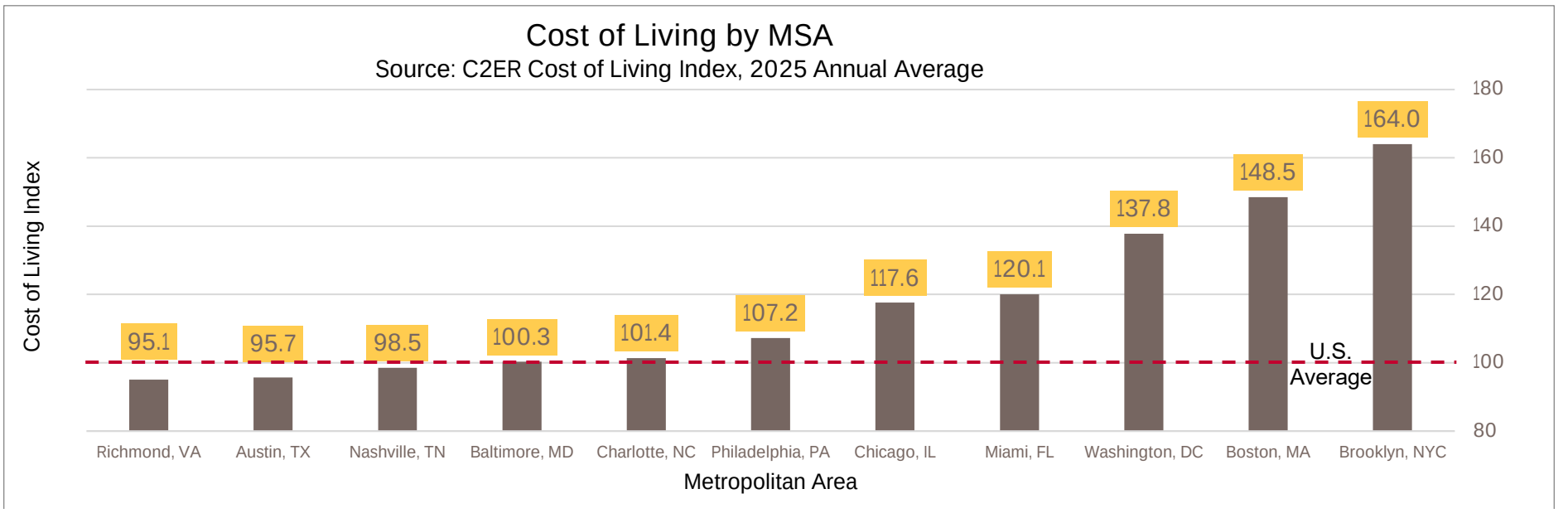
Cost of Living

Richmond, Virginia cost of living is nearly 5 percent below the U.S. average. This is primarily driven by low housing costs - the Richmond MSA's housing index is about 15 percent lower than the national average.

Source: C2ER Cost of Living Index; 2025 Annual Average. Updated February 2026

City	Overall Index	Grocery Index	Housing Index	Apartment Rent	Home Price	Utilities Index	Transpo. Index	Health Care Index	Misc. Index
Brooklyn, NYC	164.0	115.1	281.3	$ 4,262	$ 1,455,950	117.7	110.6	127.9	113.2
San Francisco, CA	163.7	115.4	254.0	$ 3,828	$ 1,373,528	150.1	141.8	124.3	120.6
Los Angeles, CA	152.4	109.2	235.4	$ 3,016	$ 1,350,980	109.3	138.3	96.6	121.1
Boston, MA	148.5	102.7	221.0	$ 4,225	$ 1,082,320	154.8	105.2	134.2	116.8
San Diego, CA	147.4	112.3	209.5	$ 3,111	$ 1,145,226	149.3	143.1	99.6	116.0
Seattle, WA	144.6	110.9	203.6	$ 2,970	$ 1,119,686	100.6	134.8	120.2	124.8
Washington, DC	137.8	104.8	204.7	$ 3,361	$ 1,085,511	103.3	105.2	120.7	113.1
Miami, FL	120.1	108.8	157.2	$ 3,525	$ 711,131	103.7	100.0	82.4	107.2
Chicago, IL	117.6	103.5	143.7	$ 3,330	$ 621,136	94.8	104.7	115.9	110.4
Portland, OR	116.3	107.8	135.8	$ 2,519	$ 683,212	98.1	126.2	117.9	104.6
Newark, NJ	113.9	103.8	135.2	$ 2,624	$ 665,472	104.0	103.4	108.9	105.5
Philadelphia, PA	107.2	104.2	108.1	$ 2,147	$ 524,116	109.6	104.6	104.5	108.3
Phoenix, AZ	105.3	102.6	112.3	$ 1,860	$ 607,541	106.4	109.2	95.8	100.5
Salt Lake City, UT	104.9	97.5	120.2	$ 1,769	$ 676,022	85.0	106.3	93.2	101.2
Charlotte, NC	101.4	102.1	101.2	$ 1,551	$ 551,513	93.7	100.7	115.4	101.4
Baltimore, MD	100.3	102.2	87.1	$ 1,673	$ 422,367	118.0	100.5	94.2	107.3
U.S. AVERAGE	100.0	100.0	100.0	$ 1,607	$ 533,293	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dallas, TX	98.5	98.2	89.2	$ 1,508	$ 467,912	113.3	88.9	101.6	105.1
Nashville, TN	98.5	99.9	102.1	$ 1,741	$ 534,248	97.2	90.5	91.4	98.0
Pittsburgh, PA	98.3	98.2	92.3	$ 1,599	$ 483,609	123.0	111.8	94.9	94.5
Austin, TX	95.7	94.9	96.8	$ 1,774	$ 492,364	99.4	95.4	90.5	95.0
Richmond, VA	95.1	99.0	85.3	**$ 1,465**	**$ 444,042**	96.3	98.9	89.3	101.4
Raleigh, NC	94.8	100.5	87.5	$ 1,492	$ 453,944	89.6	88.9	116.4	98.4
Atlanta, GA	94.7	101.3	83.2	$ 1,500	$ 418,200	102.5	104.3	98.4	96.8
Columbus, OH	93.0	100.9	93.1	$ 1,468	$ 505,881	100.2	92.4	80.8	89.6
Houston, TX	93.0	97.7	79.8	$ 1,355	$ 421,489	91.6	96.0	96.3	101.6
Cleveland, OH	92.9	100.2	79.7	$ 1,476	$ 399,663	90.5	94.3	108.3	99.3
Lexington, KY	92.1	100.0	75.5	$ 1,292	$ 386,744	88.4	96.6	93.3	102.8
Minneapolis, MN	92.0	101.5	80.4	$ 1,453	$ 405,800	95.7	96.5	91.0	96.1
Jacksonville, FL	89.9	104.8	80.1	$ 1,712	$ 371,578	91.1	85.2	82.7	93.8
Indianapolis, IN	89.8	99.9	75.9	$ 1,362	$ 383,532	94.1	99.3	85.2	94.7
St. Louis, MO-IL	89.5	99.2	78.8	$ 1,216	$ 424,572	94.5	90.3	89.5	93.0
Kansas City, MO	89.0	97.1	85.2	$ 1,512	$ 434,284	97.5	88.1	78.6	88.2
Oklahoma City, OK	81.3	94.6	58.7	$ 819	$ 328,541	98.1	86.9	97.7	87.3



Chuck Peterson, VP of Business Information
research@grpva.com | 804-643-3227
www.grpva.com

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