



Studies in the News

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

A Shared Sentence: The Devastating Toll of Parental Incarceration on Kids, Families, and Communities. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Apr. 2016. 20 p.

<http://www.aecf.org/resources/a-shared-sentence/>

“As the U.S. prison population surged during the past several decades, so too did the number of children and families experiencing the consequences of having a loved one incarcerated. From 1980 to 2000, the number of kids with a father in prison or jail rose by 500%. Now more than 5 million children have had a parent incarcerated at some point in their lives, including 503,000 in California, 477,000 in Texas and 312,000 in Florida.” The report notes that children of incarcerated parents need strong support from their families and local communities, including support for the children while the parents are incarcerated, connecting parents with employment opportunities once they return from prison or jail, and strengthening those communities with a disproportionate number of incarcerated parents and those re-entering the community.

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

***Five Evils: Multidimensional Poverty and Race in America.* By Richard Reeves, et al. Brookings Institution. Apr. 2016. 22 p.**

<http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/2016/five-evils-multidimensional-poverty-race>

“The paper, builds on research from the British economist William Beveridge, who in 1942 proposed five types of poverty: squalor, ignorance, want, idleness, and disease. In modern terms, these could be defined as poverty related to housing, education, income, employment, and healthcare, respectively.... [T]he likelihood of living a life that includes more than one of these types of poverty is significantly higher for minorities.... The Brookings researchers note that anti-poverty solutions often focus on solving only one problem at a time—usually income, because it’s the most pervasive and, perhaps, the easiest to quantify. They argue that in order to address the compounding effects of the various types of poverty, it would actually be useful to de-emphasize the matter of income.” (*The Atlantic*, Apr. 16, 2016).

ECONOMY

***The Digital Divide and Economic Benefits of Broadband Access.* Council of Economic Advisors. Mar. 2016. 11 p.**

https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/page/files/20160308_broadband_cea_issue_brief.pdf

This report provides an overview of the state of broadband in the United States. Currently, three-quarters of U.S. households have broadband Internet, but while 95% of the top fifth of households by income have it, less than half of the poorest fifth of households do. Research shows that job searching online leads to better labor market outcomes, including faster re-employment for unemployed individuals. Yet because of a digital divide, low-income households are less able to use these tools than high-income households. Unemployed workers in households with Internet were 4 percentage points more likely to be employed one month in the future than those in households without Internet.

EDUCATION

***Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2015.* By Anlan Zhang, et al. National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. May 2016. 246 p.**

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2016/2016079.pdf>

“This report covers topics such as victimization, teacher injury, bullying and cyber-bullying, school conditions, fights, weapons, availability and student use of drugs and alcohol, student perceptions of personal safety at school, and criminal incidents at postsecondary institutions.” The report looks at long-term trends such as the decline in the percentage of students fearing an “attack or harm at school” from 12% in 1995 to 3% in 2013. Two unique features of this year’s report are spotlight issues: 1) school suspensions and expulsions—looking at student, family and academic characteristics—and 2) juvenile offenders in residential placement facilities.

EMPLOYMENT

***Producing Poverty: The Public Cost of Low-Wage Production Jobs in Manufacturing.* By Ken Jacobs, et al. UC Berkeley Labor Center. May 2016. 14 p.**

<http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/pdf/2016/Producing-Poverty.pdf>

“We find that between 2009 and 2013 the federal government and the states spent \$10.2 billion per year on public safety net programs for workers (and their families) who hold frontline manufacturing production

jobs.... A third (34%) of the families ... are enrolled in one or more public safety net program[s].... The high utilization of public safety net programs ... is primarily a result of low wages, rather than inadequate work hours.... Eight of the ten states with the highest participation rates in public programs that support frontline production workers' families are in the American south; the other two states are New York and California.”

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

***State of the Air 2016.* By Janice E. Nolen, et al. American Lung Association. Apr. 2016. 54 p.**
<http://www.lung.org/local-content/california/documents/state-of-the-air/2016/sota-2016-full-report.pdf>

This report “looks at levels of ozone and particle pollution found in official monitoring sites across the United States in 2012, 2013, and 2014. The report uses the most current quality-assured nationwide data available for these analyses. The report examines particle pollution ... in two different ways: averaged year-round (annual average) and over short-term levels (24-hour). For both ozone and short-term particle pollution, the analysis uses a weighted average number of days that allows recognition of places with higher levels of pollution. For the year-round particle pollution rankings, the report uses averages calculated and reported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).” Continued and best progress came generally from reduction in ozone and particle pollution. Out of 25 metropolitan areas, Los Angeles has the worst ozone pollution, though it did report its best air quality in the history of the *State of the Air* study.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

***Regulating Marijuana in California.* By Patrick Murphy, et al. Public Policy Institute of California. Apr. 2016. 32 p.**
<http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=1189>

“The short experience with legal recreational marijuana in Colorado and Washington and the lack of data on California’s marijuana market make it difficult to derive policy recommendations. However, from a governance perspective, it is possible to draw some general lessons for California. Three in particular stand out.” The report suggests: write legislation with an eye toward flexibility; create a mechanism for collecting data and evaluating consequences of use with a strong and transparent reporting system; and adopt a single market to reduce diversion to other states and to underage users.

HUMAN SERVICES

***The Unmet Need for Care: Vulnerability Among Older Adults.* By Rebecca Glauber, et al. Carsey School of Public Policy. Apr. 12, 2016. 6 p.**
<https://carsey.unh.edu/publication/vulnerability-older-adults>

This report examines the unmet care needs of older Americans. “A large percentage (36%) of older U.S. adults need care but do not receive it. Their needs vary—some need help bathing or dressing, others need help shopping for groceries or preparing meals—and the factors associated with having an unmet need vary as well. Unmarried individuals are more likely than married individuals, and those who live alone are more likely than those who share a living arrangement, to have an unmet need for care. Unmarried men who live alone are highly vulnerable: close to half of all frail older men who live alone need some sort of help but do not receive it.”

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

***An Interactive History of U.S. Labor Force Participation.* By Austin Clemens, et al. Washington Center for Equitable Growth. Apr. 27, 2016.**

<http://equitablegrowth.org/interactive-history-us-labor-participation/>

“If you want to know how the labor market has changed over time, you usually look at the unemployment rate or maybe the employment-to-population ratio. But while those summary statistics are important, they don’t tell us about what people outside the labor force are doing.” A new data tool for the Washington Center for Equitable Growth uses data from the US Census Bureau’s *Current Population Survey* to provide breakouts of the labor force population for all Americans, from 1965 through 2016.

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