

# The 2005 Fall Allergy Capital™ Rankings

"THE MOST CHALLENGING PLACES TO LIVE IF YOU HAVE FALL ALLERGIES"

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(columns/factors are not weighted equally)

2005 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (67.62 Avg.)	Subtotal: Pollen Score	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patientn (1.8 Medications Per Patient Avg.)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (1.2 Board Certified Allergists Per 1000 Patients Avg.)
1	●	53	Chicago,IL	100.00	●	●	●
2	●	21	Little Rock,AR	98.02	●	●	●
3	●	90	Tampa,FL	95.75	●	●	●
4	●	68	Daytona Beach,FL	95.48	●	●	◐
5	●		South Bend,IN	94.05	●	●	◐
6	●	8	Dallas-Ft. Worth,TX	93.27	●	●	●
7	●	5	Tulsa,OK	92.61	●	●	◐
8	●	10	Oklahoma City,OK	90.84	●	●	◐
9	●	77	Stockton,CA	90.62	●	◐	◐
10	●	62	Melbourne,FL	90.35	●	◐	◐
11	●	19	Omaha,NE	87.24	◐	●	●
12	●	25	McAllen, TX	87.07	●	◐	◐
13	●	15	San Antonio, TX	87.05	●	●	◐
14	●	1	Austin, TX	86.60	●	●	◐
15	●	22	Lexington, KY	86.12	◐	●	◐
16	●	58	Orlando, FL	85.00	●	◐	●
17	●	18	Louisville, KY	84.48	◐	●	●
18	●	24	Saint Louis, MO	83.87	◐	●	●
19	●	49	Nashville, TN	83.27	◐	●	◐
20	●	13	Madison, WI	81.61	◐	●	○
21	●	2	Knoxville, TN	81.23	○	●	◐
22	●	59	Jackson, MS	80.27	◐	●	◐
23	●	43	Johnson City, TN	79.58	○	●	○
24	●	61	Modesto, CA	79.11	●	◐	○
25	●	75	Sacramento, CA	78.53	●	◐	◐
26	●	64	New Orleans, LA	77.68	◐	●	●
27	●	38	Birmingham, AL	77.08	◐	◐	●
28	●	35	Chattanooga, TN	76.80	◐	●	○
29	●	67	Pensacola, FL	75.41	●	◐	○
30	●	17	Kalamazoo, MI	75.08	●	◐	○

## KEY TO ICONS

- Worse than Average
- ◐ Average
- Better than Average

2005 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score	Subtotal: Metro Area Pollen Score	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patient	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient
31	●	3	Memphis, TN	73.43	◐	●	◐
32	●	37	Greenville, SC	72.71	○	●	●
33	●	11	Wichita, KS	72.36	◐	●	◐
34	●	12	Indianapolis, IN	72.13	○	◐	●
35	◐	28	Houston, TX	71.87	◐	◐	◐
36	◐	48	Atlanta, GA	71.78	◐	◐	●
37	◐	32	Baton Rouge, LA	71.56	◐	●	◐
38	◐	36	Lancaster, PA	70.57	●	○	○
39	◐	14	Raleigh-Durham-Chapel	70.56	◐	●	○
40	◐	4	Kansas City, MO	70.08	◐	◐	◐
41	◐	60	Charleston, SC	69.33	◐	◐	◐
42	◐	46	Denver, CO	69.28	●	○	●
43	◐	40	Columbia, SC	68.47	○	●	○
44	◐	20	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	68.31	○	◐	●
45	◐	79	Tucson, AZ	68.01	●	○	●
46	◐	74	Greensboro, NC	67.79	○	●	◐
47	◐	44	Philadelphia, PA	67.35	○	◐	◐
48	◐	73	Albuquerque, NM	66.89	◐	○	◐
49	◐	23	Charlotte, NC	66.22	○	●	◐
50	◐	76	Richmond, VA	66.17	◐	◐	○
51	◐	70	Boise City, ID	66.07	○	○	●
52	◐	50	El Paso, TX	66.05	●	○	○
53	◐	33	Harrisburg, PA	65.60	●	○	○
54	◐	45	Augusta, GA	65.43	◐	●	○
55	◐	29	Allentown, PA	64.97	◐	◐	○
56	◐	63	Las Vegas, NV	64.85	◐	○	●
57	◐	39	Mobile, AL	63.92	◐	○	◐
58	◐	47	Jacksonville, FL	63.89	◐	○	○
59	◐	71	Washington, DC	63.67	○	◐	●
60	◐	26	Canton, OH	63.56	◐	◐	○
61	◐	66	Fort Myers, FL	63.21	●	○	○
62	◐	6	Milwaukee, WI	63.00	○	○	◐
63	◐	27	Grand Rapids, MI	62.95	◐	◐	○
64	◐	7	Des Moines, IA	62.32	○	●	○
65	◐	9	Columbus, OH	61.71	○	●	○
66	◐	82	Buffalo, NY	61.22	○	●	○
67	◐	55	Salt Lake City, UT	61.21	◐	○	◐
68	◐	97	San Francisco, CA	60.63	◐	○	●
69	◐	30	Dayton, OH	60.53	○	◐	○
70	◐	51	Cleveland, OH	59.17	◐	○	◐
71	○	80	Sarasota, FL	58.63	●	○	○
72	○	16	Fort Wayne, IN	57.64	○	◐	○
73	○	78	New York, NY	57.43	○	○	●

