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Killeen Ranked in 125 Best Places to Live in the USA

Killeen, Texas ranked in the top 100 in U.S. News & World Report's "125 Best Places to Live in the USA" study. The city placed 90th in the study, which analyzed 125 metro areas in the United States to find the best places to live based on quality of life and the job market in each metro area, as well as the value of living there and people's desire to live there.

Killeen's overall score was 6.2/10, scoring 5.5 in Desirability, 7.1 in Value, 5.9 in Job Market, 6.4 in Quality of Life, and 5.4 in Net Migration. The U.S. News website cites lower cost of living and lower commute times than the national average as contributing factors to the city's ranking. Other assets include a diverse population, ample recreational opportunities and quick access to major metro areas in Texas.

"It's no secret to those of us who live here that Killeen is a great place to live. We have a thriving economy, low cost of living, and top-notch institutions of public and higher education," states Killeen Mayor Jose Segarra, "The transient nature of our community means that sometimes people don't realize all the wonderful resources and opportunities available in our city, so we hope this study will help showcase some of these qualities."

Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce President John Crutchfield elaborates on Killeen's strengths, explaining "Killeen has access to some of the best talent in the country, courtesy of our neighbor Fort Hood. The workforce that comes from the post-both from military spouses and Soldiers exiting the military-is one of the most highly-trained, professional labor forces in the country."

U.S. News listed the following Quick Stats for Killeen:

- Metro Population: 426,926
- Average Annual Salary: \$40,700
- Median Age: 30.9
- Unemployment Rate: 4.2%
- Median Monthly Rent: \$873
- Average Commute Time: 20.8 minutes

Other Texas cities to rank in the study include Austin (1), San Antonio (14), Dallas-Fort Worth (18), Houston (26), El Paso (105), Corpus Christi (106), Beaumont (113), McAllen (115) and Brownsville (121).

Sources for the study include the United States Census Bureau, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Labor and U.S. News' own internal resources. This data was categorized into five indexes and then evaluated using a methodology determined by Americans' preferences. The indexes are Job Market Index (20%), Value Index (25%), Quality of Life Index (30%), Desirability Index (15%) and Net Migration (10%). For more information about the study's methodology, visit realestate.usnews.com/places/methodology.



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