



Articles:

- **American Inequality Goes Beyond Dollars and Cents.** Washington Post. 6/8/2014. “Over the past two generations, the gap in educational achievement between the children of the rich and the children of the poor has almost doubled. What has driven these trends? No doubt there are many factors. But a crucial one has to be that the average affluent child now receives an estimated 6,000 hours more enrichment activity in childhood than the average poor child — and this gap has greatly increased since the 1970s. These observations on health and the ability to provide opportunity for children suggest that the differences between the rich and everyone else are about not only money but things that are even more fundamental.” [Read more](#)
- **Home, Food, or Health Care: A Choice Many Renters Can’t Afford.** National Public Radio. 6/15/2014. “The mortgage crisis that devastated the economy has received endless attention, but it's not just homeowners who have suffered badly in this economy. As of 2012, renters made up 35 percent of American households. Their numbers are growing, reversing a decades-long uptick in home ownership. The tradeoffs people are making are not tradeoffs between going to the movies or going out to eat, but basically ... nutrition, basic health care and saving for their future... Those are really important tradeoffs people are making in trying to find affordable housing.” [Read more](#)
- **How to Build a Better Neighborhood.** New York Times. 6/18/2014. “A great public place gives residents of a neighborhood a sense of belonging, pride, connection and beauty. But too many neighborhoods have no such place. Some have been destroyed by recession, with shuttered businesses and boarded-up buildings. Others are simply soulless, built for cars, not people, featuring strip malls that require driving instead of places for residents to walk, bike, play or gather. How do residents transform their neighborhoods into places built around people?” [Read more](#)
- **High-School Dropouts and College Grads are Moving to Very Different Places.** The Atlantic. 6/16/2014. “This analysis points to an ongoing and very real sorting process. Overall, larger and more vibrant metros with strong knowledge economies, abundant artistic and cultural amenities, and open-minded attitudes are the ones that are attracting and retaining the most college graduates. On the flip side, these metros are losing less-educated residents who are increasingly unable to make ends meet. They are instead moving to smaller, less affluent, lower-cost places. These very different migration patterns reinforce the ongoing economic and social bifurcation of the United States.” [Read more](#)
- **Minimum Wage: Who Makes it?** NYTimes. 6/9/2014. “Minimum-wage increases could appear on the ballot in as many as 34 states this year. President Obama has also proposed increasing the federal minimum wage to \$10.10, from \$7.25. Who makes the minimum wage, and who would be affected by any of the proposed increases?” [See who benefits here](#)
- **Money Buys Happiness, and Other Brief Lessons About Life Satisfaction in America.** Slate. 6/13/2014. “The Organization of Economic Co-Operation and Development is out with its big survey on the U.S. economy—a delightful compendium of everything from our energy use to

how our minimum wage stacks up globally to how our economic recovery is faring compared to Europe's (in a word, better)." [See common themes and graphs here](#)

