

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU
CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
Studies in the News**

California -- One Hundred Years Ago

May 1910 “In the police court of Justice Rose yesterday fifty-two indignant citizens were forced to explain why they had neglected to have rear beacons on their automobiles. Under the State law forty-five were sentenced ‘\$2 or two days’ each.... Half the defendants offered guilt-edged excuses but the magistrate called attention to the fact that the law was framed so that persons would take care to see that they did not have lamps that were defective, carbides that were plugged, wicks that wasted away, loose fittings which jarred out the lights, etc. Justice Rose was not well pleased, for in spite of his politeness and clemency, he lost half a hundred votes in his next campaign to be returned to his position.” Los Angeles Times (May 24 1910) p. II2.

May 1910 “The Los Angeles system of ornamental street lighting, now copied so widely in other cities, is making ready to spread over various parts of the municipality of its origin. The Council is besieged with petitions for the creation of lighting districts on many streets, and involved with them all is the question of how much the city governments will contribute to the ornate illumination. Four streets, Broadway, Main, Spring and Hill have been lighted for years on the basis of the city paying half the cost – that is, the city pays for the lighting every other year, which is the same thing.... If the city commits itself to the policy of paying one-half in each instance, the Council already sees an unusually heavy charge on the treasury.... Pico and Seventh Street are asking the Council why they should be required to pay the entire cost of their own lighting and then furnish tax money to help the other streets. The same question is being propounded by advocates of other extensions. ‘Treat all alike’ is the slogan.” Los Angeles Times (May 25, 1910) p. I8.

Contents This Week

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

[Prevalence of intimate partner violence](#)
[The impact of gangs on homicide patterns](#)
[Hispanics and Arizona immigration law](#)
[State and local enforcement of immigration law](#)
[Causes of Chino prison riot](#)

DEMOGRAPHY

[Demographic change in metropolitan America](#)
[Changing characteristics of U.S. mothers](#)

ECONOMY

[Job loss and bankruptcy](#)
[Economic recovery will be rapid](#)
[Benefits of engaging an older population](#)
[Greater burden for state's women](#)

EDUCATION

[Role of federal and state education policy](#)
[Recommendations on California's education system](#)
[California should expand college eligibility](#)
[Education coalition sues California over school funding](#)
[UC panel proposes big changes](#)

EMPLOYMENT

[Reducing greenhouse gases and job losses](#)
[The need for publicly funded jobs](#)
[Entrepreneurship among low-skilled workers.](#)
[Hispanics' unemployment rate soars](#)
[How women are changing the workforce](#)

ENERGY

[Sustainability of biofuel production](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

[Lessons learned from marine reserves](#)
[Lingering effects of Exxon Valdez](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

[Participating with government online](#)
[Online access to government spending](#)
[Problems with Internet sales taxes](#)
[Improving voter registration databases](#)
[California women in elected office](#)

HEALTH

[Global warming aggravates allergies](#)
[Children's mental health](#)
[Multinational comparisons of health systems](#)
[Solving childhood obesity](#)
[Women health indicators](#)

HOUSING

[Negative correlation between financial literacy and delinquency](#)
[Community planning for subsidized housing](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

[Eligibility improvements for CalWORKs](#)
[Public investment in children](#)
[Need for a better measure of poverty](#)
[Teen prostitutes often treated as criminals](#)

TRANSPORTATION

[Bay area transit is unsustainable](#)

Introduction to Studies in the News

Studies in the News is a current compilation of items significant to the Legislature and Governor's Office. It is created weekly by the California State Library's [California Research Bureau](#) to supplement the public policy debate in California. To help share the latest information with state policymakers, these reading lists are now being made accessible through the California State Library's website. This week's list of current articles in various public policy areas is presented below. Prior lists can be viewed from the California State Library's Web site at www.library.ca.gov/sitn

- When available, the URL for the full text of each item is provided.
- California State Employees may contact the State Information & Reference Center (916-654-0261); cslinfo@library.ca.gov with the SITN issue number and the item number [S#].
- All other interested individuals should contact their local library - the items may be available there, or may be borrowed by your local library on your behalf.

The following studies are currently on hand:

⋮

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Nearly Four Million California Adults Are Victims of Intimate Partner Violence. By Elaine Zahnd, Public Health Institute, and others. (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, Los Angeles, California) April 2010. 12 p.

Full text at: http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/files/IPV_PB_031810.pdf

["Nearly 1 in 6 adults in California, about 3.7 million persons, report experiencing physical intimate partner violence (IPV) as adults. Over one million Californians were forced to have sex (5%) by an intimate partner during adulthood. Overall, 17.2% of adults -- nearly four million Californians -- report being a victim of physical and/or sexual IPV as an adult. These acts of violence are not merely a criminal justice problem, but a public health problem with deep and lingering social, psychological and health-related costs. Beyond the immediate trauma facing adult victims, IPV incidents may have a prolonged impact on the emotional and mental health of the victims, affect their ability to complete school or maintain employment, and result in adverse health behaviors to cope with the trauma, such as engaging in risky alcohol, tobacco or other drug use."]

