Outside Spending

**Open Secrets | READ STORY**
The term "outside spending" refers to political expenditures made by groups or individuals independently of, and not coordinated with, candidates' committees. The Center for Responsive Politics provides breakdowns of data reported by outside spending groups to the Federal Election Commission.

New Global CO2 Emissions Numbers Are In. They’re Not Good.

**World Resources Institute | READ STORY**
Each year in late November or early December, climate negotiators, NGOs and increasingly cities...
and businesses head to the annual climate talks. Typically coinciding with these negotiations is an announcement from the Global Carbon Project, which releases its annual data on carbon dioxide emissions, backed up by peer-reviewed publications. Carbon dioxide emissions are the largest contributor to human-induced warming, and, therefore, are one of the most critical signposts to watch.

Expanding Economic Security for 100 Million Americans

*City Lab | READ STORY*

A third of Americans are living at or near the federal poverty level—a new report sheds light on who they are, the obstacles they face and ways to connect them to opportunity.

18 Striking Findings from 2018
Pew Research | READ STORY
Pew Research Center takes the pulse of Americans and people around the world on a host of issues every year. We explore public opinion on topics ranging from foreign policy to cyberbullying, as well as demographic trends, such as the emergence of the post-Millennial generation and changes in the number of unauthorized immigrants in the United States. Here are 18 of this year’s standout findings, taken from our analysis over the past year.

Those living close to a coastline are more likely to say climate change is affecting their local community

% of U.S. adults who say global climate change is currently affecting their local community a great deal or some

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance to coastline</th>
<th>U.S. adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 25 miles</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-299 miles</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300+ miles</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey conducted March 27-April 9, 2018.

The Geography of Food Stamps
Daily Yonder | READ STORY
Rural counties and small metropolitan areas crowd the top of the list of U.S. counties that rely most on help from the Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program, the USDA program formerly known as Food Stamps.

Regional Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences
Deadline: April 26, 2019
Funder: National Science Foundation

Community Development Block Grant Program
Deadline: Ongoing
Funder: Department of Housing and Urban Development

National/International News

Saudi Woman Seeking Asylum Can Stay Temporarily in Thailand
AP News, January 7

Monarch Butterfly Population Declining at Historic Rate
US News, January 7

Soldiers Say They Have Seized Power in Gabon
KLUR8, January 7

Not Expecting Back Pay, Government Contractors Collect Unemployment, Dip Into Savings
NPR, January 7

Montana News

Bozeman Widow Continues Operating Husband’s Computer Museum
Billings Gazette, January 5
Most Montanans Don't Have Access to Drug Courts
NBC Montana, January 7

Montana Gets $4.2M Federal Preschool Grant, but Money Won't Pay for New Slots
Billings Gazette, January 7

Medicaid Expansion on Agenda for 2019 Legislative Session
NBC Montana, January 7