


"The Most Challenging Places to Live with Fall Allergies"

Worse than Average ●
Average ◐
Better than Average ○


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(Factors are not weighted equally)

2011 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (Avg. 69.2)	Subtotal: Pollen Score* (Avg. 300 grains/cubic meter air daily)	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per 0.85 Medications Per Est. Patient)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (Avg. 0.82 Board Certified Allergists Per 10,000 Est. Patients)
1	●	4	Knoxville, TN	100.00	●	●	○
2	●	1	Dayton, OH	97.95	●	●	●
3	●	6	McAllen, TX	97.43	●	●	●
4	●	5	Jackson, MS	96.65	◐	●	○
5	●	10	Oklahoma City, OK	95.67	●	●	○
6	●	3	Louisville, KY	95.03	◐	●	○
7	●	2	Wichita, KS	94.50	●	●	◐
8	●	7	Madison, WI	90.75	●	●	○
9	●	9	St. Louis, MO	90.72	●	◐	◐
10	●	12	Tulsa, OK	89.21	●	◐	◐
11	●	13	Chattanooga, TN	88.42	◐	●	○
12	●	14	Memphis, TN	87.52	●	●	◐
13	●	18	Birmingham, AL	86.78	◐	●	◐
14	●	8	Springfield, MA	84.91	●	◐	●
15	●	30	San Antonio, TX	84.64	●	●	◐
16	●	15	Greensboro, NC	84.08	●	●	●
17	●	22	Omaha, NE	83.45	◐	●	◐
18	●	26	Columbia, SC	83.39	●	●	◐
19	●	25	Little Rock, AR	82.83	●	●	○
20	●	16	Charlotte, NC	82.77	●	◐	●
21	●	11	Philadelphia, PA	82.68	●	◐	●
22	●	33	Dallas, TX	81.33	●	◐	●
23	●	19	Baton Rouge, LA	79.96	◐	●	◐
24	●	23	Des Moines, IA	78.43	◐	●	◐
25	●	20	Richmond, VA	78.35	●	○	●
26	●	27	Virginia Beach, VA	78.25	●	◐	●
27	◐	31	Allentown, PA	77.85	●	◐	◐
28	◐	21	New Orleans, LA	77.56	◐	●	◐
29	◐	39	Augusta, GA	76.74	◐	●	○
30	◐	17	New York, NY	76.73	◐	◐	●
31	◐	44	Greenville, SC	76.32	◐	●	○
32	◐	43	Charleston, SC	75.96	◐	●	○
33	◐	35	El Paso, TX	75.92	●	◐	○
34	◐	24	Kansas City, MO	75.75	◐	◐	●
35	◐	36	Indianapolis, IN	75.69	●	◐	◐
36	◐	41	Buffalo, NY	74.80	●	●	○
37	◐	38	Grand Rapids, MI	74.77	◐	◐	◐
38	◐	34	Syracuse, NY	74.22	◐	●	◐
39	◐	29	Poughkeepsie, NY	74.19	●	○	●

