

2023 CTA  
U.S. Innovation  
Scorecard

MARCH 2023

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## About Consumer Technology Association:

As North America's largest technology trade association, CTA® is the tech sector. Our members are the world's leading innovators — from startups to global brands — helping support more than 18 million American jobs. CTA members enjoy benefits including policy advocacy, market

research, technical education, industry promotion, standards development and the fostering of business and strategic relationships. CTA also owns and produces CES® — the most influential tech event in the world. Find us at [cta.tech](http://cta.tech) and follow us @CTAtech and @CES.

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A close-up, artistic photograph of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a draped, wavy manner. The colors are slightly desaturated, with a focus on the blue and red tones.

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Welcome



# Welcome

Since 2015, the Consumer Technology Association (CTA) has produced the U.S. Innovation Scorecard, highlighting work in states across our nation to advance technological progress and improve quality of life for Americans and people around the world.

In tough times, innovation thrives. Over the past three years, American business leaders and entrepreneurs launched and grew technologies that helped businesses move seamlessly online, relieved supply chain bottlenecks and delivered vital medical care across state lines. New innovations changed the relationship between humans and technology, with advances in robotics,

AI, smart home, virtual and augmented reality and more enhancing what we as people can do. More, a focus on sustainability and the desire to keep our world cleaner and greener generated new products that preserve energy and protect our environment.

The United States is a beacon and a magnet for people with innovative ideas and the drive to make them a reality. Yet as always, some states do more than others to help encourage and support that innovation. Those that allow businesses to grow and create new competition and even new industries bring benefits to their own residents and to people all over the world.

In the 2023 U.S. Innovation Scorecard — our 6th edition — CTA evaluated all 50 states on 11 quantitative and qualitative categories, including internet, STEM education, diversity and inclusion, and support for disruptive technologies such as self-driving vehicles, drones, and telehealth. Our 2023 Innovation Champions show that smart policy paired with big ideas can deliver huge rewards for us all.

I'm thrilled to share the 2023 U.S. Innovation Scorecard, our assessment of the American innovation landscape and our vision for what's to come.



**Gary Shapiro**

**Gary Shapiro**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Shapiro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

President and CEO,  
Consumer Technology  
Association, CTA®

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## Executive Summary



# Executive Summary

**In the 2023 U.S. Innovation Scorecard, we revisit the country after the seismic shock of the Covid pandemic, as new modes of education, migration and work evolve. The result is our most ambitious effort yet to identify what distinguishes the states that stymie innovation from those that advance new frontiers of progress.**

In the 2023 Scorecard, we evaluate all 50 states in each of 11 categories, incorporating the latest available data, and reflecting a new combined total of 28 metrics. This year, we also add two altogether new categories. In Telehealth, we examine how states realize the promise of these

emerging health technologies that have proven so vital in the past few years, and in Tort Reform, we evaluate how fair or onerous states make it for businesses to offer their products.

As in years past, we consider a state's tech workforce, and how many new jobs and

businesses it creates, as well as how much research and development and venture capital investment it attracts.

We look at measures of educational attainment, and whether states offer widespread fast internet connections. We consider social factors, including which states take proactive steps

to protect their residents' personal liberties in matters of gender and sexual identity.

Since our last Scorecard, we have been amazed by how many states have begun welcoming once rarefied autonomous vehicle technologies, including truck platooning and



even mobility-as-a-service. We have also witnessed the rise of advanced air mobility technologies that will one day make it easier and safer to navigate our densest cities. Whatever its population, its topography or its wealth, each state makes a unique contribution to technological innovation, and has a unique story to tell.

This year we recognize 14 Innovation Champions, including both perennial powerhouses and rising tech stars. CTA's 2023 Innovation Champions are: Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington.

Falling off the Champion list from 2020 are Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and New Hampshire. Iowa and Missouri saw declines in Human Rights and Tech Workforce metrics, while Iowa also declined in Entrepreneurial & Small

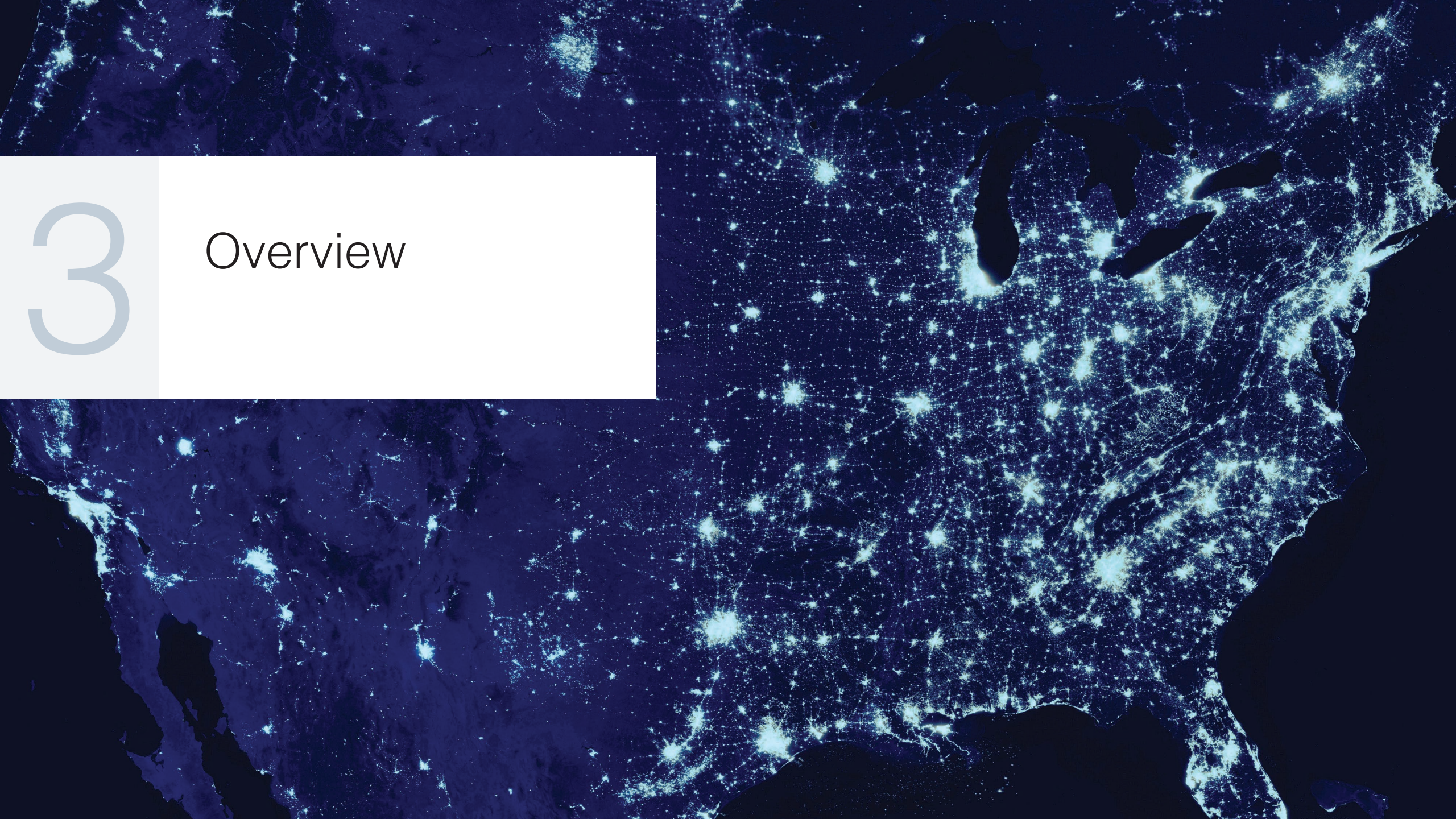
Business Activity. Nebraska fell due to lower grades in Human Rights and Broadband. Nebraska also received a C for Telehealth (a new category in 2023) because of its lack of Medicaid reimbursement for store-and-forward and audio-only telehealth services. Meanwhile, New Hampshire declined the most in Human Rights and Tech Workforce, and received a C in Telehealth due to its lack of Medicaid reimbursement for store-and-forward and remote patient monitoring telehealth services.

