

# AI Shaw

News Apps Developer

ProPublica

@A\_L

Hacks/Hackers Buenos Aires. Aug., 2012

**What is a news application?**

**Telling a story in software  
instead of words and pictures**

**Readers become Users**

**How did we get here?**

# In the beginning



A screenshot of the ProPublica website. The main article is titled "Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains" by Sherina Courts and Jennifer LaFleur. The article text discusses economic contrasts in Florida, mentioning Miami Beach and Jacksonville. A sidebar on the right contains a Toyota Prius advertisement and a "Safeguard the public interest" call to action. At the bottom, there is a "Get Updates" section with an email subscription form. The website header includes the ProPublica logo and navigation links like "Home", "Our Investigations", and "Tools &amp; Data".

# CAR



Microsoft Excel - Book1.xls

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Arial 10 B I U

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Country	Sales					
2	United States	7583					
3	United Kingdom	4359					
4	France	45885					
5	Germany	3833					
6	Spain	8738					
7	Italy	5239					
8	Greece	38282					
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16							
17							
18							

Sheet1 / Sheet2 / Sheet3

Select destination and press ENTER or (



Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains - ProPublica

http://www.propublica.org/article/opportunity-gap-schools-data

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## Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains

by [Sherrin Courts](#) and [Jennifer LaFleur](#) | 18 Comments | [Republish](#) | [Email](#) | [Print](#)  
ProPublica, June 30, 2011, 9 a.m.

Florida is a state of stark contrasts. Travel a few miles from the opulent mansions of Miami Beach and you reach desperately poor neighborhoods. There's the grinding poverty of sugar cane country and the growing middle class of Jacksonville. All told, half the public-school students in Florida qualify for subsidized lunches. Many are the first in their families to speak English or contemplate attending college.

In many states, those economic differences are reflected in the classroom, with students in wealthy schools taking many more advanced courses.

**The Opportunity Gap**

But not in Florida. A ProPublica analysis of previously unleased federal data shows that Florida leads the nation in the percentage of high-school students enrolled in high-level classes—Advanced Placement and advanced math. That holds true across rich and poor districts.

Studies repeatedly have shown that students who take advanced

260 27 6 11

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# News Apps



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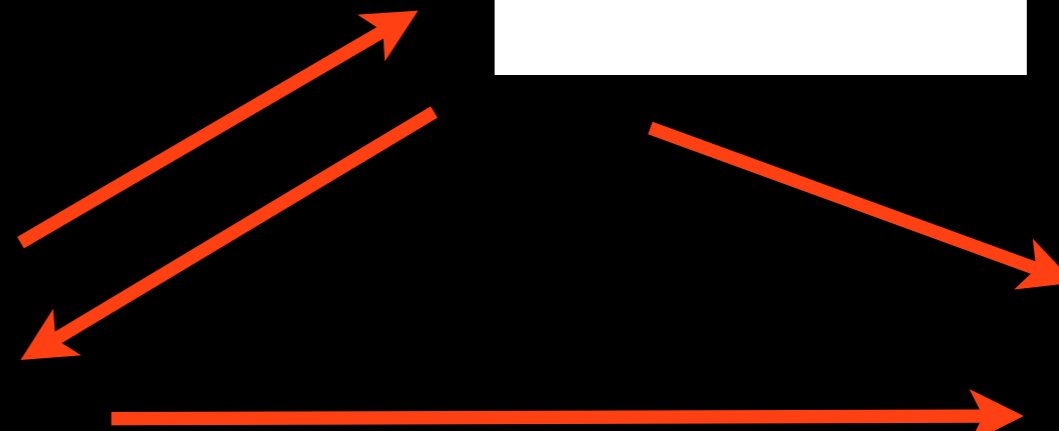
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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
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The Opportunity Gap

Don't Miss: Fracking | Dollars for Docs | Nursing Homes | Campaign 2012 | Surveillance | Foreclosures | Pirates | Free the Files

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### The Opportunity Gap

Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education?

By Jennifer LaFleur, Alissa Sherman Davis and Jeff Larson, ProPublica, June 26, 2012

This database includes all public schools in districts with more than 1,000 students from the 2009-2010 school year -- about three-quarters of all such students in the country. Use it to find out how well your state provides poor and wealthier schools equal access to advanced classes that researchers say will help them later in life. Read our methodology. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights | Related story: Some States Will Leave Low-Income Students Behind, Others Make Surprising Gains

ProPublica covers Jenya Hernandez contributed research to this project.

#### How States Compare

AP classes offered per 1,000 students

Ala. Alaska Ark. Cal. Colo. D.C. Del.

#### Find a School

Your Address, ZIP, or school name

For example: 1800 E. 5th St. Chicago, IL or 1704 N. Myrtle Ave

Connect to Facebook to quickly see your schools and your friends' schools.

#### Most Shared

Schools/Districts

1. Santa Monica High: Santa Monica, Calif.
2. San Bernardino High: San Bernardino, Calif.
3. Russell High School: Bend, Ore.
4. Trappanish High School: Trappanish, Wash.
5. Newcomer High (Lajoie): San Francisco, Calif.
6. Westlake II H. Austin, Texas
7. Mountain View Senior High School: Bend, Ore.
8. Lanier II H. Austin, Texas
9. Lowell High: San Francisco, Calif.
10. Chaparral High School: Lee Vicks, Tex.

#### Latest Local Stories Based on This Project

Forbes Daily News: Forbes School District needs to improve AP opportunities

Business Dispatch: As student bodies diversify, school districts have trouble finding minority candidates

California Watch: Low-income students score lower on AP tests

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# The New York Times

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one on one  
newyork.boston.com

