

# 2017 OPPORTUNITY INDEX

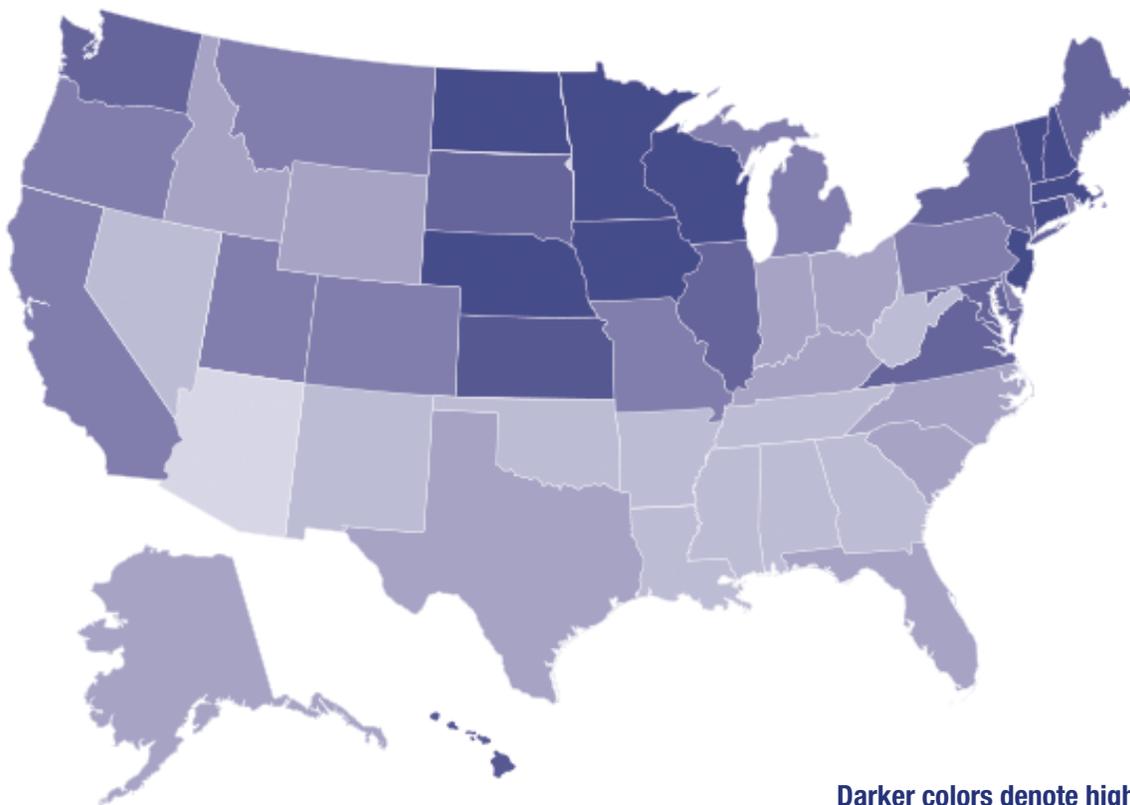
OVERALL U.S. OPPORTUNITY SCORE

# 52.4

27 STATES and the  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
scored ABOVE  
the national Opportunity Score

From 2016 to 2017, opportunity  
INCREASED in 43 STATES and the  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
while it DECREASED in 7 STATES

**COUNTIES SNAPSHOT** There were **383 counties** (about one in five) that had **increases of at least 5 percent** in their Opportunity Grades from 2016 to 2017. **Just 54 counties** (about 3 percent of all counties) had **declines of 5 percent or more** in their Opportunity Grades from 2016 to 2017. **More than two-thirds of these 54 counties were in the South**, and **the great majority** of them had **populations of fewer than 100,000 people**.



Darker colors denote higher scores  
See reverse for state rankings

# STATE RANKINGS

1. Vermont	63.3	27. Pennsylvania	52.9
2. Minnesota	61.8	28. Delaware	52.8
3. Iowa	61.1	29. Missouri	52.4
4. Massachusetts	60.5	30. Michigan	52.2
5. North Dakota	60.4	31. Indiana	51.6
6. Nebraska	60.0	32. Idaho	50.8
7. New Hampshire	59.7	33. North Carolina	50.7
8. Connecticut	58.7	34. Alaska	50.7
9. New Jersey	58.7	35. Ohio	50.7
10. Wisconsin	58.1	36. Wyoming	49.2
11. Washington	57.9	37. South Carolina	48.8
12. Maine	57.9	38. Texas	48.7
13. Maryland	57.5	39. Kentucky	48.2
14. Kansas	56.8	40. Florida	48.1
15. District of Columbia	56.8	41. Tennessee	48.1
16. Virginia	56.6	42. Arizona	47.1
17. New York	56.4	43. Arkansas	47.1
18. South Dakota	56.4	44. Georgia	46.9
19. Hawaii	56.3	45. Alabama	46.4
20. Illinois	56.1	46. Oklahoma	46.4
21. Oregon	55.4	47. West Virginia	44.8
22. Utah	55.1	48. Nevada	44.0
23. California	55.0	49. Mississippi	42.9
24. Rhode Island	54.5	50. Louisiana	42.4
25. Colorado	54.1	51. New Mexico	40.9
26. Montana	53.3		

*Note: State scores have been rounded to one decimal place. As a result values may appear tied, but the rankings reflect the original, not the rounded values. There are no ties in the original values.*

Learn more about your state ranking and find your county's  
Opportunity Grade online at [opportunityindex.org](https://opportunityindex.org).