At the other end, Nevada, North Dakota and Texas made the Innovation Champion list this year. Nevada made the most dramatic leap from Innovation Adopter to Champion, driven by an increase in its score for Attracts Investment and an A grade in Tort Reform (new in 2023). North Dakota improved its scores for Broadband and Tech Workforce, while Texas benefited from an increase in its Tech Workforce score and an 'A' grade in Telehealth.



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## Overview





# Overview



The 2023 Innovation Champions are the highest-scoring states in the country, boasting dynamic tech ecosystems, highly educated workforces, and particular openness to new and innovative technologies. They have widespread access to fast internet connections, take proactive steps to protect personal liberties, and welcome exciting developments in telehealth, self-driving vehicles, advanced air mobility and other emerging technologies. This year's 14 Champions include perennial centers of innovation such as Virginia and Washington as well as rising tech states such as Minnesota, Nevada and North Dakota.

Arizona  
Colorado  
Indiana  
Kansas  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Nevada  
North Dakota  
Texas  
Utah  
Virginia  
Washington



The 15 Innovation Leaders earn high grades across most of the Scorecard's 11 categories. These states attract significant investments in research and development and venture capital, enable their residents to develop technical skills through apprenticeships and other programs, and exhibit generally strong new job and business creation.

Alaska  
California  
Delaware  
Florida  
Georgia  
Iowa  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
New Hampshire  
North Carolina  
Oregon  
Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island  
South Carolina  
Vermont

# Overview



Innovation Adopters have taken positive steps in several Scorecard categories, but not most of them. Many of these 14 states have supported expansion of technologies such as self-driving vehicles and telehealth services, while nurturing highly-skilled tech workforces. Most Innovation Adopters could do more to attract investments, reform their tort litigation environments, and expand their tech workforces.

Connecticut  
Hawaii  
Idaho  
Illinois  
Maine  
New Jersey  
New Mexico  
New York  
Ohio  
Oklahoma  
South Dakota  
Tennessee  
Wisconsin  
Wyoming



The Scorecard's lowest tier is also its smallest, including the seven states that have the most work to do to nurture entrepreneurship and innovation. Most of these states lack widespread fast internet connections, and could improve their residents' opportunities for higher education, startup financing, and tech jobs. At the same time, these states often welcome emerging technologies such as self-driving vehicles, and they generally offer business-friendly tax environments.

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
Montana  
West Virginia



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## Rankings by Category





# Rankings by Category

**The Scorecard categories — 11 in all, based on 28 qualitative and quantitative metrics — encompass a wide range of factors and activities that encourage innovation.**

Ranking our results by category reveals how unique and sometimes even wildly different each state can be. Innovations in mobility, for instance, sometimes result from the challenges of incredible urban density, and other times draw inspiration from the rural backcountry of Alaska. Some states are home to dynamic tech industries, but their stifling policies have begun driving the next generation of entrepreneurs to set up shop somewhere else. Other states not traditionally seen as hubs of innovation may be the hotbeds of the technological revolutions to come.

# Top Ten States by Category

## Attracts Investment



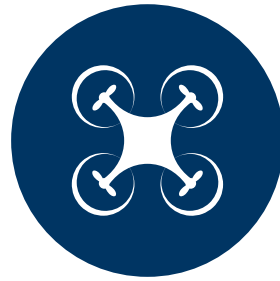
Massachusetts  
California  
Washington  
Delaware  
New York  
New Jersey  
Oregon  
Connecticut  
Colorado  
Utah

## Broadband



New Jersey  
New York  
Massachusetts  
Rhode Island  
Maryland  
Delaware  
California  
Utah  
Connecticut  
Hawaii

## Drones & Advanced Air Mobility



New Hampshire  
West Virginia  
Alaska  
Arizona  
Colorado  
Hawaii  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Maryland  
Massachusetts

## Entrepreneurial & Small Business Activity



Idaho  
Colorado  
Utah  
Montana  
Nevada  
Wyoming  
Florida  
California  
Delaware  
Oregon

## Human Rights



Nevada  
Michigan  
Virginia  
Iowa  
North Carolina  
North Dakota  
Utah  
Wisconsin  
Arizona  
Florida

## Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies



Delaware  
South Carolina  
Alabama  
Alaska  
Arizona  
Arkansas  
Florida  
Georgia  
Idaho  
Illinois

