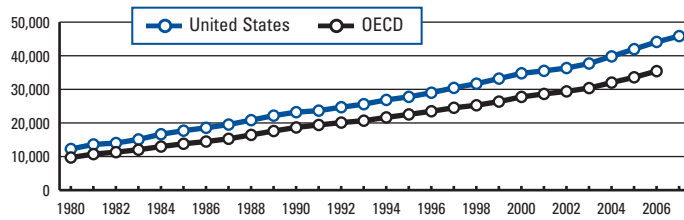


United States

Key indicators

Total population (millions), 2007	303.9
GDP (US\$ billions), 2007	13,843.8
GDP per capita (US\$), 2007	45,845.5
GDP (PPP) as share (%) of world total, 2007	21.36

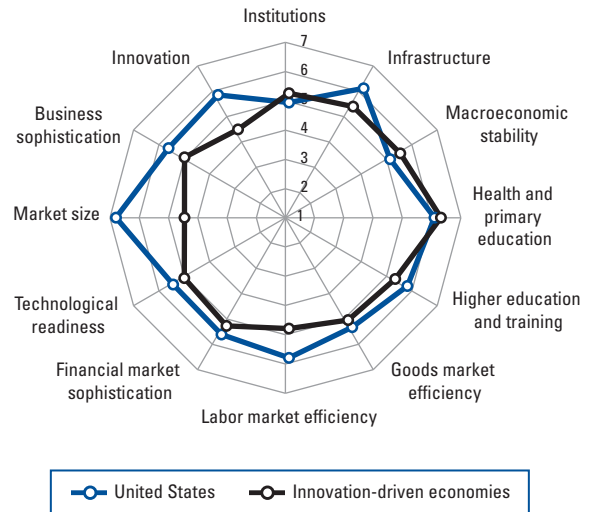
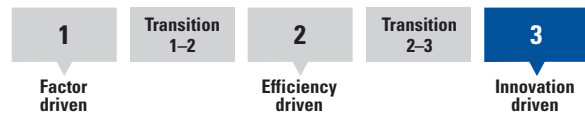
GDP (PPP US\$) per capita, 1980–2007



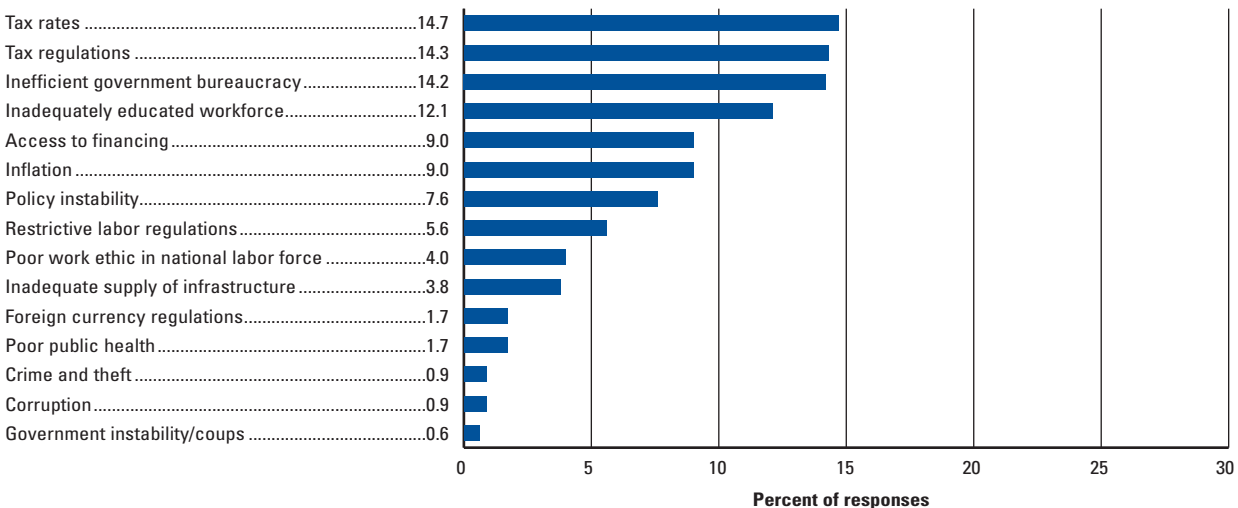
Global Competitiveness Index

	Rank (out of 134)	Score (1–7)
GCI 2008–2009	1	5.7
GCI 2007–2008 (out of 131)	1	5.7
GCI 2006–2007 (out of 122)	1	5.8
Basic requirements	22	5.5
1st pillar: Institutions	29	4.9
2nd pillar: Infrastructure	7	6.1
3rd pillar: Macroeconomic stability	66	5.0
4th pillar: Health and primary education	34	6.0
Efficiency enhancers	1	5.8
5th pillar: Higher education and training	5	5.7
6th pillar: Goods market efficiency	8	5.3
7th pillar: Labor market efficiency	1	5.8
8th pillar: Financial market sophistication	9	5.6
9th pillar: Technological readiness	11	5.6
10th pillar: Market size	1	6.9
Innovation and sophistication factors	1	5.8
11th pillar: Business sophistication	4	5.8
12th pillar: Innovation	1	5.8

Stage of development



The most problematic factors for doing business



Note: From a list of 15 factors, respondents were asked to select the five most problematic for doing business in their country and to rank them between 1 (most problematic) and 5. The bars in the figure show the responses weighted according to their rankings.

