

Texas bucking recession as largest state to hold steady

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The recession has turned America's economy on its head, but Texas is faring relatively well, according to a new study.

High-profile states that led the charge to prosperity earlier in the decade are now among the biggest drags on economic progress. Nevada, Arizona, Florida, California and Georgia rank among the seven weakest states today, according to an analysis by Bizjournals, an affiliate of the Houston Business Journal.

Small, underpublicized states, on the other hand, are faring remarkably well in these tough times. North Dakota, Louisiana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Alaska and West Virginia are among the seven strongest states economically. Texas comes in as the 10th-strongest state.

Bizjournals analyzed the recent economic records of all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Each state's results were compared to corresponding national averages in six categories. Above-average performances received positive scores, while below-average numbers drew negative scores.