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

Thursday, November 21, 1996

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## NEWS BY CATEGORY

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**



Norman Gives Clinton Some Tips

## LATE NEWS UPDATE

700,000 Additional  
Refugees Reported  
Seen Inside Zaire

## IN CYBERTIMES

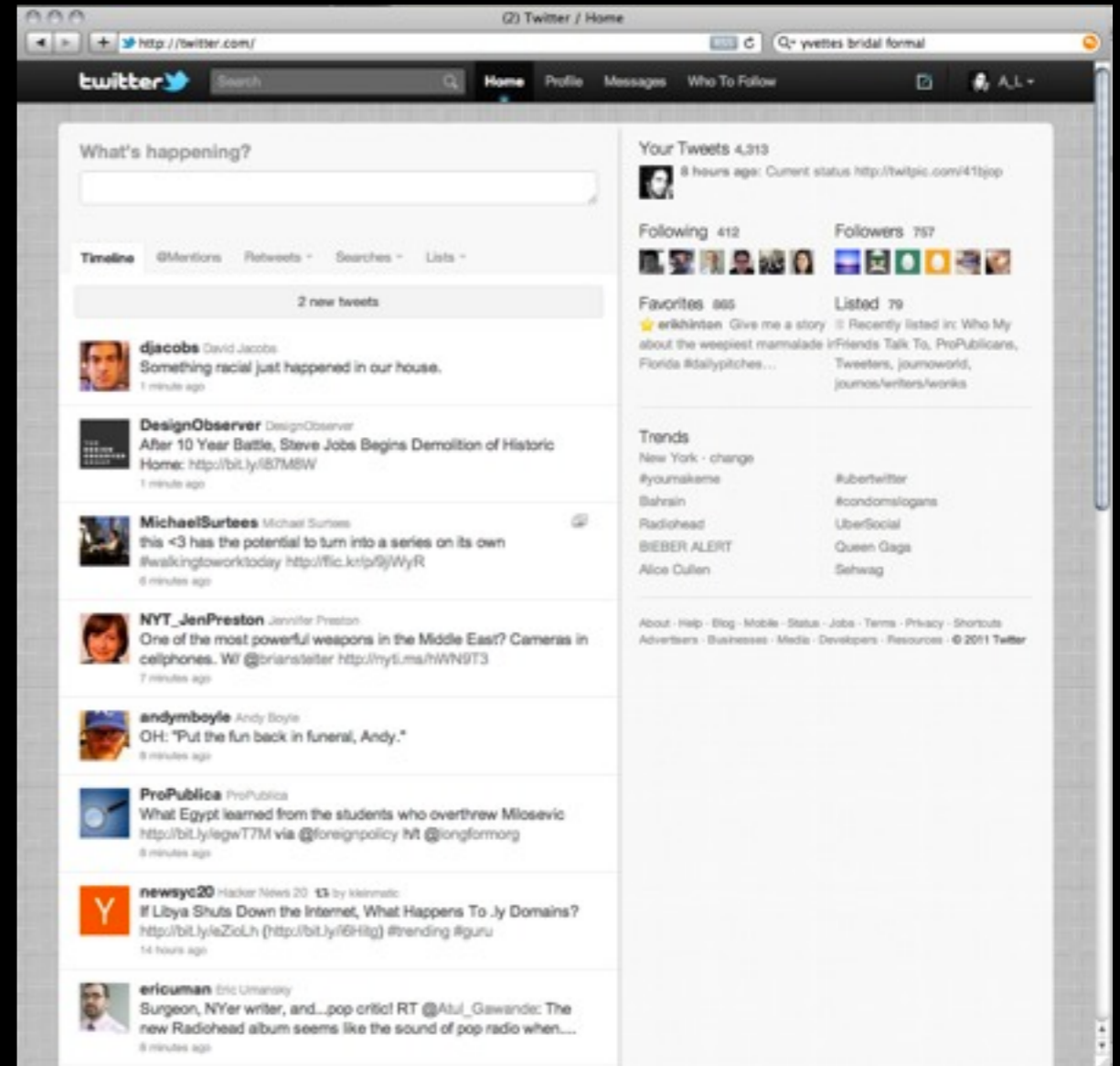
Wired Truckers:  
Big Rigs Roll  
Into Cyberspace

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Web page



Web app



**Why?**

# Why?



django





**Al Shaw**

@A\_L

Wait, people are actually talking about  
facto.me? We're getting dangerously close to  
`rails generate new\_hotness`

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10:23 AM - 3 Jan 11 via Tweetie for Mac · Embed this Tweet

Reply to @A\_L

**This is a good thing for deadlines.**



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## Progressive Sen. Russ Feingold Falls In Wisconsin

SENATE

HOUSE

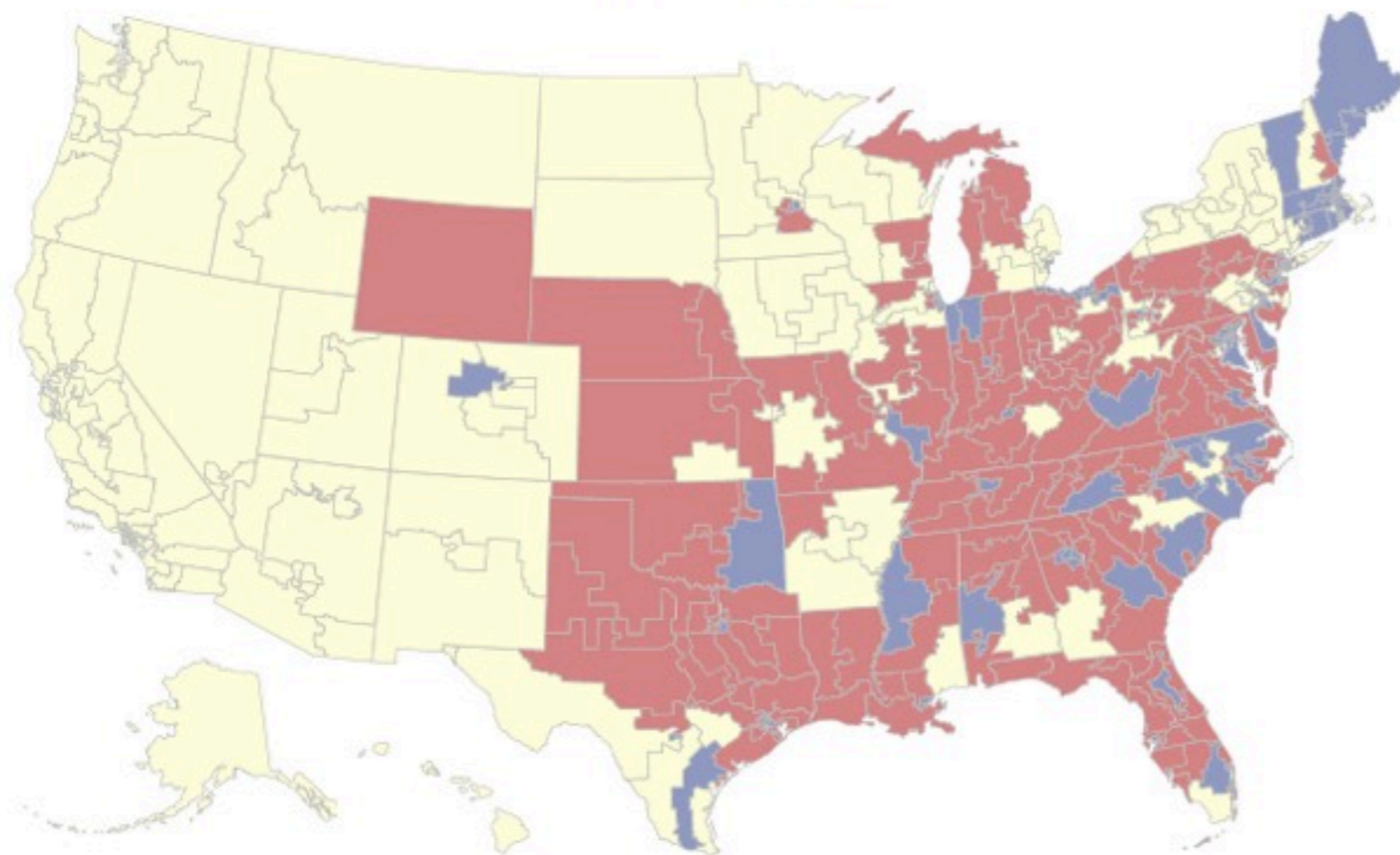
GOVERNOR

PROPOSITION

108

153

Amount Needed for Majority



### ELECTION SCOREBOARD

CO • U.S. SENATE ∞

619 / 3,246 PRECINCTS REPORTING

<b>Michael Bennet</b>	Dem	<b>51.63%</b> 406,191 votes
<b>Ken Buck</b>	GOP	<b>46.23%</b> 363,731 votes
<b>Bob Kinsey</b>	Grn	<b>2.13%</b> 16,789 votes

FL • GOVERNOR ∞

5,480 / 6,881 PRECINCTS REPORTING

<b>Rick Scott</b>	GOP	<b>50.70%</b> 2,312,424 votes
<b>Alex Sink</b>	Dem	<b>46.88%</b> 2,138,365 votes
<b>Peter Allen</b>	Inp	<b>2.42%</b> 110,200 votes

WI • U.S. SENATE • 2010 ∞

1,552 / 3,609 PRECINCTS REPORTING

<b>Ron Johnson</b>	GOP	<b>54.28%</b> 470,283 votes
--------------------	-----	--------------------------------

