

43. Bolingbrook, IL



WINNER

Top 100 rank: 43

Population: 71,000

54. Naperville, IL

56. Mount Prospect, IL

59. Arlington Heights, IL

Even with a diverse population of more than 70,000 people, Bolingbrook refers to itself as a village. This Chicago suburb doesn't take itself too seriously, and that's reflected in the many recreational opportunities it bestows on its residents.

From a fishing lake on the grounds of the Town Center Complex to a "Theater on a Hill" repertoire that puts on three stage performances a year, there's something for everyone.

Major retailers such as IKEA and Macy's have moved in; Bolingbrook's largest employer is Quantum Foods, a global food distribution company. Still, most residents must commute to Chicago to find work. --J.S.

Bolingbrook stats

Finance	City stats	Best places avg
Median family income (per year)	\$96,792	\$90,957
Family purchasing power (annual, cost of living adjusted)	\$105,784	\$86,860

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Financial	City stats	Best places avg
State sales tax	6.25%	5.45%
State income tax rate (highest bracket)	N.A.	7.35%
State income tax rate (lowest bracket)	3.00%	2.96%
Auto insurance premiums (Average price quotes, for the state)	\$1,441	\$1,707
Job growth % (2000-2009) *	21.25%	15.71%

[See jobs near Bolingbrook](#)

Housing

Median home price	\$155,000	\$239,391
Average property taxes (2008)	\$6,912	\$3,418

[See Bolingbrook homes for sale](#)

Education

Colleges, universities and professional schools (within 30 miles)	52	25
Test scores reading (% above/below state average)	11.4%	22.9%

Financial	City stats	Best places avg
Test scores math (% above/below average)	12.9%	22.9%
% students attending public/private schools (located within town limits)	97.1/2.9	87.8/12.2

Quality of life

Air quality index* (% of days AQI ranked as good)	94.0%	77.8%
Personal crime incidents (per 1,000)	1.3	2
Property crime incidents (per 1,000)	23.0	24
Median commute time (in minutes)	29.4	21.4

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Financial	City stats	Best places avg
% population with commute 45 mins or longer	27.0%	13.6%
% population walk or bike to work	1.6%	3.6%
Leisure and culture		
Movie theaters (within 15 miles)	29	31
Restaurants (within 15 miles)	4,068	2,967
Bars (within 15 miles)	321	207
Public golf courses (within 30 miles)	315	162
Libraries (within 15 miles)	88	72
Museums (accredited by AAM within 30 miles)	15	10
Ski resorts (within 100 miles)	13	12
Arts funding (Dollars per person of state funds spent on arts)	0.7	1.5
Weather		

Financial	City stats	Best places avg
Annual rainfall (inches)	37.55	37.40
% clear days in the area	23	29
High temp in July * F	84.5 °	86.2 °
Low temp in Jan * F	13.8 °	21.3 °
Meet the neighbors		
Median age	29.8	35.3
Completed at least some college % of residents	66.0%	71.5%
Married %	59.9%	56.6%

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Financial	City stats	Best places avg
Divorced %	7.5%	8.4%
Racial diversity index (100 is national average, higher numbers indicate greater diversity)	216.7	94.9

From the August 2010 issue

Notes: *County data

(3) Crime incidences are estimates based on FBI 2008 Universal Crime and incidence reports, OnBoard analysis.

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