

Greater Memphis Chamber
Bragging Rights
October 2014



GREATER MEMPHIS CHAMBER

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Metropolitan Memphis

Greater Memphis is a leading metropolitan area.

- Memphis is the largest city in Tennessee, 3rd-largest city in the Southeast and 20th-largest city in the U.S. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)
- The City of Memphis population is 653,450. The population in the City of Nashville is 634,464 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 Estimates).
- The City of Memphis has a larger population than the following cities:
 - Atlanta, GA
 - St. Louis, MO
 - Boston, MA
 - Seattle, WA
 - Denver, CO
 - Washington D.C.
- Memphis' 9-county metro area is the 41st-largest metro in the U.S. with a population of over 1.3 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 Estimates)
- In 2013, Memphis' GMP¹ (Gross Metro Product), a measure of all economic activity, was larger than that of 11 states' GSP (Gross State Product) and is ranked 46th out of 388 metro areas. The GMP for 2013 was over \$67.9 billion. (Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis)

¹ GMP (Gross Metro Product) : Measure of all economic activity



Transportation and Logistics

Greater Memphis has world class transportation infrastructure.

- International gateway for product export and import via four Foreign Trade Zones
- Home to the FedEx World Hub and major hubs for UPS, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Air National Guard.
- The Memphis workforce has more experienced logistics workers per capita than any other top 100 U.S. city.
- Memphis was ranked as the top “Logistics Leader” for air cargo in 2014 by *Business Facilities* magazine. Tennessee was listed as the #2 state for infrastructure.
- Since 2008, Memphis has been among the top 3 exporters of paper and paper products, exporting over \$860 million in 2012.
- Memphis ranked 28th out of 100 U.S. metros in total value of products exported in 2012, exporting over \$11.3 billion.
- *Global Trade* magazine ranked Memphis as the 24th in the U.S. on its “Top 50 Cities for Global Trade” list, and also as having the “Best Logistics Infrastructure” in 2012.

RUNWAY: MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- Known worldwide as **Memphis: America’s Aerotropolis**
- For 22 years, home to the busiest cargo airport in North America
- The largest economic driver in the state of Tennessee with an economic impact of \$23.3 billion annually, as of April 2013
- Weather does not impact operations at Memphis International Airport 99.2% of the time.
- More than 80 passenger flights daily, with direct service to 40 destinations.
- In 2014, Memphis International Airport ranked #2 overall in *Air Cargo World* magazine’s annual “Air Cargo Excellence (ACE) Survey for North America,” in the 1 million tons or more category.
- In December 2012, FlightStats ranked Memphis International Airport the top airport for on-time departures.
- *Travel + Leisure* ranked Memphis International Airport as the 2nd safest airport in the nation in 2011.
- In 2010, Memphis International Airport was named as one of the top five airport with the best fast food by *Jaunted.com*, a website hosted by Conde’ Nast.
 - In 2012, Interstate Barbecue and Lenny’s Sub Shop were listed among the best airport restaurants by GateGuru, and airport information and review app.



ROADS

- I-40 connects the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts and runs directly through Memphis. The stretch between Memphis and Little Rock is the 3rd-busiest trucking corridor in the nation.
- Memphis is the halfway point of the new 2,600-mile, I-69 superhighway connecting Canada to Mexico currently under construction.
- In 2010, Tennessee ranked third with the nation's "Best Roads" by *Overdrive* magazine.
 - Tennessee's stretch of I-40 was also ranked as the nation's "Best Highway Segment" by *Overdrive* magazine in 2010 for the fourth consecutive year.

RAIL

- Memphis is the 3rd-largest rail center in the United States behind Chicago and St. Louis.
 - Memphis is one of four U.S. cities with five Class I railroads: BNSF, Canadian National, CSX, Norfolk Southern and Union Pacific.
- Memphis is home to five of the largest wide-span cranes in the country because of BNSF's \$200 million newly expanded intermodal facility.
- Home to nine fully-operational rail yards with a total current container capacity of more than 2 million annual lifts
- By train, Memphis can reach 45 states (including Canada and Mexico) within 2 days.
- Single system shipment to all 48 contiguous states, and Alaska, Mexico, and Canada

RIVER

- The International Port of Memphis is the 4th-largest inland port in the United States and 2nd-largest inland port on the shallow draft portion of the Mississippi River.
- The Port of Memphis ranked 21st in 2012 for total domestic trade by cargo volume in the United States.
- The largest still water harbor on the Mississippi River
- Port of Memphis handles more than 13 million tons annually.
- The International Port of Memphis is also home to the Valero petroleum refinery, the only refinery in the State of Tennessee.

Business Climate

Memphis has a top-rated business climate.

- KPMG, a global auditing firm, ranked Memphis as having the 5th-lowest cost of doing business among mid-size cities in North America in their 2014 “Competitive Alternatives” report.
 - Memphis’ business cost index is 95.8, 4.2% below the U.S. average
 - Memphis has the lowest factory lease cost among mid-sized U.S. cities
- *Area Development* magazine awarded Tennessee the “Silver Shovel Award” for economic development success in 2014, in part due to the expansion of International Paper’s headquarters.
- Tennessee was ranked as having the #4 “Best Business Climate” by *Business Facilities* magazine. Tennessee also ranked #1 for “Education: Race to the Top Leaders” for investments and improvements in education, and #2 for “Employment Recovery Leaders.”
- In 2013, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce recognized Memphis as a model for government focused on job creation, economic growth and crime reduction in its report, “Enterprising Cities.”
- Memphis ranked among *MarketWatch*’s “Top Business Growth Cities” in 2013, ranking #1 for cities with the most freight commerce.
- *Area Development* magazine named Tennessee 5th in their 2014 “Top States for Doing Business” survey of location consultants. Tennessee also ranked #1 for infrastructure and logistics access, and #5 for highway access.
- Chief Executive Group named Tennessee the #3 “Best State for Business 2014.”
- Tennessee ranked 5th on *Site Selection* magazine’s 2013 list of “Top U.S. Business Climates.”
- Memphis ranked 6th in the nation for Fortune 500 headquarters per million people, according to Martin Prosperity Institute in 2012.
- In 2012, the Mid-South Minority Business Council (MMBC) Continuum was selected by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce to operate the first Minority Business Development Agency in Tennessee.
 - The MMBC Continuum was awarded the “2011 Advocate of the Year Award” by the U.S. Department of Commerce MBDA, Southeast Region.
- *The Business Journals* ranked the Memphis metro area 26th out of the 100 largest metro areas for job growth, increasing nonfarm employment by 2.04% between March 2011 and March 2012.
- The Gallup Job Creation Index ranked the Memphis metro area 3rd for the most hiring in 2011 among the top 50 largest MSAs, with 38% of companies reported to be hiring. In 2012, Memphis was ranked 15th based on the Gallup Job Creation Index.
- The Memphis metro area was ranked 3rd of the top 100 metro areas for job growth in the fourth quarter of 2011 by the Brookings Institute’s *Metro Monitor*.
- Memphis ranked 30th out of 101 metro areas in *MarketWatch*’s 2010 annual “Best Cities for Business” survey.
- In 2010, *Site Selection* magazine named Memphis as the 9th “Top 10 Metro Areas” in the U.S.
- *Site Selection* magazine named Memphis Light, Gas and Water as one of the top-performing utilities in the country for 2010. The Tennessee Valley Authority, supplier of electricity to MLGW, has been named among the top-performing utilities each year since 2006.
- The location of Electrolux’s new North American Cooking Products manufacturing center in Memphis was named the number three “Top Deal of 2010” by *Site Selection* magazine, bringing \$190 million in investment and creating 1,200 jobs.