[Request #S10-11-4872]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOMICIDE

Homicide in California 1981-2008: Measuring the Impact of Los Angeles and Gangs on Overall Homicide Patterns. By George Tita, University of California, Irvine, and Allan Abrahamse. (The Governor's Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, Sacramento, California) April 2010. 33 p.

Full text at: http://calgrip.ca.gov/documents/Homicide_CA_1981_2008_Tita.pdf

["This report examines characteristics of homicide victims and changes in certain trends of victimization for the state of California over the twenty-eight-year period of 1981-2008 with special attention to changes over the last seven years, that is, for the period 2002 through 2008.... In the last five years, while gang killings have been fairly constant from year to year, or declining slightly in Los Angeles, there is clear evidence of a rise in smaller places outside the main urban ones. Los Angeles does appear to serve as an 'early warning' agent with respect to upturns in gang violence. Gang violence began to increase (and peak) earlier in Los Angeles than in the remainder of California. Even within a specific county, there can be great variation in gang homicide patterns."]

[Request #S10-11-4891]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

IMMIGRATION

Hispanics and Arizona's New Immigration Law. By the Pew Hispanic Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) April 29, 2010. 6 p.

Full text at: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/factsheets/68.pdf>

["Arizona passed a law authorizing local police to check the immigration status of anyone they reasonably suspect of being in the United States illegally. The law has generated sharp debate between advocates who say it is needed to combat illegal immigration and opponents who say it is an infringement on civil liberties and an invitation to racial/ethnic profiling of Hispanics by the police. In addition, some say the law will create tensions between police and Hispanics that will hinder general law enforcement. The findings are drawn mainly from nationwide surveys conducted in 2008 and 2009."]

[Request #S10-11-4849]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Enforcing Immigration Law at the State and Local Levels: A Public Policy Dilemma. By Jessica Saunders and others, RAND Corporation. (RAND, Santa Monica, California) April 2010. 7 p.

Full text at: http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2010/RAND_OP273.pdf

["Encouraging state and local law enforcement agencies to help enforce federal immigration laws could help identify out-of-status immigrants eligible for deportation, but may also have unintended consequences.... These partnerships can work, but at a cost. A 2007 partnership between Immigrations and Customs Enforcement and the sheriff's department in Maricopa County, Arizona, resulted in deputies identifying 16,000 illegal immigrants among 106,000 jail inmates over three months. However, the effort racked up a debt of \$1.3 million in only three months, the percentage of crimes the department solved dropped and the time it took for officers to respond to calls for service grew. Another concern is that if state and local law enforcement officers begin enforcing immigration laws, it will promote fear and distrust among the immigrant population at large."]

[Request #S10-11-4903]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PRISONS

Special Report: August 2009 Riot at the California Institution for Men. By the Office of the Inspector General. (The Office, Sacramento, California) April 2010. 30 p.

Full text at: [special report](#)

["Housing dangerous inmates in low-security dorms contributed to the violent riot at a Chino state prison that left more than 200 inmates injured last year. Officials at the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation knew of the danger of housing inmates in an open dormitory setting in the reception center but did not act to correct the problem or prevent a riot, despite previous violence. 'This is a case of the wrong inmates housed in outdated buildings lacking critical security features that would have helped officers to regain control,' Inspector General David Shaw said.... The report also criticized officials for delays in getting injured inmates to hospitals because there weren't enough armed escorts." Associated Press (April 22, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-11-4802]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

DEMOGRAPHY

POPULATION

State of Metropolitan America: On the Front Lines of Demographic Transformation. By Alan Berube and others, Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings. (The Program, Washington, DC) 2010.

["The State of Metropolitan America shows how 'new realities' are redefining who we are, where and with whom we live, and how we provide for our own welfare, as well as that of our families and communities. And these new realities, most pronounced in the leading edge of the nation's metropolitan areas, are fundamental: the continued growth and outward expansion of our population; its ongoing racial and ethnic diversification; the rapid aging on the horizon; our increasing but selective higher educational attainment; and the intensified income polarization experienced by our workers and families.... By understanding the context and landscape of America's metropolitan areas, we can begin to develop smarter policies to increase more equitable opportunities for our nation."]

Report. 172 p.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/state_of_metro_america/metro_america_report.pdf

Executive Summary. 4 p.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/state_of_metro_america/metro_america_execsum2.pdf

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WOMEN

The New Demography of American Motherhood. By Paul Taylor and others, Pew Research Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) May 6, 2010. 38 p.

