GOVERNMENT BURDEN



KEY FINDINGS:

- Oklahoma's government burden ranking declined from an already poor 41st in last year's Scorecard to 44th in the 2024 edition.
- Oklahoma's state government significantly burdens the private sector due to its relatively large size and the regulatory burden it imposes on individuals and businesses.
 - A large share of Oklahoma's population is employed by state and local government compared to private sector employment, ranking the state 37th in the nation in this category.
 - A relatively high proportion of Oklahoma's **GDP** is attributable to state and local government spending, making the state **43rd of 50 states** in this category.
 - Oklahoma ranks 30th in regulatory burden, and 47th in occupational licensing burden, making the state one of the worst states in the country when it comes to placing barriers to workforce expansion.
- Even when adjusted for its low population density and/or large land area—which might indicate a need for relatively larger state and local government—Oklahoma still ranks uncompetitively in the Government Burden component.



REGION

| State | Regional Rank | National Rank |
|------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Missouri | 1 | 4 |
| Colorado | 2 | 7 |
| Kansas | 3 | 22 |
| Texas | 4 | 31 |
| Oklahoma | 5 | 44 |
| Arkansas | 6 | 45 |
| New Mexico | 7 | 48 |

PEER STATES

| State | Peer Rank | National Rank |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|
| Indiana | 1 | 1 |
| Nevada | 2 | 3 |
| Missouri | 3 | 4 |
| Colorado | 4 | 7 |
| Tennessee | 5 | 14 |
| Wisconsin | 6 | 21 |
| Kansas | 7 | 22 |
| Utah | 8 | 25 |
| Iowa | 9 | 26 |
| Kentucky | 10 | 34 |
| Mississippi | 11 | 42 |
| Alabama | 12 | 43 |
| Oklahoma | 13 | 44 |
| Arkansas | 14 | 45 |

HIGHLY COMPETITIVE

NATION

1. Indiana 2. Florida 3. 4. Nevada Missouri 5. Pennsylvania 6. 7. Michigan Colorado 8. Illinois 9. Ohio 10. Georgia 11. New Hampshire 12. Arizona 13. Maryland 14. Tennessee 15. Connecticut 16. Rhode Island 17. South Dakota 18. Massachusetts 19. Maine 20. Vermont 21. Wisconsin 22. Kansas 23. Idaho 24. Nebraska 25. Utah 26. Iowa 27. Minnesota 28. Montana 29. Delaware 30. Virginia 31. Texas 32. South Carolina 33. Louisiana 34. Kentucky 35. California 36. New Jersey 37. Oregon 38. North Dakota 39. Hawaii 40. Washington 41. New York 42. Mississippi 43. Alabama 44. Oklahoma 45. Arkansas 46. West Virginia47. Wyoming 48. New Mexico 49. Alaska 50. North Carolina