

HOUSTON BUSINESS INSIDER

The Metro Region's Official Economic Development Guide
2022

Up-To-Date
Data on the
Economy,
Workforce,
Demographics
and More

PLUS
Houston's
Dramatic
Evolution
to Global
Tech Hub



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EMPLOYEE EXPERIENCES

"I work in Downtown Houston, and I have been a METRO rider for more than 18 years. I started riding METRO within a year after moving to Houston and experiencing the daunting rush hour traffic and excessive amount of time it took to get into and out of Downtown. **Riding METRO allows me the opportunity to read, relax, and nap** if needed while someone else does the driving. The buses are clean, comfortable, reliable and it is a tremendous savings because **my company supplements 100% of the cost.**"
-Weldon G.

"I ride the METRORail each day to work in the Texas Medical Center. I park my car a few miles away and then take the METRORail to work because it's easy and convenient. **I do not have to deal with the hassle of traffic or finding a parking space.** I appreciate the METRO services!" **-Gilan K.**

METRO'S EMERGENCY / GUARANTEED RIDE HOME

METRO offers its riders two programs, which provide a way home in the event of an emergency or if no METRO service is available. Both programs are **FREE** to registered riders and designed to get them home safely. Join METRO's RideSponsor Program today!



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*Niche.com



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InterAmerica
Title Group

WILDCAT | PPE

Houston Spaceport
Axiom Space plans to
develop its Axiom Station,
the world's first private
space station.



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HOUSTON: TRULY GLOBAL

We hail from every part of the country and every corner of the world. We embrace a dynamic array of cultures, cuisines and customs, weaving them into Houston's social fabric and global outlook.

It's this global convergence of people, industries and perspectives that gives Houston our competitive edge. Over the last two decades, there has been a remarkable transformation in Houston. Today, the nation's fourth-largest city has become a sophisticated, modern global metro filled with talented people who have an undeniable spirit. While our shared roots are proudly planted in Texas, Houston's reach and influence is truly global.

There's a reason Houston is called the city of the future. In 2050, all of America is projected to look like Houston today — ethnically, racially and globally diverse. One in four of the region's 7.2 million residents is foreign born. Over the last decade, metro Houston added 1.2 million new residents, a 17% increase, one of the fastest rates of population growth among the nation's largest metros.

In Houston, solving the problems that matter the most is what we do each and every day. From groundbreaking cancer treatments and medical breakthroughs to leading the energy transition and lowering the world's carbon footprint — in Houston, we're not afraid to roll up our sleeves to get the job done.

Houston offers a well-developed suite of key global industries

– energy, life sciences, manufacturing, logistics and aerospace. As these industries digitize, Houston is becoming a hotbed of rapid technological development thanks to our access to customers and expertise.

A thriving global city, Houston's ties stretch to all corners of the world. The region's geographic location makes it easy to move both goods and people and offers the most convenient access to Latin America of any major U.S. city. With one of the largest ports in the country and two international airports, Houston connects companies to the world.

We are unabashedly pro-growth and opportunity-rich, with a distinctly business-friendly environment at both the state and local level. Costs of doing business are significantly lower than in other major metropolitan areas, and the State of Texas has one of the lowest tax burdens in the nation.

Houstonians enjoy the rich cultural amenities, unparalleled cuisine and lush green spaces of a sophisticated global city, but at a cost of living well below the national average.

This exceptional quality of life coupled with professional opportunity attracts top tier talent from around the world; and our strong educational systems with nationally ranked universities, graduate schools, and community colleges produce a workforce that is second to none.

In Houston, we do more than connect you to the world...We bring the world to you.

**FASTEST RATE OF
POPULATION GROWTH AMONG
THE 10 MOST POPULOUS U.S.
METROS FROM '10 TO '20.**

City Population Growth 2010-2020

(Rank by % Change)



The James Turrell Skyspace
 Located on Rice University's campus, the permanent installation is one of many public art spaces in Houston.



Partnership Tower
The view from the rooftop of the downtown tower that houses the Greater Houston Partnership, Visit Houston and others

REGIONAL ECONOMY

DYNAMIC ECONOMY FOR CONTINUED GROWTH

With a regional gross domestic product (GDP) of \$512.2 billion, Houston is the nation's seventh-largest metro economy and has grown by more than \$100 billion (inflation-adjusted) over the past decade. If the MSA were an independent nation, it would rank as the world's 27th-largest economy.

Over the past decade, the Houston region has demonstrated remarkable growth and resilience.

- 1.2 million new residents
- 500,000+ jobs created
- \$100 billion increase in GDP

The Perryman Group notes that by the end of the next decade, the region's:

- population will hit **8.4 million**
- payroll employment will reach **4.0 million**
- GDP will top **\$1.0 trillion**

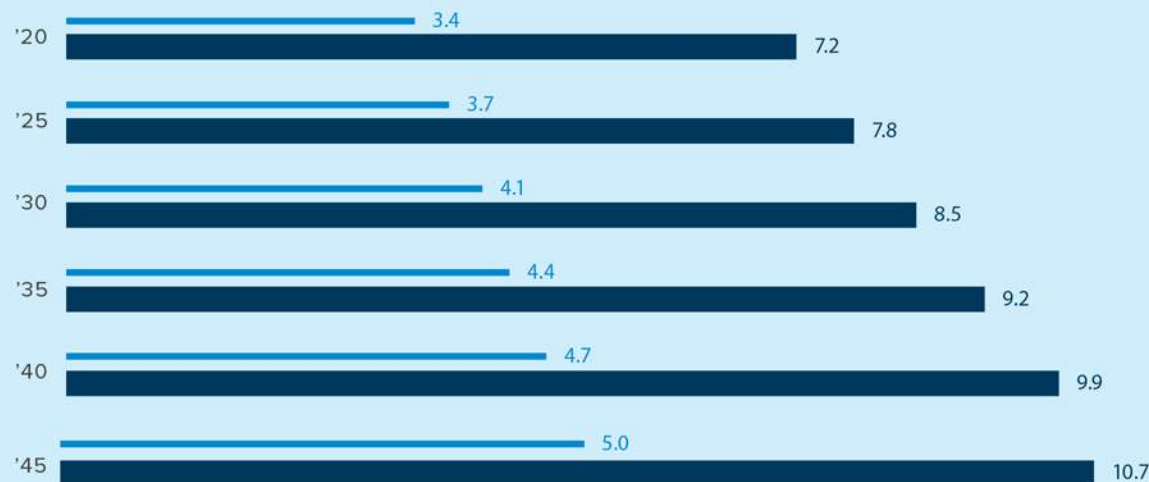
2019 Gross Domestic Product

| Metro Area | \$ in Billions |
|------------------|----------------|
| New York | 1,800 |
| Los Angeles | 1,000 |
| Chicago | 689 |
| San Francisco | 549 |
| Washington, D.C. | 541 |
| Dallas | 513 |
| HOUSTON | 479 |
| Boston | 464 |
| Philadelphia | 444 |
| Atlanta | 397 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Population and Employment Forecast

Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA (Millions) ■ Population □ Employment



Source: 2018 Perryman Economic Forecast, released November 2018

Houston's Top Employers

More Than 20,000 Employees

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| H-E-B | UT MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| Houston Methodist | Walmart |
| Memorial Hermann Health System | |

10,000 to 19,999 Employees

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ExxonMobil | Schlumberger | United Airlines |
| HCA Houston Healthcare | Shell Oil Co. | UT Health Science Center |
| Kroger | Texas Children's Hospital | Wood Group |
| Landry's | | |

5,000 to 9,999 Employees

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AT&T | Dow Chemical Co. | Lone Star College | Target Corp. |
| Baker Hughes, a GE Company | Harris Health System | Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center | Texas A&M |
| Baylor College of Medicine | Home Depot | National Oilwell Varco | University of Houston |
| BP America | Houston Community College | Occidental Petroleum | UT Medical Branch Health System |
| Chevron | JPMorgan Chase | S&B Engineers and Constructors | Walgreens |
| CHI St. Luke's Health | KBR | | |

2,000 to 4,999 Employees

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Academy Sports & Outdoors | ConocoPhillips | HP Inc. | Rice University |
| Air Liquide USA | CVS Health | Jacobs | Sam Houston State University |
| American National Insurance Co | Daikin/Goodman | KBR | Sam's Club |
| Apache | Deloitte | Kelsey-Seybold Clinic | San Jacinto Community College |
| Ascend Performance Materials | Enterprise Products Partners | Kinder Morgan | Sysco Corp. |
| Bank of America | Fiesta Mart | Lewis Food Town Inc. | TechnipFMC |
| Bechtel Corporation | Fluor Corp. | Lowe's Cos. | Texas Home Health |
| Ben Taub Hospital | The Friedkin Group, Inc. | Luby's* | Turner Industries |
| Brinker International | Goodwill Industries of Houston | LyondellBasell | Universal Plant Services |
| Cameron, a Schlumberger Company | Grocers Supply Company | Macy's | Wells Fargo |
| CenterPoint Energy | Group 1 Automotive | Marathon Oil Corp. | |
| Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. | Halliburton | NASA - Johnson Space Center | |
| Comcast | Hewlett Packard Enterprise | Phillips 66 | |

Note: This list reflects 2019 and does not account for increased employment or layoffs due to the coronavirus. The list excludes government employers (except hospitals, universities and research centers) and fast food chains. *Luby's local employment numbers for 2019. The company liquidated in August 2020. Source: Greater Houston Partnership Research, 2020

THE REGION



Johnson Space Center
NASA's educational
facility is the area's
number-one attraction for
international visitors.

A DYNAMIC REGION

The Greater Houston region is one of the most dynamic in the country, featuring a variety of distinct and diverse communities to establish your business and call home. From the bustling urban core to master-planned suburban neighborhoods, Houston offers something for everyone.

The Greater Houston Partnership is proud to represent the following 12 counties:

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| AUSTIN | GALVESTON | SAN JACINTO |
| BRAZORIA | HARRIS | WALKER |
| CHAMBERS | LIBERTY | WALLER |
| FORT BEND | MONTGOMERY | WHARTON |



Population Growth

| | |
|--|---|
| AUSTIN 2010 28,417 2020 29,972 | HARRIS 2010 4,092,459 2020 4,738,253 |
| BRAZORIA 2010 313,166 2020 380,518 | LIBERTY 2010 75,643 2020 91,547 |
| CHAMBERS 2010 35,096 2020 45,590 | MONTGOMERY 2010 455,746 2020 626,351 |
| FORT BEND 2010 585,375 2020 839,706 | WALLER 2010 43,205 2020 57,452 |
| GALVESTON 2010 291,309 2020 345,089 | WALKER 2010 68,243 2020 76,400 |
| WHARTON 2010 43,277 2020 41,570 | |

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- FOREIGN TRADE ZONE
- JOB TRAINING ASSISTANCE
- INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE
- PRO BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
- **WE ARE READY TO HELP YOU!!**

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SW International Gateway Business Park
El Campo, TX



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- Tax Incentives**
- Shovel-Ready Land**
- Skilled, Quality Workforce**
- Location Services**
- Two Week Plan Review**



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979-320-7727





University of Houston
The UH marching band plays before a home game at TDECU Stadium in the Third Ward.

YOUNG & DIVERSE TALENT

Talent

The Houston metro area is the most racially and ethnically diverse region in the United States, and the fifth most populous with 7.1 million people. The region offers a large and highly-skilled labor force of more than 3 million workers, larger than that of 35 states.

Houston is home to 1.1 million millennials (adults between the ages of 24 and 35). The number of young adults in that age group has grown 25% in the last decade. Houston's millennial population continues to grow; the city is among the top 10 in the U.S. for attracting millennials and retaining college graduates.

Universities & Colleges

The Houston region has more than 40 two-year community colleges and four-year universities, including three Tier 1 Universities: Rice University, University of Houston and nearby Texas A&M University in College Station. Houston-area colleges and universities educate more than 417,000 students and graduate nearly 100,000 students annually.

The region also has 50 trade, vocational and business schools specializing in law, health care, welding, process technology and various other disciplines that enroll an additional 20,000 students, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

300,000+ educated millennials

52,000 engineers

243,000+ tech professionals

700,000+ corporate professionals

Pasadena

A PLACE WITH GROWING ENERGY



Second-Largest City
in Greater Houston Metro Area

Largest petrochemical complex
in the U.S.

No. 1 U.S. port in foreign
waterborne tonnage, Port Houston

Industry giants like BP, Boeing
and Nestle Water

Easy access to 2 International
Airports and Houston Spaceport

Top 5 Community College - San
Jacinto College. Home to University
of Houston - Clear Lake and Texas
Chiropractic College



Meta-Four Poetry
The city's premier youth poetry slam team represents the city at national competitions.

AMERICA'S MOST DIVERSE CITY

Houston's international roots run deeper than our regional economy. In fact, the New York Times and Los Angeles Times have declared Houston "America's Most Diverse City." Houston has no ethnic majority and welcomes people from around the world. In terms of racial and ethnic composition, the Houston of today resembles what America will look like in 40 years.

