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Houston best city for college grads - Bloomberg

Houston Business Journal

Houston ranks as the best city for new college graduates in the latest annual **listing** by Bloomberg Businessweek.

The report ranks what it considers the nation's top 30 cities for recent grads, based on the number of entry-level employers listed in AfterCollege data, as well as average annual pay, cost of living and unemployment rate.

Houston, which wasn't on the list last year, is followed by (in order) Washington, Dallas, Atlanta, Austin, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Denver, Columbus and Ft. Worth.

The city's low cost of living, average annual pay of \$44,880 and 61 entry-level employers helped give it a high ranking.

Although it has fewer entry-level employers posting jobs compared with New York and Washington, D.C., the city's low unemployment rate of 8.4 percent and cost of living "make it an ideal home for young people launching their careers," according to Bloomberg.

With 24 of the 57 biggest companies in Texas, Houston is home to big businesses, including Conoco Phillips (NYSE: COP), **Halliburton** (NYSE: HAL), and **Continental Airlines** (NYSE: CAL). Energy, aeronautics, and health-care companies round out the opportunities in Houston.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin