**Selected Articles: Data in the News**

**June 4, 2015 - September 1, 2015**

**Prepared by *i.e.* communications for CWC Data Linkage Committee**

**Berkeley’s Open Data Portal Leverages City’s Legacy Data**

<http://gcn.com/articles/2015/08/31/berkeley-open-data.aspx>

GCN.com - August 31, 2015

The City of Berkeley has launched a site for the public to access open data, including 311 requests, business license data and crime incident reports.

**Data Transparency: What the Numbers Don’t Tell Us About Quality Healthcare**

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/patient-advice/articles/2015/08/31/data-transparency-what-the-numbers-dont-tell-us-about-quality-health-care>

U.S. News and World Report - August 31, 2015

Dr. Elaine Cox argues that full disclosure of data may bring unfair criticism to doctors and medical procedures that are risky by nature and affected by too many factors that are not immediately clear in measures used to assess health care providers.

**Educational Software Gets Attention from State Politicians**

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/08/31/daily-report-educational-software-gets-attention-from-state-politicians/>

New York Times - Bits Blog - August 31, 2015

According to a report from Data Quality Campaign, a nonprofit group that supports the use of student data in Education, 182 bills intended to protect student information have been introduced in 46 states.

**Many Psychology Findings Not as Strong as Claimed, Study Says**

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/28/science/many-social-science-findings-not-as-strong-as-claimed-study-says.html>

New York Times - August 27, 2015

A team of 270 researchers redid 100 studies published in three top psychology journals. Only 35 of the studies were able to be replicated.

**Abortion Foes Scour Clinics’ Trash for Discarded Records**

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/08/27/434945227>

NPR/ProPublica - August 27, 2015

Anti abortion groups seek evidence of privacy violations by rummaging through clinics’ dumpsters.

**Kids Count Data Book Now Available**

<http://www.aecf.org/resources/the-2015-kids-count-data-book/>

Annie E Casey Foundation - August 2015

The KIDS COUNT Data Book is an annual publication that assesses child well-being nationally and across the 50 states, as well as in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Using an index of 16 indicators, the report ranks states on overall child well-being and in economic well-being, education, health and family and community.

**Twist on Accountability**

<https://www.cabinetreport.com/politics-education/new-twist-on-accountability-focus-on-existing-reports>

Cabinet Report - August 24, 2015

Rather than creating new tools for evaluating school performance, state officials appear to be focused on using a number of existing academic and fiscal reports to help explain how well schools are meeting new educational benchmarks.

**Fiscal Maps Track Resources for Vulnerable Youth**

<http://www.bcm.org/bcm-releases-two-reports-detailing-funds-support-vulnerable-populations>

Ready for 21 News - August 20, 2015

Baptist Community Ministries, along with the Cowen Institute and the Forum for Youth Investment, released two studies. One tracks current and possible funding streams relevant for opportunity youth. The second focuses on the availability of support for younger children. The reports are intended to foster collaboration and collective understanding of the resources available for children and youth in the austere conditions of post Katrina New Orleans.

**Racial and Ethnic Fairness in Juvenile Justice: Availability of State Data**

Models for Change - August 7, 2015

http://modelsforchange.net/publications/774

NCJJ has released a new [StateScan](http://www.ncjj.org/pdf/JJGPS%20StateScan/JJGPS%20Racial%20and%20Ethnic%20Fairness%20in%20Juvenile%20Justice%202015_7.pdf) publication that summarizes the results from a review of publicly available data that describe racial and ethnic fairness across the country (including measures such as Disproportionate Minority Contact, and which states share the data publicly).

**Maps Highlight Suspension and Expulsion Records**

Cabinet Report - August 5, 2015

<https://www.cabinetreport.com/human-resources/maps-highlight-suspension-and-expulsion-records>

The U.S. Department of Education has released new, interactive maps detailing district-by-district numbers for the percentage of students suspended out of school in the 2011-12 school year.

**CDC: Violence high in U.S. despite declines**

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2422549>

Reuters Health - August 04, 2015

Using health and law enforcement surveillance systems, the researchers mapped trends in child abuse and neglect, youth violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, elder abuse and homicide.

