Reports & Resources

Affordable Care
Kaiser Family Foundation | READ STORY
Three years into discussion of the Affordable Care Act, a majority of American voters still feel that they are too under-informed to know how the bill will affect them. The Kaiser Family Foundation’s March 2013 Tracking Poll shows that attitudes toward the ACA remain divided roughly evenly across party lines.

Three Years Later, Public Still Divided by Party

Working Mothers, Working Fathers
Pew Research | READ STORY
This study by Pew Social & Demographic Trends presents data on the changing relationship between mothers and fathers at work and in the household. In

President's Corner
MSU Extension is again teaming up with Rural Dynamics Inc. to bring you the 2013 “Mobilizing Rural Communities Conference,” Sept. 25-26 in Great Falls, MT. Session presenters have until May 3 to submit abstracts online. Stay tuned for more information.

-Paul Lachapelle
MACDEP President

Upcoming Events
National Main Street Conference
April 14-16, 2013
New Orleans, LA
Sponsor: National Trust for Historic Preservation

Southeast Community Development Institute
April 22-26, 2013
Montgomery, AL
Sponsor: Troy University
dual-income households, 59% of mothers and 58% of fathers report spending part of their time on paid work, housework and child care. The data also shows that the division of labor between parents is more equal under such circumstances than in single-income homes.

**Fathers Conflicted about Time Spent with Children**

% saying they spend ... time with their children

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Too little</th>
<th>Right amount</th>
<th>Too much</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mothers</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fathers</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Notes: Based on mothers and fathers with children under age 18. "Don’t know/Refused" responses not shown.

Government Benefits

**New York Times | READ STORY**

This interactive tool, presented by the New York Times, displays the geographical distribution of individual dependence on government benefit programs for each decade between 1969 and 2009, showing that the share of personal income collected from benefit programs has more than doubled during this period.

Texting and Talking While Driving

**Atlantic Cities | READ STORY**

The Atlantic reports on a recent study by the CDC, showing that Americans are more likely to risk an
accident by talking on the phone while driving than are of those polled from outside the United States. Americans showed the highest likelihood of both texting and talking while driving.

Birth and Death in Rural America

**Daily Yonder | READ STORY**

The Daily Yonder reports on the declining post-recession birth-rate in the U.S., noting that nearly half of all rural counties are "dying," meaning that they saw more deaths than births between June of 2011 and July of 2012. Because of rural areas' generally older population, they suffered a disproportionate share of the year's deaths: 21%, despite being home to only 16.4% of the population.

**Metro Population Change**

**Governing | READ STORY**
Governing.com presents an interactive map that displays comparative population change data for a number of metropolitan areas, including Billings, Great Falls, and Missoula. The data shows that most of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas are in the South and Western regions of the country.