H-TOWN. THE BAYOU CITY. THE 713.

No matter what you call Houston, more and more people are calling it home.
In the last decade, Houston has gained more than 1 million new residents. And it’s expected to add 1.2 million more by 2029. That means Houston’s population is growing faster than the 10 largest cities in the United States. Why are so many newcomers flocking to the nation’s fourth largest city?

**BECAUSE HOUSTON IS ...**

### AFFORDABLE

Compared to the 20 most populous U.S. cities, Houston has:

- 2nd lowest cost of living
- 51% lower housing costs
- No state income tax

### DIVERSE

145 languages spoken, making it one of the nation’s most diverse cities

1 in 4 residents are foreign-born

90+ nations have consuls in Houston

300+ events, festivals and parades each year celebrating various cultures and ethnicities

---

Chinese Community Center

---

### A HEALTH CARE MECCA

Houston’s Texas Medical Center is the world’s largest concentration of health care institutions, with:

- 10 million patient visits each year
- 106,000+ employees
- 1 surgery every 3 minutes
- 1 birth every 20 minutes
- 63 medical, research and educational establishments, including MD Anderson, ranked top in the nation for cancer care

---

---

### A BIOTECH BONANZA

As a hub for medical device manufacturing, pharmaceuticals and health research, Houston is home to:

- 1,750 life science companies
- 18,960 life science and biotech researchers
- 470 accelerators, incubators and biotech investors
- 20% of all clinical trials in the nation
From day care to graduate school, Houston caters to education-seekers of all stripes. The Bayou City is home to:

- **60+** school districts
- **Dozens** of charter schools
- **200** private schools

Two Houston universities have achieved Tier 1 status from the Carnegie Foundation, placing them among the country’s top research universities:

- **Rice University**
- **University of Houston**

Houston’s Texas Medical Center includes:

- **5** medical schools
- **2** dental schools
- **9** nursing schools
- **2** public health schools

This includes:

- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center School of Health Professions

Houston is one of the few U.S. cities with resident, world-class companies in theater, ballet, symphony and opera.

**Houston Museum of Natural Science**

This one-of-a-kind dinosaur hall is curated by world-renowned paleontologist Robert Bakker, Ph.D., who served as an advisor on the Jurassic Park movies.

**Houston Theater District**

With six performance halls, this 17-block district has the second-largest number of theater seats in a downtown area in the U.S.

**Museum District**

Houston has 20 museums within 12 city blocks of each other.

Whether you’re craving Vietnamese Pho, a Cajun crawfish boil, Indian curry or Texas barbecue, the restaurant scene in Houston is booming with flavor and variety.

- **10,000+** restaurants serve cuisines from more than 70 countries
- **1,000+** food trucks
- **Chefs** regularly nominated and honored with James Beard Awards

The city’s six professional sports teams have long-winning traditions and loyal fans.

- **Astros**
  Major League Baseball
  2017 World Series champions

- **Texans**
  National Football League

- **Rockets**
  National Basketball Association

- **Houston Dynamo FC**
  Major League Soccer

- **The Houston Dash**
  National Women’s Soccer League

- **SaberCats**
  Major League Rugby
Houston’s outdoor destinations offer an escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. The city is home to:

- **627** parks, with four ranking among the largest
- **229** playgrounds
- **37** swimming pools
- **161** baseball and softball fields
- **176** running and hiking trails
- **87** soccer fields
- **345** miles of biking paths
- **37** miles of biking paths
- **10** dog parks
- **4** nature centers
- **61%** of Houston residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park
- **8** golf courses

**ACCESSIBLE**

Two major airports serving the Houston area make traveling easier. With both achieving four-star rankings from the international airport review and ranking site, Skytrax, Houston is the only city in the Western Hemisphere with two four-star rated airports.

- **George Bush Intercontinental (IAH)** provides service to 180+ destinations
- **William P. Hobby (HOU)** provides service to 80+ destinations

**GREEN**

You’ll never hear Houstonians complaining of boredom. With so many things to do, there’s always something fun going down in H-town.

**Miller Outdoor Theatre**
Located in the heart of Hermann Park, this open-air amphitheater stages free musical, dance and theatrical performances, with Saturday daytime shows for children.

**Space Center Houston**
As the official visitor center of NASA, this museum features more than 400 space artifacts, including the world’s largest collection of spacesuits and moon rocks.

**Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo**
Recognized as the largest rodeo and livestock show in the world, this three-week celebration features a world-championship Bar-B-Que Contest, nightly concerts by the biggest names in music, and a carnival and midway.

**Houston Zoo**
With more than 2.1 million visitors each year, the Houston Zoo is the second-most visited in the United States. The zoo houses more than 6,000 animals from 600 species, and offers a summer camp and petting zoo for children.

**Discovery Green**
This urban green space in the heart of Houston hosts year-round musical performances, craft shows, art installations, and ice skating in winter.

**Galveston Island**
A day of sand and surf is easily within reach on Galveston Island’s beaches, located just 50 miles southeast of Houston.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>HOUSTON TRIVIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>This landmark was dubbed the eighth wonder of the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>This Ben Stiller-directed film was made here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>This University of Houston quarterback won the Heisman Trophy in 1989.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Director Wes Anderson graduated from this private school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>These brothers founded Houston in 1836.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>His presidential library is in nearby College Station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>She was Houston’s first female mayor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>A 6-mile system of tunnels is located here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>This professional sports team won titles in 1994 and 1995.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The tallest building in Houston and all of Texas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>This Houston-born recording artist holds the title of “most awarded female recording artist of all time.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>This professional sports team has played in the World Series four times, in 2005, 2017 (the year they won!), 2019 and 2021.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© 2022 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center