

**Table 14.13-- COST OF LIVING AMONG TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS  
CATEGORY RANKINGS: 2012 TO 2014**

[The CNBC survey scored all 50 states on as many as 51 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]

Component	2012			2013			2014		
	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
Cost of doing business	350	36	50	450	94	48	450	49	49
Workforce	350	137	35	300	101	45	300	87	49
Quality of life	350	284	2	300	272	1	300	277	1
Infrastructure & transp. 2/	325	75	49	350	66	50	350	107	43
Economy	325	96	41	375	185	41	375	189	34
Education	225	81	39	150	59	40	150	50	42
Technology & innovation	225	62	45	300	81	45	300	110	33
Business friendliness	200	71	37	200	59	40	200	58	44
Access to capital	100	28	39	25	6	39	25	9	33
Cost of living	50	1	50	50	1	50	50	2	49

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

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

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