech GDP LQ 2007		# of HT GDP Lqs over 1, 2007		Population 2007 (Thousands)	Overall Index
				Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Growth	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank		
1	3	MMID	Midland, TX MSA	113.75	6	103.13	8	123.50	5	110.89	3	3.45%	9	146.80	8	97.93	87	0.77	26	7	10	126	100.00
2	6	MCOE	Coeur d'Alene, ID MSA	118.80	3	101.25	22	121.83	7	104.77	6	5.86%	2	150.88	6	98.26	80	0.66	51	5	33	134	132.86
3	1	MBND	Bend, OR MSA	125.32	2	101.94	18	129.81	2	107.24	5	1.27%	44	120.34	21	100.39	51	0.75	33	7	10	154	133.38
4	2	MSAU	St. George, UT MSA	135.44	1	102.35	13	147.45	1	110.09	4	2.41%	15	124.50	18	107.74	7	0.45	88	3	79	134	134.66
5	18	MGRJ	Grand Junction, CO MSA	113.15	8	104.58	2	114.95	15	104.50	11	4.42%	5	100.32	70	105.92	12	0.57	64	5	33	139	136.23
6	10	MWAR	Warner Robins, GA MSA	113.50	7	102.54	11	117.51	12	100.68	30	1.01%	54	158.47	4	100.39	51	0.87	15	6	22	131	166.26
7	30	MLOG	Longview, TX MSA	109.56	18	103.02	9	112.92	20	104.82	8	2.09%	25	114.99	34	97.98	85	0.79	22	6	22	104	167.56
8	14	MBEL	Bellingham, WA MSA	112.04	9	102.02	16	113.49	19	100.33	36	3.24%	10	106.64	55	100.19	59	0.77	26	4	56	158	195.03
9	7	MPRE	Prescott, AZ MSA	116.93	4	100.34	51	128.68	3	105.54	6	1.64%	35	108.66	49	112.94	3	0.48	83	4	56	213	201.82
10	27	MODE	Odessa, TX MSA	111.20	13	103.02	9	117.84	10	111.86	2	5.24%	3	87.68	99	108.99	6	0.36	109	1	110	127	206.02
11	17	MLSC	Las Cruces, NM MSA	107.81	25	100.49	49	117.78	11	100.88	28	1.53%	38	171.51	1	99.61	70	0.94	10	6	22	199	210.47
12	47	MCHE	Cheyenne, WY MSA	106.70	29	101.79	21	116.28	14	104.55	10	2.77%	14	96.41	85	101.06	41	0.52	75	5	33	86	212.60
13	32	MYUM	Yuma, AZ MSA	116.55	5	100.37	50	119.01	8	101.35	24	2.01%	27	161.89	3	115.87	2	0.30	114	3	79	191	221.06
14	81	MSFE	Santa Fe, NM MSA	105.15	38	101.36	30	109.18	30	101.81	16	1.24%	46	141.32	10	102.06	31	0.62	56	7	10	143	222.94
15	42	MBSM	Bismarck, ND MSA	108.03	24	100.97	38	110.83	22	100.55	33	2.17%	22	103.90	59	105.49	13	0.64	54	5	33	103	226.93
16	33	MHMT	Houma-Bayou Cane-Thibodaux, LA MSA	109.39	20	104.49	3	118.22	9	114.37	1	1.61%	36	98.31	79	105.03	14	0.29	116	2	98	201	230.55
17	36	MFAR	Fargo, ND-MN MSA	107.15	28	101.12	35	109.59	26	100.63	31	1.70%	34	114.05	36	102.35	26	0.69	42	5	33	192	231.17
18	12	MCHV	Charlottesville, VA MSA	107.67	26	101.88	19	109.46	28	101.68	20	0.35%	81	104.91	58	103.20	23	0.92	12	8	6	131	232.35
19	29	MAUB	Auburn-Opelika, AL MSA	111.61	11	101.33	31	117.06	13	101.84	15	3.51%	8	126.17	16	98.51	77	0.37	108	1	110	133	241.99
20	54	MGAG	Gainesville, GA MSA	111.60	12	103.21	7	104.73	45	101.40	23	2.13%	23	96.52	84	101.10	40	0.46	87	4	56	180	252.56