Greater Memphis has an impressive and growing list of world-class corporate citizens.

- Three *Fortune* 500 world headquarters (2014):
 - FedEx (#64)
 - International Paper (#105)
 - AutoZone (#300)

- World HQ for two of *Fortune's* "Best Companies to Work For" (2014)
 - Baker Donelson (#31 overall)
 - St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (#30 overall)

- World HQ for three of *Forbes* list of "The World's 2000 Largest Public Companies" (2014)
 - FedEx (#261)
 - International Paper Co. (#363)
 - AutoZone (#846)

- World HQ for two of *Fortune's* "Global 500" (2013)
 - FedEx (#236)
 - International Paper (#420)

- World HQ for three of *Industry Week's* "U.S. 500" (2013)
 - International Paper (#42)
 - Verso Paper Corp. (#467)
 - Mueller Industries (#367)

- *Corporate Knights'* 2014 "Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World" companies with a Memphis area presence are:
 - Schneider Electric (#10)
 - Cisco Systems (#11)
 - BASF (#12)
 - Siemens AG (#27)
 - Monsanto Company (#37)
 - Atlas Copco (#46)
 - General Electric (#59)
 - Daimler AG (#60)
 - Mitsubishi Heavy Industry (#66)
 - Staples, Inc. (#72)
 - EMC Corporation (#78)
 - Johnson Controls (#84)
 - Nestle SA (#86)
 - Unilever (#93)
 - Novartis AG (#99)



- Over 20 companies with a Memphis area presence were named as *Corporate Responsibility Magazine's* "100 Best Corporate Citizens for 2014". The highest ranked in Memphis are:
 - Johnson & Johnson (#2)
 - Gap, Inc. (#3)
 - Coca-Cola Co. (#6)
 - Johnson Controls (#11)
 - Cisco Systems (#16)

- Over 50 Memphis area companies were ranked in *Newsweek's* "Top 500 U.S. Green Companies for 2014."
 - Cardinal Health (#9)
 - Rockwell Automation (#8)
 - Nike (#13)
 - Prologis (#15)
 - EMC (#19)
 - Coca-Cola (#22)
 - MetLife (#28)
 - Praxair (#30)
 - United Technologies (#34)
 - Johnson & Johnson (#35)

- *Entrepreneur's* 2014 "Franchise 500" rankings of Memphis-based franchises
 - Hampton Hotels (#2)
 - ServiceMaster Clean (#35)
 - Merry Maids (#51)
 - Homewood Suites (#135)
 - Embassy Suites (#185)
 - Amerispec (#357)
 - Furniture Medic (#401)
 - Lenny's Sub Shop (#333)

- Twelve Memphis area companies were ranked on the "Inc. 5000" 2014 list which annually ranks the fastest growing private companies in the U.S.
 - Evolve Bank & Trust (#838)
 - Monogram Foods (#2,095)
 - Best Drivers (#2,619)
 - Pathmark Transportation (#3,240)
 - International Sourcing Company (#3,790)
 - Arthur Rubber Company (#3,958)
 - RemitDATA (#4,030)
 - Wunderlich Securities (#4,115)
 - Cornerstone Systems (4,412)
 - BrakeQuip (#4,549)
 - directFX Solutions (#4,623)
 - archer>malmo (#4,676)

- Memphis is home to two 2012 *Black Enterprise* 100's Companies
 - Lexus of Memphis
 - Tri-State Bank



- *Forbes* magazine ranked Merry Maids (a ServiceMaster company) #8 on their 2012 “Top 20 Franchises for the Buck” list.
- Since 1995, First Tennessee has been named one of the “100 Best Places to Work” by *Working Mother* magazine.
 - First Tennessee was named the 2nd “Best Employers for Workers over 50” from *AARP* in 2011.
- FedEx is ranked 8th on *Fortune*’s “World’s Most Admired Companies” in 2014.
 - FedEx ranks 14th on the 2014 *InformationWeek* 500, a listing of the most innovative users of business technology in the United States.
 - In 2014, FedEx ranked as the 98th “Best Company in the World to Work For” by Great Places to Work, a global research, consulting and training firm.
 - FedEx has been cited among *Fortune* magazine’s “100 Best Companies to Work For” in 2013. *Fortune* also recognized FedEx for its commitment to diversity and women. FedEx is the largest company by number of employees on the list and has been included among the “100 Best Companies to Work For” in 13 of the past 15 years.
 - *Computer World* magazine lists FedEx as one of the 100 “Best Place to Work in IT” in 2013.
 - FedEx ranked 23rd in a 2010 Harris Interactive RQ Study that measures corporate reputation.
- International Paper was named one of *Ethisphere*’s “World’s Most Ethical Companies” for 2014.
 - *ComputerWorld* lists International Paper as the 34th “Best Place to Work in IT” (2014).
- The UTC Carrier plant in Collierville was one of 10 manufacturing plants awarded *Industry Week*’s “Best Plant 2011” Award.
- Memphis is home to major operations for more than 200 foreign-owned companies.
- Memphis’ is home to world-renowned companies like:
 - Ducks Unlimited (World HQ)
 - Elvis Presley Enterprises (World HQ)
 - First Tennessee (World HQ)
 - Hunter Fan (World HQ)
 - Lucite International (World HQ)
 - Wright Medical Technologies (World HQ)
 - Thomas & Betts (World HQ)
 - Youth Villages (World HQ)
 - Medtronic (Division HQ)
 - Nike (Major Operations)
 - Sharp Manufacturing of America (Division HQ)
 - Hilton Hotels (Division HQ)
 - Smith & Nephew (Division HQ)



Greater Memphis Chamber

Memphis is home to an award-winning chamber of commerce.