**And with the CAR guys**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Harris County	48201	DONE						
2	<b>ANNUAL STATS</b>	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
3	Autopsy Numbers (TOTAL)	4168	3823	4079	4474	4233	4200	4010	
4	Autopsy Numbers for Contract Cases	78	21	27	25	30	29	41	
5	Number of Forensic Pathologists Working in Office – CALENDAR	N/A	N/A	12	14	16	16	19	
6	Annual Budget (Calendar Year)								
7									**Budget includes operating expenses for a full service crime laboratory, in addition to the death investigation aspects of the office.
8	Annual Budget (Fiscal Year)	\$10,958,716.00	\$11,644,856.00	\$14,596,471.00	\$17,879,646.00	\$19,632,000.00	\$22,194,668.00	\$20,142,388.00	
9	Number of PART-TIME/PROVISIONAL Forensic Pathologists Working in Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	<b>CURRENT STATS</b>								
11	Number of Board Certified Forensic Pathologists	17							
12	Number of PART-TIME/PROVISIONAL Certified Forensic Pathologists	0							
13	Number of Uncertified Forensic Pathologists	2	eligible to sit for board examination						
14	Number of PART-TIME/PROVISIONAL Uncertified Forensic Pathologists	0							
15	Number of Fellows	2							
16									
17	Population	3670543	3732321	3855798	3909239	3980602	4070989		
18	Accreditation	Full Accreditation							
19	Website	<a href="http://www.hctx.net/">http://www.hctx.net/</a>							

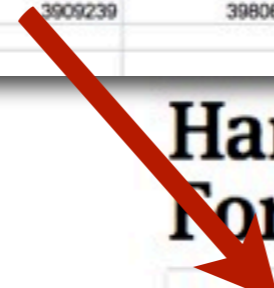
/31

Vall St. | TBI | Gas Drilling | Gitmo | Loan Mods

ism in the public interest

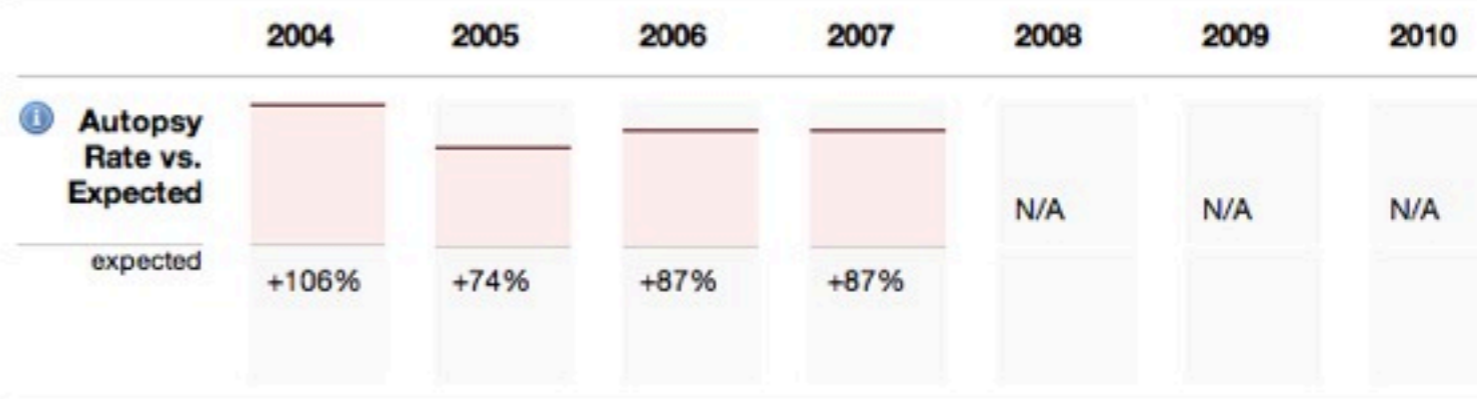
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Institute of Forensic Sciences



# Harris County (Texas) Institute of Forensic Sciences

Jurisdiction	Harris County, Texas			
Web site	<a href="http://www.hctx.net/...">http://www.hctx.net/...</a>			
Accreditation	Full ⓘ			
Forensic Pathologists	<b>17</b> Board Certified	<b>0</b> Part-time Certified	<b>2</b> Uncertified	<b>0</b> Part-time Uncertified
Fellows	<b>2</b>			
Note	Annual budget includes expenses for a forenics laboratory.			



House Votes to Cut \$60 Billion

www.nytimes.com/2011/02/20/us/politics/20congress.html?hp

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How would you use Toyota technology to help make a better world?

### House Votes to Cut \$60 Billion, Setting Up Budget Clash

By DAVID M. HERZENSOHN  
Published: February 19, 2011

WASHINGTON — The House early Saturday approved a huge package of spending cuts, slashing more than \$60 billion from domestic programs, foreign aid, and even some military projects, as the new Republican majority made good on its pledge to turn the grassroots fervor of the November elections into legislative action to shrink the size and scope of government.

The vote, of **235 to 189**, was a victory for the large, boisterous class of fiscally conservative Republican freshmen that is fiercely determined to change the ways of Washington and that forced party leaders to pursue far bigger cuts than originally planned. It set the stage for a standoff with Senate Democrats and the White House that each side has warned could lead to a shutdown of the federal government early next month.

And it marked the opening salvo in what is likely to be a long, bitter clash of philosophical ideas about fiscal policy, as Republicans repudiate the liberal, Keynesian strategies that the Obama administration has relied on to navigate through the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

In Washington, the fight in the weeks ahead will focus on

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House Vote: 2011 Spending Measure

More House Votes: Eliminate Spending We Planned

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House Vote 147 - Approves

politics.nytimes.com/congress/votes/112/house/1/147?ref=politics

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### House Vote 147 - Approves \$60 Billion in Spending Cuts

Yes	235	235 Republicans
No	189	189 Democrats
Present	0	
Didn't vote	10	

Result: Passed by a margin of 22 votes  
Date of Vote: February 19, 2011  
Roll Call Number: 147

Related Story: House Votes to Cut \$60 Billion, Setting Up Budget Clash

Bill Details

Geography of the Vote

Zoom In Zoom Out

Yes votes: 235 (Republicans), 0 (Democrats), 3 (Other)  
No votes: 186 (Democrats), 3 (Other)  
Other: 7

On Passage

Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011  
Full text of the bill

Sponsor: John A. Boehner  
Introduced: February 11, 2011  
Passed House: -  
Passed Senate: -  
Considered by: -  
President: -  
Became Law: -

Other Recent Votes

FEBRUARY 19, 2011  
H.R. 1: On Passage Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes

FEBRUARY 19, 2011  
H.R. 1: On Motion to Recommit with Instructions Making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes

News app

# Readers have become Users

Google

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

facebook



Al Shaw

FAVORITES

# Readers **expect to be** Users

## Find a School

Your Address, ZIP, or school name

**Submit**

For example, [1605 E. 55th St. Chicago, IL](#) or [77054](#) or [Stuyvesant High](#)

### 4 of your friends have found and compared schools!



We couldn't find any schools in your Facebook account matching our database. Try searching for a school above.

