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★ AMERICA'S TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS 2012 ★ A CNBC SPECIAL REPORT

Cost of Living - 2012

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The cost of living helps drive the cost of doing business. From housing to food and energy, wages go further when the cost of living is low.

Here are the ten categories ranked in our study:

- Cost of Doing Business
- Workforce
- Quality of Life
- Economy
- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Technology & Innovation
- Education
- Business Friendliness
- Access to Capital
- Cost of Living

Overall	State	<u>Cost of Business</u>	<u>Workforce</u>	<u>Quality of Life</u>	<u>Economy</u>	<u>Infrastructure & Transp.</u>	<u>Technology & Innovation</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Business Friendliness</u>	<u>Access to Capital</u>	<u>Cost of Living</u>
23	Oklahoma	4	21	37	17	37	32	37	22	35	1
16	Tennessee	27	11	48	12	4	25	41	6	29	2
1	Texas	28	7	35	5	1	2	26	12	8	3
36	Kentucky	1	29	45	38	22	31	35	41	45	4
20	Arkansas	2	11	43	20	31	41	28	32	40	5
2	Utah	11	9	10	7	8	24	45	10	13	6
14	Indiana	16	26	40	11	18	23	25	5	37	7
46	Mississippi	18	17	41	48	34	42	44	44	48	8
13	Idaho	7	5	22	23	23	38	48	12	32	9
15	Kansas	35	18	24	14	6	30	21	16	25	10
6	Nebraska	13	19	13	9	19	34	18	6	32	11
33	Michigan	29	38	34	28	25	12	38	34	21	12
38	Alabama	20	26	47	6	29	35	43	30	41	13
27	Missouri	12	38	37	29	20	21	20	25	37	14
25	Ohio	6	49	44	31	10	16	23	37	17	15
9	Georgia	14	1	36	30	3	17	34	15	20	16
42	Louisiana	9	16	50	36	40	28	35	40	43	17
26	Illinois	26	32	31	45	16	4	17	46	11	18
12	Iowa	5	37	19	3	31	28	30	10	28	19
3	Virginia	32	8	16	10	33	14	13	3	9	20
4	North Carolina	21	3	26	31	11	9	13	8	18	21
45	Nevada	30	13	46	50	5	44	50	18	34	22
17	Wisconsin	15	43	14	34	6	20	10	27	27	23
32	South Carolina	22	15	41	25	21	26	46	35	30	24
29	Florida	39	3	30	47	11	11	42	27	24	25
48	West Virginia	24	50	39	7	47	49	29	44	46	26
10	Wyoming	10	20	9	1	26	48	11	20	35	27

5	North Dakota	16	10	5	2	15	47	19	4	43	28
36	New Mexico	31	25	24	15	13	32	46	47	26	29
7	South Dakota	3	14	7	12	27	46	22	1	48	30
24	Montana	7	47	18	18	14	39	16	41	42	31
30	Pennsylvania	41	48	33	26	35	5	7	30	6	32
8	Colorado	40	5	8	33	23	8	27	8	4	33
22	Arizona	34	2	32	44	9	21	49	14	22	34
11	Minnesota	25	31	5	16	2	18	11	23	15	35
21	Washington	37	21	15	45	36	5	13	36	3	36
43	Delaware	32	36	49	19	27	40	31	19	30	37
18	Oregon	23	34	17	37	16	15	40	17	13	38
35	Maine	19	45	4	42	42	35	6	21	46	39
19	New Hampshire	35	44	1	34	46	26	8	2	19	40
28	Massachusetts	49	32	11	21	45	7	3	29	1	41
39	Vermont	38	41	3	27	48	43	4	25	23	42
31	Maryland	42	24	29	24	43	10	9	24	7	43
50	Rhode Island	45	46	23	49	50	37	23	49	10	44
41	New Jersey	43	28	20	39	41	13	4	48	11	45
40	California	48	23	20	43	30	3	33	43	1	46
34	New York	47	41	28	22	39	1	1	50	5	47
44	Connecticut	46	40	12	40	43	18	2	33	15	48
47	Alaska	44	30	26	4	37	50	32	39	48	49
49	Hawaii	50	35	2	41	49	45	39	37	39	50

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