SyncTM Weekly highlights from the North Carolina Department of Commerce

N.C. garners No. 4 spot in CNBC ranking



CNBC has declared North Carolina as most improved among the top five states for doing business, elevating the state from 9th to 4th in its annual survey, "America's Top States for Business."

"This shows that the hard work of the past year has paid off - our investments in education to build the workforce of tomorrow, policies that create a more business-friendly climate and our aggressive recruiting," said Gov. Bev Perdue. "When I took office, I pledged to take any meeting and make any call to bring jobs to this state. There's nothing I love more than convincing a corporate executive of what a great place this is to live and work."

The ranking is the highest North Carolina has achieved in the four years of the

survey. In 2008 and 2007, North Carolina ranked 6th and 5th, respectively.

In its rankings, CNBC scored the states on more than 40 measures of competitiveness based on the <u>cost of</u> <u>doing business</u>, <u>workforce</u>, <u>quality of life</u>, <u>economy</u>, <u>transportation and infrastructure</u>, <u>technology and</u> <u>innovation</u>, <u>education</u>, <u>business friendliness</u>, <u>access to capital</u> and <u>cost of living</u>.

See the full CNBC special report on <u>"America's Top States for Business."</u> The report also includes <u>a video</u> <u>highlighting North Carolina</u> and CNBC's resons (including our workforce and access to capital) for ranking us No. 4.

Below are the rankings for the top ten states. See the full rankings for all states.

State	Cost of Business	Workforce	Quality of Life	Economy	Trans- portation	Tech & Innovation	Education	Business Friendliness	Access to Capital	Cost of Living
1 Tex.	30	16	29	1	1	4	30	19	7	8
2 Va.	26	9	18	11	12	10	13	2	9	27
3 Co.	25	10	2	8	36	12	29	4	15	35
4 N.C.	15	3	32	37	10	11	26	13	10	23
5 Mass.	39	23	6	17	39	3	1	14	2	41
6 Iowa	1	20	17	10	32	29	16	12	36	17
7 S.D.	4	15	11	4	27	49	21	3	40	5
8 Minn. (tie)	31	34	12	5	11	16	9	20	19	15

8 Utah (tie)	7	7	5	23	32	25	48	10	39	17
10 Ga.	20	3	35	37	2	17	28	17	13	9

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