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From PRENTICE HALL : PLACES RATED ALMANAC (FROMMMER'S SINGLE TITLE TRAVEL GUIDES) by RICHARD BOYER' 'DAVID SAVAGEAU (1993-05-03) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised PLACES RATED ALMANAC (FROMMMER'S SINGLE TITLE TRAVEL GUIDES) by RICHARD BOYER' 'DAVID SAVAGEAU (1993-05-03):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Pre-Crash publication makes this of limited valueBy Robert PrinceI purchased this book, and not for the first time, when my wife and I set off in January 2010 in an RV, looking for a new place to call home. The almanac's concept is a good one: It breaks down all that make one city more "livable" than another, such as climate, housing costs, transportation, crime, and so on, then determines criteria in which to evaluate the different metropolitan areas around the United States. In some areas, the statistics are fairly cut and dried, in others, there's plenty of room for interpretation.If not for the crash of December 2007, this almanac would still be very valuable. But the changes have been so great in the last few years that the almanac is rendered useless in some areas. In the areas of climate, crime, health care, education and transportation, it is still pretty accurate. But the information that may matter most to you (it does to us!) about the outlook for job prospects and housing costs, have become nearly useless. For instance, the first statistic under housing is the increase in average home values

between 1st quarter 2000 and 4th quarter 2006. You can imagine how useless this information is, since in the last five years, some areas have suffered a drastic loss in home values. If you are looking to relocate, I would still purchase this guide while keeping in mind the areas in which this guide is still relevant, and which areas it isn't. And consider other resources- some magazines will do a "Best Places to Live" article from time to time.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. leaves out important details like pollution inversion in mountainous regions in the west and propensity for wildfires in WesternBy puppy9I sm very well traveled and this book got good reviews but it leaves out important things like pollution and inversion for western mountain states and certain Western mountainous regions having a propensity for wildfires1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Assortment, but wish a newer version would come out SOON.By BookladyIf you are looking for a tool to teach you how to do the necessary research to find a good group of cities, then this is a good book for you. I just wish the data was a bit more up to date-- they don't publish these books as often as they need to-- especially since the "real estate boom bust" in U. S. real estate. I would recommend, but with the cautions mentioned above. The data is very detailed and put into logical categories and the format is easy to understand. As I said, the book needs updating, but the research is always solid by this author.