Full text at: <http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/754-new-demography-of-motherhood.pdf>

[“The demography of motherhood in the United States has shifted strikingly in the past two decades. Compared with mothers of newborns in 1990, today’s mothers of newborns are older and better educated. They are less likely to be white and less likely to be married.... The shift in characteristics of motherhood over the past two decades is linked to a complex mixture of demographic and behavioral changes. This analysis examines and explains these trends using data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and the U.S. Census Bureau.... The nation’s birth rate (births per 1,000 women of childbearing age) has declined 20% from 1990. Rates have declined for all major race and ethnic groups. The birth rate for married women is stable, but it has risen for unmarried women.”]
[Request #S10-11-4879]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECONOMY

BANKRUPTCY

The Credit Market Consequences of Job Displacement. By Benjamin J. Keys, Federal Reserve Board. (The Board, Washington, DC) March 2010. 60 p.

Full text at: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/Pubs/feds/2010/201024/201024pap.pdf>

["This paper demonstrates the important role of job displacement in the household bankruptcy decision. I find that households are 2.5 times more likely to file for bankruptcy in the year immediately following a job loss, at a rate of an additional 10 bankruptcies per 1000 job losses. Heightened bankruptcy risk then declines in magnitude but persists for two to three years.... Using county-level data, I similarly find that 1000 job losses are associated with 8 to 11 bankruptcies and that the effects also last two to three years. In addition, the loss of a manufacturing job, a proxy for a more persistent separation, is three times more likely to lead to bankruptcy than the loss of a non-manufacturing job. The results suggest that even relatively brief unemployment spells can have significant long-term consequences on households' credit market outcomes."]
[Request #S10-11-4874]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The Shape of Things to Come: By Justine Weidner and John C. Williams, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. (The Bank, San Francisco, California) May 17, 2010. 5 p.

Full text at: <http://www.frbsf.org/publications/economics/letter/2010/el2010-15.pdf>

["Defying many analysts' predictions, economists say the rebound is likely to be faster than from the two previous recessions. 'I see no signs of a double dip,' said Williams. 'The economy continues to gain momentum, and consumer spending and business investment continue to improve.' Williams said low interest rates and pent-up demand by businesses are set to drive robust growth, while consumers are being helped by tax cuts and other stimulus spending.... Though a double-dip recession is still the minority view, a good number of analysts have predicted a sluggish 'U-shaped' recovery with annual growth in gross domestic product of about 3% coming out of the trough. That's a contrast to the 'V-shaped' recoveries that occurred from the late 1950s into the 1980s. Los Angeles Times (May 18, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4904]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Maximizing the Potential of Older Adults: Benefits to State Economies and Individual Well-Being. By Linda Hoffman and Erin Andrew, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. (The Center, Washington, DC) April 2010. 19 p.

Full text at: <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/1004OLDERADULTS.PDF>

["The demographic composition of the U.S. population has changed dramatically during the past few decades, and it will continue to change substantially as the population ages. The changes afford states an unprecedented opportunity to tap a highly skilled and knowledgeable population that can contribute to state and local economies through both paid and unpaid employment.... States can pursue several strategies to reduce barriers to engagement and create ways for older adults to remain active through employment, volunteerism, and education. Policymakers also need to increase awareness among individuals and businesses of the benefits of engaging older adults in activities and ensure that programs incorporate engagement policies and practices."]

[Request #S10-11-4898]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WOMEN

How the Other Half Fared: The Impact of the Great Recession on Women. By Alissa Anderson, California Budget Project. (The Project, Sacramento, California) May 2010. 9 p.

Full text at:

http://www.cbp.org/documents/1005_pp_women_recession.pdfhttp://www.cbp.org/documents/1005_pp_women_recession.pdf

[“The number of California women with children at home who became the sole breadwinners after their husbands lost their jobs in the recession rose a stunning 77 percent from 2006 through 2009. Past and likely budget cuts in the state's safety net programs and health insurance for the poor, such as Medi-Cal and CalWorks, will disproportionately affect low-income women and their families, who make up the bulk of the people who rely on the services. The California Budget Project produced a set of three white papers on the effects of the recession and budget cuts on California women.... While the recession put record numbers of men on the unemployment line, many wives kept households afloat.” Contra Costa Times (May 12, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-11-4894]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Education at a Crossroads: A New Path for Federal and State Education Policy. By the National Conference of State Legislatures Education Task Force. (The Conference, Denver, Colorado) February 2010. 47 p.

Full text at:

<http://www.ncsl.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=odv0PQk6j8s%3d&tabid=19634>

["Federal involvement in the day-to-day operations of the K-12 system has radically increased and is 'upside-down,' overemphasizing compliance with federal process requirements and underemphasizing results -- specifically improving the academic achievement of all students, especially poor and minority students. Student achievement is improving marginally on the same trajectory as it has for the past decade, but the achievement gap between advantaged and disadvantaged students persists. Clearly neither federal top-down mandates nor categorical and competitive grant resources have significantly affected student achievement.... The K-12 system would be more transparent and its efforts more focused if each of the players in the governance system reevaluated its role and directed its energy and resources toward those policy issues it can most effectively carry out."]

[Request #S10-11-4830]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Reforming Education in California: A Guide for Candidates and Citizens. By Andrea Mayo, Policy Analysis for California Education. (PACE, Berkeley, California) 2010. 23 p.