- In April 2014, Leigh Shockey, Chairwoman of the Greater Memphis Chamber, was appointed Honorary Consul of Canada in Memphis by the Canadian government.
- In August 2013, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce Executives honored Clifford Stockton, senior advisor in logistics and policy at the Greater Memphis Chamber, for 45 years of continuous service. He was recognized for his outstanding tenure, service and dedication to the Memphis business community.
- The Greater Memphis Chamber Communications & Programming Team won three Mid-South Emmy Awards in February 2013. They received the Emmys for [The Soundtrack Project](#), a series of eight documentary shorts that captured the entrepreneurial spirit in Memphis.
- In 2013, the Public Relations Society of America Memphis Chapter awarded the Chamber the Gold Vox in the category “Campaigns: Crisis Communications Implemented” for the response to the Memphis Flood Crisis.
- The Greater Memphis Chamber’s Communications & Programming Team received a platinum and two gold MarCom Awards in 2012. They received awards for the Chamber’s Website (Platinum), for the Chamber Beat Weekly e-newsletter (Gold), and for Memphis Crossroads Magazine: Young Memphis 2012 (Gold).
- In July 2012, The Chamber was the recipient of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives’ (ACCE) “Award for Communications Excellence.” ACCE awarded the Chamber two Silver Awards for the 2011 *Memphis Crossroads Magazine: Young Memphis* issue and the Chamber’s website (www.memphischamber.com).
- The Greater Memphis Chamber economic development team was awarded the 2011 “Excellence in Economic Development Award” by the National Site Selectors Guild.
- The Public Relations Society of American Memphis Chapter awarded the Chamber the Vox Award for Special Events for the 2011 Chairman’s Luncheon.
- The Chamber has also been the recipient of several local and national Addy awards.
 - 2011: Memphis Gold Addy: Micro or Mini Sites: [The Soundtrack Project](#)
 - 2011: Memphis Addy: Best of Web
 - 2010: National Silver Addy: Public Service in Audio Visual for [“What ‘A C’ Stands For”](#)
 - 2010: Memphis Gold Addy: Public Service in Audio Visual for [“What ‘A C’ Stands For”](#)
 - 2010: Memphis Chapter Addy’s Judges Special Award “Best of Electronic”: [The Soundtrack Project](#)
 - 2010: Memphis Addy: Webisodes: [“A Tangible Birthplace”](#)
- The Greater Memphis Chamber was named one of the “Top Groups of 2010” for economic development by *Site Selection* Magazine.



Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Greater Memphis is entrepreneurial.

Many great entrepreneurial ideas have been created, launched, and cultivated in Memphis that impacted the world.

- **Grocery Stores:** The first self-service grocery store, **Piggly Wiggly**, was developed in Memphis in 1916.
- **Reliable, standardized motel service:** That's what Kemmons Wilson envisioned when he created the first **Holiday Inn** in Memphis, the first modern hotel chain.
- **Time-sensitive shipping options:** Since its founding in 1971, **FedEx** has revolutionized the logistics industry. Among FedEx's many firsts are:
 - The first company dedicated to overnight package delivery
 - The first express company to introduce the overnight letter
 - The first to offer 10:30 a.m. next-day delivery
 - The first to offer Saturday delivery and the first express company to offer time-definite service for freight
 - The first in the industry with money-back guarantees and free proof of performance, services that now extend to its worldwide network
- **Tri-State Bank** was founded in 1946 by Dr. J. E. Walker and his son A. Maceo Walker.
 - Tri-State Bank was and still is the largest African American run bank in Tennessee.
 - In 2012, Tri-State Bank ranked 14th by *Black Enterprise* magazine in their "BE 100" list for Banks.
- **Robert Church** was the South's first African-American millionaire
 - In 1906, Church founded the Solvent Savings Bank and Trust Company. It was the first black-owned and operated bank in Memphis.
 - Robert Church developed Church Park, Memphis' only park for African Americans at that time.
- In 1923, Dr. J. E. Walker founded **Universal Life Insurance** in Mississippi
 - Universal Life Insurance relocated to Memphis in 1926.
 - By 1947, Universal Life Insurance became the second African American company in America to "attain million-dollar-capital status."
- WalletHub, a financial advice and review website, named Memphis the #5 "Best City to Start a Business" in 2014.
- Memphis ranked 11th on *Forbes'* 2011 "Best Cities for Minority Entrepreneurs" list.

OTHER MEMPHIS-GROWN INVENTIONS & COMPANIES INCLUDE:

- **The Hydraulic Lift:** Invented by an Italian immigrant to Memphis and was later adopted by German conglomerate ThyssenKrupp.
- **Greyhound & Continental Trailways** bus lines ran across North America from humble beginnings in Memphis.
- **Shering Plough**, now part of Merck, was known for Coppertone, Afrin, Dr. Shoal's and many other over-the-counter products.



- Memphis has also contributed to sports innovation with the 1st not-for-profit sports team & stadium – the **Memphis Redbirds** AAA baseball team and AutoZone Park.

Healthcare and Bioscience

Greater Memphis is an emerging medical and bioscience center.

