

America's best jobs in the hottest markets

The great American hiring boom is slowing down--but as labor cools with the rest of the economy, a few choice regions will stay red-hot. You just have to know where to look.

By [Paul Kaihla](#), Business 2.0 Magazine senior writer

#9. AUSTIN, TX

2-year job-growth forecast: 4.9%

Metropolitan-area population: 1.5 million

Who's hiring now: Deloitte & Touche, Hyatt Hotels, Samsung, University of Texas at Austin

Hottest jobs Senior software engineer (\$97,800), senior electronics design engineer (\$97,500), senior software developer (\$92,700), computer hardware engineer (\$83,600), semiconductor process engineer (\$81,600)

Like other U.S. high-tech hubs, Austin was hit hard in the tech bust and was slow to start growing again. But grown it has: The region's employment level now exceeds its dotcom-era high.

Austin's rep has largely rested on its dual status as the headquarters of Dell and a place where chipmakers cluster. But more and more startups are gaining footholds here too. New patents issued to Austin firms rose by 20 percent in the past year, while venture capital investment jumped by 50 percent. At the same time, the old standbys are adding muscle to the labor market: Dell and the University of Texas, the area's largest public-sector employer, are in hiring mode, and Samsung's upcoming chip plant will ultimately create 800 new openings. Another plus: The housing market isn't suffering as much locally as in most other parts of the country.

Courtesy of JB Goodwin