



TECHNET
THE VOICE OF THE
INNOVATION ECONOMY

October 18, 2017

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On Eve of Amazon HQ2 Deadline, TechNet's "Next In Tech" Study Offers Clues on Contenders



Washington, D.C. — On the eve of Amazon's deadline for applications to host its second North American headquarters, TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today re-released its report "How the Startup Economy is Spreading Across the Country — and How It Can Be Accelerated." The study, which was published in March, offers insights on up-and-coming tech hubs across the U.S. well-positioned to host Amazon's "HQ2."

The author, Dr. Michael Mandel of the Progressive Policy Institute, developed a Metro Startup Economy Index. This new measure was used to rank the top ten traditional tech hubs — including Amazon's current home base of Seattle — as well as 25 up-and-coming metro areas that have embraced pro-innovation policies.

It also suggests steps other regions can take to become more startup-friendly, including:

- Increasing access to capital;
- Improving access to talent;
- Opening up access to markets; and
- Cutting red tape and instituting a pro-innovation regulatory and fiscal policy.

The full study, with breakdowns by metro areas, is available [here](#). A list of the top ten traditional tech hubs and 25 "next in tech" hubs is below:

Figure 4: The Tech Hubs
Metro Startup Economy Index - March 2017

Rank	Metro Area	Metro Startup Index
1	San Francisco, CA	18.2
2	San Jose, CA	14.0
3	Seattle, WA	7.6
4	New York, NY	7.4
5	Boston, MA	6.4
6	Austin, TX	5.3
7	Provo, UT	3.6
8	San Diego, CA	3.5
9	Chicago, IL	3.5
10	Los Angeles, CA	3.5

Figure 5: The Next in Tech 25
Metro Startup Economy Index - March 2017

Rank	Metro Area	Rank	Metro Area		
11	Washington, D.C.	2.6	24	Richmond, VA	1.4
12	Atlanta, GA	2.5	25	Charleston, SC	1.4
13	Denver, CO	2.3	26	Madison, WI	1.3
14	Salt Lake City, UT	2.3	27	Pittsburgh, PA	1.3
15	Portland, OR	2.3	28	Sacramento, CA	1.3
16	Dallas, TX	2.1	29	Charlotte, NC	1.3
17	Raleigh-Durham, NC	2.0	30	Baltimore, MD	1.2
18	Worcester, MA	2.0	31	Cleveland, OH	1.2
19	Philadelphia, PA	2.0	32	New Orleans, LA	1.2
20	Nashville, TN	1.8	33	Minneapolis, MN	1.2
21	Phoenix, AZ	1.7	34	Miami, FL	1.2
22	Houston, TX	1.4	35	Detroit, MI	1.2
23	Cincinnati, OH	1.4			

About TechNet

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic startups and the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than 2.7 million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Olympia, Albany, and Tallahassee.

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