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MACDEP NEWS

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

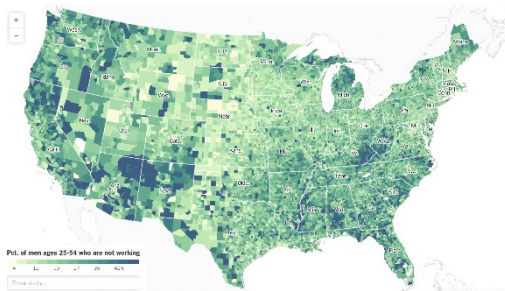
January 2015

Reports & Resources

How's the Economy Where You Live? 3 Interactive Maps Show State-by-State Comparisons

Daily Kos | [READ STORY](#)

Three different maps provide different angles in answering "how is the economy where you live?" The Wall Street Journal addresses the question using [wage stagnation](#). The Washington Post uses a [chronological map](#) filtering out the counties where decade inflation-adjusted incomes peaked. The final map is from a New York Times [multi-article](#) looking at the percentage of men of prime working age (25-54) who aren't working.



The Geography of Happiness

Pennsylvania State University | [READ STORY](#)

Geography and other environmental factors can affect residents' happiness. Researchers at Pennsylvania

President's Corner

The [NACDEP](#) election results have been released; our western regional rep is Roslynn Brain, Utah State University and our President Elect is Josh Clements, Iowa State University. The deadline to submit abstracts for the 2015 NACDEP Conference in Little Rock AR is Jan. 15.

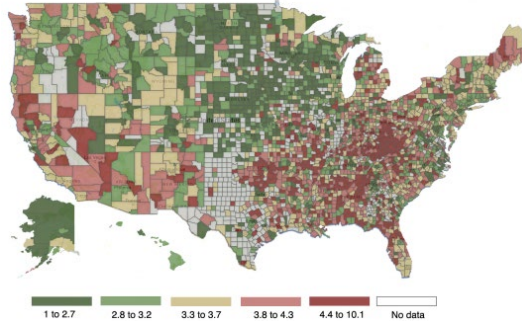
The 2015 [Community Development Society](#) Conference will be July 19-22, in Lexington, KY, USA. The Call for Abstracts is Jan. 31, 2015; To submit go to this [link](#).

-Paul Lachapelle
MACDEP President

Upcoming Events

State University looked at self-reported mental health assessments of people living across the U.S. counties and found a "sweet spot" for happiness. One place that correlates with more happiness is the line between rural and urban areas, where residents may benefit from the best of both worlds.

Mentally Unhealthy Days Per Month



As U.S. Energy Production Grows, Public Policy Views Show Little Change

PEW Research Center | [READ STORY](#)

Despite the [growth of domestic energy production](#), public attitudes about energy policies have changed only modestly in recent years. In broad terms, developing alternative energy is viewed as a more important priority than expanding the exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas.

Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) Conference

February 18, 2015
Elon, NC
Sponsor: North Carolina Campus Compact

IMPACT Conference

Feb 19-Feb 22, 2015
Los Angeles, CA

History of Youth and Community Work Study Conference

Mar 13- Mar 15, 2015
Leeds, England
Sponsor: Youth & Policy

Innovation in Community Development 2015

March 19, 2015
Melbourne, Australia

Building a Rock Solid Future

May 17-May 20, 2015
Little Rock, AR
Sponsor: NACDEP

Grants, Awards & Jobs

Operation AmeriCorps

Deadline: Jan 14, 2015
Funder: Corporation for National and Community Service

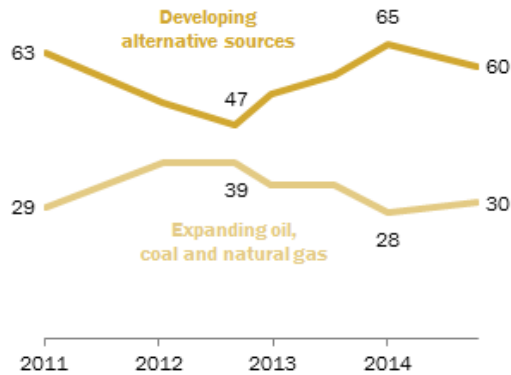
Children & Youth in Community Service

Deadline: Jan 31, 2015
Funder: Captain Planet Foundation

[Community Connect Grant Program](#)