21	5	MWIN	Winchester, VA-WY MSA	98.36	22	99.56	84	109.86	25	100.79	29	2.09%	24	126.89	15	99.69	68	0.71	40	8	61	121	258.27
22	43	MGVL	Greenville, NC MSA	109.80	16	104.16	4	102.51	60	100.36	35	2.33%	17	84.48	104	104.40	16	0.82	18	2	98	172	259.44
23	35	MSIU	Sioux Falls, SD MSA	105.46	35	101.84	20	107.98	35	100.58	32	2.35%	16	58.64	121	104.80	15	0.61	59	5	33	227	261.56
24	41	MBIL	Billings, MT MSA	108.12	23	102.41	12	109.41	29	100.25	37	1.41%	41	113.31	38	97.70	91	0.56	67	4	56	150	278.13
25	25	MIOU	Iowa City, IA MSA	103.39	49	101.52	27	103.50	48	99.34	58	0.77%	62	171.08	2	110.11	4	0.81	20	6	22	147	278.87
26	38	MTYL	Tyler, TX MSA	103.83	45	100.73	41	106.32	39	100.08	40	1.07%	52	116.95	28	99.66	69	0.76	30	8	6	199	294.70
27	56	MWAC	Waco, TX MSA	100.03	68	101.55	28	102.79	56	98.39	60	3.14%	11	147.81	7	101.67	34	0.87	15	5	33	228	296.94
28	24	MMOG	Morgantown, WV MSA	110.80	14	101.52	27	108.85	31	101.09	26	1.97%	28	97.41	82	100.48	49	0.42	96	2	98	118	296.21
29	69	MKNE	Kennewick-Pasco-Richland, WA MSA	106.43	31	103.68	5	104.80	44	95.55	119	5.19%	4	81.10	108	103.37	22	1.25	3	4	56	229	308.07
30	13	MPAN	Panama City-Lynn Haven, FL MSA	111.77	10	99.38	88	122.69	6	101.74	19	0.48%	72	142.23	9	92.93	119	0.68	45	5	33	164	308.53
31	31	MHAT	Hattiesburg, MS MSA	106.14	32	100.69	42	110.07	24	104.99	7	2.29%	18	106.68	54	96.89	95	0.41	99	1	110	133	313.14
32	20	MPWB	Fort Walton Beach-Crestview-Destin, FL MSA	106.58	30	97.24	117	125.16	1	99.32	59	0.06%	88	140.15	11	106.55	10	1.12	5	9	1	181	324.24
33	46	MBOV	Bowling Green, KY MSA	108.97	21	101.74	23	110.62	23	99.76	51	1.97%	19	111.78	41	97.78	89	0.27	120	0	120	116	333.92
34	57	MANI	Annis-ton-Oxford, AL MSA	103.15	50	101.05	37	108.62	32	99.41	56	0.36%	78	132.28	13	97.61	92	0.73	36	7	10	113	341.49
35	51	MSJT	St. Joseph, MO-KS MSA	109.69	17	103.35	6	100.10	72	101.29	25	0.28%	84	112.90	39	100.27	56	0.63	56	1	110	123	347.34
36	16	MHAN	Harrisonburg, VA MSA	104.00	43	98.95	99	101.00	69	100.99	27	1.26%	45	116.04	30	100.98	43	0.70	41	9	1	118	354.11
37	79	MATH	Athens-Clarke County, GA MSA	104.04	42	100.62	44	102.70	59	99.82	46	1.35%	43	107.17	52	126.09	1	0.58	63	2	98	203	354.27
38	67	MCBS	College Station-Bryan, TX MSA	100.06	67	99.42	87	107.63	36	101.44	22	0.84%	59	119.89	24	100.16	61	0.77	26	5	33	203	356.61
39	26	MMED	Medford, OR MSA	107.16	18	100.53	47	108.56	33	99.04	68	0.60%	66	113.18	27	94.35	113	0.63	56	6	22	196	363.63
40	78	MABI	Abilene, TX MSA	99.97	69	98.80	102	105.11	43	101.67	21	2.21%	20	109.18	46	102.34	27	0.53	72	4	56	159	369.42
41	23	MSAS	Salisbury, MD MSA	105.47	34	99.30	89	108.19	34	99.81	48	0.29%	83	107.32	51	100.56	47	0.75	33	8	6	120	370.69
