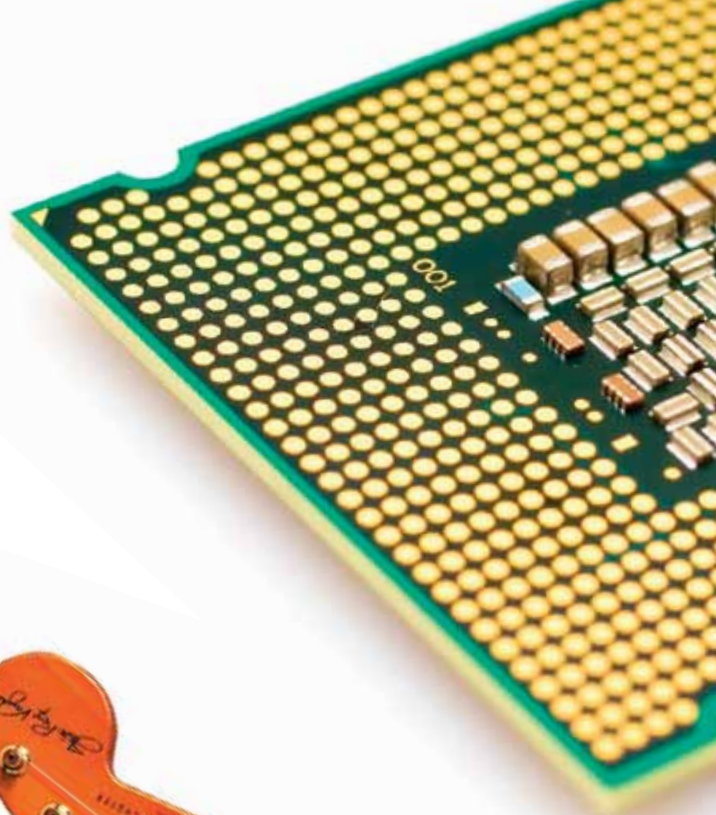


AUSTIN RANKS 2ND  
HOTTEST JOB MARKET  
IN AMERICA. NOT  
INCLUDING THE NEARLY  
360 DAYS OF BEAUTIFUL  
SUNSHINE.

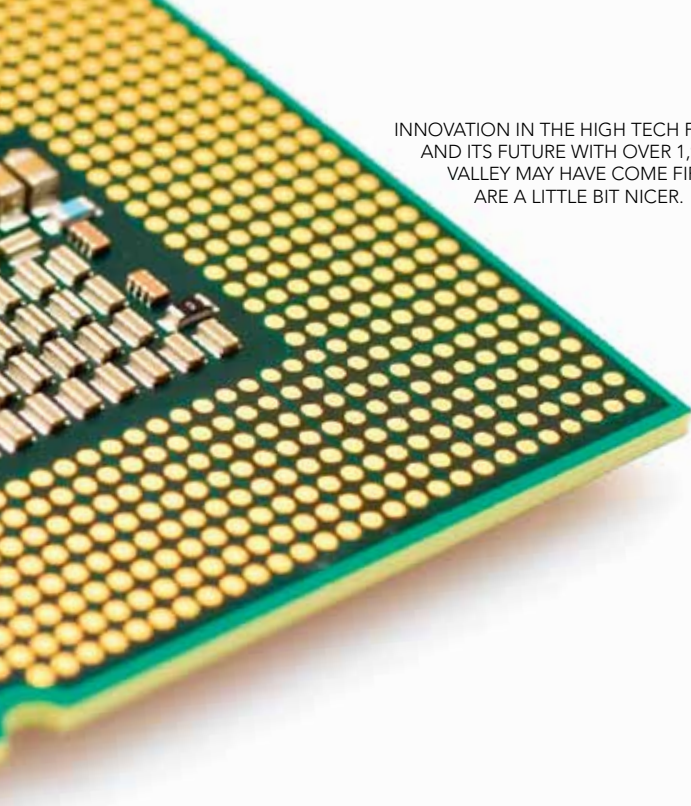


AUSTINITES  
ARE SOME OF  
THE FITTEST  
PEOPLE IN  
TEXAS. MILES OF  
HIKE & BIKE TRAILS IN  
AND AROUND THE CITY MAKE  
IT REALLY HARD TO BE COUCH  
POTATOES.




WE PUT OUR MONEY WHERE OUR MOUTH IS.  
AUSTIN ENERGY HAS A SIGNIFICANT REBATE  
FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLAR  
INSTALLATION.





INNOVATION IN THE HIGH TECH FIELD IS PART OF AUSTIN'S HERITAGE  
AND ITS FUTURE WITH OVER 1,929 PATENTS ISSUED LAST YEAR. THE  
VALLEY MAY HAVE COME FIRST, BUT WE THINK OUR SILICON HILLS  
ARE A LITTLE BIT NICER.



IT'S AN EMBARRASSMENT OF  
RICHES – WHAT CAN WE SAY?  
NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE  
IN THE CITY, AUTHENTIC  
TEXMEX CUISINE IS ALWAYS  
JUST AROUND THE  
CORNER.

