

"The Most Challenging Places to Live with Spring Allergies"

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(columns/factors are not weighted equally)

2008 Spring Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (Avg. 40.52)	Subtotal: Pollen Score (Avg. 300 grains/cubic meter air daily)	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patient (Avg. 2.5 Medications Per Est. Patient)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (Avg. 4.1 Board Certified Allergists Per 10,000 Est. Patients)
1	●	52	Lexington, KY	100.00	●	●	●
2	●	29	Greensboro, NC	98.60	●	●	◐
3	●	61	Johnson City, TN	97.91	◐	●	◐
4	●	11	Augusta, GA	93.00	●	●	◐
5	●	30	Jackson, MS	88.23	●	●	◐
6	●	63	Knoxville, TN	86.74	◐	●	◐
7	●	23	Birmingham, AL	86.00	●	●	●
8	●	58	New Orleans, LA	81.20	◐	●	●
9	●	8	Little Rock, AR	71.61	◐	●	●
10	●	54	San Diego, CA	71.00	●	●	○
11	●	15	Oklahoma City, OK	53.51	◐	●	●
12	●	44	Mobile, AL	53.21	●	◐	○
13	●	69	South Bend, IN	53.05	●	◐	○
14	●	64	Omaha, NE	51.73	●	●	●
15	●	51	Stockton, CA	51.00	●	◐	◐
16	●	25	McAllen, TX	50.18	●	○	●
17	●	53	Greenville, SC	49.34	●	●	●
18	●	65	Nashville, TN	49.16	◐	●	●
19	●	1	Tulsa, OK	47.54	●	●	◐
20	●	76	Harrisburg, PA	44.12	●	◐	○
21	●	47	Louisville, KY	44.00	◐	●	○
22	●	2	Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX	43.69	●	◐	●
23	●	9	Charlotte, NC	43.55	◐	●	◐
24	●	17	Tampa, FL	43.34	●	○	●
25	●	33	Philadelphia, PA	41.75	●	●	○
26	●	6	Saint Louis, MO	41.37	●	●	◐
27	●	94	Scranton, PA	40.85	●	◐	◐
28	●	97	Lansing, MI	39.70	●	◐	◐
29	◐	39	Madison, WI	39.42	●	●	◐
30	◐	59	Rochester, NY	39.41	●	◐	◐

KEY TO ICONS

- Worse than Average
- ◐ Average
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31	●	36	Daytona Beach, FL	39.12	●	○	●
32	●	26	Memphis, TN	38.69	○	●	●
33	●	42	Milwaukee, WI	38.34	○	●	●
34	●	40	Norfolk, VA	38.33	●	○	●
35	●	45	Pensacola, FL	38.00	●	○	●
36	●	31	Charleston, SC	37.36	●	●	●
37	●	73	Cleveland, OH	37.32	●	○	●
38	●	43	Indianapolis, IN	37.26	●	●	●
39	●	28	Houston, TX	37.00	●	●	●
40	●		Lakeland, FL	36.98	●	○	○
41	●	66	Baltimore, MD	36.29	●	●	●
42	●	50	Sacramento, CA	36.16	●	○	●
43	●	14	Columbia, SC	36.11	●	●	○
44	●	70	Kansas City, MO	35.85	●	●	●
45	●	79	New York, NY	35.71	●	●	●
46	●	4	San Antonio, TX	35.64	●	●	●
47	●	32	Allentown, PA	35.46	●	●	○
48	●	7	Wichita, KS	35.38	●	●	●
49	●	38	Albuquerque, NM	35.24	●	●	●
50	●	67	Baton Rouge, LA	35.02	○	●	●
51	●	71	Washington, DC	34.94	●	●	●
52	●	82	Providence, RI	34.88	●	●	○
53	●	100	Fort Wayne, IN	34.77	●	●	○
54	●	24	Austin, TX	34.70	●	●	●
55	●	72	Canton, OH	34.66	●	●	○
56	●	10	Atlanta, GA	34.63	●	●	●
57	●	91	Kalamazoo, MI	34.62	●	●	○
58	●	56	Chattanooga, TN	34.53	●	●	○
59	●	99	Boston, MA	34.38	○	○	●
60	●	98	Detroit, MI	34.37	○	●	●
61	●	90	Grand Rapids, MI	34.29	●	●	○
62	●	74	Hartford, CT	33.92	●	●	○
63	●	55	Denver, CO	33.41	●	○	●
64	●	57	Dayton, OH	33.19	●	○	○
65	●	5	Tucson, AZ	33.18	●	○	●
66	●	77	Buffalo, NY	33.14	●	●	○
67	●	87	Des Moines, IA	32.82	○	●	○