The Houston metro area is home to an estimated 1.6 million – or one in four – foreign-born residents. These residents accounted for roughly one-third of the area's population growth over the last

decade. Without them, the region's GDP would be lower by 29%. More than 145 languages are spoken across Houston, and four in 10 Houstonians speak a language other than English at home.

Houstonians have a sense of shared community, commitment and mutual respect that many American cities are searching for today. People of all faiths, cultures, backgrounds and members of the LGBTQ+ community find Houston to be an inclusive and welcoming city. Houston hosts several cultural festivals and parades, including Pride Houston, Japan Festival Houston and the Greek Festival.



City Hall
The building lights up during Pride month.

Race/Ethnicity: Houston Now (2020) and the U.S. in 2060

Houston MSA, 2020



U.S.A., 2060



Hispanic/Latino
 White
 Black/African American
 Asian
 Other

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



REFINED FOR BUSINESS



Just 20 minutes southwest of downtown Houston, Sugar Land, Texas is a pro-business city in a pro-business state.

Global companies like Applied Optoelectronics, Texas Instruments, United Healthcare, Fluor Corporation, ABM, and ChampionX tap into our region's fast-growing, highly educated, and diverse talent pool.

And life is sweet in Sugar Land with first-class schools, master-planned communities, shopping, dining and recreational activities all in one of the safest cities in America.

TEXAS
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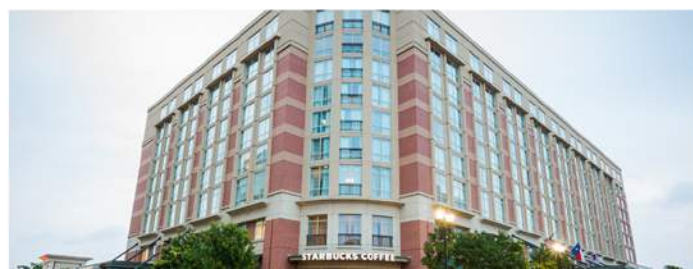
Elizabeth Huff


Director of Economic Development

City of Sugar Land

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George Bush Intercontinental
IAH serves tens of millions of
passengers annually, providing
global access to goods and people.

GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

Houston is a great global city, with ties reaching around the world. The region's geographic location provides easy access for both goods and people. From the Port of Houston and the Houston Airport System to a host of multi-national entities doing business around the clock, Houston is where you want to be to connect your business to the world.

Global Trade

Houston's economy is deeply tied to global trade and foreign

investment. The region has trading relationships with more than 200 countries and territories. The Houston-Galveston Customs District recorded trade valued at \$194 billion in 2020.

- Top 20 trade partners represented 72% of Houston Galveston Customs District traffic in 2020
- 32 countries logged more than \$1 billion in trade through the customs district in 2020
- Houston has the largest export market in the U.S.

Direct flights to **174 destinations** around the globe and official government representation from **90+ nations, the third largest in the U.S.**

More than **150 Houston-based companies** with more than 3,000 subsidiaries in **113 foreign nations**

More than **1,700 Houston companies report foreign ownership**

16 foreign banks, representing nine nations

5,000+ Houston-area firms, foreign government offices and nonprofit organizations involved in **international business**

15 foreign trade and commercial offices and more than **35 foreign chambers of commerce and trade associations**

18 sister-city relationships promoting business opportunities across five continents

2020 Top Trade Partners (in billions)

| | |
|--|---|
|  CHINA 19.3 |  GERMANY 9.5 |
|  MEXICO 14.5 |  INDIA 8.0 |
|  BRAZIL 12 |  JAPAN 7.7 |
|  REPUBLIC OF KOREA 9.5 |  UNITED KINGDOM 7.6 |
|  NETHERLANDS 9.5 |  ITALY 5.7 |

Source: WISERTrade from US Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division. Retrieved May 2021



Select International Companies with a Presence in Houston



A
CLOSER
LOOK

HOUSTON AMONG TOP 20 GLOBAL CITIES OF THE FUTURE

Houston ranks among the top Global Cities of the Future, inching its way up four spots on the latest report from the group fDi Intelligence.

Houston came in at No. 19 on 2021/22 fDi list, which ranks major global cities based on foreign direct investment. That's up from No. 24 when the ranking was published in 2018/19. Houston was only one of two U.S. cities among the top 20 on the latest list, with New York ranking seventh.

In 2020, Houston ranked No. 3 on fDi's Tier 2 list of non-capital cities with populations under eight million.

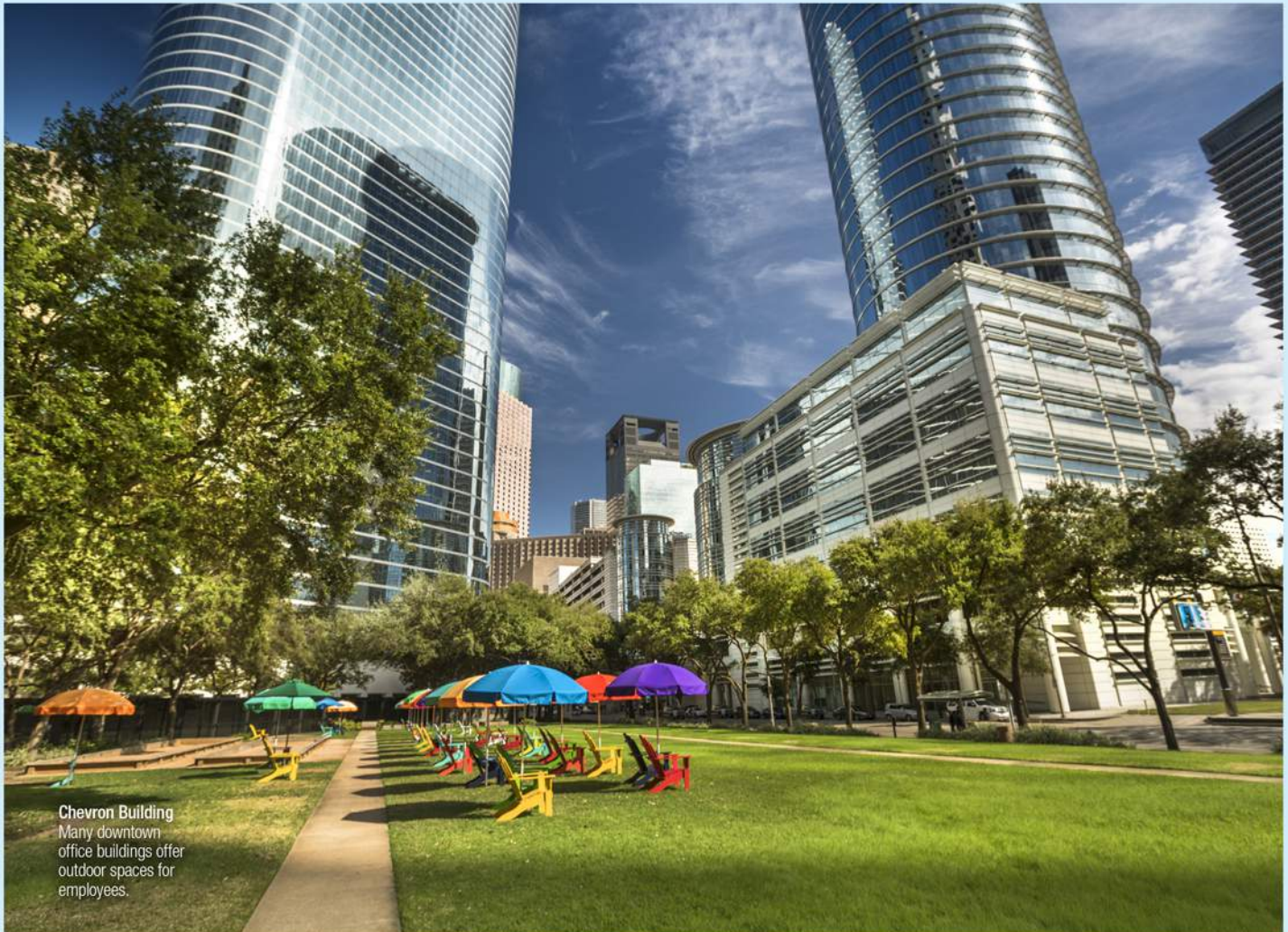
Greater Houston Partnership Chief

Economic Development Officer Susan Davenport said Houston's elevated position on the list validates the region's place as a magnet for foreign direct investment in the U.S. "Houston's significant infrastructure—including our port and two commercial airports—along with our prime geographic location, large and diverse workforce and pro-business environment, have long made us an attractive target for foreign investment and what we see is that attraction is only growing."

Today, 15 foreign governments maintain trade and commercial offices in Houston, and the region has more than 40 active foreign chambers of commerce, as well as

the nation's third-largest consular corps. In addition, more than 1,700 Houston companies report foreign ownership, while roughly one-in-four residents in the region are foreign born, contributing to Houston's well-recognized diversity.

To create a shortlist for fDi's Global Cities of the Future 2021/22, the fDi Intelligence division of the Financial Times collected data using the online tools fDi Markets and fDi Benchmark. Data was then collected for a total of 129 locations under five categories: economic potential, business friendliness, human capital and lifestyle, cost effectiveness and connectivity.



Chevron Building
Many downtown office buildings offer outdoor spaces for employees.



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HOUSTON BY THE NUMBERS

January to June 2021

2ND Best Cost of Living
in the U.S.

3^{TOP} Most Appreciated
Neighborhoods:
Rivercrest, Greenway Plaza,
and Tomball Southwest

23% Higher Appreciation
for Homes with Pools

25% Of Homes Sell Above
List Price

 **Douglas Elliman**
REAL ESTATE

AUSTIN . DALLAS . HOUSTON . SAN ANTONIO

LIVE. WORK. PLAY.

The Houston region offers a low cost of living while maintaining an incredibly high quality of life with amenities you expect to find in a world-class city. Houstonians, no matter what age or background, enjoy countless activities and opportunities. Houston is a welcoming and global city, filled with exceptional dining, arts, hotels, sports and events. In fact, GQ magazine dubbed Houston the “Capital of Southern Cool.”

Cost of Living

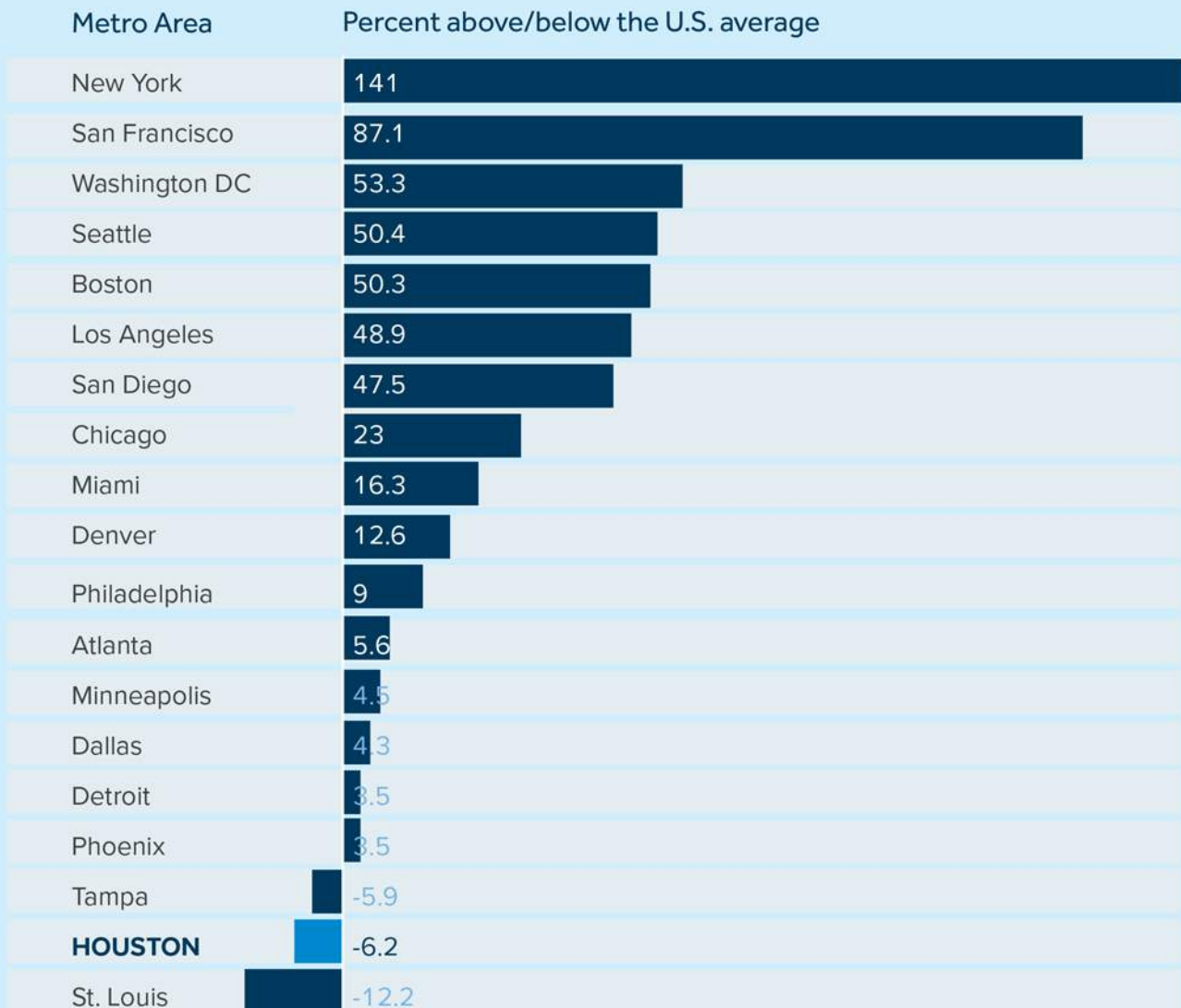
Houston’s overall living costs are 26.9% below the average of the nation’s 20 most populous metropolitan areas, ranking it the second most affordable, according to the Cost of Living Index from the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER). Houston’s overall living costs are 6.2% below the average for all U.S. metros.

