

1000 S.W. Jackson St., Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66612-1354
KansasCommerce.com

October 15, 2010
Contact: Joe Monaco (785) 296-3760

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kansas ranked 10th on *Forbes* magazine's "Best States for Business" report *State ranks high in Regulatory Environment, Economic Climate categories*

Kansas ranked 10th on *Forbes*' new "Best States for Business" list, up from last year's rank of 15th.

The state scored particularly well for its regulatory environment and economic climate, finishing 11th and 13th, respectively, in those categories. Kansas also ranked 18th for labor supply, 23rd for business costs (such as labor and energy), 27th for quality of life and 30th for growth prospects.

Utah was No. 1 on the list this year, knocking Virginia, a longtime leader, down to second place.



The *Forbes* list compiles data from 10 sources, including Moody's Economy.com, Pollina Corporate Real Estate and the U.S. Census Bureau.

"We are committed to keeping Kansas a strong state for business, and I am proud to see respected publications like *Forbes* recognize our efforts," said Governor Mark Parkinson. "With this ranking, Kansas has proven that by investing in areas of our economy and working with the private sector to keep jobs in our state, our economic recovery can flourish."

Today's announcement marks the seventh time since May a major media outlet, business publication or survey has recognized Kansas for business excellence.

- On Aug. 17, Kansas was named a Top 10 state in eight of 20 categories in *Business Facilities* magazine's 2010 Rankings Report. It was the state's best-ever performance in the annual rankings.
- On Aug. 11, Kansas was ranked No.3 in *Southern Business & Development* magazine's annual "Top Deals and Hot Markets" report, the state's highest finish ever in the survey. The annual ranking examines 17 Southern states on their business recruitment and retention projects that create and/or retain jobs and capital investment.
- On Aug. 4, Kansas was ranked the nation's No. 7 most business-friendly state in the Pollina Corporate "Top 10 Pro-Business States" report.
- On June 15, Kansas was ranked No. 11 in CNBC's annual "America's Top States for Business" report.
- In June, *Area Development* magazine named Kansas the winner of the Silver Shovel Award for excellence in job creation and capital investment.
- In May, Kansas was named one of the nation's 10 most competitive states for capital investment and facility development by *Site Selection* magazine, a leading publication for site consultants.

In Fiscal Year 2010, the Kansas Department of Commerce facilitated 68 successful site location projects in which Kansas was competing with at least one other state. Those projects produced 13,900 jobs at an average wage of \$25 per hour and \$838 million in capital investment.

For more information, contact Joe Monaco, Public Information Officer with the Kansas Department of Commerce, at (785) 296-3760 or jmonaco@kansascommerce.com, or visit www.kansascommerce.com.

###