



Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

Issue 13-133

August 21, 2013

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

***The Effect of Immigration Detainers in a Post-Realignment World.* By Brian Goldstein, et al. Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice. Aug. 2013. 6 p.**

http://www.cjcj.org/uploads/cjcj/documents/Immigrant_Detainers_in_a_Post_Realignment_CA.pdf

“Amid varying county responses to Realignment, fiscal constraints, and capacity issues, county jail facilities also hold significant numbers of undocumented immigrants who do not have serious criminal histories, other than potentially violating federal civil immigration laws.... This publication studies the impact of non-criminal ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] holds on California’s criminal justice system, specifically the effect on county jail capacity, including the significant fiscal cost.” Among the findings, 89% of non-criminal ICE undocumented immigrants are held in local jails and facilities, and these detentions cost taxpayers approximately \$16.3 million over the 30-month study period.

ECONOMY

***Game Changers: Five Opportunities for US Growth and Renewal.* By Susan Lund, et al. McKinsey & Company. July 2013. 172 p.**

http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/americas/us_game_changers?cid=other-eml-nsi-mip-mck-oth-1308

“The US economy is struggling to find a new formula for vigorous growth. But all growth opportunities are not created equal. New McKinsey research pinpoints five catalysts – in energy, trade, technology, infrastructure, and talent development – that can quickly create jobs and deliver a substantial boost to GDP [gross domestic product] by 2020. An animated video ... runs the numbers on these game changes and frames the challenges for business and government to make the most of the opportunity.”

***State Incentives for Innovation, Star Scientists and Jobs: Evidence from Biotech.* By Enrico Moretti, et al. National Bureau of Economic Research. NBER Working Paper 19294. Aug. 2013. 55 p.**

<http://emlab.berkeley.edu/~moretti/biotech.pdf>

“We estimate that the adoption of subsidies for biotech employers by a state raises the number of star biotech scientists in that state by about 15% over a three year period. A 10% decline in the user cost of capital induced by an increase in R&D [research and development] tax incentives raises the number of stars by 22%. Most of the gains are due to the relocation of star scientists to adopting states, with limited effect on the productivity of incumbent scientists already in the state. The gains are concentrated among private sector inventors.”

EDUCATION

***New Opportunities for Interest-Driven Arts Learning in a Digital Age.* By Kylie Pepler. The Wallace Foundation. July 2013. 104 p.**

<http://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/arts-education/key-research/Documents/New-Opportunities-for-Interest-Driven-Arts-Learning-in-a-Digital-Age.pdf>

“Arts education has been waning in K-12 public schools in recent times.... This is especially true in low-income communities, where public schools have often cut back on arts instruction so they can devote limited public education dollars to subjects such as writing and math that are the focus of high-stakes standardized tests. When we look outside of school, however, we see a strikingly different landscape, one full of promise for engaging young people in artistic activity.... This report is a step in trying to understand the new territory. It gives a rundown of scholarship in the areas of arts and out-of-school-hours learning.”

EMPLOYMENT

***Nonstandard Work Schedules and the Well-being of Low-income Families.* By Maria E. Enchautegui. Urban Institute. July 2013. 30 p.**

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412877-nonstandard-work-schedules.pdf>

“For the large majority of workers with nonstandard work schedules, these are their only jobs and their full-time jobs. Although the percentage of workers on nonstandard schedules has remained stable, the proportion of low-wage workers holding these jobs increased somewhat during the Great Recession and thereafter. Nonstandard work schedules have also become more common among women with low levels of education, and the occupations with the most demand for nonstandard hours are among those with the largest projected employment growth. By race and ethnicity, Asian and black workers are the most likely to have nonstandard schedules.”

ENERGY

***International Energy Outlook 2013.* Energy Information Administration. July 27, 2013. 312 p.**
<http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/ieo/pdf/0484%282013%29.pdf>

“The International Energy Outlook 2013 projects that world energy consumption will grow by 56% between 2010 and 2040.... Renewable energy and nuclear power are the world’s fastest-growing energy sources, each increasing by 2.5% per year. However, fossil fuels continue to supply almost 80% of world energy use through 2040.”

