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From the Denver Business Journal:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/denver/news/2018/12/19/colorado-contribution-tech-economy.html>

Colorado ranks No. 2 for contribution to tech economy

Dec 19, 2018, 2:14pm MST Updated: Dec 19, 2018, 2:43pm MST

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When it comes to its competitiveness and ability to contribute to the growth of the overall tech industry, Colorado ranks as one of the top states in the country.

The 2018 Milken Institute State Technology and Science Index ranks Colorado No. 2, behind Massachusetts, which has held the top spot since 2002:

Massachusetts

Colorado

Maryland

California

Utah

Washington

Delaware

Minnesota

New Hampshire

Oregon



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A view of downtown Denver, with the Colorado State Capitol in the foreground.

Kevin Klowden, executive director of the Milken Institute Center for Regional Economics, said in a statement the top 10 states sustained efforts to “not only build but to maintain their ecosystem.”

Milken releases its index every other year. Colorado maintained its No. 2 ranking from 2016.

The institute breaks down categories to determine overall ranking.

On developing its workforce, which Milken describes as “the most important intangible asset of a regional or state economy,” Colorado ranked No. 3, behind Maryland and Massachusetts.

In other categories, Colorado ranked:

No. 3 for its research and development capacity
No. 2 for its success rate of converting research into commercially viable products and services
No. 4 for its presence of high-end technical talent
No. 5 for how effective policymakers and other stakeholders have been at growing the tech industry here

Colorado has been no stranger to these tech-related ranking lists in the past year.

CompTIA, the trade association for the IT industry, ranked Denver, Aurora and Lakewood at No. 8 on its list of “top tech towns” for 2018.

Real estate giant CBRE ranked Denver No. 10 on its list of North American top tech cities when it comes to talent. It was the first time Denver had cracked the top 10.

Five Colorado companies ranked in the top 100 on Inc.’s annual list of the fastest-growing private companies in America. Boulder-based PopSockets came in at No. 2 overall, increasing sales by 71,424 percent over the last three years.

The Milken index draws from government data, like the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in addition to private sources, like the American Community Survey and Moody’s Analytics.

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Reporter

Denver Business Journal

