

Table 14.13-- COST OF LIVING AMONG TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS
CATEGORY RANKINGS: 2012 TO 2015

[The CNBC survey scored all 50 states on as many as 60 measures of competitiveness developed with input from business groups including the National Association of Manufacturers and the Council on Competitiveness. States received points based on their rankings in each metric. The metrics are in ten broad categories, weighted according to how frequently they are cited in state economic development marketing materials. A rank of 1 indicates most favorable. Sorted by 2015 category weights]

Component	2012			2013			2014			2015		
	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank
Overall	2,500	871	49	2,500	924	50	2,500	938	49	2,225	945	50
Workforce	350	137	35	300	101	45	300	87	49	400	162	46
Infrastructure & transp. 2/	325	75	49	350	66	50	350	107	43	350	94	49
Cost of doing business	350	36	50	450	94	48	450	49	49	350	45	50
Economy	325	96	41	375	185	41	375	189	34	340	123	3/ 42
Quality of life	350	284	2	300	272	1	300	277	1	325	310	1
Technology & innovation	225	62	45	300	81	45	300	110	33	250	93	3/ 36
Education	225	81	39	150	59	40	150	50	42	200	67	45
Business friendliness	200	71	37	200	59	40	200	58	44	160	35	44
Cost of living	50	1	50	50	1	50	50	2	49	75	2	50
Access to capital	100	28	39	25	6	39	25	9	33	50	14	37

1/ Weighting reevaluated for each study. See "Criteria & Categories For CNBC's Top States For Business for 2012" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/47818860>>; and for 2013 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100728441>> accessed July 15, 2013; "America's Top States for Business 2014: Our methodology" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101723185>> accessed June 27, 2014; and for 2015 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102701598>> accessed June 26, 2015.

2/ Category was 'Transportation & infrastructure' in some 2012 lists.

3/ Tied with Maine.

Source: CNBC "America's Top Ten States for Business: 2012" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/46413845>> and "Hawaii" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100013729>> accessed July 10, 2012; for 2013 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100824779>> and "Hawaii" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100613938>> accessed July 15, 2013; for 2014 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101758236>> and "Hawaii" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101693434>> accessed June 27, 2014; and for 2015 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101747925>> and "Hawaii"

<<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102570702>> and "Maine" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102573450>> accessed June 26, 2015.