Full text at:

http://www.stanford.edu/group/pace/PUBLICATIONS/PERIODICAL/2010_REFORMING_ED_IN_CA_WEB.pdf

[“This briefing book provides a package of recommendations that, if implemented, will improve the quality of education in California.... We have focused on four critical areas: the quality of teaching, assessment and accountability, college and career readiness, and education financing. Our recommendations are unified by three basic principles: resources should be targeted towards the schools and students who need them the most, local educators should be given the flexibility they need to adapt policies to local circumstances and goals, and state policies should be designed to encourage innovation and promote continuous improvement in our education system. In our view, policies guided by these three principles can begin to move California’s education system in the right direction.”]

[Request #S10-11-4889]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education in California: New Goals for the Master Plan. By Hans Johnson, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) April 2010. 28 p.

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=916>

["California's public colleges and universities should open their doors to more high school graduates to help meet the state's need for educated workers. By 2025, the top 15 percent of high school graduates should be eligible for UC, and the top 40 percent should be eligible for CSU. In addition, both four-year systems should accept more students from California's 110 community colleges, so that transfer students make up 60 percent of CSU graduates and 40 percent of UC graduates by 2025. The report's authors also calls for boosting graduation rates at the state's colleges and universities. Currently, only about half of incoming freshmen at CSU complete their degrees in six years. The biggest obstacles to increasing college eligibility and enrollment in California will be money." San Jose Mercury News (April 23, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4844]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

SCHOOL FINANCE

Maya Robles-Wong, et al. v. State of California. Alameda County Superior Court. Complaint for Declarative and Injunctive Relief. May 20, 2010. 59 p.

Full text at: <http://www.fixschoolfinance.org/>

["California's system for funding public schools is irrational, unstable and in need of overhaul, and prevents 6 million students from receiving the education they are entitled to under the state Constitution. The lawsuit puts California on a growing list of states slapped with 'adequacy' suits. Plaintiffs argue that a state does not give schools enough money to achieve that state's academic standards. In most cases, the states have lost in court and been forced to come up with more funds and a new way of paying for schools. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has vowed to fight the suit; his education secretary said the state will prevail because it already has in place a voter-approved education funding formula: Proposition 98. Nonetheless, school funding experts across the country are turning with interest to California." Sacramento Bee (May 21, 2010) 1.]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

First Round of Recommendations from the Working Groups. By Russell S. Gould and others. (UC Commission on the Future, Washington, DC) March 2010. 153 p.

Full text at:

http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/presentations/cotf_wg_first_recs.pdf

[The Commission heard its first set of proposals aimed at making the 10-campus system more efficient while preserving its academic strengths. Proposals from the commission include: encouraging some students to complete bachelor's degrees in three years through extra summer sessions and fewer requirements; doubling the number of out-of-state students, who now make up 5% of undergraduates and pay significantly higher fees; charging more for the most popular campuses, including UC Berkeley and UCLA; and expanding online course offerings.... Gould said UC must help itself out of the crisis caused by state funding cuts and not rely so heavily on fee increases and payroll reductions. Among the most controversial ideas was a proposal to boost the number of out-of-state students as a way to garner more fee revenue." Los Angeles Times (March 24, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4700]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EMPLOYMENT

JOB CREATION

How Policies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Could Affect Employment.
By Bruce Arnold, Congressional Budget Office. (The Office, Washington, DC)
May 5, 2010. 11 p.

Full text at: http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/105xx/doc10564/05-05-CapAndTrade_Brief.pdf

[“The Congressional Budget Office has analyzed the research on the effects that policies to reduce greenhouse gases would have on employment and concluded that total employment during the next few decades would be slightly lower than would be the case in the absence of such policies. In particular, job losses in the industries that shrink would lower employment more than job gains in other industries would increase employment, thereby raising the overall unemployment rate. Eventually, however, most workers who lost jobs would find new ones. In the absence of policies to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, changes to the climate also might affect employment; however, this brief does not address such changes because that effect would probably arise after the next few decades.”]

[Request #S10-11-4885]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Publicly Funded Jobs: An Essential Strategy for Reducing Poverty and Economic Distress Throughout the Business Cycle. By Clifford M. Johnson, National League of Cities, and others. (The Urban Institute, Washington, DC)
April 2010. 21 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412070_publicly_funded_jobs.pdf

["The need for direct public job creation efforts is greater today than at any time during the past seven decades. With a national unemployment rate that recently exceeded 10 percent and severe economic distress in hard-hit communities and population groups, a new federal initiative that puts jobless individuals immediately to work must be a central element of any strategy for restoring economic growth and responding to pressing human needs in 2010 and beyond. Public service employment and transitional jobs programs that use time-limited, paid work as the centerpiece of efforts to assist the unemployed offer tested and urgently needed models for combating the current recession and advancing longer-term workforce development goals."]

