

TOWN OF HOPKINTON, MA 2013

Benchmark Report





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UNDERSTANDING THE BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

COMPARISON DATA

NRC's database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in citizen surveys from approximately 500 jurisdictions whose residents evaluated local government services and gave their opinion about the quality of community life. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each jurisdiction; most communities conduct surveys every year or in alternating years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant.

The jurisdictions in the database represent a wide geographic and population range as shown in the table below.

Jurisdiction Characteristic	Percent of Jurisdictions
Region	
West Coast ¹	17%
West ²	20%
North Central West ³	11%
North Central East ⁴	13%
South Central ⁵	7%
South ⁶	26%
Northeast West ⁷	2%
Northeast East ⁸	4%
Population	
Less than 40,000	46%
40,000 to 74,999	19%
75,000 to 149,000	17%
150,000 or more	18%

¹ Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii

² Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico

³ North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota

⁴ Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin

⁵ Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas

⁶ West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware, Washington DC

⁷ New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey

⁸ Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine

The National Citizen Survey[™] by National Research Center, Inc.

PUTTING EVALUATIONS ONTO THE 100-POINT SCALE

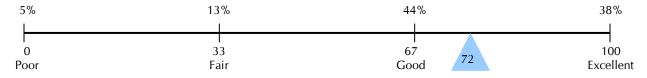
Although responses to many of the evaluative questions were made on a four point scale with 1 representing the best rating and 4 the worst, the benchmarks are reported on a common scale where 0 is the worst possible rating and 100 is the best possible rating. The 95 percent confidence interval around an average score on the 100-point scale is no greater than plus or minus three points based on all respondents.

The 100-point scale is not a percent. It is a conversion of responses to an average rating. Each response option is assigned a value that is used in calculating the average score. For example, "excellent" = 100, "good" = 67, "fair" = 33 and "poor" = 0. If everyone reported "excellent," then the average rating would be 100 on the 100-point scale. Likewise, if all respondents gave a "poor", the result would be 0 on the 100-point scale. If half the respondents gave a score of "excellent" and half gave a score of "poor," the average would be in the middle of the scale (like the center post of a teeter totter) between "fair" and "good." An example of how to convert survey frequencies into an average rating appears below.

Example of Converting Responses to the 100-point Scale

	How do you rate the community as a place to live?							
Response option	Total with "don't know"	Step1: Remove the percent of "don't know" responses	Total without "don't know"	Step 2: Assign scale values	Step 3: Multiply the percent by the scale value	Step 4: Sum to calculate the average rating		
Excellent	36%	= 36 ÷ (100-5) =	38%	100	= 38% x 100 =	38		
Good	42%	= 42 ÷ (100-5) =	44%	67	=44% x 67 =	30		
Fair	12%	= 12 ÷ (100-5) =	13%	33	= 13% x 33 =	4		
Poor	5%	= 5 ÷ (100-5) =	5%	0	= 5 % x 0 =	0		
Don't know	5%		-					
Total	100%		100%			72		

How do you rate the community as a place to live?



INTERPRETING THE RESULTS

Average ratings are compared when similar questions are included in NRC's database, and there are at least five jurisdictions in which the question was asked. Where comparisons are available, three numbers are provided in the table. The first column is your jurisdiction's rating on the 100-point scale. The second column is the rank assigned to your jurisdiction's rating among jurisdictions where a similar question was asked. The third column is the number of jurisdictions that asked a similar question. The final column shows the comparison of your jurisdiction's average rating to the benchmark.

Where comparisons for quality ratings were available, the Town of Hopkinton's results were generally noted as being "above" the benchmark, "below" the benchmark or "similar" to the benchmark. For some questions – those related to resident behavior, circumstance or to a local problem – the comparison to the benchmark is designated as "more," "similar" or "less" (for example, the percent of crime victims, residents visiting a park or residents identifying code enforcement as a problem.) In instances where ratings are considerably higher or lower than the benchmark, these ratings have been further demarcated by the attribute of "much," (for example, "much less" or "much above"). These labels come from a statistical comparison of the Town of Hopkinton's rating to the benchmark where a rating is considered "similar" if it is within the margin of error; "above," "below," "more" or "less" if the difference between your jurisdiction's rating and the benchmark is greater the margin of error; and "much above," "much below," "much more" or "much less" if the difference between your jurisdiction's rating and the benchmark is more than twice the margin of error.

This report contains benchmarks at the national level, as well as for New England.

