

The 2005 Spring Allergy Capital™ Rankings

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

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(columns/factors are not weighted equally)

2005 Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score	Subtotal: Metro Area Pollen Score	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patient (1.14 Medications Per Patient Avg.)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (1.2 Board Certified Allergists Per 1000 Patients Avg.)
1	●	16	Lexington,KY	100	●	●	●
2	●	8	Little Rock,AR	99.75	●	●	●
3	●	14	Chattanooga,TN	98.47	●	●	◐
4	●	3	Louisville,KY	98.46	●	●	●
5	●	26	Johnson City,TN	96.71	●	●	◐
6	●	19	Greenville,SC	95.4	◐	●	●
7	●	63	Richmond,VA	93.44	●	◐	●
8	●	4	Charlotte,NC	93.08	◐	●	●
9	●	12	Jackson,MS	93.06	◐	●	●
10	●	5	St. Louis,MO	92.98	◐	●	●
11	●	9	Knoxville,TN	92.49	◐	●	◐
12	●	25	Greensboro,NC	92.19	●	●	●
13	●	31	Raleigh,NC	92.13	◐	●	●
14	●	34	Albuquerque,NM	91.53	●	◐	●
15	●	49	Birmingham,AL	91.49	●	●	●
16	●	97	Washington,DC	90.84	◐	●	●
17	●	70	Omaha,NE	90.82	◐	●	●
18	●	13	Tusla,OK	90.63	●	◐	◐
19	●	47	Oklahoma City,OK	90.42	●	◐	●
20	●	1	Atlanta,GA	90.13	●	●	●
21	●	17	Columbia,SC	89.88	◐	●	◐
22	●	21	San Antonio,TX	88.32	●	◐	●
23	●	29	Madison,WI	88.3	◐	●	○
24	●	28	Memphis,TN	88.23	◐	●	◐
25	●	23	Philadelphia,PA	87.67	●	◐	●
26	●	6	Austin,TX	87.07	●	◐	◐
27	●	2	Augusta,GA	86.53	●	●	◐
28	●	38	Las Vegas,NV	86.51	●	○	●
29	●	51	Baton Rouge,LA	86.44	◐	●	◐
30	●	30	Wichita,KS	86.32	◐	●	◐

KEY TO ICONS

- Worse than Average
- ◐ Average
- Better than Average

2004 Rank		Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (□)	Subtotal: Metro Area Pollen Score	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patient	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient
31	●	41	Charleston, SC	86.1	☐	●	☐
32	●	10	Allentown, PA	85.53	●	☐	☐
33	●	33	Indianapolis, IN	85.2	☐	●	●
34	●	62	New Orleans, LA	85.1	☐	●	●
35	☐	37	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	83.7	☐	●	☐
36	☐	18	Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX	83.2	●	○	●
37	☐	36	Kansas City, MO	83.06	☐	●	●
38	☐	72	Dayton, OH	82.79	●	☐	☐
39	☐	74	Columbus, OH	81.82	☐	●	☐
40	☐	52	Salt Lake City, UT	81.75	●	○	●
41	☐	40	Tucson, AZ	81.58	●	○	●
42	☐	76	Syracuse, NY	81.56	○	●	☐
43	☐	85	Albany, NY	81.46	☐	●	☐
44	☐	60	Mobile, AL	81.39	●	○	●
45	☐	27	Tampa, FL	81.01	☐	☐	●
46	☐	43	Kalamazoo, MI	80.75	○	●	☐
47	☐	32	Boston, MA	80.74	○	●	●
48	☐	58	Modesto, CA	80.53	☐	☐	○
49	☐	35	Hartford, CT	80.19	☐	●	☐
50	☐	20	Houston, TX	80.1	☐	☐	●
51	☐	15	Nashville, TN	79.71	☐	☐	☐
52	☐	39	Des Moines, IA	79.65	○	●	☐
53	☐	46	Lansing, MI	79.36	●	☐	○
54	☐	93	Denver, CO	79.09	●	○	☐
55	☐	59	Scranton, PA	78.91	☐	☐	○
56	☐	11	Orlando, FL	78.84	☐	☐	●
57	☐	61	Stockton, CA	78.8	☐	☐	○
58	☐	42	Baltimore, MD	78.57	☐	○	●
59	☐	68	Pensacola, FL	78.15	☐	○	●
60	☐	90	Buffalo, NY	78.1	☐	●	☐
61	☐	86	Fresno, CA	78.08	☐	●	○
62	☐	73	Sacramento, CA	77.93	☐	☐	☐
63	☐	88	Boise City, ID	77.61	☐	○	●
64	☐	64	Providence, RI	76.62	☐	☐	☐
65	☐	22	Jacksonville, FL	76.39	☐	☐	☐
66	☐	54	Harrisburg, PA	75.98	●	○	●
67	☐	71	Cincinnati, OH	75.96	☐	●	○
68	☐	80	Rochester, NY	75.87	☐	☐	○
69	☐	50	Phoenix-Mesa, AZ	75.8	☐	○	●
70	☐	94	Norfolk, VA	75.72	☐	○	●
71	○	53	Toledo, OH	75.21	☐	●	☐
72	○	66	El Paso, TX	75.15	●	○	☐
73	○	65	Milwaukee, WI	75.13	☐	○	●

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74	○	44	Fort Wayne,IN	75.07	◐	○	◐
75	○	45	Grand Rapids,MI	74.86	○	●	◐
76	○	24	Mcallen,TX	74.69	●	○	◐
77	○	89	Colorado Springs,CO	74.08	●	○	◐
78	○	55	Canton,OH	72.85	◐	●	◐
79	○	87	Fort Myers,FL	72.77	◐	○	◐
80	○	69	Detroit,MI	72.49	○	◐	●
81	○	67	Lancaster,PA	72.01	◐	○	◐
82	○	79	West Palm Beach,FL	71.84	◐	○	○
83	○	56	Pittsburgh,PA	71.63	◐	◐	○
84	○	95	Chicago,IL	71.42	○	◐	●
85	○	81	Portland,OR	70.18	●	○	○
86	○	7	Springfield,MA	69.63	○	●	○
87	○	84	Melbourne,FL	69.29	○	◐	○
88	○	48	New York,NY	69.02	○	○	●
89	○	78	Sarasota,FL	69	◐	○	○
90	○	96	San Diego,CA	68.23	◐	○	●
91	○	75	Youngstown,OH	67.72	○	●	○
92	○	91	Seattle,WA	67.7	○	○	◐
93	○	82	San Francisco,CA	67.23	●	○	●
94	○	92	Daytona Beach,FL	67.02	◐	○	○
95	○	57	Bakersfield,CA	66.07	◐	○	○
96	○	77	Cleveland,OH	66	○	◐	●
97	○	98	Spokane,WA	63.3	◐	○	○
98	○		South Bend,IN	62.55	○	◐	○
99	○	99	Los Angeles,CA	61.29	○	○	●
100	○	100	Miami,FL	56.97	○	○	●

2005 Rank - Rankings for the Allergy Capitals™ are based on analysis of data from 3 groups of factors: Annual Pollen Scores, 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 - 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 steroid and non-steroid nasal sprays.

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Board Certified Allergists per Patient - 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 (2004)

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)