## Self-Driving Vehicles



Arizona  
Colorado  
Florida  
Nevada  
New Mexico  
Ohio  
Texas  
Utah  
Virginia  
Washington

## Tax Friendly



Wyoming  
South Dakota  
Alaska  
Florida  
Montana  
New Hampshire  
Nevada  
Tennessee  
Indiana  
Utah

## Tech Workforce



Vermont  
Massachusetts  
Maryland  
Connecticut  
Virginia  
Colorado  
North Dakota  
New Hampshire  
New York  
Minnesota

## Telehealth



Alaska  
Arizona  
California  
Maine  
Maryland  
Minnesota  
Missouri  
New York  
Oregon  
Washington

## Tort Reform



Oklahoma  
Tennessee  
Vermont  
Kansas  
Indiana  
Oregon  
Washington  
Nevada  
Georgia  
Virginia

# Data



Attracts  
Investment



Broadband



Drones &  
Advanced  
Air Mobility



Entrepreneurial  
& Small  
Business Activity



Human  
Rights

| State       | Ranking                | Score | Attracts<br>Investment | Broadband | Drones &<br>Advanced<br>Air Mobility | Entrepreneurial<br>& Small<br>Business Activity | Human<br>Rights |
|-------------|------------------------|-------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Alabama     | Modest<br>Innovator    | 2.243 | C-                     | C-        | B                                    | D   | C               |
| Alaska      | Innovation<br>Leader   | 2.621 | F                      | D-        | A                                    | B   | D               |
| Arizona     | Innovation<br>Champion | 3.121 | B                      | B         | A                                    | B-  | C+              |
| Arkansas    | Modest<br>Innovator    | 2.015 | F                      | D+        | C-                                   | C   | C               |
| California  | Innovation<br>Leader   | 2.803 | A+                     | A-        | B                                    | B+  | C               |
| Colorado    | Innovation<br>Champion | 3.273 | B                      | B         | A                                    | A   | C               |
| Connecticut | Innovation<br>Adopter  | 2.575 | B                      | A-        | B+                                   | C   | C               |
| Delaware    | Innovation<br>Leader   | 2.635 | B+                     | A-        | C                                    | A-  | D+              |
| Florida     | Innovation<br>Leader   | 2.757 | C-                     | B+        | B                                    | A   | C+              |
| Georgia     | Innovation<br>Leader   | 2.727 | C                      | B         | D+                                   | B   | C+              |





| State       | Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies | Self-Driving Vehicles | Tax Friendly | Tech Workforce | Telehealth | Tort Reform |
|-------------|--|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| Alabama     | B  | A                     | C            | D+             | C          | C+          |
| Alaska      | B  | A                     | A+           | B-             | A          | C+          |
| Arizona     | B  | A                     | B            | B-             | A          | C+          |
| Arkansas    | B  | A                     | C-           | D-             | B          | B+          |
| California  | C  | B                     | D-           | B+             | A          | D+          |
| Colorado    | B-                                       | A                     | B            | A-             | B          | B+          |
| Connecticut | C  | C+                    | D+           | A              | C          | B+          |
| Delaware    | B+                                       | A                     | B            | B              | D          | D           |
| Florida     | B  | A                     | A            | C              | D          | C           |
| Georgia     | B  | A                     | B-           | B-             | C          | A-          |

# Data



| State     | Ranking             | Score | Attracts Investment | Broadband | Drones & Advanced Air Mobility | Entrepreneurial & Small Business Activity | Human Rights |
|-----------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Hawaii    | Innovation Adopter  | 2.425 | D-                  | A-        | A                              | C   | C            |
| Idaho     | Innovation Adopter  | 2.515 | B                   | C-        | D                              | A-  | C+           |
| Illinois  | Innovation Adopter  | 2.347 | B                   | B+        | D-                             | B-  | C            |
| Indiana   | Innovation Champion | 2.999 | B                   | B         | B+                             | D+  | C+           |
| Iowa      | Innovation Leader   | 2.848 | B-                  | C+        | A                              | C   | B            |
| Kansas    | Innovation Champion | 2.999 | C+                  | B         | A                              | C+  | C+           |
| Kentucky  | Modest Innovator    | 2.212 | D-                  | C+        | D-                             | D   | C+           |
| Louisiana | Modest Innovator    | 1.848 | F                   | C         | B+                             | C   | C            |
| Maine     | Innovation Adopter  | 2.485 | D                   | D         | B                              | B   | C            |
| Maryland  | Innovation Champion | 3.031 | B                   | A         | A                              | C   | D+           |



