



## Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

June 1, 2016

Contents this week:

### **CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY**

SoCal teens exposed to an average of 3 alcohol ads per day

### **ECONOMY**

Housing affordability and displacement in San Francisco

### **EDUCATION**

Hispanic-Serving Institutions: assessing a 20-year program

Profiles of Latinos at selected CA universities

### **EMPLOYMENT**

Los Angeles program boosts employment in high-poverty areas

### **ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT**

The high energy burden on low-income, underserved communities

### **HEALTH**

Visual impairments in the U.S expected to reach 8 million by 2050

### **HUMAN SERVICES**

Strategies to increase engagement among TANF recipients

### **TOOLS OF THE TRADE**

50-state summary: College transfer and articulation policies

## **CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY**

**“Alcohol Advertising Exposure Among Middle School-Age Youth: An Assessment Across All Media and Venues.”** By Rebecca L. Collins, et al. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*. May 2016. 9 p.

<http://www.jsad.com/doi/pdf/10.15288/jsad.2016.77.384>

“Adolescents in Southern California are exposed to an average of 3.1 alcohol advertisements every day, with African Americans and Hispanics regularly exposed to the highest amount of such advertising.... African American and Hispanic youths are exposed to an average of 4.1 and 3.4 alcohol ads per day respectively, while white youths were exposed to an average of two ads per day.... ‘Based on previous research, we know underage drinking appears to increase with ad exposure. It is important to find out how much exposure there is and where it occurs, so we can limit or reduce it.’” (*EurekaAlert*, May 17, 2016).

## ECONOMY

**Housing Production, Filtering and Displacement: Untangling the Relationships.** By Miriam Zuk, et al. Institute of Governmental Studies. May 2016. 12 p.

[http://www.urbandisplacement.org/sites/default/files/images/udp\\_research\\_brief\\_052316.pdf](http://www.urbandisplacement.org/sites/default/files/images/udp_research_brief_052316.pdf)

This report addresses “[t]he relationship between housing production, affordability, and displacement in the San Francisco Bay Area.... At the regional level, both market-rate and subsidized housing reduced displacement pressures, but subsidized housing has over double the impact of market-rate units. Market-rate production is associated with higher housing cost burden for low-income households, but lower median rents in subsequent decades. At the local, block group level in San Francisco, neither market-rate nor subsidized housing production has the protective power they do at the regional scale, likely due to the extreme mismatch between demand and supply.” The authors state that the findings, while preliminary, imply “the importance of not only increasing production of subsidized and market-rate housing in California’s coastal communities, but also investing in the preservation of housing affordability and stabilizing vulnerable communities.”

## EDUCATION

**From Capacity to Success: HSIs, Title V, and Latino Students.** By Deborah A. Santiago, et al. Excelencia in Education. May 2016. 20 p.

<http://www.edexcelencia.org/research/capacity>

**(Free registration required)**

This report provides a snapshot of Latinos in postsecondary education, and provides a summary of growth of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), which are institutions that enroll high numbers of Latino undergraduates. “While it is clear there are connections between the significant investment of federal funds in the Developing HSIs program and the increased educational access and completion of Latinos in postsecondary education, there are several limitations to asserting a specific causal link between the funding alone and Latino success in postsecondary education for consideration in future research.” The researchers point to two problems: 1) the small grant amount relative to the HSIs overall budget; and 2) lack of data on Latino students that is disaggregated by race/ethnicity.

**From Selectivity to Success: Latinos at Selective Institutions.** By Deborah A. Santiago, et al. Excelencia in Education. May 2016. 32 p.

<http://www.edexcelencia.org/research/selectivity>

**(Free registration required)**

“This brief provides a profile of Latinos in the most selective institutions and shares some of the efforts at four of the most selective universities in California to serve their Latino students. While only about 12% of Latino students enroll in the most selective institutions, it is clear Latino representation is increasing, and the graduation rates of Latinos in these institutions is significantly greater than at less selective institutions. The most selective institutions also invest significantly more resources than less selective institutions in the instruction, academic support, student services, and research at their campuses per FTE [full-time equivalent].” Researchers reviewed University of LaVerne, Stanford University, University of California, Santa Barbara and University of California, Berkeley.