Texas is one of the few U.S. states that does not have

an individual income tax and ranks among the best states for individual tax rates. Houston also has one of the lowest personal and per-family tax burdens among major U.S. cities. Housing costs in Houston are 53% below the average for the nation’s 20 most populous metro areas, and 19% below the average for all U.S. metros. Excluding the two most expensive housing markets, New York and San Francisco, which tend to skew the average, Houston’s housing costs are still 41% below the major metro average.

Living Cost Comparison

Houston offers a low cost of living while maintaining a high quality of life with the amenities expected in a world-class city.



Hermann Park
Among the park's popular attractions is the McGovern Centennial Gardens

HOUSTON IS ONE OF THE MOST AFFORDABLE MAJOR CITIES IN THE U.S.

Health Care

Houston's Texas Medical Center (TMC) is the world's largest medical complex by number of hospitals, number of physicians, square footage and patient volume. TMC's 61 member institutions are consistently recognized by U.S. News and World Report as some of the best hospitals and universities in the nation. Prominent institutions include MD Anderson Cancer Center, Texas Heart Institute and Baylor College of Medicine, among other premier training, research and clinical institutions.

Urban Development

Houston's large and growing footprint has led to a resurgence in urban living. The city's signature neighborhoods, such as Downtown, EaDo, Uptown, Midtown and Montrose, offer residents access to urban living at affordable costs. Projects

like the Uptown District and Avenida Houston in downtown are just a few examples of how the city continues to invest in increasingly walkable dining and entertainment districts.

Outdoor Recreation

Houston is one of America's greenest cities, ranking first in total park acreage among major U.S. metros. The region boasts 350 miles of interconnected bikeways, 380 developed city parks and 170 open spaces. In fact, Houston is home to two of the nation's 10 largest urban public parks, Cullen Park and George Bush Park. Over the past decade, Houston has seen a nationally recognized green space renaissance. Several of the city's signature parks, including Memorial, Hermann, Buffalo Bayou, Levy Park and Discovery Green, have implemented master plans

to further expand their offerings to Houston-area residents and visitors. The Memorial Park Master Plan is one of the largest and most visionary urban parks projects currently underway in the U.S. In 2020, the Houston Botanic Garden opened on a 132-acre expanse in southeast Houston, promising to be a new outdoor centerpiece for the city.

Several years ago, the Houston Parks Board and Houston Parks and Recreation Department embarked on a \$220 million project to connect 150 miles of hike-and-bike trails and parks along the city's eight bayous. Soon, an incredible 3,000 acres of unused land will be converted to public park space and 1.5 million Houstonians will live within 1.5 miles of the Bayou Greenways. The City of Houston has also adopted a plan aimed at drawing private investment to revitalize city parks primarily in underserved communities.



Mahesh's Kitchen
Modak at the
Sugar Land Indian
restaurant which
opened in 2021

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Shopping & Entertainment

Houston is a shopping mecca and home to over 8,000 retail centers. From lavish malls, like The Galleria and Memorial City, to “storefront neighborhoods,” like Post Oak, Highland Village, Uptown Park, River Oaks District and Rice Village, Houston’s shopping scene is as vibrant and diverse as the city itself.

Sports

Houston is a great place to play. You can enjoy countless activities without the premium price of other major cities. From team sports to extreme sports, Houstonians are loyal and embody a winning spirit. Houston has played host to the nation’s — and the world’s — largest sporting events, including the Super Bowl, NCAA Finals, MLB All-Star Game, Copa America Centenario and the NBA All-Star Game. Locally, Houstonians cheer on the '17 World Series Champion Astros at Minute Maid Park, the Rockets at Toyota Center, the Texans at NRG Stadium, the Dynamo and the Dash soccer teams at BBVA Compass Stadium and the rustlers at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (the world’s largest live entertainment and livestock exhibition).

Global Cuisine

Known as the Culinary Capital of the South, Houston delivers on its reputation. Houston restaurants feature outstanding regional dishes as well as diverse international cuisine. With more than 12,000 restaurants and bars representing dozens of countries and domestic regions, Houston’s global ties are prominent across 80 different culinary categories. Houston was ranked second on *Food & Wine’s* “32 Places to Go (And Eat) in 2019” and *Harper’s Bazaar’s* list of “The 20 Best Places to Travel in 2020.” The increasing number of food halls in the Houston area is one of the reasons *The New York Times* included the city in its roundup of “52 Places to Go in 2019.” Houston’s reputation as a culinary hotspot was one of the reasons Bravo decided to film its 19th season of *Top Chef* in H-Town.

Public Transportation

Houston’s mass transit network, METRO, serves an area of 1,303 square miles with 21 transit centers, 8,964 bus stops and 27 Park & Ride lots. Ridership in 2019, including bus, rail and Park & Ride, totaled 86.1 million passengers. As the city grows, METRO is actively working to improve mobility, enhance connectivity and support vibrant communities through its METRONext plan.



Worham Center

Houston is one of only a few U.S. cities with permanent professional resident companies in opera, ballet, music and theater.

Arts & Culture

Houston is one of the few cities in the U.S. with resident companies in all four major performing arts — drama, ballet, opera and orchestra. Houston's world-renowned cultural scene includes more than 500 institutions devoted to the performing and visual arts, science and history. The region's nonprofit arts and culture industry generated over \$1.1 billion in total economic activity, according to the '17 Arts & Economic Prosperity report by Americans for the Arts.

Houston's Theater District, located in downtown Houston, spans 17 blocks, and its four flagship theaters house 13,000 seats. The Alley Theatre, Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, Jones Hall and Worham Theater Center host seven renowned performing arts organizations as well as many smaller programs.

The Houston Museum District is one of the country's most visited and diverse cultural centers with 19 museums. These museums provide rich experiences in art, history, culture, nature and science. The district is divided in four walkable zones, each of which includes a group of museums. Since 2018, investments in the Houston Museum District, including completed projects and some in progress, total more than \$800 million.



Kiddie City
Clockwise from top
left: Houston Zoo,
Children's Museum
and a concert at
downtown's
Discovery Green



5 FAVORITE FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES IN HOUSTON



It's a question just about every family struggles with: what can we do this weekend? Fortunately, in the nation's fourth-largest city — home to hundreds of vibrant parks, dozens of top-rated museums and five pro sports teams — residents have a lot to choose from when it comes to exploring this dynamic region.

Here are five fabulous, family-friendly activities in Houston.

EXPLORE A MUSEUM For families who are seeking respite from the heat or rain, Houston has a lot of indoor options to keep kids of all ages entertained. Popular options include Children's Museum Houston, featuring hands-on galleries and a multitude of exhibits and programs for children through age 12, and the nearby Houston Museum of Natural Science, where families can view more than a dozen permanent exhibit areas showcasing space science, Native Americans and paleontology, as well as the Wortham IMAX Theatre, the Cockrell Butterfly Center and the Burke Baker Planetarium.

Parents can find several other options in and around Houston's world-renowned Museum District, including the Asia Society Texas Center, the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum and many others.

TAKE IN A PERFORMANCE Families can also head to the Theater District, which features major symphony, ballet, opera and theater companies of worldwide acclaim. Parents can find dozens of kid-friendly performances at Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS), one of the largest nonprofit producers of musical theater in the country staging Broadway classics, world premieres and new works at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts downtown as well as the Houston Ballet, one of the best — and largest — ballet companies in the U.S.

LAUNCH INTO SPACE CITY Families can head to the moon, stars and beyond at Space Center Houston, the official visitor center of NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Located less than half a mile away from JSC in Clear Lake, Space Center Houston features educational exhibits, historical galleries and live presentations.

For a different look at the sky, families can take in stargazing at the George Observatory, the Houston Museum of Natural Science's satellite facility at Brazos Bend State Park. The observatory houses the largest telescope available for public viewing in the Houston area.

SPEND THE DAY (OR WEEKEND) AT A NEARBY PARK

Houston's vibrant parks and green spaces play a huge role in the region's high quality of life for all residents, including families. With over 360 parks and more than 200 green spaces within the City of Houston alone, families have a variety of places to visit.

That includes Hermann Park, a 717-acre park located eight miles from downtown featuring a lake, wetlands area, a Japanese Garden, the Centennial Gardens and numerous trails and picnic spots to explore. Popular kid-friendly amenities include the nationally recognized Houston Zoo and the Hermann Park Railroad. Families can also pack a picnic and attend a show at Miller Outdoor Theatre.

Other popular park options to visit include the recently renovated, 12-acre Discovery Green near the George R. Brown Convention Center, and the 160-acre Buffalo Bayou Park, which includes family-friendly activities such as hike-and-bike trails, paddle craft and bike rentals and an underground Cistern. Construction is currently underway on the Buffalo Bayou's East Sector — encompassing the four-mile stretch from U.S. 59 to the Port of Houston Turning Basin. The plan includes 40 miles of new and improved waterfront trails and bikeways and 200 acres of parks and unique public spaces woven between public land and infrastructure.

For a fun kid-friendly weekend adventure, Houstonians can find nature trails, campsites and more at several state parks and national forests, including Brazos Bend State Park, Galveston Island State Park and Sam Houston National Forest, which covers 163,037 acres across Huntsville, Conroe, Cleveland and Richards, Texas.


CHEER ON YOUR FAVORITE TEAM Home to five pro sports teams, as well as semi-pro and collegiate teams, Houstonians can cheer on their favorites year-round. Families can take in the action at Minute Maid Park downtown to cheer on the Houston Astros from April through the fall, watch the Texans play at NRG Stadium in the fall, grab courtside seats to see the Houston Rockets at Toyota Center in the winter and spring, or head to BBVA Stadium in EaDo to watch the Dynamo and Dash play throughout the year.

And for families who want to take in a major annual event featuring rodeo competitions, a carnival and more, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo is a family favorite.

COVER STORY

RENAISSANCE CITY

Inside Houston's
dramatic evolution to
global tech hub



Innovation Corridor
Connecting Texas
Medical Center,
Museum District,
Midtown and downtown,
the four-mile Corridor is
linked by light-rail, bike
lanes, and pedestrian
thoroughfares, and
offers easy access
to key industry and
institutional players.

When Hewlett Packard Enterprise announced in late 2020 that it would relocate its headquarters from San Jose, Calif. to the Houston area, it turned heads in the tech world. The move not only gave Houston bragging rights over an additional Fortune 500 company—bringing the metro total to 24—it also further established the region as a legitimate contender in the tech sector, one that can compete for the top companies looking to operate closer to leading firms in energy, life sciences and logistics.

HPE already has a solid presence in Houston with thousands of employees but establishing its corporate headquarters at a new Springwoods Village campus (set to open in early 2022) will make the company a major power player in Houston's rapidly growing tech ecosystem.

HPE's relocation decision was largely based on access to diverse talent and being able to develop that talent over the long term, said HPE CEO Antonio Neri. As the most diverse city in the nation, Neri saw the move to Houston as an opportunity to work toward increased diversity and inclusion in a region that would continue to attract young talent. "I feel we made the right decision for the community we serve," he said.

HPE is just one of a mounting chorus of tech companies and innovation-focused organizations expanding their presence in Houston. Global giants,

such as Amazon, Microsoft and Google, along with growing firms, such as Roboze and Avetta, have announced new operations in the region over the last couple years. In Midtown, Rice University has opened the Ion, a nearly 300,000-square-foot innovation hub anchoring an emerging 16-acre innovation district. In the East End, a massive new maker space and manufacturing complex is fostering the next generation of advanced manufacturing companies, along with the workforce to operate them. And across the region, more than 50 different startup development organizations (SDOs) have opened or expanded in recent years to help accelerate the growth of early-stage companies across industry. It's all part of Houston's ongoing efforts to drive a technological renaissance and become a center for innovation that will solve some of the world's biggest problems, from the energy transition to the next generation of life-saving medical devices.

