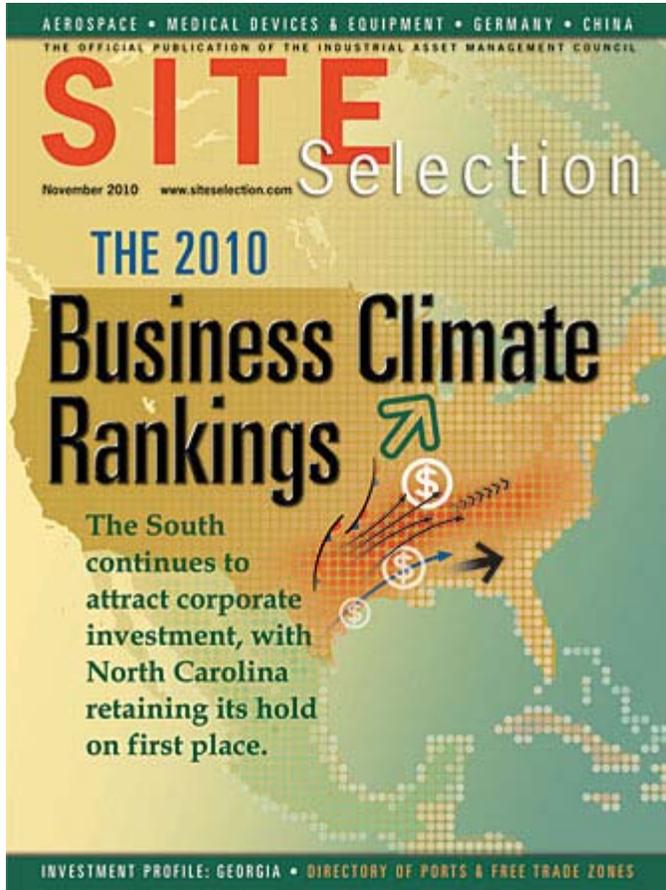


syncTM Weekly highlights from the North Carolina Department of Commerce

N.C. tops Site Selection rankings again



Gov. Bev Perdue announced Nov. 1 that North Carolina remains the state with the "Top Business Climate," according to Site Selection magazine. It is the sixth year in a row and the ninth time in 10 years that the state has taken the top honor in the annual ranking by Site Selection, one of the nation's premier economic development magazines.

As part of the ranking, the magazine surveys corporate executives that help businesses select new locations. This year, those executives ranked the Tar Heel state as the top for ease of doing business.

"There's nothing I love more than convincing a corporate executive of what a great place this is to do business," said Perdue. "This shows that the hard work of the past two years continues to pay off – our investments in education to build the workforce of tomorrow, policies that create a more business-friendly climate and our aggressive recruiting. I intend for us to remain as competitive and innovative as any state — both nationally and internationally."

"All states face economic and budgetary challenges these days, but this ranking reminds us that there are significant success stories, too," says Site Selection

Editor in Chief Mark Arend. "North Carolina's first-place finish underscores its success across a wide spectrum of industries, from aerospace to life sciences to energy. We commend the governor and her economic development team for their focus on making and keeping their state business-friendly."

Over the past year, executives from some of the world's most respected corporations that chose to locate or expand in North Carolina identified the following competitive advantages found in the state:

- a wealth of talented and skilled labor;
- outstanding custom training programs;
- solid transportation infrastructure;
- low cost of doing business; and
- high quality of life.

Site Selection magazine's annual "Top Business Climate" rankings are based on quantitative and qualitative factors that corporate site-seekers – those who help companies expand or relocate – say they consider most important. Fifty percent of the ranking comes from a survey of corporate site selection executives who were asked to rank their top 10 states, and 50 percent is based on four measures of new plant activity as tracked by Site Selection in its "New Plant Database." The magazine describes the ranking process as "a blend of objective, actual new or expansion project announcements, and subjective input from corporate site seekers."

The article about North Carolina's No. 1 ranking can be found at: www.siteselection.com .

From our financial and infrastructure incentives to our workforce and life incentives, North Carolina provides businesses an unmatched competitive advantage. Visit ThriveNC.com to learn more about these incentives and access a variety of site selection resources, including:

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- [Latest business news from North Carolina](#)
- [EDIS, our extensive online mapping and demographic data system](#)
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