



**Number #1
for Business**

Texas is America's Top

State for Business in 2008

CNBC, July 2008

**No. 1 exporting U.S. state for
seven-straight years**

WISERTrade, February 2009

2008 Gold Shovel Recipient

Area Development, June/July

2008

**Best State in which
to do Business**

Chief Executive Magazine,

January 2009

July 2009

Texas wins 2009 Best Business Climate ranking by Business Facilities Magazine

Texas was declared the winner of the coveted Best Business Climate ranking from *Business Facilities Magazine*, which covers a range of critical development factors including cost of labor, incentives, infrastructure and tax climate. The Lone Star State, which has continued to show solid growth even in a shrinking economy, edged out business-friendly South Dakota and Wyoming, and the emerging economic development powerhouse Utah, to grab the top spot. (To read the full article, click [here](#).)

Texas wins 2009 Silver Shovel Award by Area Development Magazine

Texas was awarded the 2009 Silver Shovel Award from *Area Development Magazine* for economic development and job creation. Texas continued to be a top economic performer in 2008 with major investments including the \$1.1 billion SandRidge facility near Fort Stockton and the \$171 million Brazil-based Santana Textiles denim manufacturing plant in Edinburg. (To read the full article, click [here](#).)

Five Texas Cities Listed Among Top 10 Strongest Metros by Brookings Institution

According to a report by Brookings Institution, "MetroMonitor: Tracking Economic Recession and Recovery in America's 100 Largest Metropolitan Areas," Texas had five cities in the top ten list of the strongest metros. San Antonio ranked number one, followed by Austin (3), Houston (4), Dallas (5) and McAllen (6).

"Today's announcement by the Brookings Institution confirms what we in Texas have known for a long time: there is no better place than Texas to live, work or raise a family. What we accomplished during the 81st Legislature by cutting small business taxes, increasing financial aid for college students and replenishing our economic development funds will ensure Texas maintains its competitive edge for years to come. I'm proud of all the Texas cities that were recognized; this recognition is proof that Texas harnesses the qualified workforce, solid work ethic and strong leadership needed to continue the

momentum of a growing economy,” said Gov. Rick Perry. (To read the full story, click [here](#))

Texas Ranked Best State for Business by Directorship Magazine

Excerpt of full story: The Lone Star state topped the first annual Boardroom Guide to the Best States for Business. The guide is an outgrowth of our annual Litigation Guide, which assesses the litigation climate in each of the 50 states. The guide is a comprehensive resource for boards by adding data on the economy, tax climate, cost of living, education, and other measures to arrive at the ranking.

What puts Texas first? It has a pro-business tax climate that ranks third, a low cost of living, a relatively solid economy, and a litigation environment that ranks 10th on our list. Texas also ranks first in the number of Fortune 500 companies located there. We used the Fortune rankings as one measure of attractiveness to large companies and an indication of strong infrastructure. Texas’ central location and time zone also make it an ideal hub, especially for companies with a national distribution or customer footprint. Recently, companies such as Toyota and Caterpillar have located portions of their business in Texas.

“Our commitment to low taxes, predictable regulations, and a fair tort system are setting an example for the nation and creating a magnetic force for the businesses and jobs that are vital to maintaining Texas’ competitive advantage in the global marketplace,” says Gov. Rick Perry. (To read more, click [here](#).)

Emerging Technology Fund Investments \$250,000 in Animal Innovations of Amarillo

Gov. Rick Perry announced the state will invest \$250,000 through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) in Animal Innovations Inc. of Amarillo for completion and commercialization of its automatic syringe filling and data collection system for animal medication.

“The ETF is super-charging the research environment in our state and propelling us to the forefront of technology innovation by harnessing amazing ideas and encouraging greater efforts to inquire, innovate and invest,” Gov. Perry said. (To read more, click [here](#).)

Recent Data

The U.S. Census has released the latest city population estimates for July 2008. The report included several population gains for Texas, indicating that people are continuing to flock to the Lone Star State.

- Three Texas cities were among the Top Ten Largest Cities in 2008: Houston (4), San Antonio (7) and Dallas (8).
- Round Rock, Texas was the second fastest-growing city (8.16 percent) in the nation from 2007 to 2008.
- Four of the 10 fastest-growing large cities were in Texas, including McKinney (north of Dallas, ranking fifth), Killeen (north of Austin, ninth) and Fort Worth (10th).
- Four Texas cities were among the 10 largest numerical gainers: Houston (third), San Antonio (fifth), Fort Worth (sixth) and Austin (ninth).

- On the 25 most populous cities in 2008, Dallas moved up to eighth place and Austin moved up to 15th.

To read more on the U.S. Census report, click [here](#).

For more Texas awards and honors, click [here](#).

Texas Business Digest information is compiled by the Economic Development & Tourism Division of the Office of Governor Rick Perry. For more information, contact the Press Office at 512-463-1826.