CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT
Why less than half of rape cases in Los Angeles result in an arrest

EDUCATION
Teacher bonuses may be effective in improving student achievement
Study examines if teacher evaluation reforms impact attracting new teachers

EMPLOYMENT
Exploring why labor nonparticipation for prime-age men is increasing
McKinsey: 3-14% of workers worldwide will be displaced by automation by 2030

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
Emissions from fertilized soils in Central Valley are big source of smog

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
The president's proposed FY 2019 budget, in brief
5.5% decrease in federal funding to CA in 2019 Budget

HUMAN SERVICES
CA’s early intervention program for infants and toddlers in need of restructuring
CA gets failing grades in report card on child services

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
CA on pace for 1.5 Million ZEVs by 2025, need charging stations

RECOMMENDED READING
"Cadillac Desert" by Marc Reisner

CAPITOL TRIVIA
Who was the longest serving female state legislator in California?

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT


In a normal decision to arrest a suspect, the determination is whether probable cause of the commission of the crime exists. The authors of this study conclude that in the case of Los Angeles data, arrests are often made on “whether the prosecuting attorney believes that the evidence meets the standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt and that the case would result in jury conviction,” which is a higher standard, and one reason that “only 46.8 percent of rape cases reported ended in an arrest.” (The Crime Report, Feb. 21, 2018).
EDUCATION


A study of the federal Teacher Incentive Fund finds “pay-for-performance” programs may lead to higher student achievement in reading and math. The study compared results between schools that offered an across-the-board 1 percent bonus to those that offered a bonus based on classroom observations and student test scores. The researchers found that “[t]he schools that gave performance bonuses boosted student test scores throughout the four years of the study, between 2011 and 2015.” The program also appears to be more cost-effective than reducing class size, and “was about as cost-effective as offering incentives for high-performing teachers to transfer to low-performing schools.”


Researchers found that “[l]everaging variation in the adoption of reforms across states and time … evaluation reforms resulted in a steady decline in the statewide supply of new teachers, whereas tenure reforms produced a sharp but more temporary contraction. In exploratory analyses, we find no evidence that decreases in labor supply differed systematically across non-shortage and shortage licensure areas. We find mixed evidence of the effect of accountability on the selectivity of the institutions where prospective teachers earned their teaching degrees. Tenure reforms appear to have reduced supply most among candidates from less selective universities, while there is little evidence evaluation reforms had any differential effect by university selectivity.”

EMPLOYMENT


“The labor force participation rate for prime-age men (age 25 to 54) in the United States has declined dramatically since the 1960s, but the decline has accelerated more recently…. [T]he nonparticipation rate increased most for men with only a high school degree, some college, or an associate’s degree and for men on the younger end of the prime-age range (age 25–34)…. [T]he most common personal situation reported among nonparticipating prime-age men was disability or illness…. [A] decline in the demand for middle-skill workers [in response to automation and globalization] accounts for most of the decline in participation among prime-age men…. This lack of job opportunities, in turn, may lead to depression and illness among displaced workers, and these health conditions may become further barriers to their employment.”


“[D]epending on a country’s level of development, advances in automation will require 3-14% of workers worldwide to change occupations or upgrade their skills by the year 2030. Already, about 10% of all jobs in Europe have disappeared since 1990 during the first wave of routine-based technological change. And...”
with advances in artificial intelligence (AI), which affects a broader range of tasks, that share could double in the coming years…. Looking ahead, policymakers and businesses should … embrace AI and automation without hesitation … equip workers with the right skills … focus on augmented-labor opportunities … innovate and capitalize on new market opportunities at the same pace that human tasks are being replaced … [and] reinvest AI-driven productivity gains in as many economic sectors as possible.” (Project Syndicate, Jan. 16, 2018)

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT


“A previously unrecognized source of nitrogen oxide is contributing up to 40% of the NOₓ emissions in California…. The study traces the emissions to fertilized soils in the Central Valley region [and] suggested that between 25 and 41% of NOₓ emissions comes from soils with heavy nitrogen fertilizer applications. Smog-forming Nitrogen Oxides, or NOₓ, are a family of air-polluting chemical compounds. They are central to the formation of ground-level ozone and contribute to adverse health effects, such as heart disease, asthma and other respiratory issues…. The study suggests potential solutions for reducing NOₓ soil emissions, primarily through different forms of fertilizer management.” (UC Davis News, Jan. 31, 2018.)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT


