



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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Contents this week:

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

E-monitor use in juvenile courts

ECONOMY

Jobs, industry diversity, and education opportunities needed in CA's future

EDUCATION

School funding in CA: current status and how to improve it

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

LAO report compares cap-and-trade regulation, auction revenues

Groundwater depletion in CO River Basin due to drought & land use practices

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

States' revenue: mostly increased in FY 2015, projected declines in 2016

HEALTH

Home deliveries carry greater risk of neonatal seizures

HUMAN SERVICES

CA Poverty Measure: strong economic growth, poverty remains high

States vary in funding child welfare services

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

"Monitoring Youth: The Collision of Rights and Rehabilitation." By Kate Weisburd. *Iowa Law Review*, vol. 101, no. 1 (Nov. 2015) pp. 297-341.

http://ilr.law.uiowa.edu/files/ilr.law.uiowa.edu/files/ILR_101-1_Weisburd.pdf

"A monumental shift in juvenile justice is underway, inspired by the wide recognition that incarceration is not the solution to youth crime. In its place, 'electronic monitoring,' has gained widespread support as a new form of judicial control over youth offenders.... This article [examines] the routine, and troubling use of electronic monitoring in juvenile courts.... [It] refutes three key misperceptions about the practice: (1) that it lowers incarceration rates because it is used only on youth who would otherwise be detained; (2) that it effectively rehabilitates youth; and (3) that it is cost-effective."

ECONOMY

California's Future: Economy. By Sarah Bohn. Public Policy Institute of California. Jan. 2016. 4 p.
<http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=898>

This report on California's economy is part of a larger publication highlighting long-term policy concerns in this state. California has experienced a 3% job growth for the past three years, which has been stronger than the 1.9% growth nationwide. The state's jobless rate is 5.8%, higher than the national rate of 5%, but it is steadily dropping. California workers earn 12% more than the national average and the output per worker is 13% higher than the national average, offsetting higher average wages. The author recommends policies in job creation, industry diversification, and economic opportunity through education are as the state moves forward.

EDUCATION

California's Challenge – Adequately Funding Education in the 21st Century. By Rob Manwaring, et al. California School Board Association. Jan. 2016. 75 p.
<https://www.csba.org/Newsroom/PressReleases/2016/~media/F1E2042072DA4169BC8635E4883BFF39.ashx>

This report outlines the current state of school funding in California and how it has impacted local school districts. The authors find that the "current K-12 funding level is underfunded by \$22 billion to \$42 billion," and that the state's per-pupil spending is \$3,427 behind the national average. Less funding affects schools across the board—lower staffing levels, difficulties meeting new demands from Common Core, low high school graduation rates, etc. The authors recommend ways to improve funding: rethink revenue sources, create alliances among educational partners across the state to promote better funding, and engage the public.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Cap-and-Trade Revenues: Strategies to Promote Legislative Priorities. Legislative Analyst's Office. Jan. 21, 2016. 24 p.
<http://lao.ca.gov/reports/2016/3328/cap-trade-revenues-012116.pdf>

"California's cap-and-trade program is one of the primary policies intended to help achieve the state's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals. In this report, we describe and assess the relationship—from both a legal and policy perspective—between the cap-and-trade regulation and the auction revenues that are generated as a result of the program. Based on our assessment, we present general approaches to cap-and-trade spending for the Legislature to consider that could enhance its ability to: (1) promote cost-effective GHG reductions, (2) reduce costs for energy users, and (3) promote the highest legislative priorities."

"Hydrologic Implications of GRACE Satellite Data in the AQ6 Colorado River Basin." By Bridget R. Scanlon, et al. *Water Resources Research*, vol. 51 (Dec. 2015) 14 p.
(Available at the California State Library)

Using satellites to reconstruct long term water storage in the greater Colorado River Basin, this study suggests that depletion of groundwater is due in large part to the interaction between reduced surface reservoir, soil moisture, and groundwater storage within the upper and lower subbasins. Further, the study advances the notion that changes in groundwater storage over time are the result of pumping outside of the delivery zones associated with the basin and responses to wet and dry cycles, including droughts.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

State Revenue Report: Another Strong Tax Quarter for the States, But Less Promising Forecasts for Fiscal 2016. By Lucy Dadayan, et al. The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government at the State University of New York. Nov. 2015. 28 p.

http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government_finance/state_revenue_report/2015-11-16-SRR_101.pdf

“The Institute’s analysis of data indicates slightly stronger fiscal conditions for states than the preliminary data released in September 2015 by the Census Bureau. We have adjusted Census figures to reflect data we have since obtained and to reflect differences in how we measure revenue for purposes of the *State Revenue Report*.” Highlights include: 46 states’ tax revenues grew by 6.8% in the second quarter of 2015, total state tax collections for fiscal year 2015 have grown 5.6% over the prior fiscal year and states anticipate fiscal year 2016 to be weaker than fiscal year 2015. The report includes a number of detailed state tables and charts.

HEALTH

“Planned Out-of-Hospital Births and Birth Outcomes.” By Jonathan M. Snowden, et al. *New England Journal of Medicine*, vol. 373 no. 27 (Dec. 31, 2015) pp. 2642-53.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1501738>

(Available at the California State Library)

“The study analyzed nearly 80,000 pregnancies in Oregon, and found that when women had planned out-of-hospital deliveries, the probability of the baby dying during the birth process or in the first month after—though slight—was 2.4 times as likely as women who had planned hospital deliveries. Out-of-hospital births also carried greater risk of neonatal seizures, and increased the chances that newborn babies would need ventilators or mothers would need blood transfusions. On the other hand, out-of-hospital births were far less likely to involve cesarean sections—5.3% compared with 24.7% in a hospital. They also involved fewer interventions to augment labor, and mothers had fewer lacerations.” (*New York Times*, Dec. 30, 2015).

HUMAN SERVICES

Poverty in California. By Sarah Bohn, et al. Public Policy Institute of California. Dec. 2015. 2 p.

http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/jtf/JTF_PovertyJTF.pdf

Highlights from the California Poverty Measure (CPM), a joint research effort by PPIC and the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, include: “1) Despite strong economic growth, the official poverty rate remains high; 2) When family resources and needs are more fully accounted for, poverty in California is even higher; 3) Overall, about 4 in 10 California residents are living in or near poverty; 4) Without social safety net programs, more Californians would live in poverty; 5) Poverty rates and the effect of safety net programs vary by county and region; 6) Minorities and less-educated Californians have higher poverty rates; and 7) Most poor families in California are working.”

An Introduction to Child Welfare Funding, and How States Use It. By Elizabeth Jordan, et al. *Child Trends*. Jan. 2016. 10 p.

<http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016-01IntroStateChildWelfareFunding.pdf>

This report examines child welfare financing structures and decisions from selected states. How child welfare agencies pay for the services varies. “In state fiscal year (SFY) 2012, the year for which the most recent funding information is available, states spent more than \$28.2 billion, from federal, state, and local sources, on child welfare activities. Of that amount, about \$12.7 billion were federal funds, and of those

federal funds, nearly \$6.5 billion were from Title IV-E. Title IV-E of the Social Security Act is the largest federal funding stream for child welfare activities. States can apply for Title IV-E waivers, which allow them to use IV-E funds more flexibly.”

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