## Share



**5 SHARES**  
Share your observations (optional):

**Post here and to Facebook**

Use this hashtag to share your insights on Twitter: **#myschoolyourschool**

# Readers **expect to be** Users

## Find a School

Your Address, ZIP, or school name

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**4 of your friends have found and compared schools!**



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{ We call these 'do-something' boxes }

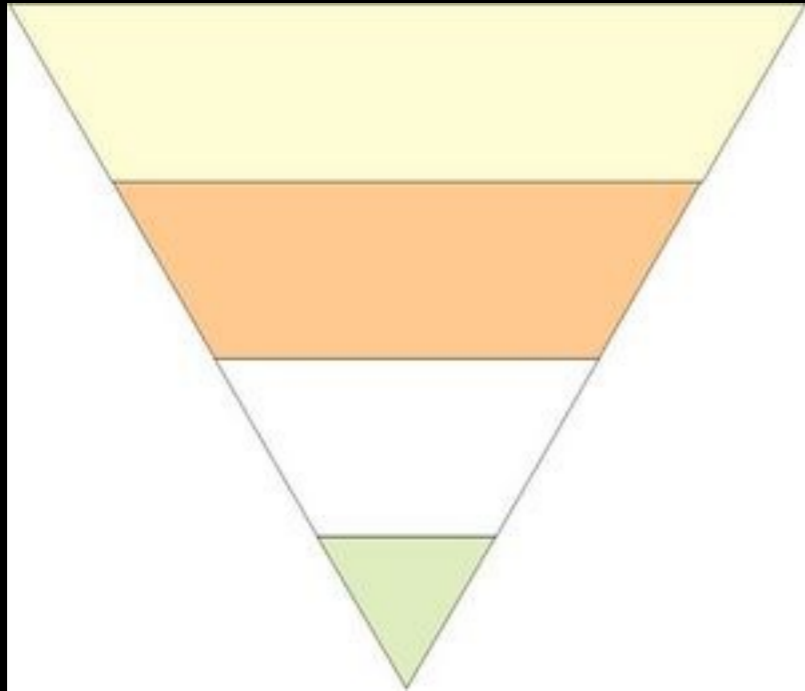
## Share



**5 SHARES**  
Share your observations (optional):

Use this hashtag to share your insights on Twitter: [#myschoolyourschool](#)

# Anatomy





# Anatomy

# Lede

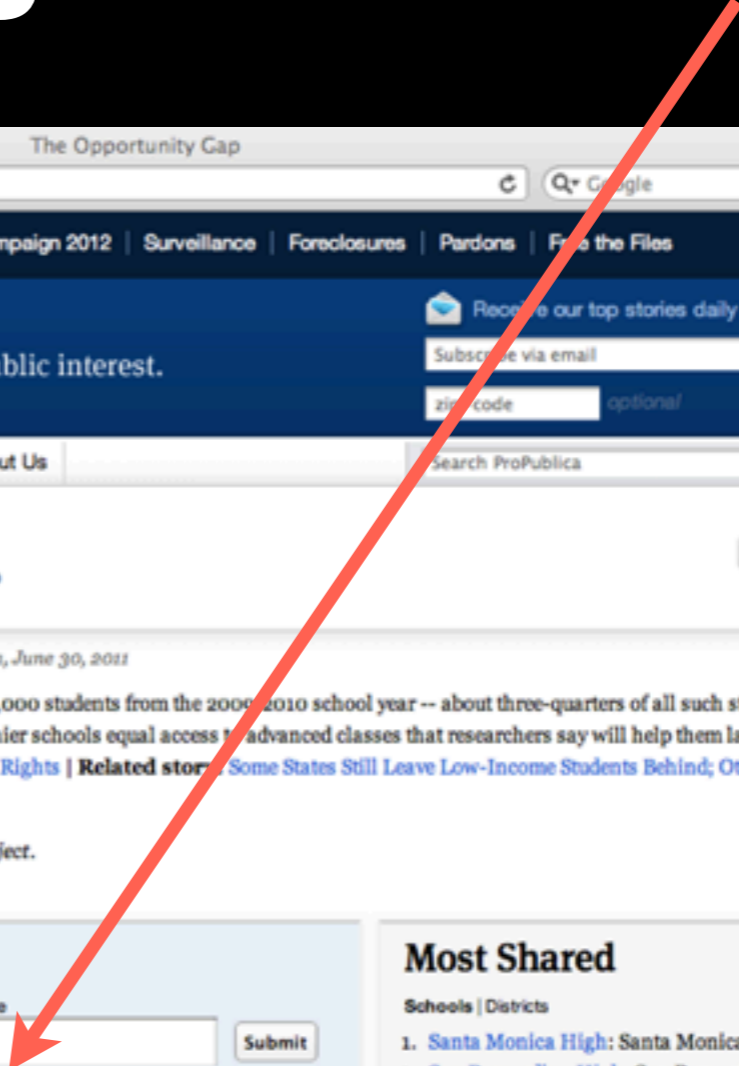
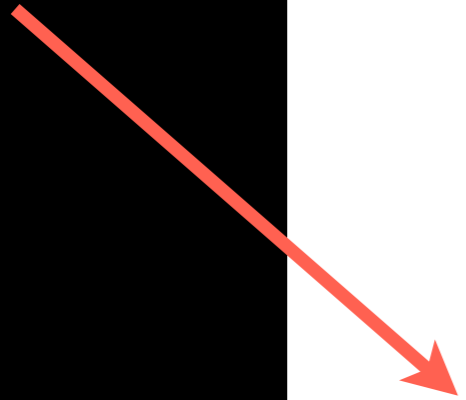
# Near

The screenshot shows the ProPublica website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Don't Miss: Fracking', 'Dollars for Docs', 'Nursing Homes', 'Campaign 2012', 'Surveillance', 'Foreclosures', 'Pardons', and 'Find the Files'. A 'DONATE' button is on the right. Below this is the ProPublica logo and tagline 'Journalism in the public interest.' A search bar and a 'SIGN UP' button for email newsletters are also present.

The main content area features the article title 'The Opportunity Gap' with the sub-headline 'Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education?'. The byline reads 'By Jennifer LaFleur, Al Shaw, Sharona Coultts and Jeff Larson, ProPublica, June 30, 2011'. The lead paragraph states: 'This database includes all public schools in districts with more than 3,000 students from the 2009-2010 school year -- about three-quarters of all such students in the country. Use it to find out how well your state provides poor and wealthier schools equal access to advanced classes that researchers say will help them later in life. Read our methodology. Source: U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights | Related stories: Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains >'. A note mentions 'ProPublica intern Sergio Hernandez contributed research to this project.'

Below the article are three main sections: 'How States Compare' with a bar chart showing AP class availability across states; 'Find a School' with a search input field and a 'Submit' button; and 'Most Shared' with a list of 10 schools. A 'Latest Local Stories Based on This Project' section is at the bottom left, and a 'Safeguard the public interest.' donation call-to-action is at the bottom right.

# Far



# Apps generate stories

### Compare

You can compare this school to other schools in N.Y. that are in districts with 3,000 students or more. Select one of comparisons below, or search for any school to get started.

to nearby schools

to low and high poverty schools

or to another New York school

PS 031 Samuel F Dupont

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### The Opportunity Gap

Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education?

ProPublica analyzed federal education data from the 2009-2010 school year to examine whether states provide high-poverty schools equal access to advanced courses and special programs that researchers say will help them later in life. This is the first nationwide picture of exactly which courses are being taken at which schools and districts across the country. More than three-quarters of all public school children are represented. Read our [story](#) and our [methodology](#).

[Tweet](#) 111

### Find a school

School Name, Address or ZIP  **Submit**

For example, 1605 E. 55th St. Chicago, IL or 77054 or Stuyvesant High

## PS 031 Samuel F Dupont

75 MESEROLE AVENUE BROOKLYN N.Y., 11222 | Grades PreK-5

Districts with 3,000 or more students | Why is there no outcome data?

