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19TH EDITION



RICH STATES, POOR STATES

ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



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STEPHEN MOORE
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Rich States, Poor States
ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index
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RICH STATES, POOR STATES

ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index

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STATE RANKINGS

The Economic Outlook Ranking is a forecast based on a state's current standing in 15 state policy variables. Each of these factors is influenced directly by state lawmakers through the legislative process. Generally speaking, states that spend less — especially on income transfer programs — and states that tax less — particularly on productive activities such as working or investing — experience higher growth rates than states that tax and spend more.

The Economic Performance Ranking is a backward-looking measure based on a state's performance on three important variables: State Gross Domestic Product, Absolute Domestic Migration, and Non-Farm Payroll Employment — all of which are highly influenced by state policy. This ranking details states' individual performances over the past 10 years based on this economic data.

ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANKINGS, 2026

Based upon equal-weighting of each state's rank in 15 policy variables

RANK	STATE
1	Utah
2	Tennessee
3	Idaho
4	North Carolina
5	Arizona
6	Arkansas
7	Indiana
8	Oklahoma
9	South Dakota
10	Florida
11	Wyoming
12	Nevada
13	Texas
14	Georgia
15	Ohio
16	North Dakota
17	West Virginia
18	Louisiana
19	Missouri
20	Alaska
21	South Carolina
22	New Hampshire
23	Kentucky
24	Mississippi
25	Iowa

RANK	STATE
26	Alabama
27	Nebraska
28	Wisconsin
29	Colorado
30	Kansas
31	Virginia
32	Michigan
33	Massachusetts
34	Pennsylvania
35	New Mexico
36	Delaware
37	Montana
38	Washington
39	Minnesota
40	Oregon
41	Rhode Island
42	Maryland
43	Hawaii
44	Maine
45	Illinois
46	Connecticut
47	California
48	Vermont
49	New Jersey
50	New York

ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANKINGS, 2014-2024

RANK	STATE	STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	ABSOLUTE DOMESTIC MIGRATION	NON-FARM PAYROLL
1	Florida	3	1	4
2	Arizona	5	4	5
3	Idaho	2	11	1
4	Utah	1	13	2
5	Nevada	6	10	3
6	South Carolina	10	5	7
7	Washington	4	8	10
8	Texas	15	2	6
9	North Carolina	14	3	8
10	Georgia	8	6	11
11	Colorado	7	9	9
12	Tennessee	9	7	12
13	Oregon	11	12	15
14	Montana	16	16	13
15	Alabama	21	14	17
16	Arkansas	22	18	14
17	Maine	13	19	24
18	New Hampshire	18	22	22
19	Indiana	23	20	25
20	South Dakota	25	24	19
21	Virginia	20	33	18
22	Kentucky	29	21	23
23	Delaware	38	17	20
24	Missouri	27	23	27
25	California	12	49	16
26	Nebraska	19	30	34
27	Oklahoma	47	15	30
28	Massachusetts	17	44	31
29	Minnesota	33	29	32
30	New Jersey	28	47	21
31	New Mexico	35	35	26
32	Wisconsin	34	27	36
33	New York	24	50	28
34	Ohio	30	36	39
35	Michigan	31	41	33
36	Kansas	26	39	40
37	Rhode Island	36	32	38
38	Maryland	32	45	29
39	Vermont	37	26	47
40	Mississippi	40	38	35
41	Iowa	42	28	43
42	Hawaii	39	40	44
43	Pennsylvania	45	42	37
44	Wyoming	48	31	46
45	North Dakota	50	25	50
46	West Virginia	43	34	49
47	Alaska	49	37	41
48	Connecticut	41	43	45
49	Illinois	44	48	42
50	Louisiana	46	46	48

ALABAMA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

15TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

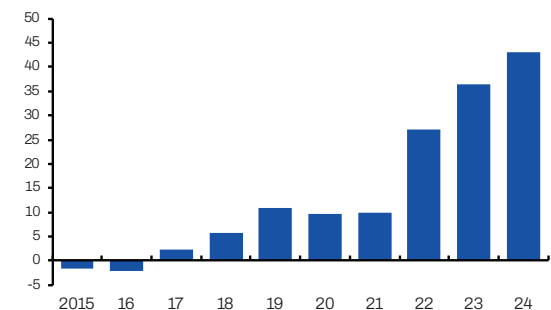
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **63.01%** Rank: **21**



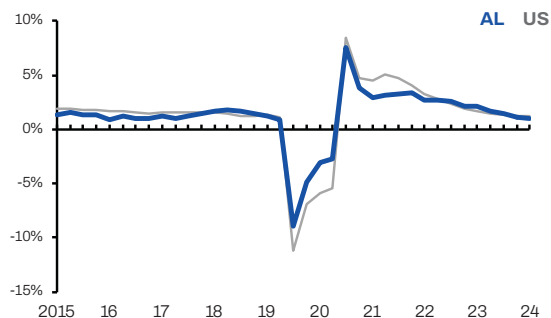
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **140,030** Rank: **14**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **11.76%** Rank: **17**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

26TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	23	25	23	24	20	20	20

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.15%	17
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.98%	22
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	-\$0.96	1
Property Tax Burden	\$14.43	1
Sales Tax Burden	\$30.31	39
Remaining Tax Burden	\$19.90	39
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.61%	25
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	569.4	39
State Tort System Costs	2.26%	38
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.11	27
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

ALASKA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

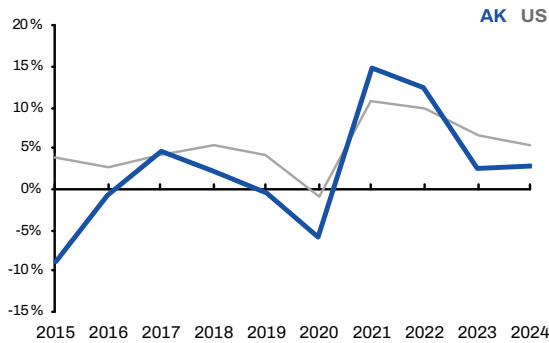
(1=Best 50=Worst)

47TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

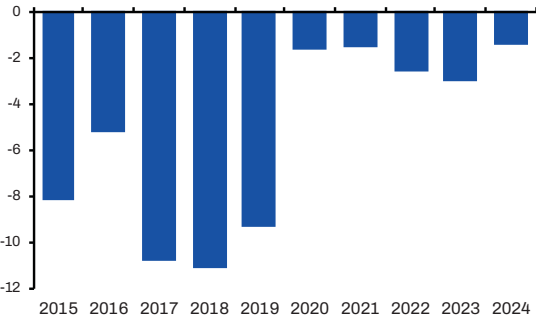
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **23.65%** **Rank: 49**



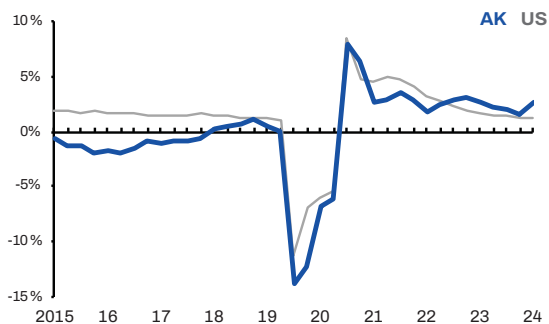
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-64,451** **Rank: 37**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **3.16%** **Rank: 41**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

20TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	30	26	18	21	23	25	22

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	9.40%	41
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$34.07	39
Sales Tax Burden	\$6.81	5
Remaining Tax Burden	\$12.63	11
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.52%	38
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	701.4	49
State Tort System Costs	1.30%	2
State Minimum Wage	\$13.00	30
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.16	31
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

ARIZONA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

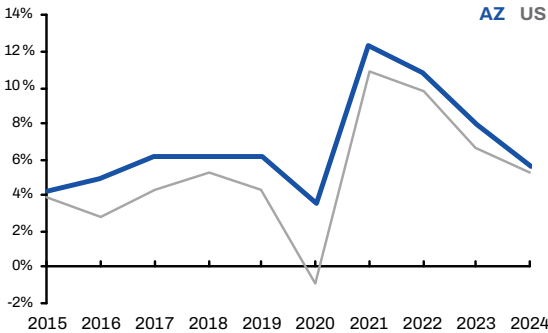
(1=Best 50=Worst)

2ND

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

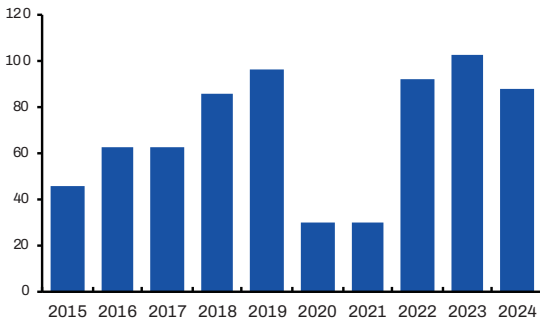
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **92.61%** Rank: **5**



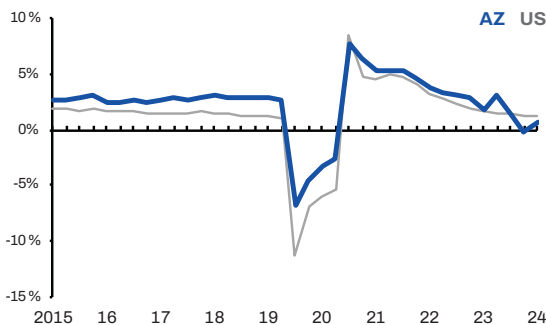
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **734,590** Rank: **4**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **22.77%** Rank: **5**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

5TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	11	10	13	3	3	3	6

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	2.50%	10
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.90%	15
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$5.37	21
Property Tax Burden	\$20.14	9
Sales Tax Burden	\$38.50	45
Remaining Tax Burden	\$9.10	1
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.01	27
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.05%	13
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	394.9	2
State Tort System Costs	1.99%	30
State Minimum Wage	\$15.15	42
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.70	6
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

ARKANSAS

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

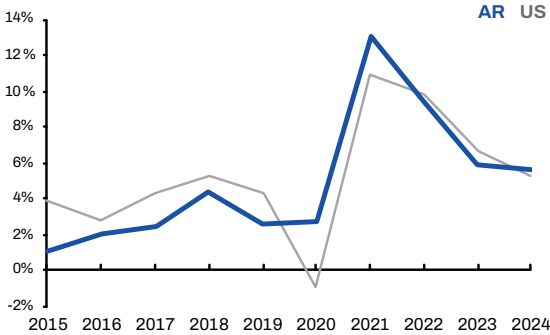
(1=Best 50=Worst)

16TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

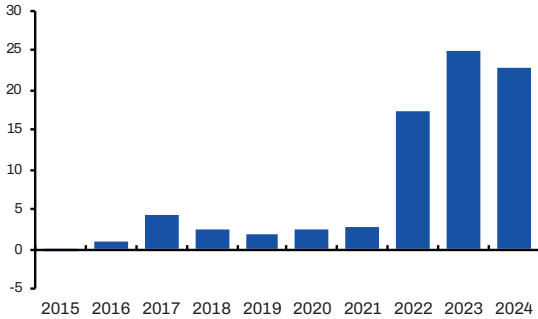
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **60.77%** Rank: **22**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **76,456** Rank: **18**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **13.80%** Rank: **14**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

6TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	23	22	23	16	15	15	10

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	3.90%	14
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.30%	8
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.27	12
Property Tax Burden	\$16.26	2
Sales Tax Burden	\$39.89	46
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.42	21
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$4.42	3
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.92%	9
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	544.4	37
State Tort System Costs	2.08%	34
State Minimum Wage	\$11.00	23
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.53	2
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

CALIFORNIA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

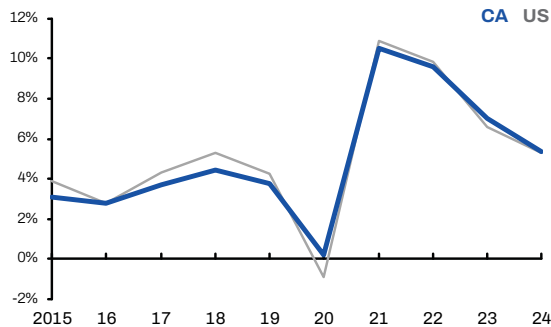
(1=Best 50=Worst)

25TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

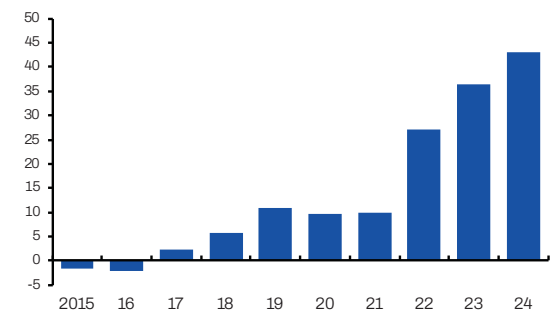
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **75.18%** Rank: **12**



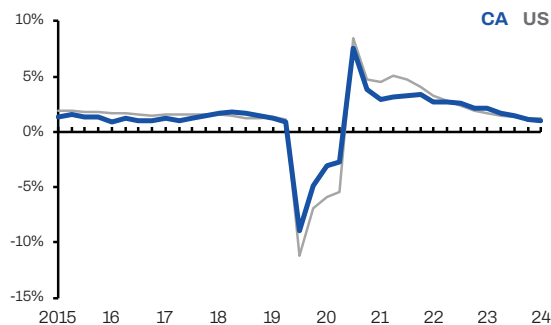
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-1,475,145** Rank: **49**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **13.27%** Rank: **16**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

47TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	47	46	45	48	45	47	47

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	14.60%	48
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	10.35%	44
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$42.65	50
Property Tax Burden	\$29.70	32
Sales Tax Burden	\$24.27	24
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.20	33
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$2.76	47
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.63%	41
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	506.2	19
State Tort System Costs	1.99%	30
State Minimum Wage	\$16.90	48
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.86	47
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

COLORADO

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

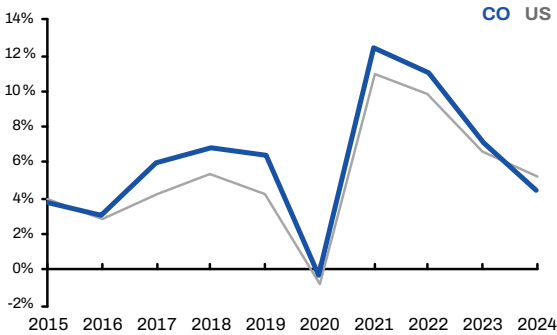
(1=Best 50=Worst)

11TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

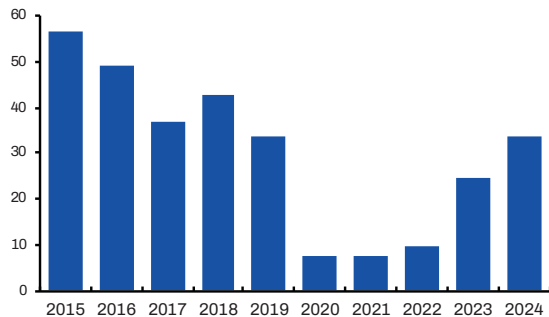
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **78.94%** Rank: **7**



