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Meghan Hoyer
The Associated Press
Questions? Contact me!  mhoyer@ap.org; @meghanhoyer; 202.641.9458

## Major data portals/sources for California:

California Health Open Data Portal: https://data.chhs.ca.gov/
OSHPD (healthcare infrastructure): https://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/
California Enviro Screen: https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen
California Environmental Health Tracking Program: http://cehtp.org/page/main
California Health Interview Survey (you'll want AskChis):
http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/chis

## Topic-based data:

### Mental Health
SAMHSA is a clearinghouse for mental health and drug use data:
https://www.samhsa.gov

It has several reports on California, like the Behavioral Health Barometer:
https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/California_BHBarometer_Volume_4.pdf

State comparisons: https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/California-2016.pdf

CDMH county-by-county dashboards on Medi-Cal recipients' use of adult and child special mental health services: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Pages/2016-Adult-Population-County-Level-Aggregate-Reports.aspx
Late-2000s attempt to estimate mental health prevalence for each county:
http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Documents/CaliforniaPrevalenceEstimates.pdf

### Health Disparities
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality releases an annual disparities report:
https://nhqrnet.ahrq.gov/inhqrdr/California/benchmark/summary/All_Measures/All_Topics

### Vaccination Rates
The state keeps records, by school, of the rate of immunizations for all kids entering kindergarten. This includes a breakdown of exemptions and coverage for certain vaccines
Data:
http://www.shotsforschool.org

**Insurance Rates**
Every time a company wants to change your insurance rates, it has to ask the state for permission
Data:
https://interactive.web.insurance.ca.gov/apex/f?p=102:4:0::NO

**How People Die**
So many possibilities here: Gun/violent deaths. Child morbidity. Maternal morbidity. Trends related to certain diseases. There's national and extremely local data kept on all of it.
Data:
National morbidity data (2014 coming soon) http://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10.html
California data: 10 most common ways to die, broken down by county:
http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/statistics/Pages/DeathStatisticalDataTables.aspx
California Death Tables:
https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset?q=death

**Hospital Inspections**
Another treasure trove of story ideas. Infection control is always a good thing to check out.
Story: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/10/15/hospitals-infection-control-concerns/17317397/
Data:
http://www.hospitalinspections.org
California specific data on infections:
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/HAIProgramHome.aspx

**Rural hospitals are cutting services – and sometimes even closing**
Story:
http://www.al.com/news/index.ssf/2015/02/many_alabama_women_drive_50_mi.html
Data:
National Rural Health Association:
http://www.ruralhealthweb.org
Rural Hospital Closure Data:
https://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/programs-projects/rural-health/rural-hospital-closures/
California Rural Health Association (volunteer-run):
http://www.calstateruralhealth.org

**Health Care Employees**
Tipsheet: https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/Safe-Patient-Handling-for-Print-fs.pdf
Data: https://www.bls.gov/data/#injuries

**Hospital Charge Data**
Story: http://www.jhsph.edu/news/news-releases/2015/some-hospitals-marking-up-prices-more-than-1000-percent.html
Data: https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/Medicare-Provider-Charge-Data/Inpatient.html

**Caregivers**
According to AARP, there are 45 million unpaid family caregivers in the US – and the figure is going to grow:
http://www.aarp.org/ppi/info-2015/caregiving-in-the-united-states-2015.html

**Physician-Assisted Suicide**
This is a new topic in California and is ripe for a data-driven follow up
California's 2016 report:
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHSI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/CDPH%20End%20of%20Life%20Option%20Act%20Report.pdf

**Chronic Conditions**
How Medicare utilization differs from state to state and from county to county. Data is available from 2007 to 2013. This will help put other data sets in context. Last
Story: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/06/05/medicare-costs-seniors-sick-chronic-conditions/27390925/
Data:
https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/Chronic-Conditions/MCC_Main.html

**Nursing Home Inspections/Quality/Safety**
So much here! Especially since an audit last year found the state had a huge backlog.
Story: http://www.dailynews.com/health/20141030/california-audit-faults-health-officials-handling-of-nursing-home-inspections
GAO Report on problems national nursing home oversight:
http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-33
Data:
California: http://hfcis.cdph.ca.gov
https://data.medicare.gov/data/nursing-home-compare
http://projects.propublica.org/nursing-homes/

**Who's coming to the hospital?**
HCUP provides state-level data on emergency room visits, hospital stays and ambulatory surgeries:

http://hcupnet.ahrq.gov/HCUPnet.jsp?Id=174F1D813894A97A&Form=DispTab&JS=Y&Action=Accept