- **No Money, No Time.** New York Times. 6/13/2014. "When we think of poverty, we tend to think about money in isolation: How much does she earn? Is that above or below the poverty line? But the financial part of the equation may not be the single most important factor. 'There are three types of poverty... There's money poverty, there's time poverty, and there's bandwidth poverty.' The poor are under a deadline that never lifts, pressure that can't be relieved. If I am poor, I work or I churn until decisions like buying lottery tickets begin to seem like attractive alternatives. I lack the time to calculate the odds and think of alternative uses for my money. Ultimately, we need to reimagine our perception of poverty completely. The focus now is on poverty as a fixed, immutable entity. We should view it instead as something far more malleable." [Read more](#)
- **On the Census, Who Checks 'Hispanic,' Who Checks 'White,' and Why.** National Public Radio. 6/16/2014. "'Some other race' is now the third largest racial group after white and black — black, white and other. Come 2020, the way the demographics are shifting, it would become the second-largest race in this country. This isn't the '50s anymore. We don't live in — and we never have lived, frankly — in a black/white/other world. There are lots of groups here and we deserve recognition, and to be included. There's a lot of fear out there about what this means, and a lot of it is sort of people not understanding that they're not trying to homogenize Latinos into one racial category. It's about giving people more options, not less options, to identify themselves." [Read more](#)
- **One Key to Success: A Belief in a Future.** New York Times. 6/10/2014. "If a poor child perceives the middle class as out of reach, prohibitively far from his or her own station, the child will have little incentive to make the investments needed to get there, like finishing high school or avoiding becoming pregnant. This they call 'economic despair. But it is not hopeless. ;The kinds of interventions we need are those that shape the opportunity sets and the perception of opportunity of these kids.'" [Read more](#)
- **Pre-kindergarten programs struggle to return to pre-recession levels.** Washington Post. 5/28/2014. "States dealing with steep budget cuts over the last decade slashed funding for pre-kindergarten programs in recent years, and reversing fiscal fortunes are only now beginning to restore some of the missing money." See map and states [here](#)
- **The Damage of Poverty is Visible as Early as Kindergarten.** Vox. 6/12/2014. "Children who live in poverty have far lower performance than their richer peers across a variety of measures, and those who live in near poverty in turn have dramatically worse performance than middle-class peers. [Ultimately]..."adults who were poor as children completed two fewer years of schooling and, by the time they reached their 30s, earned less than half as much, worked far fewer hours per year, received more in food stamps, and were nearly three times as likely to report poor overall health" than their peers whose families earned at twice the poverty line or more (though the causal linkages on health don't appear as strong as those on later achievement)." [Read more](#)
- **The Live's of America's Homeless.** The Atlantic. 6/5/2014. "Many of the portraits and stories have since been turned into a traveling exhibition...the typical response when viewers look at a portrait is, 'They don't look homeless.' We need to ask ourselves what that means...Somebody said, 'Gosh, that actually looks like the guy who drives my kids' school bus.' Well in fact it could



be, and he could not be making enough money, or could have had a health crisis, or a divorce, or some other reason, and he's driving your kids and loving your kids and caring for your kids during his day job, and then having to sleep at night in a shelter." [Read more](#)

- **The Luxury of Waiting for Marriage to Have Kids.** The Atlantic. 6/17/2014. "It's harder to plan when you're poor. People without college degrees tend to be poorer, and poverty has been shown to tax the brain's capacity for rational decision-making. To a wealthy person, of course it doesn't make sense for a high-school dropout to have a kid by herself. But...poverty actually robs you twice: First by making resources scarce, and second by making it harder for the poor to plan long-term. 'The demands of the moment override the demands of the future, making that future harder to reach.'" [Read more](#)
- **The Mental Health Consequences of Unemployment.** The Atlantic. 6/9/2014. "'Your whole life your job defines who you are...[then] all of the sudden that's gone, and you don't know what to take pride in anymore.' Unemployment is commonly understood as an economic problem, and inquiries into its nature tend to come from that perspective. Why do people struggle to find work even when jobs are available? What are the job prospects for those who have been unemployed for a long time? What policies, if anything, can Washington enact to help? But unemployment often exacts a toll that goes beyond economic concerns to psychological ones. Humans, after all, are not robots, and the loss of a job is not merely the loss of a paycheck but the loss of a routine, security, and connection to other people." [Read more](#)
- **The Nation's Economy, This Side of the Recession (INFOGRAPHICS).** New York Times. 6/14/2014. "In the five years since the United States began its slow climb out of the deepest recession since the 1930s, the job market has undergone a substantial makeover. The middle class has lost ground as the greatest gains have occurred at the top and bottom of the pay scale, leaving even many working Americans living in poverty. The housing industry, once the primary engine of growth and a fountain of jobs, has shrunk, while health care, technology and energy have led the recovery." [Read more](#)
- **The Peril of Hipster Economics.** Aljazeera. 5/28/2014. "In cities, gentrifiers have the political clout - and accompanying racial privilege - to reallocate resources and repair infrastructure. The neighborhood is "cleaned up" through the removal of its residents. Gentrifiers can then bask in "urban life" - the storied history, the selective nostalgia, the carefully sprinkled grit - while avoiding responsibility to those they displaced. [The displaced are often relegated to new locations] That new location is often an impoverished suburb, which lacks the glamour to make it the object of future renewal efforts. There is no history to attract preservationists because there is nothing in poor suburbs viewed as worth preserving, including the futures of the people forced to live in them. This is blight without beauty, ruin without romance: payday loan stores, dollar stores, unassuming homes and unpaid bills. In the suburbs, poverty looks banal and is overlooked." [Read more](#)
- **Seattle Minimum Wage: \$15 Figure Represents 'Historic Victory' For Workers.** The Guardian. 6/2/2014. "A University of Washington study commissioned by the Seattle council said the increase would benefit 100,000 people working in the city, reduce poverty by more than