**Texting Parents to Get Ready 4K**

<http://www.edcentral.org/ready-4k/>

EdCentral.com - August 3, 2015

Ready 4K! is a text messaging program that helps low-income parents bridge the word gap by sending text messages that help parents build children’s literacy skills.

**Strategies to Reduce Racially Disparate Outcomes in Child Welfare (Report)**

<http://www.cssp.org/publications/child-welfare/alliance/Strategies-to-Reduce-Racially-Disparate-Outcomes-in-Child-Welfare-March-2015.pdf>

Center for the Study of Social Policy

This report is a national scan of the strategies underway across the country to promote racial equity among children and families involved with the child welfare system.

**Building a tool to define ‘adequately-funded education’**

<https://www.cabinetreport.com/budget-finance/building-a-tool-to-define-adequately-funded-education>

Cabinet Report - July 27, 2015

San Diego Unified is nearing completion of what it’s calling an Adequacy Calculation Tool – an electronic mechanism that will allow it and others to accurately evaluate the relationship between existing resources and what’s actually needed to prepare students for success in college and career.

**Trying to Keep Your Data Safe? You’re Probably Doing It Wrong**

<http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2015/07/23/425502893/>

NPR - July 23, 2015

A new study by Google indicates that experts and non-experts have very different approaches to securing online data. Non-experts should probably rethink the way they’re going about it.

**Uncharted Waters: Data Analytics and Child Protection in Los Angeles**

Chronicle of Social Change - July 20, 2015

[https://chronicleofsocialchange.org/analysis/uncharted-waters-data-analytics-and-child-protection-in-los-angeles/10826](http://listserve.icfi.com/t/619904/2699094/47908/0/)

Los Angeles County is home to the largest child welfare system in the world. In an effort to help the Department of Children and Family Services’ investigators, who last year processed over 200,000 reports of child abuse, make better decisions, the department contracted with SAS, the world's largest private software firm, to test out risk modeling.

**Census Data Confirms: HIspanics Outnumber Whites in California**

<http://www.npr.org/2015/07/07/420769494>

NPR - July 7, 2015

The Census Bureau recently announced that Hispanics are the largest ethnic group in California.

**Are there hundreds of thousands of sex-trafficked runaways in the United States?**

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/wp/2015/07/02/are-there-hundreds-of-thousands-of-sex-trafficked-runaways-in-the-united-states/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/wp/2015/07/02/are-there-hundreds-of-thousands-of-sex-trafficked-runaways-in-the-united-states/?wpisrc=nl_politics&wpmm=1)

The Washington Post Fact Checker - July 2, 2015

This article breaks down the claim that nearly 300,000 runaways become trafficked. The author finds inconsistencies with how the data is gathered and reported.

**Chapin Hall initiative seeks better estimate, understanding of homeless youth**

[http://news.uchicago.edu/article/2015/06/25/chapin-hall-initiative-seeks-better-estimate-understanding-homeless-youth](http://listserve.icfi.com/t/617826/2699094/46484/0/)

UChicago News - June 25, 2015

Researchers will document the number of runaway and homeless youths in the United States, as part of a new two-year initiative from Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago aimed at producing the country’s first reliable estimate of its kind.

**The Cost of Letting Young People Drift (Editorial)**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/21/opinion/the-cost-of-letting-young-people-drift.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/21/opinion/the-cost-of-letting-young-people-drift.html?smprod=nytcore-ipad&smid=nytcore-ipad-share&_r=0)

The New York Times - June 20, 2015

A [new study](http://ssrc-static.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/MOA-Zeroing-In-Final.pdf) by Measure of America, a policy group at the Social Science Research Council finds that more than 5.5 million people ages 16 to 24 are neither working nor in school, a significantly larger group than before the recession**.**

**Insurer Uses Personal Data to Predict Who Will Get Sick**

<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/06/08/408190121>

NPR (WHYY) - June 8, 2015

A Philadelphia health insurance company analyzes its clients’ health data and other factors to find the frailest and assign them health coaches.