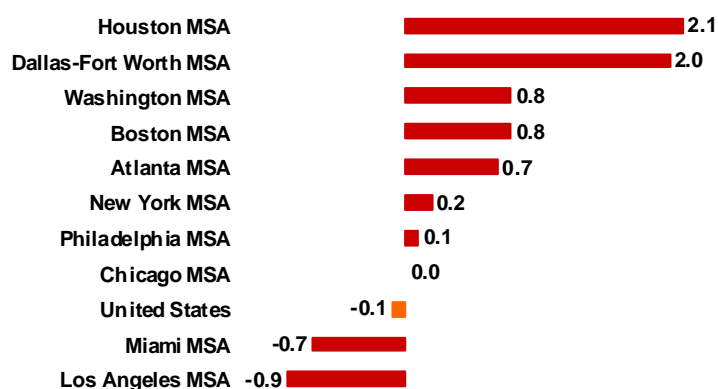


Employment Change in Major Metros

Employment in Houston is growing faster than in other major metro areas.

Employment Growth Rate

Percent Change in Nonfarm Payroll Employment:
10 Most Populous Metro Areas, Jun '07-Jun '08



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics press release, Jul 30, 2008

[Data](#)

- Of the 39 U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas with more than 1.5 million residents, 23 posted net job gains in the 12 months ending June '08. Houston registered a net gain of 54,100 jobs, or 2.11 percent.
- Among the 10 most populous metro areas, Houston posted the highest employment growth rate and the second largest nominal employment gain over that period.
- Among all 39 metropolitan areas over 1.5 million population, Houston also ranked second in nominal growth and first in percent change for the period. The second fastest growth among the 39 was in Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, up 2.07 percent; the greatest proportional loss, in Providence-New Bedford-Fall River, down 2.2 percent. Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington narrowly led Houston in net job growth, up 57,800, while Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana brought up the rear with a net loss of 48,900.
- Led by Houston, Texas' four major metropolitan areas are among the five fastest growing major metros in the nation — Houston (2.1 percent, #1), San Antonio (2.0 percent, #3,) Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington (2.0 percent, #4) and Austin-Round Rock (1.8 percent, #5) and.