NATIONAL BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

Overall Community Quality Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Overall quality of life in Hopkinton	78	56	386	Much above		
Your neighborhood as place to live	81	26	264	Much above		
Hopkinton as a place to live	83	54	325	Much above		
Recommend living in Hopkinton to someone who asks	84	52	228	Much above		
Remain in Hopkinton for the next five years	83	60	227	Much above		

Community Transportation Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Ease of car travel in Hopkinton	49	197	262	Much below	
Ease of bus travel in Hopkinton	22	187	196	Much below	
Ease of bicycle travel in Hopkinton	37	226	263	Much below	
Ease of walking in Hopkinton	45	218	256	Much below	
Availability of paths and walking trails	55	127	231	Similar	
Traffic flow on major streets	30	278	291	Much below	

Frequency of Bus Use Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark							
Ridden a local bus within Hopkinton 6 144 169 Much less							

Drive Alone Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions Comparison to benchmark						
Average percent of work commute trips made by driving alone 76 113 212 Similar						

Transportation and Parking Services Benchmarks							
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark			
Street repair	45	227	371	Similar			
Street cleaning	55	156	252	Similar			
Street lighting	49	215	279	Much below			
Snow removal	67	35	257	Much above			
Sidewalk maintenance	53	120	258	Similar			
Traffic signal timing	50	92	221	Similar			
Bus or transit services	31	185	195	Much below			
Amount of public parking	37	179	204	Much below			

Housing Characteristics Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark						
Availability of affordable						
quality housing 33 243 270 Much below						
Variety of housing options	48	172	224	Much below		

Housing Costs Benchmarks						
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark						
Experiencing housing costs stress (housing costs 30% or MORE of						
income)	38	75	217	More		

Built Environment Benchmarks							
	Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark						
Quality of new development in Hopkinton	53	144	248	Similar			
Overall appearance of Hopkinton 68 88 305 Much abo							

Population Growth Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average Rank Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to benchmark							
Population growth seen as too fast 52 42 219 Much more							

Nuisance Problems Benchmarks						
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark						
Run down buildings, weed lots and junk vehicles seen as a "major"						
problem	5	146	218	Much less		

Planning and Community Code Enforcement Services Benchmarks							
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark							
Land use, planning and zoning	46	136	255	Similar			
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	51	133	317	Above			
Animal control	60	94	286	Above			

Economic Sustainability and Opportunities Benchmarks						
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark						
Employment opportunities	39	130	270	Similar		
Shopping opportunities	31	232	254	Much below		
Hopkinton as a place to work	63	89	295	Much above		
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Hopkinton	47	186	224	Much below		

Economic Development Services Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark						
Economic development	45	139	249	Similar		

Job and Retail Growth Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark							
Retail growth seen as too slow	49	62	219	Much more			
Jobs growth seen as too slow	65	189	221	Much less			

Personal Economic Future Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison to benchmark						
Positive impact of economy on household income	24	51	215	Above		

Community and Personal Public Safety Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison		Comparison to benchmark		
In your neighborhood during the day	96	15	300	Much above		
In your neighborhood after dark	88	7	289	Much above		
In Hopkinton's downtown area during the day	98	3	258	Much above		
In Hopkinton's downtown area after dark	89	6	260	Much above		
Violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery)	91	9	255	Much above		
Property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft)	75	43	256	Much above		
Environmental hazards, including toxic waste	84	35	219	Much above		

	Crime Victimization and Reporting Benchmarks							
	Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to benchmark							
Victim of crime	5	218	230	Much less				
Reported crimes	97	11	228	Much more				

Public Safety Services Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Police services	82	7	367	Much above		
Fire services	87	9	309	Much above		
Ambulance or emergency medical services	88	6	285	Much above		
Crime prevention	77	8	303	Much above		
Fire prevention and education	78	10	252	Much above		
Traffic enforcement	64	64	326	Much above		
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	68	19	242	Much above		

Contact with Police and Fire Departments Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Had contact with the Town of Hopkinton Police Department	45	13	137	Much more	
Overall impression of most recent contact with the Town of Hopkinton Police Department	78	15	138	Much above	
Had contact with the Town of Hopkinton Fire Department	27	2	102	Much more	
Overall impression of most recent contact with the Town of Hopkinton Fire Department	90	21	102	Much above	

Community Environment Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparis average rating Rank for comparison benchm					
Cleanliness of Hopkinton	74	50	235	Much above		
Quality of overall natural environment in Hopkinton	77	24	234	Much above		
Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts	62	55	230	Much above		
Air quality	74	22	215	Much above		

Frequency of Recycling Benchmarks						
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to average rating Rank comparison benchmark						
Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home	92	63	219	Much more		

Utility Services Benchmarks							
	Hopkinton average rating Rank		Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark			
Power (electric and/or							
gas) utility	67	51	125	Similar			
Sewer services	69	68	267	Above			
Drinking water	70	57	275	Much above			
Storm drainage	61	98	319	Above			
Recycling	74	83	312	Much above			
Garbage collection	75	92	306	Above			

