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Two NC Cities Rank Among Top 10 In Nation In Creating And Sustaining New Jobs

Some Triad also made the list of top performing cities.

Raleigh, NC -- Governor Mike Easley today announced that seven North Carolina urban areas ranked among the nation's "Top 100 Best Performing Cities" in an annual economic performance index released by the Milken Institute/Greenstreet Real Estate Partners.

The index ranked the Raleigh-Cary metropolitan area as No. 2 in the nation and Wilmington as No. 6. Durham's 21st place ranking helped give North Carolina three urban areas in the survey's top 25.

"We are proud that North Carolina again ranks at the top in national economic surveys," Easley said. "Our recognition that education and economic development are linked and our sustained investments and innovation in our schools, continues to bring good-paying, stable jobs to the state."

The annual study, Best-Performing Cities 2008: Where America's Jobs Are Created and Sustained, ranks metropolitan areas by how well they are creating and sustaining jobs and economic growth. Factors used to determine the ranking includes: short- and long-term job growth; wage and salary statistics; and concentration of high-tech industries.

In all, nine North Carolina metropolitan areas made the list of the Top 200 Best Performing Cities. In addition to Raleigh-Cary, Wilmington and Durham, the others are: 26, Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord; 46, Asheville; 52, Fayetteville; 99, Winston-Salem; 141, Greensboro-High Point; and 191, Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton. In addition, Greenville ranked 22nd in the list of "Best Performing Small Metros." Asheville and Durham were listed among the survey's largest "gainers." Asheville climbed 71 spots, from 117th in 2007 and Durham jumped 53 spots from 74th to 21st.

No North Carolina cities were listed among the biggest "decliners."

To see the Milken Institute report [click here](#).

Source: WFMY News 2

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