Public Prioritizes Development of Alternative Energy Sources

More important energy priority for country ... (%)



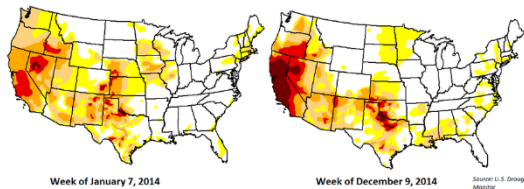
Survey conducted Dec. 3-7, 2014.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Drought impact study: California agriculture faces greatest water loss ever seen

UC Davis | [READ STORY](#)

A new [report](#) from the University of California, Davis, shows that California agriculture is weathering its worst drought in decades due to groundwater reserves. The study found that the drought -- the third most severe on record -- is responsible for the greatest water loss ever seen in California agriculture, with river water for Central Valley farms reduced by roughly one-third.



Many in Emerging and Developing Nations Disconnected from Politics

PEW Research Center | [READ STORY](#)

Deadline: Feb 17, 2015
Funder: USDA

Pilot Projects in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health

Deadline: Feb 28, 2015
Funder: NIOSH Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center

Sports, Youth, Health, & Community Engagement

Deadline: Open
Funder: Adidas Group

National/International News

EPA Releases Long-Anticipated Rules For Disposal Of Coal Ash

Huffington Post; Dec 19

Idaho nuclear waste shipments in limbo

Idaho Statesman; Dec 22

Robust economic growth in third quarter raises hopes that a boom is on horizon

Washington Post; Dec 23

Denver shelters cite legal pot in homeless upswing

Idaho Statesman; Dec 24

Some States See Budgets at Risk as Oil Price Falls

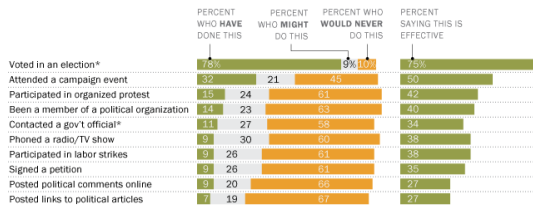
New York Times; Dec 26

Montana News

In recent years, high-profile protest movements have erupted in several emerging and developing countries. However, a recent Pew Research Center survey finds that many people in these nations remain relatively disconnected from politics. Although most vote in elections, few take part in other forms of political participation.

Aside from Voting, Political Engagement Low in Emerging and Developing Nations

Median, for emerging and developing nations



*Q91e and Q93e are excluded for Tanzania and Q91j and Q93j are excluded for Thailand due to translation error.
Source: Spring 2014 Global Attitudes survey, Q91a-j, Q93a-j.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Planned Meagher County hydro storage project could buffer wind, solar surges

Bozeman Chronical; Dec 1

Homeowners sue city of Bozeman over leaking landfill

Bozeman Chronical; Dec 16

Split PSC shoots down NWE bid to buy wind power from Montana project

Montana Standard; Dec 19

Ravalli County: Small manufacturing where timber used to be

Ravalli Republic; Dec 22

Retrofitted space aims to enable creative manufacturing

Independent Record; Dec 28

Take That, Car Culture: Public Transportation Ridership Up

APTA | [READ STORY](#)

Despite plummeting gas prices, public transportation ridership in the U.S. hit a record high. According to a new [report](#) by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), 2.7 billion trips were taken on public transit systems in the third quarter of 2014. That marks a 1.8 percent increase from the same period last year, and makes it the third quarter with the highest ridership since 1974. It continues a trend, as 12 of the last 15 quarters have shown increased public transportation use, APTA says.





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