one quarter and save the government money by reducing the number of people claiming food stamps and other welfare payments. The pay of full-time workers on the existing minimum wage would increase by about \$11,000 a year. Benefits ” [Read more](#)

- **Why America is Losing the Health Race.** The New Yorker. 6/13/2014. “Self-interest may be a natural human trait, but when it comes to public health other countries are showing the U.S. that what appears at first to be an altruistic concern for the health and care of the most vulnerable—especially children—may well result in improved health for all members of a society, including the affluent. Until Americans find their way to understanding this dynamic, and figure out how to mobilize public opinion in its favor, they will all continue to lose out on better health and longer lives.” [Read more](#)
- **40 Maps That Explain Food in America.** Vox. 6/9/2014. “The future of the nations will depend on the manner of how they feed themselves, wrote the French epicurean Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin in 1826. Almost 200 years later, how nations feed themselves has gotten a lot more complicated. That’s particularly true in the US, where food insecurity coexists with an obesity crisis, where fast food is everywhere and farmer’s markets are spreading, where foodies have never had more power and McDonald’s has never had more locations, and where the possibility of a barbecue-based civil war is always near. So [here are](#) 40 maps, charts, and graphs that show where our food comes from and how we eat it, with some drinking thrown in for good measure.”

Policy, Reports & Tools:

- **Boosting Family Income to Promote Child Development.** Future of Children. Spring 2014. “Can increasing poor parents’ incomes, independent of any other sort of assistance, help their children succeed in school and in life? The theoretical case is strong, and there’s solid evidence that the answer is yes—children from poor families that see a boost in income do better in school and complete more years of schooling. The authors offer examples of how policy makers could incorporate the findings they present to create more effective programs for families living in poverty. And they conclude with a warning: if a boost in income can help poor children, then a drop in income—for example, through cuts to social safety net programs like food stamps—can surely harm them.” [Read more](#)
- **Do ALL Kids Have Safe Places to Be Active? (INFOGRAPHIC).** American Journal of Preventive Medicine. 2008. [See infographic here](#)
- **Fighting Poverty Needs to be a National Policy Priority.** Brookings Institute. 6/13/2014. “Having a strong safety net must be part of our nation’s fight against poverty. And these programs should neither be viewed as nor designed as “band-aid” solutions—they should be designed and supported as investments in the long-term health and well-being of individuals. Without sufficient income to guarantee a safe home environment or adequate nutrition, children cannot thrive in school and build the health and human capital they will need as adults to compete in a globally competitive economy. Without temporary support, non-working or low-wage individuals are not able to return to school or engage in training in order to improve their economic position. The American Dream is premised on the notion that social mobility is not only possible, but expected—where one generation can do better than the last. If today’s youth start off on an uneven playing field, never able to catch up with their higher-income counterparts, we risk creating a culture of poverty that threatens the foundation on which our country was built.” [Read more](#)



