



In a recent survey, 68% of employers said their companies always run criminal records checks on job applicants.

www.shrm.org

The percentage of general funds in the 50 states devoted to Medicaid increased from 12% in 1994 to 16.3% in 2004.

www.ncsl.org

Unusual state symbols: South Dakota's kuchen as the state dessert; New Mexico's bizcochito is the state cookie; and Georgia's grits is the state prepared food.

State Legislatures

States expected to have the slowest population gains between now and 2030: New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts, Iowa, West Virginia and Rhode Island.

www.kiplinger.com

The number of Americans expected to hold multiple jobs in 2005 is 7.5 million. Indiana ranks 20th in the nation with 190,000 (or 6.1% of the workforce) people in that category.

www.bls.gov

Enrollment at the University of Texas at El Paso is 71% Hispanic. An estimated two-thirds of the Mexican student population commutes across the border daily.

<http://chronicle.com>

Angel investors, who calculate that as many as nine out of 10 investments will fail, seek a return of at least 25% a year. They look to invest in companies with the potential to grow to at least \$30 million.

www.avce.com

Business owners planning an exit strategy should count on a total time period of nearly four years from the preparation process to the post-sale transition.

www.christmangroup.com

Personal income's share of the total income pie has been on a roller coaster: 83% in 1997, 87% in 2000 and 82% in 2004.

www.bsu.edu/bbr

The U.S. is producing a record 225,000 barrels of ethanol a day. Seventy-nine plants exist with 12 more under construction.

www.industryweek.com

Half of the nation's households nearing retirement have \$10,000 or less in their 401(k) or individual retirement accounts.

www.pewtrusts.com

In a recent study, more than half of buyers willingly paid a premium to buy a commodity from a company they trusted, even when they knew where to buy exactly the same product for less.

www.ponemon.org

Although increased safety measures have workplace injuries on the decline, those injuries cost nearly \$1 billion per week in payments to workers and medical care providers.

www.successfulpromotions.com

Engineering and science degrees as a percentage of all bachelor's degrees: Singapore, 68%; China, 58%; South Korea, 36%; Taiwan, 34%; United States, 17%.

www.hillsdale.edu

Casino tax revenues in 2003: Nevada, \$776.5 million; Illinois, \$719.9 million; Indiana, \$702.7 million.

www.americangaming.org

Twenty-one states cut funding for preschool education programs, while 12 states (including Indiana) have no state-financed preschool programs.

<http://nieer.org>

Forty states have passed charter school laws. The most operating charters are in California (500), Arizona (491), Florida (258), Texas (241) and Michigan (219).

www.edreform.com

As his state's only representative, Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-Montana) has more constituents than anyone else in the House — 902,000 at the time of the 2000 census.

www.cq.com