Opportunity increased in the Economy dimension by 4.3 percent in 2017. North Dakota was the highest-performing state, with a score of 65.2. The state with the lowest score was New Mexico, at 42.3. Most counties made progress in this dimension.

3 COUNTIES IN COLORADO have the LOWEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES in the nation

ACCESS TO BANKING SERVICES has DETERIORATED in NEARLY EVERY STATE and improved in none

Only ALASKA’S RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINED UNCHANGED from 2016-2017, due in part to a steep drop in oil prices and by related declines over this time in their industries related to extraction of natural resources

ROBERTS COUNTY, TX (population 918) had the HIGHEST SCORE in the Economy dimension, largely influenced by its VERY LOW POVERTY RATE (1.5 percent, which is 1/10 the national average) and a relatively HIGH RATE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IMPROVED in 49 STATES and the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA