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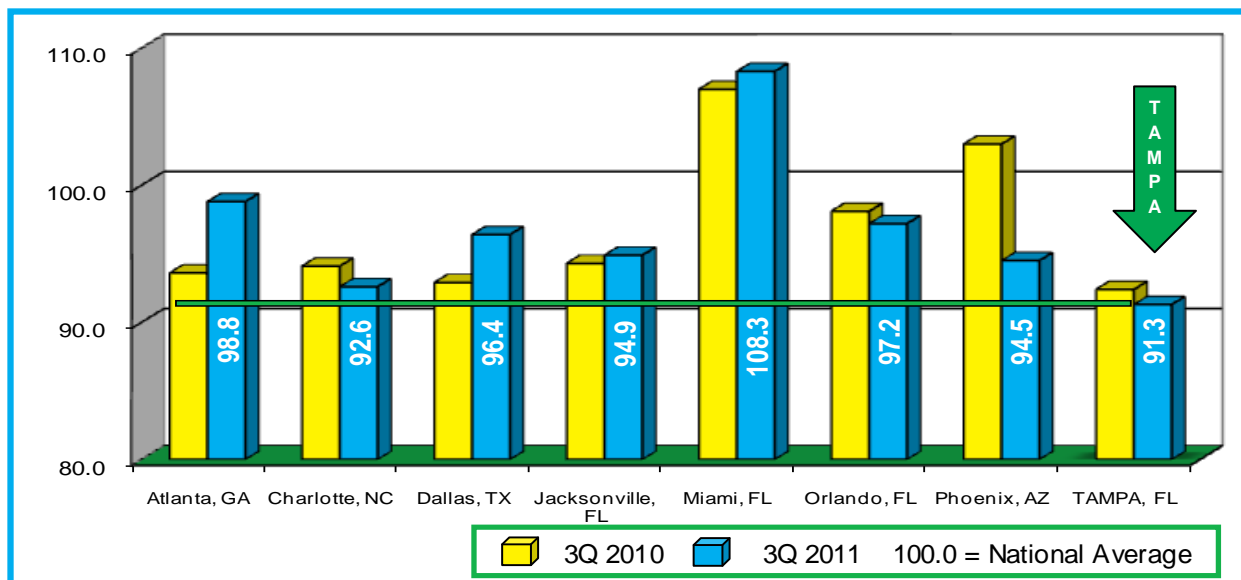
October 27, 2011

## New Results Confirm Tampa's Affordability

**TAMPA, FL-** Tampa can still be considered an affordable place to live based on the results for the third quarter 2011 ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI). The area's Composite Index measured 91.3, almost 9 percent below the national average of 100.0. Tampa's COLI has consistently come in below the national average over the last three years. Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation collects the pricing data quarterly for the ACCRA study. National results are published by C2ER – The Council for Community and Economic Research ([www.C2ER.org](http://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 third quarter survey encompassed 309 urban areas. The COLI ranged from a high of 223.9 in New York (Manhattan) to a low of 81.7 in Harlingen, Texas.

In the third 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 78.1 for this period, 21.9 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](http://www.TampaEDC.com)