PEER CITIES WERE SELECTED based on demographic and economic characteristics, location, evidence of competition with Thief River Falls for business or talent, and positive economic trajectory.

Crookston  Fergus Falls  Little Falls  Detroit Lakes  Grand Rapids  Stewartville  East Grand Forks  International Falls  Worthington  Fairmont

City-level data has been used in most instances. Other data is reported on the county in which a city is located and is noted with an asterisk.* Data was sourced from Minnesota Compass, which is primarily derived from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional sources include: Decennial Census, American Community Survey; Minnesota Demographic Center; Minnesota Departments of Education, Health, Human Services and Public Safety; Minnesota Center for Health Statistics; Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment; Minnesota Student Survey; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Minnesota Department of Public Safety; and Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
Compared to 10 peer cities, Thief River Falls ranks high on many key livability features.

- Northland Community and Technical College ranked #5 on "Best Community Colleges in the U.S. (WalletHub.com)
- Thief River Falls School District ranked #3 on “Safest School Districts in Minnesota (Niche.com)
- Thief River Falls Regional Airport is third busiest cargo shipping airport in Minnesota (FAA)

**EDUCATION**

- **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**
  - 91.3%
  - Peer Rank: 1

- **STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**
  - 83.3%
  - Peer Rank: 1

- **8TH GRADE MATH PROFICIENCY**
  - 52.7%
  - Peer Rank: 5

**INCOME AND COST OF LIVING**

- **MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME**
  - $43,946
  - Peer Rank: 7

- **WORKERS EARNING $40,000 OR MORE/YEAR**
  - 38.6%
  - Peer Rank: 3

- **MEDIAN RENT PAID**
  - $622
  - Peer Rank: 5

- **PEOPLE BELOW POVERTY**
  - 12.1%
  - Peer Rank: 4

**LABORFORCE AND DIVERSITY**

- **PERCENT LABORFORCE WITH SOME COLLEGE**
  - 52.0%
  - Peer Rank: 9

- **LABORFORCE PARTICIPATION**
  - 84.0%
  - Peer Rank: 2

- **DIVERSITY PEOPLE OF COLOR**
  - 10.2%
  - Peer Rank: 5

**HEALTH**

- **OBESITY**
  - 27.5%
  - Peer Rank: 2

- **MONTHLY COST OF CHILDCARE (2 in full time care)**
  - $638
  - Peer Rank: 6

The following contributed toward creation of the 2020 Regional Indicators Dashboard:

- Mike Barry
- Antonio Franklin
- Nathan Haase
- Michelle Landsverk
- Beth Nelson
- Diedre Nordin

Thief River Falls ranked #31 on “America’s 50 Best Cities to Live In” (USA Today).