42	50	MTUS	Tuscaloosa, AL MSA	105.35	36	100.85	39	109.58	27	101.77	18	0.50%	70	108.38	50	96.88	96	0.34	111	2	98	205	381.35
43	130	MPUE	Pueblo, CO MSA	101.39	57	102.01	17	95.87	93	99.05	66	1.13%	47	97.81	81	103.84	20	0.55	69	7	10	155	384.59
44	28	MLAD	Laredo, TX MSA	110.59	15	101.14	34	114.74	16	99.70	52	0.82%	60	101.89	66	98.11	83	0.24	122	0	120	233	386.43
45	109	MPAS	Pascagoula, MS MSA	99.83	71	101.19	32	96.73	88	97.45	94	14.10%	1	124.59	17	94.90	109	0.75	33	6	22	152	391.36
46	75	MROE	Rochester, MN MSA	101.03	58	100.03	66	103.72	47	99.15	63	1.79%	32	80.14	110	99.24	73	0.79	22	6	22	181	394.31
47	88	MSGT	State College, PA MSA	97.18	89	99.79	74	103.36	50	99.12	65	1.91%	29	99.86	72	98.71	76	0.53	11	9	1	145	402.37
48	70	MJON	Johnson City, TN MSA	104.15	41	100.12	61	101.01	68	98.98	71	1.08%	50	119.49	25	85.24	121	0.91	14	5	33	194	402.77
49	45	MDOV	Dover, DE MSA	109.49	19	99.81	73	111.45	21	98.77	74	-0.61%	100	151.27	5	98.19	82	0.72	37	3	79	152	403.77
50	90	MGRF	Grand Forks, ND-MN MSA	103.52	47	100.04	65	103.29	52	98.29	81	1.87%	30	115.97	31	104.08	19	0.43	90	2	98	98	409.37
51	126	MFLO	Florence, SC MSA	97.44	88	102.26	14	95.89	92	99.97	42	3.77%	6	98.68	76	101.65	35	0.42	96	2	98	199	409.65
52	52	MCHO	Chico, GA MSA	100.14	66	99.89	70	102.95	54	100.43	34	0.94%	57	103.52	62	97.80	86	0.53	72	7	10	219	412.52
53	73	MVAD	Valdosta, GA MSA	105.93	33	100.30	54	106.06	40	99.05	66	0.57%	68	99.11	74	99.52	71	0.42	96	5	33	103	413.40
54	39	MDUB	Dubuque, IA MSA	103.90	44	99.61	82	104.12	46	98.55	79	0.36%	80	135.54	12	100.37	54	0.59	61	7	10	92	415.47
55	98	MBLM	Bloomington, IN MSA	98.32	80	99.70	77	97.92	79	97.41	95	1.54%	37	118.45	26	102.03	32	1.39	1	7	10	184	418.84
56	93	MEAU	Eau Claire, WI MSA	103.46	48	100.34	51	99.76	73	100.02	41	0.36%	49	106.75	53	100.63	46	0.67	48	3	79	158	420.87
57	140	MBUN	Burlington, NC MSA	98.75	92	102.13	15	91.17	110	99.35	57	1.38%	72	108.87	48	102.14	29	0.54	71	5			

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79	150	MDEZ	Decatur, AL MSA	98.28	81	101.56	25	91.54	108	98.15	84	1.74%	33	109.25	45	98.38	79	0.41	99	2	98	149	510.59
80	142	MBLO	Bloomington-Normal, IL MSA	93.60	111	100.05	64	96.70	69	99.64	53	0.11%	87	128.96	14	98.72	75	0.77	26	3	79	164	520.94
81	104	MTEX	Texarkana, TX-Texarkana, AR MSA	98.89	76	99.62	80	105.46	41	99.58	54	1.43%	40	99.70	73	83.96	122	0.28	118	0	120	93	526.84
82	149	MBAN	Bangor, ME MSA	95.26	106	99.62	80	94.95	99	97.71	90	2.04%	26	92.61	89	100.94	44	0.69	42	4	56	149	536.94
83	87	MAPP	Appleton, WI MSA	99.75	72	97.21	82	97.20	87	97.21	100	-0.20%	94	109.44	44	100.73	45	0.69	42	5	33	218	537.71
84	127	MLEW	Lewiston-Auburn, ME MSA	96.39	94	100.29	55	99.28	74	98.99	70	0.11%	86	120.29	22	99.72	67	0.32	113	3	79	107	539.89
