



Studies in the News

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

California Women and State Incarceration: An Overview. By Melissa Barker, et al. California Research Bureau. S-13-015. Aug. 2013. 2 p.

<http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/13/S-13-015.pdf>

"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

***California Teen Birthrates, 1991-2001.* California Department of Public Health. July 2013. 13 p.**
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/mcah/Documents/MO-MCAH-2011TBR-DataSlides.pdf>

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

***Testimony Before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives: Intellectual Property: Insights Gained from Efforts to Quantify the Effects of Counterfeit and Pirated Goods in the U.S. Economy.* Statement of Susan Offutt. Government Accountability Office. GAO-13-762T. July 9, 2013. 14 p.**
<http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/655781.pdf>

"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

***Early Care and Education State Budget Actions FY 2013.* National Conference of State Legislatures. Aug. 2013. 16 p.**
http://www.ncsl.org/documents/cyf/ECE_BudgetReport_FY13.pdf

"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

Does it Pay to Volunteer? The Relationship between Volunteer Work and Paid Work. By Helene Jorgensen. Center for Economic and Policy Research. June 2013. 14 p.

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/volunteer-2013-06.pdf>

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

The Nexus of Food, Energy and Water. Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership (IGEL). Knowledge @ Wharton, University of Pennsylvania. June 2013. 24 p.

http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/papers/sponsor_collaborations/2013-06-26%20Nexus%20of%20Food%20Energy-Water.pdf

“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 three 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

“Comparison of Geomechanical Deformation Induced by Megatonne-Scale CO₂ Storage at Sleipner, Weyburn, and In Salah”. By James P. Verdon, et al. *PNAS* vol. 110, no. 30 (July 8, 2013). 10 p.

<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

State Lotteries. By Jennifer Burnett. Council of State Governments. June 2013. 4 p.

http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/drupal/system/files/cr_lotteries_.pdf

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

“Vital Signs: Overdoses of Prescription Opioid Pain Relievers and Other Drugs Among Women – United States, 1999-2010.” By Karin A. Mack, et al. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* vol. 62 no. 26 (July 5, 2013), pp. 537-542.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6226a3.htm?s_cid=mm6226a3_w

“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

Diverse Children: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in America’s New Non-Majority Generation. By Donald J. Hernandez, et al. Foundation for Child Development. July 23, 2013. 37 p.

<http://fcd-us.org/resources/race-ethnicity-and-immigration-report#node-1360>

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

2011 Language Mapper. U.S. Census Bureau.

http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/language/data/language_map.html?eml=gd

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

Rethinking PARIS Data Match: Connecting Veterans on Medi-Cal to Federal Benefits. Legislative Analyst's Office. Aug. 6, 2013. 32 p.

<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.”

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