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Houston stomped Silicon Valley in 2011 tech job growth

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Houston beat out San Jose, Calif. — home to that plush garden of web and technology companies known as Silicon Valley — in technology job growth last year.

In fact, Houston led the nation with a 149 percent increase in technology job growth in 2011, according to CyberCoders, an Irvine, Calif.-based tech recruiter.

San Jose doubled its tech jobs with a 100 percent increase, followed by Philadelphia with a 64 percent increase, Dallas with 27 percent and San Francisco with 25 percent. Boston, another renowned tech hub and venture capital magnet, made seventh on the list with a 16 percent increase in tech jobs.

"Houston has always been a city rich in energy jobs, but we are now seeing that the demand for new and clean energy has helped fuel the growth in Houston's tech sector, as well," said Heidi Golledge, CEO and co-founder of CyberCoders, in a statement.

That's not to say that Houston now has more tech jobs than Silicon Valley — only that tech jobs were added at a faster rate in Houston last year. The recruiter says Houston tech job growth was pushed by .Net developers, Sharepoint developers and process engineers.

Overall, the technology sector had a good 2011, and CyberCoders said it expects tech job growth to accelerate as the economy recovers.

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