

What Pollina Corporate Says About Nebraska

Ranked #3 in 2014

If you're a corporate executive and you view Nebraska as just another agricultural state, you need to reconsider your view. With less than three percent of its labor force employed in agriculture, Governor Heineman has clearly focused on building diverse job opportunities for his state's citizens.

As the state's economic development website proclaims, "Nebraska Offers Endless Possibilities." Nebraska has become solidly entrenched as a pro-business leader, holding a **Pollina Corporate Top 10 Pro Business States** position for the last six years.

"Governor Heineman, with the support of the legislature, 'gets it,' and they are working hard and smart to develop an economy that will work for to the benefit of all its corporate partners and Nebraskans alike," says Brent Pollina, Vice President of Park Ridge, Illinois-based Pollina Corporate Real Estate, Inc. and co-author of the study.

"The Governor and the Nebraska state legislature recognize that in today's highly competitive global economy state leadership must work outside of the traditional economic development box if they are to provide their constituents with a robust economy, he adds.

"Nebraska's political leadership, coupled with **The Nebraska Department of Economic Development** and economic development powerhouses like the **Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership, Nebraska Public Power District,** and the state **Chamber of Commerce and Industry,** have formed an economic development team that state residents and businesses should be proud of. With a Stage I score of #5 and a Stage II score of #6, Nebraska truly offers a company a well-rounded environment to grow and prosper."

In terms of Stage I, Labor, Taxes and Other Factors, Nebraska ranked #5. The state scored reasonably well in High School Completion (B), and College Funding Per-Student (B). The state did not score highly across most tax categories such as Corporate Taxes (D), Individual Income Taxes (C), and Sales & Gross Receipt Tax (C) and Property Taxes (D). Relative to Business Inventory Taxes the state received a grade of A.

Nebraska had a strong showing relative to Unemployment Rate (A), Right-to-Work legislation (A), Workers Compensation (B), Regulatory Environment (A), Litigation Environment (A), Transportation Infrastructure (A), and Long Term Budget Planning (A). The areas where Nebraska has room for improvement under Stage I are Corporate Taxes (D) and Property Taxes (D).

In terms of Stage II, Incentives and Economic Development Agency Factors, Nebraska ranked #6. Nebraska scored very high for Incentives (A) and Marketing/Website/Response to new and existing employers (A).