	Students	Total Teachers	Inexp. Teachers
This School	530	46	15%
District	958,765	83,265	21%
State	2,066,110	171,244	14%

Percentage of relevant students who... ■ State Average ■ District Average

Get Free/Reduced Price Lunch **75%**

Are

- 0% % Am Indian
- 10% % Asian
- 5% % Black
- 47% % Hispanic
- 37% % White

### Compare

You can compare this school to other schools in N.Y. that are in districts with 3,000 students or more. Select one of comparisons below, or search for any school to get started.

to nearby schools

to low and high poverty schools

or to another New York school

### Share

Connect to Facebook to share your comparisons and comments with us and your friends.

[Sign in with Facebook](#)

Use this hashtag to share your insights on Twitter: #myschoolyourschool

What's the story behind this data?  
Please share your insights on school

# Apps generate stories

## Compare Schools

[back to Automotive High School](#)

Districts with 3,000 or more students | [Why is there no outcome data?](#)

### Compare

You can compare this school to other schools in N.Y. that are in districts with 3,000 students or more. Select one of comparisons below, or search for any school to get started.

- [to nearby schools](#)
- [to low and high poverty schools](#)
- [or to another New York school](#)

### Sort

- by...
- Students
  - % Inexp. Teachers
  - AP Courses Offered
  - % Free/Reduced Price Lunch**
  - % AP Enrollment
  - % Advanced Math Enrollment
  - % Gifted/Talented

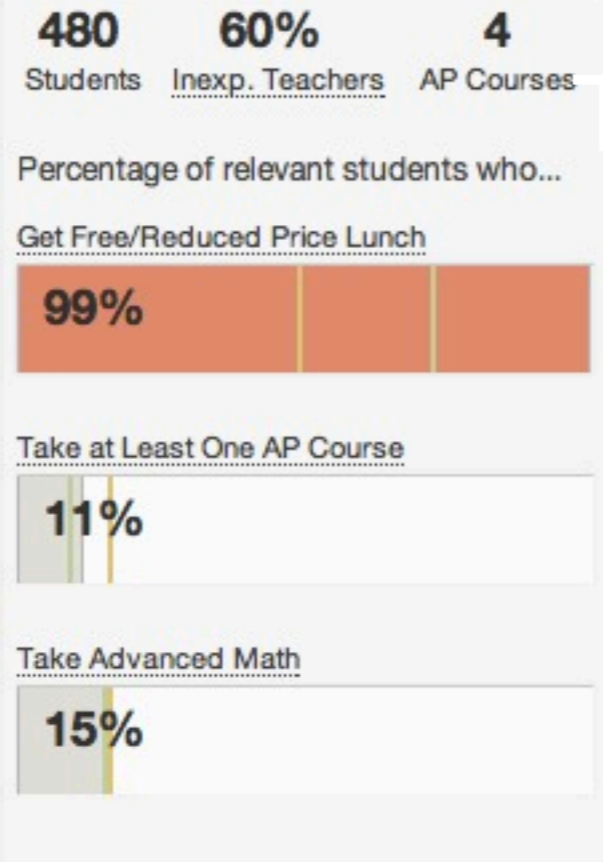
### Share

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### High School For Teaching ...

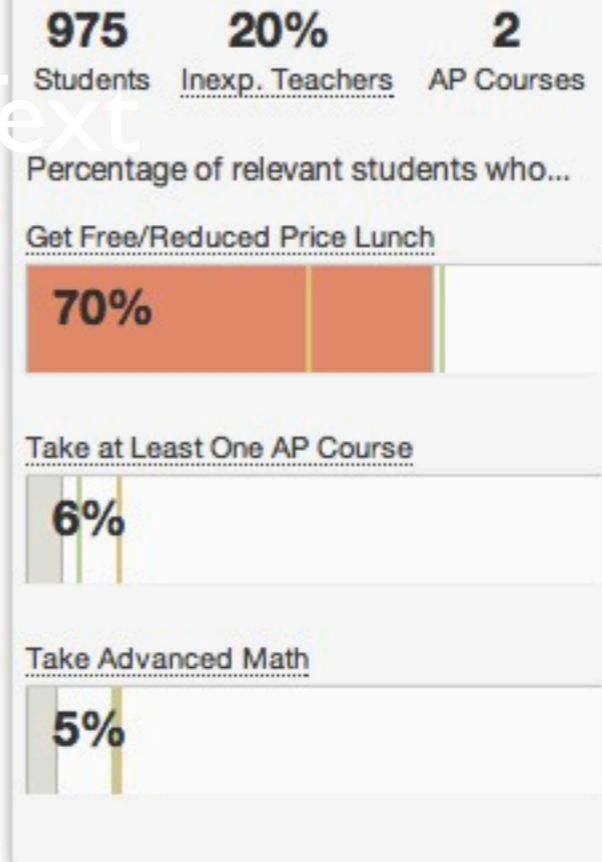
2780 RESEVOIR AVE  
BRONX, N.Y.



New York City Public Schools

### Automotive High School

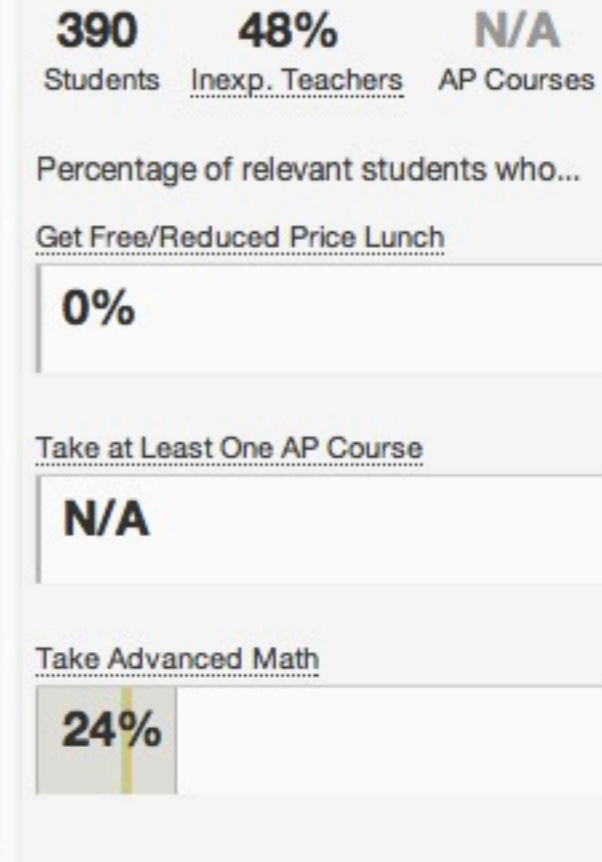
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BROOKLYN, N.Y.



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### Gramercy Arts High School

40 IRVING PLACE  
NEW YORK, N.Y.



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The Opportunity Gap

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## The Opportunity Gap

Is Your State Providing Equal Access to Education?

This database includes all public schools in districts with more than 2,000 students from the 2009-2010 school year -- about three-quarters of all such students in the country. Use it to find out how well your state provides poor and wealthier schools equal access to advanced classes that researchers say will help them later in life. Read our methodology. Source: U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights | Related story: Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind, Others Make Surprising Gains

ProPublica learns Single Hernandez coordinated research to this project.

### How States Compare

all priority high-achieving and wealthier schools equal access to:

AP classes  
gifted/talented  
advanced math  
foreign languages

### Find a School

Your Address, ZIP, or school name

Submit

For example, 1800 E. 5th St. Chicago, IL or 17004 in Singapore

Connect to Facebook to quickly see your schools and your friends' schools.