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40	●	49	Nashville, TN	73.90	○	●	●
41	●	28	Providence, RI	73.84	●	●	●
42	●	51	Austin, TX	72.71	●	●	●
43	●	42	Columbus, OH	72.09	●	●	●
44	●	57	Jacksonville, FL	71.24	●	●	●
45	●	46	Pittsburgh, PA	70.62	●	●	●
46	●	48	Milwaukee, WI	70.35	●	●	○
47	●	40	Scranton, PA	70.23	○	●	●
48	●	50	Youngstown, OH	69.33	●	●	●
49	●	52	Rochester, NY	68.78	●	●	○
50	●	37	Detroit, MI	68.51	○	●	●
51	●	32	Houston, TX	68.50	●	●	●
52	●	45	Toledo, OH	68.39	○	●	○
53	●	87	Ogden, UT	67.40	●	○	●
54	●	96	Albany, NY	66.17	●	●	●
55	●	59	Akron, OH	65.90	●	●	●
56	●	64	Cincinnati, OH	65.39	●	●	●
57	●	60	Baltimore, MD	65.15	●	●	○
58	●	63	New Haven, CT	64.75	●	●	○
59	●	53	Atlanta, GA	64.30	●	○	●
60	●	72	Lakeland, FL	64.24	●	●	●
61	●	70	Cleveland, OH	63.94	●	●	●
62	●	58	Hartford, CT	63.57	●	●	●
63	●	68	Harrisburg, PA	63.50	●	●	●
64	●	67	Tucson, AZ	63.34	●	○	●
65	●	56	Washington, DC	63.33	●	●	●
66	●	73	Tampa, FL	63.19	●	○	●
67	●	66	Chicago, IL	62.62	●	●	●
68	●	55	Bakersfield, CA	62.44	●	○	●
69	●	54	Riverside, CA	62.38	●	○	●
70	●	74	Portland, ME	62.10	●	○	●
71	●	61	Orlando, FL	62.09	●	○	●
72	●	47	Lancaster, PA	61.18	●	○	●
73	●	76	Albuquerque, NM	61.13	●	○	●
74	○	69	Cape Coral, FL	60.37	●	○	●
75	○	77	Bridgeport, CT	59.81	●	●	○
76	○	71	Minneapolis, MN	59.31	●	○	●
77	○	75	Los Angeles, CA	59.08	●	○	●
78	○	79	Raleigh, NC	58.80	●	○	●
79	○	84	Fresno, CA	58.55	○	●	●
80	○	62	Las Vegas, NV	56.95	○	○	●
81	○	81	Oxnard, CA	56.00	●	○	○
82	○	80	Denver, CO	55.58	●	○	●
83	○	65	Modesto, CA	55.15	○	○	●
84	○	90	Sarasota, FL	55.07	●	○	●
85	○	85	Palm Bay, FL	53.59	○	○	●
86	○	78	San Francisco, CA	52.72	●	○	●
87	○	92	Colorado Springs, CO	52.43	●	○	○
88	○	83	Boston, MA	52.05	○	○	●
89	○	86	Worcester, MA	51.87	○	○	●

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90	○	95	Salt Lake City, UT	51.81	◐	○	○
91	○	82	Phoenix, AZ	50.97	○	○	●
92	○	93	San Jose, CA	50.87	◐	○	○
93	○	91	Daytona Beach, FL	50.26	○	○	◐
94	○	89	Boise City, ID	49.53	○	○	◐
95	○	88	Miami, FL	49.11	○	○	●
96	○	94	Stockton, CA	47.86	○	○	●
97	○	97	Sacramento, CA	43.99	○	○	◐
98	○	98	San Diego, CA	41.99	○	○	○
99	○	99	Seattle, WA	35.83	○	○	◐
100	○	100	Portland, OR	30.20	○	○	●

2011 Rank - Rankings for the Allergy Capitals™ are based on analysis of data from factors including: Prevalence Data, Seasonal Pollen, Allergy Medicine Utilization per Patient, and the number of Board Certified Allergists per patient. Weights were applied to each factor and a composite final score was calculated for each Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Total Score - Final total scores and subtotals were rescaled assigning 100 points to the largest score and presenting all other scores as a percentage of the largest. The metro area with a total score of 100 points did not necessarily have the "most severe" score for all factors, but, rather, the highest total weighted final score overall.

Pollen Score* - Quantitative data analysis of average recorded pollen/mold spore levels and predicted prevalence for certain types of pollens/molds over the most recent previous fall season; this score also takes into consideration local prevalence statistics for people affected by allergies to pollen. (Regarding daily pollen counts: previous studies have shown that daily pollen concentrations of 150+ grains per cubic meter of airborne allergenic pollen represent a sufficiently high concentration which can trigger allergy symptoms in a large percentage of the allergic population.)

Medicine Utilization per Patient Score - Quantitative data analysis of recorded per capita utilization of recorded pharmacy data for all prescriptions (RX) allergy medications, and limited data for over-the-counter (OTC) medicines in each metro area during the most recent previous fall season, including oral, nasal and ocular antihistamines, corticosteroids and non-steroidal medications.

Board Certified Allergists per Patient Score - Quantitative data analysis for the most recent previous fall season of the number of Board Certified allergy and immunology specialists per 10,000 estimated patients.

GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Health Interview Survey (2009)
 National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Allergic Rhinitis Information (2011)
 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census (2009 Updates)

NON-GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES:

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, "Asthma and Allergy Answers" (2011)
 American Board of Medical Specialties, ABMS Specialist Database (2010)

INDUSTRY SOURCES:

Surveillance Data Inc./Pollen.com (2010)
 IMS Health (2010)

AAFA is solely responsible for the contents of this report. AAFA, Founded in 1953, is the leading national advocacy organization for the allergy community in the U.S. AAFA provides education, promotes advocacy and funds research.

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