

Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program. By Francisco Perez-Arce, et al. RAND. 2012. 67 p.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR1193.html

“The ChalleNGe program, currently operating in 27 states, is a residential program coupled with post-residential mentoring that seeks to alter the life course of high school dropouts ages 16-18. A rigorous evaluation of the ChalleNGe program employing random assignment has demonstrated that the program has positive effects on educational attainment and employment. The cost-benefit analysis ... estimates that those and other program effects yield \$25,549 (\$2,010) in social benefits per individual admitted to the program, or \$2.66 in social benefits for every dollar expended for a return on investment of 166%.”

Religion in Prisons: A 50-State Survey of Prison Chaplains. The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, Pew Research Center. Mar. 22, 2012. 108 p.

http://www.pewforum.org/uploadedFiles/Topics/Issues/Social_Welfare/Religion%20in%20Prisons.pdf

“The nation's professional prison chaplains say that America's state penitentiaries bustle with religious activity. More than seven-in-ten chaplains say efforts by inmates to proselytize or convert others is common, as is religious switching among prisoners. The chaplains consider religion-related programs in prison to be critical to the rehabilitation of prisoners. A sizable minority of chaplains also report that religious extremism is very or somewhat common.”

ECONOMY

Export Nation 2012: How U.S. Metropolitan Areas Are Driving National Growth. By Emilia Istrate, et al. The Brookings Institution. Mar. 8, 2012.

Full Report. 36 p.:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2012/0308_exports/0308_exports.pdf

Interactive Map:

http://www.brookings.edu/info/exports/export_nation_2012_interactive.aspx

“American exports, powered by a resurgence of manufacturing and a robust high-value service sector, played a major role in kick-starting the nation’s recovery from the Great Recession. This report shows that the largest 100 metro areas produced almost 65% of U.S. export sales in 2010, three-quarters of the nation’s service export sales and 63% of manufacturing export sales ... [and] produced more than 75% of high-valued service exports such as education, telecommunications and business services.... Canada and Mexico remain the largest export markets for the United States.”

EMPLOYMENT

Employment in Green Goods and Services. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Mar. 2012. 20 p.

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/gggcew.pdf>

“In 2010, 3.1 million jobs in the United States were associated with the production of green goods and services [GGS].... GGS jobs are found in businesses that produce goods and provide services that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources.” California had the largest number of GGS jobs (338,400), accounting for 2.3% of employment in the state. GGS jobs are broken out according to their presence in private and public industries. “Construction had the largest number of private sector GGS jobs in California (39,600), followed by administrative and waste services (39,300), professional, scientific, and technical services (39,200), and manufacturing (31,200).”

ENERGY

Renewable Energy: Federal Agencies Implement Hundreds of Initiatives. General Accountability Office. Feb. 2012. 172 p.

<http://gao.gov/assets/590/588876.pdf>

“Government-wide, 23 agencies and their 130 subagencies ... implemented nearly 700 renewable energy initiatives in fiscal year 2010. The Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Energy, and the Interior were collectively responsible for almost 60% of all initiatives. The initiatives supported a range of renewable energy sources ... and public and private sector recipients, but the large majority provided support to the private sector.... Agencies’ renewable energy efforts increased in recent years as a result of the

provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and other factors, but the level of future efforts is less certain with the expiration of these provisions and budget constraints.”

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

***Protecting Consumer Privacy in an Era of Rapid Change: Recommendations for Businesses and Policymakers.* Federal Trade Commission. Mar. 2012. 112 p.**

<http://ftc.gov/os/2012/03/120326privacyreport.pdf>

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) calls on businesses to implement “best practices” to protect private information and give consumers greater control over the collection and use of their personal data. Companies are urged to build in privacy at every stage of product development; simplify choices for businesses and consumers; and provide greater transparency in information collection and use. The FTC also calls on Congress to enact baseline privacy and data security legislation.

