

The Corpus Christi MSA posted a dramatic increase in the Milken Institute Best Performing Cities 2007 rankings for large cities. **The Corpus Christi was one of the biggest gainers moving ranking 65th in 2007 compared to 158th in 2005. The job growth component of the rankings was even more impressive with the ranking improving to 39th from 173rd.**

The ranking index, from the nonprofit independent economic think tank, rates the economic performance of both large and small U.S. cities through a Best Performing Cities Index. Milken ranks U.S. metros based on their ability to create and sustain jobs. It includes both long-term (five years) and short-term (one year) measurements of employment and salary growth. There are also four measurements of technology output growth, which are included because of technology's crucial role in regional economic growth.

Biggest Gainers
 Change in Rankings

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	2007 Rank	2005 Rank	Spots Climbed
Lafayette, LA	24	143	+119
Peoria, IL	68	168	+100
Mobile, AL	88	186	+98
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	32	129	+97
Corpus Christi, TX	65	158	+93
Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	85	167	+82
Tulsa, OK	98	180	+82
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	107	185	+78
San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City, CA*	97	173	+76
Wichita, KS	114	189	+75
Salt Lake City, UT	18	87	+69
Dallas-Plano-Irving, TX*	59	125	+66
Baton Rouge, LA	67	132	+65
Columbia, SC	69	134	+65
Rockford, IL	132	190	+58
Wilmington, NC	2	59	+57
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA	38	95	+57
Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, SC	121	178	+57
Asheville, NC	117	171	+54
Birmingham-Hoover, AL	101	153	+52

Source: Milken Institute
 *Indicates Metropolitan Division