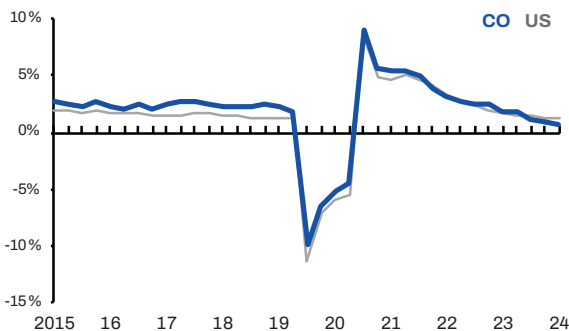
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **341,355** Rank: **9**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **18.52%** Rank: **9**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

29TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	18	18	20	22	25	17	17

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.40%	18
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.40%	11
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$9.45	28
Property Tax Burden	\$28.29	29
Sales Tax Burden	\$25.57	28
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.75	9
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$3.80	5
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	7.33%	50
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	553.0	38
State Tort System Costs	1.92%	27
State Minimum Wage	\$15.16	43
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.05	23
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	3	1

CONNECTICUT

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

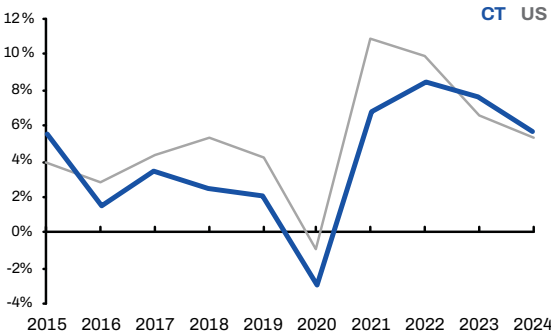
(1=Best 50=Worst)

48TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

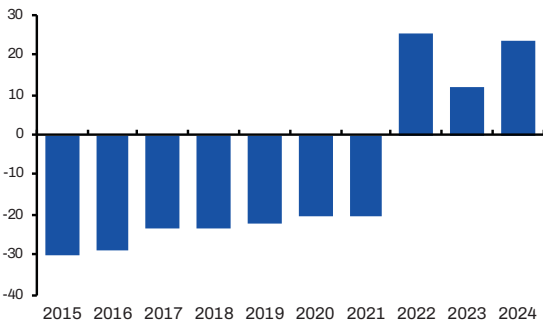
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **48.00%** **Rank: 41**



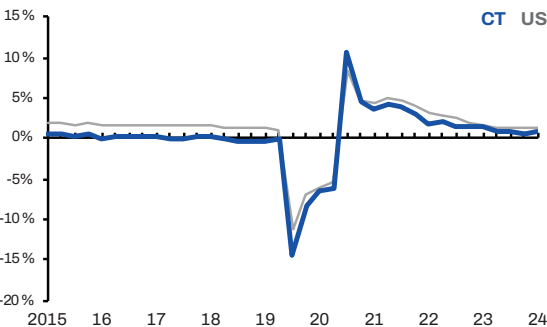
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-133,617** **Rank: 43**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **0.87%** **Rank: 45**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

46TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	40	40	39	35	39	40	44

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	6.99%	38
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.50%	32
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$11.67	35
Property Tax Burden	\$37.59	43
Sales Tax Burden	\$17.35	10
Remaining Tax Burden	\$13.04	13
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.25	43
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	5.48%	46
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	509.1	21
State Tort System Costs	2.27%	39
State Minimum Wage	\$16.94	49
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.48	45
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

DELAWARE

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

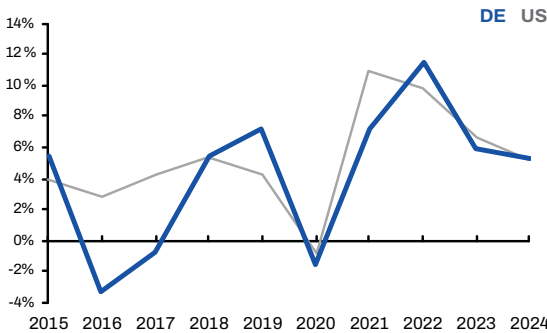
(1=Best 50=Worst)

23RD

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

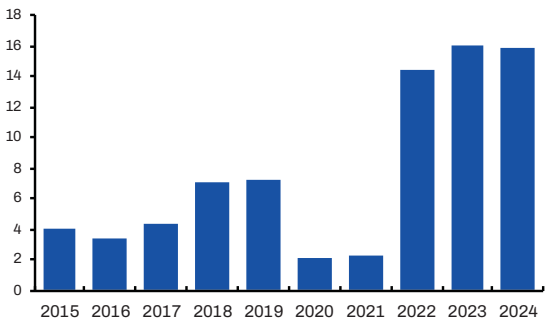
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **50.50%** Rank: **38**



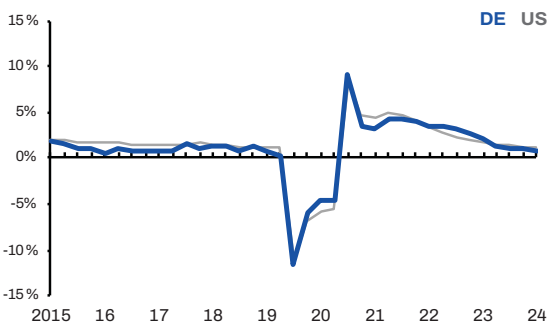
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **81,270** Rank: **17**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **9.66%** Rank: **20**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

36TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	36	24	31	30	29	33	38

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	7.85%	41
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	11.64%	46
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$15.10	39
Property Tax Burden	\$16.79	4
Sales Tax Burden	\$0.00	1
Remaining Tax Burden	\$57.20	50
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.93%	29
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	509.9	24
State Tort System Costs	3.46%	50
State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.97	19
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

FLORIDA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

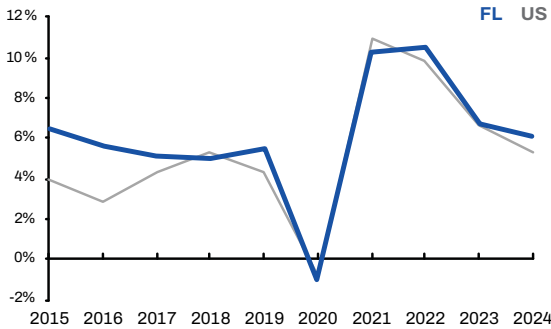
(1=Best 50=Worst)

1ST

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

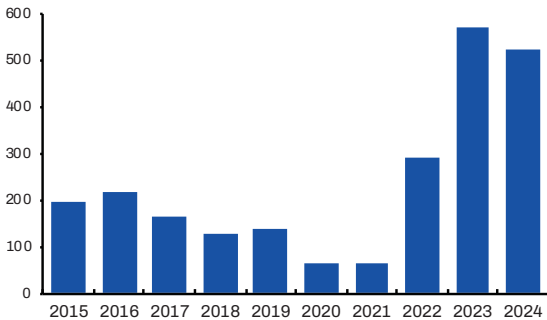
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **98.30%** Rank: **3**



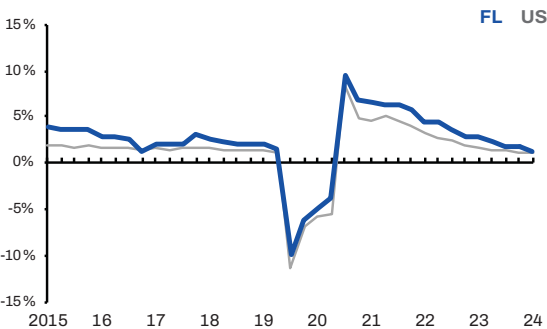
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **2,512,566** Rank: **1**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **24.49%** Rank: **4**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

10TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	9	7	2	8	9	14	15

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.50%	20
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$26.23	21
Sales Tax Burden	\$29.41	37
Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.15	26
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.07	19
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.03%	12
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	395.9	3
State Tort System Costs	3.35%	49
State Minimum Wage	\$14.00	32
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.00	21
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

GEORGIA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

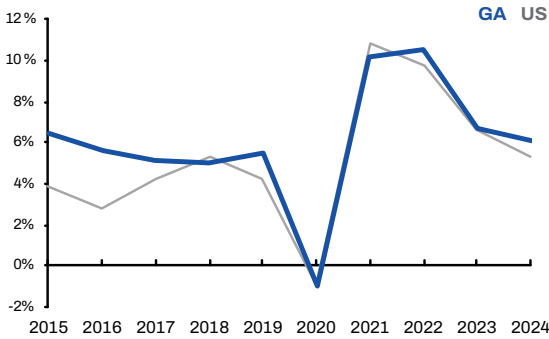
(1=Best 50=Worst)

10TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

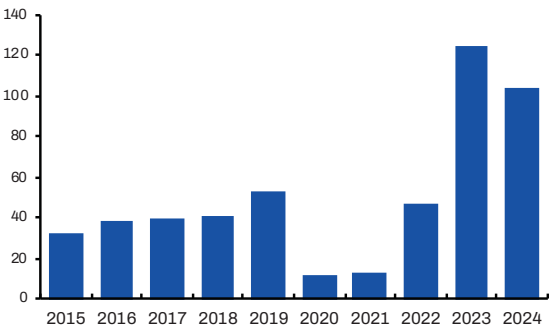
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **78.88%** Rank: **8**



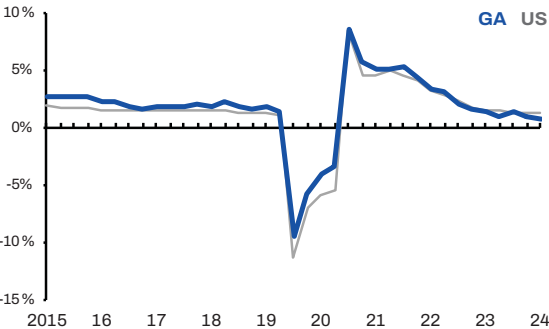
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **527,513** Rank: **6**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **17.76%** Rank: **11**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

14TH

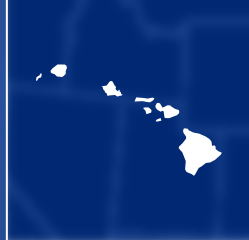
A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	20	21	14	15	12	11	13

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.19%	25
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.99%	23
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$8.62	25
Property Tax Burden	\$27.50	28
Sales Tax Burden	\$23.42	22
Remaining Tax Burden	\$9.74	2
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$5.25	1
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.86%	8
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	485.7	11
State Tort System Costs	2.60%	46
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.09	25
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

HAWAII

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

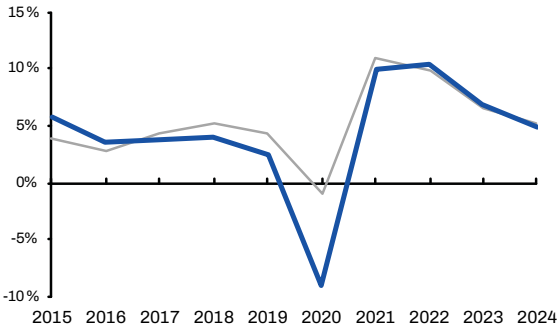
42ND

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **50.08%** **Rank: 39**

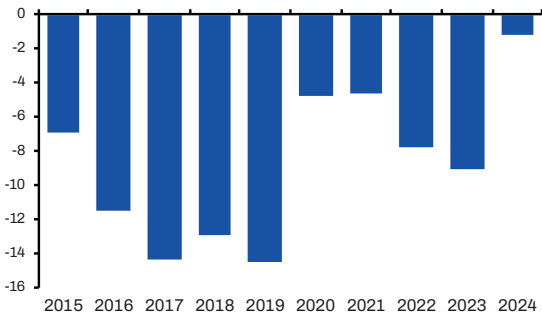
HI US



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-93,095** **Rank: 40**

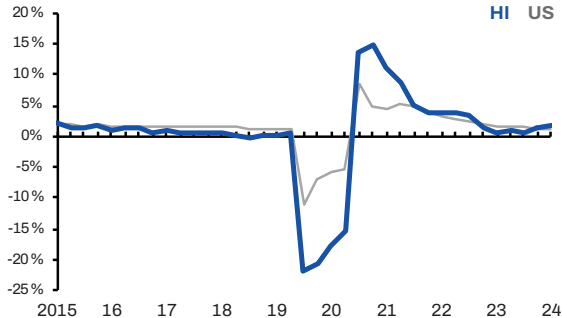
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **0.93%** **Rank: 44**

HI US



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

43RD

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	45	44	42	43	42	41	40

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	11.00%	46
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.40%	25
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$20.51	44
Property Tax Burden	\$26.90	26
Sales Tax Burden	\$55.80	50
Remaining Tax Burden	\$29.74	48
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$4.34	4
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.61%	7
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	515.3	26
State Tort System Costs	1.64%	17
State Minimum Wage	\$16.00	45
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$2.52	50
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

IDAHO

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

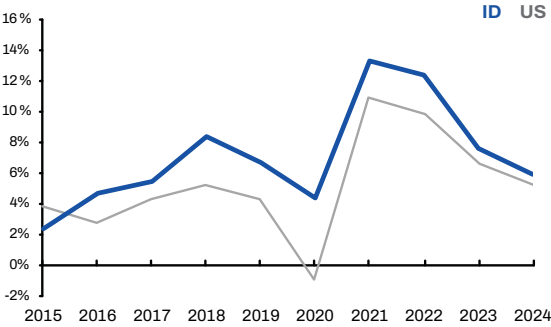
(1=Best 50=Worst)

3RD

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

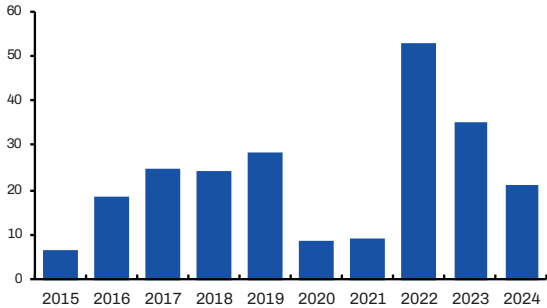
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **98.65%** Rank: **2**



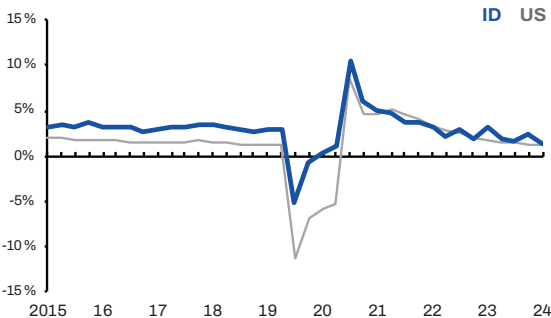
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **238,681** Rank: **11**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **31.82%** Rank: **1**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

3RD

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	2	3	11	5	4	2	7

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.30%	27
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.30%	19
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$12.23	37
Property Tax Burden	\$19.59	7
Sales Tax Burden	\$27.08	32
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.42	6
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$4.99	2
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.02%	2
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	457.2	7
State Tort System Costs	1.91%	26
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.10	26
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

