CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT
   An overview of CA women and state incarceration
CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY
   CA teen birthrate on the decline since 2007
ECONOMY
   Quantifying the effects of counterfeit and pirated goods on the U.S. economy
EDUCATION
   An analysis of early child-care spending
EMPLOYMENT
   Volunteerism as a path to employment
ENERGY
   Resource scarcity may recast corporate environmental behavior
ENVIRONMENT
   Carbon capture and storage sensitive to geology
GENERAL GOVERNMENT
   State lottery sales and revenues increase
HEALTH
   Federal reports outline mental health, drug usage of U.S. children
HUMAN SERVICES
   High numbers of children still grow up poor or near poor
TOOLS OF THE TRADE
   Language map tool
VETERANS
   Rethinking PARIS Data match to leverage federal benefits for Medi-Cal vets

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT


“The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) reports that, as of December 2012, 6,000 women were incarcerated in a California adult or juvenile facility – 5,974 in the Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) and 26 in the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). California has the largest number of
women incarcerated in prisons of any state and is home to one of the largest women’s prisons in the world. This Short Subject compares the number of incarcerated women over time; disaggregates 2012 data according to age group, race/ethnic category, and type of crime; presents current numbers by county; and offers a brief discussion about California women and realignment as an explanation for shifts in state prison and county jail populations.”

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY


The teen birthrate (ages 15–19) has been decreasing in California since approximately 2007. The birthrate has fallen from a high in 2007 of 40.1 per 1,000 young women, to 28 per 1,000 in 2011. The 4,974 fewer births from 2010 to 2011 alone are estimated to have saved tax payers $149 million. Rates across race/ethnic categories have been declining with the largest decrease for young, Hispanic (non-white) women – a decrease of 19 per 1,000 since 2008. San Francisco, Placer, and Marin counties report the lowest rates.

ECONOMY


“According to the FBI, IP [intellectual property] theft is a growing threat which is heightened by the rise of the use of digital technologies. IP is any innovation, commercial or artistic, or any unique name, symbol, log, or design used commercially…. While bringing significant benefits, increasing computer interconnectivity can create vulnerabilities to cyber-based threats. GAO was asked to testify on efforts to estimate the economic impacts of theft of intellectual property…. [T]his statement discusses (1) the economic significance of intellectual property protection and theft on the U.S. economy and (2) insights from efforts to quantify the economic impacts of counterfeiting and piracy on the U.S. economy.”

EDUCATION


“This report provides a point-in-time overview of 21 states’ budget and appropriations in early care and education based on information provided by legislative fiscal offices in a December 2012 NCSL survey…. Several states continued to struggle to restore cuts from the previous years, while others continued to make small but consistent gains in various early care and education budgets.” In these 21 states, appropriations for pre-kindergarten, home visiting, and other early childhood learning and care initiatives increased by $65.6 million, $48.9 million, and $72 million, respectively. Appropriations for child care decreased by $60 million.
EMPLOYMENT


In times of economic downturn, volunteer work is one way thought to increase the chances of paid employment. Though rates of volunteering during the most recent recession did not increase much, authors estimate “that persons who were not employed were, on average, 6.8 percentage points more likely to have found employment a year later if they volunteered a substantial amount of hours annually (20-99 hours per year) compared to non-working persons who did not volunteer.”

ENERGY


“Already more than one billion people lack access to clean drinking water, sufficient food and electricity, and the global population is growing by some 80 million people every year. By 2030, the nine billion people living on earth will need 30% more water, 40% more energy and 50% more food to survive. Given the complex relationships among all these resources – the nexus of food, energy and water – meeting these demands will require thinking in terms of systems, not silos. It will take collaborative approaches that embrace rather than battle natural processes. And it will mean new technologies and approaches to everything from bio-fuels to desalination.

ENVIRONMENT

http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2013/07/03/1302156110.abstract

“Carbon Capture and Storage” (CCS) is currently being considered in California as a potential option for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. In this study, three CCS sites were analyzed to look at how securely the carbon was stored. The researchers found that geology plays an important role in the successful storage of carbon underground. The three sites were the Sleipner Field in the North Sea, the Weyburn Field in Canada, and the In Salah Field in Algeria. Injection of carbon into rocks with low permeability is problematic because the carbon must be “pushed” under high pressure to force the rocks to absorb the excess carbon. This can cause fracturing and geologic uplift. Injecting into fields currently being used for oil extraction also risks increasing local seismic activity.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT


In 2012, lottery sales totaled $69 billion across the states, with profits of more than $19 billion. Of the 44 states that do have a lottery, 30 of them direct the revenues toward education, and 17 do so exclusively. From 2011 to 2012, both revenues and sales have increased across all states – an average of 5.5% in
revenue, and an average of 8% in sales. California was one of the leading states with this gain, with a 27% increase in sales.

HEALTH


“In 2010, enough opioid pain relievers (OPR) were sold to medicate every adult in the United States with the equivalent of a typical dose of 5 mg of hydrocodone every 4 hours for 1 month, a 300% increase in the sales rate over 11 years.” This report notes that deaths and visits to the emergency department for OPR overdoses continue to increase among women. Healthcare providers are encouraged to “use their state's prescription drug monitoring program and regularly screen patients for psychological disorders and use of psychotherapeutic drugs, with or without a prescription.”

HUMAN SERVICES


This report compares child wellbeing across race-ethnicity – White, Hispanic, Black, and Asian – as well as parental immigrant status – immigrants or U.S.-born parents. “Many children are not receiving the education they need for academic success; many lack health insurance coverage, particularly children with immigrant parents; and, 50 years after the War on Poverty, disturbingly high numbers of children are growing up poor and near-poor. That these circumstances continue to disproportionately affect Black and Hispanic children and children of immigrants is an affront to this nation.”

TOOLS OF THE TRADE


This link provides an “online map pinpointing the wide array of languages spoken in homes across the nation, along with a detailed report on rates of English proficiency and the growing number of speakers of other languages. The 2011 Language Mapper shows where people speaking specific languages other than English live, with dots representing how many people speak each of 15 different languages. For each language, the mapper shows the concentration of those who report that they speak English less than ‘very well,’ a measure of English proficiency. The tool uses data collected through the American Community Survey from 2007 to 2011.”
VETERANS

http://lao.ca.gov/laoapp/PubDetails.aspx?id=2801

“Since 2009, the state has used a computer data matching process known as the Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) to identify certain military veterans who receive Medi-Cal services and may be able to voluntarily shift to health care services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). We find that the fiscal and policy benefits from the state’s current implementation of PARIS Veterans activities are limited, due to resource constraints and a problematic approach to outreach…. We also find that the state has not pursued a major source of savings related to … the costs of the In-Home Supportive Services program. We recommend that the Legislature require the administration to report on the rationale for current policies that prevent the state from realizing these savings.”

About *Studies in the News*

*Studies in the News* (SITN) is a service provided by the California Research Bureau (CRB), a division of the California State Library. CRB provides independent, nonpartisan research and analysis for the Governor, Legislature and State Constitutional Officers.

- SITN lists of current studies related to public policy issues are e-mailed weekly. Archived issues are available at [http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/](http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/).
- To add or remove your name from the SITN distribution list, or to update your e-mail address, please contact us at [crb@library.ca.gov](mailto:crb@library.ca.gov), or (916) 319-2691.
- SITN is available as an RSS feed at [http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/](http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/).