



## Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

***Preventing Bullying through Science, Policy, and Practice.* By Frederick Rivara, et al. National Academies Press. Sep. 2016. 361 p.**

<https://www.nap.edu/catalog/23482/preventing-bullying-through-science-policy-and-practice>

**Brief. 42 p.:**

[http://sites.nationalacademies.org/cs/groups/dbassesite/documents/webpage/dbasse\\_172366.pdf](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/cs/groups/dbassesite/documents/webpage/dbasse_172366.pdf)

“Although bullying behavior endures through generations, the milieu is changing. Historically, bullying has occurred at school ... or really anywhere that children played or congregated. In recent years, however, the physical setting is not the only place that bullying is occurring. Technology allows for a new type of digital electronic aggression, cyberbullying, which takes place through chat rooms, instant messaging, social media, and other forms of digital electronic communication. Simultaneously, the demographics of cities and towns in the United States are in flux, with resulting major changes in the ethnic and racial composition of schools across the country.... Composition of peer groups, shifting demographics, changing societal norms, and modern technology are contextual factors that must be considered to understand and effectively react to bullying in the United States.” The report notes that it has been difficult to determine the extent of bullying, but that school-based bullying likely affects between 18 and 31% of children and youth.

## EDUCATION

***The Broadband Imperative II: Equitable Access for Learning.*** By Christine Fox, et al. State Educational Technology Directors Association. Sep. 2016. 53 p.

<http://www.setda.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/SETDA-Broadband-ImperativeII-Full-Document-Sept-8-2016.pdf>

This report offers recommendations on how schools can increase and improve access to technology: 1) increase infrastructure to support student-centered learning; 2) design infrastructure to meet capacity targets; 3) ensure equity of access for all students outside of school; and 4) leverage state resources to increase broadband access. “As we prepare our students for both college and careers, education leaders and policy makers should not rest until each student is provided a personalized, equitable learning experience both in and outside of school. Education leaders should continue to collaborate with communities to ensure that all students have broadband access anytime, anywhere.”

***Two-Year Enrollment After Bachelor’s Degree.*** National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Aug. 2016. 5 p.

[https://nscresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/SnapshotReport24\\_Two\\_Year\\_Enroll\\_After\\_Bach.pdf](https://nscresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/SnapshotReport24_Two_Year_Enroll_After_Bach.pdf)

This report offers a snapshot of bachelor’s degree earners in the last 14 years. “During the Great Recession, there was a slight increase in the percentage of bachelor’s degree earners who opted to continue their educations at two-year institutions. However, that percentage has now dropped well below pre-recession levels, with only 5.8% of 2013-14 bachelor’s degree earners having returned to college at two-year institution.”

## ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

***Preliminary Results from Exploratory Sampling of Wells for the California Oil, Gas, and Groundwater Program, 2014–15.*** By Peter B. McMahon, et al. U.S. Geological Survey. July 2016. 8 p.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2016/1100/ofr20161100.pdf>

“The data indicated that patterns of the chemicals present in groundwater derived from oil-field formations can be complex. Salts (chloride, boron, and other inorganic ions) and thermogenic methane from oil-field formations were present in some groundwater samples, whereas only salts or thermogenic methane were present in others. Hydrocarbons, such as benzene, were detected in some samples that contained modern groundwater and manufactured VOCs [volatile organic compounds], and were also detected in some groundwater that appeared to be hundreds or thousands of years old and did not contain manufactured VOCs, indicating the presence of hydrocarbons both from land-surface and subsurface sources in groundwater.”

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

***Public Funds Account for Over 70 Percent of Health Care Spending in California.*** By Andrea Sorensen, et al. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. Aug. 31, 2016. 5 p.

[http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2016/PublicSharePB\\_FINAL\\_8-31-16.pdf](http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/Documents/PDF/2016/PublicSharePB_FINAL_8-31-16.pdf)

“The illusion in the United States is that the vast majority of healthcare is paid for privately but ... at least in California, more than two-thirds of healthcare payments are made with public funds.... ‘For a majority of Californians, a public-run system is already the reality.... A single-payer system could unite all these various programs and expand them to the entire population, resulting in a more streamlined and cost-effective approach to health care spending.’ According to researchers, 71% of California’s \$367.5 billion in healthcare bills in 2016 ... will be paid for using public funds. The biggest portion of that \$260.9 billion

comes from the state's Medi-Cal/Health Families program, covering 27% of the expenditure, followed by 20% from Medicare, and another 12% from tax subsidies for employer sponsored insurance." (*United Press International*, Aug. 31, 2016).

## HEALTH

***Human and Environmental Effects of Light Emitting Diode (LED) Community Lighting.* American Medical Association. CSAPH Report No. 2-A-16. June 2016. 9 p.**

<https://download.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/csaph/a16-csaph2.pdf>

"The LEDs are up to 50% more energy-efficient than the yellow-orange high-pressure sodium lights they replaced. They last for 15 to 20 years, instead of two to five. And unlike sodium lights, the LEDs spread illumination evenly, enhancing visibility for drivers and pedestrians. But health concerns, heightened by a recent warning by the American Medical Association (AMA), are giving pause to some local officials, spurring them to consider less-intense LED alternatives.... The full report from the AMA found that LEDs possibly increase the risk of serious health conditions, including cancer and cardiovascular disease. The AMA also cautioned that high-intensity LEDs can impair nighttime driving vision." (*Stateline*, Sep. 7, 2016).

## HUMAN SERVICES

***Foster Care: Most Tribes Do Not Anticipate Challenges with Case Goal Changes, but HHS Could Further Promote Guardianship Assistance.* United States Government Accountability Office.**

**Aug. 2016. 49 p.**

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/678903.pdf>

"[S]tate and tribal child welfare agencies must comply with certain requirements, including developing a permanency plan for the child that identifies how the child will exit the foster care system to a permanent home ('case goal'). If other case goals, such as reunifying with parents, adoption, or guardianship are not possible or appropriate, a child may be assigned 'another planned permanent living arrangement' (APPLA) as a case goal. Unlike other case goals, children assigned an APPLA case goal are normally expected to remain in foster care until they reach adulthood, which could result in young children remaining in foster care for many years.... Data show that the use of APPLA was lower for Indian children than non-Indian children.... Most selected tribes did not anticipate challenges implementing APPLA changes [limiting APPLA to older children], yet some reported other challenges in establishing permanency."

### **About *Studies in the News***

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