Community Recreational Opportunities Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark						
Recreation opportunities	61	122	266	Similar		

Participation in Parks and Recreation Opportunities Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Used Hopkinton recreation centers	59	77	190	Similar		
Participated in a recreation program or activity	57	35	217	Much more		
Visited a neighborhood park or Town park	88	90	222	Similar		

Parks and Recreation Services Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark							
Town parks	75	88	279	Above			
Recreation programs or classes	68	106	283	Above			
Recreation centers or facilities	59	165	245	Below			

Cultural and Educational Opportunities Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark					
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	43	205	265	Much below	
Educational opportunities	68	50	241	Much above	

Participation in Cultural and Educational Opportunities Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark					
Used Hopkinton public libraries or their services	71	98	199	Similar	

Cultural and Educational Services Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to benchmark							
Public schools	80	19	219	Much above			
Public library services 67 237 301 Much belo							

Community Health and Wellness Access and Opportunities Benchmarks					
	Comparison to benchmark				
Availability of affordable quality health care	47	137	217	Below	
Availability of affordable quality food	53	135	179	Below	
Availability of preventive health services	48	130	174	Much below	

Health and Wellness Services Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for Compariso benchma						
Health services	57	96	169	Similar		

Community Quality and Inclusiveness Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Sense of community	69	31	270	Much above		
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	58	117	252	Similar		
Availability of affordable quality child care	49	84	222	Above		
Hopkinton as a place to raise kids	87	16	324	Much above		
Hopkinton as a place to retire	43	285	311	Much below		

Services Provided for Population Subgroups Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark							
Services to seniors	70	27	263	Much above			
Services to youth	57	101	243	Above			
Services to low income people	222	Similar					

Civic Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks					
Hopkinton Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison to benchmark					
Opportunities to participate in community matters	67	28	222	Much above	
Opportunities to volunteer	70	51	224	Much above	

Participation in Civic Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting	49	3	225	Much more	
Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	55	14	181	Much more	
Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Hopkinton	57	26	221	Much more	
Participated in a club or civic group in Hopkinton	42	21	190	Much more	
Provided help to a friend or neighbor	95	67	188	Similar	

Voter Behavior Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark						
Registered to vote	93	14	223	Much more		
Voted in last general election	85	31	224	Much more		

Use of Information Sources Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark				
Visited the Town of Hopkinton Web site	85	3	220	Much more

Local	Local Government Media Services and Information Dissemination Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for comparison benchmark							
Cable television	64	5	169	Much above			
Public information services	65	58	243	Much above			

Social Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank for comparison benchmark						
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	58	88	214	Similar		
Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities	67	88	176	Similar		

Contact with Immediate Neighbors Benchmarks					
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark					
Has contact with neighbors at least several times per week	49	102	208	Similar	

Public Trust Benchmarks						
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Value of services for the taxes paid to Hopkinton	52	169	344	Similar		
The overall direction that Hopkinton is taking	49	193	288	Below		
Job Hopkinton government does at welcoming citizen involvement	51	122	272	Similar		
Overall image or reputation of Hopkinton	77	38	299	Much above		

Services Provided by Local, State and Federal Governments Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Services provided by the Town of Hopkinton	68	118	362	Above	
Services provided by the Federal Government	42	106	224	Similar	
Services provided by the State Government	44	109	224	Similar	
Services provided by Middlesex County Government	46	137	188	Below	

Contact with Town Employees Benchmarks				
Hopkinton Number of jurisdictions Comparison to average rating Rank for comparison benchmark				
Had contact with Town employee(s) in last 12 months	64	28	258	Much more

Perceptions of Town Employees (Among Those Who Had Contact) Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to benchmark						
Knowledge	80	21	282	Much above		
Responsiveness	77	39	282	Much above		
Courteousness	81	26	240	Much above		
Overall impression	79	19	321	Much above		

JURISDICTIONS INCLUDED IN NATIONAL BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