- Shelby County is the 2nd largest orthopedic device manufacturing center in the U.S.
 - Home to divisional or corporate headquarters to orthopedic and medical device leaders Medtronic, MicroPort Orthopedics, Smith & Nephew and Wright Medical.
- Founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, Memphis is home to **St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital**.
 - The premier center for the research and treatment of pediatric cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases
 - The first and only pediatric cancer center to be designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute, receiving an “exceptional” score, the highest rating awarded.
 - St. Jude was ranked as the #9 hospital in the country for Children’s Cancer on *U.S. News and World Report’s* “Best Hospitals in the U.S.” list in 2014.
 - Ranked 31st on *Fortune* magazine’s “100 Best Companies to Work” for in 2014
 - ALSAC/St. Jude is America’s 2rd-largest healthcare charity, according to *Forbes’* 2014 list of “200 Largest U.S. Charities.”
 - Ranked 6th in the 2013 “Best Places to Work in Academia” list by *The Scientist* magazine
 - Named the #2 Pediatric Cancer Care Hospital in the nation by *Parents* magazine in 2011
 - Harris Interactive ranked St. Jude #1 as Most Trusted Non-Profit in 2010.
 - Employs more than 3,200 clinicians, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, administrators and information technology specialists from around the globe, including Peter Doherty, PhD, of the Department of Immunology. Dr. Doherty was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for key discoveries he made about the workings of the immune system.
- **Baptist Memorial Hospital** has six metro hospitals, the Reynolds Hospice House and an expanding number of physician clinics and clinical specialties.
 - Mid-Southerners have selected Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis as their preferred hospital choice for quality in the National Research Corp.’s annual Healthcare Market Guide Study’s “Consumer Choice” award for 18 years in a row as of 2014.
 - Baptist Memorial Healthcare was the only hospital in the Mid-South to make *Becker Hospital Review* magazine’s 2014 “100 Great Hospitals in America” list.



- Baptist Memorial Health Care was named a top 10 in community outreach in the 2013 Hospital Charity Service Awards.
 - Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation has been designated as one of the “Best Places to Work in Healthcare” by *Modern Healthcare* in 2012.
 - Baptist ranked 15th on SDI’s “Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks 2012” list and 4th on SDI “Top 10 South” list. SDI is a privately held healthcare market insights and analytics firm.
 - Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis had the best patient satisfaction rates in the Mid-South according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Hospital Compare website for 2014.
 - In 2011, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis received the HealthGrades’ Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence Award. This is the third straight year Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis has received this award for overall quality.
 - Baptist Desoto was named the 2010 Hospital of the Year by the Mississippi Nurses Association.
- **Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare** operates seven hospitals in the Memphis area, including Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center - the Mid-South’s premier pediatric health care provider.
 - Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare ranked as the #1 hospital system in the Mid-south by *U.S. News and World Report’s* 2014 “Best Hospitals” list.
 - Methodist ranked as “High Performing” in nine adult specialties, and among the top 50 U.S hospitals in seven pediatric specialties on the *U.S. News and World Report’s* 2014 “Best Hospitals” list.
 - Methodist was named one of only 12 exemplar hospitals in the country by the Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care (IPFCC) in 2014.
 - In January 2014, the Methodist Healthcare Blood and Bone Marrow Transplant Center, was awarded accreditation by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy, an internationally-recognized accrediting body for medical institutions offering stem cell therapy.
 - Methodist University Hospital conducts the Mid-South’s only minimally invasive integrated surgical procedure that removes colon polyps.
 - Methodist ranked 47th on SDI’s “Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks 2012 list” and 10th on their “Top 10 South” list.
 - In 2011, Methodist University Hospital was among 306 hospitals recognized by the National Learning Congress on Organ Donation and Transplantation. Methodist has sustained a 75% donation rate among eligible donors.
 - **Le Bonheur’s Children’s Hospital**, part of the Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare system, treats more than 200,000 children each year.
 - LeBonheur Children’s has been named one of *U.S. News and World Report’s* 2014 Best Children’s Hospitals, and is ranked nationally in seven specialties.



- LeBonheur is the only pediatric Level 1 Trauma Center in the region certified by the American College of Surgeons. With over 34,000 square feet, the trauma center serves the entire region, receiving an average of 220 traumas per day.
 - Le Bonheur's Neuroscience Institute, in conjunction with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, is home to one of the nation's largest brain tumor programs. Le Bonheur Children's receives brain tumor patients from over 40 states, and employs 3 pediatric neurosurgeons.
 - In 2011, Le Bonheur and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center joined forces to create the region's only multi-specialty physician practice focused solely on pediatrics. University of Tennessee Le Bonheur Pediatric Specialists (ULPS) includes more than 100 pediatric subspecialists.
- Memphis is home to the **Church Health Center (CHC)**, a faith-based clinic that provides quality, affordable healthcare to 50,000 working, uninsured people and their families. In the United States, the CHC is the largest faith-based clinic of its kind.
 - **University of Tennessee's Health Science Center**, one of four medical schools in the State of Tennessee, has recently spun off two new bioscience companies and a research park that are making national headlines:
 - **GTx** – a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to men's health
 - **Luminex** – a bioscience technologies company that made headlines with THE VEINVIEWER, recognized by *Time Magazine* as one of the most innovative medical inventions of 2004
 - **UT / Baptist Research Park** – currently under construction – is 1.2 million square feet of lab research, education and business development space, is expected to be completed in six phases over a 10-year period, allowing flexibility to meet current and future bioscience needs.
 - **Region One Health** is home to one of the busiest Level 1 Trauma Center in the nation, with approximately 4,500 admissions annually.
 - Region One Health was named one of the "150 Great Places to Work in Healthcare" by *Becker's Healthcare* magazine in 2014.
 - In 2014, Region One Health was honored with a Better Options in Birth Award by Healthy and Free Tennessee for adding certified nurse midwives to their staff.
 - The Med is home to the Sheldon B. Korones Newborn Center, where more than 1,500 premature or critically ill newborns are treated each year.
 - The Firefighters Regional Burn Center at the Med has earned verification for the American Burn Association and the American College of Surgeons making it the only full-service burn center within 150 miles of Memphis.



Education and Talent

Greater Memphis is focused on building and retaining world class talent.

- Memphis boasts multiple business and entrepreneurial incubators such as:
 - EmergeMemphis
 - EPICenter
 - FedEx Institute of Technology
 - Innova (subsidiary of the Memphis BioWorks Foundation)
 - MMBC's Center for Emerging Entrepreneurial Development (C.E.E.D.)
 - StartCo.
 - Seed Hatchery
 - Upstart Memphis
- A culture of encouraging and cultivating talent is offered through structured programs like:
 - New Memphis Institute
 - Leadership Memphis
 - NEXUS Leadership
 - University of Memphis Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Memphis was ranked 4th in *Forbes* magazine's "10 Happiest Cities for Job-Seeking College Grads" in 2012.

Greater Memphis is focused on education.