ILLINOIS

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

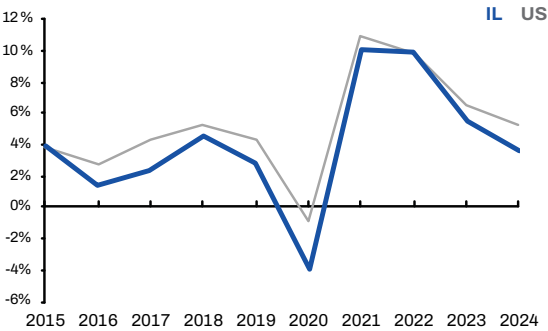
(1=Best 50=Worst)

49TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

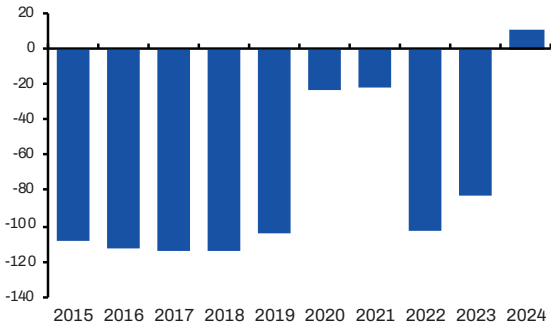
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **47.26%** **Rank: 44**



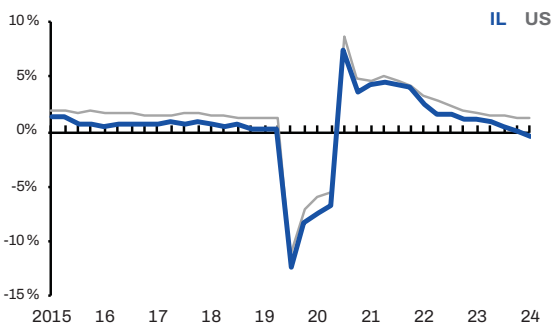
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-866,935** **Rank: 48**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **3.12%** **Rank: 42**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

45TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	48	47	47	45	46	48	46

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
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Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.95%	23
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Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	9.50%	42
----------------------------------------	-------	----

Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$1.88	17
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Property Tax Burden	\$38.44	45
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Sales Tax Burden	\$21.10	15
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Remaining Tax Burden	\$23.78	44
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Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
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Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.58	44
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Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	5.30%	45
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Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	499.4	15
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State Tort System Costs	2.07%	33
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State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
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Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.34	37
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Right-to-Work State?	No	50
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Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32
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INDIANA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

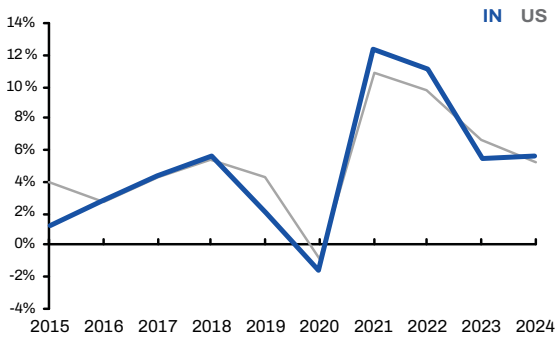
(1=Best 50=Worst)

19TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

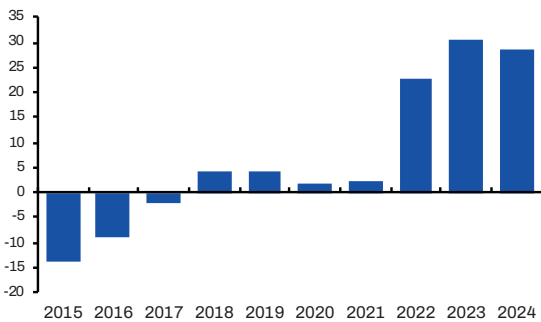
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **60.12%** **Rank: 23**



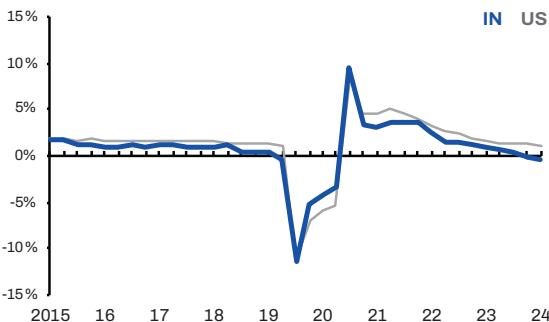
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **61,621** **Rank: 20**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **7.78%** **Rank: 25**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

7TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	3	4	6	7	7	5	3

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.97%	24
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.90%	15
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.66	14
Property Tax Burden	\$22.06	13
Sales Tax Burden	\$26.70	31
Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.25	27
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.03	26
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.39%	19
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	478.8	9
State Tort System Costs	1.67%	18
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.71	7
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

IOWA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

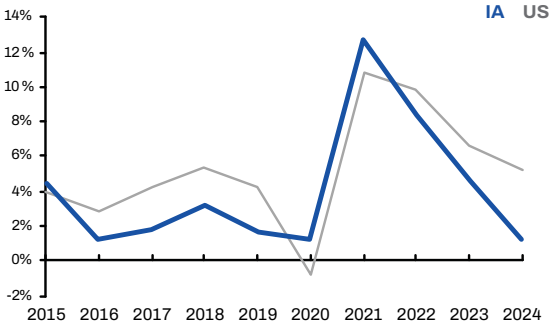
(1=Best 50=Worst)

41ST

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

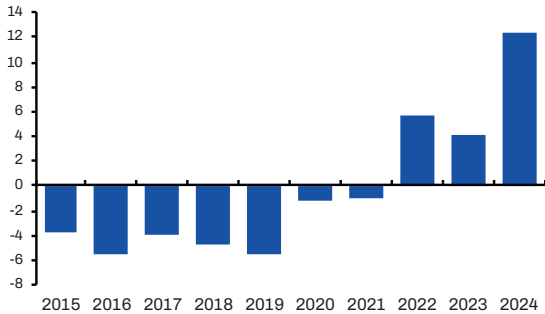
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **47.94%** Rank: **42**



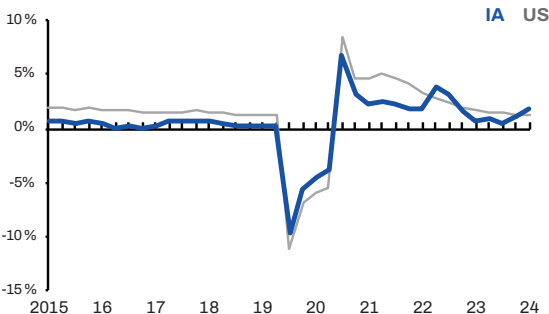
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-4,455** Rank: **28**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **1.55%** Rank: **43**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

25TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	25	27	33	32	32	34	30

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	3.80%	13
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.35%	24
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$7.12	23
Property Tax Burden	\$33.57	38
Sales Tax Burden	\$26.02	29
Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.40	28
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$2.98	7
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.42%	20
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	603.3	43
State Tort System Costs	1.51%	10
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.21	32
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

KANSAS

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

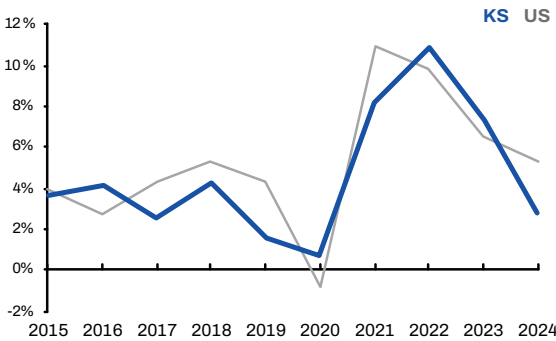
(1=Best 50=Worst)

36TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

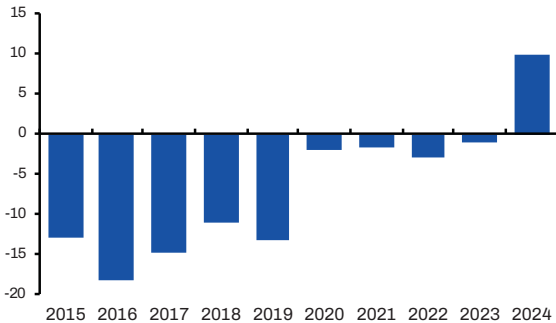
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **56.16%** **Rank: 26**



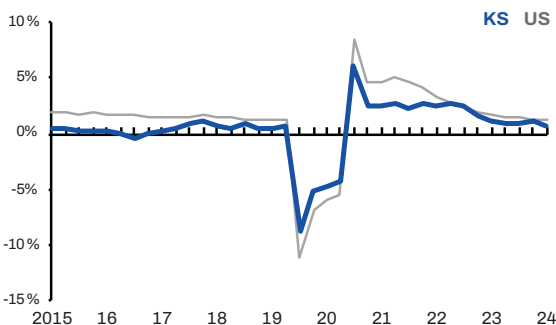
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-80,921** **Rank: 39**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **3.19%** **Rank: 40**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

30TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	26	25	26	28	30	27	23

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.58%	28
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.50%	26
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$10.66	30
Property Tax Burden	\$29.65	31
Sales Tax Burden	\$30.71	40
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.70	8
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.66	13
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.70%	43
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	698.0	48
State Tort System Costs	1.61%	16
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.91	16
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

KENTUCKY

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

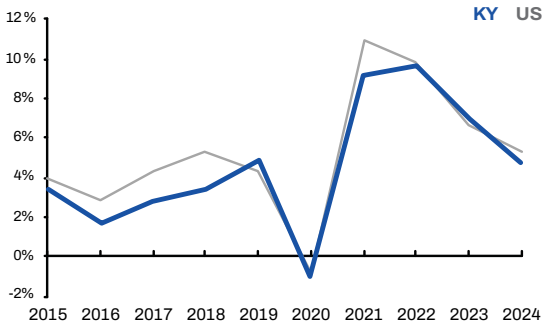
(1=Best 50=Worst)

22ND

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

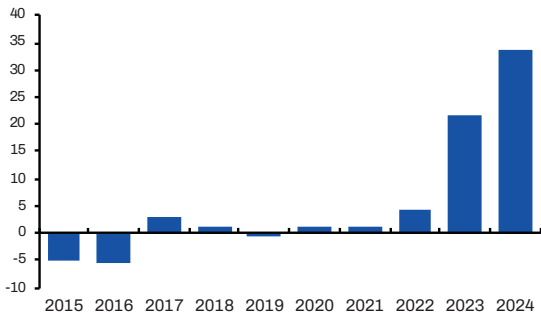
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **55.59%** **Rank: 29**



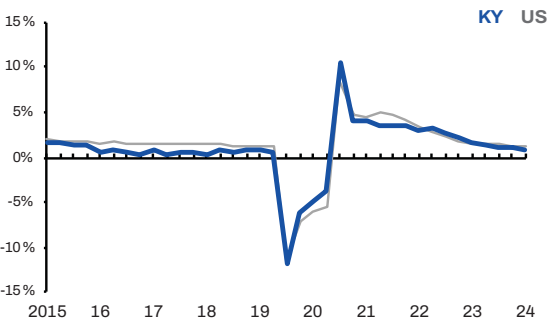
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **47,025** **Rank: 21**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **7.99%** **Rank: 23**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

23RD

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	33	31	29	34	27	28	27

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.70%	30
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.20%	31
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$1.53	16
Property Tax Burden	\$20.14	10
Sales Tax Burden	\$23.27	20
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.02	32
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$2.04	9
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.60%	24
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	526.8	31
State Tort System Costs	1.92%	27
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.76	10
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

LOUISIANA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

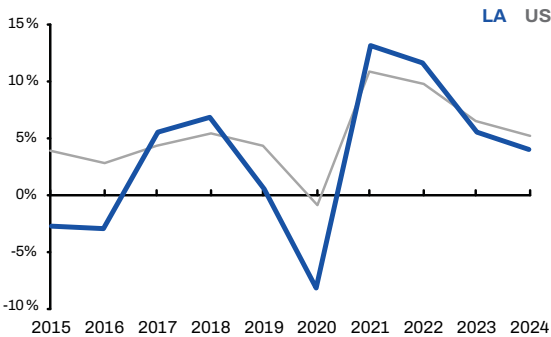
(1=Best 50=Worst)

50TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

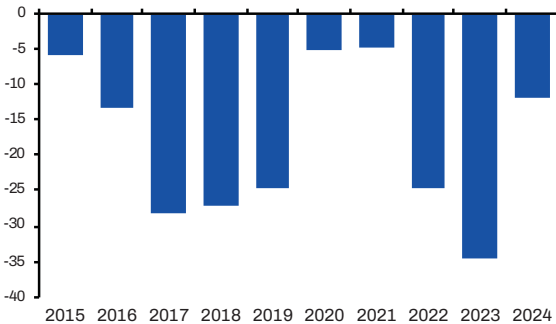
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **36.03%** Rank: **46**



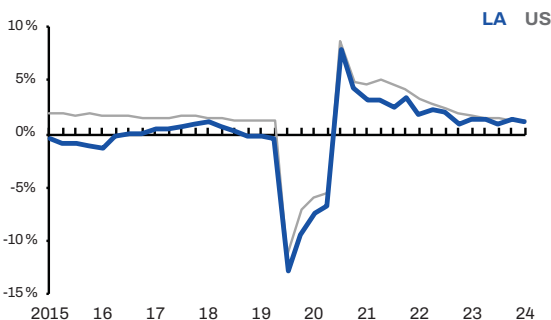
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-185,983** Rank: **46**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-1.42%** Rank: **48**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

18TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

Economic Outlook Rank **27 30 22 20 26 31 18**

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
----------	------	------

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	3.00%	12
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Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.35%	10
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Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$5.00	20
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Property Tax Burden	\$18.98	6
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Sales Tax Burden	\$41.25	47
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Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.57	29
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Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
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Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$2.60	8
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Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.89%	28
----------------------------------------	--------------	-----------

Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	544.0	36
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State Tort System Costs	2.65%	48
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State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
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Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.41	42
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Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
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Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3
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MAINE

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

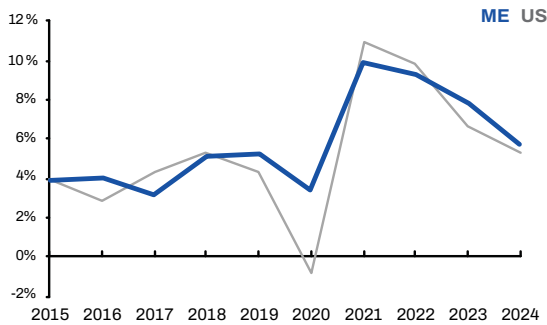
(1=Best 50=Worst)

17TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

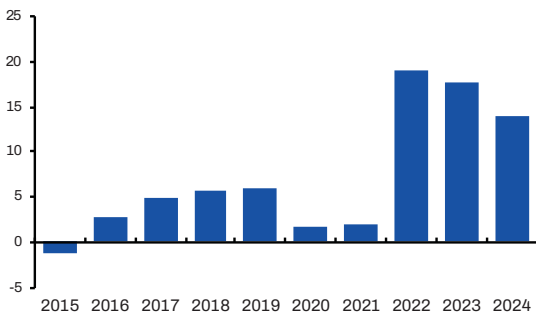
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **74.41%** **Rank: 13**



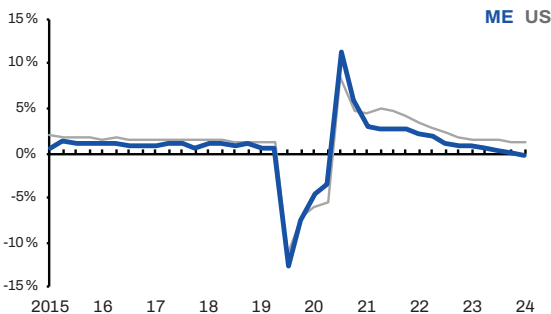
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **72,346** **Rank: 19**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **7.78%** **Rank: 24**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

44TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	42	41	43	44	44	45	45

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	7.15%	39
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	8.93%	40
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$25.39	48
Property Tax Burden	\$40.65	46
Sales Tax Burden	\$25.45	26
Remaining Tax Burden	\$14.18	17
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.85	45
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.18%	14
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	524.3	29
State Tort System Costs	1.58%	14
State Minimum Wage	\$15.10	41
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.37	40
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

MARYLAND

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

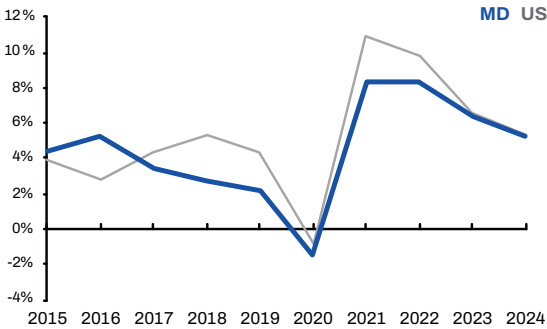
(1=Best 50=Worst)

38TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

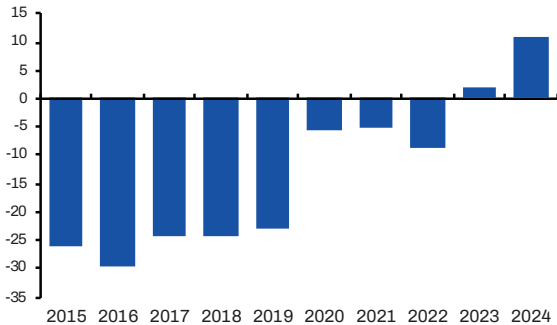
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **54.31%** Rank: **32**



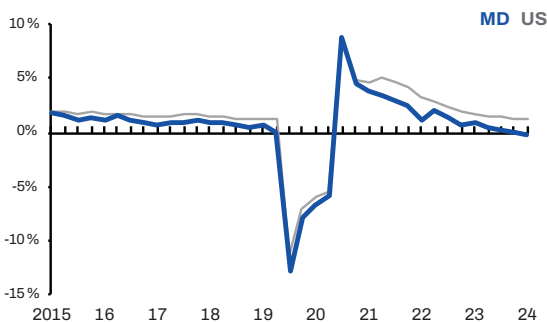
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-149,824** Rank: **45**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **6.47%** Rank: **29**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

42ND

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	35	37	40	42	41	43	42

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
----------	------	------

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	9.70%	44
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Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	8.25%	38
----------------------------------------	-------	----

Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$8.92	26
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Property Tax Burden	\$26.29	22
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Sales Tax Burden	\$15.03	8
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Remaining Tax Burden	\$21.21	41
----------------------	---------	----

Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
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Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$4.89	50
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Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.55%	39
----------------------------------------	-------	----

Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	537.0	34
-------------------------------------------	-------	----

State Tort System Costs	1.78%	21
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State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
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Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.89	13
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Right-to-Work State?	No	50
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Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32
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MASSACHUSETTS

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

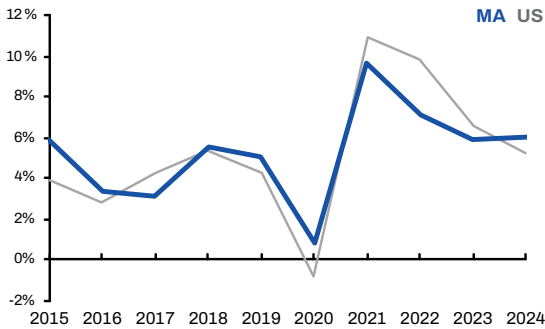
(1=Best 50=Worst)

28TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

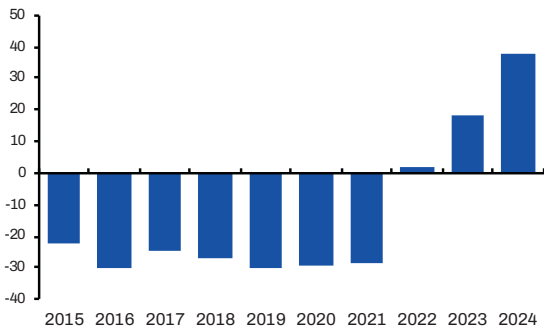
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **66.16%** Rank: **17**



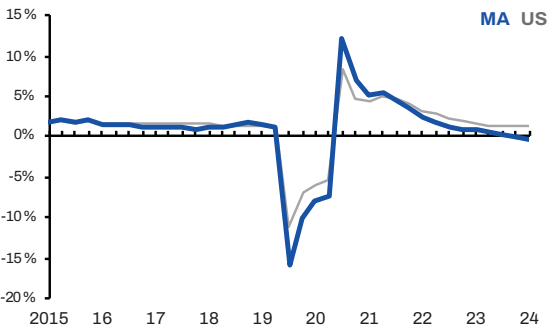
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-144,864** Rank: **44**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **6.29%** Rank: **31**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

33RD

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	28	35	30	33	37	36	37

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	9.00%	43
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	8.00%	36
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$2.93	18
Property Tax Burden	\$34.15	40
Sales Tax Burden	\$15.09	9
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.18	5
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.22%	32
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	503.9	18
State Tort System Costs	1.82%	23
State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.97	19
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

MICHIGAN

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

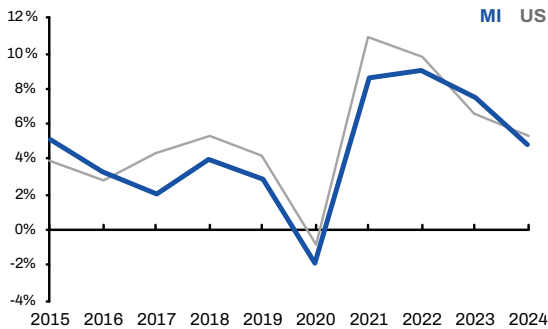
(1=Best 50=Worst)

35TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

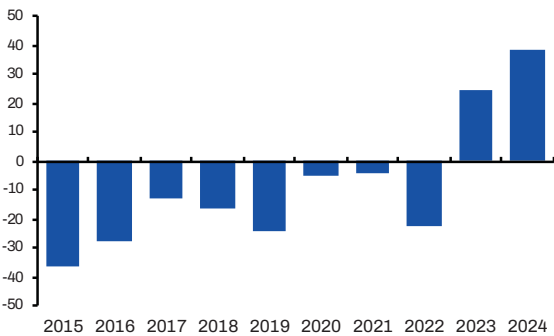
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **54.92%** Rank: **31**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-112,905** Rank: **41**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **5.76%** Rank: **33**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

32ND

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	12	14	16	17	16	16	19

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	6.65%	36
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	8.00%	36
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$3.09	19
Property Tax Burden	\$30.71	35
Sales Tax Burden	\$21.48	17
Remaining Tax Burden	\$14.53	18
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$1.52	46
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.63%	42
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	434.9	6
State Tort System Costs	1.98%	29
State Minimum Wage	\$13.73	31
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.90	15
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

MINNESOTA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

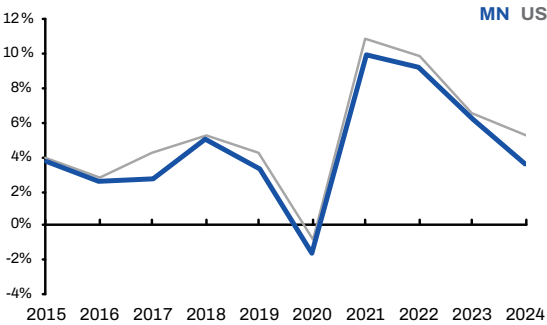
(1=Best 50=Worst)

29TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

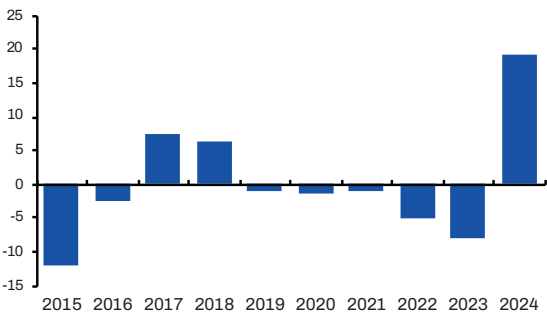
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **54.25%** Rank: **33**



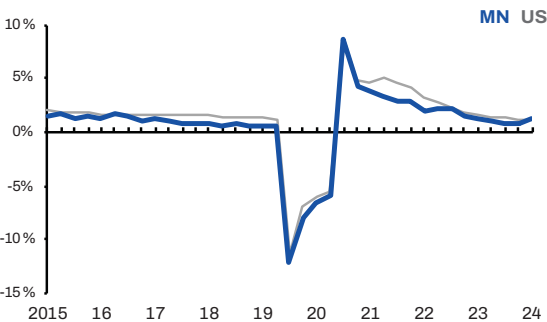
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-4,797** Rank: **29**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **6.26%** Rank: **39**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

39TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	41	45	46	46	48	44	41

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	9.85%	45
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	9.80%	43
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$19.01	41
Property Tax Burden	\$25.24	19
Sales Tax Burden	\$20.77	13
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.49	34
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.23%	17
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	517.2	27
State Tort System Costs	1.60%	15
State Minimum Wage	\$11.41	25
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.25	34
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

MISSISSIPPI

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

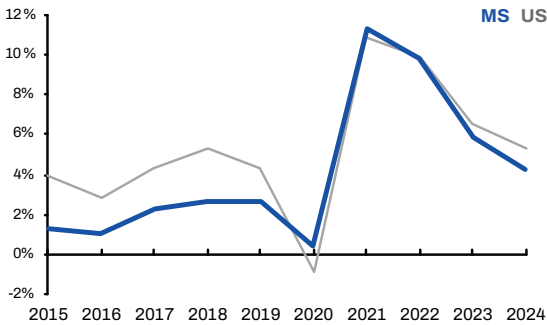
(1=Best 50=Worst)

40TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

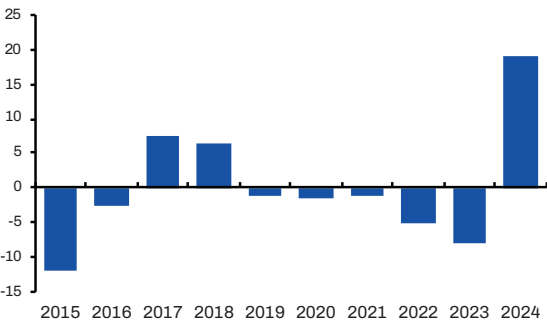
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **49.68%** Rank: **40**



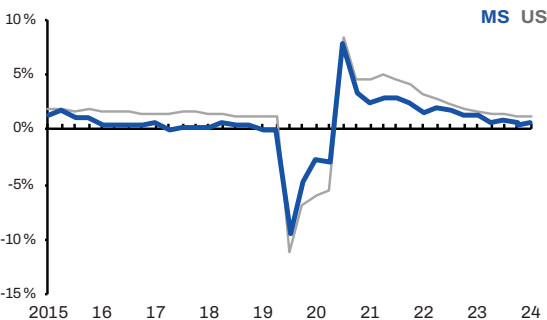
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-67,955** Rank: **38**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **5.60%** Rank: **35**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

24TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	19	20	27	27	22	18	28

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.00%	16
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.00%	17
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$9.76	29
Property Tax Burden	\$26.56	25
Sales Tax Burden	\$35.26	42
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.70	23
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.87	11
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.39%	18
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	612.5	45
State Tort System Costs	2.28%	40
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.94	17
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

MISSOURI

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

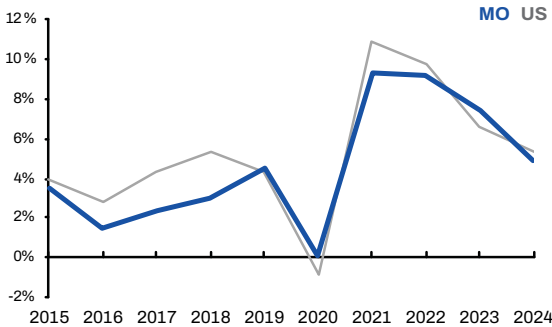
(1=Best 50=Worst)

24TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

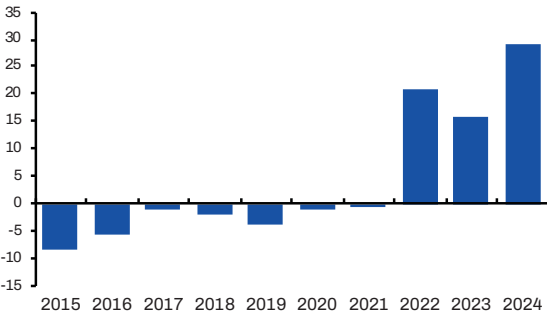
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **55.94%** Rank: **27**



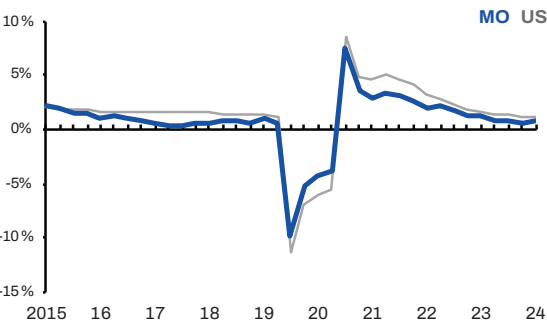
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **34,066** Rank: **23**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **7.33%** Rank: **27**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

19TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	22	19	21	29	31	29	24

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.70%	30
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.58%	14
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$12.50	38
Property Tax Burden	\$24.21	18
Sales Tax Burden	\$24.69	25
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.18	4
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.38	15
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.93%	10
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	509.4	23
State Tort System Costs	2.10%	35
State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.31	35
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	3	1

