

Good News about Provo!

2008-2010

June 2010, Forbes Best Places to Raise a Family – Provo-Orem area ranked #5. Highest numbers came in education, low crime rate, home ownership and household income.

May 2010, Forbes 2010 Most Livable Cities – Ranking #3 on the list, the Provo-Orem area has the highest five-year growth, 5.2%, of all the cities measured. Other markers included unemployment, crime rate, income growth, cost of living and artistic and cultural opportunities.

APRIL 2010 - Forbes Best Places for Business and Careers - Provo ranked #2, consideration was given to cost of labor, energy, taxes and office space, (cost of doing business) share of the population over 25 with a bachelor's degree or higher (educational attainments), and projected job growth (Provo ranked in the top 40 of all three categories)

February 2010 - Gallup-Healthways Well Being Index - ranked Utah the second happiest state in the nation following Hawaii. Rankings were based on emotional health, job satisfaction, physical health, healthy behavior, basic access to health care and safe places to exercise and walk. Provo/Orem metro area had an overall ranking of #4 out of 185 cities nationwide. (NOTE: Last year Provo/Orem was ranked #1)

January - Public Accounting Report - BYU has consistently ranked in the top 3 graduate accounting programs in the nation since 1995. Most recently #3 in 2009 and #1 in 2008

January 2010 - Inc. 500 - Provo had 3 businesses that ranked in the top 500 (Heritage Makers, Property Solutions International and Access Technology Solutions) 2 more ranked in the top 1000 (InsideSales.com and Heritage Web Solutions) and 3 more ranked in top 5000 (Digital Gateway, VitalSmarts, Connect Public Relations)

January 2010 - Business Week - Best places to Raise Your Kids: 2010. Provo was ranked the #1 City in Utah to raise your kids, followed by Logan and St. George. Affordability, safety, and school test scores were given the greatest weight. The data considered also included school performance, number of schools, household expenditures, crime rates, air quality, job growth, family income, museums, parks, theaters, other amenities, and diversity.

December 2009 Business Week -Innovation & Technology - ranked Brigham Young University #1 in the country for their number of startups, licenses, and patent applications per research dollar spent, They called the BYU technology transfer Dept **-Brigham Young's Entrepreneur Factory.**

November 2009 - US News.com - ranked Provo in the top 15 cities for People Who Hate Driving and Long Commutes. More than 13 percent of the city's workers walk, putting Provo in the top 10 of all U.S. cities for pedestrian commuters. Provo City's bus rapid transit system will become operational in 2012.

June 2009 - Businessweek.com - Ranked Provo/Orem as runner-up in the Best Places to Start Over survey conducted by Manpower. Provo-Orem which had an unemployment rate of 5.1% in March, had 24% of employers surveyed who said they planned to hire next quarter. Best job prospects: Construction, Transportation & Utilities, Information, Financial Activities, Education & Health Services, and Government.

Forbes Reports - May 2009 - Provo-Orem, ranked Best College Town for Job Growth. Among the 62 US college towns that sustained job growth between March 2008 and March 2009, the Provo-Orem metropolitan area fared best, adding 2.97 percent to its employment base. That's virtually the opposite of what happened on the national scene, which lost 3.5 percent overall during the same period. A probably one of the greatest strengths is the startup companies. It's a pretty innovative area and there are opportunities in a lot of different areas right now. @ (Dave Waddell, BYU Career Services)

March 2009 - Bizjournals - Provo, Utah leads the list of America's best mid-size metropolitan areas. In a quality of life study done by Bizjournals which took into consideration 20 statistical categories. The highest scores went to well-rounded places with healthy economies, light traffic, moderate costs of living, impressive housing stocks and strong educational systems. Provo earned top marks for its impressive inventory of big homes. Nearly 26% of Provo's houses have nine or more rooms. The Provo area has enjoyed steady population growth this decade, expanding 31% since 2000. Its unemployment rate typically runs 2-3 points below the national average and it has a strong educational system.

