



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

Issue 13-126

July 3, 2013

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CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

Social and Economic Characteristics of Currently Unmarried Women with a Recent Birth: 2011.

By Rachel M. Shattuck, et al. U.S. Census Bureau. May 2013. 10 p.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/acs-21.pdf>

Measuring the birth mothers' demographic characteristics, this study reveals that, nationally, women with higher education levels, in higher income categories, of Asian descent, between the ages of 35-39, and those who were born in the U.S. had lower rates of unmarried births. "Although births to women with less than a high school degree constituted the smallest *number* of total births by educational group out of the

national total, these women had the largest *percentage* unmarried (57%) compared with the other education groups." Approximately 34% of California births during 2011 were to unwed parents.

ECONOMY

***Patent Assertion and U.S. Innovation.* President's Council of Economic Advisers, et al. Executive Office of the President. June 2013. 17 p.**

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/patent_report.pdf

"High-tech patent litigation has reached unprecedented proportions.... This week, the White House released five executive orders and seven legislative recommendations to add transparency to the system and level the playing field for innovators. The executive orders require patents to name the real party-in-interest (as opposed to shell companies), call for stricter bounds on functional claims, limit the liability of end users, strengthen exclusion orders to ban the import of infringing products and begin a more extensive investigation of the current system." The report details the challenges posed and necessity for action. (*SSTI Weekly Digest*, June 5, 2013).

***State Overseas Trade and Investment Offices, 2013.* By Jennifer Burnett. The Council of State Governments. June 2013. 4 p.**

http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/drupal/system/files/cr_stateoverseas_0.pdf

State-supported export promotion and foreign direct investments are viewed as important tools to stimulate economies and increase the creation of domestic jobs. This 50-state review reports on states' efforts to increase international trade and investment through overseas trade offices. It includes tables listing each state's overseas offices as of April 2013, the value, services and goods exported by each state, and countries in which those state trade offices are located.

EDUCATION

***National Charter School Study 2013.* By Stanford University Center for Research on Education Outcomes. June 2013. 104 p.**

<http://credo.stanford.edu/documents/NCSS%202013%20Final%20Draft.pdf>

California charter school students, along with students from 15 other states including New York and Texas, showed some learning gains compared to their traditional public school counterparts. In California, the difference was measured as having the equivalent of 22 more days of reading instruction and 7 fewer days of math instruction, compared to the national average of 7 extra days of reading and no difference in math. Nationally, poor students, black students, and ESL students benefitted most from enrollment in charter schools.

EMPLOYMENT

"Explaining the Widening Education Gap in Mortality among U.S. White Women." By Jennifer Karaz Montez, et al. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, vol. 54 no. 2 (May 2013) pp. 165-181.

<http://www.asanet.org/journals/JHSB/Jun13JHSBFeature.pdf>

Employment, occupation, and smoking, among other economic circumstances and health behaviors, explain a widening education gap in the mortality risk of white women aged 45-84 between 1997 and 2006. "The findings have several policy implications. One goal should be to increase the high school graduation rate (i.e., receiving a diploma, not a General Educational Development certificate), which has stagnated for white women since the mid-1940s birth cohorts.... Social protection policies are also needed. For example, work-family policies should be (re)designed to allow women who want desirable

jobs outside the home to secure them.... Other hurdles that low-educated women disproportionately face in finding and maintaining employment should also be addressed.”

ENERGY

Unraveling Ties to Petroleum: How Policy Drives California’s Demand for Oil. By Juan Matute, et al. Next 10. June 2013. 182 p.

<http://next10.org/sites/next10.huang.radicaldesigns.org/files/Unraveling%20Ties%20to%20Petroleum%20-%20combined.pdf>

“In this report, we consider 15 specific measures that affect petroleum used in transportation, analyzing how choices to add to, eliminate, or change an existing policy can impact statewide petroleum use.... For instance, minimum parking requirements increase the number of parking spaces per acre in dense areas, with more parking spaces per acre leading to more traffic congestion.... Meanwhile, many policies already underway are encouraging the state’s move away from petroleum. Abundant state and federal incentives support the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles and construction of related infrastructure.”