Valdez, AK	3.976	Encinitas, CA	59.518
Auburn, AL		Fremont, CA	
Dothan, AL		Galt, CA	,
Gulf Shores, AL		Laguna Beach, CA	
Tuskegee, AL		Laguna Hills, CA	
Vestavia Hills, AL		Livermore, CA	
Fayetteville, AR		Lodi, CA	
Fort Smith, AR		Long Beach, CA	
Little Rock, AR		Marin County, CA	
Casa Grande, AZ		Menlo Park, CA	
Chandler, AZ		Mission Viejo, CA	
Cococino County, AZ		Monterey, CA	,
Dewey-Humboldt, AZ		Newport Beach, CA	
Flagstaff, AZ		Novato, CA	
Florence, AZ		Palm Springs, CA	
Fountain Hills, AZ		Palo Alto, CA	
Gilbert, AZ		Pasadena, CA	
Goodyear, AZ	,	Richmond, CA	
Green Valley, AZ		San Carlos, CA	
Kingman, AZ		San Diego, CA	,
Marana, AZ	•	San Francisco, CA	
Maricopa, AZ		San Jose, CA	,
Maricopa, 702		San Luis Obispo County, CA	
Mesa, AZ		San Mateo, CA	
Nogales, AZ		San Rafael, CA	,
Peoria, AZ		Santa Clarita, CA	
Phoenix, AZ		Santa Monica, CA	
Pinal County, AZ		Seaside, CA	
Prescott Valley, AZ		South Lake Tahoe, CA	
Queen Creek, AZ		Stockton, CA	
Sahuarita, AZ		Sunnyvale, CA	
Scottsdale, AZ		Temecula, CA	
Sedona, AZ		Thousand Oaks, CA	
Surprise, AZ		Visalia, CA	
Tempe, AZ		Walnut Creek, CA	
Yuma, AZ		Adams County, CO	,
Yuma County, AZ		Arapahoe County, CO	
Apple Valley, CA		Archuleta County, CO	
Benicia, CA		Arvada, CO	
Brea, CA		Aspen, CO	,
Brisbane, CA		Aurora, CO	
Burlingame, CA		Boulder, CO	
Citrus Heights, CA		Boulder County, CO	
Clovis, CA		Broomfield, CO	
Concord, CA		Castle Pines, CO	
Coronado, CA		Castle Rock, CO	
Cupertino, CA		Centennial, CO	
Davis, CA		Clear Creek County, CO	
Dublin, CA		Colorado Springs, CO	
El Cerrito, CA		Commerce City, CO	
Elk Grove, CA		Craig, CO	
LIK GIOVC, C/1		Ciaig, CO	

Crested Butte, CO	1,487	Cape Coral, FL	154,305
Denver, CO	600,158	Charlotte County, FL	159,978
Douglas County, CO	285,465	Clearwater, FL	107,685
Eagle County, CO	52,197	Collier County, FL	321,520
Edgewater, CO	5,170	Cooper City, FL	28,547
El Paso County, CO		Dade City, FL	
Englewood, CO	30,255	Dania Beach, FL	
Erie, CO		Daytona Beach, FL	
Estes Park, CO		Delray Beach, FL	
Fort Collins, CO		Destin, FL	
Frisco, CO		Escambia County, FL	
Fruita, CO	,	Gainesville, FL	
Georgetown, CO	,	Hillsborough County, FL	
Gilpin County, CO		Jupiter, FL	
Golden, CO		Lee County, FL	
Grand County, CO		Martin County, FL	
Greeley, CO		Miami Beach, FL	
Gunnison County, CO		North Palm Beach, FL	
Highlands Ranch, CO		Oakland Park, FL	
Hudson, CO		Ocala, FL	
Jackson County, CO	,	Oviedo, FL	,
Jefferson County, CO		Palm Bay, FL	,
Lafayette, CO		Palm Beach County, FL	
Lakewood, CO		Palm Coast, FL	, ,
Larimer County, CO		Panama City, FL	
Littleton, CO	,	Pasco County, FL	
Lone Tree, CO		Pinellas County, FL	
Longmont, CO		Port Orange, FL	
Louisville, CO		Port St. Lucie, FL	
Loveland, CO	,	Sanford, FL	
		•	,
Mesa County, CO		Sarasota County El	
Montrose, CO	,	Sarasota County, FL	
Northglenn, CO	,	St. Cloud, FL	,
Park County, CO		Titusville, FL	
Parker, CO		Winter Garden, FL	,
Pitkin County, CO	,	Albany, GA	,
Pueblo, CO	,	Alpharetta, GA	,
Rifle, CO	,	Cartersville, GA	
Salida, CO	,	Conyers, GA	
Summit County, CO		Decatur, GA	
Teller County, CO		McDonough, GA	
Thornton, CO		Peachtree City, GA	
Vail, CO		Roswell, GA	
Westminster, CO		Sandy Springs, GA	
Wheat Ridge, CO		Savannah, GA	
Windsor, CO		Smyrna, GA	
Coventry, CT		Snellville, GA	
Hartford, CT		Suwanee, GA	,
Windsor, CT		Valdosta, GA	
Dover, DE		Honolulu, HI	
Milford, DE		Altoona, IA	
Rehoboth Beach, DE		Ames, IA	
Brevard County, FL	543,376	Ankeny, IA	45,582

