

Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

August 9, 2017

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- * California history
- * Public finance
- * Populism
- * Economics under our future robot overlords



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Fed finds student debt impacts home ownership

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1 in 5 Americans has been subjected to online harassment

ECONOMY

Echoes of Rising Tuition in Students' Borrowing, Educational Attainment, and Homeownership in Post-Recession America. By Zachary Bleemer, et al. Federal Reserve Bank of New York. July, 2017. 50 p.

https://www.newyorkfed.org/medialibrary/media/research/staff_reports/sr820.pdf?la=en

"In a paper published last week by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, five researchers offered an explanation for declining home ownership rates among millennials.... Increase in public tuition and resulting student debt can account for anywhere between 11 and 35% of the decline in home ownership for 28- to 30-year-olds.... There isn't a significant relationship between increasing tuition and the number of students seeking higher education.... This leads the researchers to a final conclusion: 'The evidence points to a final policy opportunity to stimulate youth homeownership over the long run: funding state higher education." (*The Intercept*, July 18, 2017).

EDUCATION

Crime, Violence, Discipline and Safety in U.S. Public Schools: Findings from the School Survey on Crime and Safety: 2015-2016. By Rachel Hanson, et al. U.S. Department of Education. July 2017. 83 p.

https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2017/2017122.pdf

This report is a summary of statistics on school safety issues, based on a "stratified random sample" of 3,553 U.S. public schools. The report found that middle schools reported higher rates of violent incidents per 1,000 students (27) than high schools (16), as well as a higher percentage of student bullying—daily or once a week (at 22%)—than high schools (at 15%). Certain major factors can limit a school's ability to prevent or reduce crime, such as a lack of alternative placements or programs for disruptive students.

Good Jobs That Pay Without a BA. By Anthony Carnevale, et al. Center on Education and the Workforce. July 2017. 31 p.

https://goodjobsdata.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Good-Jobs-wo-BA-final.pdf

"A college education has been billed to millions of Americans as a tried-and-true pathway to eventual financial security, but a new study from Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce has tallied 30 million 'good jobs' out there that don't require a bachelor's degree. The report was developed through a partnership with JPMorgan Chase to profile what researchers describe as 'good jobs' for those who don't have traditional college degrees. For people under the age of 45, that means a position with an annual salary of at least \$35,000. For those over 45, that minimum earnings floor is raised to \$45,000. The study's authors ultimately found the average good job in the U.S. that doesn't require a bachelor's degree pays \$55,000 annually. But they also identified 16 million such positions that pay more than that." (US News and World Report, July 26, 2017).

EMPLOYMENT

A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law. By Eric Chung et al. National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. July 2017. 48 p.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59556778e58c62c7db3fbe84/t/596cf0638419c2e5a0dc5766/1500311662008/170716_PortraitProject_SinglePages.pdf

"Since 2000, the number of Asian American lawyers has grown from 20,000 to 53,000 today, comprising nearly 5% of all lawyers nationwide.... Over the past three decades, the number of Asian Americans in law school has quadrupled to roughly 8,000, now comprising nearly 7% of total enrollment.... Although Asian Americans comprised 10.3% of graduates of top-30 law schools in 2015, they comprised only

6.5% of all federal judicial law clerks..... Despite recent progress, only 25 Asian Americans serve as active Article III judges, comprising 3% of the federal judiciary. Asian Americans comprise 2% of state judges."

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Energy Impacts of Cannabis Cultivation: Workshop Report and Staff Recommendations. By April Mulqueen, et al. California Public Utilities Commission. Apr. 20, 2017. 21 p.

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUC_Public_Website/Content/About_Us/Organization/Divisions/Policy_and_Planning/PPD_Work/PPD_Work_Products_(2014_forward)/PPD%20-%20Prop%2064%20Workshop%20Report%20FINAL.pdf

This report summarizes panel discussions hosted by the California Public Utilities Commission. Cannabis and energy industry professionals from California, Oregon, Washington and Colorado shared experiences about energy usage associated with growing marijuana in their respective states. Among the key takeaways from the panel discussion: California's high energy rates may pose a constraint on the expansion of indoor cultivation. At the same time, indoor cultivation is potentially the most water-efficient method. California utilities do not currently have sufficient data to identify new load patterns that may be attributable to cannabis production. Staff recommendations for the Commission are included in this report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Status of Women in California Government - 2017. California Women Lead. July 2017. 7 p. http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.cawomenlead.org/resource/resmgr/files/7.26.2017_Status_of_Women_in.p df

"The report found that women continue to be underrepresented in public posts despite making up half of the statewide population.... Only 31% of city council seats are held by women in the 482 cities across the state. On the upside, that's 69 more women than two years ago, according to the report. There are 137 women mayors. About 25% of county supervisors are women. Twenty-six women serve in the state Legislature, down from 31 in 2015-16. California currently has 119 state legislators with one vacancy." (Sacramento Bee, July 27, 2017).

HEALTH

Check Up before You Check Out. By Diane Alexander, et al. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. July. 2017. 57 p.

https://www.chicagofed.org/publications/working-papers/2017/wp2017-11

Researchers used emergency room visits in New Jersey from 2006 to 2014 to analyze the impact of retail clinics on ER usage based on three sets of conditions: emergent and preventable, primary care treatable, and emergent but not preventable. The study shows evidence of decreases in ER visits for influenza, diabetes and other primary care treatable conditions in the months after a retail clinic opens. They estimated an annual cost savings from reduced ER visits of \$817,492 per 100,000 people. If retail clinics were made available throughout New Jersey, \$70 million in annual cost savings could result from reduced ER usage [estimates scaled to New Jersey 2010 population].

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Online Harassment 2017. By Maeve Duggan. Pew Research Center. July 11, 2017. 85 p. http://www.pewinternet.org/2017/07/11/online-harassment-2017/

"To borrow an expression from the technology industry, harassment is now a 'feature' of life online for many Americans. In its milder forms, it creates a layer of negativity that people must sift through as they navigate their daily routines online. At its most severe, it can compromise users' privacy, force them to choose when and where to participate online, or even pose a threat to their physical safety." Pew's latest survey finds "nearly one-in-five Americans (18%) have been subjected to particularly severe forms of harassment online, such as physical threats, harassment over a sustained period, sexual harassment or stalking."

About the California Research Bureau

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