# Austin. Texas.

*Welcome home!*



LIVE MUSIC, AND LOTS OF IT. AUSTIN BOASTS  
AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF MUSICIANS AND  
VENUES, WHICH BRING IN OVER \$1 BILLION  
IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY EACH YEAR





## Central & Accessible

Austin, the capital of the nation's most business-friendly state, is located in the heart of the Central Texas region, one of the fastest growing job markets and economies in the United States.

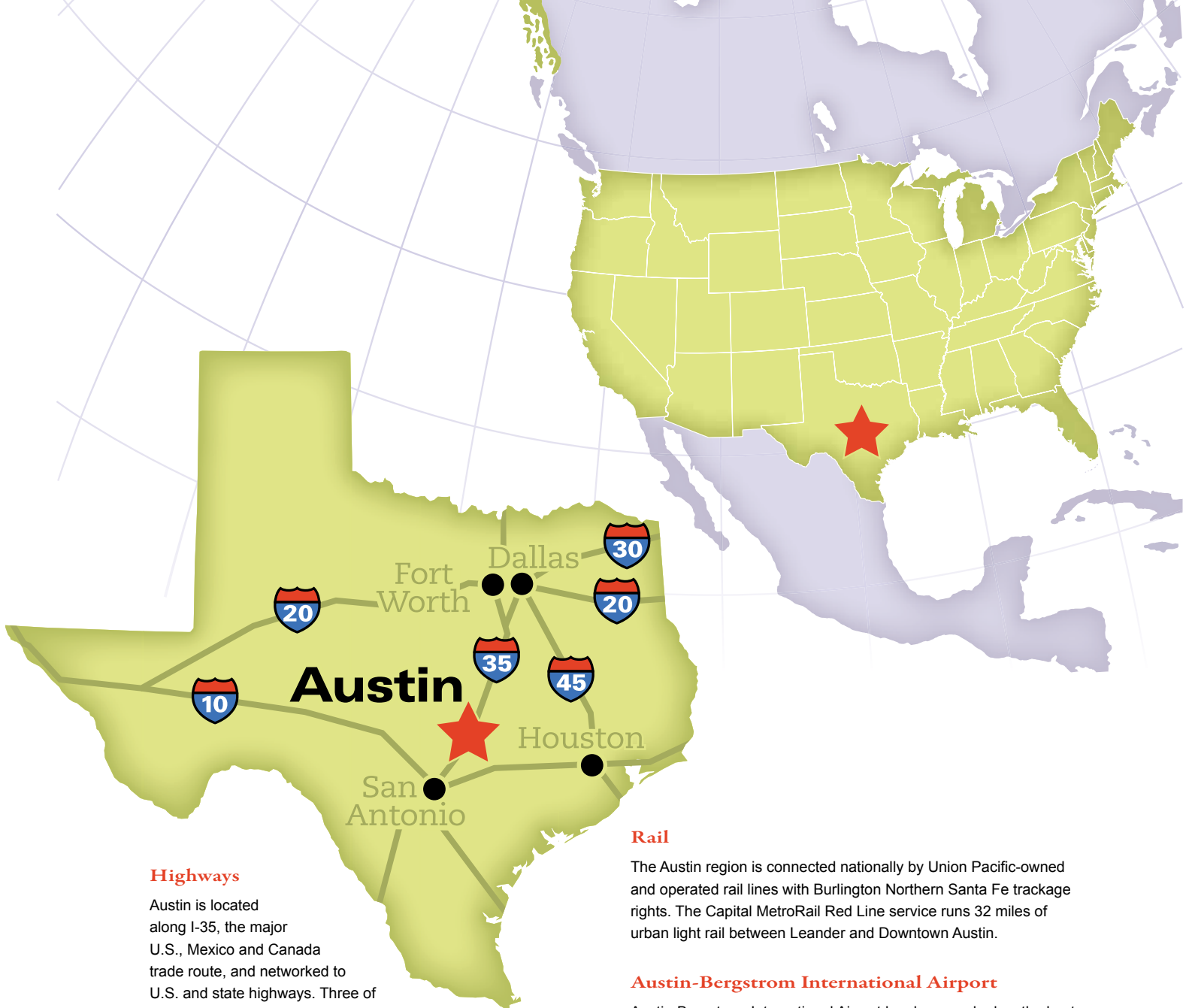
The Austin metropolitan area is home to 1.6 million residents and has long enjoyed unemployment rates lower than the state and nation. The combination of prized quality of life, talented workforce and extraordinary private business opportunities makes the Austin region the place to do business, live and raise a family. The Austin area is a magnet for migrating talent and the numbers speak volumes: the Austin MSA population grew 48% in the 1990s and an additional 28% between 2000 and 2007.

Austin thrives on a healthy balance of technology, business services, education and government, and those sectors thrive in Austin. The city boasts proven telecom, transportation, electric and water capacities to satisfy diverse operations ranging from sensitive data center operations to semiconductor manufacturing, as well as Fortune 500 firms and international businesses. It is Austin's central location and land and air transportation networks that make it favorable for materials distribution and business travel.

1866 – The oldest business and live music venue in Austin (and Texas) opens: Scholz Garten.



1871 - Austin's first railroad connection via the Houston and Texas Central Railway opened. Austin was transformed into a trading center, with the population more than doubling in six years.



