

# High Performance Community Index

*Rating Your Community or Regional Readiness for Technology-Based Economic Development*

Aware of Need/  
No Action      Action  
Started      Action  
Underway &  
Progress      Evident      Already  
Strong &  
Improving

2                      3                      4                      5

Development strategies that focus on working with local entrepreneurs to penetrate higher-value markets and create higher-wage jobs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A culture of entrepreneurship that supports and rewards new ideas and innovation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A "community forum" process that enables civic leaders and citizens to meet and address issues, solve problems, and think about the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership training that builds critical mass for the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Target industry sectors/clusters identified that build on local competitive advantages, skills and resources.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linkages between business and research, education and training institutions to upgrade jobs, adopt new technology, and enhance skills.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An information technology forum (or equivalent body) capable of providing planning, marketing, training and coordination in the use of advanced communication technologies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local/regional international trade initiatives that build global connections.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connectivity anywhere, anytime to high-speed, broadband technologies that enable electronic exchange of communications and information, i.e. a continuous field of presence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
User-friendly, customer-focused government, responsive to citizen direction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
International trade know-how and market intelligence resources available.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local/regional firms and organizations networked and interacting through cooperation and competition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public and private sector participation in multi-community and regional efforts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Management, marketing, financial and technical resources available for businesses throughout the life-cycle, particularly for startups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your HPC Score = \_\_\_\_\_  
Maximum = 70



# Using the High-Performance Community Index

The High-Performance Community Index is a selection of characteristics and development actions that represent significant elements of the seven high-performance principles.

Completing the index will give you a snapshot of your community's readiness for innovation and technology-based development. Completing it periodically at different points in time can serve as a mechanism for tracking your progress in becoming a High-Performance Community. Comparing your total index score and individual items with those of other communities and regions will give you a better understanding of how your community stacks up with others.

## What Your HPC Index Score Means

The maximum score that can be obtained using the High-Performance Community rating system is 70, approximately 10 points for each of the seven high-performance principles.

### HPC Score - 70 through 63

Your community is well on the way to success. Fine-tuning may be needed in one or more of the high-performance areas but overall your community is already working in the public, civic and enterprise sectors.

### HPC Score - 62 through 49

Your community is on the right track but as Mark Twain once said, "Even if you're on the right track you will get run over if you just sit there." Take a look at the individual items in the high-performance rating system and identify those areas that are your strongest and weakest. Build on your strengths and take stock of those high-performance areas that need attention.

### HPC Score - 48 through 35

Your community may be doing fine in one or several of the high-performance areas but needs to take a look at the total picture. Becoming a high-performance community means taking a new look at how your community fits into the global economy and how it functions in the three sectors - public, civic and enterprise.

## What is a High-Performance Community?

A High-Performance Community is a place where the public, civic and enterprise sectors work. A community where individuals, companies, organizations, and government agencies are enabled to be fast, flexible, focused, networked, customized and global – the hallmarks of a new economy enterprise and a new economy community.

A High-Performance Community can be an individual town or city, a county, an urban neighborhood, a regional group, or multi-community and county groups. The key is to assemble a group of motivated people with a common interest in implementing the seven high-performance action strategies.

Today's high-performance communities recognize that building upon existing momentum and local capacity is critically important. They also understand that, in the network economy, prosperity is increasingly determined by the power of a community's connections elsewhere.

## 7 High-Performance Community Action Strategies?

1. **Connectivity** anywhere, anytime to high-speed, broadband telecommunications.
2. Promotion of **entrepreneurship** in private and public sectors.
3. **Job growth from within** and a focus on higher-wage technology and information industries in manufacturing and services.
4. Awareness, interest and participation in the **global** market place.
5. An economic development focus on **industry clusters** that build on local interests, resources and competitive advantages.
6. **Inter-firm collaboration and networking** with outside resources.
7. Cultivation of civic institutions and **regional collaboration**.