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- The **University of Memphis** is the largest university in Memphis and is the flagship institution of the Tennessee Board of Regents.
 - The University of Memphis was included 2015 list of military friendly schools, by Victory Media, originator of Militaryfriendly.com.
 - The University of Memphis was selected to lead the NIH National Center of Excellence for Mobile Sensor Data-to-Knowledge (MD2K). The University has been granted \$1.8 million to develop big data solutions for mobile health sensors.
 - The Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law has the second highest passing rate for the Bar Exam in the State of Tennessee.
 - The law school was ranked as a Best Value Law School by *National Jurist Magazine* in 2014.
 - Listed on the *Princeton Review's* "Best 169 Law Schools" in 2014
 - The University of Memphis ranked 40^h in the nation on *Washington Monthly's* "2014 National Universities" rankings.
 - *U.S. News & World Report's* 2014 list for "America's Best Graduate Schools" ranks the University of Memphis Graduate programs as:

Audiology (#12)	Math (#126)
Speech-Language Pathology (#15)	Law (#140)
Rehabilitation Counseling (#17)	Education (#172)
Clinical Psychology (#79)	Fine Arts (#177)
Public Affairs (#104)	Nursing (#193)
Psychology (#117)	Biological Sciences (#209)
Part-time MBA (#125)	
 - *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the University of Memphis #215 in their 2014 "High School Counselor" ranking.



- Listed as one of Princeton Review's 332 Green Colleges (2014)
- *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the University of Memphis in the "Top Ten for Student Internships in 2013," with over 52% of undergraduates completing internships.
- In 2013, was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- The Fogelman College of Business and Economics is listed as one of the "Best Business Schools" in the southeast by the *Princeton Review* (2013).
- In 2012, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the University of Memphis 22nd for economic diversity among national universities.
- In 2010, ranked 52nd among other U.S. and Canadian universities for the research productivity in a study conducted by Texas A&M the University of Florida.
- Home to the University of Memphis Tigers basketball team, who played in the 2008 NCAA Championship
- **Christian Brothers University**
 - The first university in Memphis to grant a degree
 - Ranked 24th on the *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Colleges 2014" list and 7th for "Best Value Schools" in the Regional Universities (South) division
 - Ranked among the "Best Southeastern Colleges" according to *The Princeton Review's 376 Best Colleges* guidebook (2014 edition)
 - In the past five years, CBU students achieved a 74% acceptance rate into medical school compared to 43% nationally and an 82% acceptance rate into pharmacy school compared to national rate of 50%.
 - 75% of CBU engineering students are employed in industry by the time they graduate.
- **Rhodes College**
 - Ranked 54th in *U.S. News and World Report's* 2014 "National Liberal Arts Colleges"
 - Ranked 15th among liberal arts colleges in *Washington Monthly's* 2014 College Guide
 - Ranked 79th on the *Princeton Review's* "Best Value Private Colleges for 2014"
 - Ranked 3rd on "Most Beautiful Campus" list, and 19th on the "Study the Most" list in the *Princeton Review's 376 Best Colleges* guidebook (2014 Edition).
 - Ranked on the *Princeton Review's* 2013 Guide to 311 Green Colleges
 - On the 2013 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction
 - Ranked #1 on *Newsweek's* list of "Most Service-Oriented Schools" in 2010 and 2011
 - Ranked 15th on the Peace Corps' Southeast Region Top Schools list in 2011
- **LeMoyne-Owen College**
 - LeMoyne Normal and Commercial School was founded in 1871 as an elementary school for freedmen and runaway slaves. In 1968, Owen Junior College and LeMoyne Colleges merged creating LeMoyne-Owen College.
 - LeMoyne-Owen is one of the nation's oldest historically black colleges.
- **Southwest Tennessee Community College**, the largest two-year college in Tennessee, offers more than 100 programs and areas of study.
 - Had a 97% pass rate for the 2013 Nursing Students' National Council Licensure Exam.
 - Ranked 39th in the nation in associate degrees to African Americans by Community College Week in 2014.



- **Memphis College of Art** is one of only four independent, regionally and nationally accredited art colleges in the south and is the only one to offer graduate degrees.
 - Ranked 93rd in the nation *U.S. News and World Reports* 2014 "America's Best Graduate Schools" for Fine Arts.

HEALTH SCIENCE SCHOOLS

- About 1 out of every 3 Memphis area college graduates, or over 4,500, earn bioscience-related degrees each year
- **University of Tennessee Health Science Center** offers bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees from its School of Biomedical Engineering and Colleges of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Graduate Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Social Work.
 - *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Graduate Schools" 2011 rankings for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center are:

Pharmacy #17	Best Primary Care (Medical School) #55
Nurse-Anesthesia #32	Best Research (Medical School) #81
Nursing #44	Biological Sciences #93
Physical Therapy #51	Occupational Therapy #116
 - In 2013, 100% of College of Pharmacy graduate passed the national board exam on the first try.
 - According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center graduated the 2nd-largest percentage of African American medical students among non-historically Black colleges in the United States (2013).
 - Ranked 3rd on the American Physiological Society's 2011 ranking of physiology departments
 - In 2010, UTHSC had a \$1.7 billion economic impact on the Memphis economy, and a \$2.3 billion impact on the Tennessee economy.
 - The College of Dentistry is home to the world's largest and most advanced preclinical laboratory.
- **Baptist Memorial College of Health Sciences** is an accredited four-year college that offers bachelor's degrees in nursing and health sciences.
 - Offers majors in nine fields: Biomedical Sciences, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Health Care Management, Medical Laboratory Science, Medical Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Nursing, Radiation Therapy, Respiratory Care.
 - The Pinnacle Health Care Management program that allows full-time workers with some college credits to earn a degree in 19 months.
- The **Southern College of Optometry** offers a Doctor of Optometry program that graduated 123 students in 2013. The college is also home to the Eye Center which is one of the largest and most clinically advanced facilities of its kind in the United States and serves approximately 60,000 patients each year. The school boasts a consistent 90% pass rate on the national board exam.



PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

- **Shelby County Schools**, the largest school system in Tennessee and among the top 20 in the nation, offers a free education to about 117,000 students at 229 schools.
 - Shelby County Schools has 48 optional school programs, with specialized curricula in areas such as college preparatory, STEM specialties, and International Baccalaureate
 - **White Station High School** was ranked #9 in Tennessee and #1,164 in the nation on the *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best High School" list in 2014.
 - In 2014, Shelby County Schools was designated one of the "Best Communities for Music Education" by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. Previously, Memphis City Schools (now part of Shelby County Schools) had earned the designation six times.
 - One of four school systems awarded a \$90 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to fund the Teacher Effectiveness Initiative (TEI), a focused plan to improve teacher effectiveness in order to empower teachers for student success
 - In May 2011, **Booker T. Washington High School** won the White House's Race to the Top High School Commencement Challenge, for the school's commitment and success in preparing students for college and careers. President Barack Obama gave the commencement speech for the graduating class on May 16, 2011.
 - **Douglass Elementary** was one of 200 schools in the nation to earn the highest award in education as a 2010 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the federal government.