[Request #S10-11-4811]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

LOW-WAGE WORKERS

Entrepreneurship among California's Low-Skilled Workers. By Magnus Lofstrom, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) April 2010. 39 p.

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=843>

["Overall, our results do not support the idea that further policies promoting self-employment among low-skilled individuals would lead to widespread improvements in their economic well-being. Although some low-skilled individuals are successful entrepreneurs, the vast majority are not. Earnings and success rates of low-skilled self-employed adults are far lower than among those with higher skills. Moreover, we do not observe strong barriers to start-up. Because economic outcomes, both in self-employment and in the wage and salary sector, are far better for more highly skilled workers, policies designed to promote skill development offer more hope in improving economic outcomes for most low-skill individuals."] [Request #S10-11-4845]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Understanding the Economy: Unemployment in the Hispanic Community. By Carolyn B. Maloney, Joint Economic Committee, United States Congress. (The Committee, Washington, DC) May 2010. 15 p.

Full text at: http://jec.senate.gov/public/?a=Files.Serve&File_id=4c4adca8-978b-4cdd-ad30-283c6d44bff0

["Unemployment among Hispanics in the U.S. has soared since the recession hit because those workers are disproportionately employed in industries and regions hardest hit by the downturn. Hispanic workers were more likely to be employed in the construction sector, which was pounded during the housing collapse, particularly in states including California, Florida and Nevada, which experienced the largest declines in housing prices and biggest increases in foreclosures. 'Not only were Hispanics a significant part of the industries hardest hit by the recession, but they have also been underrepresented in education and health activities -- sectors that have experienced growth during the Great Recession,' said Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, chairwoman of Congress' Joint Economic Committee." Los Angeles Times (May 6, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4875]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WOMEN

Our Working Nation: How Working Women Are Reshaping America's Families and Economy and What It Means for Policymakers. By Heather Boushey and Ann O'Leary, Center for American Progress. (The Center, Washington, DC) March 2010. 70 p.

Full text at:

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/our_working_nation.html

["When we look back over the 20th century and try to understand what's happened to American workers and their families, the movement of women out of the home and into paid employment stands out as one of the most important transformations. Women are now half of all workers on U.S payrolls, two-thirds of mothers are bringing home at least a quarter of the family's earnings, and 4 in 10 mothers are either the sole breadwinner (a single, working mother) or are bringing home as much or more than their spouse. This increase in women's workforce participation and contribution to the family income has been dramatic across all racial and class lines, but is particularly striking among low-income women who are now primary breadwinners in two-thirds of their families."]

[Request #S10-11-4664]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENERGY

ALTERNATIVE FUELS

Expanding Biofuel Production: Sustainability and the Transition to Advanced Biofuels: Summary of a Workshop. By Patricia Koshel and Kathleen McAllister, Rapporteurs, National Research Council. (National Academies Press, Washington, DC) 2010. 178 p.

Full text at: [expanding biofuel production](#)

["While energy prices, energy security, and climate change are front and center in the national media, these issues are often framed to the exclusion of the broader issue of sustainability -- ensuring that the production and use of biofuels do not compromise the needs of future generations by recognizing the need to protect life-support systems, promote economic growth, and improve societal welfare. It is important to understand the effects of biofuel production and use on water quality and quantity, soils, wildlife habitat and biodiversity, greenhouse gas emissions, air quality, public health, and the economic viability of rural communities."]

[Request #S10-11-4865]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

OCEAN RESOURCES

Lessons Learned from California's Marine Life Management Act. By J. Michael Harty, Kearns & West, and others. (Ocean Protection Council, Oakland, California) May 18, 2010. 73 p.

Full text at:

http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/project_pages/mlmall/FINAL%20MLMA%20LL%20Report%205-18-10.pdf

["This report identifies lessons learned from the first decade of MLMA implementation.... This report makes six basic recommendations: 1. Develop an effective management plan for living marine resources, considering the MLMA as one tool among those available. 2. Adapt current institutions and policies for greater success within available resources. 3. Ensure adequate institutional and policy authority and capacity to achieve the goal of sustainable use of living marine resources. 4. Improve management of living marine resources by incremental steps that are feasible given limited resources. 5. Systematically increase the scientific knowledge base available to inform management of living marine resources. 6. Systematically increase the understanding of available institutions, policies and tools to inform management of living marine resources."][Request #S10-11-4906]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

OIL SPILLS

"Cytochrome P4501A Biomarker Indication of Oil Exposure in Harlequin Ducks up to 20 Years after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill." By Daniel Esler and others. IN: Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, vol. 29, no. 5 (May 2010) pp. 1138-1145.