### Highways

Austin is located along I-35, the major U.S., Mexico and Canada trade route, and networked to U.S. and state highways. Three of the nation's largest cities—Houston, San Antonio and Dallas—are no more than three hours away. Laredo, the major port of entry between the U.S. and Mexico, is four hours from Austin via I-35.

### Rail

The Austin region is connected nationally by Union Pacific-owned and operated rail lines with Burlington Northern Santa Fe trackage rights. The Capital MetroRail Red Line service runs 32 miles of urban light rail between Leander and Downtown Austin.

### Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport has been ranked as the best in customer service in North America and second among airports its size around the globe by the Airports Council International (ACI) Airport Service Quality Survey. As gateway to Austin, the airport reflects the community's culture with live music performances, local art displayed and area restaurants presenting a real taste of Austin. Austin-Bergstrom served 8.2 million passengers in 2009 and currently has nonstop service to 38 destinations in the U.S. and one-stop connections to the world. Cargo shipped from ABIA in 2009 totaled over 156 million pounds and in past years the facility has handled as much as 357.3 million pounds.

### Port Access

Austin is within 250 miles of four of the top 10 U.S. ports (ranked by total tons of foreign and domestic commerce): Houston, Beaumont, Corpus Christi and Texas City. Texas ports move an average of 317 million metric tons of cargo annually. This is about 17% of the total U.S. port tonnage and over 50% of U.S. foreign imports and exports.



1881 - Austin City Public Schools admitted their first classes. In that same year, the Tillotson Collegiate and Normal Institute, predecessor of Huston-Tillotson College, opened its doors.







# The Austin Edge

## Austin's Competitive Advantages

### Creative Population

Austin is a world-renowned technology city founded on outstanding university-based research, an entrepreneurial and creative culture, venture funding, a broad array of support services and a rich pool of intellectual talent and leadership — providing businesses a framework for innovation and growth.

### Robust, Educated Workforce

Austin is a young city. Nearly half of Austin's residents fall between 18 and 44, with a median age below the U.S. median by four years. Austin is a highly educated city with 43% of all adults in the city holding a bachelor's degree or above. Beyond the state's flagship, UT-Austin campus, the metro area boasts eight colleges and universities serving over 118,000 students. With an assortment of top 10 and top 25 programs, the University of Texas at Austin provides world-class high-technology programs such as bioengineering, computer science, engineering, business, nanotechnology, bioinformatics, and pharmaceutical research.

### Center of Commercialization

Austin is a hotbed for commercialization with university programs like UT-Austin's IC<sup>2</sup> and the associated Austin Technology Incubator and Office of Technology Commercialization, as well as community efforts such as the Clean Energy Park and Advanced Technology Development Facility.

### Low Cost of Business

Texas collects no personal or corporate income tax. Residential and commercial properties remain at prices well below other urban areas. Austin's cost of living index is 96 compared to San Francisco, whose index is 187, and Chicago, who has a 126 cost of living index.

### Transportation

The Austin-Bergstrom International Airport provides non-stop and international flights, as well as connecting service to almost any location on the globe (not to mention some good shopping, eating, and live music while you wait). Interstate highways and shipping routes provide easy transport and travel north to Canada, south to Mexico, and anywhere in between.

### All the Amenities

Austin ranks fourth among Travel & Leisure magazine and America Online's "Most Loved Cities". Miles of hike and bike trails, city parks, freshwater pools, plus an outstanding nightlife, family friendly atmosphere, and a great place for singles. Few places can offer all this to you — Austin can.



1888 – Capitol building completed.



# Austin's Industry Focus

## Green Industries

Whether your focus is solar, wind power, fuel cells, biomass and geothermal resources, biofuels or sustainable energy-saving technologies, Austin is the right place, and now is the right time, to plug in to the fast-growing clean energy industry.

In 2007, SustainLane Government ranked Austin #1 in Clean Tech Incubation Clusters for combining Cleantech investments, infrastructure and supportive policies into a physical "cluster."

Solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar thin film technology companies are migrating to Austin due to the well-established semiconductor industry and the vast similarities that exist between semiconductor and PV technologies. The new Clean Energy Park will provide space and cluster benefits to start-ups, and the Clean Energy Incubator can also help accelerate new technologies to market.

## Health Care & Life Sciences

The Milken Institute has called Austin one of the top 12 biotech and life science centers, noting that clustering innovative activity is imperative to the industry. The Health Care and Life Sciences sector is broadly defined and extends far beyond health care providers to include biotechnology, scientific research and testing activities, and the manufacture of medical products and devices and medicine/pharmaceutical products. These vertical linkages can have a profound impact on the delivery of health care services.

