

CALIFORNIA'S BUSINESS CLIMATE: TOP CEOS RANK CALIFORNIA AS WORST PLACE FOR BUSINESS

More than 500 chief executive officers in American businesses said California's regulations, tax policies, work force quality, education resources, quality of living and infrastructure make this state the worst state in which to conduct business.

Texas, North Carolina, Florida, Tennessee and Georgia ranked among the top business-friendly states. In addition to California, the worst states for business were Michigan, New Jersey, Illinois and New York. (Source: *The Sacramento Bee*, May 5, 2011.)

In related news:

California Ranks Poorly in Business Investment Survey. A study commissioned by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce ranks California among the worst states in terms of its climate for business investments. California “is known for its persistent budget woes and debt, high taxes, and complex employment laws and regulations,” the report states.

The report, “[The Impact of State Employment Policies on Job Growth](#),” includes this description of Los Angeles: “The city is known for its high housing costs, smog (although air quality is improving), traffic, and high taxes, including a combined state and city sales tax of 9.75 percent on the dollar and separate taxes on every conceivable type of business from professional services to rentals. Unemployment in the metropolitan area is high, like the statewide rate, at 12.5 percent.”

The report puts the states in three categories according to their employment policies: good (15 states), fair (20 states) and poor (15 states, including California).

“Our primary goal is to provide state policymakers with an objective view of how policies in their states compare with policies in other states, and, perhaps more importantly, how reform of these policies could accelerate job creation and economic growth,” the report says.