

**Table 14.13-- COST OF LIVING AMONG TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS**  
**CATEGORY RANKINGS: 2013 TO 2016**

[The CNBC survey scored all 50 states on as many as 60 measures of competitiveness developed with input from business groups including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Center for Regional Economic 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 2016 category weights]

| Component               | 2013            |       |      | 2014            |       |      | 2015            |       |       | 2016            |       |      |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|------|-----------------|-------|------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|------|
|                         | Category wt. 1/ | Score | Rank | Category wt. 1/ | Score | Rank | Category wt. 1/ | Score | Rank  | Category wt. 1/ | Score | Rank |
| Overall                 | 2,500           | 924   | 50   | 2,500           | 938   | 49   | 2,500           | 945   | 50    | 2,500           | 1,009 | 49   |
| Workforce               | 300             | 101   | 45   | 300             | 87    | 49   | 400             | 162   | 46    | 400             | 165   | 48   |
| Infrastructure 2/       | 350             | 66    | 50   | 350             | 107   | 43   | 350             | 94    | 49    | 350             | 116   | 46   |
| Cost of doing business  | 450             | 94    | 48   | 450             | 49    | 49   | 350             | 45    | 50    | 350             | 45    | 50   |
| Economy                 | 375             | 185   | 41   | 375             | 189   | 34   | 340             | 123   | 3/ 42 | 340             | 181   | 25   |
| Quality of life         | 300             | 272   | 1    | 300             | 277   | 1    | 325             | 310   | 1     | 325             | 295   | 1    |
| Technology & innovation | 300             | 81    | 45   | 300             | 110   | 33   | 250             | 93    | 3/ 36 | 250             | 90    | 38   |
| Education               | 150             | 59    | 40   | 150             | 50    | 42   | 200             | 67    | 45    | 200             | 74    | 43   |
| Business friendliness   | 200             | 59    | 40   | 200             | 58    | 44   | 160             | 35    | 44    | 160             | 27    | 46   |
| Cost of living          | 50              | 1     | 50   | 50              | 2     | 49   | 75              | 2     | 50    | 75              | 2     | 50   |
| Access to capital       | 25              | 6     | 39   | 25              | 9     | 33   | 50              | 14    | 37    | 50              | 14    | 37   |

1/ Weighting reevaluated for each study. See "Criteria & Categories For CNBC's Top States For Business 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; for 2015 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102701598>> accessed June 26, 2015;

and for 2016 <<http://www.cnbc.com/2016/06/23/americas-top-states-for-business-2016-our-methodology.html>> accessed July 12, 2016.

"Category weight for Overall 2015" was revised from previous *Data Book*.

2/ Is variously 'Infrastructure' or 'Infrastructure & transportation'.

3/ Tied with Maine.

Source: CNBC "America's Top Ten States for Business: 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; and for 2016

<<http://www.cnbc.com/2016/07/12/americas-top-states-for-business-2016-the-list-and-ranking.html>> and "Hawaii"

<<http://www.cnbc.com/2016/07/12/top-states-for-business-49-hawaii.html>> accessed July 14, 2016.