



## Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

***Special Status Report: Hate Crime in the City of Los Angeles, 2016.*** By Brian Levin. Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, CSU San Bernardino. May 2017. 22 p.

[https://csbs.csusb.edu/sites/csusb\\_csbs/files/Los%20Angeles%20Hate%20Crime%20Special%20Status%202017%204417.pdf](https://csbs.csusb.edu/sites/csusb_csbs/files/Los%20Angeles%20Hate%20Crime%20Special%20Status%202017%204417.pdf)

“Hate crimes in the city of Los Angeles hit multi-year highs in 2016 with an overall increase of 15%, according to an analysis of official LAPD data by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino. Last year’s increase to 230 hate crimes from 200 in 2015, was driven in large part by a 64% surge in violent aggravated assaults, an 18.5% rise in racially motivated crimes and a 24.5% increase in crimes against the LGBT community.”

## ECONOMY

***Tax Evasion and Inequality.*** By Annette Alstadsæter, et al. May 28, 2017. 43 p.  
<http://gabriel-zucman.eu/files/AJZ2017.pdf>

The findings in this report tie into previous research suggesting that funds parked in tax havens lead to mismeasurement of workforce productivity. “Their research leads to two conclusions. First, tax evasion is extremely concentrated. The average Scandinavian household paid around 3% too little in taxes in 2006; the richest 1% of households, with net assets of at least \$2m, underpaid by around 10%. The truly rich, though, behave truly differently. The top 0.01% of households, with net assets of over \$40m, short-changed the taxman by a whopping 30%. Second, the numbers imply that previous estimates of wealth inequality, often based on tax data, have understated the problem. And the Scandinavian statistics may provide a conservative estimate of worldwide tax-dodging: only around 2% of Scandinavian household wealth is held in offshore accounts, compared with the global average of 4%.” (*The Economist*, Jun. 1, 2017).

## EDUCATION

***Over-Policing in Stockton Schools: A Report Card.*** Stockton Education Equity Coalition. 2017. 2 p.  
[https://www.aclunc.org/sites/default/files/Report\\_Card\\_SEEC.pdf](https://www.aclunc.org/sites/default/files/Report_Card_SEEC.pdf)

This report card points to problems with implicit bias in disciplining students in Stockton schools. Black students make up 11% of the school population, but they make up 24.7% of all out-of-school suspensions and 20% of expulsions. Also, black students are more than two times likely to be arrested or cited by school police as white students. The researchers call for a number of reforms. Among them: requiring district-wide training on cultural competence and implicit bias; ensuring that officers have warrants for arrests; immediately notifying parents or guardians that a student has been arrested and searched; collecting data on officers’ interactions with students; and creating an oversight committee to review and evaluate officers, and investigate complaints.

## EMPLOYMENT

***What Do We Know about Gig Work in California? An Analysis of Independent Contracting.*** By Annette Bernhardt, et al. UC Berkeley Labor Center. June 2017. 29 p.

<http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/what-do-we-know-about-gig-work-in-california/>

**July 13 Webinar:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-what-do-we-know-about-gig-work-in-california-tickets-35410942081>

“While on-demand platform jobs (such as Uber and TaskRabbit) have received the lion’s share of attention in the public debate about gig work, they constitute a very small share of the workforce overall (about 0.5%) and of independent contractors as well.... [W]e need better data to understand how workers in California are using independent contracting—as a main job or in combination with regular W-2 jobs—and especially the trends over time in each. Second, we need better data to measure the earnings of independent contractors.... Finally, we need more research to understand the significant variation in job quality outcomes (beyond wages) across the wide range of industries and occupations in which independent contractors work, including the extent of misclassification.”