Bettendorf, IA	33,217	Garden City, KS	26,658
Cedar Falls, IA	39,260	Gardner, KS	19,123
Cedar Rapids, IA	126,326	Johnson County, KS	544,179
Clive, IA		Lawrence, KS	
Davenport, IA	,	Merriam, KS	•
Des Moines, IA		Mission, KS	•
Dubuque, IA		Olathe, KS	•
Indianola, IA		Roeland Park, KS	,
Muscatine, IA		Shawnee, KS	•
Urbandale, IA	,	Wichita, KS	•
West Des Moines, IA	·	Bowling Green, KY	
· ·	·	· ·	
Boise, ID		Paducah, KY	
Hailey, ID	,	New Orleans, LA	
Jerome, ID	,	Andover, MA	
Meridian, ID	,	Barnstable, MA	
Moscow, ID	·	Bedford, MA	•
Pocatello, ID	,	Burlington, MA	
Post Falls, ID	·	Cambridge, MA	105,162
Twin Falls, ID	44,125	Concord, MA	17,668
Batavia, IL	26,045	Holden, MA	17,346
Bloomington, IL	76,610	Needham, MA	28,886
Centralia, IL	13,032	Shrewsbury, MA	35,608
Collinsville, IL	25,579	Southborough, MA	
Crystal Lake, IL	,	Wrentham, MA	
DeKalb, IL		Annapolis, MD	•
Elmhurst, IL	,	Baltimore, MD	
Evanston, IL	,	Baltimore County, MD	
Freeport, IL	·	Dorchester County, MD	
Highland Park, IL		Gaithersburg, MD	
Lincolnwood, IL		La Plata, MD	
Lyons, IL		Montgomery County, MD	
•			
Naperville, IL		Prince George's County, MD	
Normal, IL	· ·	Rockville, MD	
Oak Park, IL	· ·	Takoma Park, MD	
O'Fallon, IL	•	Freeport, ME	
Orland Park, IL	· ·	Lewiston, ME	•
Palatine, IL	· ·	Saco, ME	•
Park Ridge, IL		Scarborough, ME	,
Peoria County, IL		South Portland, ME	
Riverside, IL		Ann Arbor, MI	,
Rockford Park District, IL	•	Battle Creek, MI	52,347
Sherman, IL	4,148	Bloomfield Hills, MI	3,869
Shorewood, IL	15,615	Delhi Township, MI	25,877
Skokie, IL	64,784	East Lansing, MI	48,579
Sugar Grove, IL	8,997	Escanaba, MI	12,616
Wilmington, IL		Farmington Hills, MI	79,740
Brownsburg, IN		Flushing, MI	
Fishers, IN	,	Gladstone, MI	,
Munster, IN		Holland, MI	•
Noblesville, IN		Howell, MI	
Arkansas City, KS		Hudsonville, MI	
Auburn, KS		Jackson County, MI	
		* *	
Fairway, KS	3,002	Kalamazoo, MI	

Kalamazoo County, MI	250,331	Jefferson City, MO	43,079
Meridian Charter Township, MI	39,688	Lee's Summit, MO	91,364
Midland, MI		Maryland Heights, MO	
Novi, Ml	,	Platte City, MO	
Oakland Township, MI		Raymore, MO	
Otsego County, MI		Richmond Heights, MO	
Petoskey, MI	,	Riverside, MO	
Port Huron, MI		Rolla, MO	
Rochester, MI		Wentzville, MO	
Royal Oak, MI		Billings, MT	
South Haven, MI		Bozeman, MT	
Sterling Heights, MI		Missoula, MT	,
Whitewater Township, MI		Asheville, NC	,
Albert Lea, MN		Cabarrus County, NC	
Beltrami County, MN		Cary, NC	
Blaine, MN		Chapel Hill, NC	
Bloomington, MN		Charlotte, NC	
Carver County, MN	,	Davidson, NC	
Chanhassen, MN		Durham, NC	
Coon Rapids, MN		High Point, NC	
Dakota County, MN		Hillsborough, NC	,
Duluth, MN		Huntersville, NC	
East Grand Forks, MN		Indian Trail, NC	
Eden Prairie, MN		Mecklenburg County, NC	
Edina, MN		Mooresville, NC	
Elk River, MN		Pinehurst, NC	
Fridley, MN	,	Stallings, NC	,
Hutchinson, MN		Wake Forest, NC	
Inver Grove Heights, MN		Weddington, NC	
Lakeville, MN			
Mankato, MN		Wilmington, NC Winston-Salem, NC	
Maple Grove, MN		Wahpeton, ND	
Mayer, MN	'	Grand Island, NE	
Minneapolis, MN		La Vista, NE	
New Brighton, MN		Lincoln, NE	,
Olmsted County, MN		Papillion, NE	
Plymouth, MN		Brookline, NH	
Savage, MN	,	Dover, NH	,
Scott County, MN		Lebanon, NH	
Shorewood, MN	,	Lyme, NH	
St. Cloud, MN		Summit, NJ	
St. Louis County, MN		Albuquerque, NM	
St. Louis Park, MN		Farmington, NM	
Washington County, MN		Las Cruces, NM	
Woodbury, MN		Los Alamos County, NM	
Blue Springs, MO		Rio Rancho, NM	
Branson, MO		San Juan County, NM	
Cape Girardeau, MO		Carson City, NV	
Clay County, MO		Henderson, NV	
Clayton, MO		North Las Vegas, NV	
Columbia, MO		Reno, NV	
Ellisville, MO		Sparks, NV	
Harrisonville, MO	10,019	Washoe County, NV	421,407