- In August 2014, six new school districts began operation in Shelby County: Arlington Community Schools, Bartlett City Schools, Collierville Municipal School District, Germantown Municipal School District, Lakeland School System, and Millington Municipal Schools.
 - Approximately 29,000 enrolled in the municipal school districts
 - **Collierville High School**, part of the Collierville Municipal School District, was ranked #7 in Tennessee and #948 in the U.S. on the *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best High School" list in 2014
 - **Collierville High School** (Collierville) and **Houston High School** (Germantown) are listed among the top 1,000 high schools in the U.S. on *Newsweek's* "America's Best High Schools" 2012 list.
 - **E.E. Jeter Elementary** (Millington) was one of 200 schools in the nation to earn the highest award in education as a 2012 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the federal government.



Quality of Life

Greater Memphis has a lively cultural, arts, sports and entertainment scene.

SPORTS

- Memphis is home to one of only thirty NBA teams, having just finished their 13th season in 2013-2014. In 2012-2013, the Grizzlies made history by making it to the Western Conference finals for the first time. Marc Gasol was named NBA Defensive Player of the Year.
 - The Memphis Grizzlies economic impact to the Memphis community has been over \$223 million annually and a total of 1,534 direct and indirect jobs over the past ten years (2010).
 - The **Memphis Grizzlies were ranked #1** of 122 sports teams (from the NBA, MLB, NFL, and NHL) in the *ESPN the Magazine's* 2013 "Ultimate Standings" list. The Grizzlies were ranked 1st in the category "Bang for the Buck."
 - **Grizz**, the Grizzlies' mascot, was named **2011 NBA Mascot of the Year** at the league's annual mascot meeting.
- In 2012, the **Memphis Grizzlies Charitable Foundation** donated over \$370,000 in new grants to 15 Memphis-based non-profit organizations.
 - Since 2004, the Foundation has contributed over \$15.2 million in grants to Memphis-area nonprofit organizations and schools.
 - In 2012, the Foundation won the Beyond Sport Awards' Sport Team of the Year, an international award for professional sport team charities.
- *USA Today's* sports blog "For the Win" named Memphis the #1 "Most Underrated Sports Cities in America" for its support of both the University of Memphis Tigers and the Memphis Grizzlies in 2014.
- *Sporting News* ranked Memphis as the 35th "Best Sports City" of 2011.
- Memphis is home to the **Memphis Redbirds**, the AAA affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals.
 - Autozone Park, home of the Memphis Redbirds, was named as the nation's one of the best minor league parks in 2013 by *Stadium Journey* magazine.
- Memphis hosts the PGA Tour for the annual St. Jude Classic presented by FedEx. The St. Jude Classic is the ONLY PGA event held in the state of Tennessee.
- Memphis is home to over 30 golf courses, public and private. **TPC Southwind**, home to the St. Jude Classic, ranks as the 4th-toughest course in the PGA tour (2013, *Bleacher Report*). **Mirimichi**, a venture of Justin Timberlake, was named one of the 5 most environmentally friendly courses by *Mother Nature Network* in 2011 and by *Forbes* magazine in 2012.
- The **U.S. National Indoor Tennis Championship** is held each February at the Memphis Racquet Club, bringing in top tennis talent and raising funds for St. Jude.
- The nationally-televised **AutoZone Liberty Bowl** is one of the longest-running bowls. It is played each year in Memphis and benefits St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- **Memphis in May Triathlon** attracts more than 2,000 pro and amateur athletes from around the nation and world to compete in the 1.5K swim, 40K bike and 10K run event.



- The **St. Jude Marathon & Half Marathon** is a Boston-qualifying marathon benefiting St. Jude.
- The **Mike Rose Soccer Complex** is the nation's premier soccer facility sitting on 136.7 acres with 16 FIFA dimension fields and a 2,500-seat stadium. Soccer sporting events include the Rose Cup, Blues City Blowout and the John Talley Showcase.
- Each year, thousands attend the **Southern Heritage Classic**, an annual football game held at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium between rival historically black universities Jackson State University and Tennessee State University. In addition to the game, the event includes concerts, tailgates, parades, a battle of the bands and a fashion show.
- In 2012, *Bicycling* magazine named Memphis "America's Most Improved Bike City" citing 35 miles of new bike lanes.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

- *MovieMaker Magazine* ranked Memphis the 9th "Best Place to Live and Work as a Moviemaker" in 2014. The magazine cites Memphis' great amenities, low cost of living and valuable incentives.
- Memphis was named the 5th "Best City for Young Artists" in 2014 by *Bustle*, a cultural news website.
- The Memphis metro area is ranked 5th in the number of working musicians per capita according to *Billboard* magazine (August 2013).
- **Goner Records** and **Shangri-La Records** were named two of "The Best Record Stores in the USA" by *Rolling Stone* in 2012.
- Memphis was named the #2 city for music-lovers 2011 by TLC (The Learning Channel).
- Memphis was named as one of "America's Musical Cities" for the Blues in 2010 by *Forbes*.
- The **Memphis in May International Festival** is a month-long festival that attracts more than 100,000 attendees. The festival is four main events: the Beale Street Music Festival, International Week, the World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest, and Sunset Symphony.
- The **Memphis Symphony Orchestra's** concert season begins in September and performs their season finale during the Memphis in May festivities each year. The symphony is committed to community engagement programs that tie orchestra and citizens together – an effort that recently won one of four Mellon Foundation grants.
- **Opera Memphis** has been a Memphis tradition for more than 40 years and features Kallen Esperian, one of the world's greatest sopranos. Esperian has performed in some of the world's preeminent opera houses and with the world's most well-known opera singers, Luciano Pavarotti and Plácido Domingo.
 - Esperian is one of the Three Sopranos, the soprano counterpart to the Three Tenors.
- **The Orpheum** brings Broadway to Memphis through their Broadway Series with 8 to 10 touring performances every season. The Orpheum also hosts movie nights, comedy and musical performances and celebrated its 85th anniversary in 2013.
- The **Germantown Performing Arts Center** celebrated its 20th season in 2013.



