



# TJIC Alert

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June 2011

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## LABOR

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### 1. Internships, Fellowships, and Other Work Experience Opportunities in the Federal Government

Jennifer E. Manning and Elli K. Ludwigson

18 p.

Congressional Research Service

May 12, 2011

Full Text:

<http://www.senate.gov/CRSReports/crs-publish.cfm?pid=%26%2A2%3C4Q%2CO%3F%0A>

The report describes Internet resources on major internship, fellowship, and work experience programs within the federal government. It is intended as a selective guide for students of all levels: high school, undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate.

### 2. Women in the Federal Government: Ambitions and Achievements

U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board

May 2011

108 p.

Full Text:

<http://www.mspb.gov/netsearch/viewdocs.aspx?docnumber=606214&version=608056&application=ACROBAT>

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) assesses the treatment and advancement of women in the Federal Government, based on analyses of workforce data and Federal employee perceptions of their experiences and career advancement in the Federal Government.

### **3. Deconstructing Structural Unemployment**

John Schmitt and Kris Warner

Center for Economic and Policy Research

Full Text: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/dws-2011-03.pdf>

15 p.

March 2011

Some economic observers argue "structural unemployment" has increased in the wake of the Great Recession. The first argument focuses on the large increase in unemployment among construction workers. The second argument is that falling house prices have reduced the mobility of unemployed workers, creating a "house lock" in which unemployed workers, who would otherwise relocate to regions with jobs, are stuck in high unemployment areas. However, the paper finds little support for either of two arguments that suggest that structural unemployment has been on the rise.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

### **4. Missed Opportunity: Transit and Jobs in Metropolitan America**

Brookings Institution

May 12, 2011

64 p.

Full Text:

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/jobs\\_transit/0512\\_jobs\\_transit.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/jobs_transit/0512_jobs_transit.pdf)

Public transit is a critical part of the economic and social fabric of metropolitan areas. Nearly 30 million trips are made every day using public transit. Almost all of these trips occur in the nation's 100 largest metro areas, which account for over 95 percent of all transit passenger miles traveled. People take transit for any number of reasons, but one of the most common is to get to work. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

### **5. Putting America Back to Work with Clean Energy**

Richard Caperton and Adam Hersh

Center for American Progress

Full Text: [http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/03/pdf/green\\_jobs.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/03/pdf/green_jobs.pdf)

7 p.

March 17, 2011

Richard Caperton and Adam Hersh explain the benefits of investing in green jobs. Investing in green jobs will immediately address two of our country's most important challenges: lowering unemployment while improving our energy system. For these specific reasons alone, these investments would be worthwhile. But these investments will also significantly improve our economy in the long term, making it more productive and efficient.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

### **6. New Jobs in Recession and Recovery: Who Are Getting Them and Who Are Not**

Rakesh Kochnar

Pew Hispanic Center

Full Text: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/138.pdf>

17 p.

March 10, 2011

In testimony before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, Rakesh Kochhar explains why for the first time since the official end of the Great Recession in June 2009, native-born workers in the second half of 2010 joined foreign-born workers in experiencing the beginnings of a recovery in employment.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

## **7. Federal Workforce: Practices to Increase the Employment of Individuals with Disabilities**

U.S. Government Accountability Office      February 16, 2011

15 p.

Full Text: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11351t.pdf>

The federal government is the world's largest and most complex entity, with about \$3.5 trillion in outlays in fiscal year 2010 funding a broad array of programs and operations. GAO maintains a program to focus attention on government operations that it identifies as high risk due to their greater vulnerabilities to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement or the need for transformation to address economy, efficiency, or effectiveness challenges. Since 1990, GAO has designated over 50 areas as high risk and subsequently removed over one-third of the areas due to progress made.

## **8. Do We Still Need Unions? Yes**

Klein, Ezra

Newsweek

February 27, 2011

Currently available online at

<http://www.newsweek.com/2011/02/27/do-we-still-need-unions-yes.html>

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's effort to end collective bargaining for public employees in his state unexpectedly became the best thing to happen to the union movement in recent memory, writes Klein. In just a few days, Walker did what unions have been failing to do for decades: unite the union movement and bring the decline of organized labor to the forefront of the national agenda. Although fewer than 7 percent of private workers are unionized today, unions still have a crucial role to play in America, says Klein. First, they give workers leverage for higher wages, voicing safety concerns, ideas to improve efficiency and protection from retaliation. Second, unions are concerned with more than quarterly profit reports — what economist John Kenneth Galbraith called a “countervailing power” in an economy dominated by large corporations. Finally, unions bring some semblance of balance to a political system dominated by moneyed business interests. Organized labor has played a major role in promoting landmark legislation, such as the Civil Rights Act and the Affordable Care Act — laws that benefit the general public, not just the unionized.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

## **9. Smart Work and Smart Cities Pay**

Florida, Richard

Atlantic Monthly

April 23, 2010

Currently available online at

<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2010/04/smart-work-and-smart-cities-pay/39393/>

Hard work and long hours do not translate into economic wealth, according to a study conducted across major U.S. metropolitan areas. But greater “human capital” -- creative people with better educations -- results in above-average wages. In the top rankings of this study was the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara area in California; at the bottom were Louisville, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, and Nashville. Metro areas populated by people who are considered open to new experiences rank high on creativity and innovativeness. The knowledge economy is driving growth, and creative, imaginative people are crucial to that growth. Working smarter, it seems, and not working harder, is what brings wealth and well-being to metros.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

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