Sign in with Facebook

### Most Shared

Schools / Districts

- Santa Monica High: Santa Monica, Calif.
- San Bernardino High: San Bernardino, Calif.
- Sunset High School: Bend, Ore.
- Troopship High School: Troopship, Wash.
- Newcomer High (Lugo): San Francisco, Calif.
- Westlake II H. Austin, Texas
- Morales View Senior High School: Bend, Ore.
- Lester II H. Austin, Texas
- Lowell High: San Francisco, Calif.
- Chapel Hill High School: San Vegas, Nev.

Latest Local Stories Based on This Project

Facebook Daily News: Facebook School Director needs to improve AP opportunities

Shawnee Dispatch: An student leader @weird, school districts have trouble finding minority candidates

California Watch: Low-income students score lower on AP tests

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Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains - ProPublica

Journalism in the Public Interest

## Some States Still Leave Low-Income Students Behind; Others Make Surprising Gains

By Sherona Coats and Jennifer LaFleur  
ProPublica, June 30, 2011, 9:07 AM

Florida is a state of stark contrasts. Travel a few miles from the opulent marlinas of Miami Beach and you reach desperately poor neighborhoods. There's the grinding poverty of sugar cane country and the growing middle class of Jacksonville. All told, half the public-school students in Florida qualify for subsidized lunches. Many are the first in their families to speak English or contemplate attending college.

In many states, those economic differences are reflected in the classroom, with students in wealthy schools taking many more advanced courses.

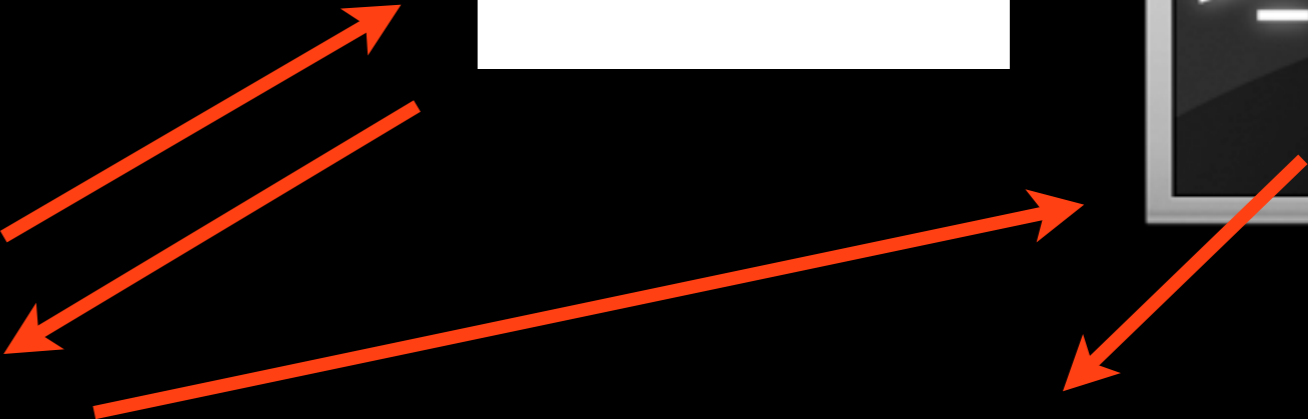
But not in Florida. A ProPublica analysis of previously unreleased

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# Prop 19 Polls: Look at the Trends

By: Michael Whitney Thursday October 21, 2010 8:59 am

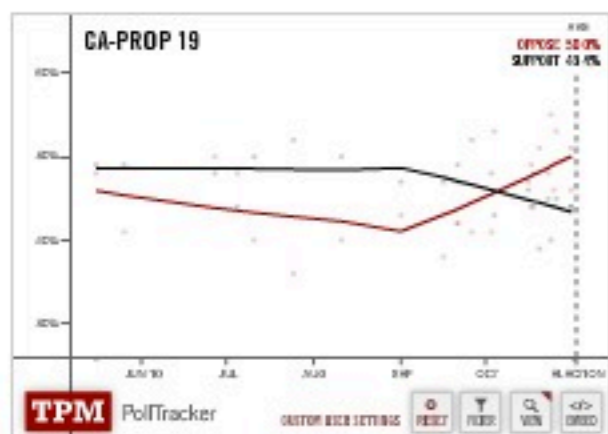
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A new poll from California's PPIC has Prop 19 down, 49% to 44%. Our Jon Walker analyzed the results this morning, suggesting that the wild swing from PPIC's last poll is suspect.

“The previous PPIC poll, from September, was the best poll to date for Prop 19, reporting it ahead 52-41, yet this most recent poll is one of the worst. Given how little change there has been in SurveyUSA polling, I find it hard to believe there really was a 16-point change in only a few weeks. Much of the decline in support found by the poll was among independents (from 65 percent to 40 percent) and Hispanics (from 63 percent to 40 percent).”

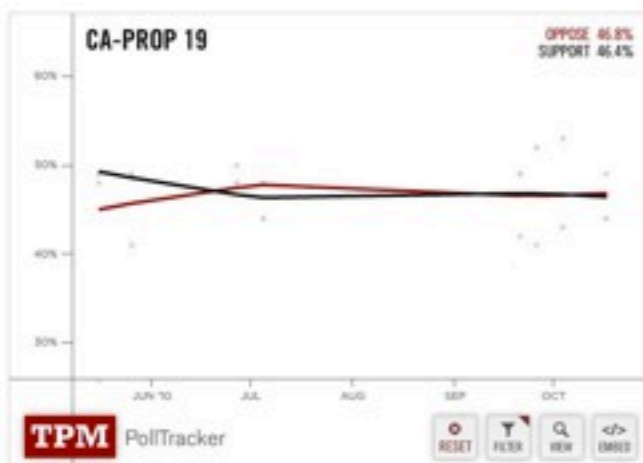
It's easy to get caught up in poll after poll as the newest snapshot, so it's always important to look at the trends from all the polling on the topic. No matter what, though, the bottom line is: turnout, turnout, turnout. But let's take a closer look at what's happening.

Just Say Now has been working with Talking Points Memo to document Prop 19 polls since the beginning of the summer. TPM's Poll Tracker shows the helpful context for understanding the up and down of pot polls.



It's clear the race is tightening, with Yes on 19 responses dropping slightly, while undecided voters falling towards voting "no" – none of which is surprising. A closer look at the polling, thanks to TPM's excellent widget, reveals the gap first identified by Just Say Now's Jon Walker that shows a difference in responses between telephone and automatic polling when it comes to marijuana, particularly with African American voters being less likely to tell a live person they support legalization.

Live telephone responses show the race neck-and-neck:



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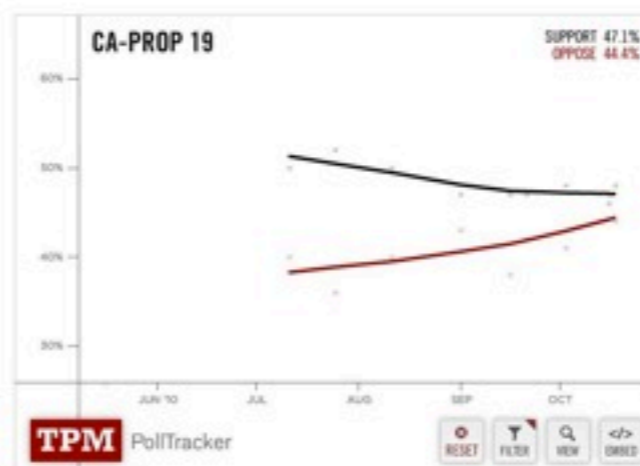
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While auto polling shows Prop 19 clearly ahead, with no votes closing in:



What's all this mean? It's all about turnout. The more people we can get to the polls, the more young people who turn out to vote for Prop 19 who aren't being counted by pollsters, the better chance we have to pull off victory for Prop 19.

