

**Table 14.13-- COST OF LIVING AMONG TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS  
CATEGORY RANKINGS: 2014 TO 2017**

[The CNBC survey scored all 50 states on as many as 66 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 2017 category weights]

Component	2014			2015			2016			2017		
	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank
Overall	2,500	938	49	2,500	945	50	2,500	1,009	49	2,525	998	49
Workforce	300	87	49	400	162	46	400	165	48	450	188	48
Infrastructure 2/	350	107	43	350	94	49	350	116	46	400	152	40
Cost of doing business	450	49	49	350	45	50	350	45	50	350	49	50
Economy	375	189	34	340	123	3/ 42	340	181	25	300	135	35
Quality of life	300	277	1	325	310	1	325	295	1	300	268	1
Technology & innovation	300	110	33	250	93	3/ 36	250	90	38	225	64	45
Education	150	50	42	200	67	45	200	74	43	200	90	30
Business friendliness	200	58	44	160	35	44	160	27	46	150	29	47
Access to capital	25	9	33	50	14	37	50	14	37	100	22	41
Cost of living	50	2	49	75	2	50	75	2	50	50	1	50

1/ Weighting reevaluated for each study. See "America's Top States for Business: Our methodology and sources" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101723185>> accessed June 27, 2014; for 2015 <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102701598>> accessed June 26, 2015; for 2016 <<http://www.cnbc.com/2016/06/23/americas-top-states-for-business-2016-our-methodology.html>> accessed July 12, 2016; and for 2017 <<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/06/12/heres-how-your-state-can-become-a-cnbc-top-state-for-business.html>> accessed June 30, 2017.

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

3/ Tied with Maine.

Source: CNBC "America's Top Ten States for Business: 2014" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101758236>> and "Hawaii" <<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101693434>> accessed June 27, 2014; 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; 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; and for 2017 <<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/07/11/americas-top-states-for-business-2017-overall-ranking.html>> and "Hawaii" <<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/06/12/heres-how-your-state-can-become-a-cnbc-top-state-for-business.html>> accessed July 12, 2017.