## Corporate & Professional Operations

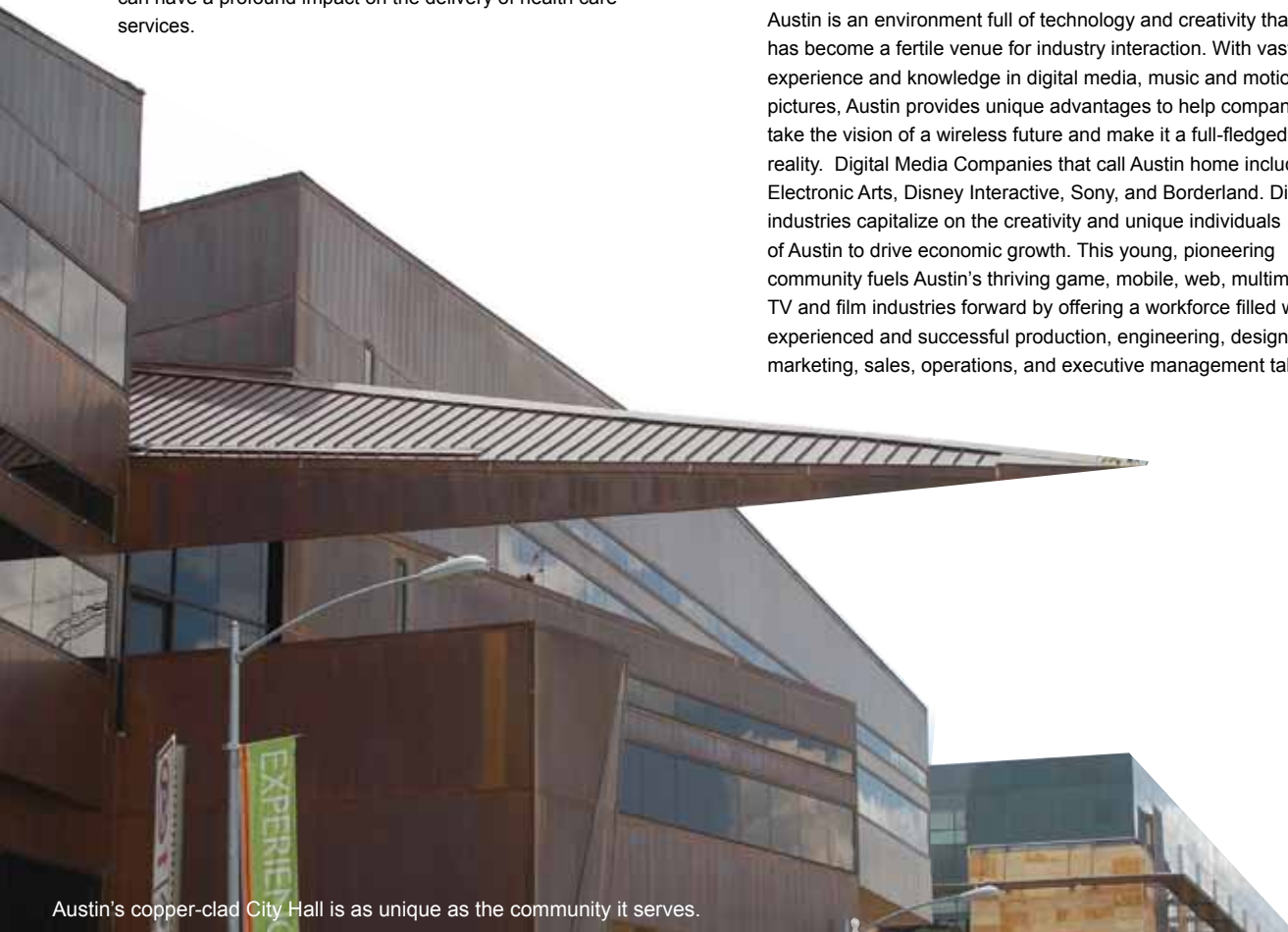
Austin's attractiveness as a place to live and work is a huge draw for corporate and regional headquarters. Our technological infrastructure, business climate, talent pool, natural beauty and active nightlife makes Austin a coveted home for diverse companies like AMD, Samsung, Dell, IBM, Apple Computer, Google, PayPal, Freescale Semiconductor, Dimensional Fund Advisors, National Instruments, Borland Software and Tokyo Electron, to name a few. Home-grown success stories include Fortune 500 giants Dell and Whole Foods Market.

## Convergent Technologies

Austin enjoys a wealth of hardware manufacturers, software developers, and technology service providers who have sited their research, development, and design centers in Austin due to the region's extraordinary clustering of like operations and talent. Austin is home to the largest single foreign investment in the U.S. with Samsung's 300 MM wafer fab which opened in 2006. The Austin has a highly educated workforce and significant research and development activities in the high tech industries. Austin companies provide development applications and tools; devices, platforms and peripherals; middleware and development software; art, animation, audio and video software tools; and network technologies and services.

## Creative Industries

Austin is an environment full of technology and creativity that has become a fertile venue for industry interaction. With vast experience and knowledge in digital media, music and motion pictures, Austin provides unique advantages to help companies take the vision of a wireless future and make it a full-fledged reality. Digital Media Companies that call Austin home include Electronic Arts, Disney Interactive, Sony, and Borderland. Digital industries capitalize on the creativity and unique individuals of Austin to drive economic growth. This young, pioneering community fuels Austin's thriving game, mobile, web, multimedia, TV and film industries forward by offering a workforce filled with experienced and successful production, engineering, design, art, marketing, sales, operations, and executive management talent.



Austin's copper-clad City Hall is as unique as the community it serves.