Full text at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123250065/PDFSTART>

["Scientists have discovered that lingering oil from the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill is still being ingested by wildlife more than 20 years after the disaster. The research uses biomarkers to reveal long-term exposure to oil in harlequin ducks and demonstrates how the consequences of oil spills are measured in decades rather than years.... 'One of the more remarkable and unanticipated findings of recent research is the length of time over which animals were exposed to residual oil,' said Esler. 'Our research has shown that oil remaining in the area, particularly in intertidal areas, was encountered and ingested by some near-shore animals. It is important to recognize that the duration of presence of residual oil and its associated effects are not limited to a few years after spills, but for some vulnerable species may occur over decades.'" Science Daily (April 14, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4858]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Government Online; The Internet Gives Citizens New Paths to Government Services and Information. By Aaron Smith, Pew Internet & American Life Project. (The Project, Washington, DC) April 27, 2010. 44 p.

Full text at:

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Government_Online_2010.pdf

["As government agencies at all levels bring their services online, Americans are turning in large numbers to government websites to access information and services. Fully 82% of internet users (representing 61% of all American adults) looked for information or completed a transaction on a government website in the twelve months preceding this survey.... In this report, we identify several other common characteristics regarding citizens' interactions with government. Efforts by government agencies to post their data online are resonating with citizens. Citizen interactions with government are moving beyond the website. Americans are not simply going online for data and information; they want to share their personal views on the business of government."][Request #S10-11-4817]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PUBLIC RECORDS

Following the Money: How the 50 States Rate in Providing Online Access to Government Spending Data. By Kari Wohlschlegel, Frontier Group, and Phineas Baxandall, U.S. PIRG Education Fund. (CALPIRG Education Fund, Sacramento, California) April 2010. 49 p.

Full text at:

<http://cdn.publicinterestnetwork.org/assets/9633bcc814e2a9bbd2f8f51ffe6378d4/Following-the-Money---CALPIRG-Education-Fund.pdf>

["At least 32 states currently mandate that residents be able to access an online database of government expenditures with 'checkbook-level' detail. Most of these Web sites are also searchable, making it easier for residents to follow the money and monitor government spending.... Republicans, independents and Democrats all support enhanced government transparency by wide margins. When asked about the role of transparency in the economic recovery package of early 2009, three-quarters of voters responding said that 'creating a national Web site where citizens can see what companies and government agencies are getting the funds, for what purposes, and the number and quality of jobs being created or saved' would have an important impact on the package."][Request #S10-11-4773]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

STATE TAXES

“Amazon Tax” Laws Signal Business Unfriendliness And Will Worsen Short-Term Budget Problems: More States Considering Affiliate Nexus Tax Despite Failures in Other States. By Joseph Henchman, the Tax Foundation. (The Foundation, Washington, DC) March 2010. 8 p.

Full text at: <http://www.taxfoundation.org/files/sr176.pdf>

["Citing significant budget shortfalls and the inability to collect sales taxes on many Internet-based transactions, a number of states are considering the adoption of 'Amazon taxes.' Such laws currently exist in New York, Rhode Island, North Carolina, and Colorado. Amazon taxes are unlikely to produce revenue in the near term. New York continues to face a lengthy legal constitutional challenge. Rhode Island has even seen a drop in income tax collections due to the law. Amazon taxes do not level the playing field between brick-and-mortar and Internet-based businesses because they require Internet-based businesses to track thousands of sales tax bases and rates while brick-and-mortar businesses need to track only one. Unconstitutionally expansive nexus standards undermine legal certainty, burden interstate commerce, and harm economic growth."]

[Request #S10-11-4814]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

VOTER REGISTRATION

Improving State Voter Registration Databases: Final Report. By the Committee on State Voter Registration Databases, National Research Council. (National Academies Press, Washington, DC) 2010. 128 p.

["Improving State Voter Registration Databases outlines several actions that are needed to help make voter registration databases capable of sharing information within state agencies and across state lines. These include short-term changes to improve education, dissemination of information, and administrative processes, and long-term changes to make improvements in data collection and entry, matching procedures, and ensure privacy and security."]

[Request #S10-11-4640]

Book. 128 p.

[book](#)

Executive Summary. 17 p.

[summary](#)

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

California Women in Elected Office - 2010. By Rachel Otte Michelin, California Women Lead. (California Women Lead, Sacramento, California) March 2010. 4 p.

Full text at:

<http://www.cawomenlead.org/downloads/CA%20Women%20In%20Office%202010.pdf>

["Currently, California has only one woman holding statewide elected office and the number of women running and getting elected to the State Legislature, County Board of Supervisors and City Councils is decreasing. This is discouraging in a time when our state desperately needs effective leadership. Leaders who will put good public policy before politics and focus on issues Californians care about -- decisions that affect our pocketbooks, our family's education, our healthcare, our way of life."]

[Request #S10-11-4650]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH

ASTHMA

Extreme Allergies and Global Warming. By Amanda Staudt and others, National Wildlife Federation. (The Federation, Reston, Virginia) April 2010. 12 p.

