
STARS
Statistics, Testimonials, Awards, and Rankings
October 2016

Economic Development

- GNO, Inc. was named a “**Top Economic Development Agency in the USA**” (one of 11 of 2,300+) [*Site Selection*]
- GNO, Inc. was selected as a **Top 20 Economic Development Organization in America** [*Global Trade*]
- GNO, Inc. was ranked as the **#2 Economic Development Organization in the U.S.** [*Business Facilities*]
- Greater New Orleans is **#1 for the Decade for Economic Development Wins in the South** [*SB&D*]
- Greater New Orleans was named **#2 Most Cost-Friendly Mid-Sized Market in the USA** [*KPMG*]
- Louisiana was ranked **#1 Best Business Conditions in the USA** [*Business Facilities*]
- Greater New Orleans is **#1 in the USA for Export Growth**, over 400% [*US Chamber of Commerce*]
- Greater New Orleans is the **#2 Boomtown in America**, due to population and GDP growth [*Bloomberg*]
- New Orleans was named the **#1 City (of 475) for Employment, Income, and Population** [*NerdWallet*]
- Greater New Orleans is the **#3 Big City Winning the IT Jobs Battle** (after Silicon Valley and S.F.) [*Forbes*]
- Louisiana placed **#1 for Economic Potential, Workforce Training, and Digital Media** [*Business Facilities*]
- Greater New Orleans was the **#1 Most Improved Metro in the USA** [*Wall Street Journal*]
- Louisiana is one of the **Best States to Operate a Small Business**, meriting a grade of “A.” [*The Economist*]
- Louisiana was rated a **Top Ten State in the USA for Overall Tax Competitiveness** [*Tax Foundation+ KPMG*]

Talent / Workforce

- New Orleans was ranked **#1** on the list of “**America's Biggest Brain Magnets**” for attracting people under 25 with college degrees [*Forbes*]
- Greater New Orleans is **#1 in the USA for In-Migration of “Workers in their Prime”** (35-49 y.o.) [*Forbes*]
- Greater New Orleans ranks **#2 in the USA for Women in Technology** [*U.S. Census*]
- Greater New Orleans is **Top 5 in the USA** for increasing share of “**Millennial (22-34) Jobs**” [*CareerBuilder*]
- Louisiana’s **FastStart** training program ranked **#1 in the USA** six years in a row [*Business Facilities*]
- The Greater New Orleans market is ranked **#6 for Happiest Workers in USA** [*Cheatsheet.com*]

Entrepreneurship

- New Orleans is the “**Best City in America for Creative Professionals**” [*SmartAsset*]
- Greater New Orleans is **#2 in the USA for Growth in Knowledge Industries** [*EMSI*]
- New Orleans is ranked **#2 in USA for Women in Tech** [*SmartAsset*]
- New Orleans **Leads the USA by 64%** in number of startups-per-capita [*GNO Community Data Center*]
- Louisiana was rated the **#2 State in the USA to Start a Company** [*Tax Foundation + KPMG*]

Culture and Quality of Life

- New Orleans is the **#2 Favorite City in America** and **#7 Favorite City in the World** [*Travel + Leisure*]
- New Orleans was voted **#1 for Food** and **#2 for Culture in America** [*Travel + Leisure*]
- New Orleans is a “**Most Dynamic City in America**” [*Worth*]
- New Orleans is **#1 City in America for Growth in International Tourists** [*US Dept. of Commerce*]
- New Orleans was named “**America’s Best City for School Reform**” [*Thomas B. Fordham Institute*]
- New Orleans is the **#4 Best Affordable Destination in America** [*U.S. News and World Report*]