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FISHER INVESTMENTS*

19 Oppo iity Cities: Places It May Be Easier T⁻ * ake Your Mark



10. Grand Rapids, Mich.

Population: 192,294 Median home sales price (Q1 2014): \$103,500 Unemployment: 7.8%

Unemployment change July 2013-June 2014: -26.4%

Population growth 2008-2012: 1.3%

Pop. Age 25-39 (2012): 23.8% Change in Pop. 25-39, 2010-2012: 4.9%

Violent crime (annual, per 100,000 people): 771.2

FORBES' Business and Careers Rank: 39

"It's a very high quality of life, particularly for a city that has a high concentration of large employers," says Kristopher Larson, president of Downtown Grand Rapids Inc. "It's got environmental amenities, with a river and close access to a lake. It's got good schools... and it's almost unfair how affordable the [housing] pricing is. You can get into a very decent

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place within 2 miles of downtown for still under \$100,000."

FORBES/Sperling's Best Places

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