#297 of 359 U.S. metros on 5-Year Home Price Growth — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Houston MSA Ranks #297 in 5-Year Home Price Growth

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THE DATA

32.7%

five-year change in the metropolitan house price index (2026 Q2)

Houston’s growth rate places it near the bottom of 359 U.S. metros.

This figure reflects a five-year compound growth in home values across the entire Houston-Pasadena-The Woodlands MSA, based on FHFA All-Transactions data. Despite sustained job growth and construction activity, the MSA’s pace lags behind national leaders in price appreciation. The data suggests that while demand remains strong, it is not translating into top-tier capital gains.

Source: Federal Housing Finance Agency, All-Transactions House Price Index by Metropolitan Statistical Area, 2026 Q2 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-21-houston-msa-hou-fhfa-hpi-growth-5y-msa

01

Appreciation Lag = Opportunity

Houston's low ranking in five-year price growth is not a flaw—it's a signal. It suggests that the MSA remains underappreciated by investors seeking rapid capital gains, creating a rare window for long-term value builders. Unlike markets with inflated prices, Houston's fundamentals are not priced for perfection. This allows strategic buyers to enter with lower entry barriers and higher long-term upside potential, especially in core neighborhoods with strong infrastructure and demographic momentum.

02

The Real Estate Paradox

Houston's stagnant appreciation rank contradicts its strong economic fundamentals: job growth, population influx, and construction activity. This disconnect indicates that the market is being priced for stability, not explosive growth. As a result, investors who focus solely on short-term appreciation may overlook Houston's resilience and long-term viability. The true value lies not in chasing top-tier growth but in capitalizing on the MSA's structural advantages—diversified economy, low cost of living, and expanding infrastructure—over a 10+ year horizon.

Real Estate Strategy & Intelligence Leader. Democratized Blue Ocean Strategist & Operator.

Diane Hart Alexander, MBA, MHA

Chair & CEO, ALEX Companies

Designated Broker, Alexander Tiffany Southwest, LLC dba ALEX.realestate, et.al.

Texas License #574877-B · Broker License #565194-BB

diane@alex.realestate · +1 713.591.9902

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