New York City, NY 8,175,133 Sioux Falls, SD. 153,88B Ordensburg, NY 11,128 Bristol, TN. 26,702 Blue Ash, OH. 12,114 Cookeville, TN. 30,435 Delaware, OH. 34,753 Germantown, TN. 38,844 Jublin, OH. 41,751 Johnson City, TN. 63,152 Hamilton, OH. 62,477 Morristown, TN. 29,137 Hudson, OH. 22,62 Nashville, TN. 601,222 Kettering, OH. 56,163 Sevierville, TN. 14,807 Orange Village, OH. 33,23 White House, TN. 10,255 Piqua, OH. 20,522 Arlington, TX. 365,438 Springboro, OH. 17,409 Austin, TX. 790,399 Sylvania Township, OH. 33,771 Benbrook, TX. 21,234 Westerville, OH. 36,120 Bryan, TX. 76,201 Broken Arrow, OK. 98,850 Burleson, TX. 36,690 Chemord, OK 81,612 Bryan, TX. 76,201 Stillwater, OK 45,688	Geneva, NY	13,261	Rapid City, SD	67,956
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Newport, RI				
Greer, SC				
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Rock Hill, SC				
	Rock Hill, SC	66,154	Salt Lake City, UT	186,440

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Sandy, UT	
Saratoga Springs, UT	
Springville, UT	
Washington City, UT	
Albemarle County, VA	
Arlington County, VA	
Ashland, VA	
Botetourt County, VA	
Charlottesville, VA	
Chesapeake, VA	
Chesterfield County, VA	
Fredericksburg, VA	
Hampton, VA	
Hanover County, VA	
Herndon, VA	23,292
James City County, VA	67,009
Lexington, VA	7,042
Lynchburg, VA	75,568
Montgomery County, VA	94,392
Newport News, VA	
Norfolk, VA	242,803
Prince William County, VA	402,002
Purcellville, VA	7,727
Radford, VA	
Reston, VA	
Roanoke, VA	
Spotsylvania County, VA	122,397
Virginia Beach, VA	437.994
Williamsburg, VA	
York County, VA	
Montpelier, VT	
Airway Heights, WA	
Auburn, WA	
Bellevue, WA	,
Clark County, WA	
Edmonds, WA	
Federal Way, WA	80 308
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Gig Harbor, WA	7,126
Hoquiam, WA	8,726
Kenmore, WA	20,460
Kirkland, WA	48,787
Lynnwood, WA	35,836
Maple Valley, WA	22,684
Mountlake Terrace, WA	19,909
Pasco, WA	59,781
Redmond, WA	54,144
Renton, WA	
Sammamish, WA	45,780
SeaTac, WA	
Shoreline, WA	53,007
Snoqualmie, WA	10,670
Spokane Valley, WA	89,755
Tacoma, WA	198,397
Tacoma Public Works, WA	198,397
Vancouver, WA	161,791
West Richland, WA	11,811
Woodland, WA	
Yakima, WA	91,067
Chippewa Falls, WI	13,661
Columbus, WI	4,991
De Pere, WI	23,800
Eau Claire, WI	65,883
Grafton, WI	11,459
Madison, WI	233,209
Merrill, WI	9,661
Oshkosh, WI	66,083
Racine, WI	78,860
River Falls, WI	15,000
Wauwatosa, WI	
Wind Point, WI	1,723
Casper, WY	
Cheyenne, WY	59,466
Gillette WY	29 087

NEW ENGLAND BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

	Overall Community Quality Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Overall quality of life in Hopkinton	78	3	17	Much above	
Your neighborhood as place to live	81	2	9	Much above	
Hopkinton as a place to live	83	2	13	Much above	
Recommend living in Hopkinton to someone who asks	94	3	7	Above	
Remain in Hopkinton for the next five years	89	2	7	Much above	