1895 – Installation of Austin's first citywide street lighting system of 31 "moonlight towers," each 165 feet high.



1902 - The City of Austin purchased Austin's first utility company, the Austin Water, Light and Power Co., and has owned its generation and distribution system ever since.



# Research, Development & Commercialization

Eight colleges and universities with renowned academic programs and enrollment of over 118,000 students provide an ample supply of well-educated workers to area employers. The student population within 100 miles of Austin exceeds 330,000, providing one of the world's strongest talent pools. Currently, a total of 43% percent of adults in Austin hold a bachelor's or advanced degree. The University of Texas at Austin continues to be a research and development powerhouse with world-class programs in bioengineering, computer science, engineering, business, nanotechnology, bioinformatics and pharmaceutical research. Seven doctoral programs ranked in the nation's top 10, and 22 other Austin academic programs ranked in the top 25.

## The University of Texas Research Centers

The University of Texas (UT) has more than 100 research units serving Texas and the nation. UT is one of the most highly rated public research universities in the United States leading breakthroughs in emerging areas of science.

### UT Office of Technology Commercialization

The Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) at UT Austin is a bridge between the research community at the University and commercialization partners, ensuring smooth and fast transfer of intellectual property created at the University.

### IC<sup>2</sup> Institute

As an interdisciplinary research unit of UT Austin, the IC<sup>2</sup> Institute has advanced the theory and practice of entrepreneurial wealth creation. The theories and hypotheses developed at IC<sup>2</sup> are tested in life-scale through several world-recognized programs:

**The Austin Technology Incubator** is one of the world's most prominent business incubators.

**The Bureau of Business Research** provides Texas leaders with research data to strengthen the state's economy, the Global Commercialization Group, to catalyze emerging knowledge-based economies throughout the world.

**Master of Science in Technology Commercialization** offers an executive degree program to equip students to transfer technologies from the lab to the marketplace.

## Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization

The Central Texas Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization (CenTex RCIC) is a catalyst for emerging technology research, development, commercialization, and start-up incubation in Central Texas as part of Texas' efforts to remain globally competitive. The center focuses on integrating technology development and commercialization.

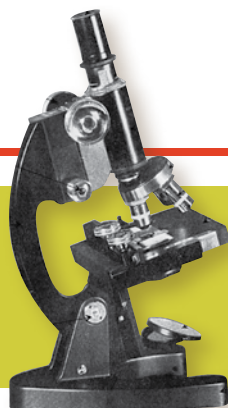
## Patent Activity

Austin has earned its reputation as a city of creativity, innovation and invention and Austin is extremely competitive in the number of patents issued yearly. The University of Texas is third in the nation in the number of patents earned. Annual research funding reached \$497 million in 2006-07 and more than 400 patents have been awarded to the University of Texas at Austin since its inception. In 2006, The Wall Street Journal named Austin the No. 3 Most Inventive City due to patent activity.



The University of Texas at Austin molecular biology doctoral student Jeff Tabor holds a bacteria-produced photo of an enlarged *E. coli* bacterium - a "self portrait."

Photo: Marsha Miller/University of Texas at Austin



1946 - The site for what is now the University of Texas at Austin's J.J. Pickle Research Campus was leased from the federal government.

1950 - Seaholm Power Plant is built with unique solid concrete construction; Austin's second power generation facility;





# Beautiful. Naturally.

## **Natural beauty. It's an Austin tradition.**

Balmy weather, surrounding hill country, lakes, nightlife, sports, universities and affordable housing make Austin a truly great place to live. Nowhere else in the continental US can you find such a perfect mix of living and business conditions as you will in Austin.

## **It's in the water**

The Highland Lakes pass right through Austin, giving Austinites year-round access to world-class fishing, boating and waterfront fun. The seven different lakes all have their own personality, from the fantastic fishing of Lake Buchanan and Lake Travis, to the boating fun of Lake LBJ and the hike and bike trails and rowing facilities on Lady Bird Lake. There are natural springs and pools that are like nothing else on earth. Barton Springs has been called "the jewel of Austin" for years. Its constant flow of 68 degree, crystal clear springwater is a center of sunbathers and swimmers.

## **A liveable downtown and Hill Country scenery.**

If you're looking to live in one of America's great downtowns or get out into the countryside, you'll love the choices Austin has to offer. Downtown Austin has been described in a hundred ways: Casual, elegant, artistic, fashionable, intellectual and techie. With more live music venues than probably anywhere on earth, there is always a beat going that keeps downtown moving. The Warehouse District offers some of the finest restaurants and clubs in Texas, and Congress Avenue is always lively.

With thousands of downtown loft spaces, the area is quickly becoming a walkable, living feast for the senses.

Want a bit of country? The surrounding hill country is beautiful. Rolling green hills, lakes, rivers, great oaks and rugged cliffs. All within sight of a bustling downtown.

There are dozens of family-friendly communities with schools and shopping nearby and easy access to downtown. Weekend trips to some of Austin's small, historic neighbors will always be a quick vacation. Quintessential Texas small towns are a just short drive in any direction from Austin. Get out to Gruene for a relaxing trip down the Guadalupe River, or head to Fredricksburg for German schnitzel and a weekend of antique shopping and country relaxation.

