



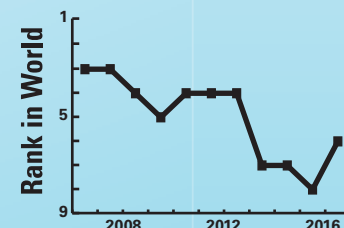
Council on  
Competitiveness

# 2017 CLARION CALL

## TECHNOLOGY

The U.S. is considered the world technology leader in 11 of 12 advanced industries, including aerospace, defense and pharmaceuticals. However, competitors are rapidly gaining in areas such as advanced computing and artificial intelligence.<sup>1</sup>

## U.S. Rank in Ease of Doing Business<sup>2</sup>



## REGULATION

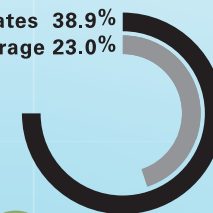
The U.S. remains among the top 10 nations in the world on measures of ease of doing business, but that rank is declining. While the U.S. is ranked 2nd in the world for ease of getting credit, it has slipped to 49th for ease of starting a business.

## CORPORATE TAX RATE

The U.S. corporate tax rate of 38.9% is the highest among all industrialized nations, and significantly higher than the worldwide average.

## Corporate Tax Rates<sup>3</sup>

United States 38.9%  
World Average 23.0%



## TALENT

The U.S. is not keeping pace with other industrialized nations on worker training. Manufacturers, technology firms, small businesses and construction firms are struggling to hire qualified workers. This, along with an aging workforce, may contribute to 2M unfilled manufacturing jobs.<sup>8</sup>

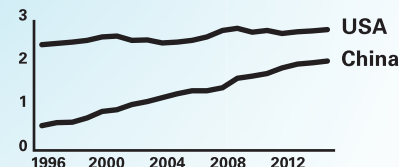
## TRADE

Trade (imports & exports) as a share of the U.S. economy has grown over 200% in the last 50 years<sup>4</sup> and trade supports over 41M U.S. jobs.<sup>5</sup> Companies and consumers rely on a globally engaged economy and need both free and fair trade policies.

## RESEARCH

Korea, Japan and Germany already invest more in R&D as a share of their economy than the U.S., and China could exceed the U.S. by 2020.

## R&D Expenditure as a Share of GDP<sup>7</sup>



## INFRASTRUCTURE

U.S. infrastructure requires a massive upgrade. Aging water infrastructure, for example, could cost manufacturers & other businesses \$896 billion in sales and \$508 billion in GDP by 2025. For every \$1M spent on water infrastructure, 16 jobs are created.<sup>6</sup>

## SOURCES

1 Elsevier/Scopus, 2016 2 World Bank, *Doing Business*, 2017. 3 Tax Foundation, *Corporate Income Tax Rates Around the World*, 2017. 4 World Bank National Accounts Data, 2017. 5 Business Roundtable, 2016. 6 American Society of Civil Engineers, *Failure to Act: The Impact of Infrastructure Investment on America's Economic Future*, 2016; Water Environmental Research Foundation, *National Economic & Labor Impact of Water Executive Report*, 2014. 7 World Bank Data, 2017. 8 Deloitte, *Advanced Technologies Initiative, Manufacturing & Innovation*, 2015.

# About the Council

For more than three decades, the Council on Competitiveness (Council) has championed a competitiveness agenda for the United States to attract investment and talent, and spur the commercialization of new ideas.

While the players may have changed since its founding in 1986, the mission remains as vital as ever—to enhance U.S. productivity and raise the standard of living for all Americans.

The members of the Council—CEOs, university presidents, labor leaders and national lab directors—represent a powerful, nonpartisan voice that sets aside politics and seeks results. By providing real-world perspective to Washington policymakers, the Council’s private sector network makes an impact on decision-making across a broad spectrum of issues

from the cutting-edge of science and technology, to the democratization of innovation, to the shift from energy weakness to strength that supports the growing renaissance in U.S. manufacturing.

The Council’s leadership group firmly believes that with the right policies, the strengths and potential of the U.S. economy far outweigh the current challenges the nation faces on the path to higher growth and greater opportunity for all Americans.

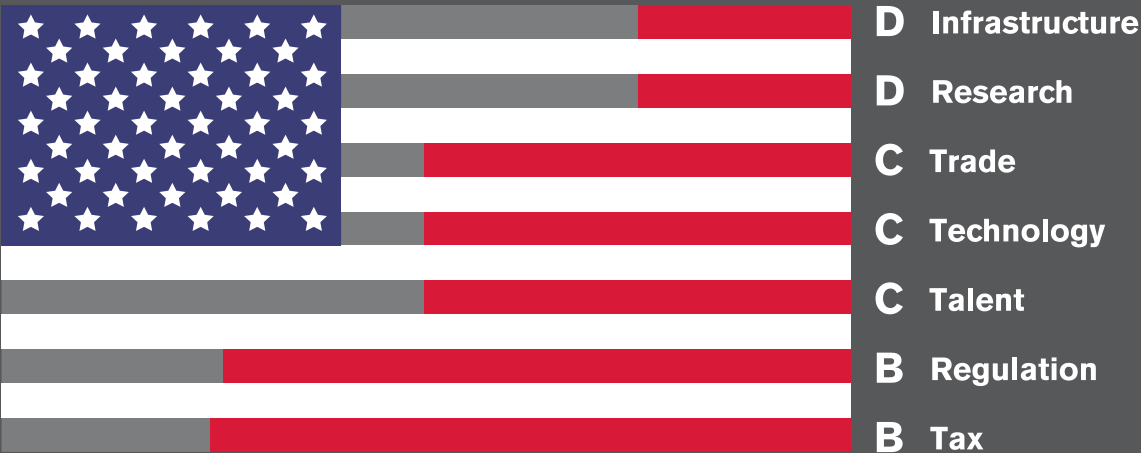
**Council on Competitiveness**

900 17th Street, NW  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
+1 (202) 682-4292  
Compete.org

# Competitiveness Report Card

The Council on Competitiveness grades policymakers on their progress, or lack thereof, addressing several key competitiveness policy recommendations. The Council recommendations are informed by over a decade of research and the insights of the nation’s leading corporate executives, academic and labor leaders, and national lab directors.

**FEATURED GRADES FROM THE FULL REPORT**



**JOIN THE CONVERSATION**



Compete.org



@CompeteNow