For Houston there is a dual focus: fostering homegrown technology and innovation while also drawing existing, dynamic players to the region to bring their concepts to scale. "Houston is a city with an incredible history of innovation," said Bob Harvey, President and CEO of the Partnership. "Changing the world is in our nature and our very DNA. Today, we are positioned as never before to do just that through innovation within our core industries."

Here are some of the transformative developments propelling Houston's global reputation as a prominent tech hub.

Growing Tech Base

Houston's digital tech workforce has expanded in recent years, nudging the metro up to 11th place, according to Cyberstates 2021, the Computing Technology Industry Association's (CompTIA) annual assessment of the U.S. tech sector. The region added 8,100 tech workers in 2020, according to CompTIA's estimates, bringing the total to 243,900. Houston overtook Detroit, which lost tech workers in 2020. What's more, the report shows that the number of tech companies in the Houston region grew to 9,286 in 2020, up by nearly 500 over 2019. Fewer than a quarter of Houston's net tech workers are in technical occupations at "tech" companies.

The report underscores just how much tech talent is embedded in non-tech industries in Houston. Most of Houston's 155,400 tech occupations (engineers, coders, analysts, etc.) work outside the tech sector.

Among large metros, Houston has the highest share of technical occupations embedded in non-tech sector companies.

TMC3

Officials at the Texas Medical Center broke ground in summer 2021 on TMC3, a world-class life science complex that will bring together some of the best minds in medicine across several institutions. Building off the presence of TMC itself, the largest medical complex in the world, the new 37-acre project will include shared and proprietary research centers, multi-disciplinary laboratories, health care institutions, a hotel and conference center, retail, and a unique double-helix green space – totaling almost 3.7 million square feet of development. TMC officials say TMC3, slated to open in phases starting in fall 2023, will add an estimated 23,000 jobs and \$5.4 billion to the Houston economy.





The image shows an aerial view of a city at dusk. Two circular callouts are overlaid on the image, containing text. The callouts are connected to a larger, more detailed aerial view of a city block at the bottom of the page. The callouts are positioned in the upper left and upper right areas of the image. The text in the callouts describes startup development organizations and the expansion of Greentown Labs to Houston. The background image shows a city with various buildings, including a prominent curved building in the center. The lighting is a mix of natural dusk light and artificial city lights.

Startup Development Organizations

Dozens of startup development organizations (SDOs) have emerged in recent years to foster growth in Houston's tech and innovation ecosystem. Currently, there are more than 50 SDOs, including incubators and accelerators, such as MassChallenge, Gener8tor, The Cannon, Plug and Play Tech Center and JLABS @ TMC. Other SDOs include makerspaces and coworking spaces, some tied to nonprofits or academic institutions. Collectively, these SDOs are helping support Houston's innovation ecosystem, giving startups a launchpad complete with advice, resources and connections.

Greentown Houston

One of the high-profile SDOs to expand to Houston in the last couple of years is Greentown Labs. The climatetech incubator opened in a 40,000-square-foot space in the Midtown Innovation District, just steps from the Ion. Greentown Houston is the first expansion for the Somerville, Mass.-based incubator, which aims to foster emerging new energy companies. The local facility includes a prototyping lab, office and community space for about 50 startup companies that could total up to 300 employees. Creating an incubator to jumpstart new technologies in energy is a major step in Houston's bid to help lead the global energy transition to a lower carbon future.



Venture Capital Funding

Despite Houston's economic strengths, the city long struggled to lure capital investment. But a focused effort in recent years has helped channel investment capital into tech startups like never before. The creation of the HX Venture Fund in 2017, a \$50 million fund of funds model designed to draw investment attention to Houston, was a significant catalyst. The fund attracted marquee corporate limited partners and has made several investments in leading funds across the country. The progress is staggering. VC investment in the region grew from \$284 million in 2016 to \$753 million in 2020, a nearly three-fold increase and an unprecedented 66% growth rate per year. Health care was the most heavily invested industry for VC funding in 2020, receiving nearly \$324 million across 53 deals.

East End Maker Hub

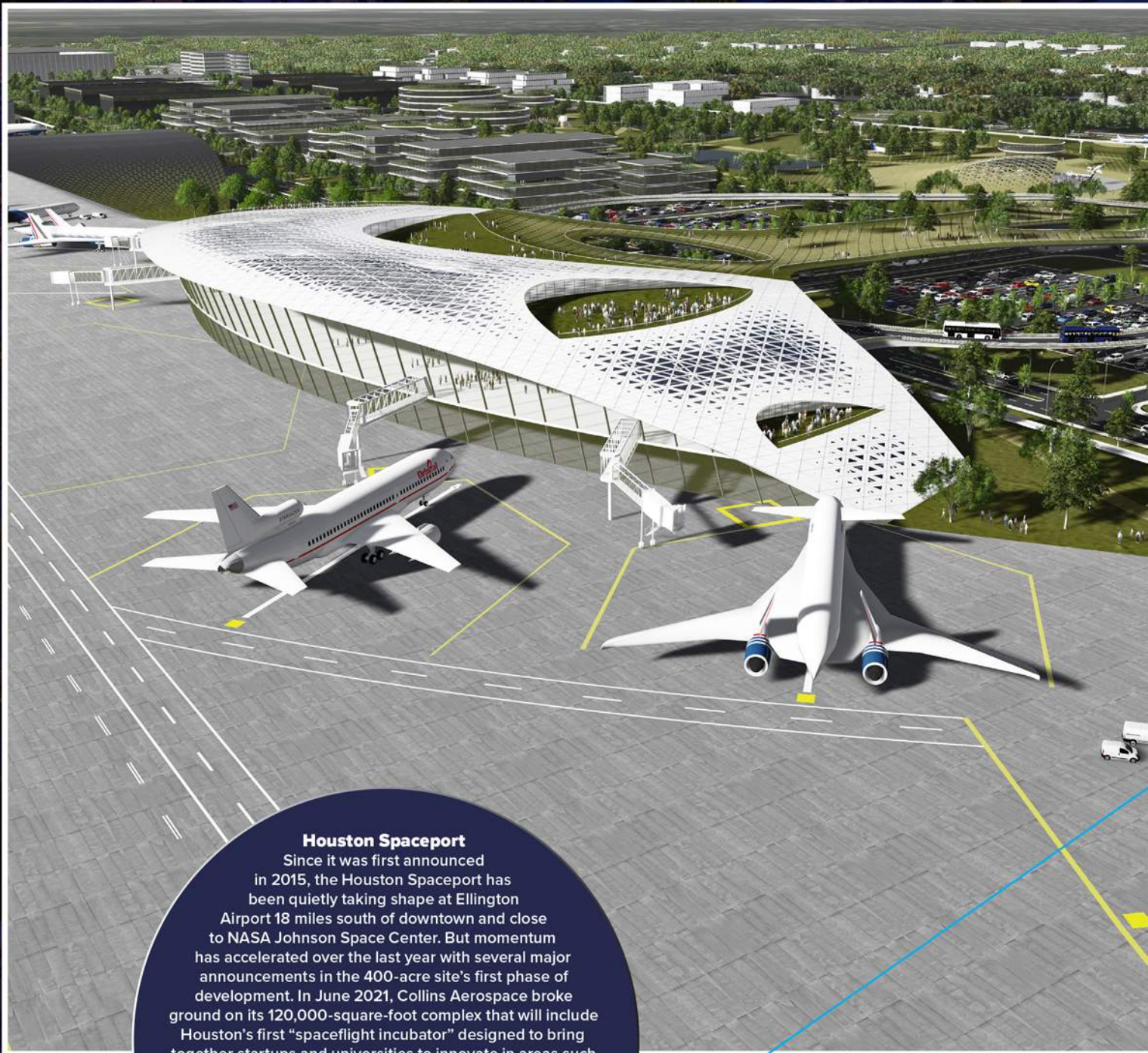
The first phases of the East End Maker Hub opened in 2021. The 300,000-square-foot project, steered by TXRX Labs and Urban Partnerships Community Development Corp., was constructed on Navigation Blvd. east of downtown. The expansive makerspace will have dedicated areas for companies operating in 3D printing, fabrication, hardware innovation and more. While the first phase focused on suites up to 20,000 square feet geared toward an array of uses, phases two and three include dedicated spaces for both light and heavy fabrication, as well as crafting suites. The East End Maker Hub is making it easier for local manufacturing startups across industry sectors to secure the proper space and resources they need for success.





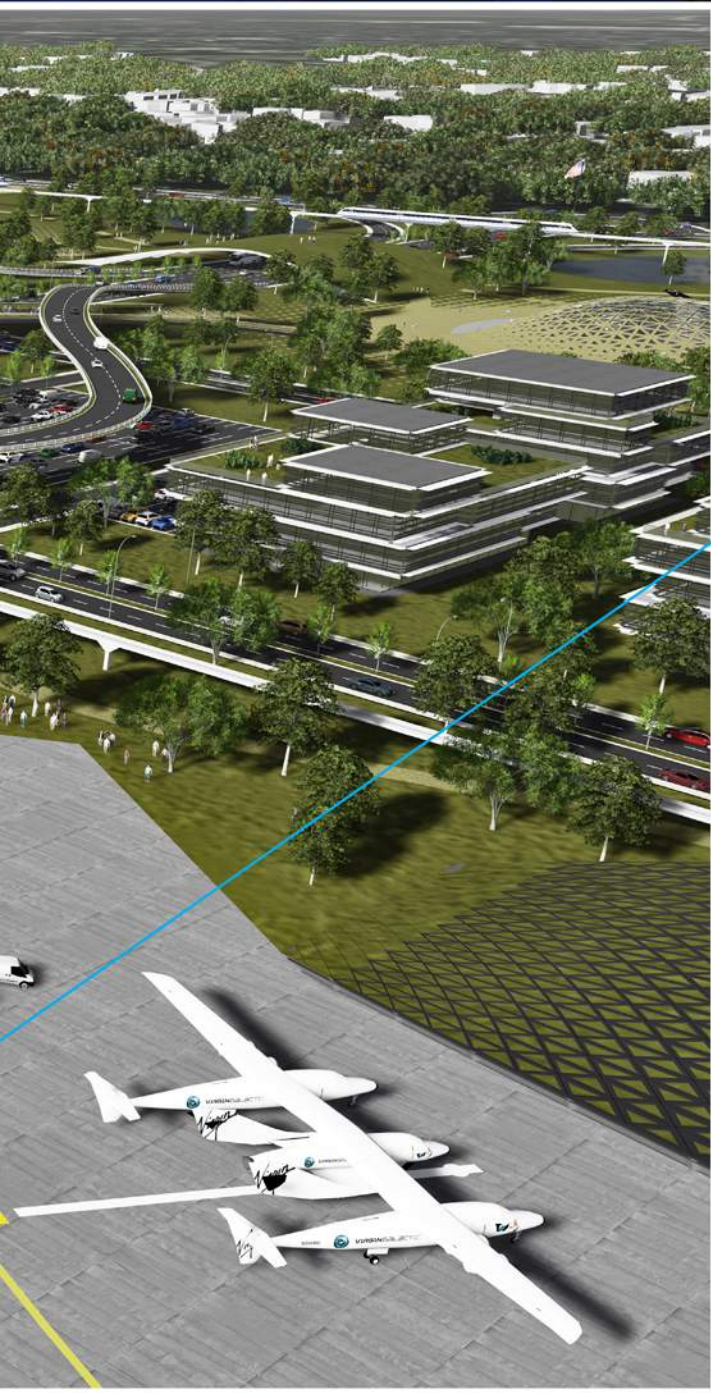
The Ion

Anticipated to become the epicenter of Houston's burgeoning innovation ecosystem, the Ion is the 288,000-square-foot facility located on Main Street in Midtown offering rentable coworking space for startups, as well as office space for corporate partners and more advanced startups. Tenants, including Chevron Technology Ventures and Common Desk, moved into their spaces over the summer of 2021 and more inked leases through the remainder of the year. A series of ground level restaurants and bars aim to make this a hotspot destination for Houstonians. Developed by Rice Management Co., the Ion anchors a 16-acre innovation district that will eventually include additional office space, residential, retail and other components when fully built out over the next several years.



Houston Spaceport

Since it was first announced in 2015, the Houston Spaceport has been quietly taking shape at Ellington Airport 18 miles south of downtown and close to NASA Johnson Space Center. But momentum has accelerated over the last year with several major announcements in the 400-acre site's first phase of development. In June 2021, Collins Aerospace broke ground on its 120,000-square-foot complex that will include Houston's first "spaceflight incubator" designed to bring together startups and universities to innovate in areas such as robotics, medicine and manufacturing. And in late 2020, Axiom Space announced plans to construct the world's first commercial space station at the spaceport. The company will build a 14-acre headquarters facility, where it will create the Axiom Station and train private astronauts. The recent spaceport announcements, coupled with new projects at NASA JSC, are reenergizing Houston as a global leader in the aerospace industry.



