



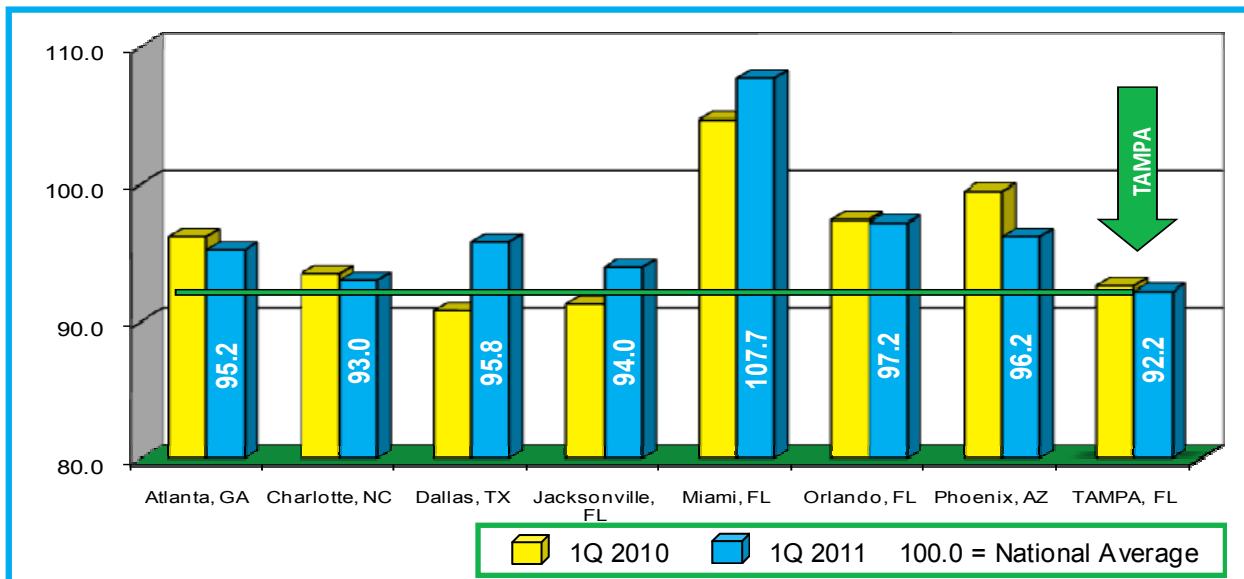
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2011

ACCRA COST OF LIVING INDEX REPORT RELEASED

TAMPA, FL- Results for the first quarter 2011 *ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)* have been released and the Tampa area’s Composite Index measured 92.2, almost 8 percent below the national average of 100.0. The Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation collects the pricing data quarterly for the Tampa area. National results are published by C2ER – The Council for Community and Economic Research (www.C2ER.org).

The composite index is based upon six major categories — housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care, and miscellaneous goods and services. The first quarter survey encompassed 312 urban areas and the COLI ranged from a high of 218.4 in New York (Manhattan) to a low of 80.5 in Harlingen, Texas.

In the first quarter of this year, Tampa’s Composite Index ranked least expensive among the benchmark metropolitan areas surveyed by the Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation as displayed in the chart below. Lower housing costs in Tampa contributed significantly – Tampa’s housing index registered 78.8 for this period, 21.2 percent below the national average.



About Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation

The Tampa Hillsborough EDC is officially recognized by Enterprise Florida as Hillsborough County’s primary business recruitment and retention economic development team in partnership with Hillsborough County and the cities of Tampa, Plant City, Temple Terrace and private investors. Its primary mission is to create jobs that pay above average wages and to broaden the tax base by generating new, sustainable capital investment. www.TampaEDC.com