| State | Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies | Self-Driving Vehicles | Tax Friendly | Tech Workforce | Telehealth | Tort Reform |
|-------|--|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
|-------|--|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-------------|

|           |    |    |    |    |   |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| Hawaii    | C  | B+ | C  | B- | B | B  |
| Idaho     | B  | A  | B  | C  | D | C+ |
| Illinois  | B  | B+ | C+ | B+ | B | F  |
| Indiana   | B  | A  | B+ | C  | B | A+ |
| Iowa      | B  | A  | C  | B  | B | B  |
| Kansas    | B  | A  | B  | B  | C | A+ |
| Kentucky  | B  | A- | B  | D  | A | B- |
| Louisiana | B  | A- | C  | F  | B | A- |
| Maine     | D+ | B  | B- | B- | A | B+ |
| Maryland  | B  | A  | C- | A  | A | B- |

# Data



| State         | Ranking             | Score | Attracts Investment | Broadband | Drones & Advanced Air Mobility | Entrepreneurial & Small Business Activity | Human Rights |
|---------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Massachusetts | Innovation Champion | 3.303 | A+                  | A         | A                              | B   | C            |
| Michigan      | Innovation Champion | 3.151 | B                   | B-        | A                              | C-  | B+           |
| Minnesota     | Innovation Champion | 3.031 | B                   | B         | A                              | C+  | C            |
| Mississippi   | Modest Innovator    | 1.834 | F                   | F         | C                              | D   | C            |
| Missouri      | Innovation Leader   | 2.925 | B                   | B-        | A                              | B+  | D-           |
| Montana       | Modest Innovator    | 2.151 | D                   | D-        | A                              | A   | D-           |
| Nebraska      | Innovation Leader   | 2.788 | C-                  | C+        | A                              | B   | C+           |
| Nevada        | Innovation Champion | 3.061 | B-                  | B         | B-                             | B+  | A            |
| New Hampshire | Innovation Leader   | 2.939 | B                   | B-        | A+                             | B   | D+           |
| New Jersey    | Innovation Adopter  | 2.575 | B+                  | A+        | A                              | B   | C            |





| State         | Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies | Self-Driving Vehicles | Tax Friendly | Tech Workforce | Telehealth | Tort Reform |
|---------------|--|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| Massachusetts | B  | B-                    | B-           | A+             | A          | C+          |
| Michigan      | B  | A                     | B            | B              | A          | C+          |
| Minnesota     | B  | A                     | C-           | B+             | A          | B-          |
| Mississippi   | B  | A                     | B-           | D+             | C          | B-          |
| Missouri      | B  | A                     | B            | C+             | A          | B-          |
| Montana       | B  | C                     | B+           | C-             | D          | C+          |
| Nebraska      | B  | A                     | B-           | B              | C          | B           |
| Nevada        | B  | A                     | B+           | F              | B          | A           |
| New Hampshire | B  | B                     | B+           | A-             | C          | B           |
| New Jersey    | C+                                       | A                     | F            | B+             | D          | D           |

# Data



| State          | Ranking             | Score | Attracts Investment | Broadband | Drones & Advanced Air Mobility | Entrepreneurial & Small Business Activity | Human Rights |
|----------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| New Mexico     | Innovation Adopter  | 2.394 | D+                  | F         | A                              | D+  | D+           |
| New York       | Innovation Adopter  | 2.439 | B+                  | A         | B                              | A-  | C            |
| North Carolina | Innovation Leader   | 2.940 | B                   | B-        | D                              | B-  | B            |
| North Dakota   | Innovation Champion | 3.091 | D+                  | B+        | A                              | B   | B            |
| Ohio           | Innovation Adopter  | 2.455 | B-                  | B         | A                              | D-  | D            |
| Oklahoma       | Innovation Adopter  | 2.560 | D-                  | C+        | A                              | B-  | C            |
| Oregon         | Innovation Leader   | 2.864 | B                   | B-        | D-                             | A-  | C            |
| Pennsylvania   | Innovation Leader   | 2.727 | B                   | B+        | A                              | C-  | D            |
| Rhode Island   | Innovation Leader   | 2.727 | C-                  | A         | D                              | B   | C            |
| South Carolina | Innovation Leader   | 2.818 | D                   | B-        | A                              | C+  | C            |