The Welch Institute

With a gift of \$100 million from the Robert A. Welch Foundation, Rice University is establishing The Welch Institute, which will focus on the development of advanced materials. The institute, which will be located on Rice's campus, will combine fundamental research in chemistry and materials science with the latest in machine learning and artificial intelligence to accelerate the discovery, design and manufacturing of the next generation of materials. Applications could apply to new energy systems, sustainable water, space systems, telecommunications, manufacturing, transportation, security and more. The Welch Institute will draw on Rice's internationally renowned faculty and scientific resources while also attracting new expertise. Welch Foundation Chair and Director Carin Barth said the institute will "bring together top minds across all disciplines to catalyze innovation and center leadership in the field right here in the Houston area."

Houston Exponential

Local entrepreneurship and innovation nonprofit Houston Exponential, or HX, formed in 2017 through the combination of the Houston Technology Center, the Greater Houston Partnership's technology innovation roundtable and the Mayor's Technology & Innovation Task Force. Since then, HX has been instrumental in helping accelerate the growth of Houston's innovation ecosystem by hosting networking focused events, creating connections between startups and venture capital groups, fostering collaboration between startup development organizations and much more. Its annual Houston Tech Rodeo has become a must-attend for those tied to the tech and innovation scene. HX aims to raise \$10 billion in venture capital for Houston-based startups by 2030.

While these illustrations of Houston's forward motion on tech and innovation are significant, they also indicate that much more is on the horizon. In just a few short years, Houston has dramatically transformed its identity as a tech-forward metro and is well positioned as a global, innovative city of the future working to solve some of the world's most pressing problems.

Chevron
Employees
at Chevron's
headquarters
downtown

BUILDING HOUSTON'S INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM

Houston has long been known as a center of corporate and institutional innovation in areas such as energy, aerospace, and life sciences. Houston is home to hundreds of technology and R&D centers, academic research institutes, and civic research centers. Houston's workforce includes 235,800 tech jobs. In recent years, Houston's technical and engineering strengths have given rise to a thriving ecosystem of digital technology companies and life science startups. The region is home to more than 8,200 tech-related firms, including more than 700 venture-backed startups.

Houston Venture Capital Funding (\$ Millions)

| PRIMARY SECTOR | '16 | '17 | '18 | '19 | '20 | TOTAL |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| HEALTH CARE | 124.1 | 206.7 | 192.7 | 262.3 | 256 | 1,041.8 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | 79.4 | 156 | 121.6 | 168.2 | 201.7 | 727 |
| BUSINESS PRODUCTS & SERVICES | 32.1 | 35.6 | 62.1 | 54.7 | 150.1 | 334.5 |
| ENERGY | 27.7 | 12.1 | 63.3 | 128.5 | 39.9 | 271.4 |
| CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES | 18.1 | 7.6 | 7.9 | 54.0 | 45.1 | 132.6 |
| MATERIALS & RESOURCES | 0.1 | 1.7 | 27.3 | 32.4 | 34.3 | 95.8 |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES | 2.4 | ---- | 1.5 | 2.2 | 25.2 | 31.6 |

Funding

Houston companies have received over \$2.7 billion in venture capital funding since 2016, according to PitchBook. Health care is the largest recipient, drawing 34.1% of VC dollars during that period.

Talent

Houston ranks among the best cities for young entrepreneurs thanks to a large supply of young talent and strong university systems. The region is home to more than 300,000 educated millennials and 215,000 STEM professionals. With more than 243,000 tech workers, Houston has the 11th-largest tech sector in the U.S., with a \$29.2 billion impact to the regional economy. Nearly two-thirds of Houston's high-tech workers are employed in industries other than computers and software.

Houston's Startup Ecosystem

Houston is home to more than 700 venture-backed startups in consumer and business services, health care, data analytics, software, biotech and energy sectors. A strong network of more than 50 incubators, accelerators, makerspaces and coworking spaces has helped strengthen the ecosystem in recent years. These hubs of innovation have created momentum and a critical mass of support for more startups.

Civic Initiatives

The nonprofit Houston Exponential (HX) was formed in 2017 to grow the city's digital startup ecosystem. Through its \$40 million HX Venture Fund of Funds, the organization is investing in venture capital firms that in turn invest in promising startups in order to foster digital innovation in Houston and bolster the region's tech sector.

Select Incubators and Workspaces in Houston



HEADQUARTERS

TECHSPACE



Work Lodge

TMC | INNOVATION



Greentown Houston



Owlsark

Greentown Labs

Level Office

PLUGANDPLAY

Select Academic Research Organizations

The entrepreneurship programs at Rice University and University of Houston are consistently ranked as two of the nation's best, according to the Princeton Review.

Rice University ranks third in the U.S. for graduate entrepreneurship.

- Rice's Owlsark Accelerator has helped launch dozens of companies.
- Rice Business Plan Competition is the richest pitch competition in the country, with awards in '20 totaling \$1.1 million.
- In September '20, the Rice Alliance announced the creation of a new clean energy accelerator to support early-stage energy startups from around the world.

University of Houston ranks second in the U.S. for undergraduate entrepreneurship.

- RED Labs startup incubator/accelerator has launched 24 companies.
- Graduate students manage the university's million-dollar Cougar Venture Fund.



UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON
UH ENERGY



The Welch Institute
Advanced Materials
Rice University



The Ion
Rice's Ion building,
located in a former
Sears in Midtown

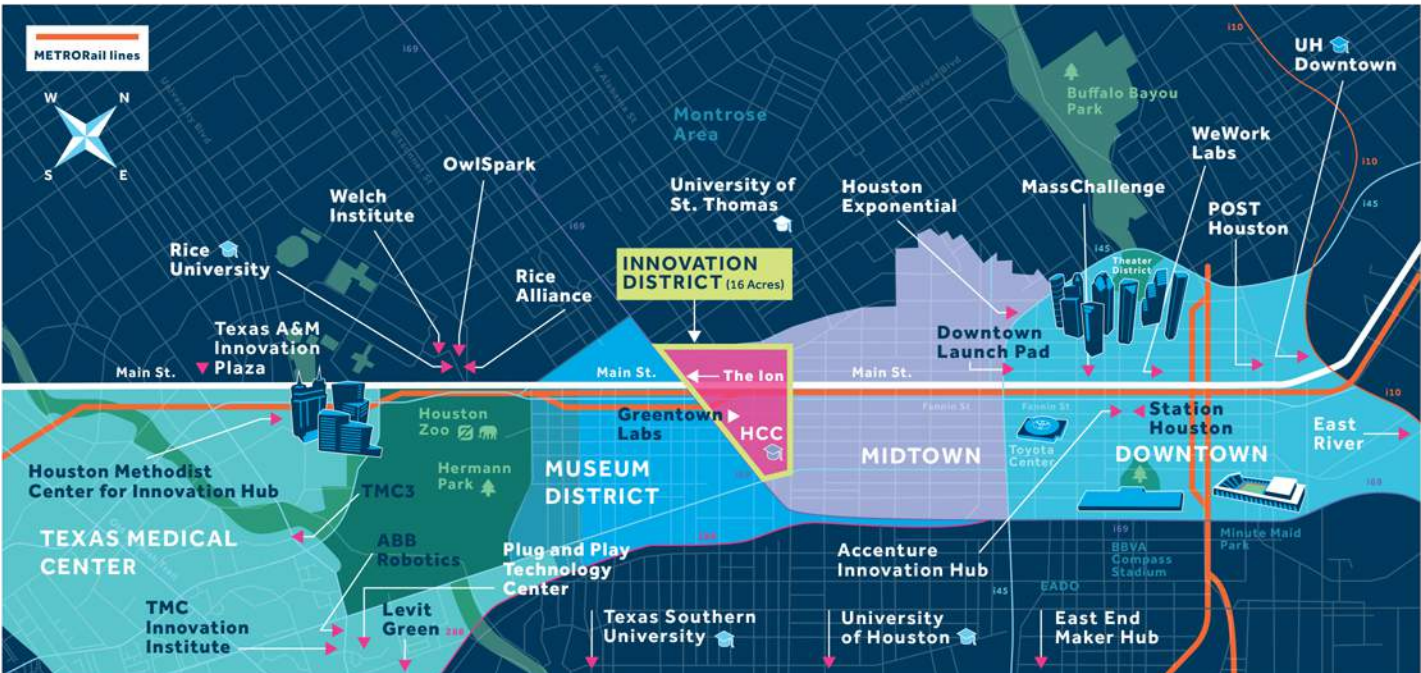
HOUSTON'S INNOVATION CORRIDOR

Houston's Innovation Corridor is at the center of an extraordinarily powerful social and economic convergence. The four-mile-long Corridor is linked by light-rail, bike lanes and sidewalks, and it offers easy access to key industry and institutional players along with an unparalleled array of amenities.

Anchored on the south end by the world's largest medical complex, the Texas Medical Center, along with top-ranked universities, the Corridor runs north along Houston's light-rail line through the 700-acre Hermann Park and oak-lined boulevards of the Museum District. It continues past the eclectic Montrose neighborhood and through Midtown, home to a millennial-friendly mix of housing, dining and

recreational options. The Corridor reaches its northern limit in downtown, the nexus of corporate headquarters, financial institutions and professional service firms, and a wide variety of cultural and recreational amenities.

In 2021, Rice University, along with a coalition of community leaders, opened the first phase of a new Innovation District near the center of the Corridor in Midtown Houston. Anchoring the 16-acre district is The Ion, which serves as the central hub of innovation. At nearly 300,000 square feet, The Ion brings together entrepreneurs, corporations and academic institutions to collaborate under one roof.



HOUSTON RANKS AMONG TOP 10 STARTUP METROS

A
CLOSER
LOOK

The fastest growing and most diverse city in the nation is also one of the top places for startup activity.

A March 2021 report from Roofstock, an online real estate investment platform, ranks Houston as the number 10 region with the most startup business activity.

Roofstock's ranking system is based on analyzed data from the U.S. Census Bureau. That data shows the Houston region has 9,214 startup formations annually, giving the area a startup formation rate of 9.48%. A startup formation rate refers to the number of new businesses in a year divided by the total number of businesses.

Roofstock also found that Houston's startup businesses create 55,475 jobs annually and 14.44% of all new jobs in the region

come from startups.

Houston's startup-friendly environment can be partially attributed to its low cost of living. Houston's housing costs are 51.2% below the average of the 20 most populous metros and 11.5% below the average for all U.S. metros. Houston is also in the top 10 metros for the number of adults with a bachelor's degree or higher.

"It's a great city and one that I am proud to call home," Eric Elman, CEO and co-founder of Onit, Inc., a Houston-based software company told the Partnership." The city is growing as a technology leader, drawing in new and diverse talent. The cost of living is lower, and the city has a lot to offer culturally."



University of
Houston's Cullen
College of
Engineering
One-third of
Houstonians 25 years
or older is a college
graduate — a rate
higher than the
national average and
Texas' state average.

HEADQUARTERS

AMERICA'S HEAD-QUARTERS CITY

Houston is a major corporate center, ranking third in the nation in Fortune 500 — and fifth in Fortune 1000 — headquarters. The 20 companies on the Forbes Global 2000 list that are headquartered in Houston have a combined total revenue of \$413.6 billion.

Six major business districts are accessible within minutes of executive and international airports.

220 million square feet of total office space, with nearly 42 million square feet in Downtown alone.

A total of **4.1 million square feet of office space under construction** (as of Q4 2020).

Aggressive **landlord and developer incentives** creates exceptional buyer values competitive with top HQ cities.

Fortune 500 Companies Headquartered in Houston



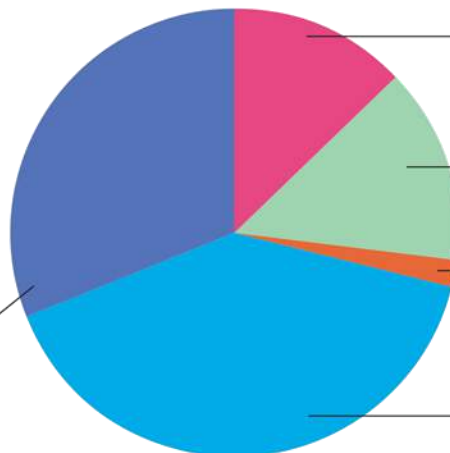
Source: Fortune, 2021

Headquarters and Corporate-Related Occupations

Talent

Houston has the professional and corporate services talent to support some of the world's largest companies. The region is home to over 700,000 corporate professionals, including administrative, accounting, finance and legal.

305,590 employees
Sales



153,730 employees
Business and Financial Operations

146,730 employees
Management

22,710 employees
Legal

467,400 employees
Office and Administrative Support



The Allen
The development's multiple buildings are taking shape on Allen Parkway.

**A
CLOSER
LOOK**

MIXED-USED PROJECTS DOMINATE DEVELOPMENT LANDSCAPE

A growing number of new developments across the metro region are incorporating multiple uses — from retail and office to residential and even hotels — in more pedestrian-centric designs. “It’s about improving quality of life and bringing the ability to live, work and play all in one place,” said Roberto Contreras, president and CEO of DC Partners, the development and investment firm behind one of the largest and most highly anticipated new projects — The Allen. “Mixed-use developments create connected and inclusive community. Walkability, convenience, wellness.”