## **Family friendly and single-sational.**

Whether you're looking for the perfect place to raise a family or wanting entertainment every night of the week, Austin has you covered.

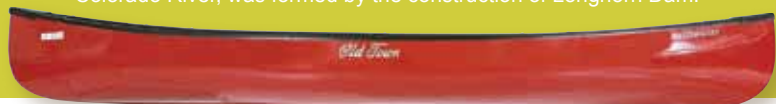
For families, Austin area schools are some of the highest rated in the state of Texas. Fifteen of Austin area schools made Newsweek's "Top of the Class" list in 2007 and dozens of area schools receive "Exemplary" ratings.

When school is out, there is an unlimited amount of options for families to enjoy their time together. From Barton Springs to the Austin Children's Museum to hundreds of miles of hike and bike trails, every family in Austin has great choices.

Austin is continually ranked as one of the "Best Cities for Singles". This comes as no surprise. In Austin you'll find some of the nation's most affordable housing not to mention entertainment venues tailor made for the outdoor type and the art lover.



1960 – Town Lake/Lady Bird Lake, the southernmost of the Highland Lakes on the Colorado River, was formed by the construction of Longhorn Dam.







At 613 feet, the Frost Tower is the tallest commercial structure in Austin.

# Austin by the numbers

The 14th largest city in the US, Austin rises to the top in many ways. Here are just a few:

## 1 Fastest-growing metro

Austin has an estimated 32% increase in gross metropolitan product from 2007-2012 according to Forbes.com.

## 1 Top-Rated City in Global Rankings of Post-Recession Economies

Austin was one of the top-rated metro areas worldwide, and the highest in the U.S., in a Brookings Institution analysis of how 150 cities around the globe are recovering from the recession.

## 1 Best place in America to buy a home.

Austin has one of the steadiest home price structures in the country.

## 2 Second Most Innovative City.

Austin ranked second on Forbes' list of America's Most Innovative Cities.

## 10 Top ten places to live.

Austin consistently ranks in the top ten places to live by almost every major measurement.

## 1 Best City for the Next Decade

Kiplinger's Personal Finance named Austin the top city in its list of 10 best cities for the next decade, with a focus on locales that specialize in innovative thinking.

## 6 Among America's Smartest Cities

Austin's highly college-educated populace ranked it near the top of CNNMoney's national rankings.

## 2 Second rated city for opportunities for young adults.

American Cities Business Journal found Austin to have the highest population of people aged 18 to 34 of any city surveyed. Cities with large concentrations of young adults are more likely to prosper.

## 1 Most digitally savvy city.

Scarborough Research rated Austin adults as the most technologically advanced in the nation.

## 1 Top Green Energy program in the nation.

Austin rated top in over 800 utilities across the nation for use of renewable energy sales.

1967 - Austin's emergence as a center for high technology is accelerated when IBM located in Austin. They were followed by Texas Instruments in 1969 and Motorola in 1974.



1976 - Austin City Limits premiered on public television. It has become American television's longest-running concert music program



# Austin infrastructure

## POWER

Austin Energy, the nation's 9th largest publicly-owned electric utility, plays an integral role in Austin's goal to provide the most livable community in the country. Since 1895, the utility has provided clean, affordable and reliable energy and world-class customer service in Austin.

Austin Energy also provides very competitive rates in large measure due to a generation diversity that includes renewables, nuclear, coal and natural gas. The Utility offers highly competitive rates to large users and serves a significant role in attracting and retaining clean industries to the Austin area.

All utilities strive for high reliability, but Austin Energy recognizes the need for high quality power as well. It offers several programs specifically designed for power sensitive industries such as semiconductors. Our transmission system outperforms

Austin has more 100% green-powered businesses than any other city in America. At 753 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) in subscriptions and growing, Austin Energy's GreenChoice® is the nation's most successful utility-sponsored green energy program.

## WATER

The Austin Water Utility (AWU) currently operates three water treatment plants, two wastewater treatment plants and a biosolids reuse facility. The City draws water from the Colorado River into three water treatment plants that have a rated combined maximum capacity of 310 million gallons per day (mgd) and a storage capacity of 167 million gallons. AWU goes above and beyond the Environmental Protection Agency's protocols for safe drinking water, and supplies some of the nation's cleanest water. AWU was recently ranked #2 in the nation for having the cleanest tap water according to a study by Forbes.com.

AWU's Water Conservation Program offers rebates to industrial, commercial, and institutional customers for installing new equipment and processes that conserve water at existing facilities. Some projects may also qualify for property or sales tax exemptions or other incentives. Examples of eligible upgrades include:

- Capturing on-site sources of water such as air conditioner condensate, rainwater or foundation drain water to use for landscape irrigation or cooling tower makeup.
- Reuse of high quality rinse water and installing water saving equipment or processes.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Austin provides a rich, modern communications infrastructure. True to Austin's reputation as a high-technology center, businesses can rely on a sophisticated, reliable and robust suite of information technologies to maintain their competitive advantage.

Fiber optic providers in Austin include: AT&T, Frontier, Grande Communications, Level 3, MCI/Verizon, XO Communication, Qwest, Sprint, SunGard, Time Warner Telecom and Williams Global Crossings.