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Human Right to Water Bill in California: An Implementation Framework for State Agencies. By Angelica Salceda, et al. International Human Rights Law Clinic, University of California at Berkeley. May 2013. 15 p.

http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Water_Report_2013_Interactive_FINAL.pdf

Assembly Bill 685 (Eng Ch. 524, Statutes of 2012), signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown, requires state agencies to consider human right to water when “executing policy, budgetary and programmatic duties.” This document outlines the implementation of AB 685 within the context of water policy history in California, encouraging public participation in agency decision making, and making AB 685 a priority in water-development projects.

HEALTH

The Spillover Effects of Medical Managed Care: Medicare Advantage and Hospital Utilization. By Katherine Baicker, et al. National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper 19070. May 2013. 41 p.

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w19070>

“More than a quarter of Medicare beneficiaries are enrolled in Medicare Advantage, which was created in large part to improve the efficiency of health care delivery by promoting competition among private managed care plans. This paper explores the spillover effects of the Medicare Advantage program on the traditional Medicare program and other patients.... We find that when more seniors enroll in Medicare managed care, hospital costs decline for all seniors and for commercially insured younger populations. Greater managed care penetration is not associated with fewer hospitalizations, but is associated with lower costs and shorter stays per hospitalization. These spillovers are substantial – offsetting more than 10% of increased payments to Medicare Advantage plans.”

***Understanding Alzheimer's Disease.* By Malaika Singleton. California Senate Office of Research. June 2013. 65 p.**

https://sor.govoffice3.com/vertical/Sites/%7B3BDD1595-792B-4D20-8D44-626EF05648C7%7D/uploads/Understanding_Alzheimers_Disease_PDF.pdf

This report provides a comprehensive review of Alzheimer's Disease (AD) for the purpose of informing California healthcare policy. "California's AD population is expected to increase by 37.5 percent between 2010 and 2025, from an estimated 480,000 to 660,000 people. This increase will continue to overwhelm unpaid AD caregivers and California's businesses will be negatively impacted from continued loss of productivity. Long-term care and Medi-Cal costs also are increased by the prevalence of AD and other dementias, impacting federal and state budgets."

HOUSING

***Confronting Suburban Poverty in America.* By Elizabeth Kneebone, et al. Brookings Institution Press. 2013. 169 p.
(Available at the California State Library)**

The population of poor Americans living in the suburbs has grown faster than in other places in the U.S. – and surpassed levels in cities during the mid-2000s. The drivers of this growth are the loss of "suburbanized" manufacturing job centers, the increase in low-paying service sector employment, and the migration of low-income families to more affordable suburban housing. Western and southern metropolitan areas have led the way in this phenomenon. In California, Fresno and Stockton rank among the top 10 metropolitan areas with the highest suburban poverty rates, at 23.1% and 16.4%, respectively.

HUMAN SERVICES

***Financial Security of Elderly Americans At Risk: Proposed Changes to Social Security and Medicare Could Make a Majority of Seniors 'Economically Vulnerable.'* By Elise Gould, et al. Economic Policy Institute. Jun. 6, 2013. 24 p.**

<http://www.epi.org/files/2013/EPI-economic-security-elderly-americans-risk.pdf>

This study used the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) to assess the economic health of the elderly population in the U.S. "[I]n California, 55.8% of the elderly population is economically vulnerable, surpassed only by the District of Columbia, where the share with incomes below two times the supplemental poverty threshold is 59%.... With nearly half of all seniors in the United States falling below the threshold of economic vulnerability, policymakers must be especially careful when considering changes to the social insurance programs – predominantly Social Security and Medicare - that protect this group."

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

***Commuter-Adjusted Population Estimates: ACS 2006-10.* By Brian McKenzie, et al. Journey to Work and Migration Statistics Branch, U.S. Census Bureau. June 2013. 20 p.**

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/commuting/files/ACS/Commuter%20Adjusted%20Population%20Paper.pdf>

"This paper accompanies the release of the Census Bureau's first commuter-adjusted population estimates based on the American Community Survey (ACS), and the first commuter-adjusted population release since that based on Census 2000.... Information on expansion or contraction of community populations throughout the course of a day has a varied set of applications. Disaster response and relief agencies such as FEMA and state and local agencies use population information to direct resources for disaster relief." Palo Alto, Irvine, and Santa Monica ranked 4th, 23rd and 25th in the nation, respectively, in

percentage population increase due to commuting. South Whittier, Daly City, Hacienda Heights, and Chino Hills were 5th, 15th, 17th and 22nd largest in percentage population decrease due to commuting.

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