



LOUISIANA TOP 10 RANKINGS & WHY THEY MATTER

Louisiana is building sustained momentum as a national leader in the factors businesses value most when deciding where to invest, grow and create jobs. Top 10 rankings across business climate, workforce, infrastructure and global competitiveness are translating into historic results, with companies choosing Louisiana at record levels.

KEY Rankings

- Louisiana is a national leader with over **\$183 Billion** in announced investment in 2026.
- As employment slows nationally, Louisiana has seen sustained growth, ranking **3rd in employment growth** nationally.
- Ranking **#1 in exports per capita**, Louisiana plays an integral role in global supply-chains.

Louisiana's success is playing out on the national stage, with nation leading results reflecting the Top 10 rankings of key business environment components.

Business Environment

- **#1 Announced Capital Investment** - Louisiana leads the nation with over \$183,000,000,000 in announced investment in 2026, tripling the state's record amount of investment announced in 2025. Louisiana's nation leading ~\$260 billion in announced capital investment since 2024 showcases the states prolonged success. Each investment is a vote of confidence in the state and Louisiana's workforce, infrastructure, and business climate that treats capital best.
– **Publically Available Announcement Data**
- **#9 Top State for Doing Business** – Louisiana ranks in the top 10 nationally for two consecutive years after ranking 11th in 2024. The Top States for Doing Business ranking is established by surveying 40+ site selectors about 20 categories that impact company location plans. The national decision makers are now telling us, we want to do business in Louisiana.
– **Area Development Top States for Business**
- **#8 in Business Environment** – Louisiana had the biggest gains nationally in Wallet Hub's Business Environment ranking, shooting up to 8th (ranking 25th in 2024). Considering more than half of Louisianans work for a small business, having a strong business environment to start a business is important for Louisiana families.
– **WalletHub's Best State to Start a Business**
- **#3 in First-Year Business Survival** – Louisiana businesses have the third highest first year survival rate in the nation (80.4%). This ranking demonstrates that entrepreneurs are not only launching companies, but they are successfully establishing viable businesses.
– **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics**
- **#1 Exporter per Capita Program** – Louisiana's unique advantages including geographic features, location, and infrastructure make it a global export leader. This status highlights the state's continued importance in producing key goods and serving vital domestic and global supply chains.
– **LED Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade**
- **#2 FDI per Capita** – Over the past 20 years Louisiana's business environment has been a national leader in attracting significant investment from global business. This sustained success reflects industry expertise, relationships, and Louisiana's global footprint.
– **LED Analysis of Financial Times, fDi Markets**



Cost of Doing Business

- **#10 Top State for Corporate Income Tax** – Louisiana achieved its highest ever Corporate Income Tax Climate ranking, simultaneously reaching the Top 10 for the first (prior year, 29th). Louisiana's dramatic improvements reflect Louisiana's coordinated, forward-thinking approach to long-term statewide competitiveness.
– **2026 State Tax Competitiveness Index**

Workforce

- **#3 Nationally in Employment Growth Rate** – Louisiana is a national leader in employment growth as more Louisianans continue to enter the workforce. Louisiana's employment growth has outpaced all other Southern states. Louisiana's employment has increased by 1.34% over the past year while 43 states have an employment growth rate below 1%.
– **Bureau of Labor Statistics, State and Area Employment, 3 Month Average Employment**
- **#1 in K-12 Reading Growth and #2 in Math** – Louisiana leading in the Nation's Report Card points to a bright future for Louisiana, and a strengthening talent pipeline. Improving student achievement today means higher graduation readiness, better workforce preparedness, and a larger pool of skilled employees.
– **National Education Scorecard (2026)**
- **#9 in Manufacturing Talent Pipeline** – The index emphasizes a state's ability to produce industrial workforce talent in alignment with industry needs, and provides additional insight for business leaders outside of traditional view of a state's workforce based on its current employment count. Workforce availability is now a primary site selection driver, not a secondary consideration. States that produce talent (not just employ it) are winning projects.
– **Area Development State Talent Pipeline Rankings**