- **Healthcare versus Health (INFOGRAPHIC).** SOCAP. “These terms are often conflated, but they refer to two very different ideas. Understanding the distinction is an important step towards creating a marketplace that values health.”
- **How Women of Color Are Driving Entrepreneurship.** Center for American Progress. 6/10/2104. “Women of color are a principal force behind one of the most important components of America’s current marketplace and our nation’s future economy: entrepreneurship. Today, women of color are the majority owners of close to one-third of all women-owned firms in the nation. But women of color face significant obstacles in starting their own businesses, leading to the question of why so many of them turn to entrepreneurship. The growth of women of color as business owners is part of a long-term trend, but the question of why this trend is occurring is often left unanswered. Looking at the alternative to entrepreneurship—the traditional workplace—sheds light on some of the reasons.” [Read more](#)
- **Income Inequality, Social Mobility, and the Decision to Drop Out of High School.** National Bureau of Economic Research. June 2014. “This paper considers the role that high levels of income inequality and low rates of social mobility play in driving the educational attainment of youth in low-income households in the United States. In the end, our empirical results indicate that high levels of lower-tail income inequality and low levels of social mobility hinder educational advancement for disadvantaged youth. We propose that the results are consistent with a class of explanations that emphasize a role for perceptions of one’s own identity, position in society, or chances of success.” [Read more](#)
- **Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: How the Performance of the U.S. Health Care System Compares Internationally.** Commonwealth Fund. June 2014. “The United States health care system is the most expensive in the world, but comparative analyses consistently show the U.S. underperforms relative to other countries on most dimensions of performance. Among the 11 nations studied in this report—Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States—the U.S. ranks last, as it did in prior editions of *Mirror, Mirror*. The United Kingdom ranks first, followed closely by Switzerland.” [Read more](#)
- **OECD Economic Surveys: United States.** Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). June 2014. “This report first addresses remaining macroeconomic and financial challenges [from the Great Recession], then reviews the pressures on working families, and finally discusses the consequences of the boom in hydraulic fracturing.” [Read report here](#)
- **Parents’ Employment and Children’s Wellbeing.** Future of Children. Spring 2014. “Low-income parents are most likely to work in stressful, low-quality jobs that feature low pay, little autonomy, inflexible hours, and few or no benefits. And low-income children whose parents are working are more likely to be placed in inadequate child care or to go unsupervised. Two-generation approaches, Heinrich writes, could maximize the benefits and minimize the detriments of parents’ work by expanding workplace flexibility, and especially by mandating enough paid leave so that mothers can breastfeed and form close bonds with their infants; by

helping parents place their children in high-quality child care; and by helping low-income parents train for, find, and keep a well-paying job with benefits.” [Read more](#)

- **Primary Care and Public Health: Exploring Integration to Improve Population Health.** National Academies Press. 2012. “Primary Care and Public Health identifies the best examples of effective public health and primary care integration and the factors that promote and sustain these efforts, examines ways by which HRSA and CDC can use provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to promote the integration of primary care and public health, and discusses how HRSA-supported primary care systems and state and local public health departments can effectively integrate and coordinate to improve efforts directed at disease prevention.” [See book here](#)
- **Reforming Taxation to Promote Equity and Growth.** Roosevelt Institute-Joseph Stiglitz. 5/28/2014. “This white paper outlines concrete policy measures that can restore equitable and sustainable economic growth in the United States, in the context of the country’s recurring budgetary crises. Effective policies are within our grasp, because these budgetary crises are the result of political and not economic failings. Tax reform in particular offers a path toward both resolving budgetary impasses and making the kinds of public investments that will strengthen the fundamentals of the economy.” [Read more](#)
- **Retail’s Choice: How raising wages and improving schedules for women in the retail industry would benefit America.** Demos Organization. June 2014. “This study looks at the retail industry as it is today for the 7.2 million American women employed in its ranks, as it will look in 2022 if present trends continue, and as it could be if the nation’s largest retailers—companies employing at least 1,000 workers—raised wages and improved employee schedules. Building on our previous study, we provide an updated assessment of establishing a new wage floor for the lowest-paid retail workers equivalent to \$25,000 per year for a full-time, year-round retail worker at retail companies employing at least 1,000 workers. We explore the implications of this wage hike for female retail workers in particular.” [Read more](#)
- **Understanding the Dynamics of Disconnection from Employment and Assistance.** OPRE & Urban Institute. May 2014. “This study uses interview data from a sample of 51 disconnected, unmarried mothers from Southeast Michigan and Los Angeles, California, to learn more about their experiences related to work, benefit receipt, and material hardship, the economic coping strategies they use to manage, and their overall well-being. The results from the two study samples highlight some important differences among disconnected mothers associated with place, immigration status, and having young children. However, despite differences in the two samples, many similarities in circumstances and struggles emerged that suggest more universal issues among all disconnected mothers.” [Read more](#)
- **Where Inequality Lives (MAP).** Pew Charitable Trusts. 6/12/2014. “Income Inequality is spread across the nation: Manhattan has the highest inequality of all US counties, while the second most unequal is on a Native American reservation in North Dakota. 6 of the 10 most unequal counties in the country are in the South.” See map [here](#)
- **2014 Forces of Change Survey.** National Association of City & County Health Officials. “NACCHO has released the 2014 Forces of Change survey containing new findings on the forces affecting change in our nation’s local health departments (LHDs). Economic forces, health reform, and health department accreditation are among the greatest contributors to change. Findings from the survey are presented in five research briefs...” [See here](#)



