



# Business Cost Advantage

Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada offers one of the most cost-competitive environments for companies seeking to develop or expand their business.

## Cape Breton - The Business Cost Advantage

When selecting the optimal location to develop or expand your business, Cape Breton provides a cost advantage to companies, based on:

- ▶ A low business tax environment;
- ▶ Lower wage, benefits and taxes;
- ▶ Low cost of land, construction and other real estate costs;
- ▶ Competitive utility costs; and
- ▶ Some of the world's most generous R&D tax incentives and competitively priced transportation costs.

This cost advantage has been confirmed by KPMG's Competitive Alternatives (Guide to International Business Location Costs) 2014, which looked at the costs for business locations in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) marketplace, as well as leading mature market countries in Europe and Asia Pacific.

According to the Competitive Alternatives report, Canada is a cost-leader with business-costs 7.2 percent below the U.S. Sydney, Cape Breton was found to be one of most cost-competitive regions of Canada when compared to other major centres.

The table below displays Sydney's index ranking compared to Canada's major centres.

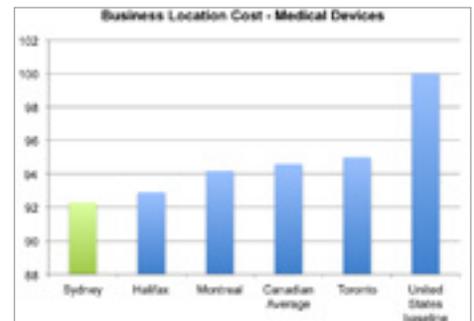


The results are expressed as a cost index, which represents each jurisdiction's business costs as a percentage relative the U.S. baseline of 100.0. The U.S. baseline represents the average of business costs in the four largest U.S. cities: New York City; Los Angeles; Chicago; and Dallas-Fort Worth.

## Low Cost for Specific Sectors

The Competitive Alternatives report also examines a number of specific industry sectors for cost comparisons. Sydney, Cape Breton compares very favourably when the business costs of operations in a number of these select sectors are analyzed.

The results for R&D, Medical Devices and Corporate Services are provided in the following charts:



These sector-specific cost comparisons demonstrate that Cape Breton is a strong choice for high value products and operations.

