INSIDE

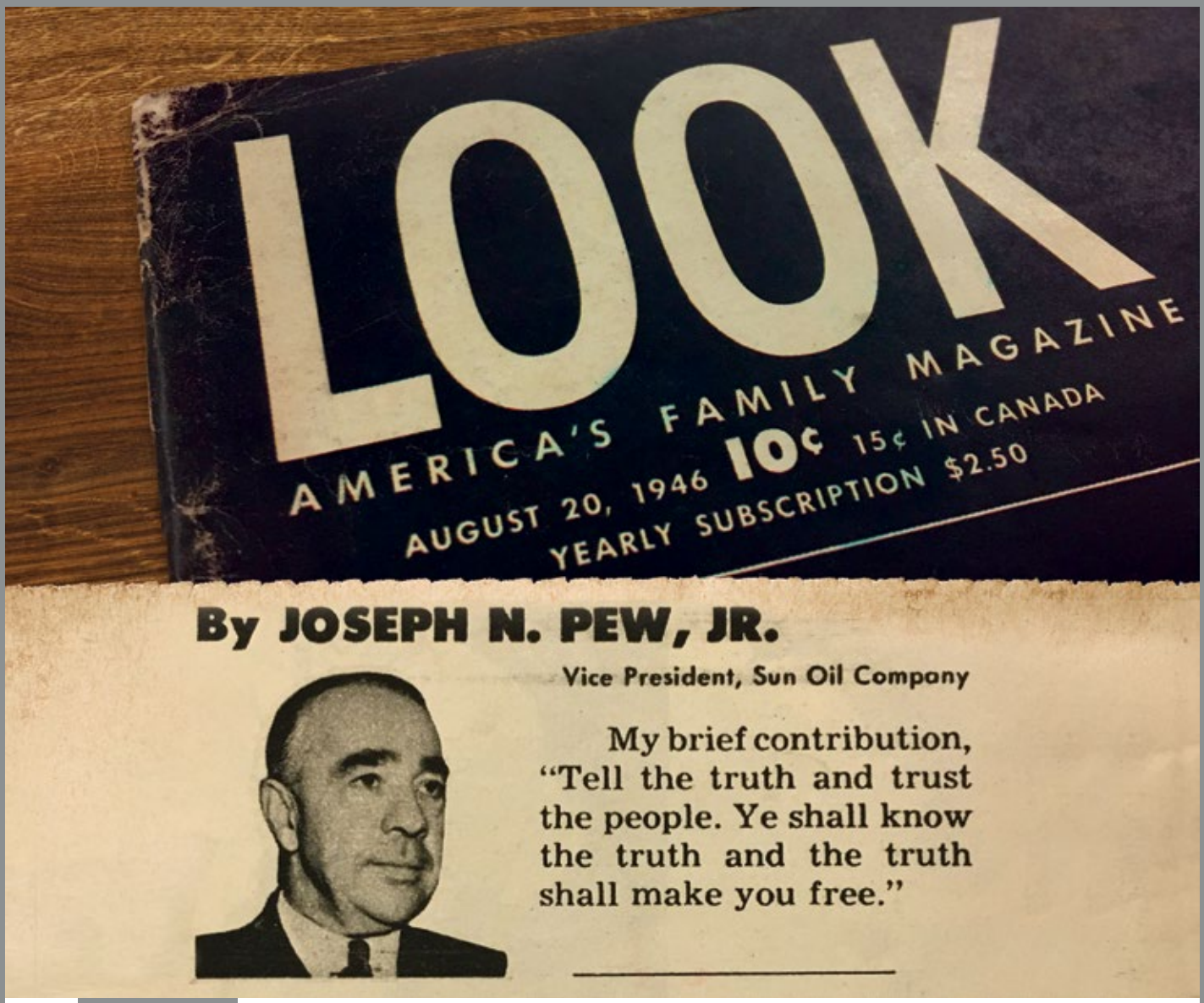
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Trust

70
SEVEN DECADES OF TRUSTING THE PEOPLE

New Paths to a Better Future

From historic Arctic Ocean protections to improved pension security for public workers, 2017 was marked by accomplishments designed to last.

Winter 2018 | Vol. 20, No. 1



70

TIME CAPSULE

As the nation entered the postwar boom years, *Look* magazine in 1946 invited some of the era's most accomplished people to state in 150 words or less "the first two things you would do as president." Sun Oil Co. vice president Joseph N. Pew Jr., a prominent voice on the social and political issues of the times, was among those asked to contribute and his response was brief: "Tell the truth and trust the people. Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

The editors, disappointed with his brevity, urged him to expand upon it. But the executive declined, responding in a telegram, "Would like my statement to stand as believe full light of day on every subject is only conceivable procedure possible."

Two years later, Pew with his brother and two sisters founded The Pew Charitable Trusts. And for the past seven decades his words have helped guide the institution's work to improve policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.

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Cover photograph by Esther Horvath/Redux

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The Pew Charitable Trusts is a public charity driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Working with partners and donors, Pew conducts fact-based research and rigorous analysis to improve public policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.

