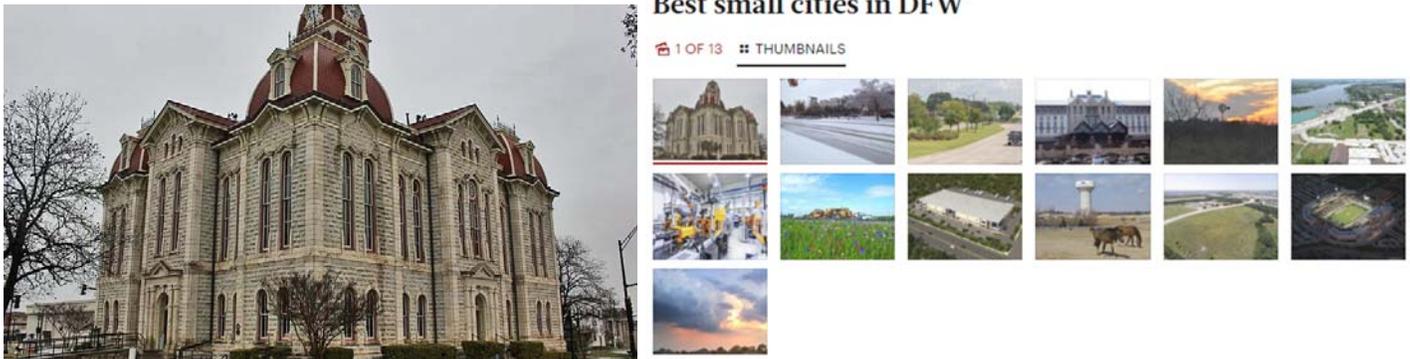


BREAKING NEWS!! – Mon., Oct 31, 2016, 1:47pm CDT

Study#: This DFW city is one of the best small towns in America

Dallas-Fort Worth is abound with great small cities, [according to WalletHub](#)®.

The website looked at 1,268 cities in America with populations between 25,000 and 100,000 and ranked them from best to worst.



No. 13 in DFW: Weatherford - 81st percentile nationally

To see what 13 DFW cities placed in the 80th percentile or above in the rankings, see the attached slideshow.

DFW Rank	Percentile	City	Total Score	'Affordability' Rank	'Economic Health' Rank	'Education & Health' Rank	'Quality of Life' Rank	'Safety' Rank
13	81	Weatherford, TX	61.59	505	63	659	392	354

%	DFW Rank	DFW City	Total score	Affordability Rank	Economic Health Rank	Education & Health rank	Quality of Life Rank	Safety Rank
99	1	Southlake, TX	66.98	1	335	299	303	54
98	2	Allen, TX	66.3	31	23	125	953	86
98	3	Wylie, TX	65.84	28	15	423	1147	58
97	4	Flower Mound, TX	65.54	5	48	348	811	24
97	5	Coppell, TX	65.15	55	180	433	531	80
96	6	Rockwall, TX	65.04	106	12	427	535	187
95	7	Keller, TX	64.73	8	124	525	806	28

94	8	Little Elm, TX	64.5	110	10	356	1233	45
86	9	Burleson, TX	62.41	160	54	665	717	331
84	10	Grapevine, TX	62.12	421	220	600	189	306
82	11	Mansfield, TX	61.65	38	144	565	1108	151
82	12	The Colony, TX	61.64	305	324	314	892	180
81	13	Weatherford, TX	61.59	505	63	659	392	354

The study used metrics like affordability, economic health, education and health, quality of life and safety. The DFW city that topped the local rankings also ranked in the 99th percentile and was named the No. 10 overall best small city in the U.S due to being the most affordable small city in America, WalletHub said.

One thing that may explain why so many North Texas cities boasted high rankings is the low cost of living. Since the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area is so spread out — the leader of DFW Uber said she has to manage a region the size of Connecticut— there's lots of room to expand.

Frisco is a prime example of that, as its economy has skyrocketed. They're no longer considered a small city, as it has a population of more than 100,000, but WalletHub named Frisco the fastest growing city in America earlier this month.

Evan Hoopfer is the Dallas Business Journal's digital reporter.

W WalletHub#; <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-small-cities-to-live-in/16581/>

2016's Best Small Cities in America

by [Richie Bernardo](#) | Oct 31, 2016



Urbanization might be the trend for much of the population, especially Millennials, but not everyone craves the bright lights and crowded spaces of a big metropolis. For those who appreciate fewer degrees of separation and want more bang for their buck, small-city life can be tough to beat.

Small-city dwellers enjoy tighter networks, shorter commutes and an abundance of land, just to name a few advantages. Granted, there are tradeoffs such as perhaps fewer restaurant options or shorter business hours.

So which small cities outshine the rest? WalletHub's analysts compared 1,268 cities with populations between 25,000 and 100,000 based on 30 key indicators of livability.

Main Findings

Given the large sample of cities ranked in this study, we grouped cities in percentiles, with a 99th percentile representing the top 1 percent of small cities in America.

Methodology

To determine the best small cities in America, WalletHub's analysts compared 1,268 cities across five key dimensions: 1) Affordability, 2) Economic Health, 3) Education & Health, 4) Quality of Life and 5) Safety. For our sample, we selected cities with population sizes between 25,000 and 100,000 and considered only the "city proper" in each case, excluding cities in the surrounding metro area.

We then evaluated the dimensions using 30 relevant metrics, which are listed below with their corresponding weights. Each metric was graded on a 100-point scale, with 100 representing the most favorable conditions for small-city residents.

Finally, we calculated overall scores for each city based on the weighted average across all metrics and used the results to construct our ranking.

Affordability – Total Points: 20

- Housing Costs: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
Note: This is a composite metric of median home price divided by median annual family income and average two-bedroom rent divided by median annual family income.
- Cost of Living: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
- Median Household Income: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
- Homeownership Rate: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)

Economic Health – Total Points: 20

- Unemployment Rate: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
- Percentage of Residents Living Below Poverty Level: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
- Population Growth: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)
- Income Growth: Full Weight (~5.00 Points)

Education & Health – Total Points: 20

- School-System Quality: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
Note: This metric is based on WalletHub's [School Systems](#) ranking.
- High School Graduation Rate: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Percentage of Residents with at Least a High School Diploma: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Percentage of Population with Health-Insurance Coverage: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Premature-Death Rate: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
Note: This metric measures "Average Years of Potential Life Lost" rate.
- Poor or Fair Health: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Low Birthweight: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Adult Obesity: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)
- Physical Inactivity: Full Weight (~2.22 Points)

Quality of Life – Total Points: 20

- Average Commute Time: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Percentage of Residents Who Walk to Work: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Mean Hours Worked per Week: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Restaurants per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Bars per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Clubs per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Coffee Shops per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Museums per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Performing Arts Centers per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Fitness Centers per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)
- Number of Department Stores per Capita: Full Weight (~1.82 Points)

Safety – Total Points: 20

- Violent-Crime Rate: Full Weight (~10.00 Points)
- Property-Crime Rate: Full Weight (~10.00 Points)

Sources: Data used to create this ranking were collected from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Areavibes, County Health Rankings, Yelp and WalletHub research.