## EMPLOYMENT

***Training for the Future II: Los Angeles Utility Pre-craft Trainee Program: Progress to Date.***

**By Megan Emiko Scott, et al. UC Berkeley Labor Center. May 2016. 10 p.**

<http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/training-for-the-future-ii/>

“The [Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Utility Pre-Craft Trainee] program shows that it is possible to meet both climate and equity goals—reducing utility customers energy use while generating good jobs and broadening access to the economic opportunities.... Nearly all (90.3%) of the trainees live in zip codes where unemployment is more than 1.5 times the county rate; most trainees (68.3%) come from neighborhoods plagued by high poverty; roughly half (50.3%) of the trainees are Latino, compared to 28.5% of U.S. construction workers; more than one in five (22.%) of the trainees are African-American, compared to 8% of L.A. County residents and 6% of U.S. construction workers; More than one third (35.%) of trainees support children under the age of 18.”

## ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

***Lifting the High Energy Burden in America's Largest Cities: How Energy Efficiency Can Improve Low Income and Underserved Communities.*** By Ariel Dreihobl, et al. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Apr. 2016. 56 p.

[http://energyefficiencyforall.org/sites/default/files/Lifting%20the%20High%20Energy%20Burden\\_0.pdf](http://energyefficiencyforall.org/sites/default/files/Lifting%20the%20High%20Energy%20Burden_0.pdf)

“This report provides a snapshot of energy burdens in cities across the US. We focus on the high home energy burdens faced by select groups in major metropolitan areas. Years of analysis by the firm of Fisher Sheehan & Colton determined that low-income households pay proportionally more than the average household for energy costs. Our analysis builds on this research as we take a closer look at energy burden in specific household groups.... We analyze data from the US Census Bureau's 2011 and 2013 American Housing Survey to determine energy burden values for 48 of the largest US cities and specific households within each city.... [W]e discuss strategies for alleviating high energy burdens, with a focus on policies and programs to increase the impact of energy efficiency initiatives in these communities.”

## HEALTH

**“Visual Impairment and Blindness in Adults in the United States.”** By Rohit Varma, et al. *JAMA Ophthalmology*. Published ahead of print May 19, 2016. 8 p.

<http://archophth.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2523780>

“With the youngest of the baby boomers hitting 65 by 2029, the number of people with visual impairment or blindness in the United States is expected to double to more than 8 million by 2050, according to projections based on the most recent census data and from studies funded by the National Eye Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health. Another 16.4 million Americans are expected to have difficulty seeing due to correctable refractive errors such as myopia (nearsightedness) or hyperopia (farsightedness) that can be fixed with glasses, contacts or surgery.” The authors recommend vision screening and intervention, which may prevent or reduce a high proportion of individuals from developing visual impairment. (*National Institutes of Health*, May 19, 2016).

## HUMAN SERVICES

***Framing the Message: Using Behavioral Economics to Engage TANF Recipients.*** By Mary Farrell, et al. MDRC. Mar. 2016. 43 p.

[http://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/Framing\\_the\\_Message\\_FR.pdf](http://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/Framing_the_Message_FR.pdf)

“This report presents findings from an intervention designed to increase the number of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients in Los Angeles who ‘reengaged’ in the county’s welfare-to-work program. Some adults with young children had been exempt from participating in the welfare-to-work program, but this exemption ended in 2013 due to a change in state policy.... The test found that receiving an additional behavioral message increased the percentage of program group members who engaged in the program.... This increase was largely driven by the loss notice ... while the gain notice, when compared with the control condition, did not produce a statistically significant.... The findings suggest that participants responded more to the threat of losing benefits than the promise of receiving benefits.”

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

***50-State Comparison: Transfer and Articulation Policies.*** By Lexi Anderson, Education Commission of the States. Apr. 18, 2016.

<http://www.ecs.org/transfer-and-articulation-policies-db/>

**State profiles:** <http://www.ecs.org/transfer-and-articulation-policies-state-profiles/>

“This database reviews four transfer metrics in all 50 states. The metrics include transferable core of lower-division courses, statewide common-course numbering, statewide guaranteed transfer of an associate degree and statewide reverse transfer. A state received a ‘yes’ if their policy requires all public four-year and two-year institutions to comply.”

### **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/>.

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/>.