The Austin Wireless Alliance serves as a centralized organization for wireless technologies, with a focus on enterprise mobility. The City of Austin provides a number of wireless hotspots in public spaces, and works with wireless stakeholders to plan the future of wireless infrastructure in the area.



Austin Energy sources include renewables, nuclear, coal and natural gas.

the industry average and we have developed performance monitoring and criteria that guides maintenance, system improvements, and new construction. Austin Energy is also a leader in providing large and power sensitive users with the most sophisticated real time power quality monitoring capability.

Austin Energy has the most comprehensive energy efficiency program in the country. The Utility provides rebates of up to \$200,000 to businesses for energy efficiency improvements and a highly professional and experienced staff to assist interested customers. The result is cutting edge energy efficiency expertise in areas such as building commissioning, data center energy efficiency, and industrial conservation. Austin Energy also owns a chilled water business and has exceptional expertise in on-site generation with two state-of-the-art combined heat and power plants in operation.



1970s and 1980s – Passage of a series of environmental-protection ordinances to protect streams, lakes, watersheds, and wooded hills from environmental degradation.







The "Solar Sunflowers" in front of Mueller pay tribute to the creative energy driving Austin's fast-growing clean energy cluster.

## EGRSO Economic Development Programs

The City of Austin Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO) was created to manage the city's economic development policies and to promote and facilitate sustainable growth. The City of Austin offers a number of programs and incentives to support relocating and existing companies, along with those available from Travis County and the State of Texas. We work with firms to put together a customized package based on their specific needs to best support them in their move, or to assist them in their current Austin location.

EGRSO houses the Economic Development Division and other focused economic development programs, including the Emerging Technology Program, International Program and the Small Business Development Program. The mission of the Economic Development Division is to enhance livability and economic viability in a manner that preserves the character of Austin and its environment.

Widely recognized as "business-friendly," the City of Austin offers economic development grants, freeport exemptions, and financing programs for qualified new and existing companies.

### City of Austin Economic Development Division Programs

#### Economic Development Grants

As a component of the City's Economic Development Policy, the City of Austin provides economic development grants based on sales or property taxes under the authority of Texas Chapter 380 of the Local Government Code. Austin ensures quality city investment into projects that match Austin's competitive advantages and results in viable opportunities for the local workforce. Contact the City of Austin Economic Development Manager at (512) 974-6381 for additional information.

#### Business Retention and Expansion

The City of Austin works in conjunction with the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce on the Business Retention and Expansion Program. With a goal of helping local businesses to grow and thrive, both Chamber and City employees visit with existing companies to gather data to guide policy direction, and to provide assistance where needed. In addition, business counseling and other services are provided by the Small Business Development Program and Emerging Technologies team.

#### Creative Industries Loan Guarantee Program

This loan guarantee program is designed to encourage private lenders to provide financing for creative industries in Austin, non-profits related to those creative industries, and individuals involved in those creative industries for the purpose of job creation and retention.

#### Small Business Development Program (SBDP)

The Small Business Development Program (SBDP) helps to develop and empower small and emerging businesses in order to strengthen their business capability and survivability. To achieve this goal, SBDP provides development and technical assistance to small business owners, as well as a large range of resources and points of contact to outside resources beyond the scope of SBDP.

#### Freeport Exemption

An exemption from ad valorem taxation is available for various types of goods that are detained in Texas for a short period of time, including: goods, wares, merchandise, ores and certain aircraft and aircraft parts. Freeport property qualifies for an exemption if it has been detained in the state for 175 days or less for the purpose of assembly, storage, manufacturing, processing or fabricating.



1980s – Two major high-technology research consortiums start in Austin: Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation (MCC) and Sematech.





# State of Texas

## Economic Development Incentives

The State of Texas offers a variety of incentive programs designed to make capital more available for businesses looking to expand or locate in the state, as well as for companies already doing business in Texas. Committed to retaining its welcoming reputation, Texas stands ready to help businesses expand and become globally competitive. For more information about these programs, contact the Economic Development and Tourism division of the Governor's Office at (512) 936-0101 or visit <http://governor.state.tx.us/ecodev>.

### Emerging Technology Fund (ETF)

The Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) helps expedite the development and commercialization of new technologies through matching and commercialization funds, as well as funds to help recruit first-rate research talent. New ideas and products are brought to the marketplace by helping companies take ideas from concept to development to ready for the marketplace. The ETF provides Texas with an unparalleled advantage by accelerating the development and commercialization of new technologies, and by helping to recruit the best research talent in the world.

### Enterprise Fund

The Texas Enterprise Fund is an allocation of \$295 million, which serves as a "deal closing fund," and can be used for a variety of economic development projects, including infrastructure development, community development, job training programs and business incentives. The funds are used primarily to attract new business to the state or assist with the substantial expansion of an existing business as part of a competitive recruitment situation.

### Enterprise Zone Program

The Enterprise Zone Program is an economic development tool for local communities to partner with the State of Texas to promote job creation and capital investment in economically distressed areas of the state. Local communities must nominate a company as an Enterprise Project to be eligible to participate in the Enterprise Zone Program. Austin has an allocation of 6 projects to be used each biennium.