The Global Competitiveness Index in detail

■ Competitive Advantage ■ Competitive Disadvantage

INDICATOR	RANK/134
1st pillar: Institutions	
1.01 Property rights	26
1.02 Intellectual property protection	18
1.03 Diversion of public funds	22
1.04 Public trust of politicians	41
1.05 Judicial independence	23
1.06 Favoritism in decisions of government officials	40
1.07 Wastefulness of government spending	67
1.08 Burden of government regulation	50
1.09 Efficiency of legal framework	28
1.10 Transparency of government policymaking	28
1.11 Business costs of terrorism	127
1.12 Business costs of crime and violence	83
1.13 Organized crime	72
1.14 Reliability of police services	18
1.15 Ethical behavior of firms	22
1.16 Strength of auditing and reporting standards	20
1.17 Efficacy of corporate boards	12
1.18 Protection of minority shareholders' interests	14
2nd pillar: Infrastructure	
2.01 Quality of overall infrastructure	9
2.02 Quality of roads	8
2.03 Quality of railroad infrastructure	16
2.04 Quality of port infrastructure	11
2.05 Quality of air transport infrastructure	12
2.06 Available seat kilometers*	1
2.07 Quality of electricity supply	16
2.08 Telephone lines*	10
3rd pillar: Macroeconomic stability	
3.01 Government surplus/deficit*	97
3.02 National savings rate*	107
3.03 Inflation*	45
3.04 Interest rate spread*	17
3.05 Government debt*	102
4th pillar: Health and primary education	
4.01 Business impact of malaria	42
4.02 Malaria incidence*	1
4.03 Business impact of tuberculosis	39
4.04 Tuberculosis incidence*	1
4.05 Business impact of HIV/AIDS	76
4.06 HIV prevalence*	86
4.07 Infant mortality*	36
4.08 Life expectancy*	29
4.09 Quality of primary education	25
4.10 Primary enrollment*	74
4.11 Education expenditure*	45
5th pillar: Higher education and training	
5.01 Secondary enrollment*	48
5.02 Tertiary enrollment*	6
5.03 Quality of the educational system	19
5.04 Quality of math and science education	48
5.05 Quality of management schools	3
5.06 Internet access in schools	11
5.07 Local availability of research and training services	1
5.08 Extent of staff training	6

INDICATOR	RANK/134
6th pillar: Goods market efficiency	
6.01 Intensity of local competition	4
6.02 Extent of market dominance	6
6.03 Effectiveness of anti-monopoly policy	8
6.04 Extent and effect of taxation	56
6.05 Total tax rate*	74
6.06 No. of procedures required to start a business*	19
6.07 Time required to start a business*	6
6.08 Agricultural policy costs	69
6.09 Prevalence of trade barriers	37
6.10 Trade-weighted tariff rate*	33
6.11 Prevalence of foreign ownership	47
6.12 Business impact of rules on FDI	53
6.13 Burden of customs procedures	39
6.14 Degree of customer orientation	5
6.15 Buyer sophistication	5
7th pillar: Labor market efficiency	
7.01 Cooperation in labor-employer relations	16
7.02 Flexibility of wage determination	10
7.03 Non-wage labor costs*	26
7.04 Rigidity of employment*	1
7.05 Hiring and firing practices	6
7.06 Firing costs*	1
7.07 Pay and productivity	7
7.08 Reliance on professional management	10
7.09 Brain drain	1
7.10 Female participation in labor force*	29
8th pillar: Financial market sophistication	
8.01 Financial market sophistication	3
8.02 Financing through local equity market	6
8.03 Ease of access to loans	12
8.04 Venture capital availability	1
8.05 Restriction on capital flows	42
8.06 Strength of investor protection*	5
8.07 Soundness of banks	40
8.08 Regulation of securities exchanges	20
8.09 Legal rights index*	16
9th pillar: Technological readiness	
9.01 Availability of latest technologies	5
9.02 Firm-level technology absorption	3
9.03 Laws relating to ICT	9
9.04 FDI and technology transfer	23
9.05 Mobile telephone subscribers*	51
9.06 Internet users*	9
9.07 Personal computers*	6
9.08 Broadband Internet subscribers*	18
10th pillar: Market size	
10.01 Domestic market size*	1
10.02 Foreign market size*	2
11th pillar: Business sophistication	
11.01 Local supplier quantity	6
11.02 Local supplier quality	7
11.03 State of cluster development	2
11.04 Nature of competitive advantage	12
11.05 Value chain breadth	8
11.06 Control of international distribution	4
11.07 Production process sophistication	11
11.08 Extent of marketing	1
11.09 Willingness to delegate authority	6
12th pillar: Innovation	
12.01 Capacity for innovation	6
12.02 Quality of scientific research institutions	1
12.03 Company spending on R&D	3
12.04 University-industry research collaboration	1
12.05 Gov't procurement of advanced tech products	4
12.06 Availability of scientists and engineers	6
12.07 Utility patents*	2

* Hard data

Note: For further details and explanation, please refer to the section "How to Read the Country/Economy Profiles" at the beginning of this chapter.