

Flower Mound Ranked 5th in the “Best Places to Raise Your Family/Top 100 Affordable Communities in the US” as published by Frommer’s

We are proud to announce that the Town of Flower Mound ranked fifth in the recently released first edition of *Best Places to Raise Your Family: The Top 100 Affordable Communities*, a Frommer’s publication.

Communities were ranked in five different categories: People, Standard of Living, Education, Lifestyle, and Health and Safety. The rankings also included property values, average incomes, school systems, commute times, crime risk, leisure activities and more. The list is further refined into the top 10 areas in each category.

Flower Mound was judged “Best of the Best” for “Standard of Living” as well as “Education”. The “Standard of Living” category was determined by comparing incomes, home prices and other costs, including childcare and taxes. Additionally, facts regarding job security, local businesses and future employment potential were analyzed. The “Education” category evaluated school test results and educational standards based on such criteria as the number of adults with college degrees and the amount of money spent per student.

Rankings in the demographic analysis identified Flower Mound as the **fourth** fastest growing community in the nation with a 94.0 percent growth rate (as compared to the national average of 14.9 percent) for the 15-year period from 1990 to 2004. Flower Mound also maintained **fourth** place for population growth for the most recent five-year period of 2000-2004 with a 22.5% growth rate. Additionally, “Cost of Living” compared to income levels in an area, also known as Buying Power Index (BPI), ranked Flower Mound as the **fourth** Best BPI in the nation.

Regarding future growth projections, Flower Mound was ranked **eighth** in the nation for future job growth for the next five years (2006 to 2010). These projections were derived from long-term economic growth trends in the area and other economic factors. Flower Mound is described as one of the newer “powerhouse” suburbs because of its attractive location, excellent workforce and strong economic development efforts. Flower Mound also ranked **fifth** in the nation for the “Highest Level of Educational Attainment” with 39 percent of our workforce obtaining “4-Year College Degrees” – further exemplifying the town is positioned for continued positive business growth for the next five years.

The Authors also provided “Author’s Choice Awards” to various cities within the top 100, and Flower Mound is listed in the top ten for the following Author’s Choice categories: Best in Class Schools, Best for Water Sports, Best for Professional Sports Lovers and Best Power ‘Burbs.