## State

## Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies

## Self-Driving Vehicles

## Tax Friendly

## Tech Workforce

## Telehealth

## Tort Reform

New Mexico

B

A

B-

B

B

B-

New York

C-

C

D-

B+

A

F

North Carolina

B

A

B

B-

A

B

North Dakota

B

A

B

A-

B

B-

Ohio

B

A

C+

B-

A

B

Oklahoma

B

A

B-

D

C

A+

Oregon

C

A

B

B

A

A

Pennsylvania

B-

A

B-

B

C

C+

Rhode Island

B

A

C

B+

B

B+

South Carolina

B+

A

B-

B

B

C+

# Data



Attracts  
Investment

Broadband

Drones &  
Advanced  
Air Mobility

Entrepreneurial  
& Small  
Business Activity

Human  
Rights

State

Ranking

Score

South Dakota

Innovation  
Adopter

2.485

D-

C+

D-

B

C

Tennessee

Innovation  
Adopter

2.470

D

B-

D-

D+

C

Texas

Innovation  
Champion

2.999

B

B+

D

B

C+

Utah

Innovation  
Champion

3.091

B

A-

C-

A-

B

Vermont

Innovation  
Leader

2.681

B

D-

A

B

C

Virginia

Innovation  
Champion

3.061

B

B+

A

B-

B+

Washington

Innovation  
Champion

3.333

A

B

A

B+

C

West Virginia

Modest  
Innovator

2.257

F

D-

A+

F

C+

Wisconsin

Innovation  
Adopter

2.470

B

D+

D-

C-

B

Wyoming

Innovation  
Adopter

2.394


B

F

D

A+

C+

|               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| State         | Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies  | Self-Driving Vehicles  | Tax Friendly  | Tech Workforce  | Telehealth  | Tort Reform   |
| South Dakota  | B   | A  | A+  | C-  | B   | B   |
| Tennessee     | B   | A  | B+  | C-  | C   | A+  |
| Texas         | B   | A  | B   | C+  | A   | A-  |
| Utah          | B   | A  | B+  | B   | B   | C   |
| Vermont       | C+  | C  | C   | A+  | B   | A+  |
| Virginia      | B   | A  | B   | A-  | A   | A-  |
| Washington    | C   | A  | B   | B+  | A   | A   |
| West Virginia | B   | A  | B   | C-  | B   | B   |
| Wisconsin     | B-  | A  | B-  | C+  | B   | B   |
| Wyoming       | B   | A  | A+  | D   | D   | B-  |



The background of the slide is a photograph of an industrial setting, likely a factory or laboratory. It features robotic arms, metal frames, and safety railings. The entire scene is bathed in a strong blue light, creating a high-tech, futuristic atmosphere. In the foreground, two women are standing at a workstation, looking at a laptop and a tablet. The woman on the right is pointing at the tablet while the woman on the left looks on. They are both dressed in business-casual attire. The overall composition suggests a focus on technology, automation, and collaborative work in an industrial context.

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## Methodology





### Attracts Investment

This category measures the amount of per capita venture capital investment and combined government and private sector research and development. Venture capital investment data comes from [PitchBook](#). R&D investment data comes from the [National Science Foundation](#)'s Business Research and Development and Innovation: 2020 data available Oct 2022. (Table 13). The combined normalized scores are graded on a curve and assigned letter grades from A+ to F.



### Broadband

Grades are assigned based on fixed and mobile internet speeds and the percentage of households subscribing to broadband. [Ookla](#) United States' Mobile and Fixed Broadband Internet Speeds (August 2022) using median fixed and mobile download and upload speeds, and data on the percentage of households subscribing to a broadband service from the 2021 [American Community Survey](#). The combined normalized scores are graded on a curve from A+ to F.