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

**28,152 Affordable Rental Homes Lost in California; 31,988 More At Risk Over Next Five Years. California Housing Partnership Corporation. Mar. 8, 2017. 3 p.**

<http://1p08d91kd0c03rlxhmhtydpr.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2017-State-Risk-Summary-March-2017.pdf>

**Risk Level by County. 9 p.:** <http://chpc.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/At-Risk-by-County.pdf>

This assessment found that between 1995 and 2016, California lost 28,152 affordable homes, 14,559 of which had Section 8 contracts. In the next five years, California may lose an additional 31,988 affordable rentals to market-rate conversion. “The loss of Section 8-assisted housing is particularly damaging to local communities because 83% of residents of Section 8-assisted properties are Extremely Low Income renters earning 30% or less of the Area Median Income and are also elderly and/or disabled.”

## HEALTH

***The American Health Care Act: Economic and Employment Consequences for States.* By Leighton Ku, et al. The Commonwealth Fund. June 2017. 19 p.**

[http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/publications/issue-brief/2017/jun/ku\\_economic\\_effects\\_ahca\\_ib.pdf](http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/publications/issue-brief/2017/jun/ku_economic_effects_ahca_ib.pdf)

**Economic and employment consequences for California:**

<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/files/interactives-and-maps/2017/aca-job-loss/california.pdf?la=en>

“The AHCA would raise employment and economic activity at first, but lower them in the long run. It initially raises the federal deficit when taxes are repealed, leading to 864,000 more jobs in 2018. In later years, reductions in support for health insurance cause negative economic effects. By 2026, 924,000 jobs would be lost, gross state products would be \$93 billion lower, and business output would be \$148 billion less. About three-quarters of jobs lost (725,000) would be in the health care sector. States which expanded Medicaid would experience faster and deeper economic losses.” In California, AHCA would result in an initial gain in jobs, health care jobs, GDP, and business outputs, however by 2026, California will experience losses in all of these areas: jobs (136,300 in 2018 vs -31,100 by 2026), health care jobs (6,200 vs -64,200), GDP (\$15.4 Billion vs -\$1.6 Billion), and business outputs (\$25.9 Billion vs -\$2.7 Billion).

## HUMAN SERVICES

***State Immigration Enforcement Policies: How They Impact Low-Income Households.* By Julia Gelatt, et al. Urban Institute. May 2017. 33 p.**

<http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/90091/state-immigration-enforcement-policies.pdf>

This study found that “increased cooperation in federal immigration enforcement efforts brings increases in material hardship for low-income immigrant households with children, both those headed by unauthorized immigrants and those headed by legal immigrants.... Over the long term, material hardship has negative implications for children’s cognitive, social, and physical development. Given that research strongly links household material hardship to children’s development, these policies are likely to affect the children in these households, most of whom are US-born citizens. At the same time, policies increasing state involvement in immigration enforcement do not provide benefits to children in households headed by US-citizen parents.”

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

**“Social Influence and Political Mobilization: Further Evidence From a Randomized Experiment in the 2012 U.S. Presidential Election.”** By Jason Jones, et al. *PLoS ONE*, vol. 12 no. 4 (Apr. 26, 2017) 9 p.

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article/file?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0173851&type=printable>

An experiment conducted during the 2012 U.S. Presidential Election used online get-out-the-vote messages on News Feeds for 15 million Facebook users. Although such messages are less effective in high-stakes elections—because people are already likely to vote (less people to mobilize) and multiple outreach efforts saturate the message—a significant increase in voting was found. “Voting also increased significantly among the close friends of those who received the message to go to the polls, and the total effect on the friends was likely larger than the direct effect, suggesting that understanding social influence effects is potentially even more important than understanding the direct effects of messaging.”

## **TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE**

***Autonomous Vehicles: A Policy Preparation Guide.*** National League of Cities. Apr. 2017. 16 p.

<http://nlc.org/AVPolicy>

“Following NHTSA’s release of the Federal Automated Vehicles Policy and subsequent releases of policy documents on Vehicle to Vehicle (V2V) and Vehicle to Infrastructure (V2I) technology deployment, this resource explores the concerns and opportunities this transformative technology represents for cities.... [This report] draws out the language set forth in NHTSA’s Federal Automated Vehicles Policy to present issues and questions for cities to consider as they navigate the ever-changing world of AV technology.”

### ***About the California Research Bureau***

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