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# HAVE YOU HEARD?

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## Houston Leads Nation in Job Growth

The Houston region registered the nation's biggest gain in private-sector employment, according to employment figures released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and reported by the *Houston Business Journal*.

The Houston area added 42,400 private-sector jobs between November 2007 and November 2008.

November 2008 was the 56<sup>th</sup> straight month in which Houston recorded a year-to-year gain in private-sector employment.

## Rice Among Best Value Universities

Rice University snagged the No. 4 spot among private universities on the *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* list of 100 best values in private institutions.

Selected from a pool of more than 600 private institutions provided by Peterson's, the schools in the Kiplinger 100 were ranked according to academic quality and affordability — with quality accounting for two-thirds of the total.

## Launching a Business? Come to Texas!

Texas ranks 4<sup>th</sup> on a new list of best states to start a business compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The Lone Star State won praise for having “the most globe-focused manufacturing sector in the country, with export sales at \$69,268 per worker—the highest of any state.”

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