MONTANA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

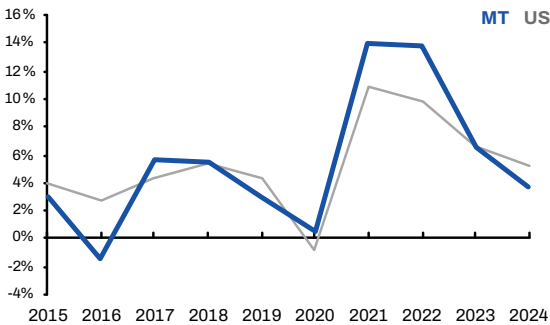
(1=Best 50=Worst)

14TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

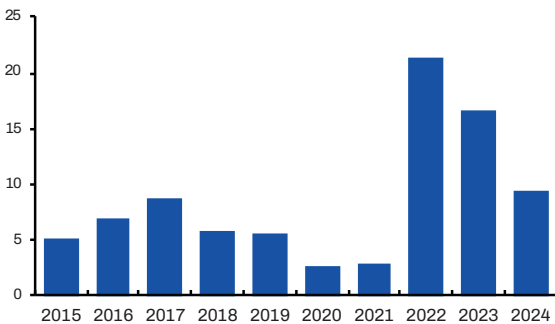
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **68.13%** **Rank: 16**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **89,803** **Rank: 16**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **15.83%** **Rank: 13**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

37TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	39	33	34	31	33	30	35

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
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Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.65%	29
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Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.75%	29
----------------------------------------	-------	----

Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$19.07	42
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Property Tax Burden	\$31.45	36
---------------------	---------	----

Sales Tax Burden	\$0.00	1
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Remaining Tax Burden	\$20.21	40
----------------------	---------	----

Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
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Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.35	16
---------------------------------	---------	----

Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.44%	21
----------------------------------------	-------	----

Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	525.6	30
-------------------------------------------	-------	----

State Tort System Costs	2.58%	45
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State Minimum Wage	\$10.85	22
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Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.34	37
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Right-to-Work State?	No	50
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Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32
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NEBRASKA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

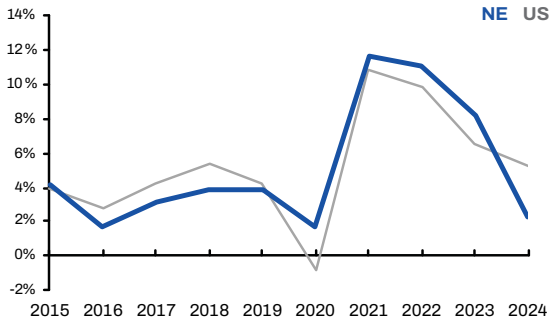
(1=Best 50=Worst)

26TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

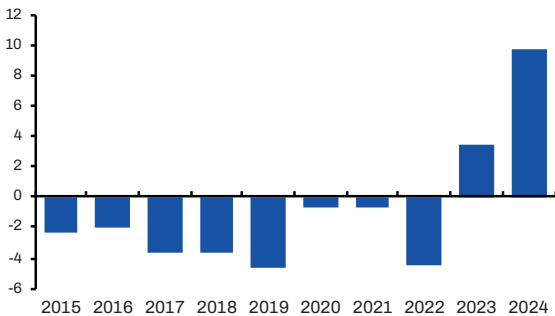
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **64.42%** Rank: **19**



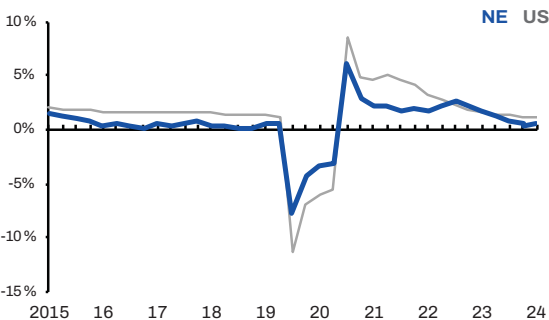
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-10,446** Rank: **30**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **5.61%** Rank: **34**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

27TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	34	36	35	36	36	32	31

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.55%	21
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.55%	12
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$9.33	27
Property Tax Burden	\$33.35	37
Sales Tax Burden	\$23.77	23
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.44	7
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.70	12
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.60%	6
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	638.9	47
State Tort System Costs	1.54%	11
State Minimum Wage	\$15.00	34
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.12	28
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

NEVADA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

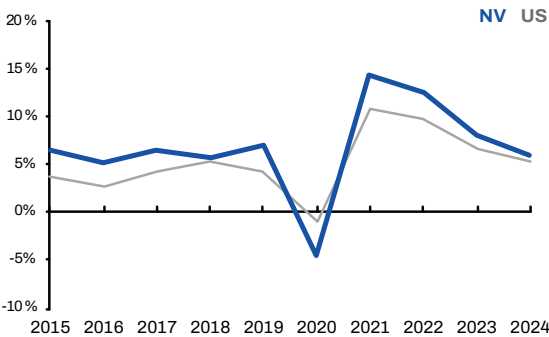
(1=Best 50=Worst)

5TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

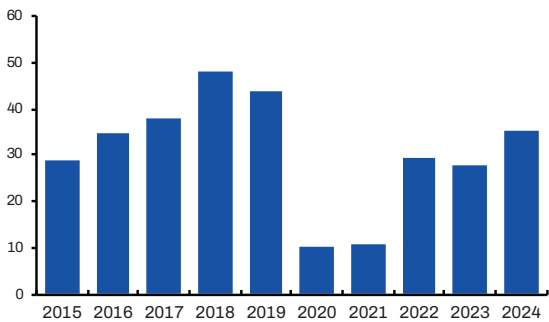
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **90.43%** **Rank: 6**



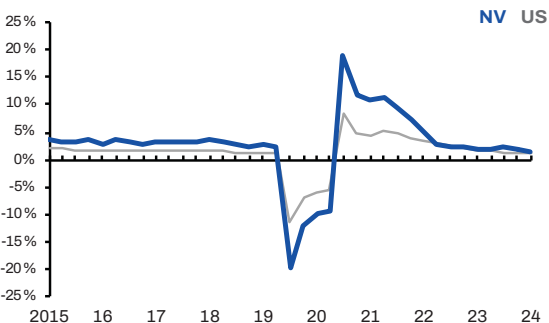
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **330,975** **Rank: 10**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **26.78%** **Rank: 3**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

12TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	5	6	7	6	10	13	14

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	0.60%	3
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$21.72	12
Sales Tax Burden	\$44.52	48
Remaining Tax Burden	\$31.72	49
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	37
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.87%	44
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	367.5	1
State Tort System Costs	2.40%	42
State Minimum Wage	\$12.00	29
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.73	13
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

NEW HAMPSHIRE

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

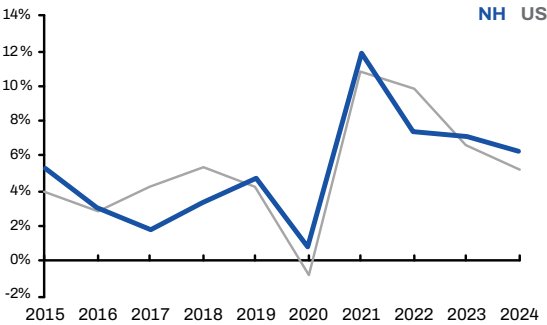
(1=Best 50=Worst)

18TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

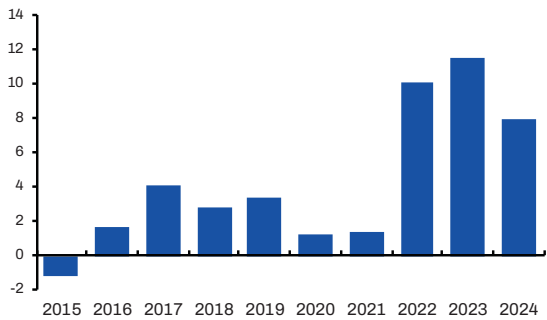
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **64.98%** **Rank: 18**



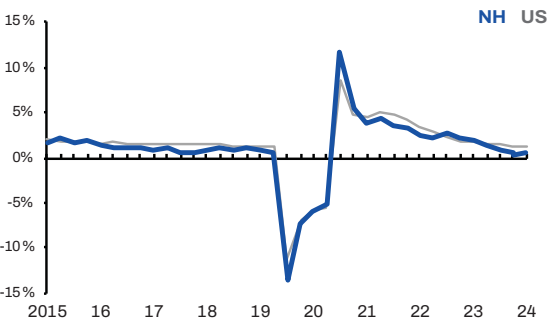
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **46,138** **Rank: 22**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **8.31%** **Rank: 22**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

22ND

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	16	17	19	18	19	19	21

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.50%	32
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$44.43	48
Sales Tax Burden	\$0.00	1
Remaining Tax Burden	\$17.17	31
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.93%	44
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	488.5	12
State Tort System Costs	1.42%	6
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.22	33
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

NEW JERSEY

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

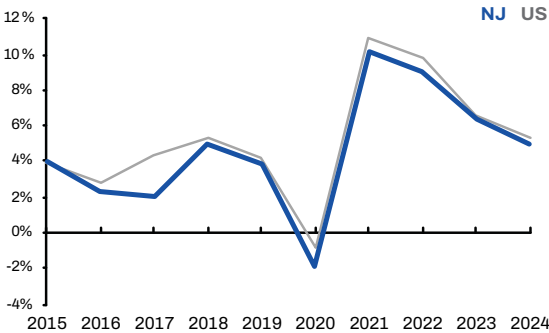
(1=Best 50=Worst)

30TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

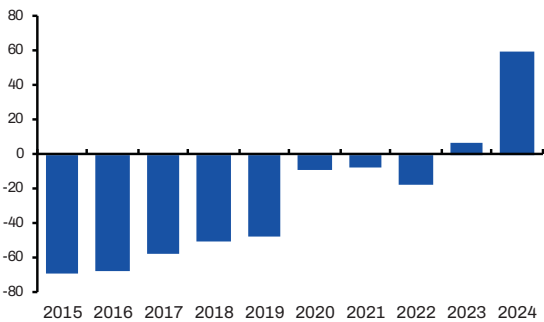
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **55.67%** **Rank: 28**



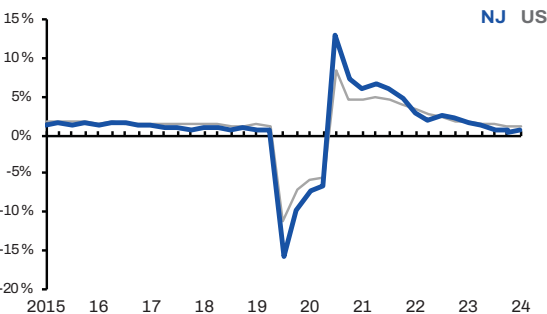
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-315,384** **Rank: 47**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **9.27%** **Rank: 21**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

49TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	46	48	48	49	47	46	48

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	11.75%	47
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	11.50%	45
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$24.81	47
Property Tax Burden	\$45.15	49
Sales Tax Burden	\$19.86	12
Remaining Tax Burden	\$13.78	14
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$3.82	49
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.02%	30
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	499.4	16
State Tort System Costs	2.52%	43
State Minimum Wage	\$15.92	44
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$2.16	49
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

NEW MEXICO

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

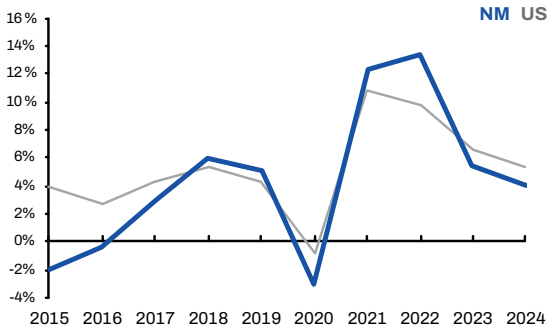
(1=Best 50=Worst)

31ST

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

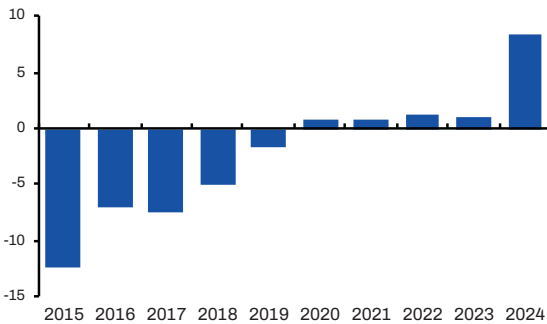
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **51.90%** Rank: **35**



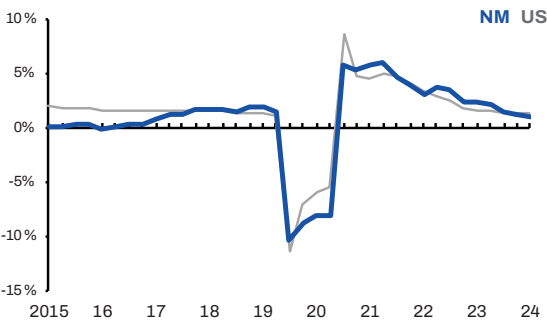
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-35,379** Rank: **35**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **7.49%** Rank: **26**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

35TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	29	34	38	38	38	38	33

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.90%	33
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.90%	21
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$16.44	40
Property Tax Burden	\$22.57	15
Sales Tax Burden	\$53.26	49
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.59	22
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.04	20
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.16%	3
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	585.9	41
State Tort System Costs	2.11%	36
State Minimum Wage	\$12.00	27
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.05	23
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

NEW YORK

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

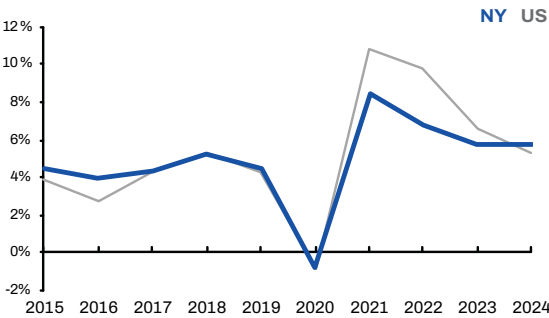
(1=Best 50=Worst)

33RD

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

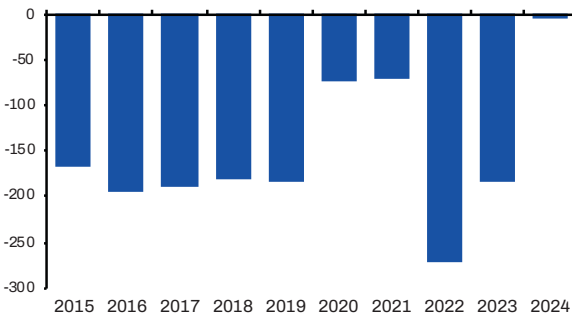
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **60.12%** Rank: **24**



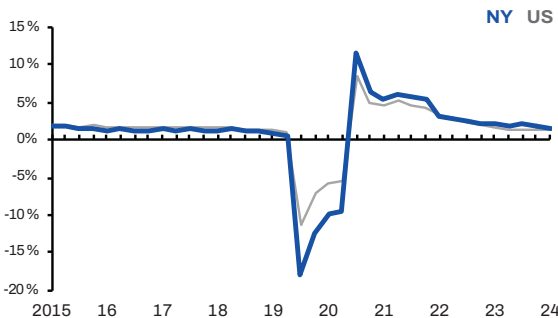
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-1,663,434** Rank: **50**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **6.49%** Rank: **28**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

50TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	14.78%	49
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	18.28%	50
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$11.72	36
Property Tax Burden	\$43.38	47
Sales Tax Burden	\$26.21	30
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.58	35
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	5.89%	47
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	607.6	44
State Tort System Costs	2.61%	47
State Minimum Wage	\$16.00	45
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.98	48
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

NORTH CAROLINA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

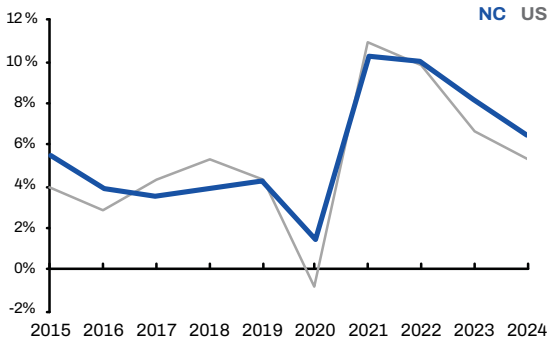
(1=Best 50=Worst)

9TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

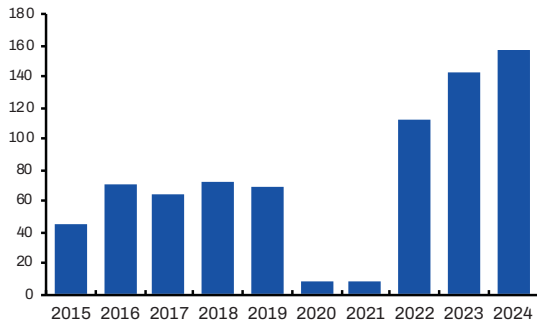
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **73.99%** **Rank: 14**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **786,841** **Rank: 3**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **18.92%** **Rank: 8**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

4TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	6	5	5	2	2	4	4

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	3.99%	49
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	2.00%	50
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$6.78	36
Property Tax Burden	\$19.80	47
Sales Tax Burden	\$25.49	30
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.11	35
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.47%	47
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	509.2	44
State Tort System Costs	1.50%	47
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	45
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.95	48
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	32

NORTH DAKOTA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

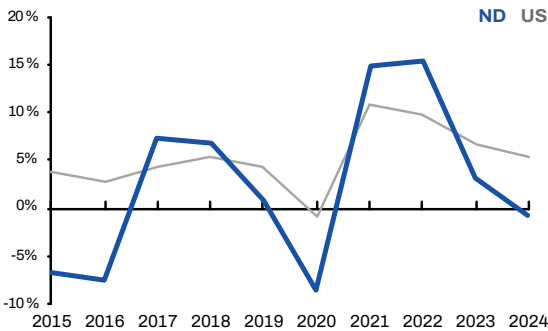
(1=Best 50=Worst)

45TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

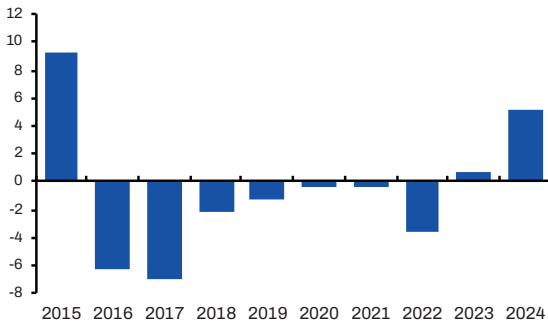
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **23.39%** Rank: **50**



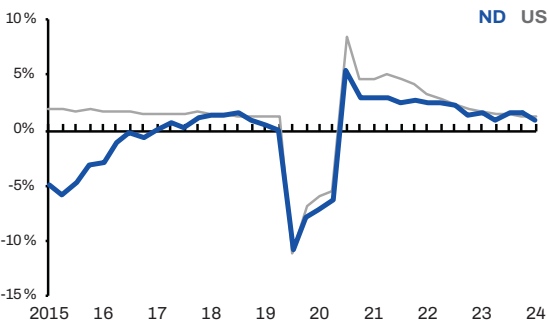
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **3,500** Rank: **25**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-5.65%** Rank: **50**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

16TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	4	11	8	9	8	10	5

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	2.50%	10
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.31%	9
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$10.96	32
Property Tax Burden	\$22.38	14
Sales Tax Burden	\$28.61	34
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.22	20
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.59%	40
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	625.2	46
State Tort System Costs	1.28%	1
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.50	1
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

OHIO

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

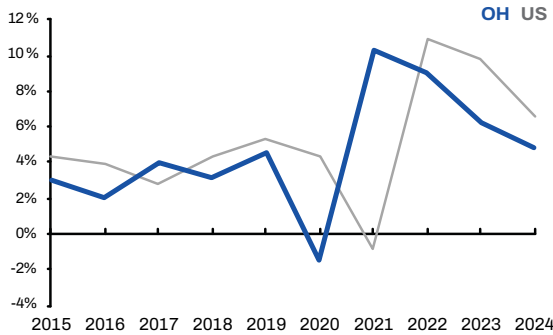
(1=Best 50=Worst)

34TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

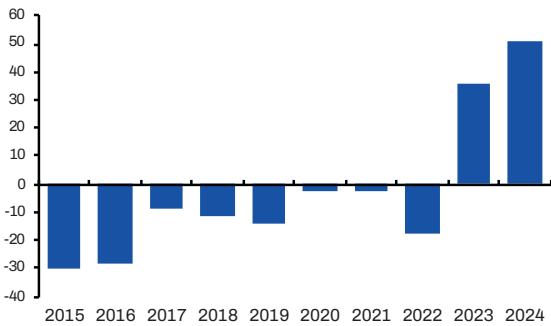
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **55.36%** Rank: **30**



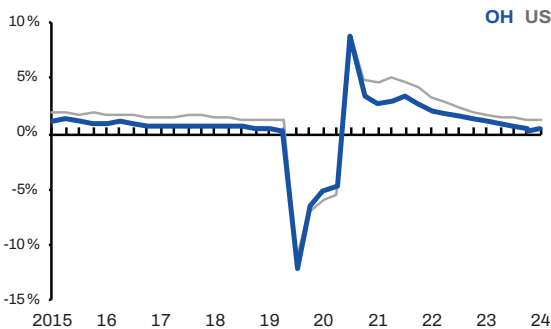
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-49,968** Rank: **36**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **4.04%** Rank: **39**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

15TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	24	29	28	19	20	26	25

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.25%	26
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	3.60%	6
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.74	15
Property Tax Burden	\$27.07	27
Sales Tax Burden	\$23.41	21
Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.78	30
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.44	14
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.11%	31
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	501.7	17
State Tort System Costs	1.50%	8
State Minimum Wage	\$11.00	23
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.68	5
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

OKLAHOMA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

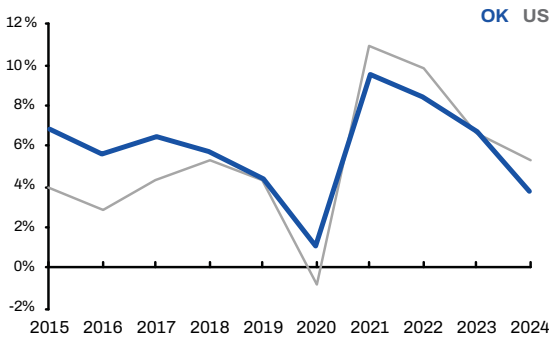
(1=Best 50=Worst)

27TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

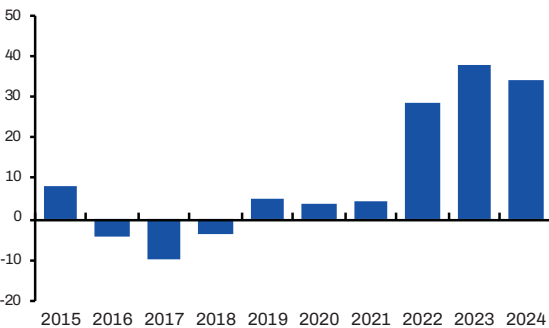
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **34.86%** **Rank: 47**



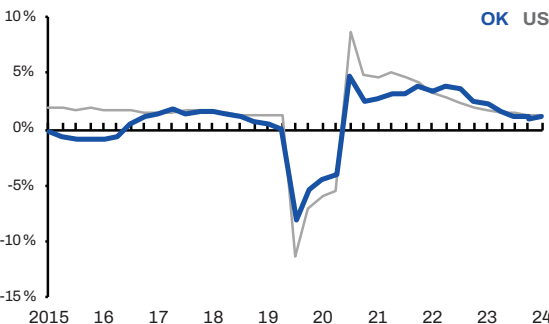
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **108,872** **Rank: 15**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **6.35%** **Rank: 30**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

8TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	13	9	3	4	5	9	11

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.50%	19
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.00%	7
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$7.27	24
Property Tax Burden	\$18.19	5
Sales Tax Burden	\$27.84	33
Remaining Tax Burden	\$13.95	15
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$3.29	6
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.42%	5
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	527.4	32
State Tort System Costs	1.84%	24
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.33	36
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

OREGON

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

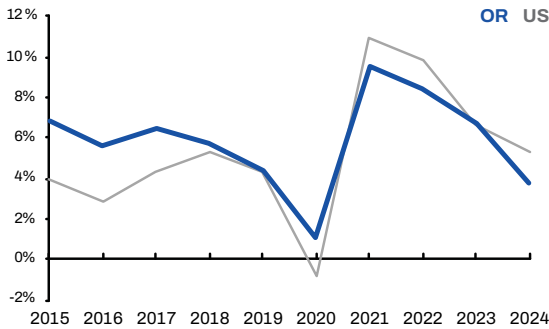
(1=Best 50=Worst)

13TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

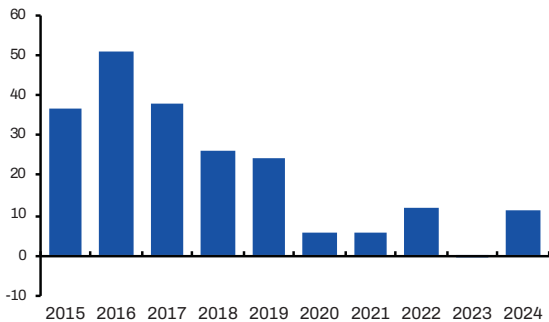
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **76.23%** **Rank: 11**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **233,347** **Rank: 12**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **13.34%** **Rank: 15**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

40TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	44	42	44	41	43	42	43

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	15.42%	50
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	15.62%	49
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$38.14	49
Property Tax Burden	\$30.53	34
Sales Tax Burden	\$4.81	4
Remaining Tax Burden	\$24.65	45
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.87%	27
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	530.4	33
State Tort System Costs	1.88%	25
State Minimum Wage	\$15.05	40
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.89	13
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

PENNSYLVANIA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

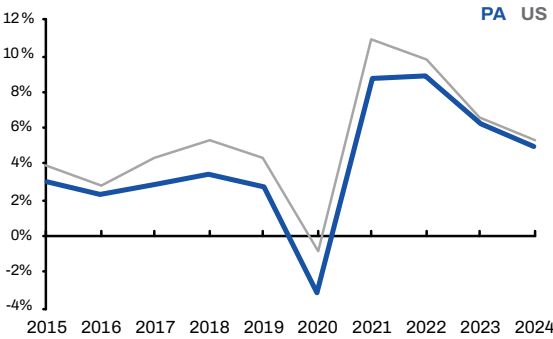
(1=Best 50=Worst)

43RD

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

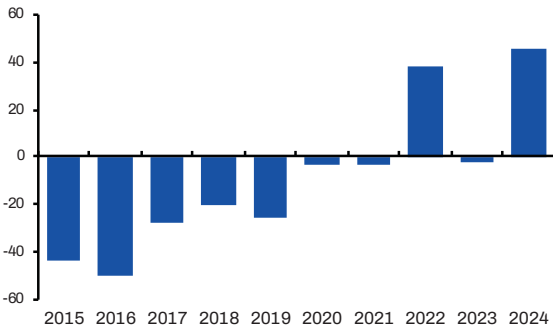
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **47.25%** Rank: **45**



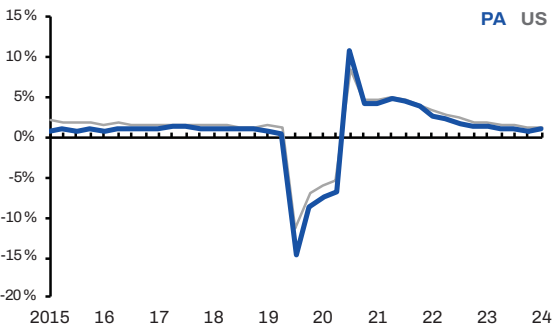
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-128,605** Rank: **42**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **4.88%** Rank: **37**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

34TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	38	38	36	37	35	35	36

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	6.81%	37
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	13.80%	48
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$26.44	23
Sales Tax Burden	\$19.00	11
Remaining Tax Burden	\$22.99	43
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.33	22
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.42%	35
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	415.7	4
State Tort System Costs	2.14%	37
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.14	30
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

RHODE ISLAND

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

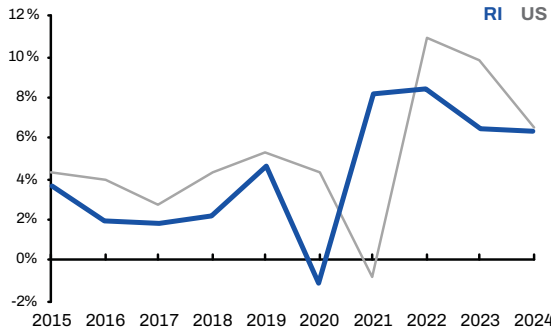
(1=Best 50=Worst)

37TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

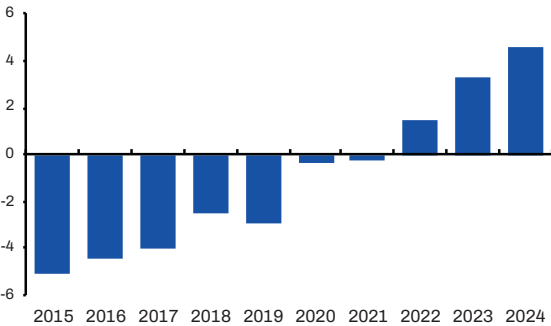
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **51.05%** Rank: **36**



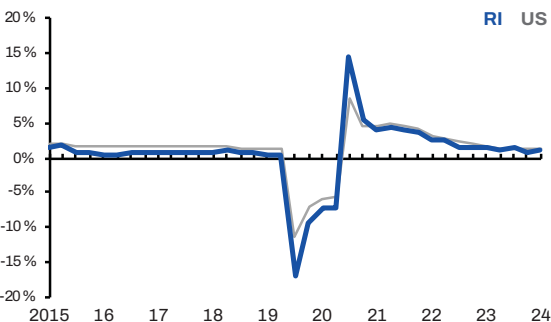
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-13,910** Rank: **32**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **4.77%** Rank: **38**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

