



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

***Statistical Portrait of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States.* By Gustavo Lopez, et al. Pew Research Center. May 3, 2017.**

<http://www.pewhispanic.org/2017/05/03/statistical-portrait-of-the-foreign-born-population-in-the-united-states-2015/>

Tables. 48 p.: http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2017/05/01175232/CURRENT_Statistical-Portrait-of-the-Foreign-Born-2015_FINAL.pdf

"The U.S. has more immigrants than any other country in the world. Today, more than 40 million people living in the U.S. were born in another country, accounting for about one-fifth of the world's migrants in 2015. The population of immigrants is also very diverse, with just about every country in the world represented among U.S. immigrants." Pew's statistical portrait of the nation's foreign-born population finds that 76% of the nation's immigrants are in the country legally, while a quarter are unauthorized. Mexico is still the top origin country of the U.S. immigrant population, but the number of immigrants from

Central America, Asia and sub-Saharan Africa is rising. California is home to 25% of the nation's 43.2 million immigrants. ([Pew Fact Tank](#), May 3, 2017).

EDUCATION

“Boosting Hispanic College Completion: Does High-School Recruiting Help More Students Graduate?” By Oded Gurantz, et al. *EducationNext*, vol. 17, no. 3 (Summer 2017) pp. 60-67.
http://educationnext.org/files/ednext_xvii_3_gurantz.pdf

This paper examines the effectiveness of a College Board initiative that identifies top-performing Hispanic students and shares the list with postsecondary institutions looking to recruit these potential applicants. “We find evidence that the [National Hispanic Recognition] program induces students to apply to and attend more elite institutions, shifting students from two-year to four-year institutions as well as to out-of-state and public flagship colleges, all areas where Hispanic attendance has lagged.... [Our] findings demonstrate that college outreach can have substantial impacts on the enrollment choices of Hispanic students and can serve as a lever for institutions looking to draw underrepresented, academically talented students.”

Indicators of School and Crime Safety 2016. By Lauren Musu-Gillette, et al. National Center for Education Statistics. May 2017. 261 p.
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2017/2017064.pdf>

In the United States, 15% of 4th graders and 7% of 8th graders reported experiencing bullying at least once a month, which is lower than international averages of 16% for 4th graders and 8% for 8th graders. “The percentage of U.S. 8th grade students whose teachers reported their school was less than safe and orderly was lower than the percentages in 2 countries, higher than the percentages in 26 countries.... About 3% of U.S. 4th graders and 2% of U.S. 8th graders attended schools with moderate to severe discipline problems.... These percentages were lower than the international averages for 4th graders and 8th graders (10% and 11%, respectively).” This report offers a picture of school crime and safety in the United States, and features international comparisons.

EMPLOYMENT

California Takes Top Three Spots in Employment Growth Among Large Counties. United States Census Bureau. Apr. 2017. 5 p.
<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2017/cb17-59-county-business-patterns.html>

“Among the 50 U.S. counties with the largest workforces, these California counties topped the list with the highest percentage of employment growth.... San Francisco came out on top for the second year in a row. Employment there rose 6.6%, or 37,843 people, for a total of 611,140 employees in 2015.... Riverside County was No. 2 with an increase of 4.9%, or 25,284 people, for a total of 540,169 employees. San Bernardino County rounded out the top three with an employment boost of 4.4%, or 24,396 workers, for a total of 578,755 employees.” ([LA Times](#), Apr. 21, 2017).

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

SOS II: Fish in Hot Water—Status, Threats, and Solutions for California Salmon, Steelhead, and Trout. Based on a report by Peter B. Moyle, et al. UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences, et al. May 2017. 106 p.

<http://www.capradio.org/media/8795686/sos2.pdf>

“A new report ... shows 45% of the state’s native salmon, steelhead and trout could be extinct in 50 years, if conditions don’t change. The study gauges the health of 31 species of salmon and trout, including anadromous or migratory salmon and inland trout. It found 81% are worse off today than they were in 2008 when their last report was published. California will lose more than half of its native migratory salmon and more than a quarter of its inland salmon in the next 50 years.... While the drought was a major factor in species decline, climate change is the overarching threat.... [T]he report authors are hopeful that the trends can be reversed.” (*Capitol Public Radio*, May 16, 2017).

HEALTH

“Sugar- and Artificially Sweetened Beverages and the Risks of Incident Stroke and Dementia.” By Matthew Pase, et al. *Journal of American Heart Association*, vol. 48, no. 4 (May 2017) 16 p.

<http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/early/2017/04/20/STROKEAHA.116.016027>

A study of over 4,000 participants found that higher intake of artificially sweetened soft drinks were associated with an increased risk of stroke and dementia, after adjusting for age, sex, education, caloric intake, diet quality, physical activity, and smoking. “Sugar-sweetened beverages were not associated with an increased risk of such outcomes. As the consumption of artificially sweetened soft drinks is increasing in the community, along with the prevalence of stroke and dementia, future research is needed to replicate our findings and to investigate the mechanisms underlying the reported associations.”

HUMAN SERVICES

State Immigration Policy Resource. By Julia Gelatt, et al. Urban Institute. May 4, 2017.

<http://www.urban.org/features/state-immigration-policy-resource>

Eligibility for safety net programs largely depends on the state where one resides. This webpage illustrates state immigration policies in the areas of enforcement, public benefit access, and integration. “A new report, published by the Urban Institute, offers the most complete picture to date on what welfare programs are available to people based on their immigration status and reveals major differences across the states.... In California, for example, adult green card holders have access to Medicaid, nutrition assistance and cash assistance for the elderly. In Arizona, they do not.... [T]he overall immigrant population has less wealth than native-born residents, but when holding income equal, research shows immigrants are actually less likely to use public benefits.” (*Governing*, May 23, 2017).

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Tech Leavers Study: A First-of-Its-Kind Analysis of Why People Voluntarily Left Jobs in Tech. By Allison Scott, et al. Kapor Center for Social Impact. Apr. 27, 2017. 27 p.

http://www.kaporcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/KAPOR_Tech-Leavers-17-0428.pdf

“Women, blacks and Latinos are far more likely to quit jobs in tech than white or Asian men.... [W]omen were twice as likely to leave as men, while black and Latino tech workers were 3.5 times likelier to quit than white or Asian colleagues. The most common reason they gave for their departures was workplace mistreatment.... Of those surveyed, 37% said they left their jobs because they felt they were unfairly

treated; 78% said they had experienced some form of unfair treatment; and 85% said they had witnessed ill treatment happening to someone else at work.... [T]he tech industry loses \$16 billion annually from employee turnover due to unfair treatment.” This survey included 2,006 adults who had left a job in a technology-related industry or function within the last three years. ([San Francisco Chronicle](#), Apr. 27, 2017).

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