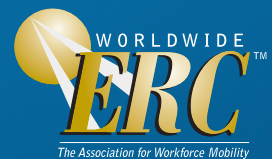


BEST U.S. CITIES FOR RELOCATING FAMILIES – 2005



Last year's inaugural Best Cities for Relocating Families study has been hailed by businesses, families, and the national media as a unique and valuable resource. In its second year, Worldwide ERC® and Primacy have refined the study's data, dug even deeper for pertinent, timely research, and optimized the criteria that matter most to families.

Modeled after the popular "Best Places to Live" studies produced for *Money* magazine, Worldwide ERC® and Primacy have teamed with Sperling's BestPlaces to rate cities based on those factors – short-term and long-term – that determine the likelihood of a successful relocation.



WORLDWIDE ERC® AND PRIMACY RELOCATION BUILDING AN EVEN BETTER “BEST CITIES”

-continued from the front

“Best Cities for Relocating Families” gauges the ease of moving to a city – rather than living in a city. The results, separated by market size, give a solid ranking of cities based on how easily newcomers can settle into them.

For 2005, the ranking process again combined traditional factors such as tax rates, average home cost, and home appreciation with more subtle variables that can affect quality of life and cost of living after a move – including the ability to qualify for in-state tuition, service levels of local utilities, volunteerism, and auto taxes.

New criteria for 2005 included nuanced climate criteria to give value to those cities where mild winters, mild summers, and plentiful rainfall combine to keep utility prices reasonable. We have also broadened our definition of “families” to include elder-care and assisted-living statistics from the Federal Administration on Aging. This is a direct response to the importance employees place on finding safe and meaningful care for their aging parents.

The final rankings represent the most sophisticated comparative research ever undertaken to determine how geography affects relocation success.

LARGE MARKETS

(METRO AREAS WITH POPULATIONS OVER 500,000)

RANKINGS: 1-50

- 1 Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV
- 2 Austin/San Marcos, TX
- 3 Colorado Springs, CO
- 4 Middlesex/Somerset/Hunterdon, NJ
- 5 Louisville, KY-IN
- 6 San Jose, CA
- 7 New Orleans, LA
- 8 Denver, CO
- 9 Orange County, CA
- 10 Knoxville, TN
- 11 Albuquerque, NM
- 12 Monmouth/Ocean, NJ
- 13 Oklahoma City, OK
- 14 Nashville, TN
- 15 Ventura, CA
- 16 Baltimore, MD
- 17 San Francisco, CA
- 18 Fort Worth/Arlington, TX
- 19 Providence/Fall River/Warwick, RI-MA
- 20 Baton Rouge, LA
- 21 San Antonio, TX
- 22 Las Vegas, NV-AZ
- 23 Memphis, TN-AR-MS
- 24 Atlanta, GA
- 25 Tulsa, OK
- 26 Bergen/Passaic, NJ
- 27 Wilmington/Newark, DE-MD
- 28 Dallas, TX
- 29 Harrisburg/Lebanon/Carlisle, PA
- 30 Allentown/Bethlehem/Easton, PA
- 31 Seattle/Bellevue/Everett, WA
- 32 El Paso, TX
- 33 Jersey City, NJ
- 34 Oakland, CA
- 35 Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA
- 36 McAllen/Edinburg/Mission, TX
- 37 Nassau/Suffolk, NY
- 38 Raleigh-Durham/Chapel Hill, NC
- 39 Houston, TX
- 40 Phoenix/Mesa, AZ
- 41 Sacramento, CA
- 42 Salt Lake City/Ogden, UT
- 43 Sarasota/Bradenton, FL
- 44 Newark, NJ
- 45 Scranton/Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton, PA
- 46 San Diego, CA
- 47 Philadelphia, PA-NJ
- 48 Richmond/Petersburg, VA
- 49 Orlando, FL
- 50 Jacksonville, FL

MEDIUM MARKETS

(METRO AREAS WITH POPULATIONS BETWEEN 250,000 – 500,000)

