



Studies in the News

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Juvenile Justice in California: 2014. Office of the Attorney General. July 1, 2015. 130 p.

<http://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/cjsc/publications/misc/jj14/preface.pdf>

"[This report] provides insight into the juvenile justice process by reporting the number of arrests, referrals to probation departments, petitions filed, and dispositions for juveniles tried in juvenile and adult courts.... [Regarding arrests], [m]ore than half of the juveniles (55.6%) were arrested for a misdemeanor offense. Nearly a third (31.8%) were arrested for a felony offense, and the remainder (12.5%) were arrested for a status offense (violating curfew, truancy, running away, or incorrigibility). Eight out of ten juveniles arrested (80.4%) were referred to county juvenile probation departments." This is a report that the California Department of Justice is required to issue every year.

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

Hispanic Population Reaches Record 55 Million, but Growth has Cooled. By Jens M. Krogstad, et al. Pew Research Center. June 25, 2015. 3 p.

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/06/25/u-s-hispanic-population-growth-surge-cools/>

“The Hispanic population [in the U.S.] reached a new high of 55.4 million in 2014 (or 17.4% of the total U.S. population), an increase of 1.2 million (2.1%) from the year before. However, that 2.1% rate continues a trend of slower growth that began in 2010.... From 1995 to 2000, annual average growth was 4.8%, and growth has declined since then. From 2010 to 2014, the annual average growth had dropped to 2.2%. Part of the reason for this decline in population growth is the slowdown in immigration from Latin America, and in particular, from Mexico.... [T]he county with the highest Hispanic population by far is Los Angeles County in California (4.9 million).”

Millennials Outnumber Baby Boomers and Are Far More Diverse. U.S. Census Bureau. June 25, 2015. 2 p.

<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2015/cb15-113.html>

“Millennials, or America’s youth born between 1982 and 2000, now number 83.1 million and represent more than one quarter of the nation’s population. Their size exceeds that of the 75.4 million baby boomers.... [and] 44.2% [are] part of a minority race or ethnic group.... Even more diverse than millennials are the youngest Americans: those younger than 5 years old. In 2014, this group became majority-minority for the first time, with 50.2% being part of a minority race or ethnic group.” California, along with five other states, is a majority minority state with 61.5% of the population nonwhite.

EDUCATION

Best of Both Worlds: How Massachusetts Vocational Schools Are Preparing Students for College and Careers. By Katie Bayerl, et al. Achieve. June 2015. 24 p.

http://www.achieve.org/files/Achieve_MAcareerTech.pdf

This study profiles exemplary career and technical education (CTE) schools in Massachusetts: Essex Agricultural and North Shore Technical (Essex Tech), and Blackstone Valley Regional Technical High School (Valley Tech). The schools combine a vocational curriculum with “college-ready academic standards,” and could be models for other states’ CTE programs. The schools have a nearly 100% graduation rate, proficiency rates on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) that are above the state average, and many of their students who are enrolling in four-year colleges upon graduation.

EMPLOYMENT

Foreign and Native Skilled Workers: What Can We Learn from H-1B Lotteries? By Giovanni Peri, et al. National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper No. 21175. May 2015. 49 p.

http://www.nber.org/papers/w21175?utm_campaign=ntw&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ntw

“Employers of computer-related workers did not hire more natives when the foreign workers they intended to hire were denied H-1B permits. Instead the employment and wages of natives in similar occupations was at best unchanged and at worst harmed. This is consistent with the notion that H-1B workers complement native computer workers and/or increase the productivity of the firm, and that skilled foreign-born workers have improved (or at worst left unchanged) the labor market opportunities of natives.”

ENERGY

An Independent Scientific Assessment of Well Stimulation in California. By Jane C.S. Long, et al. California Council on Science and Technology. July 2015.

Summary. 119 p.: *An Examination of Hydraulic Fracturing and Acid Stimulations in the Oil and Gas Industry.*

<http://ccst.us/publications/2015/2015SB4summary.pdf>

Vol. 1. *Well Stimulation Technologies and their Past, Present, and Potential Future Use in California.* 406 p.: <http://ccst.us/publications/2015/2015SB4-v1.pdf>

Vol. 2. *Potential Environmental Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing and Acid Stimulations.*

481 p.: <http://ccst.us/publications/2015/2015SB4-v2.pdf>

Vol. 3. *Case Studies of Hydraulic Fracturing and Acid Stimulations in Select Regions: Offshore, Monterey Formation, Los Angeles Basin and San Joaquin Basin.*

377 p.: <http://ccst.us/publications/2015/2015SB4-v3.pdf>

A three-part series which examines hydraulic fracturing and acid stimulation in the California oil and gas industry: "Volume I provides the factual basis describing what well stimulation treatments (WST) are, how they are conducted in general and practiced in California, and where they have been and are being used for oil and gas production in the state.... Volume 2 discusses how well stimulation could affect water, atmosphere, seismic activity, wildlife and vegetation, and human health. [It also] reviews available data, and identifies knowledge gaps and alternative practices that could avoid or mitigate these possible impacts.... Volume 3 presents four case studies that assess environmental issues and qualitative risks for specific geographic regions: Offshore, Monterey Formation, Los Angeles Basin, and the San Joaquin Basin."

HEALTH

Today's Heroin Epidemic. CDC Vital Signs. July 2015. 4 p.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/pdf/2015-07-vitalsigns.pdf>

Heroin use is increasing in the United States among men and women of all ages and income levels. "Some of the greatest increases occurred in demographic groups with historically low rates of heroin use: women, the privately insured, and people with higher incomes. Not only are people using heroin, they are also abusing multiple other substances, especially cocaine and prescription opioid painkillers. As heroin use has increased, so have heroin-related overdose deaths." This brief discusses ways states can address risk factors that lead to heroin addiction, increase access to substance abuse treatment centers, and ensure that people have access to integrated prevention services.

HUMAN SERVICES

School's Out...Who Ate? A Report on Summer Nutrition in California. By Anna Fischer, et al. California Food Policy Advocates. June 2015. 15 p.

<http://cfpa.net/ChildNutrition/Summer/CFPAPublications/SOWA-FullReport-2015.pdf>

In 2014, "nearly 2 million (or 80% of) [California] children and youth who benefitted from federally funded free or reduced-price lunches during the school year missed out on such lunches during the summer. The need for nutritious, affordable meals persists year-round, yet free and reduced-price lunches reach far fewer children and youth during the summer than the school year." Appendix A includes a data summary by county of participation in the school lunch program during the school year and summer in 2014.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

***Issues Related to Accommodating Animals Traveling Through Airports.* James F. Smith, et al. Airport Cooperative Research Program. June 2015. 85 p.**

http://onlinepubs.trb.org/Onlinepubs/acrp/acrp_syn_064.pdf

“This study’s goal is to describe a coordinated approach for airports and their partners in animal transportation to accommodate the well-being of animals traveling through airports by using effective practices that are well-documented and presented in actionable form. Information used in this study was acquired through a review of the literature and interviews with airports, airlines, animal handling and forwarding companies, service dog companies, industry associations, and government agencies, plus two experts in animal health and behavior.”

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