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Buffalo, NY Tops List of Best Places to Live for Career-Focused Single Women

Owners.com identifies top 20 housing markets for women seeking increased job opportunities and higher salaries

ATLANTA, November 8, 2018 – [Owners.com](http://www.owners.com), an innovative online real estate brokerage, today released data ranking the 20 best U.S. metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) for career-focused single women to live. Buffalo, NY comes out on top, followed by Baltimore, MD and Hartford, CT. Recent findings show that female unemployment is declining¹ and in 2017, homeownership among single women continued to grow (single women made up 18 percent of the national market and single men made up seven percent) and single women purchased slightly more expensive homes than single men.²

Owners.com analyzed potential places to live for career-focused single women based on a variety of factors, including the percentage of single women homeowners, female median earnings and female unemployment rate. Reviewing this group, the study uncovered the following key insights:

- The top 10 markets offer women more affordable housing. The average home price in the top 10 markets is \$295,636, which is 17 percent less than the next 10 markets (\$355,415

¹ “Unemployment rate of women in the United States from 1990 to 2017,” The Statistics Portal, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/193944/unemployment-rate-of-women-in-the-us-since-1990/>

² “National Association of Realtors® 2017 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers,” <https://www.nar.realtor/newsroom/first-time-buyers-stifled-by-low-supply-affordability-2017-buyer-and-seller-survey>

on average) which include distinctly expensive markets like San Francisco and Washington, DC.

- Females in the top 10 markets are spending on average 10 percent less of their monthly salary on housing compared to the next 10 markets (32.9 percent on average versus 36.9 percent on average).
- The average female unemployment rate in the top 20 markets (4.5 percent) is less than the national average, suggesting these markets offer more employment opportunities for women.
- Compared to the national average, single women in the top 20 markets earned nearly 10 percent more (\$46,524 on average versus \$42,352 nationally), suggesting these markets offer higher paying job opportunities.

“With lower unemployment rates and higher incomes than the national average, single women are entering the real estate market at a fast pace and placing a huge value on owning a home,” said Daniel Maloney, Head of National Sales at Owners.com. “While many of the top 20 markets offer single, professional women strong career opportunities, they can also be considered expensive real estate markets. Smart buyers should look to work with a brokerage that can offer the technology, data and on-the-ground expertise of an agent, to help them make the most informed home purchase decision.”

Top 20 Markets to Live for Single Women

	MSA	Percentage Single Female Households	Female Median Earnings	Average Home Price	Percentage of Female Salary Going to Mortgage Payment	Unemployment Rate; Female
	National (weighted)	13.2%	\$42,352	\$340,897	40.5%	5.2%
1	Buffalo-Cheektowaga-Niagara Falls, NY	13.4%	\$41,197	\$175,578	22.1%	2.9%
2	Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD	14.5%	\$50,411	\$319,025	32.8%	4.7%
3	Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT	13.1%	\$50,869	\$243,666	24.8%	4.4%

4	Richmond, VA	14.4%	\$42,277	\$270,732	33.2%	4.5%
5	Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	11.8%	\$54,416	\$509,664	48.5%	4.1%
6	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	13.6%	\$41,645	\$307,554	38.2%	4.4%
7	New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	14.9%	\$51,099	\$516,856	52.4%	5.8%
8	Columbus, OH	12.7%	\$41,753	\$226,688	28.1%	4.2%
9	St. Louis, MO-IL	13.4%	\$41,364	\$215,752	27.0%	4.4%
10	Rochester, NY	13.1%	\$40,753	\$170,845	21.7%	4.2%
11	Providence-Warwick, RI-MA	13.9%	\$43,973	\$305,324	35.9%	5.2%
12	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	10.0%	\$47,845	\$288,326	31.2%	2.9%
13	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	12.3%	\$60,358	\$456,316	39.1%	4.9%
14	Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, IN	13.1%	\$40,820	\$191,045	24.2%	4.3%
15	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA	14.8%	\$42,003	\$250,082	30.8%	5.3%
16	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	12.8%	\$41,867	\$197,441	24.4%	4.4%
17	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	14.1%	\$46,494	\$275,478	30.7%	5.6%
18	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO	10.4%	\$47,373	\$415,370	45.4%	3.6%
19	Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	12.9%	\$42,208	\$220,480	27.0%	5.0%
20	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA	10.8%	\$61,764	\$954,293	80.0%	4.4%

Methodology

Owners.com identified all MSAs with over one million people. Owners.com used three metrics to identify and rank the top 20 markets for single, professional women to live in the United States. The MSAs were measured based on three key metrics, which were scaled, weighted and summed. The national average data was weighted across the U.S. population. The weights for each metric are as follows:

- [Median Female Income](#): 40 percent
- [Percentage of Single Women Homeowners](#): 30 percent of score
- [Female Unemployment Rate](#): 30 percent of score

About Owners.com®

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