Research & Papers:

- **Addressing Patients' Social Needs: An Emerging Business Case for Provider Investment.** Commonwealth Fund. May 2014. "Informed by the Triple Aim, public and private payers are introducing payment models that hold providers financially accountable for patient health and the costs of treatment. These models—including capitated, global, and bundled payments, shared savings arrangements, and penalties for hospital readmissions—give providers economic incentives to incorporate social interventions into their approach to care." [Read more](#)
- **Early-Life School, Neighborhood, and Family Influences on Adult Health: A Multilevel Cross-Classified Analysis of the Aberdeen Children of the 1950s Study.** American Journal of Epidemiology. 6/12/2014. "Lifetime exposures to adverse social environments influence adult health, as do exposures in early life. We examined the combined long-term association of the school attended, as well as the area of residence in childhood, with adult health. Low early-life social position (as determined by the father's occupational level) was associated with poor adult self-rated health but not poor mental health. There were small contextual associations between childhood school environment, and neighborhood environment and adult self-rated health. The share of the total variance in health at the family level was 10.1% compared with 89.6% at the individual level. Both socioeconomic context and composition in early life appear to have an influence on adult health, even after adjustment for current occupational position." [See study here](#)
- **The Association of Telomere Length With Family Violence and Disruption.** Pediatrics. 6/16/2014. "bTL is a molecular biomarker of adversity and allostatic load that is detectable in childhood. The present results extend previous studies by demonstrating that telomeres are sensitive to adversity within the overarching family domain. These findings suggest that the family ecology may be an important target for interventions to reduce the biological impact of adversity in the lives of children." [Read research here](#)
- **The Role of Community Health Centers in Assessing the Social Determinants of Health for Planning and Policy: The Example of Frontier New Mexico.** Journal of Ambulatory Care Management. July/Sept 2014. "This article examines the experience of a frontier-based community health center when it utilized the Tool for Health and Resilience in Vulnerable Environments (THRIVE) for assessing social determinants of health with a local health consortium. Community members (N = 357) rated safety, jobs, housing, and education among the top health issues. Community leaders integrated these health priorities in a countywide strategic planning process. This example of a frontier county in New Mexico demonstrates the critical role that community health centers play when engaging with local residents to assess community health needs for strategic planning and policy development." [Read more](#)

Websites & Grants:

- **Community Commons (NEW DATA).** SNAP Authorized retailers by location. [See data here](#)
- **In US. Depression Rates Higher for Long-Term Unemployed.** Gallup Poll. 6/9/2014. "Record-high rates of long-term unemployment remain one of the most devastating effects of the

Great Recession in the U.S. The economic cost is huge -- but just as tragic are signs of poor mental health among unemployed Americans. The idea that extended unemployment causes workers' skill to atrophy is a common concern, but the effects of joblessness on candidates' health may be just as damaging to their ability to find -- and, just as importantly, hang on to -- a good job. Closely tracking the health effects associated with long-term unemployment may help policymakers design new interventions to reduce their severity. Programs geared toward helping American job seekers maintain psychological, physical, and social aspects of well-being over the course of their job search may help them to re-enter the workforce ready to be as productive as they were when they left." [See poll here](#)