Rising between Downtown and Montrose along Buffalo Bayou, The Allen is a 1.3 million-square-foot project spanning multiple high rises with spectacular views. It includes a 42-story condo tower along with a 22-story office building and a large-scale retail pavilion, all set on a landscaped campus. Thompson Hotels will run a 170-room luxury hotel, a first along Buffalo Bayou Park. The whole six-acre project, which also boasts world-class dining and a spa, is estimated at \$500 million.

“The Allen is the best of Houston all in one place,” said Contreras. “It’s where the sophistication of the Theater District meets the prestige of River Oaks, overlooking the serenity of Buffalo Bayou Park.” He added that The Allen will be especially attractive to retail tenants, who would benefit from “recurring spending from residents, hotel guests, and walking traffic pulled from the park.”

Other mixed-use projects helping reshape the look of Houston include Autry Park, further west along Allen Parkway, promising

to be an “urban village” with more than 1,400 residential units, 350,000 square feet of office space and 100,000 square feet of high-end retail positioned around a central green space. There’s also Downtown’s Discovery West, which began phase-one construction in summer 2021 with an office tower that includes 7,000 square feet of ground-level retail and restaurant space. Post Houston, a vast former post office also located in Downtown, is already open, with restaurants, an international market, creative workspaces and a large rooftop park and garden; a concert venue is yet to come.

Touted as an economic catalyst for the East End, East River will feature roughly 1 million square feet of commercial and residential space. The first 26-acre phase of the project broke ground in 2021 and will feature 360 apartment units, 250,000 square feet of office space and another 110,000 square feet of street-level retail. Eventually there’ll be a golf course.

Aiming to capitalize on the growth of the Katy area, the Katy Boardwalk District will blend multifamily residential, office space, the community’s first full-service hotel and retail and restaurant space to create a unique entertainment district set on a 90-acre lake. And, one of the region’s most highly anticipated mixed-use projects may be the one about which the least is known: It’s rumored that a multi-tower, mixed-use concept with residential and plenty of ground-level retail will emerge at the prime intersection of Montrose and Westheimer, in the empty three acres where an aging strip center and a Kroger have been demolished.



Cityscape
Houston's downtown skyline peers over Discovery Green park.

NRG MOVING HEADQUARTERS TO HOUSTON, ADDING FORTUNE 500 ENERGY COMPANY TO REGION



NRG Energy, Inc. announced in May 2021 that the company would consolidate its headquarters in Houston from its previous base in Princeton, N.J. The energy giant cited the diversity of Houston's professional talent along with the City of Houston's commitment to its Climate Action Plan, among the key factors driving the decision.

Texas is already home to the company's largest employee and customer bases. With the acquisition of Direct Energy, which closed in January 2021, NRG decided this was the right time to move its headquarters to Houston. The company has more than 3,000 employees in the greater Houston region and nearly 4,600 nationwide.

"Houston has been a second headquarters for NRG for many years, supporting many of our customers and employees. Today, we are officially designating Houston as NRG's sole Corporate Headquarters, a step that simplifies our operations," said Mauricio Gutierrez, president and CEO of NRG in announcing the news. "This move has been a part of our strategic plan for some time, and Houston's commitment to climate goals and the electrification of transportation align with our own goals and strategy. Texas is a great place for business, growing at a rapid pace and attracting diverse talent and industries."

The addition of NRG expands Houston's Fortune 500 headquarters roster to 24 companies, the third-largest concentration in the country. NRG ranked number 324 on the 2020 Fortune 500 list. It's the second Fortune 500 relocation for

Houston in recent months following Hewlett Packard Enterprise's decision in December 2020 to move its base here from California.

"I welcome today's announcement by NRG designating Houston as the company's sole corporate headquarters," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. "Over the past several years, my team and I have had substantive conversations with President and CEO Mauricio Gutierrez. I believe the decision is confirmation that Houston is a smart city for business."

NRG and its subsidiaries generate, sell and deliver power to more than 3.7 million residential and business customers across 10 states.

The Greater Houston Partnership and leaders from the Houston region conducted a series of visits with the NRG leadership team in recent years, including a key meeting in fall 2019 where a Partnership delegation, including Mayor Turner, Bobby Tudor, Jim Fish and David Leebron, met with NRG's President and CEO, Mauricio Gutierrez, during a business recruiting mission to New York City.

"We've always thought of NRG as a hometown company, and now it is official," said Partnership President and CEO Bob Harvey. "NRG's headquarters relocation is another milestone moment for Houston and further solidifies our position as a corporate headquarters capital. Houston is committed to leading the global energy transition, and companies like NRG are key to this effort. We are delighted they will lead their business from Houston."

**I** *am* **LIFE** TM

houstonIamLife.com

[#takePrEPdaily](#)

[#GetTreatment](#)



HOUSTON HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Gulf of Mexico
The Atlantis platform was the deepest moored floating oil and gas production facility in the world at the time of its installation.

ENERGY CAPITAL OF THE WORLD



Houston is the Energy Capital of the World and the “brain trust” for virtually every segment of the oil and gas industry, including exploration, production, transmission, marketing and supply, with a growing focus on renewable forms of energy technology. Houston employs a quarter of the nation’s jobs in oil and gas extraction. The region is home to 4,650 energy-related firms and is at the forefront of foreign investment in energy, particularly in Mexico. Additionally, Houston’s petrochemical sector has experienced record-level growth, with roughly \$50 billion of facility construction recently completed or underway.

Two-thirds of the global integrated oil companies, such as ExxonMobil, Shell and Chevron, have operations here. More than

half of all oil field service firms based outside of North America have offices in Houston, and around one-fifth of the world’s national oil companies, including Saudi Aramco and Gazprom, have operations in Houston.

As these companies work to diversify technologies and generation mix, Houston’s high concentration of energy expertise and experience has meant a large number of relocations to the region in recent decades. The metro offers access to three million workers and more engineers than any other U.S. metro. Today, Houston is working to become the energy transition leader, capitalizing on its talent base and industry know-how to help guide the world to a low-carbon future.

ENERGY 2.0

As the brain trust of the global energy industry, Houston’s ecosystem offers a competitive advantage to energy companies working in solar, wind, biomass and other renewables activities. The region has a growing base of solar energy sources and is home to more than 100 solar-related companies. Texas continues to pave the way by leading the nation in installed wind capacity by state, and Houston is home to 30-plus wind related companies.

In June 2021, the Greater Houston Partnership released its blueprint for leading the transition from traditional fuel sources to low carbon and

no-carbon energy. The strategy sets out three initial objectives for the region: jumpstarting emerging technologies and markets where Houston has a strategic advantage, attracting and supporting companies in established yet rapidly growing “new energy” industries and creating an environment that encourages investment in — and deployment of — a wide range of value chains. The latter includes everything from nature-based solutions to cleaner production of natural gas, oil and petrochemicals, to breakthroughs in energy efficiency, geothermal energy and advanced materials.

4,650+ energy-related firms
in Houston

More than **600** exploration and
production firms and **1,100** oilfield
service companies

\$3.7 billion in cleantech VC
funding since 2015

Potential to create more than
500,000 new energy jobs by 2050

136+ online wind projects
across Texas

65+ energy tech companies

GREATER HOUSTON PARTNERSHIP LAUNCHES REGIONAL ENERGY TRANSITION STRATEGY

A
CLOSER
LOOK



BP's Wind Turbines
Houston energy companies
are leading the way in
alternative energy.

In June 2021, the Greater Houston Partnership announced a strategic regional blueprint for leading the global energy transition to a low-carbon world. The Partnership developed the comprehensive plan to guide the Houston Energy Transition Initiative (HETI) in conjunction with the Center for Houston's Future and McKinsey, with input from more than 60 leaders of industry, investment, government and academia.

HETI aims to drive sustainable and equitable economic growth in the Greater Houston region through a portfolio of technology, policy and market initiatives that scale and export solutions for realizing a low-carbon energy world. It builds on a foundation of groundbreaking plans and reports, including the City of Houston's Climate Action Plan, Center for Houston's Future and University of Houston's report on "The Houston Region as a Global Hydrogen Hub" as well as Rice University's Baker Institute report, "The Future of Houston as Energy Transitions."

"The energy transition presents tremendous opportunities for Houston to leverage our energy leadership to accelerate global solutions for a low-carbon future," said Bobby Tudor, chair of the initiative and chairman at Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co. "Houstonians have a long history of solving the world's greatest challenges. Today, Houston is poised to lead the effort to meet growing global demand for energy while simultaneously lowering climate-changing greenhouse gas emissions. I believe Houston has the expertise and drive to lead the global energy transition."

The HETI strategic plan highlights actions across value chains in three domains:

- Jumpstart and scale up emerging carbon-reduction sectors where Houston has a distinct advantage. These include carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS); hydrogen production and application; the circular economy (specifically plastics recycling); and energy storage solutions including battery technology. ExxonMobil's proposal for a \$100 billion carbon capture innovation zone centered along the Houston Ship Channel is an example of the kind of major investment envisioned in this part of the strategy.
- Focus on attracting and supporting companies in New Energy industries including wind energy, solar power and biofuels, along with advancing the renewable natural gas and low-carbon

liquefied natural gas (LNG) value chains.

- Deploy cross-cutting initiatives to attract and grow companies in additional energy value-chains, ranging from electric vehicle systems to the decarbonization of natural gas and oil, petrochemicals to nature-based solutions, and energy efficiency technologies to geothermal energy production.

Tackling a Dual Challenge

In a report accompanying the announcement, the Partnership underscored the importance of the global energy transition to Houston's economic future. It includes McKinsey analysis suggesting that as many as 560,000 jobs could be created by 2050 in the region by supporting low-carbon technologies, industrial investments, innovation eco-systems, government policies and reskilling of talent.

Noting the city's historically central role in energy production, use, export and innovation, the report points to the enormous advantage the region enjoys in capturing value from the low-carbon transition — including large-scale infrastructure, attractive business environment, an innovative culture and deep experience in all aspects — technical and commercial — of the global energy economy. The ongoing success of the incumbent oil and gas industry is important to Houston and the world as it will play a critical role in the transition and meeting the dual challenge. The report further highlighted the global context and urgency of Houston's new strategy, noting that the world is facing a dual challenge. By 2050, humankind will consume 50% more energy than we do today. This growing energy demand is driven by an ever-increasing global population along with an improving, and more energy-intensive, quality of life around the world. At the same time, we will need to meet that growing demand in a way that stops, and even reverses, the global warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions.

"I am pleased to see the concerted and collaborative momentum that now exists in Houston around energy transition," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. "In leading the transition, our city will build upon its long history in the energy and chemical industries, provide new opportunities for our workforce and leverage our assets and existing expertise."



TMC Innovation Institute
The site of research and
medicine breakthroughs

BIOTECH AND LIFE SCIENCES

As a hub for medical device manufacturing, pharmaceuticals and health research, Houston has more than 1,900 life sciences companies, cutting-edge health care facilities and research institutions. The health care and life sciences industries collectively employ 376,000 workers — more than Houston's energy sector.

The region's growth in employment, high concentration of key scientists, National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding, quality and quantity of educational intuitions, medical research and health services institutions, and number concentration of high-tech workers recently landed the region the number two spot in CBRE's list of emerging life sciences clusters.

Texas Medical Center

Houston is home to the largest medical center in the world — Texas Medical Center (TMC). Bringing together the brightest minds in medicine, TMC nurtures cross-institutional collaboration, creativity and innovation through its 63 member institutions. From some of the world's leading hospitals to the world's largest steam and chilled water facility, Houston institutions are making an impact worldwide.

Innovation

In the field of health and medical technology, the Texas Medical Center's Innovation Institute coordinates the efforts of several life science-focused incubator and accelerator programs. The organization aims to help startup companies commercialize new medical technologies by providing access to the vast resources of the world's largest medical center. Venture capital and private equity investment in Houston life science startups totaled \$256 million in 2020, the region's largest sector of VC funding. Additionally, the TMC Venture Fund aims to invest \$25 million in early-stage health care tech companies in Houston.

The Future

In 2021, TMC broke ground on TMC3, a multi-institutional 30-acre research campus that will bring together the best institutions in clinical care, research and industry. The campus is projected to create 42,000 jobs and bring \$5.4 billion to Texas' economy.



Texas Medical Center features:

10 million patient visits per year

50 million developed square feet

\$3 billion in construction projects recently completed or underway

106,000+ employees

8th-largest business district in the U.S.

#1 cancer center and the largest children's hospital in the U.S.

Nationally ranked in **14 specialties**



Med Center
A surgery at one of Texas Medical Center's many hospitals.



Life Sciences
New world-class facilities like TMC3 and Levit Green are helping foster Houston's Life Science community.

A
CLOSER
LOOK

REPORT PLACES HOUSTON AMONG TOP LIFE SCIENCES MARKETS

A recent report identifies Houston as one of the nation's top emerging markets for life sciences.