### Franchise Tax Credits

The State of Texas provides several Franchise Tax Exemptions. One example is the Solar Energy Franchise Tax Exemption, which is provided to corporations in Texas engaged solely in the business of manufacturing, selling, or installing solar energy devices.

### Sales and Use Tax Exemption

The State of Texas provides several Sales and Use Tax Exemptions. Examples include the Sales Tax Exemption for computer and video game companies, filmmakers, and audio master tape producers.

### Product Development and Small Business Incubator Funds

The Product Development and Small Business Incubator Funds are revolving loan programs to support the development of small businesses or eligible products with a statutory preference given in the areas of semiconductor, nanotechnology, biotechnology and biomedicine.

### Texas Moving Image Industry Incentive Program

The Texas Moving Image Industry Program offers qualifying feature films, television programs, commercials and video games the opportunity to receive a payment equal to 5% of eligible in-state spending, including wages paid to Texas residents, upon completion of an audit of Texas expenditures. Both live-action and animated projects are eligible, and the incentive program is in addition to Texas' Sales Tax Exemptions.

1999 – Austin-Bergstrom International Airport opens as the first U.S. conversion of an Air Force Base to commercial airport since the end of the Cold War.



2006 – Samsung selects Austin for their 300mm Fabrication Plant, the largest single investment by a foreign company in the United States.





# EGRSO

## Economic Development Partnerships

Austin's growth and success is sustained by the ongoing relationships and collaboration in both the public and private sectors. Together with our partners, we provide a variety of services and a network of information to support the success of Austin's business community. With extensive coordination and cooperation, we are able to provide a united effort to plan for the success of our target industries and individual companies. The City of Austin has developed economic development partnerships with the following organizations:

### **Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce (GACC)**

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce provides ongoing assistance to relocating and existing companies, from initial inquiry to full employment. Chamber staff can act as area-wide resources for community presentations, initial interface with company employees, spousal employment assistance, residential real estate brokers/tours, special mortgage and banking programs, child care/elder care, and cultural acclimation. The Chamber's Business Retention and Expansion team works regularly with existing companies to address their concerns and needs and provide a policy platform to support local business.

### **The Multi-Ethnic Chamber Alliance (MECA)**

The MECA brings diverse groups together for the purpose of advancing business initiatives, leveraging resources, and creating networking opportunities for small business owners. The founding chambers are the Austin Asian American, Capital City African American, and the Greater Austin Hispanic Chambers of Commerce.

### **Austin Technology Council**

The Austin Technology Council leverages a rich pool of local, national and international talent and resources to help address the business-critical needs of CEOs and their executive teams, facilitate business-building alliances domestically and globally and enhance business operations through the sharing of best practices.

### **The University of Texas at Austin (UT)**

UT's vast resources are drawn together to help strengthen workforce education and development, establish innovative educational programs in technology, research partnerships with the private sector and produce basic and applied research to support the knowledge-based industries in Austin. Through its Austin Technology Incubator, which is internationally recognized for technology commercialization, the university has spun-off 65 companies that have generated cumulatively more than \$1.2 billion in revenue. The university's research facilities, including the J.J. Pickle Research Campus, Marine Science Institute and McDonald Observatory, house more than 90 research units. Due to UT-Austin's undertaking of such high education and research standards, more than 400 patents have been awarded to the university since its inception.

### **Austin Technology Incubator**

The Austin Technology Incubator (ATI) is one of the world's most prominent business incubators. Located at UT Austin, under the IC<sup>2</sup> umbrella, ATI boasts the Clean Energy Incubator, IT & Wireless Incubator, and Biotechnology Incubator, with additional incubators planned for the future. ATI works with early stage companies to provide them expert assistance and guidance through funding rounds to get ideas from concept to market and increase their chances of success by reducing overall time-to-market. With extensive technology area and funding expertise, ATI is a key partner for the City of Austin in helping companies commercialize their technologies.

### **Skillpoint Alliance**

The City of Austin contracts with Skillpoint Alliance for workforce development services. Skillpoint is a nonprofit organization that helps train and educate workers, connects workers to jobs, and strives to meet the business community's workforce needs. In addition to providing general professional development services, Skillpoint provides specialized services for three cluster industries: semiconductors, health care, and information technology/digital media. The organization also helps to address participation gaps in higher education by race, ethnicity, and income.

### **Central Texas Regional Center of Innovation & Commercialization (RCIC)**

The Central Texas Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization (RCIC) works to promote emerging technology research, development, commercialization, and start-up incubation to companies in the Austin area. To accomplish this task, the RCIC provides companies with information and assistance in applying for Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) awards. The RCIC offers regular workshops and one-on-one assistance to companies to counsel them through the process and increase the odds of receiving an award. Austin regularly receives more than its proportional share of ETF awards, partially due to the excellent efforts of the CenTex RCIC.



Once you see all that Austin and Central Texas have to offer, we're sure you'll become the next company to call Austin home.









e.g.r.s.o.

economic growth & redevelopment services office

301 West 2nd Street Suite 2030 Austin, Texas 78701 512-974-7819 [www.ci.austin.tx.us/redevelopment](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/redevelopment)