Is Medicare a Heavy Burden on Taxpayers? Papers Tackle This Question and Others

Four briefs by AIR’s Center on Aging challenge claims about Medicare’s sustainability, finding that recipients are paying 42 percent of Medicare’s cost if deductibles and copays are counted. Also noteworthy: taxpayer burden for the program is bearable over time.

Zambia’s Cash Assistance Programs a Boon for Poorest Families

A pair of no-strings-attached cash transfer programs in Zambia alleviated hunger and increased food supply, a multiyear study shows. Recipients used the money for home improvement, necessities for children, livestock and debt payments. Watch the latest Making Research Relevant to go deeper into the study’s findings.

Study: Ed Outcomes Worsen With Successive Immigrant Generations

First-generation immigrants do better in math and reading than their second-generation peers and second-generation students outperform third-generation immigrants, finds a report by AIR and Northwestern University. The study, which looked at Florida’s Asian and Hispanic immigrants, also found that recent immigrants were far likelier to graduate from high school.

Ten Q’s Policymakers Should Ask About Expanding Preschool Access

AIR’s Education Policy Center addresses the difficult task of scaling up a high-quality preschool program by looking at how communities across the country did it. Experts formulated ten questions for stakeholders to ask before developing a districtwide program.

Avoiding Common Pitfalls of Educational Technology Programs

As more schools integrate technology into classrooms, a new brief addresses common mistakes to avoid. AIR’s evaluation of two large-scale initiatives identified six pitfalls, including lack of coordination among education stakeholders and too little support for educators to develop concrete plans for new technology.
The transition home for those released from prison is rarely easy, and failure to reconnect means many end up back in prison. Experts reviewed re-entry and de-incarceration policies at a recent briefing.

Chaney Mosely describes how career and technical education programs can ensure success for students.

— Mark Schneider in response to a New York Times’ forum on for-profit schools and the G.I. Bill.

See more stats from this year's Indicators of School Crime and Safety report.