85	113	MJAT	Jackson, TN MSA	100.55	63	99.70	77	97.90	80	98.10	85	0.78%	61	115.38	32	93.59	117	0.47	84	3	79	113	542.38
86	83	MPIS	Pittsfield, MA MSA	96.46	93	100.01	67	97.23	86	97.55	92	-1.02%	115	123.57	19	104.29	18	0.78	24	3	79	150	544.94
87	122	MCHA	Champaign-Urbana, IL MSA	94.23	110	99.45	85	94.52	101	97.80	87	-0.41%	96	122.63	20	103.46	21	0.72	37	7	10	221	544.23
88	125	MBUR	Burlington-South Burlington, VT MSA	98.83	91	99.19	95	97.35	85	99.02	69	0.45%	74	79.85	111	97.13	94	1.34	2	5	33	207	555.13
89	99	MWAW	Wausau, WI MSA	99.85	70	99.09	96	101.34	66	98.57	78	-0.55%	97	98.38	78	100.24	57	0.43	90	5	33	130	557.15
90	136	MJEF	Jefferson City, MO MSA	98.47	79	100.31	53	95.00	98	96.87	105	0.46%	73	106.41	56	101.44	39	0.57	64	2	98	146	557.67
91	94	MJOH	Johnstown, PA MSA	99.26	74	99.03	97	96.41	90	98.27	82	-0.01%	89	104.90	59	98.05	84	0.82	18	4	56	145	561.98
92	100	MBLO	Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA MSA	97.94	83	98.12	113	102.74	58	99.77	50	-4.96%	124	97.99	80	97.42	93	0.76	30	5	33	158	567.64
93	106	MROM	Rocky Mount, NC MSA	97.54	87	101.59	24	89.10	118	97.60	91	-0.79%	107	80.30	109	76.01	123	0.95	9	9	1	146	569.70
94	143	MPAR	Parkersburg-Marietta-Vienna, WV-OH MSA	95.50	102	99.21	94	92.70	106	98.62	77	0.98%	55	102.66	64	101.59	37	0.51	77	4	56	161	572.86
95	133	MTER	Terre Haute, IN MSA	92.49	115	99.23	93	96.05	91	96.89	104	-1.41%	119	115.26	33	107.32	8	1.18	4	6	22	169	578.15
96	132	MELK	Elkhart-Goshen, IN MSA	102.51	52	97.05	120	106.87	38	96.46	114	-1.23%	118	92.88	87	104.40	16	0.49	82	4	56	198	584.80
97	177	MNIL	Niles-Benton Harbor, MI MSA	90.11	120	100.14	59	90.47	113	97.77	88	3.63%	7	84.18	105	96.03	103	0.38	106	4	56	160	594.23
98	105	MALN	Albany, GA MSA	97.94	83	98.92	100	93.97	103	95.78	118	-0.18%	93	114.84	35	100.39	51	0.64	54	7	10	164	595.03
99	145	MOSH	Oshkosh-Neenah, WI MSA	100.42	65	99.69	79	94.47	102	96.70	109	-0.11%	91	120.23	23	98.23	81	0.52	75	3	79	162	597.76
100	131	MALT	Altoona, PA MSA	97.14	90	98.83	72	94.69	100	96.50	112	0.32%	82	98.59	77	97.95	86	0.67	48	5	33	126	600.93
101	137	MBAR	Barnstable Town, MA MSA	96.28	95	98.76	104	100.52	71	97.31	97	-1.15%	117	87.84	97	100.04	64	0.81	20	6	22	222	608.89
102	154	MMAC	Macon, GA MSA	95.96	99	98.56	110	92.65	107	96.86	106	0.42%	63	89.13	95	98.81	74	0.78	24	5	33	230	621.82
103	138	MLAR	La Crosse, WI-MN MSA	98.09	82	98.89	101	95.70	95	99.24	61	-0.13%	92	97.28	83	94.38	112	0.43	90	4	56	131	625.05
104	107	MDEC	Decatur, IL MSA	99.20	107	99.78	75	93.47	105	97.22	99	0.18%	85	103.53	61	100.55	48	0.41	99	4	56	109	626.89
