



July/August 2015

As Landmark Disability Laws Reach Milestones, Experts Reflect on Impact



This year marks the 25th anniversary of the American Disabilities Act and the 40th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. AIR experts—including some who have been following the acts since their

passage—commemorate the milestones in an essay. They offer a split picture: While the roughly 56.7 million Americans living with disabilities have made great strides, they still have lower educational attainment and higher unemployment rates. The researchers also described those effects on the livelihood of people with disabilities.

Cash Transfers Offer Security, 'Resilience' for Zambia's Poor, Study Finds



The latest AIR study in a series evaluating a cash-transfer program in Zambia finds that after three years, the initiative continues to reduce poverty and increase economic security, but does little to improve young children's nutrition

and health. "There may be a limit to what demand-side intervention can accomplish for children in a situation with a low supply of services," the report concludes. The findings come as Zambia is expanding the reach of cash transfer programs.

Latest *Indicators of School Crime and* **Safety Includes College Hate Crime Data**



This year's *Indicators of School Crime and Safety* features a new section on college hate crimes, which shows that the most common types reported by institutions were destruction, damage and vandalism, followed by intimidation

and simple assault. The annual federal report also covers K-12 data and other topics, including gun access, teacher victimization and bullying. AIR has co-written *Indicators*, which the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Justice Statistics publish, since 1999.

Report Explores U.S. High School Dropout and Completion Trends

Dropout rates among high school students have

IN THE NEWS

What Do Students Need to Know to Be Proficient in Reading and Math?

Gary Phillips talks about the wide variation in state education standards.

The Washington Post, 7/9/15

The Way to Science is Through a Girl's Heart

A discussion summary featuring **Courtney Tanenbaum**, who says women in STEM often have "imposter syndrome."

U.S. News & World Report, 6/30/15

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IN BRIEF

Mark Schneider has an article in Issues in Science and Technology on the value of sub-baccalaureate credentials.

AIR and Georgetown University offer the first school-justice partnerships certificate program.

Jessica Heppen and Kirk
Walters contribute a chapter to
"Large-Scale Studies in
Mathematics Education."

A new **video** developed for the U.S. Department of Education describes the value of Open Educational Resources.

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trended downward, from 6.1 percent in 1972 to 3.4 percent in 2012, according to new analyses by AIR and the National Center on Education Statistics. Black and Hispanic students had

higher dropout rates than their white peers (6.8 percent, 5.4 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively). The report also shows about 91 percent of 18- to 24-year olds not enrolled in high school received a high school diploma or alternative credential.

Rural Students in Indiana Likelier to Enroll in 2-Year Colleges Than Urban Peers



Despite having similar college enrollment rates, academic preparation and qualifications, rural high school graduates in Indiana were more likely than their urban peers to enroll in twoyear colleges. About a third of rural graduates

and a quarter of their non-rural peers enrolled in colleges that were less selective than the students were presumably qualified for. Find these and other findings in a new report published by the Regional Educational Laboratory Midwest at AIR.



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