

The Arizona Initiative



Arizona State University

Past, present and future.
Senior Research Fellow David Berman takes a look at the overall operation of the initiative process, the likely consequences of and the challenges to the measures adopted, as well as what further changes are likely or might be on the horizon.



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STATE OF OUR STATE 2016



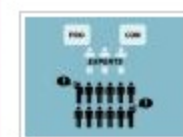
Click here to see video of the panel discussions

Featured Projects

Kyl Center for Water Policy

The Kyl Center for Water Policy at Morrison Institute seeks to generate policy proposals for public evaluation and subsequent consideration for possible action or adoption. An Arizona State University resource, the Kyl Center promotes research, analysis, collaboration and open dialogue to identify opportunities for consensus to ensure sound water stewardship for Arizona and the Western region for generations to come.

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Arizona Citizens' Initiative Review offers key findings on pension ballot issue

Morrison Institute for Public Policy conducted Arizona's first Citizens' Initiative Review – a direct-democracy, citizen-participant project to help voters better understand complex ballot issues – Sept. 18-21 at the Phoenix Convention Center. Participants offered their key findings and pros and con related to the Phoenix initiative on pension reform (Proposition 487).

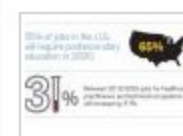
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Economic Development in Arizona

Morrison Institute is providing research and analysis support to Arizona Commerce Authority over the next two years to develop a process to continually evaluate and refine the state's economic development opportunities. Posted are 31 overview and executive summaries from recent years of various economic development reports for Arizona.

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Career and Technical Education

Challenges facing CTE are likely to be overcome only if policymakers, parents, school officials and the business community work together.

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Morrison Institute Welcomes You

Welcome to the Morrison Institute for Public Policy in the College of Public Service & Community Solutions at ASU. Currently, our group of

researchers is engaged in several projects studying and advising the state of Arizona with regard to past and future policy. To see more information about the mission and staff, please see the [About](#) section.

While other institutions may single out for study a particular side of an argument, Morrison Institute has developed a uniquely non-partisan model recognizing that Arizona's past and future always favors independence. Our research must cut across all boundaries of age, ethnicity, gender, economic status, and locale. That's why research undertaken by Morrison Institute addresses all sides of an issue and all those impacted by the policy enacted.

Our Seven Areas of Focus [DOWNLOAD PDF](#)

- **WATER:** Arizona and the West's water futures
- **EDUCATION:** The evolving role of education in a new economy
- **GOVERNANCE:** Governance, elections and voter engagement
- **CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS:** The growing Latino and aging populations
- **ECONOMIC GROWTH:** Expand, diversify and enhance trade with regional partners
- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE:** Courts, domestic violence and criminal justice policy
- **HUMAN SERVICES & HEALTH:** Health care and social service program evaluation

Latino Public Policy Center



The Latino Center was launched in 2012 to help clarify the impact of Latino-related issues, public policy and trends on Arizona's collective future. The Latino Center provides nonpartisan and credible data, analysis, expertise and content to policy makers, educators, news media, business and community leaders for better-informed decisions regarding Arizona's changing demographics.



The Arizona Capitol Times has named Morrison Institute for Public Policy as one of its **2016 Leaders of the Year in Public Policy**, with the Arizona State University center being recognized for its contributions to education.

Morrison Institute, which will celebrate its 35th year in 2017, has a longstanding reputation for bringing education issues to the forefront in terms of economic and workforce development and its intrinsic link to a prosperous future for the state and its residents.



News | Blogs | Events

7/5: Republic: Many teachers hold second jobs

The Arizona Republic reported that many educators have multiple sources of income, whether during the school year or the summer months. That reality, and relatively low pay for teachers in Arizona, has pushed education funding —...

6/26: Reilly to leave Morrison Institute to become Nevada chancellor

Thom Reilly will be leaving his position as director of Arizona State University Morrison Institute for Public Policy in August to become chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education. The Nevada Board of Regents voted unanimously...

6/23: Republic: Under-qualified teachers fill hiring gaps

The Arizona Republic reported that local school principals face a recruiting challenge as almost no qualified applicants walk in and those that couldn't fill spots with qualified teachers turn to interns. The Republic...

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6/22: Republic: School-voucher program 'riddled with errors'

The Arizona Republic reported that the Empowerment Scholarship Account program, created six years ago, has a serious flaw: It is impossible for the public to see how the money is spent. The program allowed families with disabled...

Garcia: Arizona ranks 46th for kids' well-being, with a cloudy future

It's tough being a kid. For a variety of reasons, that's especially true in Arizona. Arizona ranks among the bottom five in the nation in the ...

6/21: 12News: Many Arizona educators remain frustrated

In a Phoenix 12News segment, newscaster Joe Dana sought to verify if teachers are leaving Arizona for better pay. Cary and Justin Swotek, certified K-12 teachers, are preparing to move to China in August where they will continue...

6/20: Republic: Summer meal program available for kids

The Arizona Republic reported a texting service, run by the national non-profit Share Our Strength, taps into a national database of approved organizations offering free summer meals. Text "FOOD" to the number 877-877 (for Spanish, text "...

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