105	155	MSHB	Sheboygan, WI MSA	98.98	75	99.26	90	97.86	81	97.23	98	-1.09%	116	62.46	120	101.08	41	0.40	102	5	33	115	631.98
106	158	MTOP	Topeka, KS MSA	90.13	119	100.29	55	90.33	114	97.20	101	0.42%	77	78.99	113	106.40	11	0.43	90	3	79	229	636.68
107	121	MLAF	Lafayette, IN MSA	95.47	103	100.00	68	93.82	104	95.98	117	0.44%	75	92.85	88	96.76	97	0.72	37	3	79	192	641.85
108	146	MSPR	Springfield, IL MSA	92.83	113	99.26	90	90.74	112	96.64	111	-0.09%	90	85.47	103	98.39	78	0.92	12	7	10	207	642.21
109	120	MMOR	Monroe, LA MSA	92.59	114	98.29	112	95.70	95	99.28	60	0.42%	76	102.10	65	95.91	106	0.57	64	2	98	172	647.98
110	118	MVIN	Vineland-Milville-Bridgeton, NJ MSA	97.94	83	97.59	115	101.49	65	97.35	96	-0.97%	113	87.75	98	87.26	120	0.50	79	4	56	156	673.94
111	166	MSJO	Sioux City, IA-NE-SD MSA	95.45	104	101.09	36	88.43	120	98.82	108	-0.86%	109	50.73	123	99.97	65	0.38	106	4	56	143	677.60
112	159	MRAC	Racine, WI MSA	95.86	100	98.58	109	95.01	97	97.55	92	-0.87%	110	95.67	86	102.23	28	0.39	104	3	79	195	682.47
113	117	MDAG	Dalton, GA MSA	95.98	98	97.55	116	97.51	83	96.50	112	-0.88%	112	87.16	102	95.96	104	0.86	17	3	79	134	698.59
114	163	MWII	Williamsport, PA MSA	95.07	108	99.45	85	90.16	115	96.44	115	-0.56%	98	87.29	101	94.46	111	0.59	61	5	33	117	700.66
115	151	MMUN	Muncie, IN MSA	90.22	118	98.63	107	81.84	123	93.86	124	-0.74%	105	101.57	67	100.08	63	0.68	45	5	33	115	708.31
116	165	MMUS	Muskegon-Norton Shores, MI MSA	95.65	101	97.18	119	89.88	116	96.96	103	0.68%	65	52.50	122	93.94	115	0.55	69	4	56	174	711.91
117	164	MMAS	Mansfield, OH MSA	89.51	122	96.88	122	88.51	119	94.99	121	-1.52%	120	112.34	40	101.62	36	0.76	30	4	56	126	712.64
118	111	MWHE	Wheeling, WV-OH MSA	98.01	97	98.62	108	98.44	77	96.84	107	-0.88%	111	100.26	71	96.31	101	0.39	104	2	98	145	713.95
119	173	MANE	Anderson, SC MSA	95.31	105	100.52	48	88.21	121	97.77	88	-0.82%	108	70.52	117	93.47	118	0.20	123	1	110	180	731.30
120	179	MSPF	Springfield, OH MSA	90.85	117	97.66	114	80.75	124	97.20	101	-0.76%	106	33.97	124	109.58	5	0.20	123	1	110	140	772.50
121	168	MSAG	Saginaw-Saginaw Township North, MI MSA	89.21	123	96.89	121	82.78	122	96.70	109	-3.51%	123	90.02	94	96.54	100	0.68	45	4	56	202	775.15
122	167	MLIM	Lima, OH MSA	91.32	116	96.65	123	90.99	111	96.14	116	-0.70%	104	103.26	63	94.04	114	0.40	102	1	110	105	794.59
123	178	MBCR	Battle Creek, MI MSA	90.00	121	97.23	118	91.32	109	95.37	120	-2.03%	121	113.89	37	96.11	102	0.28	118	1	110	137	803.00
124	174	MJAK	Jackson, MI MSA	87.63	124	96.61	124	89.23	117	94.34	123	-2.21%	122	68.68	118	96.74	98	0.33	112	2	98	163	855.37

Footnotes: *Indicates this city's position on last year's largest metros list
Note: 2007 ranking was calculated among 179 small cities