Full text at: [extreme allergies](#)

["Climate change could push the cost of U.S. allergies and asthma beyond the current \$32 billion annual price tag. A warming planet makes for longer growing seasons that would produce more allergy-provoking pollen in much of the heavily populated eastern two-thirds of the United States. Climate change could allow highly allergenic trees like oaks and hickories to start replacing pines, spruces and firs that generally don't cause allergies. In the fall, ragweed plants will grow larger and more loaded with pollen over a longer growing season. There is also evidence that ragweed, the biggest U.S. allergy trigger, grows faster as carbon dioxide increases in the atmosphere." Reuters (April 15, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-11-4840]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CHILDREN

Unclaimed Children Revisited: California Case Study. By Janice L. Cooper and others, National Center for Children in Poverty. (The Center, New York, New York) April 2010. 144 p.

Full text at: [unclaimed children](#)

["Unclaimed Children Revisited (UCR) complements Unclaimed Children: The Failure of Public Responsibility to Children in Need of Mental Health Services (1982), a seminal report authored by Dr. Jane Knitzer. The initial report served to rally the child and adolescent mental health field to take action towards policy reform. The current national study is a multi-pronged initiative that generates new knowledge about policies across the United States that promote or inhibit the delivery of high-quality mental health services and supports to children, youth, and families. UCR places a strong emphasis on identifying policies that support services that are culturally competent, developmentally appropriate, and research-informed... The California Case Study (CCS) represents a major component of Unclaimed Children Revisited."]

[Request #S10-11-4824]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH CARE

Multinational Comparisons of Health Systems Data, 2008. By Gerard F. Anderson and Patricia Markovich, Johns Hopkins University. (The Commonwealth Fund, New York, New York) April 2010. 69 p.

Full text at: [multinational comparisons](#)

["International comparisons of health care systems offer valuable tools to health ministers, policymakers, and academics wishing to evaluate the performance of their country's system. In this chartbook, we use data collected by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to compare health care systems and performance on a range of topics, including spending, hospitals, long-term care, physicians, pharmaceuticals, prevention, and mortality. We present data across several industrialized countries: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Whenever possible, we also present the median value of all 30 members of the OECD."]

[Request #S10-11-4837]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

OBESITY

Solving the Problem of Childhood Obesity Within a Generation. By the White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity. (Executive Office of the President, Washington, DC) May 2010. 124 p.

Full text at: http://www.letsmove.gov/taskforce_childhoodobesityrpt.html

["Restaurants need to offer healthier choices on children's menus. The food and beverage industry should market nutritious foods, not junk foods, to kids. And families should eat dinner together as often as possible. Schools need to make sure elementary students get recess, and the federal government needs to improve the nutritional quality of food commodities provided to schools. These are among a federal task force's wide-ranging recommendations to reverse childhood obesity. It was released by first lady Michelle Obama. 'For the first time, the nation will have goals, benchmarks and measureable outcomes that will help us tackle the childhood obesity epidemic one child, one family and one community at a time,' she said. The goal of the plan is to try to solve childhood obesity in a generation." USA Today (May 12, 2010) 10B.]

[Request #S10-11-4905]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WOMEN

Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County: Highlighting Disparities by Ethnicity and Poverty Level. By the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. (The Department, Los Angeles, California) February 2010. 24 p.

Full text at: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/owh/docs/Health-Indicators-2010.pdf>

["Los Angeles County represents one of the most diverse regions in the country with 10 million residents that speak over 100 different languages. A little over half of these residents are women, with unique health care needs reflective of their complex and challenging economic, social and biological attributes.... Several significant indicators point to the unique disadvantages that women in Los Angeles County face. Over half of women in the County report living in poverty, and almost twenty-five percent report a less than a high school education, important factors that contribute to increased health risks and illness. In addition, twenty percent of women report being uninsured and over twenty-five percent report difficulty accessing medical care. This lack of access to health care serves as a significant barrier to health promotion and wellness."]

[Request #S10-11-4774]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOUSING

REAL ESTATE LOANS

Financial Literacy and Subprime Mortgage Delinquency: Evidence from a Survey Matched to Administrative Data. By Kristopher Gerardi, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and others. (The Bank, Atlanta, Georgia) April 2010. 54 p.

Full text at: <http://www.frbatlanta.org/documents/pubs/wp/wp1010.pdf>

[“The exact cause of the massive defaults and foreclosures in the U.S. subprime mortgage market is still unclear. We measure several aspects of financial literacy and cognitive ability in a survey of subprime mortgage borrowers who took out mortgages in 2006 or 2007 and match these measures to objective data on mortgage characteristics and repayment performance. We find a large and statistically significant negative correlation between numerical ability and various measures of delinquency and default. Foreclosure starts are approximately two-thirds lower in the group with the highest measured level of numerical ability compared with the group with the lowest measured level. Our results raise the possibility that limitations in certain aspects of financial literacy played an important role in the subprime mortgage crisis.”]