Community Transportation Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Ease of car travel in Hopkinton	49	7	9	Much below
Ease of bus travel in Hopkinton	22	7	7	Much below
Ease of bicycle travel in Hopkinton	37	7	9	Much below
Ease of walking in Hopkinton	45	8	9	Much below
Availability of paths and walking trails	55	5	7	Below
Traffic flow on major streets	30	7	7	Much below

Frequency of Bus Use Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Ridden a local bus within Hopkinton	6	8	8	Much less

Drive Alone Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Average percent of work commute trips made by driving alone	76	2	6	More

Transportation and Parking Services Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Street repair	45	9	15	Below
Street cleaning	55	5	9	Similar
Street lighting	49	9	11	Much below
Snow removal	67	4	13	Much above
Sidewalk maintenance	53	4	11	Above
Traffic signal timing	50	6	7	Below
Bus or transit services	31	7	8	Much below
Amount of public parking	37	8	9	Much below

Housing Characteristics Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark					
Availability of affordable quality	Availability of affordable quality				
housing	33	8	10	Below	
Variety of housing options	48	4	7	Similar	

Housing Costs Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Experiencing housing costs stress (housing costs 30% or MORE of				
income)	38	2	6	More

Built Environment Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison benchmark					
Quality of new development in					
Hopkinton	53	3	8	Similar	
Overall appearance of Hopkinton	68	4	13	Above	

Population Growth Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Rank Comparison benchmark				
Population growth seen as too fast	52	1	8	Much more

Nuisance Problems Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark					
Run down buildings, weed lots and junk vehicles seen as a					
"major" problem	5	6	8	Similar	

Planning and Community Code Enforcement Services Benchmarks						
Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison benchmark						
Land use, planning and zoning	46	8	10	Similar		
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	51	2	7	Above		
Animal control	60	8	11	Similar		

Economic Sustainability and Opportunities Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Employment opportunities	39	6	10	Similar
Shopping opportunities	31	8	9	Much below
Hopkinton as a place to work	63	5	12	Much above
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Hopkinton	47	6	6	Much below

Economic Development Services Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Number of jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Economic development	45	8	12	Below

Job and Retail Growth Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Rank Comparison benchmark				
Retail growth seen as too slow	49	3	8	Much more
Jobs growth seen as too slow	65	6	8	Much less

Personal Economic Future Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Positive impact of economy on household income	24	1	8	Much above

Community and Personal Public Safety Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
In your neighborhood during the day	96	2	9	Above	
In your neighborhood after dark	88	2	9	Much above	
In Hopkinton's downtown area during the day	98	1	9	Much above	
In Hopkinton's downtown area after dark	89	2	9	Much above	
Violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery)	91	2	9	Much above	
Property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft)	75	4	10	Above	
Environmental hazards, including toxic waste	84	2	6	Similar	

Crime Victimization and Reporting Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average Jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark					
Victim of crime	5	8	8	Similar	
Reported crimes	97	1	8	Much more	

Public Safety Services Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Police services	82	3	18	Much above	
Fire services	87	2	16	Much above	
Ambulance or emergency medical services	88	2	14	Much above	
Crime prevention	77	3	11	Much above	
Fire prevention and education	78	2	11	Above	
Traffic enforcement	64	2	11	Above	
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other					
emergency situations)	68	1	6	Much above	

Contact with Police and Fire Departments Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Had contact with the Town of Hopkinton Police Department	45	Not available	Not available	Not available	
Overall impression of most recent contact with the Town of Hopkinton Police Department	78	Not available	Not available	Not available	
Had contact with the Town of Hopkinton Fire Department	27	Not available	Not available	Not available	
Overall impression of most recent contact with the Town of Hopkinton Fire Department	90	Not available	Not available	Not available	

Community Environment Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average jur		Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Cleanliness of Hopkinton	74	2	7	Above	
Quality of overall natural environment in Hopkinton	77	1	6	Much above	
Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts	62	3	7	Similar	
Air quality	74	2	9	Much above	

Frequency of Recycling Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison				Comparison to benchmark
Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home 92 4 8 More				

Utility Services Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	67	Not available	Not available	Not available	
Sewer services	69	3	8	Above	
Drinking water	70	5	10	Above	
Storm drainage	61	3	8	Much above	
Recycling	74	3	9	Above	
Garbage collection	75	3	8	Much above	

Community Recreational Opportunities Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Rank Comparison benchmark				
Recreation opportunities	61	4	9	Similar

