



# Small Business

**TIP:** Tweeting for profit: Smart entrepreneurs are now doing deals in 140 characters or less on Twitter.

CNNMoney.com > Small Business > **Best Places to Launch**

## BEST PLACES TO LAUNCH

The best metro areas for small business startups

2009

<b>Full List</b>	<b>Near You</b>	<b>Find Loans</b>	<b>Business Climate</b>	<b>Costs</b>
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[Top large places](#) | [Top mid places](#) | [Top small places](#) | [All metro areas](#)

### Top large places

Rank	Metro area	Population	# of small businesses (1-49 employees)*
1	<a href="#">Oklahoma City, OK</a>	1,206,142	31,139
2	<a href="#">Pittsburgh, PA</a>	2,351,192	57,272
3	<a href="#">Raleigh, NC</a>	1,088,765	27,659
4	<a href="#">Houston, TX</a>	5,728,143	112,748
5	<a href="#">Hartford, CT</a>	1,190,512	28,609
6	<a href="#">Washington, DC</a>	5,358,130	134,245
7	<a href="#">Charlotte, NC</a>	1,701,799	42,926
8	<a href="#">Austin, TX</a>	1,652,602	37,296
9	<a href="#">New York City, NY</a>	19,006,798	516,827
10	<a href="#">Baltimore, MD</a>	2,667,117	64,481

\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2007 County Business Patterns.

### Best Places Winners



Show: All 50 | [Top Large Places](#) | [Top Midsize](#) | [Top Small](#)

### Top 25 Lists

- [Small business growth](#)
- [College-educated workers](#)
- [Low crime](#)
- [High income](#)
- [Economic growth](#)
- [Low wages](#)
- [Affordable rents](#)
- [Fewest foreclosures](#)



**INTRODUCING THE REIMAGINED LOBBY**  
Flexible space to work, connect or relax.



### Find your launch spot

Do you prefer a place that is:  Small  Medium  Large

The factors that matter most to me are:

- Affordable wages
- Few foreclosures
- Educated workers
- Low housing costs
- Low crime
- High local incomes
- A growing economy
- Population growth
- Growing small business population

#### Sponsored Links

##### Hiring : (Work At Home)

Job Requires: Basic Computer Skills Your Own Home Computer. Weekly Pay www.Web-New sDaily.com

##### 2009 New Car Blowout Sale

Dealers are going out of business, all vehicles are on sale now! Autos.Reply.com/New CarClearance

##### "Unemployment is Great"

Read how I make \$150-\$300 a day working from home. As seen on TV... DetroitJournal.com

[Buy a link here](#)

### Find a Job

jobs by **simply hired**

Looking for a new position in the area? Browse opportunities in popular fields or search all openings.

#### Key Industries

- [Accounting jobs](#)
- [Engineering jobs](#)
- [Finance jobs](#)

#### Key Occupations

- [Management jobs](#)
- [Marketing jobs](#)
- [Sales jobs](#)

job title or company  location

### Is your city great for entrepreneurs?



Tell us why: Low taxes? Talented workers? An active small business community? Send us your photos and videos, and you could be featured in our upcoming coverage of reader-picked Best Places to Launch. [More](#)

### How we picked the Best Places

This year we partnered with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to find the 50 most business-friendly communities in America.

With help from Robert Fairlie, an economist and leading scholar of entrepreneurship at the University of California, Santa Cruz, we developed a methodology and sifted through such data on factors such as per capita income, hourly wages, workforce quality, crime rates, taxes and foreclosures. [More](#)

[Comments?](#) [E-mail the editors](#)

## Data partners

### KAUFFMAN

The Foundation of Entrepreneurship

This package was produced in partnership with the [Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation](#).



This package was produced in partnership with the Foreclosure data provided by [RealtyTrac](#).



Housing price-to-income data provided by [Moody's Economy.com](#).

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\* : Time reflects local markets trading time. † - Intraday data delayed 15 minutes for Nasdaq, and 20 minutes for other exchanges. Disclaimer

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