

COVID-19 Hot Spots Include Some of the Highest Housing Cost Markets in the Country

As per the Brookings Institute, [America's inequitable housing system is completely unprepared for coronavirus](#). This is especially true for rent-burdened low-income people in the most expensive of the 30 metropolitan¹ areas with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases.

The COVID-19 Hot Spots with median gross rents that are more expensive than the US median gross rent (\$1,058) are as follows:

MSA	Median Gross Rent	% of Renters who are Rent Burdened ²
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA	\$1,944	45.5%
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	\$1,670	47.5%
San Diego-Carlsbad, CA	\$1,668	57.8%
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	\$1,565	56.9%
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	\$1,501	49.6%
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	\$1,434	52.2%
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO	\$1,388	51.4%
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL	\$1,360	62.7%
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	\$1,321	59.2%
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD	\$1,265	49.9%
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL	\$1,217	55.8%
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA	\$1,169	50.0%
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	\$1,152	47.2%
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	\$1,134	51.0%
Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, NV	\$1,130	53.2%
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	\$1,128	53.0%
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	\$1,117	46.9%
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	\$1,110	47.7%
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	\$1,094	49.3%
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	\$1,090	46.1%
Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro--Franklin, TN	\$1,081	47.1%

Source: US Census, 2018 1-year ACS

¹As of 1/22/21, the 30 MSAs with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases are: 1. New York City, 2. Los Angeles, 3. Chicago, 4. Dallas, 5. Miami, 6. Riverside, 7. Phoenix, 8. Houston, 9. Atlanta, 10. Philadelphia, 11. DC, 12. Boston, 13. Twin Cities, 14. Detroit, 15. St. Louis, 16. San Diego, 17. Nashville, 18. Las Vegas, 19. Denver, 20. San Francisco, 21. Charlotte, 22. Tampa, 23. San Antonio, 24. Indianapolis, 25. Orlando, 26. Cincinnati, 27. Milwaukee, 28. Columbus, 29. Kansas City, 30. Baltimore; per

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html>.

² Rent burdened is defined as a rental household that is paying more than 30% monthly household income in rent