- **Ballet Memphis** celebrated its 28th season in 2014. Identified as a “national treasure” by the Ford Foundation, Ballet Memphis produces more original work than any other company of its size.
- **The Brooks Museum of Art** is Tennessee’s oldest and largest museum of fine and decorative arts.
- **The Dixon Gallery and Gardens** features 17 acres of beautiful gardens and an impressive art gallery that is home to an annual series of traveling exhibits.
- **The National Ornamental Metal Museum** is the only museum in the U.S. dedicated exclusively to the exhibition and preservation of fine metalwork.

ATTRACTIONS AND TOURISM

- Over 10 million tourists annually visit Memphis. Based on 2014 estimates, the collective spending injects over \$3.2 billion to the local economy each year.
- *National Geographic Traveler* listed Memphis as one of 20 must-see places in their “Best Trips 2013” list.
- MSN Living listed Memphis as one of the “20 best travel destinations for 2013.”
- Memphis is the #5 U.S. city for an affordable getaway, according to *Travel + Leisure* magazine (2013).
- Memphis was an editor’s pick for “Best Road Trip” in *Travel + Leisure* (2013).
- In the 2013 “America’s Favorite City” poll from *Travel + Leisure*, Memphis took several top rankings:
 - **Barbecue** (#2)
 - **Affordability** (#3)
 - **Charming local accent** (#8)
 - **Street Performers** (#5)
 - **Wild Weekend** (#11)
- *U.S. News and World Report* named Memphis one of the top destinations for spring travel in their 2012 “Best Spring Vacations” ranking.
- TripAdvisor, a travel review website, named Memphis a 2012 “Destination on the Rise” based on travelers opinions.
- CNN Travel named Memphis one of 11 “Great Riverfront Towns” in 2012.
- *Forbes Magazine* named Memphis one of the “10 Best Weekend Vacation Cities” in 2011.
- In May 2015, the Blues Foundation will open the multi-million dollar **Blues Hall of Fame** which will celebrate blues musicians that have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Each year, the Foundation hosts the Blues Music Awards and the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.
- Memphis is home to **Beale Street**, a historic street that is popular for its live music and night life. In 2013, Beale Street was voted the “Favorite Iconic American Street” in a *USA Today* poll. More than 4 million visitors go to Beale Street annually, making it the most visited attraction in Tennessee.



- **Elvis Presley** was proud to call Memphis home. Today, his impact in the world of entertainment is still being felt and his iconic status is one of the things that has kept Memphis in the hearts and on the minds of music fans around the world. Elvis is considered the most successful solo artist worldwide, having sold over one billion records, with 150 different albums certified gold, platinum or multi-platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America.
 - **Elvis Presley's Graceland**, a National Historic Landmark, is visited by over 650,000 people a year from all over the world and serves as the centerpiece of the local tourism economy. The annual Elvis Week events in August draw thousands to Memphis for the celebration of the life and legacy of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.
 - **Graceland** was voted the #1 "Iconic American Attraction" on 10best.com, a publication of *USA Today* in 2013.
- **Sun Studios** is listed as a National Historic Landmark and is known as the "Birthplace of Rock-n-Roll". It is the studio where artists such as Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, and Roy Orbison recorded in the 1950's. After re-opening in the 80's, the studio has recorded artists and groups such as U2, John Mellancamp and Def Leppard. Today, visitors can tour the studio and its exhibits, while artists continue to record there.
- Memphis' 3,520-acre **Shelby Farms Park** is the 2nd largest urban county park in the United States. It receives about 500,000 annual visitors, and is in the top 100 most visited City Parks according to the Trust for Public Land. It is five times larger than New York City's Central Park (2013).
- The **Children's Museum of Memphis** was the eighth children's museums in the nation to be awarded accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. The museum was named the "Best Children's Museum" by *AAA Southern Travel Magazine* in 2011.
- **Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum** is the first and only exhibition ever developed by the world renowned Smithsonian Institution in partnership with another museum. The museum is located at the legendary intersection of Highway 61, "The Blues Highway" and historic Beale Street at FedExForum.
- Memphis is home to three of the Trust for Public Land's 113 "Most Visited City Parks" in the United States (2011): **Overton Park**, **T.O. Fuller State Park** and **Shelby Farms Park**.
- Trip Advisor LLC ranked the **Memphis Zoo** 4th on their "America's Top 10 Zoos," part of their 2014 "Traveler's Choice Awards." The zoo was also Tennessee's 4th most visited tourist attraction for 2011.
- The **Pink Palace Museum** was Tennessee's 15th most visited tourist attraction in 2011.
- **Mud Island River Park**, which attracts 160,000 visitors during its 7-month season and is home to a stellar summer concert series that has featured Norah Jones, Willie Nelson, Wilco, Bob Dylan, Allison Kraus and Robert Plant, as well as perennials like Wide Spread Panic. Mud Island River Park is also home to the Mississippi River Museum, the nations' preeminent authority on life along the world's 3rd-longest river.
- The National Championship for Bird Dogs Field Trials are held annually just outside of Memphis.
- The **National Civil Rights Museum**, formerly the Lorraine Motel, was one of the few motels in the Memphis area that serviced African-American travelers in the segregated south. The



property faced demolition until a group called the Lorraine Civil Rights Museum Foundation purchased the property in 1984. On Sept. 28, 1991, the Civil Rights Museum was officially opened to the public. The museum was voted the **#3 Iconic American Attraction** on 10best.com, a publication of *USA Today*, in 2013.

- **WDIA** is home of the first African-American formatted radio station in the United States.
- **WLOK** is home of the first African-American owned radio station in the United States.
- **Stax Museum** is the world's only Soul music museum. Once the Capital Theater, the building became Stax Records in 1959. Stax Records alumni include music legends such as Isaac Hayes, Otis Redding, the Staple Singers, Wilson Pickett, Luther Ingram, Albert King, the Bar-Kays, Booker T. & the MG's, Johnnie Taylor, Rufus and Carla Thomas. Other recording artists outside of the Stax label include Al Green, Ike and Tina Turner, and James Brown.