UPDATE: Tom Angell, spokesperson for Yes on 19, agrees that it's going to come down to turnout. [From the LA Times:](#)

“Tom Angell, a spokesman for Yes on 19, said the poll indicates that the race is close. “We'll be doing everything we can to get our message out, including working with a team of hundreds of committed volunteers who are spending their free time calling undecided voters,” he said. “I don't think the other side can match that.”

Just Say Now is right there with them – we've already made more than 7,000 calls to voters for Prop 19, and will make thousands more in these final two weeks. You can help: [start calling voters for Prop 19 right now.](#)

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TAGS: MARIJUANA, MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION, PROP 19, PROPOSITION 19, 2010 ELECTION, CALIFORNIA, MARIJUANA POLLING, TALKING POINTS MEMO

15 Responses to "Prop 19 Polls: Look at the Trends"

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## Health Care My Doctor Took Money from a Drug Company, and Then Prescribed Me Their Drugs

By Foster Kamer, Tue., Oct. 19 2010 @ 6:30PM Comments (3)  
 Categories: Big Pharma, Drugs, Featured, Foster Kamer, Health Care, Important Things, Media, The War on Drugs

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Well, this is fun. Pulitzer Prize-winning nonprofit news organization ProPublica recently compiled an awesome database of very compelling information. And as it turns out, I went through it, and consequently, have a funny story about it!



Recently, some judges ordered that the once-confidential amounts of money doctors take from prescription drug companies be released as the result of legal settlements. ProPublica made a database of these numbers, in a series called *Dollars for Docs*. And boy, is it neat to see what your doctors make from these companies! Especially when you find out that *one of them prescribed you drugs that you didn't really care for, from a company they've been paid by.*

Like I just did.

No doubt, there are plenty of well-written words out there -- including ProPublica's -- about how some doctors are basically whores for drug companies, and turn themselves into very effective middle men between yourself and your drug-maker. And it's something most of us probably assume to be a sad truth of the American Medical Industry. But what about when you experience it?

It's crazy! Especially considering that when some people sell drugs, like Marijuana -- which is nearly legal in some places (and completely out-of-reach as a profit source by the prescription drug industry, everywhere) -- they are called "drug dealers" and thrown in jail.

But when doctors do this with the drugs hoisted on them by massive corporations who also kick them some cash along the way, they are told they are upholding an ethical standard and given an office on the Upper East Side. I've always kind of thought a certain doctor I've visited is, shall we say, *unnervingly pallid*. Also, sometimes, a dick. So I looked him up in this database!

And oh, there he is! Click to Enlarge:

PRO PUBLICA Journalists in the public interest

Dollars for Docs  
What Drug Companies are Paying Your Doctor

Search

Doctor's name:  State: New York

Displaying all 3 payments

Name	State	City	Company	Amount	Quarters	Service	Payees
[REDACTED]	NY	New York	AstraZeneca	\$5,000	2010 Q1-Q2	Speaker compensation	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	NY	New York	ORR	\$1,750	2009 Q3-Q4	Consulting \$1,000 Speaking \$1,750	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	NY	New York	ORR	\$3,000	Q1-10	Consulting \$1,000 Speaking \$2,000	[REDACTED]

In the parlance of The Internet, "O RLY?"

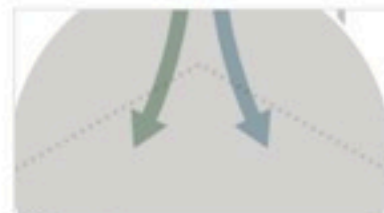
**Sometimes stories generate  
apps which generate more  
stories**

# Fine Line Between 'Super PACs' and Campaigns

By MIKE McINTIRE and MICHAEL LUO  
Published: February 25, 2012 | 178 Comments

When [Mitt Romney's](#) presidential campaign needs advice on direct mail strategies for reaching voters, it looks to [TargetPoint Consulting](#). And when the independent "super PAC" supporting him needs voter research, it, too, goes to TargetPoint.

## Multimedia



Graphic  
66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 555



Interactive Feature  
The Republican Presidential Field

## Related

[Prolonged Race Forces Romney Campaign to Recalibrate](#) (February 26, 2012)

[Santorum Vows to Wage a Long, Fierce Battle](#) (February 26, 2012)

Sharing a consultant would seem to be an embodiment of coordination between a candidate and an independent group, something prohibited under federal law. But TargetPoint is just one of a handful of interconnected firms in the same office suite in Alexandria, Va., working for either the Romney campaign or the super PAC [Restore Our Future](#).

Elsewhere in the same suite is [WWP Strategies](#), whose co-founder is married to TargetPoint's chief executive and works for the Romney campaign. Across the conference room is the [Black Rock Group](#), whose co-founder — a top Romney campaign official in 2008 — now helps run both Restore Our Future and [American Crossroads](#), another independent group that spoke up in defense of Mr. Romney's candidacy in January. Finally, there is [Crossroads Media](#), a media placement firm that works for American Crossroads and other Republican groups.

The overlapping roles and relationships of the consultants in Suite 555 at 66 Canal Center Plaza offer a case study in the fluidity and ineffectual enforcement of rules intended to prevent candidates from coordinating their activities

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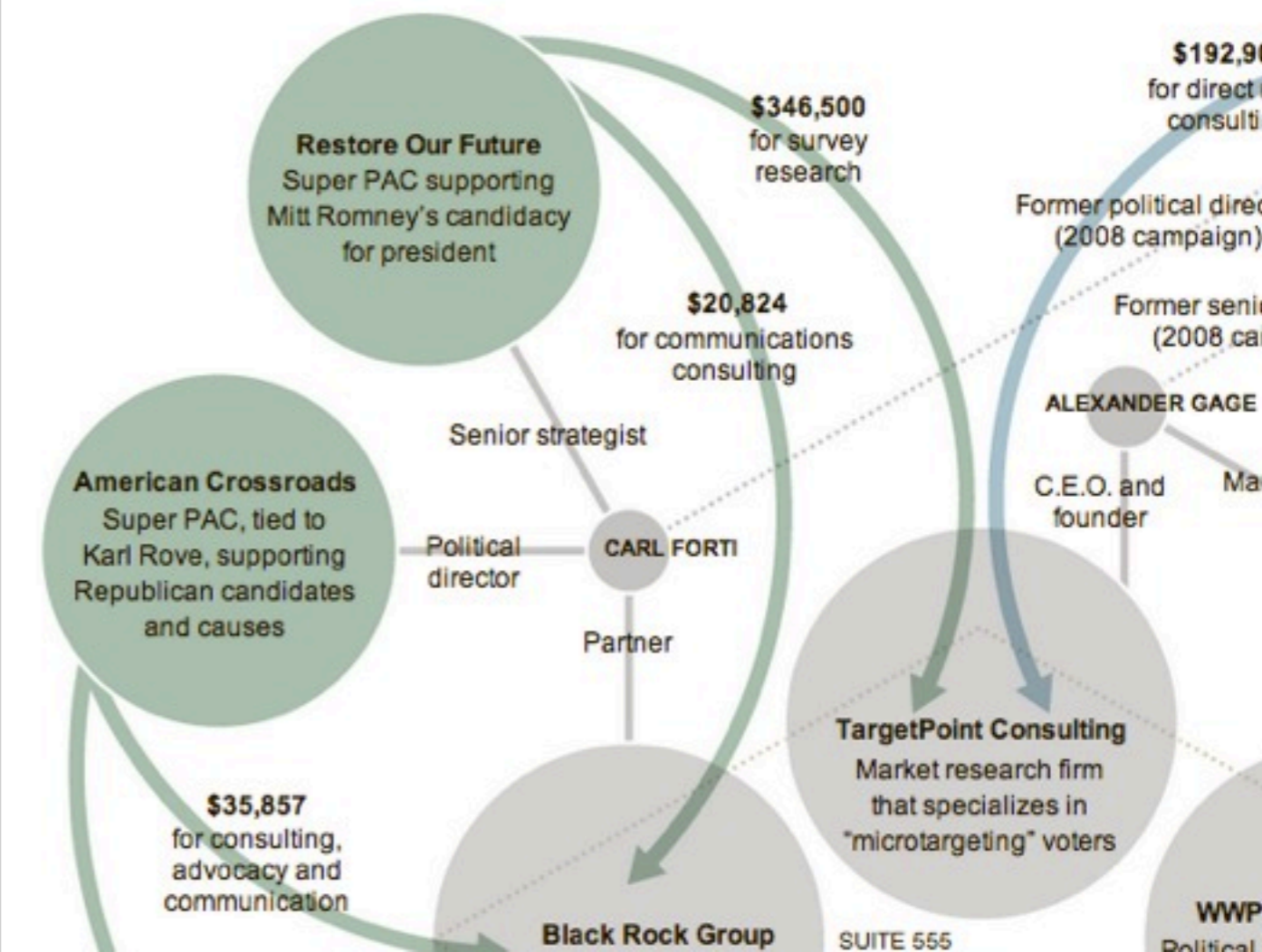
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Published: February 25, 2012

