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**HBJ** Morning Call

# Houston stays ahead of U.S. housing downturn, report shows

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Houston fared better than most U.S. markets in terms of home prices, according to a recent Jan. 9 report from Clear Capital, a real estate data provider.

According to the report, Houston home prices decreased by .8 percent from 2011 to 2012. The national average home price dropped 2.1 percent in 2011.

In the fourth quarter of 2011, Houston's home prices increased by 1.8 percent, much higher than the national decrease of .4 percent in the fourth quarter.

Looking forward to 2012, Houston home prices are expected to improve.

Clear Capital estimates that Houston home prices will increase by 3 percent in 2012. The national average home price is only expected to increase .2 percent in 2012.

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