TENNESSEE

STATE SCORE
Scores are on a 100-point scale; maximum points are noted in lower-right corners.

Factors Helping the State Score

Avigation Easement Law
Tennessee law creates an avigation easement, which means drone operators are protected from nuisance and trespass laws as long as their drones do not disturb people on the ground.¹

Law Vesting Landowners with Air Rights
Tennessee law expressly provides air rights to landowners, which reduces litigation risk for drone operators.²

Factors Hindering the State Score

Airspace Lease Law
Tennessee law does not allow public authorities to lease low-altitude airspace above state and local roads. An airspace lease law would allow state or local officials to create drone highways above these roadways.

Task Force or Program Office
State leaders should consider convening a statewide drone task force or creating a drone program office.

Sandbox
Tennessee does not have a drone sandbox. State officials should consider dedicating state facilities and airspace to commercial drone testing.

Jobs Estimate
Tennessee is in the bottom quintile when it comes to the number of drone-related jobs per 100,000 people.

Please visit www.mercatus.org/dronescorecard for the full research paper and methodology.
Definitions

**Airspace Lease Law**
States receive points for having laws that allow state and local authorities to lease airspace above public roadways. These laws allow officials in the future to create drone highways safely, away from airports and residential areas.

**Avigation Easement Law**
States receive points for expressly creating an avigation easement, meaning that drones (and planes) are free to fly over private property as long as they do not disturb those on the ground.

**Task Force or Program Office**
States receive points if they have an active statewide task force or a program office dedicated to commercial drone services.

**Law Vesting Landowners with Air Rights**
States receive points for expressly vesting landowners with air rights. This law reduces litigation risk by putting drone operators on notice that drone flights that are too low or disruptive to landowners are not permitted.

**Sandbox**
States receive points if they have dedicated state facilities and airspace for commercial drone testing.

**Jobs Estimate**
This score is based on the number of drone jobs per 100,000 people; estimated using ZipRecruiter data.

Notes
2. § 42-1-103 (2014).