

WINNER

Top 100 rank: 22

Population: 81,100

[Compare Troy to Top 10 Best Places](#)

With some of the highest-ranked schools in Michigan, moderately priced homes, safe streets and low property taxes, Troy is a great place for families.

It offers events for all ages - including free summer jazz concerts, family festivals, and camps for kids. Its annual Troy Daze Festival attracts 100,000 annually, featuring a Miss Troy pageant, rides, games and food.



COURTESY: CITY OF TROY

Though the city lacks a significant downtown, it thrives around its green space, featuring 900 acres of parkland, as well as many museums and parks.

Financial	City stats	Best places avg.
Median family income (per year)	\$114,094	\$93,075
Family purchasing power (annual, cost-of-living adjusted)	\$118,110	\$84,780
Sales tax	6.00%	6.60%
State income tax rate (highest bracket)	N.A. ¹	5.17%
State income tax rate (lowest bracket)	3.90% ¹	2.43%
Auto insurance premiums (Average for the state)	\$2,051	\$1,791
Job growth % (2000-2007)	0.34%	18.72%

Housing	City stats	Best places avg.
Median home price	\$220,000	\$291,949
Average property taxes (2007)	\$3,562	\$3,886

Education	City stats	Best places avg.
Colleges, universities and professional schools (within 30 miles)	25	49
Junior colleges and technical institutes (within 30 miles)	8	25
Test scores reading (% above/below state average)	23.4%	17.3%
Test scores math (% above/below average)	25.3%	16.8%
% students attending public/private schools (located within town limits)	95.0/5.0	89.0/11.0

Quality of life

City stats Best places avg.

Air quality index* (% of days AQI ranked as good)	80.3%	75.9%
Personal crime incidents (per 1,000)	1	2
Property crime incidents (per 1,000)	25	25
Median commute time (in minutes)	21.8	23.0
% population with commute 45 mins. or longer	12.3%	15.7%
% population walk or bike to work	1.1%	3.0%

Leisure and culture

City stats Best places avg.

Movie theaters (within 15 miles)	57	51
Restaurants (within 15 miles)	5,368	4,094
Bars (within 15 miles)	641	408
Public golf courses (within 30 miles)	377	316
Libraries (within 15 miles)	123	89
Museums (accredited by AAM; within 30 miles)	4	13
Ski resorts (within 100 miles)	5	33
Arts funding (Dollars per person of state funds spent on arts)	0.8	1.5

Weather

City stats Best places avg.

Annual rainfall (inches)	30.52	36.17
% clear days in the area	18	30
High temp in July ° F	82.7°	87.8°
Low temp in Jan ° F	15.7°	22.9°

Health*

City stats Best places avg.

Has health plan (% of residents)	91.2%	88.3%
Body mass index (avg. for residents)	27	27
Diabetes rates (% of residents diagnosed)	10.4%	9.6%
Hypertension rates (% of residents diagnosed)	31.5%	27.2%

Meet the neighbors

City stats Best places avg.

	City stats	Best places avg.
Median age	40.8	35.9
Completed at least some college (% of residents)	78.0%	73.7%
Married	62.2%	57.5%
Divorced	7.2%	8.3%
Racial diversity index (100 is national average; higher numbers indicate greater diversity)	94.6	104.2
Amount spent on vacations (domestic and foreign, household avg. per year)	\$8,443	\$8,007

From the August 2008 issue