

The Mobility Matrix. Your chances of moving up are tied to a complex mix of geography, race, health and education

Chances of Achieving the Dream

The American Dream is defined here as being part of the middle class—annual income of 300% of poverty level, or \$66,000 for a family of four—at age 40.

Succeeds consistently at life stages from early childhood to adulthood **85%**

Born to an upper-income family **72%**

Men **66%**

Caucasians **70%**

Women **62%**

All Americans **64%**

Hispanics **59%**

Born to a disadvantaged family **56%**

Born to a lower-income family **52%**

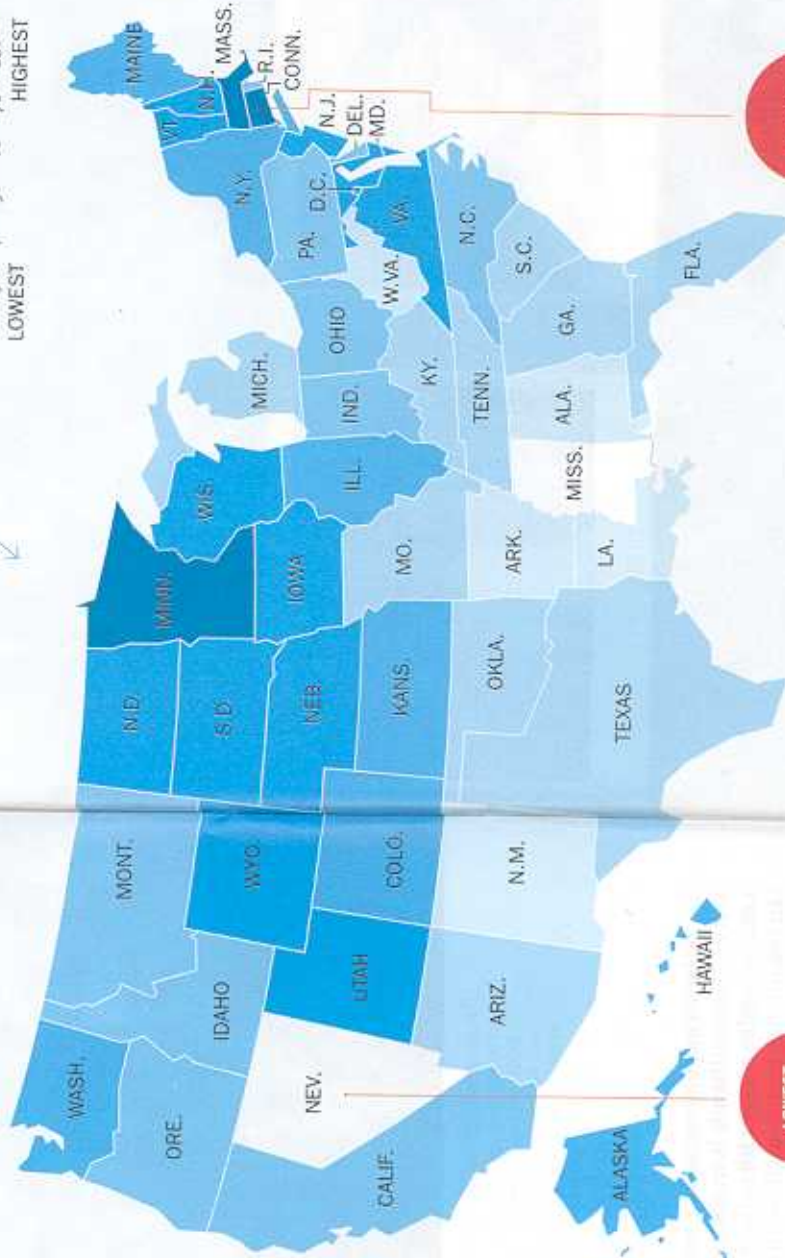
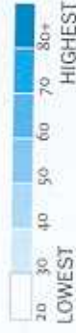
African Americans **50%**

Falls consistently at life stages from early

Like the Rest of Our Economy, Opportunity Is Bifurcated

Opportunity score

The index reflects performance on 16 indicators within three dimensions: jobs and local economy; education; and community health and civic life



LOWEST
21

Worst prospects

Many bottom states, like Nevada, were hit hard by the real estate and credit crisis. They also have poor educational levels and low investment

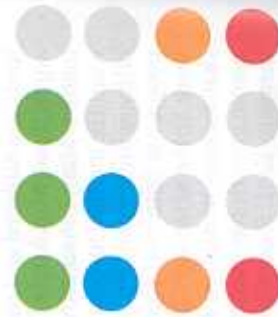
HIGHEST
89

Best prospects

The top states are those with diversified economies, rich civic lives and—like Connecticut—high levels of investment in education

Pathways To the Dream

Chance of reaching the middle class measured in age-group achievement. Color icons represent success, gray ones failure



EARLY CHILDHOOD 0-5 YEARS
Prereading and math skills; school-appropriate behavior; no major health problems

MIDDLE CHILDHOOD 5-12 YEARS
Basic reading and math skills; self-regulated behavior

ADOLESCENCE 12-19 YEARS
High school diploma with GPA greater than 2.5; not convicted of a crime; if female, has not had a birth

TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD 19-25 YEARS
Post-secondary degree or equivalent family income (greater than 250% of poverty level)