

## Those With Disabilities Earn 37% Less; Gap Widens With Educational Attainment



Workers with disabilities earn 37 percent less on average than their peers, finds a new report looking at the pay disparities these employees face. Among workers with a high school degree or its equivalent, those with disabilities earned on average \$6,505 less than their peers in 2011. This gap widens to nearly \$21,000 on average among those with a master's or more advanced degree. [Learn more about these findings at our January 22 event, Closing the Pay Gap for Workers with Disabilities.](#)

## In Massachusetts, Violence Prevention Program for Youths Shows Promise



An AIR evaluation of the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative in several Massachusetts communities credits the program for a reduction in violent crimes, or 984 fewer victims between 2011 and 2013. The initiative teams outreach workers with youths who receive support services, such as job training and mental health care. In Boston and Springfield, the program has saved these areas nearly \$15 million in costs related to violent crime.

## Few Schools Used Staffing Strategies to Improve Teacher Capacity for ELLs



A brief examining 11 schools with large populations of English-language learners describes efforts to improve teacher capacity through staffing strategies and professional development. The experts found that few schools used staffing strategies to improve teacher capacity for these students, and that most teacher survey respondents reported having participated in ELL-related professional development.

## Applying Medicaid Flexibility to Meet Behavioral Health Needs of Youths



Which reports, briefs and infographics made our [most-read list](#) for 2014?

### IN THE NEWS

**Tentative and Incomplete**  
[Mark Schneider](#) critiques the U.S. Department of Education's plan for a college ratings system.  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education, 12/19/14*

**Does the Common Core Really Mean Teachers Should Teach Differently?**  
[Steve Leinwand](#) says, "We don't have an achievement gap in this country. We have an instructional gap."  
*The Hechinger Report, 12/12/14*

[> Read more AIR media coverage](#)

### IN BRIEF

[Julia Lane](#) is elected **fellow** by her peers at the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

AIR launches the **Education Policy Center** with [Angela Minnici](#) as director.



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, up to 20 percent of children in the U.S. experience a mental disorder in a given year. With the prevalence of these conditions increasing, AIR looked at how states use Medicaid—the single largest provider of mental health services—to improve behavioral health

care and outcomes for young people. The paper also discusses ways states can address disparities in care, including family and peer support, school-based services, and telemedicine.

## SEDL Joins American Institutes for Research



SEDL, a private, nonprofit education research, development and dissemination firm, has joined AIR, creating an organization with enhanced capabilities and strengthened capacity. “We share a common mission of improving people’s lives, with an emphasis on the disadvantaged,” said AIR President and CEO David Myers. “This move expands the depth and breadth of our work and recognizes that the issues we address are multifaceted and cut across multiple disciplines. Together we are better positioned to answer the challenges facing all stages of an individual’s life.”



**Watch** our discussion on health behavior change in a digital environment, featuring experts from research, government and the private sector.

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