



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

“Racial and Ethnic Differences in Homicides of Adult Women and the Role of Intimate Partner Violence — United States, 2003–2014.” By Emiko Petrosky, et al. *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 66, no. 28 (July 21, 2017) 6 p.

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6628a1.htm?s_cid=mm6628a1_w

“Homicide is one of the leading causes of death for women aged ≤ 44 years and over half of all homicides (55.3%) were intimate partner violence related.... Black women had the highest rate of homicide, at over twice the average rate.... Approximately one third of female homicide victims (29.4%) were aged 18–29 years and one third of victims had at least some college education and 38% were single or had never married at the time of their homicide (38.2%).” The report discusses ways in which policymakers can target intervention efforts to populations at risk for violence.

ECONOMY

***The Hartz Myth: A Closer Look at Germany's Labour Market Reforms.* By Christian Odendahl. Centre for European Reform. July 10, 2017. 23 p.**

<http://www.cer.eu/publications/archive/policy-brief/2017/hartz-myth-closer-look-germanys-labour-market-reforms>

“The most useful insight for policymakers ... is that Germany’s reforms in 2003-2005 can’t explain most of the interesting things that have happened in the German economy during its membership of the single currency.... The number of Germans listed as having a job has grown by about 15% since the lows in the mid-1990s. But the total number of hours worked is less than 2% higher over the same period and still significantly lower than in the early 1990s ... [and] the disconnect between jobs and hours worked went hand in hand with a large increase in the share of Germans at risk of poverty.” (*Financial Times*, July 11, 2017).

EDUCATION

***University Eligibility Study for the Public High School Class of 2015.* By David Silver, et al. RTI International. Office of Planning and Research. July 21, 2017. 21 p.**

https://www.opr.ca.gov/s_sb103.php

Since the creation of the 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, California has periodically studied eligibility of its high school seniors by collecting a sample of recent transcripts and testing the rates at which the California State University (CSU) system and the University of California (UC) system would consider students eligible for admission. This latest study finds that the eligibility of California high school students is slightly above the Master Plan target for UC’s admission policies, and significantly over the target for CSU’s. The high rates of eligibility are due to the recent improvement of high school performance, as well as changes in admissions policy.

EMPLOYMENT

***Foreign-Born STEM Workers in the United States.* American Immigration Council. July 2017. 20 p.**

<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/foreign-born-stem-workers-in-the-united-states-final.pdf>

“Of the nation’s 50 states, California ranks second in its proportion of foreign-born STEM workers—one percentage point lower than New Jersey, where 43% are immigrants.... When the health and social science occupations are added to the California STEM analysis, foreign-born workers make up a slightly smaller share of our workforce: 37%.... The study also found that the nation’s foreign-born STEM workers are more highly educated than their U.S.-born co-workers.... As demand grows in these fields, so will the need for an educated workforce. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected that STEM occupations will increase about 13% from 2012 to 2022, compared to 11% projected for all occupations.” (*San Jose Mercury News*, July 14, 2017).

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

“The Climate Mitigation Gap: Education and Government Recommendations Miss the Most Effective Individual Actions.” By Seth Wynes, et al. *Environmental Research Letters*, vol. 12, no. 7 (July 12, 2017) pp. 1-9.

<http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aa7541>

“Our results show that education and government documents do not focus on high-impact actions for reducing emissions, creating a mitigation gap between official recommendations and individuals willing to align their behavior with climate targets.” The research analyzed 39 peer reviewed papers, carbon calculators, and government reports to calculate a potential range of individual lifestyle choices individuals could take that would have the greatest impact on reducing their greenhouse gas emissions.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

California’s State Budget: The Enacted 2017-18 Budget. By Brandon Martin. Public Policy Institute of California. July 2017. 1 p.

http://www.ppic.org/wp-content/uploads/JTF_Budget0717JTF.pdf

“On June 27, 2017, Governor Brown signed the 2017–18 Budget Act, which includes \$183.3 billion in spending. General Fund appropriations total \$125.1 billion, a \$3.7 billion (or 3%) increase over the revised 2016–17 budget.” This brief provides a summary of the recently signed budget. Emphasis is given to K-12, health care, and transportation infrastructure funding expansions. Charts detailing the major funding increases for 2017-18 and trends in funding for retiree benefits are included.

HEALTH

Health Insurance Coverage and Health – What the Recent Evidence Tells Us. By Benjamin Sommers, et al. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. Online ahead of print. June 21, 2017. 8 p.

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMs1706645#t=article>

“The body of evidence summarized here indicates that coverage expansions significantly increase patients’ access to care and use of preventive care, primary care, chronic illness treatment, medications, and surgery. These increases appear to produce significant, multifaceted, and nuanced benefits to health. Some benefits may manifest in earlier detection of disease, some in better medication adherence and management of chronic conditions, and some in the psychological well-being born of knowing one can afford care when one gets sick.... Conversely, the data suggest that policies that reduce coverage will produce significant harms to health, particularly among people with lower incomes and chronic conditions.”

HUMAN SERVICES

Enrollment in Subsidized Child Care and Development Programs Varies by Race and Ethnicity. By Kristin Schumacher. California Budget & Policy Center. May 2017. 12 p.

<http://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/enrollment-subsidized-child-care-development-programs-varies-race-ethnicity/>

“On average, from 2013 to 2015, more than 1.5 million children were eligible for subsidized [child care and development] programs, but only 13% were served in a program that could accommodate families for a full day and throughout the year.... Asian and Latino children had the smallest share of eligible children enrolled in subsidized care. There are a number of reasons why Asian and Latino children could have

lower rates of participation, including the rapid population growth of these two groups over the past decade; immigration- and language-related barriers to accessing subsidized care; and difficulties in utilizing subsidized care while working in low-wage jobs.”

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

***Policing and the Cloud.* By Christopher Slobogin. National Constitution White Paper Series. Vanderbilt Law Research Paper No. 17-23. June 5, 2017. 20 p.**

<https://constitutioncenter.org/media/files/sloboginfinal5.pdf>

“A huge amount of information about Americans is stored in databases maintained by the government, internet service providers, credit card companies, and corporations like Netflix and Google. Clearer rules need to be put into place that specify when this wealth of data can be obtained for law enforcement and national security purposes, says a Vanderbilt University professor and expert on the Fourth Amendment.... The U.S. Supreme Court has been largely quiet on these issues.” This paper argues that in many cases, if a consumer surrendered private information in order to receive basic services, the information should be subject to access and collection limitations. ([Research News @Vanderbilt](#), May 10, 2017).

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

***Modernizing Government’s Approach to Transportation and Land Use Data: Challenges and Opportunities.* By Adie Tomer, et al. Brookings Institution. July 20, 2017. 32 p.**

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/modernizing-approach-to-data/>

“[T]his report catalogs emerging data sets related to transportation and land use, and assesses the ease by which they can be integrated into how public agencies manage the built environment. It finds that there is reason for the hype; we have the ability to know more about how humans move around today than at any time in history. But, despite all the obvious opportunities, not addressing core challenges will limit public agencies’ ability to put all that data to use for the collective good.”

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