Commercial real estate services company JLL ranks Houston 7th in the U.S. when it comes to the number of STEM degrees among workers (409,354) and 8th in wage positioning, or wages above the industry average likely to draw talent.

"Traditional top life science markets will likely retain their positions; however, it's encouraging that Houston, home to one of the world's largest medical centers, continues to rise on the list of markets for further advancements in the life sciences sector," JLL said in the report.

Partnership research shows that Houston is home to more than 1,900 life sciences companies, hospitals, health care facilities and research institutions. Houston is also home to the Texas Medical Center, the world's largest such complex, with more than 106,000 employees serving 10 million patients

annually. TMC will also soon be home to TMC3, a 30-acre translational research campus that will bring together major health care players, academic institutions and innovative life sciences companies to collaborate.

Other major life sciences projects include Levit Green, a 52-acre site near the intersection of Texas 288 and Holcombe Boulevard, being developed by Hines in partnership with the Levit family. The project is slated to include a mix of office space, research facilities, retail, residential and green space. Meanwhile, Texas A&M University is building Texas A&M Innovation Plaza, a \$550 million, 5-acre, mixed-use complex on the edge of the TMC. The project, being developed in phases through 2024, will include education space for the university's dual-degree program in medicine and engineering, student housing and commercial space for clinical, research and office use.

MAKING HOUSTON GREATER

The Greater Houston Partnership is the region's premier business organization, representing 12 counties and more than 900 member companies that work together to advance Houston as a great global city. The Partnership is an Accredited Economic Development Organization as designated by the International Economic Development Council, and a certified World Trade Center.

Our Services

The Greater Houston Partnership's economic development and international investment team is a one-stop shop to confidentially assist your business growth and relocation needs. The Partnership works with the region's top business and civic leaders, including more than 35 economic development agencies at the state and local level.

REAL ESTATE

Initiate property searches

SITE TOURS

Coordinate site-selection visits and regional briefings

PERMITS

Advocacy for projects and regulatory issues

INCENTIVES

Assist in evaluating and applying for benefits

RESEARCH

Provide data on key business and site factors

ACCESS

Direct access to top business and civic leaders

For more information about Houston's business climate, or expanding in the region, visit HOUSTON.ORG





People Power
The region's workforce
includes 223,000
industrial workers.

A MANUFACTURING POWERHOUSE

Houston is one of the most important industrial bases in the world. There are more than 6,700 manufacturers in the region producing \$86 billion in products annually. The skilled workforce includes more than 223,000 industrial workers, and Houston subsector specialties include fabricated metal, machinery and chemical manufacturing. Collectively, these subsectors represent 60% of Houston's total manufacturing workforce.

No. 2 among U.S. metros for manufacturing GDP

Nearly 1 in 3 manufacturers in Texas call Houston home

27 million consumers within 300 miles and roughly half of the U.S. population within 1,000 miles

NO. 3 GLOBAL COMPETITIVE CITY IN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

Manufacturing Employment in Houston

Number of jobs

Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

49,666

Machinery Manufacturing

43,617

Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing

13,347

Other Durable Goods Manufacturing

28,634

Food

11,119

Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing

8,953

Chemical Manufacturing

39,703

TOTAL MANUFACTURING | 223,706

Source: Texas Workforce Commission, Current Employment Statistics, 2020

AEROSPACE AND AVIATION

Years before the historic Apollo 11 mission in 1969, Houston was a pioneering hub in the aerospace and aviation sector. But the mission didn't stop at the moon. Over the decades, Houston scientists and engineers have helped with some of the world's biggest space endeavors, including running mission control for the International Space Station for 20 years. Some of the sharpest minds in aerospace and aviation technology continue to chart a vibrant future for Houston centered around NASA's Johnson Space Center and one of the world's only truly urban commercial spaceports.

Talent

The thousands of NASA employees and civilian contractors supporting JSC's operations have created a rich talent pool of aerospace expertise, positioning Houston as a leader in the emerging commercial realm of space flight. In addition, Rice Space Institute has helped to establish Rice University's international reputation in all areas of space research by investing in efforts to further the development of new ideas and innovation in space exploration and utilization.

The Next Frontier

Houston Spaceport is an FAA-licensed, urban commercial spaceport offering unprecedented access to a thriving aerospace community. In addition to serving as a future launch and landing site for suborbital, reusable launch vehicles, Houston Spaceport offers laboratory office space, including technology incubator space and large-scale hardware production facilities.

As a center for collaboration and innovation, Houston Spaceport is unique among the other federally licensed spaceports. Located in the fourth largest city in the U.S. and a major hub for aerospace and aviation activities, no other spaceport can boast such a connection.

Forming a part of the Houston Airport System and situated at Ellington Airport, the spaceport fits seamlessly into one of the world's largest international travel infrastructures. In addition to improving existing facilities and services, the spaceport continues to find new and groundbreaking ways to increase value for tenants and partners.



NASA
The Gemini V spacecraft is on display at Space Center Houston.

350 space, aviation and aerospace related firms and institutions

\$1.9 billion in total trade in aviation

11,000+ NASA Johnson Space Center employees and contractors

100+ active astronauts and astronauts in training



Houston Spaceport
Axiom Space plans to develop its Axiom Station, the world's first private space station, at the Houston Spaceport.

A
CLOSER
LOOK

AXIOM SPACE TO BUILD WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL SPACE STATION IN HOUSTON

Axiom Space will build a 14-acre headquarters campus at the Houston Spaceport, where the aerospace company plans to develop its Axiom Station, the world's first free-flying, private space station.

The project, announced in December 2020, is expected to bring more than 1,000 jobs to the new campus, which will include a 322,000-square-foot facility to accommodate Axiom Station modules, as well as terminal space to house private astronauts, operations, engineering and related activities. The campus is being built on the 153-acre first phase of the Houston Spaceport at Ellington Field, less than 20 miles south of downtown Houston.

Axiom Space said its internationally available Axiom Station will serve as humanity's central hub for research, manufacturing and commerce in low Earth orbit.

Developed by the Houston Airport System, the 400-acre Houston Spaceport is the nation's 10th commercially licensed spaceport and capitalizes on the region's existing concentration of engineering and aerospace talent. Johnson Space Center, which employs more than 11,000 people and utilizes airfields at Ellington Airport, is just minutes from the Houston Spaceport and remains home to NASA mission control.

Axiom Space CEO Mike Suffredini said the Houston Spaceport, with its infrastructure and benefits as well as its

co-location at Ellington Airport, represents an ideal headquarters location for his company. "The opportunity to build high-bay hangers where we can assemble the Axiom Station while simultaneously training our private astronauts for missions gives us the flexibility we need as we build the future of commercial space," Suffredini said.

Partnership President and CEO Bob Harvey said Axiom Space's announcement is a game-changer as Houston works to extend its position as a commercial aerospace leader. "Houston is a city built on innovation with a technology-focused workforce, and this move adds to the region's momentum as one of the country's leading next-generation tech hubs," Harvey said.

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership President Bob Mitchell said the same environment of innovation that produced many technological advancements in Houston's past is creating its next successful venture into space. "The synergies now being realized at the Houston Spaceport — between Houston's dynamic industry partners, its world class training and academic providers and its far-sighted community investors — are not only benefitting Axiom, but will only get stronger over time."

Across both the public and private sector, Houston is home to more than 23,000 aerospace professionals and roughly 500 aerospace and aviation firms and supporting institutions.

A CHARMING PAST



A SOARING FUTURE

KEN TISDEL
FOUNDER & CEO | LCG GLOBAL

TESTIMONIAL

We relocated LCG Global to Downtown Richmond Texas, with the desire to move closer to where our employees and clients live. Richmond serves as the County seat of Fort Bend County and has continued to grow and enhance its mobility and the needed infrastructure to entice families and businesses. Our small-town charm, great schools, close distance to Houston, and an abundance of the skilled-tech-related workforce made moving to Richmond a no-brainer.

COME DISCOVER RICHMOND!

RICHMOND'S TARGET INDUSTRIES:

- ENERGY
- HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL SERVICES
- REAL ESTATE, FINANCE, AND INSURANCE
- PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
- BUSINESS SERVICES

For more information, Please contact:

Jerry W. Jones Jr., Economic Development Director
(281)342-5456 jjones@richmondtx.gov

Energy Corridor
A meeting at BP's
headquarters



HOUSTON BUSINESS CLIMATE

Houston offers a competitive business environment at a favorable cost. By many measures, Houston is a tier-one city with tier-two costs. The city is also unabashedly pro-growth. As a testament to the city's strong business climate with low costs and low regulations, Houston remains one of the top four cities in the nation for business relocations and expansions.

Regulatory Advantages

The City of Houston has set priorities to support growth and innovation. The city has no local minimum wage, permitting is fast and friendly, and the cost of doing business in Houston is well below the U.S. major-metro average. Additionally, Houston has no personal or corporate income tax.

Union & Labor Costs

Texas is a right-to-work state, ensuring a choice among quality union and non-union skilled labor. Houston boasts one of the lowest unionization rates nationwide with only 2.2 percent of its private workers unionized, significantly lower than the national rate of 6.5 percent.

Taxes

Texas and Houston understand the need for a stable, friendly and transparent tax structure. Texas is one of the few states without a personal, state, or corporate income tax, which makes the cost of doing business very competitive. In 2015, Governor Greg Abbott signed House Bill 32, which permanently reduced the Texas Franchise Tax (Margin Tax) rates by 25 percent. Houston is a cost-effective location for any company looking to establish a presence or expand their current business. Houston's tax structure makes it a low-cost center for doing business. Plus, the personal tax burden in the Houston area consistently

ranks among the lowest in the nation, which makes it an attractive place for people of all backgrounds to live and work.

An Exceptional Quality of Life

Houston offers superb executive and professional lifestyle opportunities within minutes of major employment centers across the region. Houston's low cost of living means your money goes further in this region than other major global cities.

- Cost of living consistently below the national average
- Access to world class healthcare at the Texas Medical Center's institutions of excellence
- Limitless outdoor amenities (350-plus miles of bikeways, 67,000 acres of parks, 200-plus days of sunshine each year, two yacht clubs and 150-plus public and private golf courses)
- Countless pathways to careers and entry into top colleges and universities through nationally ranked K-12 public, private, charter and magnet schools
- Home to one of the nation's largest collections of fine art, museums, visual and performing arts including symphony, theaters, and countless live music venues
- Estate style homes, luxury condos, master-planned communities, waterfront or ranch style living — Houston has it all

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Utilities

The majority of Texas enjoys a deregulated energy market, thus providing electricity customers with a selection of retail electric providers and open-market competition. Electric power is distributed across the region by CenterPoint Energy, Entergy Texas, and AEP. Each of these PUC-regulated transmission and distribution utilities are the “local wires company” who ensure a high level of performance with minimal business disruptions in their respective geographic markets.

State & Local Business Incentives

Houston offers a highly competitive business environment at a favorable cost. The region is a national leader in business relocations and expansions thanks in large part to its pro-growth attitude. A range of local and state incentives are available to qualifying companies to support new, expanding and relocating activities.

Industrial Space

Houston is the nation’s sixth-largest industrial market, due in part to its large and high-growth population and its central geographic advantages as a hub for the Americas. Access to three air cargo airports, four deep-water seaports, three class-1 railroads and a vast network of interstates and interstate-quality highways help move products quickly.

The Houston region boasts more than 560 million square feet of industrial space for manufacturing, logistics and distribution and flex space in urban and rural locations. The Houston region has experienced a significant increase in construction of large-scale, industrial properties to accommodate growth of national fulfillment and regional distribution companies such as Amazon, Best Buy, Daikin, Dollar Tree, FedEx, HomeDepot, Ikea, UPS, and others.

With millions of square feet of new product recently completed or under construction, rents remain affordable for companies looking to execute new leases.

Office Space

Houston is the nation’s sixth-largest office market, with more than 226 million square feet of net rentable area and six major business districts that create significant value and cost savings in

contrast with other major metropolitan areas.

Due to a soft office market with a large surplus of available Class A properties, many tenants negotiate highly competitive rates for effective rents. Houston also offers one of the nation’s lowest costs of finish-out for office properties across major metropolitan cities.

Land prices in Houston are cheaper than comparable sites in other major U.S. cities. Houston is one of the most affordable cities for tenants to build new office space. In a 2018 study by JLL, Houston was one of the least expensive markets to build out new offices. In recent years, Houston has also seen a significant uptick in new co-working and collaboration spaces across the region. To meet the need of tech firms, startups and small collaboration labs for global companies, new facilities have opened courtesy of StationHouston, WeWork, Headquarters, The Cannon and others. Maker space is also available at several locations across the region.

Space for Every Type of Company

- Six major business districts are accessible within minutes of executive and international airports.
- 116+ million square feet of Class A office, many full of corporate and lifestyle amenities.
- Houston ranks 10th in the number of Energy Star-certified buildings which represent annual savings of \$40 million in utilities and emissions.
- Aggressive landlord and developer incentives create exceptional buyer values competitive with top HQ cities.

