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Jacksonville Economic Development Commission (JEDC)



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Why Jacksonville?

The "River City" has been highly ranked by numerous independent organizations and publications. From its low tax burden to high quality of life, Jacksonville soars above other cities in side-by-side comparisons. This translates into big returns for Jacksonville companies and an inherent advantage over their out-of-town competition.

Here is just a sample of Jacksonville's many rankings and accolades.

- No. 3 "Best City in the U.S. for Jobs" (*Forbes* magazine - 2007)
- Downtown Jacksonville has been named the "Best Downtown Development Retail Opportunity in the Nation" (*Retail Traffic* magazine - 2007)
- Jacksonville is the fastest growing U.S.-foreign trade gateway, earning it the title of #1 Gem in the Expanding U.S. Export Market from leading research group, Global Insight, Inc.
- Jacksonville is No. 29 of the 100 largest metros in the United States and No. 2 in the state of Florida in income growth (*Bizjournals* - 2007)
- No. 5 "Best State Business Tax Climate" in the Nation (Tax Foundation – 2007)
- "2006 Major Market of the Year" (*Southern Business & Development* magazine - 2006)
- "Leading Market for Business Growth in the South" (*Southern Business & Development* magazine - 2005)
- One of the Top 10 "Hottest Cities that Will Lead Job Growth Through 2015" (*Business 2.0* – 2006)
- One of the Top Ten "Logistics Metros" in the United States and a "Five-Star Logistics Metro" (*Expansion Management* magazine – 2006)
- One of the Top Ten "Hottest Cities in America for Business Expansions and Relocations" for eight consecutive years (*Expansion Management* magazine – 2006)
- One of the Top 5 "Up and Coming Areas" in the United States (Good Morning America – 2006)
- Third Lowest Tax Burden of major U.S. cities (*Money* magazine – 2005)
- Jacksonville's millage rate of 18.1825 mills is one of the lowest in the state of Florida – lower than Miami, Orlando, Tampa and St. Petersburg (City of Jacksonville Property Appraiser)
- No. 3 "Large City for Doing Business" in the United States (*Inc. Magazine* – 2005)
- Jacksonville is the largest city by land area in the contiguous United States (City of Jacksonville Property Appraiser)

- No. 5 "Best Value Public Colleges" in the U.S. – University of North Florida (The Princeton Review - 2006)
- No. 6 best state in the "Small Business Survival Index 2005" (Small Business and Entrepreneurial Council – 2005)
- Jacksonville is home to three Fortune 500 companies, and leads the way in terms of Florida cities with the most Fortune 500 headquarters.
- No. 10 "Best State for Biotechnology" (Ernst & Young Global Biotechnology Report – 2006)
- No. 6 "Best State Business Climate" (Pollina Corporate Real Estate – 2006)
- Jacksonville has the largest urban park system in the United States (City of Jacksonville Property Appraiser)
- One of the "Top 20 Fittest Cities in the U.S." (Men's Fitness magazine – 2005)
- No. 1 Best Business Environment for Medical Equipment Manufacturing (*Area Development* magazine – 2004)

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