Opportunity increased since 2017 in the Community dimension by 1.8 percent. Maine performed best in this dimension with a score of 64.6. The state with the lowest score is Oklahoma, for the second year in a row, at 38.4.

Volunteering rose in every state except South Dakota (which already had a rate well over the national average). The percentage of young people ages 16 to 24 who are not in school and not working declined in more than half the states, as did the incarceration rate. For nearly two-thirds of states, access to primary health care was relatively unchanged. For the indicators of violent crime rate and access to healthy food, more states lost ground than did not.

In 2018, the number of grocery stores and produce vendors per 10,000 population increased in only four states, while 16 states saw no change. There was a negative trend in 30 states and Washington, DC. Twenty-eight states experienced lower incarceration rates than in 2017, while 10 states saw no change.

More than half of states showed improvements in incarceration rate, youth disconnection, and volunteering.

Youth disconnection continues to improve year to year, due to about three-fifths of states showing improvement on this indicator.

From the 2017 to 2018 Index, volunteerism rates rose in every state except in South Dakota, which already exceeded the national average rate of volunteerism.

There are 207 counties with fewer than one primary care physician per 100,000 residents.