Compared to last fiscal year, the president’s 2019 budget set a 4% decrease in funding for the 10 largest discretionary grant-in-aid programs, with only transportation programs receiving increases. Proposed new programs include $1 billion in educational scholarships to private schools and open enrollment grants, and a $522 million request for all-hazards preparedness assistance for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Other notable proposals include: $160 million increase for charter schools, $10 billion in new discretionary funding to treat opioid abuse and serious mental illness, reductions in federal Medicaid spending by $8.2 billion and $1.4 trillion over 10 years, $300 million to support public housing agencies near insolvency, and transfer of $485.5 million from the Crime Victims Fund to the Office on Violence Against Women.


The VIP Series are publications by FFIS focusing on the largest federal grant-in-aid programs that are most important to states. The current edition estimates the impact of the president’s proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2019. Compared to last fiscal year, California would see a 5.5% overall decrease (-$4.82 million) in federal funding to 43 mandatory and discretionary programs (from $87.59 million to $82.77 million). The 6.8% drop in funding for discretionary programs includes the elimination of funding to nine programs, such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ($176,926) and the Community Development Block Grants ($354,464).
HUMAN SERVICES


“In 2015-16, California provided early intervention services to about 41,000 infants and toddlers with special needs…. The state’s early intervention system provides these infants and toddlers with services such as speech therapy and home visits focused on helping parents promote their child’s development…. [However,] its bifurcated design results in service delays and large differences in the amount of funding and parental choice offered to families served by schools and regional centers. We recommend unifying the system and serving all infants and toddlers through regional centers. We believe this unified system would address the system’s major weaknesses while generating state savings that could be used to expand or improve early intervention services.”


“Of the 1.5 million infants and toddlers in California, 62 percent are in low-income families, according to a report issued Thursday. And that’s not good for their well-being because California gets failing grades on the 2018 report card put out by the advocacy group Children Now. California gets a D+ for child care, a D for child abuse and neglect prevention, a C- for developmental screening and a D+ for home visits. Its best grade is an A in health insurance, thanks to the expansion of coverage under Obamacare and Medi-Cal.” ([Sacramento Bee](http://www.sacbee.com), Feb. 1, 2018).

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE


“Buoyed by an exceptional sales year in 2017, the state’s electric vehicle market will continue to grow this year and will reach 1.5 million zero-emission vehicles by 2025, an earlier target set by Gov. Jerry Brown…. 2018 sales will piggyback on a 29.1 percent increase of zero-emission vehicle sales in California in 2017, a turning point year. Currently, 337,483 zero-emission vehicles have been sold in California, reaching nearly 5 percent of the state’s market share…. Brown wants to speed sales even more. Last week, he set a new goal of 5 million zero-emission vehicles by 2030, a number the report said will be a challenge to meet unless more charging infrastructure is built…. California has reached 16,549 public charging outlets, most in the nation. But that works out to be 0.05 per each zero-emission vehicle on the road in the state, “one of the lowest ratios in the country.” ([Orange County Register](http://www.ocRegister.com), Feb. 4, 2018)

RECOMMENDED READING


**Call Number:** HD1739.A17 R45 1993 (Regular Loan)

**Location:** Stanley Mosk Building, 914 Capitol Mall, Room 301 (General Collection)

California State Library, 900 N Street, Room 200 (California History Room)

"Published when climate change was more theory than fact, the book scrutinized the water-fueled urbanization of the American West – an enterprise Reisner saw as unsustainable and headed for crisis. Three decades later, with droughts and wildfires raging, experts remain impressed by how much he got..."
right…. Most of Reisner’s conclusions stand tall under subsequent science. They include the West’s perilous rates of groundwater depletion, the inability of regional supplies to sustain populations, the devastating effect on fish and wildlife of dams and diversions – and the choking effect of irrigation-borne salt on agriculture.” (Sacramento Bee, Aug. 12, 2016).

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**CAPITOL TRIVIA**

*For Women's History Month:*

**Who was the longest serving female state legislator in California?**

_Teresa Patterson Hughes_ served 26 years total in both houses, representing the 47th Assembly District from 1975 to 1992 and the 25th Senate District from 1993 to 2000. She was also the _second African-American woman_ to serve in the State Legislature.

— Alex Vassar, California State Library Communications Manager and author of "California Lawmaker: The Men and Women of the California State Legislature"

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