### Drones & Advanced Air Mobility

CTA policy and research experts assign A plus to F grades, based on laws and regulations affecting consumer and commercial drone operations, and electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft.



### Entrepreneurial & Small Business Activity

Using quarterly workforce indicators data from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), this category tracks number of new jobs per capita created from Q3 2017 through Q2 2022 by firms with fewer than 50 employees, as well as the number of businesses formed over the most recent 5 years according to the Census Bureau's [Business Dynamics Statistics](#). States are graded on a curve and assigned letter grades from A+ to F.



## Human Rights

This category uses data from the [National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation](#) to grade whether a state is “right to work” and the [Movement Advancement Project](#) to assess whether a state has LGBTQ nondiscrimination laws. The category is bimodal assigns an A+ to states that allow workers to decide whether to join an established labor union and an F to states that force workers to participate in pay and pay dues to unions. Also, states were assigned A+ through F grades based on the presence of state legislation protecting workers from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and or gender identity. The combined normalized scores are assigned a letter grade from A+ to F.



## Innovation-Friendly Sustainable Policies

CTA policy and research experts assign an A+ to F grade based on how laws and regulations meant to support environmental sustainability – on topics such as recycling of electronics, product packaging and energy efficiency – impact the consumer technology industry. Regulations may inhibit, support or be neutral in how they impact innovation.



## Self-Driving Vehicles

CTA policy and research experts assign A+ to F grades based on state laws and regulations affecting the development, testing, and operation of self-driving vehicles.



## Tax Friendliness

Using data from the Tax Foundation’s 2022 [State Business Tax Climate Index](#), this grade is derived from numerical scoring data, including corporate and individual income taxes, sales tax, unemployment insurance tax and property tax rates. States are graded on a curve and assigned a letter grade from A+ to F.



## Tech Workforce

This grade is based on the per capita number of technology related jobs and per capita apprenticeship graduates. Using data from the United States Census Bureau's [American Community Survey 2021](#), this category measures the percentage of a state's population age 25 years and older holding a graduate or professional degrees. The jobs data comes from the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) May 2021 occupational Employment Statistics Survey. The apprenticeship data comes from the Department of Labor's [Employment and Training Administration](#) for fiscal year 2021, states are graded on a curve and assigned a letter grade from A+ to F. The advanced degrees data comes from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2021. Potential Source – CompTIA State of the Workforce



## Telehealth

CTA policy and research experts assign A plus to F grades, based on laws and regulations affecting telehealth technologies. Grading relies heavily on Medicaid reimbursement policies regarding telehealth procedures from the Center for Connected Health Policy's [Connected Health Policy State Telehealth Laws and Reimbursement Policies](#) report. States are graded and assigned letter grades from A+ to F.



## Tort Reform

This category evaluates each state's legal environment, according to three metrics: Metric A uses the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, [Institute of Legal Reform](#), 2022 Tort Costs in America to quantify annual tort costs per household in the state. Metric B draws on the [Institute for Free Speech](#), 2022 Anti-SLAPP Statutes Report Card to assess whether states have laws in place to prevent plaintiffs from bringing legal actions without merit solely for the purpose of coercing, intimidating or silencing defendants; states that have such laws earn higher grades, while states that do not earn lower grades. For Metric C, CTA policy and research experts assess whether companies are compelled to pay damages to class action plaintiffs who claim to have suffered no actual injuries.



## Overall Grade

The overall innovation scorecard grade captures a state's overall support for innovation based on the criteria above. Each criterion receives equal weight in the final scoring formula. Final composite scores are then graded on a curve to determine which of the four tiers a state will be ranked in: Modest Innovator, Innovation Adopter, Innovation Leader or Innovation Champion.



# Consumer Technology Association<sup>®</sup>

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As North America's largest technology trade association, CTA<sup>®</sup> is the tech sector. Our members are the world's leading innovators — from startups to global brands — helping support more than 18 million American jobs. CTA members enjoy benefits including policy advocacy, market research, technical education, industry promotion, standards development and the fostering of business and strategic relationships. CTA also owns and produces CES<sup>®</sup> — the most influential tech event in the world. Find us at [cta.tech](http://cta.tech) and follow us @CTAtech and @CES.

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