March 2009 - Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index - A survey of American's well-being gave top marks, #1 to Utah, which boasts lots of outdoor recreation for its youthful population. The survey examined such things as eating, exercise habits, work environment and access to basic necessities.

February 2009 - U.S. News - Brigham Young University ranked 2nd in the most popular college report. Ranking is based on yield.. (The percentage of applicants accepted by the university who end up enrolling at that institution in the fall.

December 2008 - Who's Your City by Richard Florida - Provo City ranked 2nd in Best Cities for mid-career professionals and 4th Best Cities for Families with Children.

December 2008 - Fifth Annual Farmer's Insurance Survey - In the mid-sized city category, Provo-Orem was rated 6th safest city. Rankings took into consideration crime statistics, extreme weather, risk of natural disasters, housing depreciation, foreclosures, air quality, life expectancy and job loss numbers.

December 2008 - News BYU.edu BYU's graduate accounting program is ranked No. 1 in the nation. Accounting professors from across the country selected Brigham Young University's graduate accounting program as the best in the nation - unseating the University of Texas - Austin which has held the top spot for more than a decade.

October 2008 - Princeton Review - ranked Brigham Young University's Marriott School of Management the most family friendly in the country. The rankings are based on student

responses to questions about how happy married students are, how much the school does for spouses, how helpful it is to students with children and how many students have children.

Business Week - November 24, 2008 - Brigham Young University ranked #22 on the list for Best U.S. B-Schools of 2008 based on 2008 recruiter and student surveys.

November 2008 - Bay Area Center for Voting Research - The title of The Reddest City in the United States appears safe in Provo for another four years. Provo was given the Most-conservative designation in 2005 based on residents' political leanings, and MSN City Guides reaffirmed the city's No. 1 status in rankings earlier this year.

September 2008 - Milkin Institute - Provo-Orem, Utah, ranked #1 Best Performing City of 2008. The areas economy has been generating jobs at a pace far above the national average over the past five years. Its job growth performance remained strong in 2007 at 5.0 percent. The quality of jobs being created improved as indicated by wage and salary growth. The areas economic growth has been fueled by a remarkable recovery in high-tech information services and hardware. Provo-Orem has benefitted from increased research and associated spin-off activity at Brigham Young University (BYU). Superior job growth has led to high rates of migration to the area, spurring housing and non-residential construction building activity.

July 2008 - The Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency in charge of national service programs, reports the Provo-Orem metropolitan area led the nation in volunteerism between 2004 and 2007, according to a new report 63.8 percent of local residents over 16 give service each year, more than double the national average of 27.2 percent. Researchers say the area's deep religious roots are the reason.

May 2008 - Kiplinger's - ranked the Provo Metropolitan area #10 on its list of Best Cities of 2008 (The Nation's Top Spots to Live Work, and Play.) Kiplinger's selected locales that offered strong economies, abundant jobs, reasonable living costs and fun things to do.

April 2008 - Forbes Best Places for Jobs - Provo Metropolitan area - 5-year annualized job growth: 4.2% Provo's job surge was not housing-related. While job growth in housing-boom towns across the U.S. tapered off in 2007, Provo had the highest employment growth in the country, at 5.5%

March 2008 - Forbes Best Places for Business and Careers - The Provo Metro area was ranked 11th for best places for business and careers. Common themes for the business-welcoming metros include solid job growth (Provo ranked 8th), an educated labor supply (30th) and low business costs (75th).

March 2008 - Business Week ranked BYU Undergraduate Business programs #7 in the nation, and is considered 1st among recruiters. The Marriott School of Management was also ranked 1st in return on tuition for private colleges. This is the 3rd consecutive year that the Marriott School has ranked in the top 10.

January 2008 - Expansion Management - Ranked Provo/Orem as a 4-Star Business Opportunity Metro. Ranking was based on seven major studies and surveys; Education, Healthcare, Quality of Life, Logistics, College Educated Workforce, and Legislative.