2005 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score	Subtotal: Metro Area Pollen Score	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patient	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient
74	○	91	Los Angeles,CA	57.22	●	○	●
75	○	34	Detroit,MI	57.09	○	○	●
76	○	42	Phoenix-Mesa,AZ	56.96	○	○	○
77	○	93	Syracuse,NY	56.80	○	●	○
78	○	41	Scranton,PA	56.67	○	●	○
79	○	57	Boston,MA	56.42	○	○	●
80	○	85	Colorado Springs,CO	56.24	●	○	○
81	○	95	Norfolk,VA	55.89	○	○	●
82	○	94	Baltimore,MD	55.82	○	○	●
83	○	89	Albany,NY	55.46	○	●	○
84	○	69	Rochester,NY	54.38	○	●	○
85	○	92	West Palm Beach,FL	54.05	○	○	○
86	○	31	Cincinnati,OH	53.48	○	○	●
87	○	56	Lansing,MI	53.25	○	●	○
88	○	100	San Diego,CA	52.30	●	○	●
89	○	87	Hartford,CT	52.15	○	○	○
90	○	65	Toledo,OH	51.79	○	●	○
91	○	96	Providence,RI	50.03	○	●	○
92	○	98	Fresno,CA	48.55	○	○	○
93	○	52	Pittsburgh,PA	48.46	○	○	○
94	○	84	Bakersfield,CA	46.43	○	○	○
95	○	99	Miami,FL	46.22	○	○	●
96	○	83	Spokane,WA	42.44	○	○	○
97	○	54	Youngstown,OH	39.90	○	○	○
98	○	81	Springfield,MA	38.89	○	○	○
99	○	86	Seattle,WA	30.33	○	○	●
100	○	88	Portland,OR	28.47	○	○	○

2005 Rank - Rankings for the Allergy Capitals™ are based on analysis of data from 3 groups of factors: Seasonal Pollen Scores, Allergy Medicine Utilization per Patient, and the number of Board Certified Allergists per patient. Weights were applied to each group of factors reflecting its relative importance as an indicator of how it affects quality of life for seasonal allergy sufferers. Factors were assigned different weights, as developed in consultation with medical and research experts, then total scores were calculated as a composite of all factors.

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 every factor, but rather, it achieved the highest composite score after all subtotal scores were weighted, tabulated and compared.

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. These data are combined and presented in the Allergy Capital™ ranking as an overall "Pollen Score."

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, as well as steroidal and non-steroidal nasal sprays.

Board Certified Allergists per Patient Score - Quantitative data analysis for the most recent spring season of the number of Board Certified allergy, immunology, pulmonology specialists per capita.

**Governmental Sources:**

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Allergic Rhinitis Information (2005)

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census 2000

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Air Resources Laboratory (ARL), Air Stagnation Climatology for the U.S. (2004)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Status and Trends, Latest Findings on National Air Quality (2003)

**Non-Governmental Sources:**

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, "Asthma and Allergy Answers" (2005)

American Board of Medical Specialties, Specialist Database (2004)

**Industry Sources:**

Surveillance Data Inc./Pollen.com (2004)

IMS Health (2004)