

NEWS

Here are the most malware-ridden cities in America

Residents of Little Rock apparently haven't heard of virus scanners.



By [Jared Newman](#)

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Anti-virus firm Enigma Software has released a list of cities to avoid if you don't want your PC to catch malware.

Just kidding. There's obviously no correlation between where you live and your risk of a computer infection. Still, some U.S. cities do appear to be far more malware-ridden than others in terms of infections per capita, according to [Enigma's analysis](#) of more than 25 million infections across 150 cities.

Little Rock Arkansas, for instance, saw infection rates that were a whopping *14 times* the national average. Tampa, Florida came in second with more than eight times the national infection rate, followed by St. Louis with nearly seven times the national average.

[[Further reading: How to remove malware from your Windows PC](#)]

Unfortunately, Enigma is at a total loss for why some cities have higher infection rates than others. “I wish there was an easy way to determine what makes people in one area more susceptible to malware infections,” Patrick Morganelli, Enigma’s vice president of technology, said in a statement. “But there are so many different ways that infections can end up on computers that it’s tough to make any generalizations about why certain folks in certain cities seem to have more than others.”

Why this matters: Don’t read into this list too much, as it’s entirely possible that any given city’s ranking is more random than anything else. Little Rock, after all, ranked 10th place in 2014, but jumped to first place last year. Still, if you know anyone in any of the following cities, feel free to dole out a bit of shame, and pray your hometown doesn’t land on the list next year.

The most malware-ridden cities in America

1. Little Rock: 1,412% above national average
2. Tampa: 842% above national average
3. St. Louis: 692% above national average
4. Orlando: 685% above national average
5. Denver: 612% above national average
6. Atlanta: 576% above national average
7. Newark: 449% above national average
8. Salt Lake City: 421% above national average
9. Madison: 370% above national average
10. Cleveland: 349% above national average
11. Cincinnati: 331% above national average
12. Washington, D.C.: 329% above national average
13. Miami: 228% above national average
14. Irvine, CA: 211% above national average
15. Raleigh: 207% above national average
16. Minneapolis: 198% above national average
17. Pittsburgh: 188% above national average
18. Buffalo: 182% above national average

19. Richmond, VA: 170% above national average

20. Boise: 170% above national average

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