

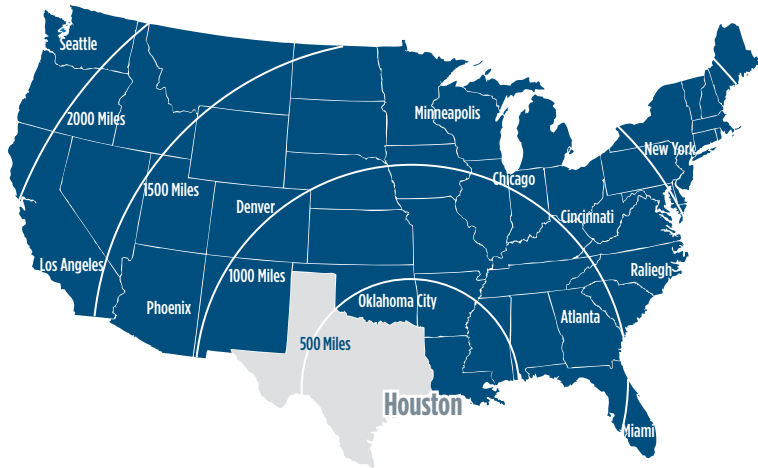
HOUSTON REGION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROFILE

HOUSTON REGION OVERVIEW

The Houston - The Woodlands - Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area (Houston MSA) consists of 9 counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller. Additional facts about the Houston region:

- The City of Houston is the nation's fourth largest city with a population of 2.3 million.
- The Houston region ranks fifth among U.S. metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) with a population of 6.6 million.
- The Houston MSA has a gross domestic product of \$525.4 billion, fourth largest in the nation.
- The Houston Airport System (HAS) serves 198 domestic and international destinations.
- The Port of Houston is ranked first in the U.S. in foreign tonnage and is the largest Gulf Coast container port.



WORKFORCE & DEMOGRAPHICS

For companies seeking a young, diverse, highly skilled workforce, Houston abounds with prospects - as one of the youngest major metropolitan areas in the United States. Houston's median age is 34.0 years, while the U.S. median age is 37.7 years.

Engineers have a strong presence in Houston, which has been described as having "the world's leading pool of engineering talent." Houston employs more than 91,800 engineering and architecture professionals, many of whom are involved in the energy industry.

Additionally, Houston has created a workforce development pipeline with a strategic focus on K-16 education - especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math to sustain our position as the world's energy hub. Proactive collaborative research development programs have been established with the area's more than 60 colleges, universities and other degree-granting institutions.



INDUSTRY STRENGTHS



ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Houston ranked as the No. 1 City for Manufacturing in the U.S. by Forbes in 2014. Across 6,300 manufacturing establishments in the region, \$80 billion dollars of products are produced annually.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES

Houston's vibrant technology industry centers on traditional strengths in energy, medicine and aerospace. The region's innovation flows from NASA, the Texas Medical Center and three tier one universities including Rice University, the University of Houston and Texas A&M University. More than 175,850 high-tech professionals call Houston home.

ENERGY

The Houston MSA is home to more than 4,800 energy-related establishments and employs nearly a third of the nation's jobs in oil and gas extraction. The local energy industry extends from traditional fossil fuels to alternative and renewable energy.

HEADQUARTERS & BUSINESS SERVICES

The professional and business services sector thrives in the Houston region and employs nearly 460,000 Houstonians, representing 15.4 percent of all jobs in the region.

LIFE SCIENCES

Houston is the birthplace of nanotechnology and is home to the largest medical complex in the world - the Texas Medical Center (TMC). Houston has more than 190 life science and biotechnology companies as well as academic partnerships; 132 cutting edge hospitals and health clinics, and the country's top research facilities.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Houston is a gateway for trade to Mexico, Canada and the enormous expanding markets of Latin America. Houston's geographic advantages and proximity to major metropolitan centers throughout the U.S. Midwest makes it an ideal venue to set up manufacturing and logistics facilities with fewer supply chain costs.

HOUSTON REGION

YOUR GLOBAL BUSINESS GATEWAY

AN INTERNATIONAL CITY


Houston's status as an international center is reflected in the breadth and depth of the city's international representation. The region has:


- More than 90 Foreign Consulates in Houston
- 32 active Foreign Chamber of Commerce and Foreign Trade Associations
- 19 foreign banks, representing 9 nations
- More than 730 foreign-owned firms
- More than 430 companies with branches in 144 other nations
- More than 5,700 area firms, foreign government offices and nonprofit organizations involved in international business
- More than 1.5 million Houstonians — or nearly one in four — are foreign born.

LIMITLESS LIVING


Houston is the most ethnically diverse city in the nation and the fastest growing metro, adding 736,000 residents since 2010. There are no limits to what Houston offers its residents, including a great quality of life without the hefty price tag.

 Host of Super Bowl LI in 2017

 More than 10,000 top-ranked eating establishments

 Largest museum district in the nation

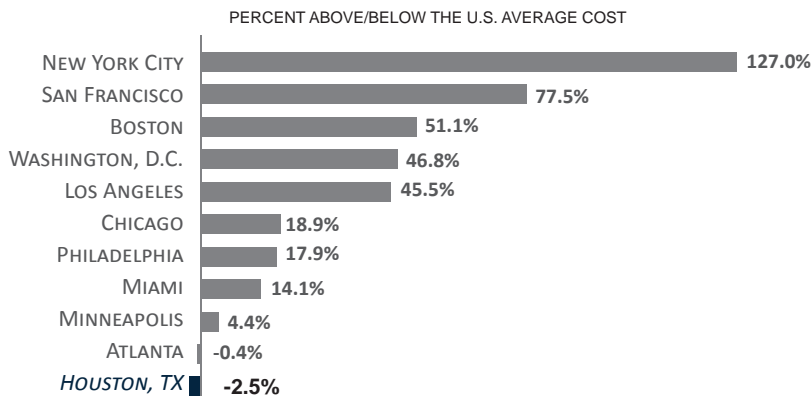
 578 Developed parks

 All resident performing arts organizations



HOUSTON

COST OF LIVING COMPARISONS: SELECTED METRO AREAS



Source: Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER), Cost of Living Index, First Quarter, 2016 (Data based on a survey of 260 urban areas, published May 2016)



STATE & REGIONAL INCENTIVES*

The Houston region offers a variety of attractive state and local incentives to companies of various sizes and stages of the business life cycle, including:

- Texas Enterprise Fund
- The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)
- Foreign Trade Zones
- Manufacturing Sales Tax Exemption
- Pollution Control Property Tax Abatements
- Skills Development Fund
- Freeport Tax Exemption
- Various Local Property Tax Abatement Programs

*To view the full list of available incentives, visit www.houston.org/business

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP

The Greater Houston Partnership (GHP) is the primary advocate of Houston's business community and is dedicated to building regional economic prosperity. GHP works in conjunction with the City of Houston Mayor's office and Houston's 63 regional economic development groups to:

- Assist in site selection analysis
- Assist in evaluating and applying for incentives
- Aid in the permitting process
- Provide data on key business factors
- Provide introductions to industry and innovation leaders and regional economic development organizations



GREATER HOUSTON
PARTNERSHIP

Making Houston Greater.

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