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Massachusetts High Technology Council Statement on Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation's 2026 Competitiveness Index

The Massachusetts High Technology Council today issued the following statement regarding the release of the 2026 Competitiveness Index by the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation (MTF):

The Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation's [2026 Competitiveness Index](#) provides further evidence of a central challenge facing the Commonwealth: Massachusetts has remarkable advantages in talent, education, and innovation, but we are not translating those strengths into the job growth, business formation, and talent retention necessary to sustain the state's long-term economic leadership.

MTF's findings reinforce trends identified in other national rankings, [polling](#), and [economic data](#), such as [CNBC's Top States for Business](#). Massachusetts remains a national leader in innovation, educational attainment and performance, and venture capital investment. At the same time, the Commonwealth ranks near the bottom of states on measures including private employment growth, business formations, and domestic migration.

That combination should command the attention of business, government, education, and civic leaders across Massachusetts.

"The Commonwealth's competitiveness agenda must ultimately be about creating and retaining good jobs and ensuring that Massachusetts remains a place where talented people can build their careers, families, and futures," said High Tech Council President Christopher Anderson. "We have some of the best talent, educational institutions, research capabilities, and innovation assets anywhere in the world. Our challenge is making sure that those advantages translate into sustained economic growth and opportunity here in Massachusetts."

The MTF report also reinforces the interconnected nature of the Commonwealth's competitiveness challenges. Housing and childcare affordability affect whether workers and families can remain in Massachusetts. Energy costs, regulation, taxes, and other business costs influence decisions about where employers invest, expand, and create jobs. Education and workforce policies determine whether employers can find workers

with the skills they need. And continued investment in research and innovation is essential to creating the industries and jobs of the future.

Through [MassVision2050](#), the High Tech Council and its members are working with leaders across the private, public, and academic sectors to strengthen the connection between talent, innovation, and economic growth, and make Massachusetts a stronger place to create jobs and invest for the future. As Massachusetts considers policies to address its competitive challenges, the fundamental test should be whether they help create and retain good jobs, attract and develop talent, encourage investment and innovation, and strengthen the Commonwealth's long-term competitive position.

The MTF report adds to a growing consensus that Massachusetts' competitive position requires attention. The opportunity now is to translate that recognition into a focused, measurable agenda for action. The High Tech Council looks forward to working with MTF and other business and civic organizations, the Healey Administration, and legislative leaders to identify shared priorities that can strengthen job growth, retain and attract talent, and ensure that Massachusetts remains one of the world's best places to live, work, innovate, and build a business.

About the Massachusetts High Technology Council

The [Massachusetts High Technology Council, Inc.](#) is a CEO- and senior executive-led organization of innovation, technology, science, and research-based employers committed to strengthening Massachusetts' long-term economic competitiveness. Representing many of the Commonwealth's leading companies, research institutions, and professional services firms, the High Tech Council brings together business leaders to advance public policies, strategic initiatives, and cross-sector collaborations that promote investment, innovation, workforce growth, and broad-based economic opportunity. For nearly five decades, the High Tech Council has worked with leaders across industry, academia, and government to help ensure Massachusetts remains the world's leading place to innovate, build businesses, create jobs, and improve quality of life.

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