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## Survey: Austin is country's fourth hottest job market

Austin ranks fourth on a new list of U.S. cities with the hottest job markets.

Austin, which ranked No. 12 last year on Business 2.0 magazine's list, is expected to experience job growth of 12 percent by 2008. Software and systems engineers, surgical technologists and public relations specialists will top the list of the area's hot jobs, according to the magazine.

The results show the top 20 U.S. cities are expected to generate a combined 850,000 skilled jobs in the next four years. The list will be featured in the issue of Business 2.0 hitting newstands March 1.

Advanced Micro Devices Inc., Samsung Austin Semiconductor LLP and Seton Healthcare Network are among the Austin employers noted as having the potential to hire more workers.

Santa Clara, Calif.-based AMD [NYSE: AMD] employs about 3,200 people in Austin; Samsung, about 950; and Seton, about 6,400

Raleigh-Durham, N.C., topped the magazine's list, followed by San Jose, Calif.; Washington, D.C.; Austin; and Atlanta.

At No. 18, Dallas was the only other Texas city on the list.

The magazine says its "Boom Town" ranking is the first of its kind to measure cities by their capacity to create high-wage jobs.

For the survey, 61 metropolitan areas with populations of more than 1 million were ranked using a weighted formula that included factors such as forecast growth rates in sectors with the economy's 10 most skilled occupational clusters; the prevalence of college degrees in the local workforce; and median salary. The survey also took into consideration the percentage of the labor force made up of highly skilled and educated "creative class" workers, according to Business 2.0.

Business 2.0 is part of New York-based Time Inc.