RANKINGS: 1-50

- 1 Boulder/Longmont, CO
- 2 Lexington, KY
- 3 Fort Collins/Loveland, CO
- 4 Burlington, VT
- 5 Greeley, CO
- 6 Provo/Orem, UT
- 7 Boise City, ID
- 8 Clarksville/Hopkinsville, TN-KY
- 9 Manchester, NH
- 10 Portsmouth/Rochester, NH-ME
- 11 Biloxi/Gulfport/Pascagoula, MS
- 12 Trenton, NJ
- 13 Lafayette, LA
- 14 Evansville/Henderson, IN-KY
- 15 Bremerton, WA
- 16 Augusta/Aiken, GA-SC
- 17 Anchorage, AK
- 18 Brazoria, TX
- 19 Shreveport/Bossier City, LA
- 20 Columbus, GA-AL
- 21 Jackson, MS
- 22 Fayetteville/Springdale/Rogers, AR
- 23 Reno, NV
- 24 Portland, ME
- 25 Olympia, WA
- 26 Lowell, MA-NH
- 27 Worcester, MA-CT
- 28 Macon, GA
- 29 Lawrence, MA-NH
- 30 Savannah, GA
- 31 Brockton, MA
- 32 Erie, PA
- 33 Charleston, WV
- 34 Montgomery, AL
- 35 Johnson City/Kingsport/Bristol, TN-VA
- 36 Galveston/Texas City, TX
- 37 Barnstable/Yarmouth, MA
- 38 Chattanooga, TN-GA
- 39 Santa Barbara/Santa Maria, CA
- 40 Asheville, NC
- 41 Fort Smith, AR-OK
- 42 Hamilton/Middletown, OH
- 43 Johnstown, PA
- 44 Huntsville, AL
- 45 Santa Cruz/Watsonville, CA
- 46 Huntington/Ashland, WV-KY
- 47 Killeen/Temple, TX
- 48 Madison, WI
- 49 Waco, TX
- 50 New London/Norwich, CT-RI

SMALL MARKETS

(METRO AREAS WITH POPULATIONS FROM 50,000 – 250,000)

RANKINGS: 1-50

- 1 Athens, GA
- 2 Cheyenne, WY
- 3 Fargo/Moorhead, ND-MN
- 4 Yolo, CA
- 5 Enid, OK
- 6 Grand Forks, ND-MN
- 7 Hagerstown, MD
- 8 Pocatello, ID
- 9 Dover, DE
- 10 Casper, WY
- 11 Bellingham, WA
- 12 Cumberland, MD-WV
- 13 Nashua, NH
- 14 Owensboro, KY
- 15 Iowa City, IA
- 16 Great Falls, MT
- 17 Grand Junction, CO
- 18 State College, PA
- 19 Bryan/College Station, TX
- 20 Fitchburg/Leominster, MA-NH
- 21 Bangor, ME
- 22 New Bedford, MA
- 23 Missoula, MT
- 24 Billings, MT
- 25 Flagstaff, AZ-UT
- 26 Texarkana, TX-AR
- 27 Lawrence, KS
- 28 Bismarck, ND
- 29 La Crosse, WI-MN
- 30 Pueblo, CO
- 31 Parkersburg/Marietta, WV-OH
- 32 Lawton, OK
- 33 Hattiesburg, MS
- 34 Lewiston/Auburn, ME
- 35 Pittsfield, MA
- 36 Lafayette, IN
- 37 Florence, SC
- 38 Charlottesville, VA
- 39 Bloomington, IN
- 40 Alexandria, LA
- 41 Wheeling, WV-OH
- 42 Las Cruces, NM
- 43 Santa Fe, NM
- 44 Monroe, LA
- 45 Jacksonville, NC
- 46 Steubenville/Weirton, OH-WV
- 47 Kenosha, WI
- 48 Albany, GA
- 49 Lake Charles, LA
- 50 Vineland/Milville/Bridgeton, NJ

