

**Table 14.13-- COST OF LIVING AMONG TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS  
CATEGORY RANKINGS: 2015 TO 2018**

[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 2018 category weights]

Component	2015			2016			2017			2018		
	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank	Category wt. 1/	Score	Rank
Overall	2,500	945	50	2,500	1,009	49	2,525	998	49	2,500	1,006	47
Workforce	400	162	46	400	165	48	450	188	48	425	148	48
Infrastructure 2/	350	94	49	350	116	46	400	152	40	400	173	40
Cost of doing business	350	45	50	350	45	50	350	49	50	350	70	49
Economy	340	123	3/ 42	340	181	25	300	135	35	300	134	33
Quality of life	325	310	1	325	295	1	300	268	1	300	264	2
Technology & innovation	250	93	3/ 36	250	90	38	225	64	45	225	63	42
Education	200	67	45	200	74	43	200	90	30	200	94	31
Business friendliness	160	35	44	160	27	46	150	29	47	150	37	43
Access to capital	50	14	37	50	14	37	100	22	41	100	22	42
Cost of living	75	2	50	75	2	50	50	1	50	50	1	50

1/ Weighting reevaluated for each study. See "America's Top States for Business: Our methodology and sources" 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; 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; and for 2018 <<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/13/cnbc-top-states-for-business-2018-methodology-and-sources.html>> accessed July 10, 2018.

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

3/ Tied with Maine.

Source: CNBC "America's Top Ten States for Business: 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; for 2018 <<<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/07/10/americas-top-states-for-business-2018.html>> and "Hawaii" <<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/07/10/top-states-for-business-hawaii.html>> accessed July 10, 2018.