Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026

July 19, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com

Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026 Latest News

Gujarat has emerged as India's most investment-friendly state in Niti Aayog's first-ever Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026, followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

About Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026

- It is the **country's first IFI** released by the **NITI Aayog.**
- It assesses how well Indian states and Union Territories are positioned to attract investments.
- It **covers all 28 states and 8 Union Territories** and evaluates investment attractiveness across the following **eight pillars:**
    - **Infrastructure**
    - **Business climate**
    - **Resources**
    - **Government policy**
    - **Regulatory Ease**

    - **Institutional Environment**
    - **Financial Health; and**
    - **Environmental Resilience**
- The framework comprises 84 indicators, incorporating both secondary data and perception-based measures derived from a primary survey of investors.
- The index uses a **100-point scale** and serves as a benchmark for states to improve their investment environment.
- Each state has scored on different aspects using a mix of **primary surveys and publicly available data.**
- Based on overall scores, States and Union Territories have been classified into **four performance categories:**
    - **Top Performers** (scores above 50)
    - **Frontrunners** (45–50)
    - **Emerging Performers** (≥40 – <45)
    - **Aspiring States** (below 40)
- States and Union Territories have also been assessed within **three peer groups** – **Large States, Hilly and Northeastern States,** and **Union Territories and City States.**

Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026 Highlights

- **5 states** were identified as **top performers: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Goa, and Odisha.**
- **15** States have been classified as **Frontrunners**, while **8 States/UTs** have been placed **in each of the Emerging Performers and Aspiring State**s categories.
- **Among the large states, Gujarat** secured the **first rank**, followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, which are also the top three performers in the overall Index.
- **In the Hilly and Northeastern States** category, **Uttarakhand** emerged as the highest-ranked State, followed by Assam and Himachal Pradesh.
- Among the **City States and Union Territories**, **Goa** secured the top position, followed by Delhi and Chandigarh.

News: **TP**

Source: https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/investment-friendliness-index-ifi-2026/

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