Office Space Costs

Second Quarter 2020

| URBAN AREA | AVERAGE ASKING PRICE (\$ PER SQUARE FOOT*) | VACANCY RATE (%) |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| ATLANTA, GA | \$30.78 | 22.6 |
| BALTIMORE, MD | \$26.23 | 16.1 |
| CHICAGO, IL | \$34.70 | 20.7 |
| DALLAS, TX | \$30.82 | 24.8 |
| DENVER, CO | \$32.46 | 20.5 |
| FORT LAUDERDALE, FL | \$37.29 | 18.0 |
| HOUSTON, TX | \$30.88 | 26.8 |
| LOS ANGELES, CA | \$44.85 | 18.5 |
| PHILADELPHIA, PA | \$28.40 | 17.4 |
| SAN FRANCISCO, CA | \$79.93 | 20.2 |
| WASHINGTON, DC | \$42.83 | 20.9 |

Source: Jones Lang LaSalle





Museum District
Fast-paced development
continues in the city's
cultural centers, and
across the region.

STRATEGIC ACCESS TO MOVE PEOPLE & GOODS

Whether by land, air or sea, Houston offers an impressive array of logistical and distribution channels that businesses count on to meet the demands of today's fast-paced marketplace. With a location that's equidistant from the East and West coasts, and just hours by air from any metro area in the country, Houston is an ideal hub for companies that need national distribution for their products. Companies that locate in Houston can reach nearly 50% of the U.S. population within a 1,000-mile radius.

Airports

The Houston Airport System ranks as one of the largest multi-airport systems in North America. The system is comprised of George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) and Ellington Airport (EFD). Scheduled and charter passenger carriers fly directly to approximately 180+ domestic and international destinations from Houston.

Railroads

As one of the nation's busiest rail centers, the Houston region has three class-one railways with a rail network of more than 800 miles of track. Fourteen mainline tracks radiate from Houston and approximately 2,200 trains per week travel within the Houston region's rail network. The widespread coverage of BNSF, KCS and Union Pacific and others connects Houston with all major markets across the country.

Ports

Houston was the top U.S. metro exporter in 2019 by weight, and is home to a number of ports, including the ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport and Texas City.

The Port of Houston is the number-one port in the U.S. in terms of foreign waterborne tonnage, and the number-one break bulk port in America. An environmental and security leader, Port Houston was the first U.S. port to achieve both ISO14001 and ISO28000 certifications. Port Houston is the largest container port on the Gulf Coast, handling 69% of Gulf Coast container traffic in 2018 and ranked the sixth largest U.S. container port by total TEUs in 2018. The region's ports are investing heavily to increase container and break-bulk cargo capacity.

Daily Nonstop Destinations from Houston

180+ Nonstop Destinations



**STRATEGICALLY
LOCATED HUB FOR
THE AMERICAS**

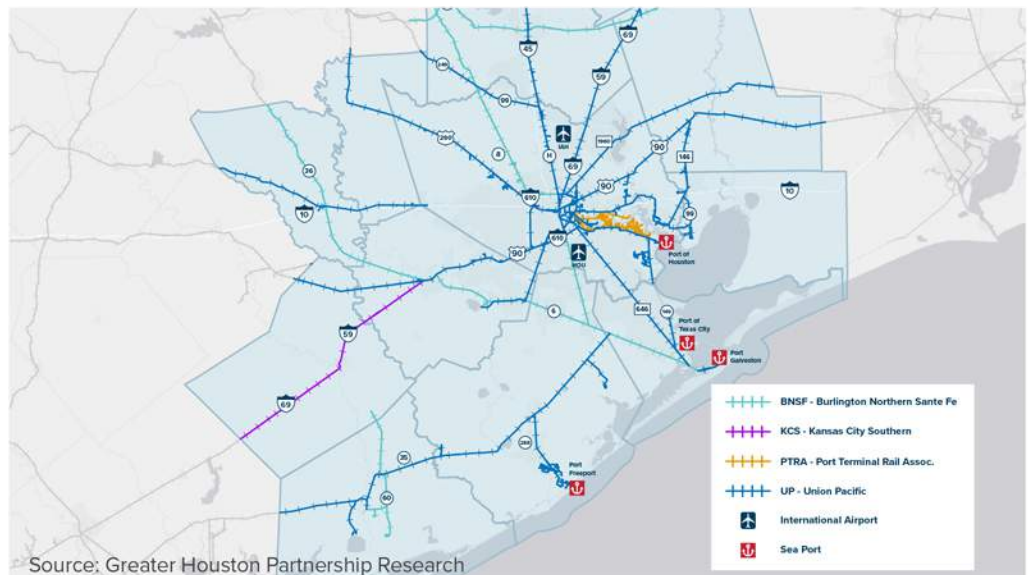
George Bush Intercontinental
Houston's airport system is one of the nation's largest.



Highways

Houston's extensive highway system is well integrated with the Port of Houston, Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH), Hobby Airport, Ellington Airport, and the mainline railroads serving the city. Houston is at the crossroads of Interstate Highways 10, 45 and 69. When connections are complete, I-69 will link Canada, the U.S. industrial Midwest, Texas and Mexico.

Houston has a "three-loop system," enabling easy connections across the region including Interstate 610, Beltway 8 and Highway 99.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership
bayareahouston.com

Baytown/West Chambers County Economic Development Foundation
baytownedf.org

Brookshire Economic Development
brookshiretexas.org

Conroe Economic Development Council
conroeedc.org

CenterPoint Energy
centerpointenergy.com

Central Houston, Inc.
centralhouston.org

City Development Corporation of El Campo
elcampoeco.org

City of Alvin
alvin-tx.gov

City of Brenham
cityofbrenham.org

City of Cleveland
clevelandtexas.com

City of Deer Park
deerparktx.gov

City of Friendswood
ci.friendswood.tx.us

City of Fulshear
fulsheartexas.gov

City of Houston Economic Development
houstontx.gov

City of Huntsville
huntsvilletx.gov

City of Jersey Village
jerseyvillagetx.com

City of La Porte
laportetx.gov

City of League City
leaguacity.com

City of Magnolia
cityofmagnolia.com

City of Meadows Place
cityofmeadowsplace.org

City of Missouri City
missouricitytx.gov

City of Mont Belvieu
montbelvieu.net

City of Nassau Bay
nassaubay.com

City of Pasadena
ci.pasadena.tx.us

City of Richmond
richmondtx.gov

City of Rosenberg
rosenbergedev.com

City of Santa Fe
ci.santa-fe.tx.us

City of Seabrook
seabrooktx.gov

City of Sugar Land
sugarlandtx.gov

City of Texas City
texascitytx.gov

Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce
cyfairchamber.com

Dayton Community Development Corp.
daytontx.com

East End District
eastenddistrict.com

East Montgomery County Improvement District
emctx.com

Economic Alliance Houston Port Region
allianceportregion.com

The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County
brazoriacountyeda.com

Energy Corridor Management District
energycorridor.org

Entergy Texas
entergy-texas.com

Freeport Economic Development Corp.
freeport.tx.us

Fort Bend County
fortbendcountytx.gov

Galveston Economic Development Partnership
gedp.org

Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council
fortbendcounty.org

Greater Houston Partnership
Houston.org

Greater Northside Management District
greaternorthside.org

Harris County
harriscountytx.gov

Houston East End Chamber of Commerce
eecoc.org

Houston Intercontinental Chamber of Commerce
houstonicc.org

Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce
Houstonnwcchamber.org

Houston-Galveston Area Council
h-gac.com

Katy Area Economic Development Council
katyedc.com

La Marque Economic Development Corporation
lmedc.com

Lake Houston Economic Development
lakehouston.org

The Lone Star College System
lonestar.edu

Matagorda County Economic Development Corp.
mcedc.net

North Houston Association
north-houston.com

North Houston District
northhouston.org

Oak Ridge North Economic Development Corporation
oakridgenorthedc.com

Pasadena Economic Development Corp.
pasadenaedc.com

Pearland Economic Development Corp.
pearlandedc.com

Port Freeport
portfreeport.com

Port of Galveston
portofgalveston.com

Port Houston
porthouston.com

San Jacinto College District
sanjac.edu

Sealy Economic Development Corporation
sealyedc.com

Tomball Economic Development Corporation
tomballtxedc.org

Union Pacific Railroad Company
up.com

Uptown Houston District
uptown-houston.com

Waller County Economic Development Partnership
wallercounty.org

West Houston Association
westhouston.org

Westchase District
westchasedistrict.com

Wharton County
whartonedc.com

The Woodlands Area Economic Development Partnership
edpartnership.net

MY PRENATAL PROMISE

Putting my baby FIRST means asking my doctor about syphilis

It's no secret that a woman can acquire syphilis, HIV or other sexually transmitted infections without being aware of it. That's why prenatal care—maintaining regular doctor visits and taking all three required syphilis tests—is essential.

Congenital syphilis can lead to a miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death.

Put your baby's health first.
TAKE THE MY PRENATAL PLEDGE TODAY.

To find out more, visit MyPrenatalPromise.com



HOUSTON HEALTH
DEPARTMENT





Manufacturing Hub
Nearly a third of all manufacturers in Texas are based in Houston.

THE RESHORING MOVEMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON U.S. MANUFACTURING



The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed many vulnerabilities for American business, from the critical importance of remote connectivity to the risks of open office design. But for manufacturers and others dependent on the global supply chain, the pandemic brought their exposure into stark focus when parts of the chain broke down in spring 2020. Companies dependent on materials and supplies from China and other nations were left waiting weeks or more for those products in many cases.

Acknowledging the risk, a number of U.S. companies are looking to “reshore” parts of their own operations and seek out domestic producers for critical supplies. These businesses hope to strengthen their supply chain by reducing its length.

Experts came together to discuss the reshoring phenomenon and the advantages to businesses looking to supply the federal government in a special Business Beyond Borders presentation hosted by the Greater Houston Partnership.

Dr. Sanju Patro, director of TMAC Gulf Coast, and Harry Moser, president of Reshoring Initiative, talked about the growing movement toward domestic production.

The Buy American Act requires that the federal government buy products made in the U.S. from materials mostly supplied domestically. However, loopholes and ambiguity surrounding the law often make it easy to circumvent. Patro said a recent executive order from the Biden administration seeks to close those loopholes and directs federal agencies to review

their procurement process to create renewed incentive for American companies to source and manufacture domestically, which could boost employment.

“As more and more U.S. companies work to reshore manufacturing, there will be greater demand for skilled labor,” Patro said.

Moser said the pandemic has brought to light many of the hidden costs of outsourcing. While many companies source and manufacture overseas, they aren’t factoring in the “total cost of ownership,” or the additional costs tied to the supply chain.

Over the last 20 years, the value of U.S. manufacturing has plateaued due in large part to offshoring. “We are consuming more goods than ever before, but we simply aren’t producing them anymore,” said Moser.

But that could change with reshoring, and Houston — with its central geographic location, major port, large industrial base and high connectivity to a major portion of the nation — could benefit.

Moser offered an example many have become familiar with during the pandemic. Disposable masks are largely manufactured overseas. At the beginning of the pandemic, these were in short supply due to the breakdown in the supply chain. According to Moser, if mask making had been done domestically, it would have created 180,000 additional manufacturing jobs.

the Houston EHE Initiative

In February 2019, a national initiative was launched to End the HIV Epidemic (EHE) in the United States. With a steady trend of more than 1,200 new HIV diagnoses in Harris County each year, the Houston Health Department (HHD) joins the EHE initiative, which aims for a 75% reduction in new HIV infections by 2025 and at least a 90% reduction by 2030. One of HHD's key strategies to End the HIV Epidemic is to expand all sexual health services to a 4th HHD health center location located centrally – La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center.

Call 832-393-5427 to make an appointment.

Reducing the number of new HIV infections is an HHD priority. Providing essential sexual health services are important to End the HIV Epidemic locally. These services include HIV testing, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) – a daily pill to prevent HIV infection – and Non-occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) – an emergency treatment to prevent HIV.

Take control of your sexual health to preventing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Find out if PrEP and nPEP is right for you!

For more information go to www.houstonhealth.org or call 832-393-5010.

Services Offered

Testing for HIV
Immunizations
Dental Services
Sexual Health Services
Family Planning Services
Testing for Tuberculosis (TB)
Treatment for Tuberculosis (TB)
Testing for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV Prevention (Daily Use)
Non-occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) for HIV Prevention (Emergency Use)

NOTE: Not all services are available at every location.

La Nueva Casa De Amigos Health Center
1809 North Main Street
Houston, Texas 77009
Phone: 832-395-0570

Our newest location for sexual health, PrEP, and nPEP services

Northside Health Center
8504 Schuller Road
Houston, Texas 77093
Phone: 832-395-9100



Scan the QR code above to learn more about the Houston EHE initiative

Sharpstown Health Center
6201 Bonhomme Road
South Tower, Third Floor
Houston, Texas 77036
Phone: 832-395-9800

Sunnyside Health Center
4605 Wilmington Street
Houston, Texas 77051
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