2020
Asheville ranked one of “The Best Places to Retire in 2020” — Forbes.com, 2020
Asheville ranked 5 of the Top 50 of “America’s Best Small Cities” — BestCities.org, 2020
Buncombe County named “One of the Best Counties in North Carolina for Small Business” — SmartAsset.com, 2020
North Carolina ranked as the #1 “Best States For Business” for 3rd year in a row — Forbes.com, 2020
Asheville ranked 3 of the Top 50 Best Places to Travel in 2020 — Travel + Leisure, 2020

Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asheville City</td>
<td>83,393</td>
<td>92,452</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buncombe County</td>
<td>238,318</td>
<td>259,103</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asheville MSA</td>
<td>424,858</td>
<td>459,585</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>9,535,483</td>
<td>10,383,620</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost of Living Index - All Items

- National Average: 100
- Asheville, NC: 100.5
- Charlotte, NC: 97.9
- Raleigh, NC: 95.1
- New York, NY: 237.4
- Atlanta, GA: 102.4
- Charleston, SC: 96.9
- Nashville, TN: 98.5

Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Avg. House</th>
<th>Median House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asheville MSA</td>
<td>$65,633</td>
<td>$48,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buncombe County</td>
<td>$68,070</td>
<td>$48,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>$70,523</td>
<td>$50,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$81,283</td>
<td>$57,652</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Taxes

- Current Sales Tax Rate (Buncombe): 7.00%
- NC Individual Income Tax Rate: 5.25%
- NC Corporate Income Tax Rate: 2.5%

Average Housing Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Building Permits</td>
<td>2,559</td>
<td>2,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of New Permits</td>
<td>$602.9M</td>
<td>$641.2M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closed Sales

2018 - $317,372
2019 - $333,147
2018 Average Rental for a 2 bedroom apartment $1,169

Crime Rates per 1,000 People

- Asheville MSA: 2.66/1000 Violent Offenses, 22.04/1000 Property Offenses
- North Carolina: 3.78/1000 Violent Offenses, 24.21/1000 Property Offenses
- United States: 3.81/1000 Violent Offenses, 21.99/1000 Property Offenses

Education

K-12 Public Schools
- Asheville City
- Buncombe County

Colleges / Universities
- UNC Asheville
- Warren Wilson College
- Montreat College
- Asheville-Buncombe Technical
- South College
- Western Carolina University
- Mars Hill University
- Haywood Community College
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Lenoir-Rhyne University

Student Enrollment

- 3,600

Major Industry Employment ≥ 10%

- 20%
- 14%
- 14%
- 13%
- 12%
- 10%

Climate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Avg. Min °F</th>
<th>Avg. Max °F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>29.7</td>
<td>46.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>56.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>33.2</td>
<td>57.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>43.5</td>
<td>70.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>53.0</td>
<td>78.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>57.3</td>
<td>79.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transportation

- Asheville Regional Airport
- Over 20 Non-Stop Destination Flights
- I-26; I-40; I-240
- US 19/23; 25; 25A; 70; 74
- Norfolk Southern - 3,600 Miles
- At least 30 Motor Freight Carriers in Asheville

More Research Reports at: AshevilleChamber.org/Research-Economy/