[Request #S10-11-4893]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Atlantic Exchange: Case Studies of Housing and Community Redevelopment in the United States and the United Kingdom. By Diane K. Levy, Urban Institute, and others. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2010. 29 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412050_atlantic_exchange.pdf

["Providers of publicly subsidized housing in both the US and the UK have partnered with private sector entities to provide affordable housing for a number of years now. Though the policy contexts differ considerably between the two countries, the problems that housing and community redevelopment efforts seek to address are similar, as are the approaches taken to address them. In the second phase of joint research, the Urban Institute and the Institute for Community Cohesion examined two previously distressed communities that have undergone considerable change in their built environments and resident base. The case studies highlight changes in management, community safety, and place identity in places seeking nothing short of community transformation."]

[Request #S10-11-4750]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

CALWORKS

Moving Forward With Eligibility and Enrollment System Improvements. By Todd Bland and others, Legislative Analyst's Office. (The Office, Sacramento, California) May 3, 2010. 20 p.

Full text at:

http://lao.ca.gov/reports%5C2010%5Csrv%5Celigibility%5Celigibility_050310.pdf

["The Legislature has directed the Department of Health Care Services and the Department of Social Services to implement a statewide eligibility and enrollment determination process for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Food Stamp, and Medi-Cal programs. The new statewide process is intended to achieve two primary outcomes: (1) providing better service to people applying for these programs and (2) lowering administrative costs through better use of technology. We identify possible improvements and cost-savings in the eligibility and enrollment process. We also recommend a general approach that the Legislature may wish to consider when making difficult decisions about how to proceed."][Request #S10-11-4899]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CHILDREN

Public Investment in Children's Early and Elementary Years. By Jennifer Macomber, Urban Institute, and others. (The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC) March 2010. 32 p.

Full text at:

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2010/0415_public_investment_isaacs.aspx

["While families have long been the primary caregivers of children, all levels of government -- local, state, and federal -- invest in the growth and development of children, whether through education, family supports, or health and nutrition benefits. Knowing how that money is spent, and whether it is being put to good use, is crucial for creating effective public policy.... We have looked in-depth to highlight federal investment by age group. Analyses by age allow us to evaluate spending in light of what we know about child development and about policy priorities. They also reveal which federal programs and categories dominate spending for each age group. Federal officials and the interested public may not know which programs spend more or less on different groups of children. As part of these reports, we also integrate estimates of state and local spending."]

[Request #S10-11-4900]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

POVERTY

A Modern Framework for Measuring Poverty and Basic Economic Security. By Shawn Fremstad, Center for Economic and Policy Research. (The Center, Washington, DC) April 2010. 66 p.

Full text at: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/poverty-2010-04.pdf>

["The dominant framework for understanding and measuring poverty in the United States has become an ideologically conservative one. It conceptualizes poverty only in terms of having an extremely low level of annual income, and utilizes poverty thresholds that are adjusted only for inflation rather than for changes in overall living standards. As a result, the official poverty measure has effectively defined deprivation down over the last four decades, moving it further and further away from mainstream living standards over time.... Congress should provide funding to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor to develop a truly modern, multi-dimensional approach, one that provides a more accurate picture of poverty and basic economic security than the current poverty measure alone."]
[Request #S10-11-4897]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

YOUTH

"Conceptualizing Juvenile Prostitution as Child Maltreatment: Findings from the National Juvenile Prostitution Study." By Kimberly J. Mitchel, and others. IN: Child Maltreatment, vol. 15, no. 1 (February 2010) pp. 18-36.

Full text at: <http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/Mitchell%202010%20conceptualizing.pdf>

["Nearly one-third of the juvenile prostitutes picked up by police are treated as offenders rather than victims, a nationwide study of teen prostitution found. Police in Los Angeles and San Francisco led the nation in arrests, The study estimates that there are between 1,300 and 1,600 juvenile prostitutes in the U.S. However, if large police forces were as active in pursuing the cases as Los Angeles, the nationwide estimate would reach 13,879.... The authors conclude that police are generally doing little about the problem, as more than half of the police agencies they contacted provided no information about arrests. They suggest better reporting of cases, possibly with mandatory reporting to the FBI. Social supports to youths rescued from prostitution also seem to be lacking." California Watch (May 12, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-11-4901]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT

Metropolitan Transportation Commission 2009 Annual Report: Transit in Transition. By the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. (The Commission, Oakland, California) 2010. 28 p.

Full text at: <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/library/AnnualReport-09/>

["Bay Area public transit is caught in a downward spiral, and fundamental changes must be made to rescue it. The area's more than two dozen transit systems, including BART and AC Transit, are likely to need about \$1 billion a year for the next 25 years to survive. Bay Area ferries, buses and trains are barreling toward deficits totaling about \$25 billion deficit in 2033. 'By all measures, the long-term prognosis points to decline, not stability,' Steve Heminger, the commission's executive director, said in the report. 'The current transit system is unsustainable.' Fewer people are taking transit to work because fewer people have jobs and reduced spending means less revenue from sales tax. In response, agencies cut service and hike fares, further decreasing income from the fare box. Heminger described this cycle as 'a road to ruin.'" Oakland Tribune (May 4, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-11-4862]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)