- **Obesity Linked to Long-Term Unemployment in US.** Gallup. 6/18/2014. "With record-setting rates of long-term unemployment in most U.S. states, the health consequences of extended periods of joblessness have become a rising concern for policymakers. One key concern raised by the current analysis is that employers in industries that require manual labor, such as manufacturing and construction, may be less likely to hire candidates who are clearly out of shape. If so, workers in these industries -- who already earn lower wages, on average, than those in knowledge-based sectors -- may be even more likely to be caught in a negative cycle of joblessness and poor health." [See data here](#)

Webinars, Recordings & Videos:

- **Moving Community Prevention Forward: New Funding Opportunities to Continue to Make Progress in Community Health.** Trust for America's Health, PolicyLink, Prevention Institute and Public Health Institute. Monday, June 23rd, from 12-1:30pm (CST). Six new funding opportunities from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer a variety of stakeholders—including public health departments, national and community based organizations, community coalitions, school districts, local housing and transportation authorities, American Indian tribes, etc.—the opportunity to continue to build healthier communities with federal support." [To register.](#)
- **Promoting Health Equity Through Programs and Policies (Webinar series).** National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities. Spring/Summer 2014. "To support the integration of health equity in programs, policies and practices, the Federal Interagency Health Equity Team (FIHET) has created a monthly speaker webinar series to create a collaborative and learning environment to highlight current practices and innovative strategies for this type of work across sectors and at different levels of government." See webinar learning objectives and register [here](#).
- **Washington Post Live: Health Beyond Health Care.** Washington Post. June 18th, 7:30-11am, live streaming. "From workplaces, schools and neighborhoods designed to encourage exercise to advertising campaigns promoting healthy foods, the places we live and the information we receive about food and exercise have a profound effect on our well-being. From architects and urban designers to bankers and advertisers, creative minds from around the country and across disciplines will talk about the most innovative ideas for improving the health of Americans. Watch a live stream of the morning's discussions [here and follow below for the latest updates.](#)"

Conferences & Presentations:

- **National Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards training.** Wisconsin Minority Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention Unit, & Wisconsin Primary Care Office. Bruce L. Adelson, Esq. will be the trainer, he is a national expert and former senior



US Department of Justice law enforcement office. Thursday, June 26th, 125 S. Webster, Room 41, Madison or via webcast. Register on TRAIN: <http://wi.train.org>

- **More Than Skin Deep: Uprooting White Privilege and White Supremacy One Cell at a Time—A Three Day Institute.** Aug 1-3, 2014. Minneapolis, MN. “This three-day institute is for White people who already have an understanding of Race, Racism and particularly Whiteness (RRW), and who want to learn more about how to dismantle Whiteness (White Privilege and White Supremacy) through embodiment work, education, visioning and practical action.” [Register here](#)
- **Racial Justice Summit.** YWCA-Madison. Oct 2-3, 2014. Call for proposals [here!](#)
- **SOCAP Health: Creating the Market that Values Health.** SOCAP. June 25-26, 2014. SOCAP has joined forces with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, The New York Academy of Medicine, and the Build Healthy Places Network to convene an in-depth conversation about what creates health in our society. The goal of the conference is to examine the roles of entrepreneurs, investors, and funding bodies in the larger public health ecosystem. The first conference of its type, bringing together banking and finance, social enterprise and impact investing, health and medical care, and community development. [Register here](#)
- **White House Summit on Working Families.** Center for American Progress, White House & Department of Labor. “The financial security of hardworking American families is the foundation of a strong economy. Yet today, many working families are living paycheck to paycheck, struggling to achieve economic stability. The White House Summit on Working Families will provide a critical opportunity to bring together leaders from many different sectors to discuss the specific challenges undermining families’ economic security, and identify concrete solutions that can help families – and our nation – move forward together.” Stay up to date on the June 23rd events [here](#).
- **7th Annual Health Impact Assessment Practitioners Summer Training Course.** Health Impact Project. Oakland, CA. July 14-17, 2014. Register [here](#)