

"The Most Challenging Places to Live with Fall Allergies"

[www.AllergyCapitals.com](http://www.AllergyCapitals.com)

© Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America 2009

(columns/factors are not weighted equally)

2009 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (Avg. 68.40)	Subtotal: Pollen Score (Avg. 300 grains/cubic meter air daily)	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patientn (Avg. 0.75 Medications Per Est. Patient)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (Avg. 0.8 Board Certified Allergists Per 10,000 Est. Patients)
1	●		McAllen, TX	100.00	●	●	●
2	●		Wichita, KS	95.29	●	●	◐
3	●		Louisville, KY	93.68	●	●	◐
4	●		Oklahoma City, OK	93.13	●	●	◐
5	●		Jackson, MS	92.53	●	●	◐
6	●		Dayton, OH	92.41	●	●	●
7	●		Augusta, GA	91.61	●	●	○
8	●		Tulsa, OK	91.22	●	●	◐
9	●		Knoxville, TN	90.81	○	●	◐
10	●		Little Rock, AR	89.73	●	●	○
11	●		Madison, WI	88.73	◐	●	○
12	●		San Antonio, TX	88.24	●	●	○
13	●		Dallas, TX	86.98	●	◐	●
14	●		New Orleans, LA	85.00	◐	●	◐
15	●		Baton Rouge, LA	84.93	●	●	◐
16	●		Charlotte, NC	84.75	◐	●	●
17	●		St. Louis, MO	84.68	●	◐	○
18	●		Birmingham, AL	84.01	◐	●	○
19	●		El Paso, TX	83.31	●	●	○
20	●		Virginia Beach, VA	82.25	●	◐	●
21	●		Memphis, TN	80.90	●	●	◐
22	●		Chattanooga, TN	80.26	○	●	◐
23	●		Des Moines, IA	79.79	◐	●	●
24	●		Austin, TX	79.61	●	◐	◐
25	●		Greensboro, NC	79.49	◐	●	●
26	●		Omaha, NE	79.34	◐	●	◐
27	●		Columbia, SC	78.89	●	●	◐
28	●		Philadelphia, PA	77.55	◐	●	●
29	◐		Kansas City, MO	76.12	◐	◐	●
30	◐		New York, NY	75.46	◐	◐	●

KEY TO ICONS

- Worse than Average
- ◐ Average
- Better than Average

2009 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (Avg. 68.40)	Subtotal: Pollen Score (Avg. 300 grains/cubic meter air daily)	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patientn (Avg. 0.75 Medications Per Est. Patient)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (Avg. 0.8 Board Certified Allergists Per 10,000 Est. Patients)
31			Poughkeepsie, NY	74.37	●	●	●
32			Richmond, VA	73.84	●	●	●
33			Indianapolis, IN	73.77	●	●	●
34			Allentown, PA	73.67	●	●	●
35			Cape Coral, FL	72.05	●	○	●
36			Bakersfield, CA	71.80	●	○	●
37			Nashville, TN	71.70	●	●	○
38			Grand Rapids, MI	71.56	●	●	●
39			Syracuse, NY	70.59	●	●	●
40			Tucson, AZ	70.41	●	●	●
41			Houston, TX	70.36	●	●	●
42			Buffalo, NY	69.88	●	●	○
43			Tampa, FL	69.84	●	●	●
44			Charleston, SC	69.81	●	●	○
45			Columbus, OH	68.94	●	●	●
46			Lakeland, FL	68.89	●	●	●
47			Riverside, CA	68.83	●	○	●
48			Orlando, FL	68.83	●	●	●
49			Toledo, OH	68.75	●	●	○
50			Atlanta, GA	68.67	●	●	●
51			Milwaukee, WI	68.60	●	●	○
52			Detroit, MI	68.58	○	●	●
53			Washington, DC	68.40	●	●	●
54			Jacksonville, FL	67.88	●	●	●
55			Las Vegas, NV	67.34	●	○	●
56			Providence, RI	65.28	○	●	●
57			Scranton, PA	65.23	○	●	●
58			Los Angeles, CA	65.21	●	○	●
59			Cincinnati, OH	64.31	●	●	●
60			Pittsburgh, PA	63.72	●	●	●
61			Sarasota, FL	62.58	●	○	●
62			Baltimore, MD	61.28	●	●	●
63			Oxnard, CA	61.19	●	○	○
64			Akron, OH	60.95	○	●	●
65			Phoenix, AZ	60.48	●	○	●
66			Rochester, NY	60.14	●	●	○
67			Modesto, CA	59.89	●	○	●

- Worse than Average
- Average
- Better than Average

2009 Fall Rank	Overall	Rank Last Year	Metropolitan Area	Total Score (Avg. 68.40)	Subtotal: Pollen Score (Avg. 300 grains/cubic meter air daily)	Subtotal: Medicine Utilization per Patientn (Avg. 0.75 Medications Per Est. Patient)	Subtotal: Board Certified Allergists per Patient (Avg. 0.8 Board Certified Allergists Per 10,000 Est. Patients)
68			Albuquerque, NM	59.78	●	●	●
69			Palm Bay, FL	59.66	●	●	●
70			Hartford, CT	59.61	○	●	●
71			Boise City, ID	59.51	●	○	●
72			Chicago, IL	59.32	●	●	●
73			New Haven, CT	59.21	○	●	○
74			Fresno, CA	59.15	●	●	●
75			Minneapolis, MN	59.13	○	●	●
76			Lancaster, PA	59.12	○	●	●
77			Harrisburg, PA	58.91	○	●	○
78			San Francisco, CA	58.85	●	○	●
79			Springfield, MA	58.84	○	●	●
80			Raleigh, NC	58.60	○	●	●
81			Youngstown, OH	57.63	○	●	●
82			San Jose, CA	57.10	●	○	○
83			Cleveland, OH	57.01	○	●	●
84			Denver, CO	56.69	●	○	●
85			Daytona Beach, FL	55.47	●	○	●
86			Bridgeport, CT	54.76	○	●	○
87			Colorado Springs, CO	53.14	●	○	●
88			Worcester, MA	53.10	○	●	●
89			Portland, ME	52.18	○	●	●
90			Miami, FL	51.76	○	○	●
91			Boston, MA	51.15	○	●	●
92			Stockton, CA	50.54	●	○	●
93			Ogden, UT	50.36	○	○	●
94			Salt Lake City, UT	47.82	○	○	○
95			Sacramento, CA	46.31	●	○	●
96			Greenville, SC	45.93	●	○	○
97			San Diego, CA	45.06	●	○	○
98			Seattle, WA	38.45	○	○	●
99			Albany, NY	35.51	○	○	●
100			Portland, OR	32.25	○	○	●

- Worse than Average
- Average
- Better than Average

*2009 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. Study limitation: not all OTC allergy medication sales are recorded at the pharmacy counter and thus not included in this analysis.*

*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 (2009)*

*U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census 2000, 2008 Updates*

*U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Air Resources Laboratory (ARL), Air Stagnation Climatology for the U.S. (2008)*

*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Status and Trends, Latest Findings on National Air Quality (2008)*

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

*Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, "Asthma and Allergy Answers" (2009)*

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

#### **INDUSTRY-SOURCES:**

*Surveillance Data Inc./Pollen.com (2008)*

*IMS Health (2008)*