# 66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 555

In a single office suite in Alexandria, Va., firms hired by "super PACs" share the same space as congressional campaigns. Federal law prohibits super PACs from directly coordinating with candidates, but the groups share many ties.

Related Article »





# A Tangled Web: Who's Making Money From All This Campaign Spending?

by Al Shaw, Kim Barker and Justin Elliott,  
ProPublica, March 21, 2:41 p.m.

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Many have been detailing the vast sums being raised by the presidential candidates and the super PACs supporting them. But where are all those millions being spent? Among other things, the answers can provide hints on potential [improper coordination](#) between campaigns and super PACs. Here are the 200 biggest recipients of spending by the major campaigns and most of the major super PACs. | **Related story:** [Campaign Spending Shows Political Ties, Self-Dealing](#) »

**How to use:** Click on each spender on the left to see where its money flows and click on each recipient on the right to see where the money ends up.

For technical details, see our [nerd blog post](#). If you find something interesting or incorrect in this graphic, please [let us know](#).

Sources: FEC, *The New York Times Campaign Finance API*.

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Payments from

**OBAMA FOR AMERICA: \$60,814,484**

AB Data	\$16,009,079
Bully Pulpit Interactive LLC	\$12,270,038
ADP	\$6,959,537
GMMB Inc.	\$3,114,150
American Express	\$2,323,492
Telefund, Inc.	\$1,997,102
Blue State Digital, LLC	\$1,946,483
Financial Innovations	\$1,783,357
CDW Direct LLC	\$1,633,255
CyberSource Corporation	\$1,591,745
Integral Resources, Inc. 3rd Floor	\$1,377,906
Perkins Cole	\$1,258,917
Donor Services Group, LLC	\$843,293
Aetna	\$800,088
DCM	\$729,988
DNC Services Corporation	\$626,983
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Gordon and Schwenkmeyer Inc Telemarketing	\$488,817
Harris Direct	\$465,671
The MIS Department, Inc.	\$419,192
PDR II DBA Share Share	\$377,222
AKPD Message & Media	\$359,710
Merkle Response Services, Inc.	\$345,792
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Campaign 2012

# Campaign Ties, Self-D

by *Kim Barker and Al Shaw*  
ProPublica, March 28, 2012,

**April 20:** This story has

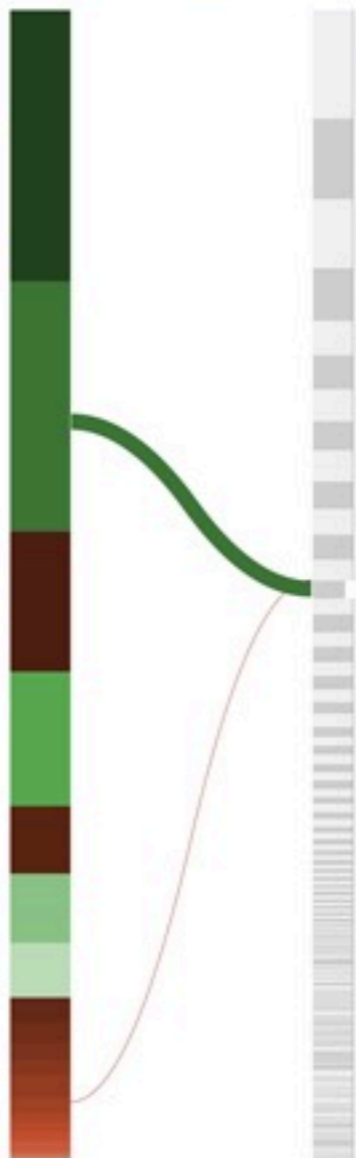
For an example of the fl  
finance rules, as well as  
connections between ca

PACs, look no further than the digital consulting firm [Targeted Victory](#).

**Interactive Features**

How Some Nonprofit Groups Funnel Dark Money Into

So far, the firm's hauled in \$4.1 million working for [Mitt Romney's presidential campaign](#) and



Payments to ✕

## TARGETED VICTORY: \$4,155,789

Republican digital strategic consulting firm founded in 2009 in Minnesota and based in Virginia, in a suite just down the hall from an office housing four powerhouse GOP consultants: Crossroads Media, the Black Rock Group, TargetPoint Consulting and WWP Strategies. Clients include Marco Rubio in his U.S. Senate race in Florida and the super PAC American Crossroads. Co-founder Michael Beach oversaw the national voter turnout program for the Republican National Committee in the 2008 election cycle. The initial manager on forms with Minnesota is listed as Tony Feather, a co-founder of FLS Connect and the outside-money group Progress for America, which supported George W. Bush in 2004, and the nonprofit American Issues Project, which in 2008 highlighted the relationship between Barack Obama and former Weather Underground activist Bill Ayres. This cycle, Targeted Victory has done work for both the super PAC American Crossroads and the Mitt Romney campaign.

AMERICAN CROSSROADS	\$226,211
ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT INC.	\$3,929,579

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**How do I start?**



django




JS



# Program in anger – DHH

## How do I learn to program?

David Sep 22 2010

 [82 comments](#) Latest by Ben Joven

It took me some twenty-plus years to really learn how to program. It wasn't for a lack of trying either, it was just that I was trying the wrong way. I tried to learn to program by following tutorials that created programs I didn't have the slightest interest in keeping. I was trying to learn for the sake of learning.

Now I'm sure that works for some people. Intellectually curious for the sake of it. I envy you. But that's not how it worked for me and I know that's not how it works for a lot of other people.

What made it click for me was programming in anger. Programming because I needed to. Programming because I gave a damn about what I was writing and I wanted it done sooner rather than later.

That's how I learned to program Ruby. By making it my mission to write Basecamp in it. When you're learning on a mission, the order of things come really naturally. So what exactly do I have to do to get this messages section working in Ruby? Oh, I'll need to do a loop here. Oh, I'll need to get something from the database there.


Before you know it, you're half-way done with your idea and you've accidentally learned how to do it too.

In short, you start with little bit of something real and make it tick. Then you make it tock.

ADS VIA THE DECK



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