***Security Breach Notification Chart.* Perkins Coie Privacy and Security Group. Mar. 2012. 130 p.**

<http://www.perkinscoie.com/statebreachchart/>

This comprehensive chart summarizes state laws on security breach notification requirements for each of the 46 states with such legislation. Varying from state to state, these laws apply to persons, businesses, and/or government agencies that own or license data that include personal information. The chart includes application, security breach definition, notification obligations, timing of notification, personal information definition, notice required, exceptions, penalties and other key provisions.

HEALTH

***Natural Resources Defense Council, et al. v. United States Food and Drug Administration, et al.* Memorandum Opinion and Order. United States District Court, Southern District of New York. Case 11-CV-3562. Mar. 22, 2012. 55 p.**

<http://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/cases/show.php?db=special&id=162>

United States District Court Judge Theodore Katz “ordered regulators to start proceedings to withdraw approval for the use of common antibiotics in animal feed, citing concerns that overuse is endangering human health.... The FDA had started such proceedings in 1977, prompted by its concerns [about] the widespread use in livestock feed of certain antibiotics – particularly tetracyclines and penicillin.... In his ruling, Katz ordered the FDA to follow through on the process it started in 1977 but only formally abandoned in December last year. The FDA said the proceedings were outdated and that it intended to pursue other regulatory strategies for coping with potential food-safety problems.” (Reuters.com)

“State Cigarette Excise Taxes – United States, 2010-2011.” By Michael A. Tynan, et al. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 61, no. 12 (Mar. 30, 2012) pp. 201-204.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6112.pdf>

State excise taxes for cigarettes vary widely, from \$4.35 per pack in New York to \$0.17 in Missouri. “In 2011, California, Missouri, and North Dakota remained the only states that had not increased their state cigarette excise taxes since 2000.... California has not raised its cigarette excise tax (\$0.87 per pack) since 1998.”

HUMAN SERVICES

Playing With Our Future: Key Facts about California's Child Care and Development Programs in the Aftermath of the Great Recession. California Budget Project. Mar. 2012. 47 p.

http://cbp.org/pdfs/2012/120327_ChildCare_KeyFacts.pdf

Nearly 25% of California children live in poverty, and many families deal with economic uncertainty daily. State funding of California's need-based child care programs offers children from economically-challenged families a safe place to be while parents find and retain a job. Funding for these programs shrank in recent years even as some legislation called for program expansion. Although demand for need-based child care outweighs supply, the Governor proposes additional cuts that would cause more than 60,000 children to lose access to child care and preschool during 2012-13. Cutting funding to these programs and changing eligibility criteria make it more difficult for poor families to complete training and find stable employment.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Leading in Lean Times: Findings from the Transportation Research Board's 2011 State Partnership Visits Program. Transportation Research Board of the National Academies of Science. Mar. 15, 2012. 12 p.

<http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/trnews/trnews278statevisits.pdf>

"The continued inability at the federal level to pass long-term reauthorization legislation for surface transportation and aviation generated uncertainty at all levels of government.... Many DOTs are spending a larger portion of their budgets on maintenance instead of on major new projects. But because maintenance is less visible ... DOTs are having a difficult time gaining public support for funding.... Some state DOTs have reduced their workforce by almost half during the past 10 to 20 years." States are focusing on succession planning to facilitate the transition to the future workforce, and are applying information technology to analyze customer needs.

Washington State's Alcohol Ignition Interlock Law: Effects on Recidivism Among First-time DUI Offenders. By Anne T. McCartt, et al. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Mar. 2012. 43 p.

<http://www.iihs.org/research/topics/pdf/r1168.pdf>

"More than half of U.S. states require some DUI offenders to install ignition interlocks on their vehicles for a certain period of time if they want to drive. Increasingly states are strengthening these laws to apply to all offenders, including first-time offenders." Washington state transferred responsibility for orders to install ignition interlocks to its Department of Licensing ... in 2003, and extended the requirement to all first-time DUI offenders in 2004. "Extending the interlock requirement to first simple DUI convictions was estimated to have lowered the cumulative rate of recidivism during the two years following arrest by about 12% among people with such convictions ... and by about 11% ... among all first-time DUI offenders."

About *Studies in the News*

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