ENVIRONMENT

***Indicators of Climate Change in California.* By Tamara Kadir, et al. California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. Aug. 2013. 258 p.**
<http://oehha.ca.gov/multimedia/epic/2013EnvIndicatorReport.html>

Climate change can be observed occurring throughout California, and is already having a measurable and significant impact on the environment, according to a new report published by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. The report tracks 36 indicators of climate change in California, and found measurable impacts in areas such as rising sea levels, reduced snowmelt in the spring, increase wildfire risk, and the migration of plants and animals to higher elevations. The state has become more efficient, reducing the amount of greenhouse gas produced per \$1,000 of economic output; however, overall levels of emissions have increased between 1990 and 2011.

“State of the Climate in 2012.” By J. Blunden, et al. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* vol. 94, no. 8 (Aug. 2013) pp. S1-S238.
<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/bams-state-of-the-climate/2012.php>

The American Meteorological Society has published a new report on the state of the climate in 2012. Edited by scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the report involved the contributions of 384 scientists from 52 countries. 2012 was one of the top 10 warmest years globally, and the warmest year on record for the United States. This was coupled with severe drought in the West and Midwest, along with significantly increased rainfall in the parts of the Northwest and Northeast. California showed higher than average rainfall in the north, and lower than average rainfall in the Central Valley.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

***The 2013-14 Budget: California Spending Plan.* Legislative Analyst’s Office. July 2013. 68 p.**
<http://lao.ca.gov/reports/2013/bud/spending-plan/spending-plan-073013.pdf>

“The state spending plan assumes total budget expenditures of \$138.3 billion from the General Fund and special funds, an increase of 3% over 2012. This consists of \$96.3 billion from the General Fund and Education Protection Account created by Proposition 30 (2012), as well as \$42 billion from special funds. The budget estimates that spending from federal funds in 2013 – 14 will total \$87.6 billion, an increase of 7.7% over 2012 ... The resulting \$817 million operating surplus combined with the \$254 million positive ending balance for 2012-13 produce an estimated \$1.1 billion reserve for 2013-14.”

***The Minimum Wage in California and the U.S.: Current and Historical Practices.* By Patrick Rogers, et al. California Research Bureau. S-13-014. June 2013. 2 p.**

<http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/13/S-13-014.pdf>

“During his 2013 State of the Union, President Barack Obama recommended raising the national minimum wage to \$9/hour and indexing it to inflation. Although California’s \$8/hour rate is above the current national rate of \$7.25/hour, the state will still be affected if the President’s proposal becomes law. This short subject provides a brief history of the minimum wage, looks at the current practice of the law, and provides context on how California fits within the national framework.”

HEALTH

“State-Specific Healthy Life Expectancy at Age 65 Years – United States, 2007-2009.” By Jiaquan Xu. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* vol. 62 no. 28 (July 19, 2013) pp. 561-566.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6228a1.htm?s_cid=mm6228a1_w

“Healthy life expectancy (HLE) is a population health measure that combines mortality data with morbidity or health status data to estimate expected years of life in good health for persons at a given age.... HLE estimates were calculated for persons aged 65 years, by sex (male and female) and race (white and black) for each of the 50 states and DC.” In California, for the total population at age 65 years, HLE was 14.7 years, which is above the national average of 13.9 years. The purpose of this report is to inform policymakers of health disparities among subpopulations by state.

VETERANS

***Health Care Spending and Efficiency in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.* By David I. Auerbach, et al. RAND. July 2013. 15 p.**

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR200/RR285/RAND_RR285.pdf

“Although the VHA [Veterans Health Administration] provides quality services ... it does not preclude veterans from utilizing other forms of care outside of the VHA network – in fact, the majority of veterans’ care is received external to the VHA because of location and other system limitations. Veterans typically ... use both systems in a given year (dual use). Overlapping system use creates the potential for duplicative, uncoordinated, and inefficient use. The authors find some suggestive evidence of such inefficient use, particularly in the area of inpatient care. Coordination management and quality of care received by veterans ... can be optimized, capitalizing on the best that each system has to offer, without increasing costs.”

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