FOOD AND HOSPITALITY

- Memphis has approximately 480 hotels and over 44,000 rooms, ranging from affordable hotels to luxury properties (2014).
- Memphis is one of the most hospitable cities in the U.S., ranked 6th by Airbnb.com based on visitors reviews of the city in 2013.
- *Southern Living* named Memphis one the “South’s Tastiest Towns” in 2013.
- The **Peabody Hotel** is one of 125 Forbes Four-Star hotels in the U.S., and a AAA Four-Diamond Hotel.
- Memphis is internationally known for its **barbecue**. Each May, Memphis hosts the **World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest** as part of the Memphis in May International Festival. Home to several nationally recognized restaurants, Memphis is frequently cited as the **Best Barbecue City**.
 - In 2014, *Southern Living* magazine named 5 Memphis restaurants in their list of the “South’s 20 Best BBQ Joints”: **A&R Bar-B-Que, Charlie Vergos Rendezvous, Interstate Barbecue, Cozy Corner, and Payne’s BBQ**
 - #2 barbecue city, *Travel + Leisure* 2011-2013
 - Best BBQ Cities, *Food & Wine*, 2012
 - #1 Best BBQ City, *U.S. News and World Reports*, 2012
 - #1 barbecue city, *Travel + Leisure* 2010
 - **The BBQ Shop** and **Central Barbecue** are both among the 20 “Best Barbecue Restaurants in America” according to LocalEats.com in May 2013.
 - *Business Insider* ranked **Cozy Corner** among the 16 best BBQ spots in the U.S in July 2013.
- A new generation of chefs are putting Memphis’ **fine dining scene** on the map. Restaurants such as **Restaurant Iris** and **Hog and Hominy** have received national awards, making Memphis a destination for foodies.
 - *Travel + Leisure* named Memphis one of “**America’s Best Cities for Foodies.**”
 - **Hog and Hominy** is home to two of the “Best New Chefs in America,” Andrew Ticer and Michael Tudman, according to *Food & Wine* magazine (2013).



- **Hog and Hominy** has also been named among the best new restaurants by *Bon Appetit* (2013), *Southern Living* (2013) and *GQ Magazine* (2012).
- The chef at **Restaurant Iris**, **Kelly English**, was named the “Best New Chef in America” by *Food & Wine* (2009)
- **Chez Philippe** is the only *Forbes* Four-Star and AAA Four-Diamond rated restaurant in the Mid-South.
- **The Cove** and **Molly Fontaine Lounge** were named two of the 100 “Best Bars in the South” by *Southern Living* magazine (2014).
- Memphis was listed among the top 20 cities for pizza in 2013 by *Travel + Leisure*.
- **Muddy’s Bake Shop** was named one of “America’s Best Bakeries” in 2013.
- **Dinstuhl’s Fine Candy Company’s** pecan fudge was named #1 fudge in America by *Paula Deen Magazine* (2013).
- **Dyer’s on Beale’s** cheeseburger was named as one of “The 25 Best Burgers in the U.S” by *Food and Wine* magazine in 2011.

Greater Memphis is a great place to live.

- Based on the second quarter 2014 ACCRA Cost of Living Index, Memphis is the **5th cheapest city in the country to live in**. The cost of living in Memphis is consistently at least 12% lower than the national average according to the quarterly ACCRA cost of living index.
- Memphis Light, Gas and Water Customers pay the lowest utility bills, including electricity, natural gas, water and wastewater in the nation, according to a 2014 survey of 50 utilities.
- In 2014, Nerdwallet.com, a personal finance website, ranks Memphis 5th on their “Best Urban Places to Retire” list, due to the low cost of living, rich cultural history, and variety of senior services.
- The South Main neighborhood was ranked 4th in *Paste* magazine’s 2014 list of “Undercover Stylish Neighborhoods in the U.S.” *Paste*, a music and entertainment magazine, ranked South Main highly for the neighborhoods laid-back style and high quality artists and musicians.
- In 2014, The Memphis Farmer’s Market was ranked 7th in The Daily Meal’s “102 Best Farmers’ Markets in America.”
- Memphis was designated a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in February 2014, demonstrating the city’s commitment to caring for and managing their public trees.
- Collierville, a suburb of Memphis, was awarded “America’s Best Main Street” in 2014 for its Historic Town Square area.
- Germantown, a Memphis suburb, has been designated Tree City USA for 23 years by the Arbor Day Foundation.
- In 2013, *Forbes* ranked Memphis the **4th-happiest city to work in right now**, based on employee rankings on CareerBliss.com.
- In 2013, Memphis ranked 7th in the nation for lowest taxes according to 24/7 Wall St., a website for equity investors.
- Kiplinger listed Memphis as one of the “The 10 Cheapest Cities to Live In” in 2013.



- In 2013, *Vetpreneur* magazine ranked Memphis the 15th most military friendly city out of 381 cities.
- Downtown Memphis was ranked 15th on Forbes “U.S. Cities’ Emerging Downtowns” list (2013).
- The Washington Economics Group ranked Memphis as the 2nd-best place for baby boomers to retire among the 20 most ideal retirement communities in the U.S. (2012).
- Cooper-Young, a historic neighborhood in Midtown Memphis, was named one of America’s “10 Great Neighborhoods” by the American Planning Association in 2012.
- The *Chronicle of Philanthropy* ranked the Memphis metro area 2nd for charitable giving based on the percentage of discretionary income given to charity in 2012.
- According to *Forbes* magazine, Memphis has the 4th “Highest Income when Adjusted for Cost of Living” (2011).
- In 2011, Memphis ranked 2nd on *Forbes*’ “Best Places for Bargain Retirement Homes.”
- Memphis was ranked the 10th “Best City for Home Buyers” list by *Fortune* in 2011.
- The Memphis metro market ranked as the 4th best market to buy a home in 2011 by Clear Capital.
- Colliers International 2011 Parking Rate Survey found that downtown Memphis had the least expensive daily parking rate among central business districts in North America.
- In 2011, Memphis was ranked “The Most Affordable College Town” by Coldwell Banker Real Estate.
- In 2011, Memphis was ranked #18 on *BusinessWeek*’s List of “America’s Most Fun, Affordable Cities.”
- In 2010, *U.S. News and World Report* named Memphis as one of the “U.S. News Editorial Pick: Best Places for Single Seniors to Retire.”
- The Memphis housing market ranked 2nd for housing prices on Moody’s *Economy.com* “Best Markets for 2010” list.
- Memphis was named the 10th Most Eccentric City by the *Daily Beast* for 2010.



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