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68	●	95	Syracuse, NY	32.71	○	●	○
69	●	60	Salt Lake City, UT	32.00	●	○	●
70	○	92	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	31.99	●	○	●
71	○	62	Cincinnati, OH	31.93	○	●	●
72	○	68	Columbus, OH	31.57	●	●	○
73	○	85	Chicago, IL	31.50	●	○	●
74	○	86	Boise City, ID	31.21	○	○	●
75	○	88	Albany, NY	31.07	●	●	○
76	○	13	El Paso, TX	31.00	●	●	○
77	○	22	Richmond, VA	30.95	●	●	○
78	○	48	Raleigh-Durham-Chapel H	30.54	●	○	○
79	○	19	Las Vegas, NV	30.51	●	○	●
80	○	12	Jacksonville, FL	30.30	●	●	○
81	○	34	Melbourne, FL	30.00	●	○	●
82	○	41	Pittsburgh, PA	29.95	●	●	○
83	○	89	Miami, FL	29.90	●	○	○
84	○	93	Toledo, OH	29.66	○	●	○
85	○	49	Modesto, CA	29.44	●	○	●
86	○	20	Los Angeles, CA	29.35	○	○	●
87	○	46	Springfield, MA	28.62	●	○	●
88	○	78	Youngstown, OH	28.49	○	●	○
89	○	81	Colorado Springs, CO	28.29	●	○	●
90	○	96	Seattle, WA	27.50	●	○	●
91	○	21	Phoenix-Mesa, AZ	26.96	●	○	●
92	○	83	Fresno, CA	26.49	○	○	●
93	○	84	Portland, OR	26.25	●	○	●
94	○	3	Fort Myers, FL	26.05	●	○	●
95	○	35	Orlando, FL	24.39	●	○	○
96	○	75	Lancaster, PA	24.17	○	○	○
97	○	18	Sarasota, FL	24.00	●	○	○
98	○	16	Bakersfield, CA	23.23	●	○	○
99	○	27	San Francisco, CA	21.57	○	○	○
100	○	80	Spokane, WA	21.00	○	○	○

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*2008 Rank - Rankings for the Allergy Capitals™ are based on analysis of data from 4 factors: 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 spring season and the duration of the peak season for the most allergenic pollen types; this score also takes into consideration local prevalence statistics for people affected by allergies to pollen.*

*Medicine Utilization per Patient Score - Quantitative data analysis of recorded per capita utilization of recorded pharmacy data for prescription (RX) and over-the-counter (OTC) medicines in each metro area during the most recent spring 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 spring season of the number of Board Certified allergy, immunology and pulmonology specialists per capita.*

#### **GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES:**

*National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Allergic Rhinitis Information (2008)*

*U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census 2000, 2007 Updates*

*U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Air Resources Laboratory (ARL), Air Stagnation Climatology for the U.S. (2007)*

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Status and Trends, Latest Findings on National Air Quality (2007)*

#### **NON-GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES:**

*Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, "Asthma and Allergy Answers" (2008)*

*American Board of Medical Specialties, Specialist Database (2008)*

#### **INDUSTRY SOURCES:**

*Surveillance Data Inc./Pollen.com (2007)*

*IMS Health (2007)*