

Ranking both personal and economic freedom Freedom in the 50 States

How free is your state? And how could it become more free? The 2016 edition of *Freedom in the 50 States* answers these questions and more—the index provides a thorough ranking of the American states based on how their policies provide freedom in the fiscal, regulatory, and personal realms. It is the most up-to-date and comprehensive freedom index available, as the first of such state rankings to include both personal and economic freedoms in its calculus.

Each state is carefully reviewed on a multitude of policies that affect individual liberty—from taxes and regulations to incarceration rates, drug policies, and gun rights. Along with the rankings and detailed information for each state are policy recommendations tailored to each state to improve its fiscal, regulatory, and personal freedoms. The index also tracks how the states have changed their relative positions over the years.

New Hampshire was the freest state in the Union this year, with high scores on both personal and economic freedom. New York continued to bring up the rear—it's local tax burden is twice that of the average



Newspapers around the country reported their states' standings in Cato's comprehensive new report *Freedom in the 50 States*.

state, and it is the worst state on regulatory policy, thanks in part to rent-control laws.

Freedom in the 50 States is available as a paperback, but you can also visit Freedominthe50States.org to view interactive data from the index. You can even customize the index to your personal preferences—since not everyone values all types of freedoms equally, you can rank specific issues and generate an index tailored to your values.

Freedom in the 50 States is the definitive resource on economic and personal freedom in the United States—state legislators can use it to determine how to improve their

policies; scholars can use it to view the impact of local policies and craft better policy alternatives; and, of course, individual citizens can use it to understand their state's policies and make informed personal and political decisions. Its wide-reaching appeal is evident from the array of media that covered its publication, including some of the nation's most influential newspapers, such as the *New York Post* and *New Hampshire Union Leader*. ■

PURCHASE FREEDOM IN THE 50 STATES AT CATO.ORG/STORE, OR FREEDOMINTHE50STATES.ORG.

New Cato Journal



In the fall edition of *Cato Journal*, Andreas Hoffmann and Gunther Schnabl of Leipzig University examine the consequences of unconventional monetary policy—particularly ultra-low interest rates—arguing that, in large advanced countries, they have discouraged investment and led to adverse distributional effects. Other articles look at the evolution and impact of the Group of 20, the relationship between special interest groups and government growth, and the “peculiar business” of politics.

CATO JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE TO READ OR PURCHASE AT CATO.ORG.

Fall 2016 Regulation

In 1964 Ronald Reagan predicted, like many others, that France's large welfare state had “come to the end of the road.” So why hasn't the French economy ever collapsed? In the Fall 2016 *Regulation*, economist Pierre Lemieux tackles this question. In other articles Jonathan Adler argues that, contra mandatory GMO-labeling laws, there is no consumer “right to know,” Christina Sandefur of the Goldwater Institute exposes the government's recent crackdown on home-sharing, and Keith B. Belton of Pareto Policy Solutions critiques the EPA's new chemical safety standards.



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