41ST

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	43	43	41	40	40	39	39

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.99%	34
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.00%	30
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$11.53	33
Property Tax Burden	\$37.71	44
Sales Tax Burden	\$21.45	16
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.64	36
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	7.00%	49
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	427.4	5
State Tort System Costs	2.36%	41
State Minimum Wage	\$16.00	45
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.38	41
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

SOUTH CAROLINA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

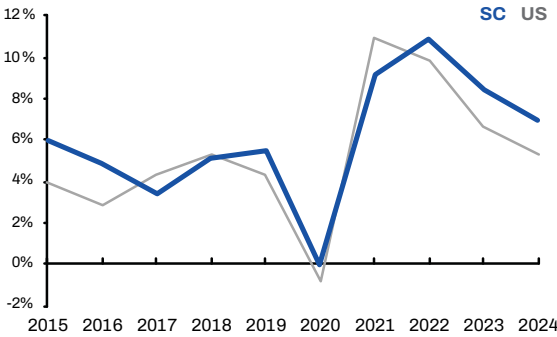
(1=Best 50=Worst)

6TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

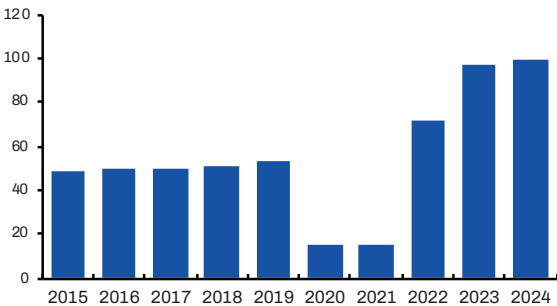
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **78.79%** Rank: **10**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **592,794** Rank: **5**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **19.79%** Rank: **7**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

21ST

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	32	32	24	26	21	24	29

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	6.20%	35
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	5.00%	17
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$21.63	45
Property Tax Burden	\$26.45	24
Sales Tax Burden	\$22.30	19
Remaining Tax Burden	\$16.00	25
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.20	18
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.22%	16
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	493.2	13
State Tort System Costs	2.54%	44
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.03	22
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

SOUTH DAKOTA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

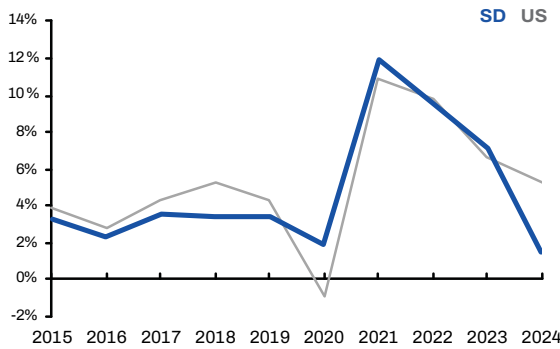
(1=Best 50=Worst)

20TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

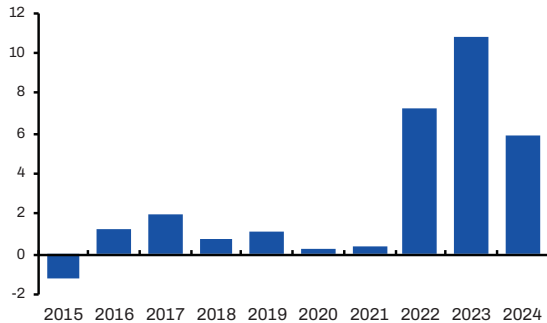
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **59.41%** Rank: **25**



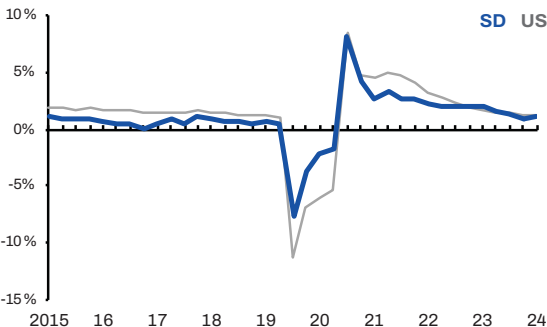
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **28,966** Rank: **24**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **10.18%** Rank: **19**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

9TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	7	13	10	12	14	7	8

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$23.90	17
Sales Tax Burden	\$32.90	41
Remaining Tax Burden	\$15.80	24
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.22%	33
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	508.4	20
State Tort System Costs	1.32%	3
State Minimum Wage	\$11.85	26
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.13	29
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

TENNESSEE

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

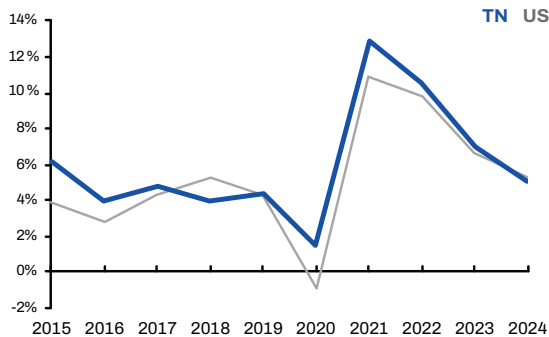
(1=Best 50=Worst)

12TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

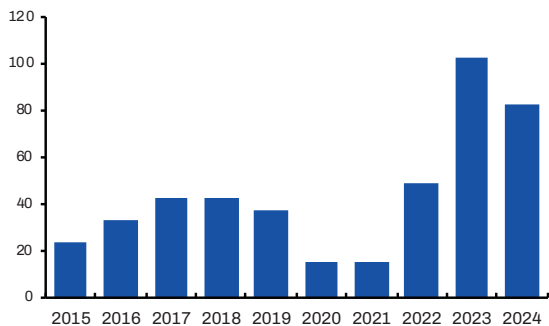
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **78.80%** Rank: **9**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **466,136** Rank: **7**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **16.96%** Rank: **12**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

2ND

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	8	8	12	13	11	12	2

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.50%	26
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$16.69	3
Sales Tax Burden	\$37.37	44
Remaining Tax Burden	\$18.78	37
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.24	17
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.55%	23
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	482.1	10
State Tort System Costs	1.73%	19
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.80	12
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

TEXAS

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

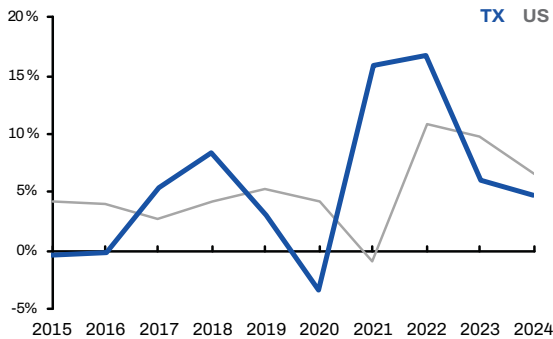
(1=Best 50=Worst)

8TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

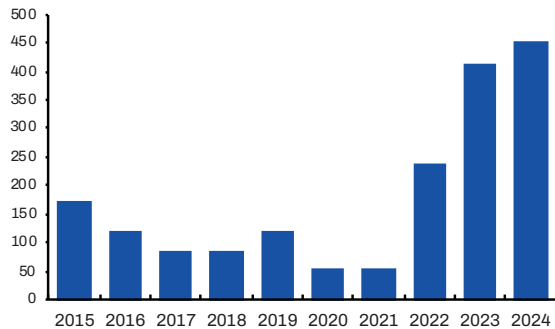
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **70.17%** Rank: **15**



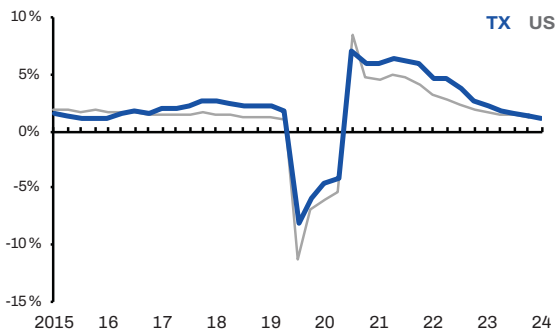
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **1,961,251** Rank: **2**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **19.93%** Rank: **6**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

13TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	15	15	9	11	13	6	9

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	2.50%	5
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$35.44	42
Sales Tax Burden	\$29.40	36
Remaining Tax Burden	\$14.02	16
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.04	25
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	5.89%	48
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	512.7	25
State Tort System Costs	2.01%	32
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.78	11
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

UTAH

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

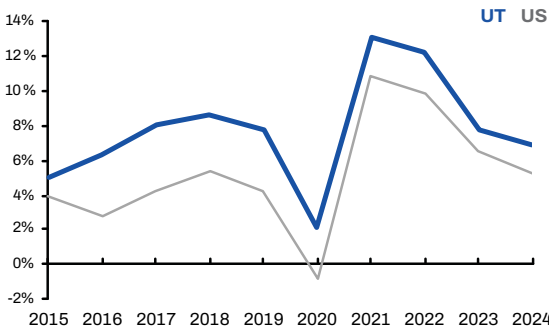
(1=Best 50=Worst)

4TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

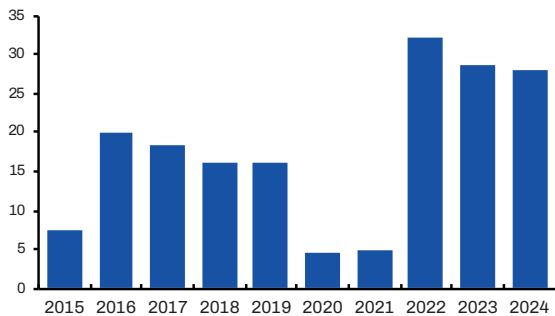
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **110.97%** Rank: **1**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **175,856** Rank: **13**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **29.61%** Rank: **2**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

1ST

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.50%	19
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	4.55%	12
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.58	13
Property Tax Burden	\$22.91	16
Sales Tax Burden	\$29.72	38
Remaining Tax Burden	\$11.79	10
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$1.88	10
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.21%	15
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	499.2	14
State Tort System Costs	1.80%	22
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.63	4
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

VERMONT

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

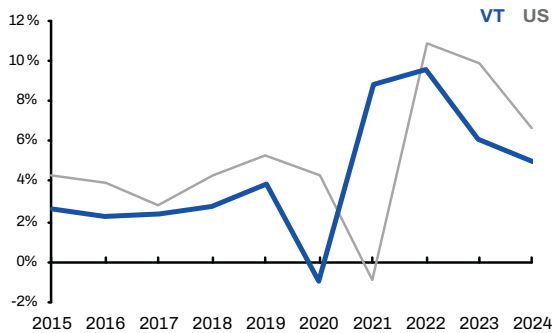
(1=Best 50=Worst)

39TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

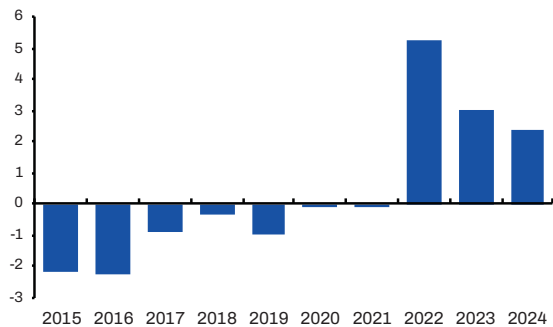
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **50.55%** **Rank: 37**



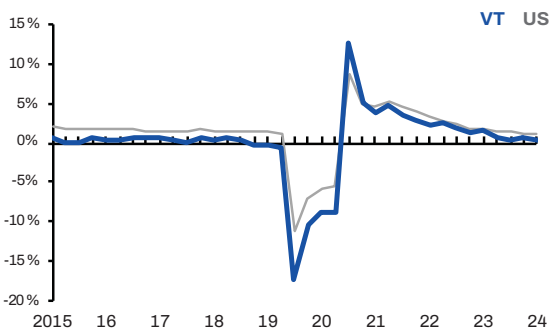
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **2,382** **Rank: 26**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-1.31%** **Rank: 47**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

48TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	49	49	49	47	49	49	49

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	8.75%	42
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	8.50%	39
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$24.24	46
Property Tax Burden	\$50.23	50
Sales Tax Burden	\$14.16	6
Remaining Tax Burden	\$28.41	47
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.04	42
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	2.38%	4
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	588.2	42
State Tort System Costs	1.73%	19
State Minimum Wage	\$14.42	33
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.60	46
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

VIRGINIA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

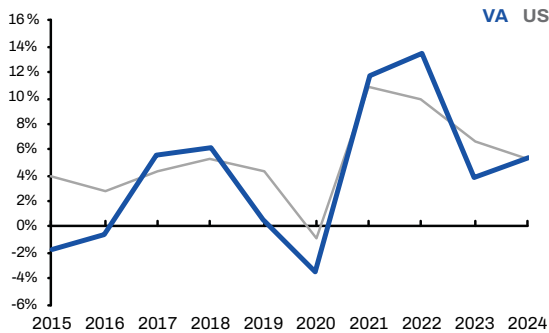
(1=Best 50=Worst)

21ST

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

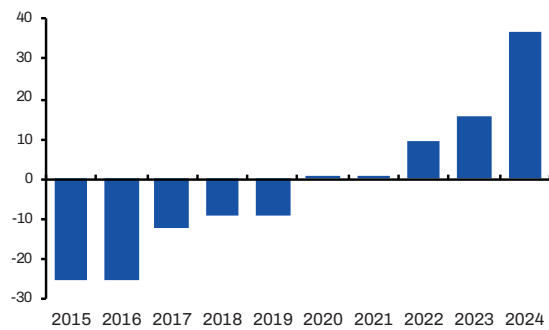
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **64.19%** Rank: **20**



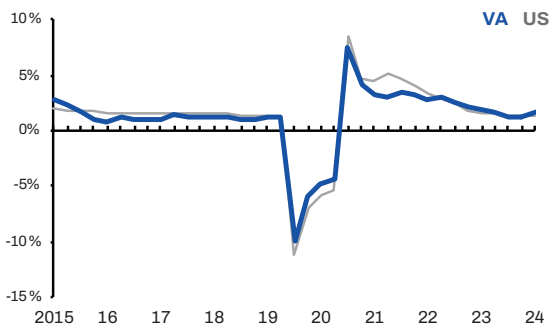
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-34,190** Rank: **33**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **11.48%** Rank: **18**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

31ST

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	14	16	17	24	18	22	32

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	5.75%	32
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.53%	34
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$10.85	31
Property Tax Burden	\$30.16	33
Sales Tax Burden	\$14.84	7
Remaining Tax Burden	\$19.41	38
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$0.00	28
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.25%	34
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	539.2	35
State Tort System Costs	1.47%	7
State Minimum Wage	\$12.77	29
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.73	8
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

WASHINGTON

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

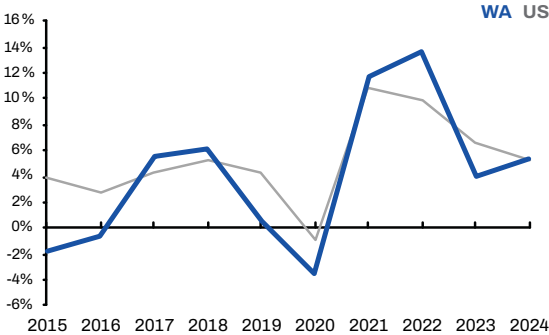
(1=Best 50=Worst)

7TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

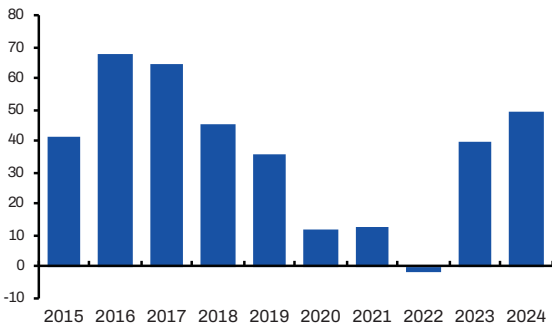
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **94.31%** Rank: **4**



Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **392,093** Rank: **8**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **17.78%** Rank: **10**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

38TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	37	39	37	39	34	37	34

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	11.71%	47
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$25.61	20
Sales Tax Burden	\$35.41	43
Remaining Tax Burden	\$22.89	42
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	Yes	50
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	\$2.99	48
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.46%	37
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	521.4	28
State Tort System Costs	1.41%	5
State Minimum Wage	\$17.13	50
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.35	39
Right-to-Work State?	No	50
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	2	3

WEST VIRGINIA

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

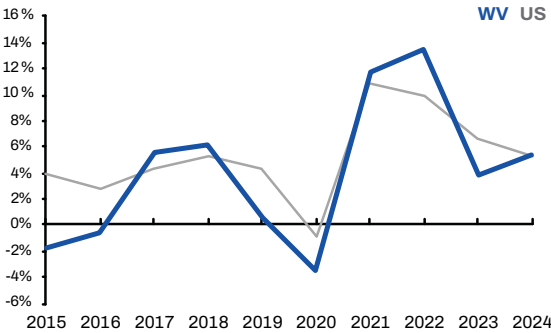
(1=Best 50=Worst)

46TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

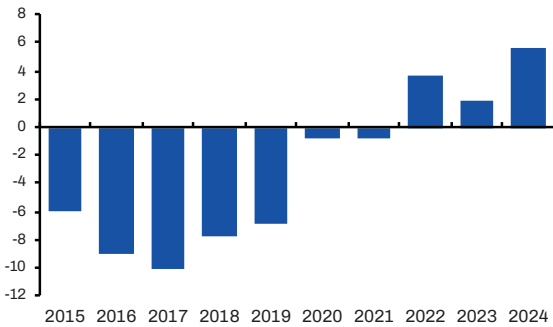
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **47.39%** **Rank: 43**



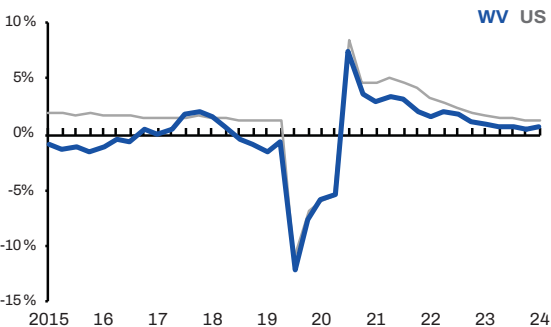
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-34,406** **Rank: 34**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-2.74%** **Rank: 49**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

17TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	31	28	32	25	28	23	16

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	4.82%	22
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	6.50%	26
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$11.55	34
Property Tax Burden	\$21.49	11
Sales Tax Burden	\$21.10	14
Remaining Tax Burden	\$24.83	46
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.49	21
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	3.03%	11
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	575.4	40
State Tort System Costs	1.57%	13
State Minimum Wage	\$8.75	21
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$0.54	3
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

WISCONSIN

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

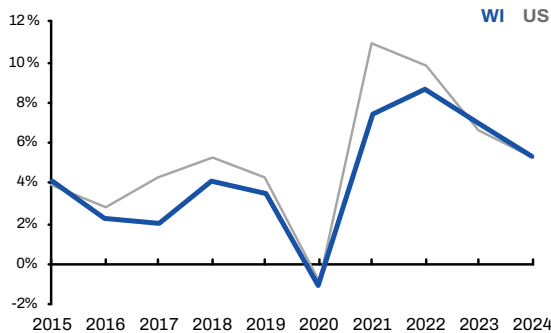
(1=Best 50=Worst)

32ND

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

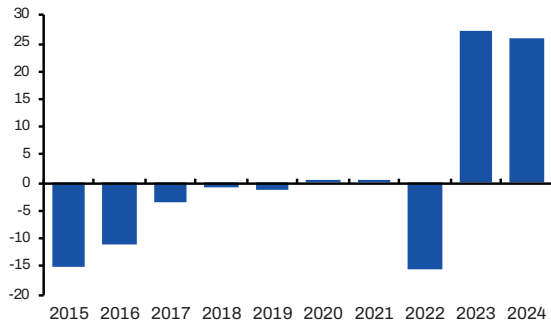
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **52.37%** **Rank: 48**



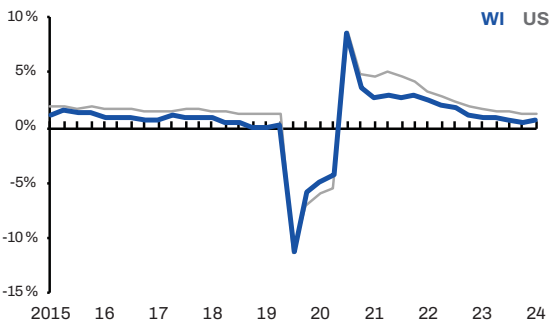
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-3,746** **Rank: 31**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **5.24%** **Rank: 36**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

28TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	17	12	15	14	17	21	26

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	7.65%	40
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	7.90%	35
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$20.03	43
Property Tax Burden	\$29.15	30
Sales Tax Burden	\$21.51	18
Remaining Tax Burden	\$12.84	12
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.27	23
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	4.44%	36
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	471.8	8
State Tort System Costs	1.55%	12
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.42	44
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	1	15

WYOMING

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX



ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE RANK

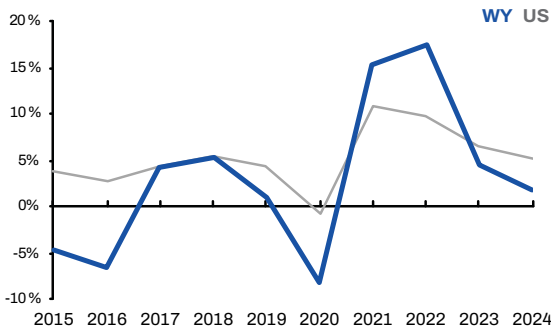
(1=Best 50=Worst)

44TH

A backward-looking measure based on the state's performance (equal-weighted average) in the three important performance variables shown below. These variables are highly influenced by state policy.

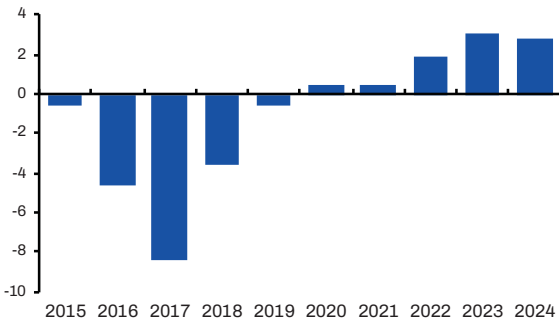
State Gross Domestic Product

Cumulative 2015-2024 **30.49%** Rank: **48**



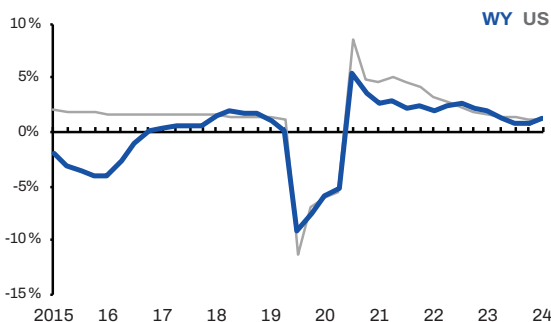
Absolute Domestic Migration

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-11,577** Rank: **31**
(in thousands)



Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Cumulative 2015-2024 **-1.29%** Rank: **46**



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANK

(1=Best 50=Worst)

11TH

A forward-looking forecast based on the state's standing (equal-weighted average) in the 15 important state policy variables shown below. Data reflect state and local rates and revenues and any effect of federal deductibility.

Historical Ranking Comparison	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Economic Outlook Rank	10	2	4	10	6	8	12

VARIABLE	DATA	RANK
Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Top Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate	0.00%	1
Personal Income Tax Progressivity	\$0.00	2
Property Tax Burden	\$35.27	41
Sales Tax Burden	\$29.16	35
Remaining Tax Burden	\$10.70	3
Estate/Inheritance Tax Levied?	No	1
Recently Legislated Tax Changes	-\$0.09	24
Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue	1.25%	1
Public Employees Per 10,000 of Population	867.0	50
State Tort System Costs	1.38%	4
State Minimum Wage	\$7.25	1
Average Workers' Compensation Costs	\$1.41	42
Right-to-Work State?	Yes	1
Number of Tax Expenditure Limits	0	32

APPENDIX A

2026 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX: Economic Outlook Methodology

This report contains 15 policy variables that have a proven impact on the migration of capital—both monetary and human—into and out of states. The end result of an equal weighted combination of these variables is the 2026 ALEC-Laffer Economic Outlook ranking of the states. Each of these factors is influenced directly by state lawmakers through the legislative process. The 15 factors and a basic description of their purposes, sourcing, and subsequent calculation methodologies are as follows:

Highest Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate

This variable includes state and local taxes, if any, and any impact of federal deductibility, if allowed. A state's largest city is used as a proxy for local tax rates. Data were drawn from Tax Analysts, Federation of Tax Administrators, and individual state tax forms. Tax rates are as of January 1, 2026.

Highest Marginal Corporate Income Tax Rate

This variable includes local taxes, if any, and includes the effect of federal deductibility, if allowed. A state's largest city is used as a proxy for local tax rates. In the case of gross receipts or business franchise taxes, an effective tax rate is approximated using NIPA profits, rental and proprietor's income and gross domestic product data. The Texas franchise tax is not a traditional gross receipts tax, but is instead a "margin" tax with more than one rate. A margin tax creates less distortion than a gross receipts tax. Therefore, we believe the best measurement for an effective corporate tax rate for Texas is to average the 4.25 percent measure we would use if the tax were a gross receipts tax and the 0.75 percent highest rate on its margin tax, leading to our measure of 2.50%. Data were drawn from Tax Analysts, Federation of Tax Administrators, individual state tax forms, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Tax rates are as of January 1, 2026.

Personal Income Tax Progressivity

This variable is measured as the difference between the average tax liability per \$1,000 at incomes of \$50,000 and \$150,000. The tax liabilities

are measured using a combination of effective tax rates, exemptions, and deductions at both state and federal levels, with calculations from Laffer Associates. Tax rates are as of January 1, 2026.

Property Tax Burden

This variable is calculated as the amount of tax revenues from state and local property taxes per \$1,000 of personal income. We have used U.S. Census Bureau data, for which the most recent year available is 2023. These data were released in July 2025.

Sales Tax Burden

This variable is calculated as the amount of tax revenues from state and local sales taxes per \$1,000 of personal income. Sales taxes taken into consideration include the general sales tax and specific sales taxes. We use U.S. Census Bureau data, for which the most recent year available is 2023. These data were released in July 2025. Where appropriate, gross receipts or business franchise taxes, counted as sales taxes in the Census data, are subtracted from a state's total sales taxes in order to avoid double-counting tax burden in a state.

Remaining Tax Burden

This variable is calculated as the amount of tax revenues from state and local taxes—excluding personal income, corporate income, property, sales, and severance—per \$1,000 of personal income. We use U.S. Census Bureau data, for which the most recent available year is 2023. These data were released in July 2025.

Estate or Inheritance Tax

This variable assesses if a state levies an estate or inheritance tax. We chose to score states based on either a "yes" for the presence of a state-level estate or inheritance tax, or a "no" for the absence thereof. Data are drawn from McGuire Woods LLP, "State Death Tax Chart" and indicate the presence of an estate or inheritance tax as of January 1, 2026.

Recently Legislated Tax Changes

This variable is calculated as each state's relative change in tax burden over a two-year period (in this case, 2024 and 2025 legislative sessions) for the next fiscal year, using revenue estimates of legislated tax changes per \$1,000 of personal income. Personal income data are from 2023. This timeframe ensures that tax changes will still be reflected in a state's rankings despite lags in revenue data. ALEC and Laffer Associates calculations use raw data from state legislative fiscal notes and other sources.

Debt Service as a Share of Tax Revenue

This variable is calculated as the interest paid on state and local debt as a percentage of state and local tax revenue. This information comes from 2023 U.S. Census Bureau data. These data were released in July 2025.

Public Employees per 10,000 Residents

This variable is calculated as the full-time equivalent state and local public employees per 10,000 of state population. This information comes from 2024 U.S. Census Bureau data. These data were released in March 2025.

State Liability System Costs

This variable ranks the costs of tort systems by state, as a share of that state's GDP. Data come from the report *Tort Costs in America, Third Edition*, published by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform in November 2024. This variable reflects tort costs in 2022.

State Minimum Wage

This variable indicates minimum wage enforced on a state-by-state basis. If a state does not have a minimum wage, we use the federal minimum wage floor of \$7.25 per hour. This information comes from the U.S. Department of Labor, as of January 1, 2026.

Workers' Compensation Costs

This variable highlights the 2024 Workers' Compensation Index Rate (cost per \$100 of payroll). This survey is conducted biennially by the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services.

Right-to-Work State

This variable assesses whether or not a state allows employees to be forced to pay union dues as a condition of employment. States receive their rank based on either a "yes" for the presence of a right-to-work law or a "no" for the lack thereof. This information comes from the National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation. Right-to-work status is as of January 1, 2026.

Tax and Expenditure Limits

This variable measures the influence of tax and expenditure limits on state tax revenue and spending. It is based on the presence of (1) technical tax and expenditure limits, (2) mandatory voter approval of tax increases, and (3) supermajority requirements for tax increases. Information was sourced from state constitutions and statutes.

APPENDIX B

2025 ALEC-LAFFER STATE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS INDEX: Economic Performance Methodology

Gross Domestic Product Growth

This variable is calculated by observing state GDP growth figures over 10 years from 2014 to 2024. A percentage change formula over the 10-year timeframe generates a GDP growth figure for each state. Data are drawn from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, which were last updated in September 2025.

Cumulative Domestic Migration

This variable is a summation of net in-migration of individuals for each state over a 10-year period from 2014-2024. Data are drawn from the U.S. Census Bureau, which were last revised January 2026.

Non-Farm Employment Growth

This variable is calculated by observing state non-farm employment growth figures over a 10-year period, from 2014-2024. A percentage change formula over the 10-year timeframe generates a decadal non-farm employment growth rate for each state. Data are drawn from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which were last revised December 2025.

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