County-level hospital info:

http://hcupnet.ahrq.gov/HCUPnet.jsp?Id=174F1D813894A97A&Form=SelDB&JS=Y&Action=%3E%3ENext%3E%3E&_DB=CA12

**How effective is your hospital and what services does it offer?**
California hospital annual utilization study:
http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/hid/Products/Hospitals/Utilization/Hospital_Utilization.html
CMS' Hospital Compare offers all sorts of data on what services hospitals offer, ER wait times and all sorts of quality control info:
https://data.medicare.gov/data/hospital-compare

**How People Get Hurt**
CDC's WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System) is an interactive, online database that provides fatal and nonfatal injury, violent death, and cost of injury data from a variety of trusted sources. Researchers, the media, public health professionals, and the public can use WISQARS™ data to learn more about the public health and economic burden associated with unintentional and violence-related injury in the United States.
National Electronic Injury Surveillance System:
https://www.cpsc.gov/cgibin/NEISSQuery/home.aspx
Wisqars: http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/

**Bad Docs**
Malpractice/licensure data
California took almost twice as many licensure actions in 2014 as it did just 6 years prior.  This is summary data – can you get more granular?
http://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/resources/npdbstats/npdbStatistics.jsp#ContentTop
California licensing enforcement actions lookup by name (again, can you get the raw data for this?)
http://www.mbc.ca.gov/Enforcement/Public_Document_Search.aspx
California State Auditor found a backlog of nursing complaint investigations:
https://www.auditor.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2016-046.pdf

**Drug and Medical Device Adverse Effects**
Data:
The FDA Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS) is a database that contains information on adverse event and medication error reports submitted to FDA. Maude is the FDA dataset that contains medical device adverse event reports submitted by mandatory reporters—manufacturers, importers and device user

facilities—and voluntary reporters such as health care professionals, patients, and consumers.
https://open.fda.gov/data/


**Dentist Visits**
 4 in 10 adults don't see a dentist annually
Story: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/06/29/er-dental-visits/29492599/
The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, which began in 1996, is a set of large-scale surveys of families and individuals, their medical providers (doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, etc.), and employers across the United States. MEPS collects data on the specific health services that Americans use, how frequently they use them, the cost of these services, and how they are paid for, as well as data on the cost, scope, and breadth of health insurance held by and available to U.S. workers. Dentist visits are included in this data, but you can also get emergency room data from HCUP.
http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/

**Hospice Care**
Story: https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/no-one-is-coming-hospice-patients-abandoned-at-deaths-door
California utilization data: https://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Find-HHH-Data.html

**Opioid Use**
Story: http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article171895237.html
The state has a strategic plan on this:
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/DCDIC/SACB/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Prescription%20Drug%20Overdose%20Program/CAOpioidPreventionStrategies4.17.pdf

Data: California Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard:
https://pdop.shinyapps.io/ODdash_v1/
California Opioid Safety Coalitions Network: http://www.chcf.org/oscn


**Doctor Payments from Medicare**
https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/Medicare-Provider-Charge-Data/Physician-and-Other-Supplier2013.html
ProPublica has created a visualization for each provider:
http://www.propublica.org/treatment and so does the Wall Street Journal:
http://graphics.wsj.com/medicare-billing/
(Important caveat with this data: It only contains claims for services rendered in Medicare fee-for-service, not for those in Medicare Advantage. As a result, it will

leave out lots of services delivered in regions of the country where Medicare HMO enrollment is high, and thus may not be representative.)

**Mental Health + Substance Abuse**
SAMHSA has a survey called NSDUH (National Survey on Drug Use and Health) that tracks drug use trends, mental illness issues and the like. It's a survey of people 12 and older. Because it's a survey, there's a margin of error, which becomes more critical when you're looking at smaller geographies, but it's still very useful. Some topics are even broken down by metro level:
http://www.samhsa.gov/data/population-data-nsduh
The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a national survey on alcohol and drug use and other health measures. There are similar caveats to using this data, because it's a survey, but there's a lot of info here and over a long period of time:
http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/

**Medi-Cal**
Story: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/30/nyregion/cuomo-to-highlight-new-yorks-progress-in-aids-fight.html?smid=tw-share&_r=0
Data on Medicaid across the country, including a number of tables detailing spending and enrollment in each state:
https://www.macpac.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/MACStats-Medicaid-and-CHIP-Data-Book-December-2015.pdf
Fiscal data + info:
http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Pages/default.aspx
Drug utilization data:
http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/reports/Pages/MCalDrgUtilData.aspx
Enrollment data:
http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/dataandstats/statistics/Pages/RASD_Enrollment_by_Geographic_Region.aspx