Participation in Parks and Recreation Opportunities Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison			Comparison to benchmark	
Used Hopkinton recreation centers	59	2	6	Much more	
Participated in a recreation program or activity	57	3	8	Much more	
Visited a neighborhood park or Town park	88	1	8	Much more	

Parks and Recreation Services Benchmarks							
Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison benchmark							
Town parks	75	4	9	Much above			
Recreation programs or classes	68	6	10	Similar			
Recreation centers or facilities	59						

Cultural and Educational Opportunities Benchmarks					
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark					
Opportunities to attend cultural	42	10	10	March halarr	
activities	43	10	10	Much below	
Educational opportunities	68	3	8	Much above	

Participation in Cultural and Educational Opportunities Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average Jurisdictions for Comparison rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Used Hopkinton public libraries				
or their services	71	5	8	Less

Cultural and Educational Services Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Public schools	80	2	12	Much above
Public library services	67	14	15	Much below

Community Health and Wellness Access and Opportunities Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison benchmark				
Availability of affordable quality health care	47	6	9	Much below	
Availability of affordable quality food	53	5	8	Below	
Availability of preventive health services	48	5	5	Much below	

Health and Wellness Services Benchmarks						
Number of Hopkinton average jurisdictions for Comparison to rating Rank comparison benchmark						
Health services	57	6	9	Below		

Community Quality and Inclusiveness Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Sense of community	69	3	10	Much above
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	58	6	7	Below
Availability of affordable quality child care	49	3	9	Above
Hopkinton as a place to raise kids	87	2	14	Much above
Hopkinton as a place to retire	43	14	14	Much below

Services Provided for Population Subgroups Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Services to seniors	70	3	11	Much above
Services to youth	57	7	10	Below
Services to low income people	47	6	8	Much below

Civic Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating Rank Comparison benchmark				
Opportunities to participate in					
community matters	67	4	6	Similar	
Opportunities to volunteer	70	5	6	Similar	

Participation in Civic Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting	49	1	8	Much more
Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	55	2	8	Much more
Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Hopkinton	57	2	8	Much more
Participated in a club or civic group in Hopkinton	42	1	6	Much more
Provided help to a friend or neighbor	95	3	5	Similar

Voter Behavior Benchmarks				
	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark		
Registered to vote	93	2	8	Much more
Voted in last general election	85	2	8	Much more

Use of Information Sources Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank		Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark	
Visited the Town of Hopkinton Web site	85	1	6	Much more

Local Government Media Services and Information Dissemination Benchmarks				
Hopkinton average rating Rank			Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Cable television	64	2	9	Much above
Public information services	65	3	9	Above

Social Engagement Opportunities Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	58	5	7	Similar
Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities	67	6	6	Below

Contact with Immediate Neighbors Benchmarks				
				Comparison to benchmark
Has contact with neighbors at least		_		C: 1
several times per week	49	4	6	Similar

Public Trust Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Value of services for the taxes paid to Hopkinton	52	8	16	Similar
The overall direction that Hopkinton is taking	49	6	8	Below
Job Hopkinton government does at welcoming citizen involvement	51	4	8	Similar
Overall image or reputation of Hopkinton	77	2	9	Much above

Services Provided by Local, State and Federal Governments Benchmarks				
	Hopkinton average rating	Rank	Number of jurisdictions for comparison	Comparison to benchmark
Services provided by the Town of Hopkinton	68	4	10	Above
Services provided by the Federal Government	42	5	8	Similar
Services provided by the State Government	44	6	8	Similar
Services provided by Middlesex County Government	46	5	5	Much below

Contact with Town Employees Benchmarks				
				Comparison to benchmark
Had contact with Town employee(s) in last 12 months	64	6	9	Less

Perceptions of Town Employees (Among Those Who Had Contact) Benchmarks					
	Hopkinton average rating Rank comparison benchmark				
Knowledge	80	1	10	Above	
Responsiveness	77	2	10	Above	
Courteousness	81	1	9	Much above	
Overall impression	79	1	12	Much above	

JURISDICTIONS INCLUDED IN NEW ENGLAND BENCHMARK COMPARISONS

Coventry, CT	2,990
Hartford, CT	124,775
Windsor, CT	29,044
Andover, MA	8,762
Barnstable, MA	45,193
Bedford, MA	13,320
Cambridge, MA	105,162
Concord, MA	
Holden, MA	17,346
Needham, MA	
Southborough, MA	9,767
Wrentham, MA	
Freeport, ME	1,485
Lewiston, ME	
Saco, ME	
Scarborough, ME	
South Portland, ME	25,002
Brookline, NH	4,991
Dover, NH	
Hooksett, NH	
Lebanon, NH	
East Providence, RI	47,037
Newport, RI	
Montpelier, VT	
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