Pew is the sole beneficiary of seven individual charitable funds established between 1948 and 1979 by two sons and two daughters of Sun Oil Co. founder Joseph N. Pew and his wife, Mary Anderson Pew.

A Tradition of Consequential Work

Our four founders—J. Howard Pew, Mary Ethel Pew, J.N. Pew Jr., and Mabel Pew Myrin—learned an important lesson from their father, Sun Oil Co. founder Joseph Newton Pew Sr., who said, "Take risks but only if they seem wise, and never do something simply because everyone else is doing it."

That plainspoken advice has helped guide The Pew Charitable Trusts on its 70-year journey from a small private philanthropy to a global research and public policy organization—and fostered an enduring commitment to consequential work, serving the public, and telling the truth. Mindful of that responsibility we always strive to invest in projects where we can add unique value, balancing risk with a rigorous selection process and choosing strong partners. We adjust to the challenges of the times and follow the facts, never the crowd. And we use science and data to serve the public interest—maintaining our long tradition of wise stewardship and commitment to service and giving back.

Those aspirations began on Feb. 6, 1948 when the founders incorporated The Pew Memorial Foundation. Two months later, the foundation made its first grant to the American Red Cross. Support for medical, religious, and educational institutions soon followed. In 1957, The Pew Memorial Trust—the largest of the seven trusts that now constitute The Pew Charitable Trusts—was established. And within a decade, the Trusts had evolved into one of the largest grantmaking organizations in the United States.

In the 1970s, a realization of the importance of global conservation encouraged the Trusts to support ocean research, spurring a 50-year commitment to use science, data, and nonpartisan advocacy to protect the environment. A decade later, the Trusts moved in a new strategic direction, going beyond reviewing and funding grant applications to developing and initiating projects—many in the fields of health, education, and the economy. In the 1990s, the Trusts embarked upon a robust portfolio of state policy work, and provided its initial support for the Pew Center for the People and Press, which eventually became the Pew Research Center, respected for its surveys on topics ranging from politics, to the Internet, to global trends in religion.

In the first decade of the 20th century the Trusts became a public charity, increasing our philanthropic partnerships and implementing new efforts to address challenges as varied as the increased rate of incarceration, illegal fishing, antibiotic resistance, and the need for marine protected areas to protect our shared oceans.

You can read more about Pew's first 70 years in this issue of *Trust*. But even as we celebrate seven decades of achievement, the mission of Pew—using the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems—continues to evolve and grow.

For 70 years, Pew has reimagined how to best serve the public interest—attempting to stay ahead of the curve, maintaining our relevance as new eras bring new challenges, and partnering with many donors and organizations.

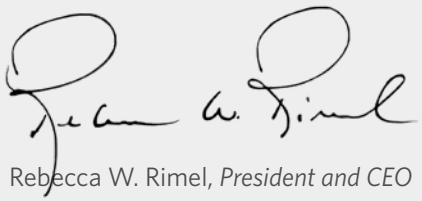
For example, we track fiscal, economic, and demographic trends in all fifty states, and work with state officials to help manage debt, reduce budget volatility, evaluate the effectiveness of tax incentives, build rainy day funds, and monitor the financial health of local communities. *Trust* takes a close look at our efforts in Virginia, a well-managed state where Republican and Democratic policymakers have worked together to

match revenue with spending, avoid structural deficits, build reserves, and keep taxes low.

Pew also continues its decades-long efforts in our home city of Philadelphia. This issue of *Trust* includes a story on our Philadelphia research initiative's recent report, "Philadelphia's Historic Sacred Places: Their Past, Present, and Future." The study lays out the challenges facing the city's houses of worship, which are often important resources for the community, providing not just a home to congregational worship but needed services and gathering places. And for a look at religion with a much wider lens, *Trust* also reports on surveys by the Pew Research Center about the attitudes of Protestants and Catholics in the U.S. and Western Europe on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation—an event that led to centuries of conflict but, as the studies show, today leaves the two groups seeing their religions as more similar than different.

If you enjoyed our recent story about a champion from the Australian Outback, you can read a second installment in the series here. This time we're profiling Luke Bayley who, along with his wife Fiona, helps manage the Charles Darwin Reserve in Western Australia. Luke works with Aboriginal partners, but also nearby mine operators—believing that if culturally and environmentally sensitive areas are wisely managed, mining can be good for the Outback because it brings people, infrastructure, money, and skills to the area. He says, "The Outback just needs to be reimagined." And that's exactly what he is doing.

It is what we're doing too. For 70 years, Pew has reimagined how to best serve the public interest—attempting to stay ahead of the curve, maintaining our relevance as new eras bring new challenges, and partnering with many donors and organizations. But we've never reimagined the expectations and aspirations of our founders. Their goal to serve the public good has guided us for seven decades—and as the accomplishments and partnerships highlighted in this issue show, they continue to guide us, and will do so long into the future.



Rebecca W. Rimel, *President and CEO*

Trust

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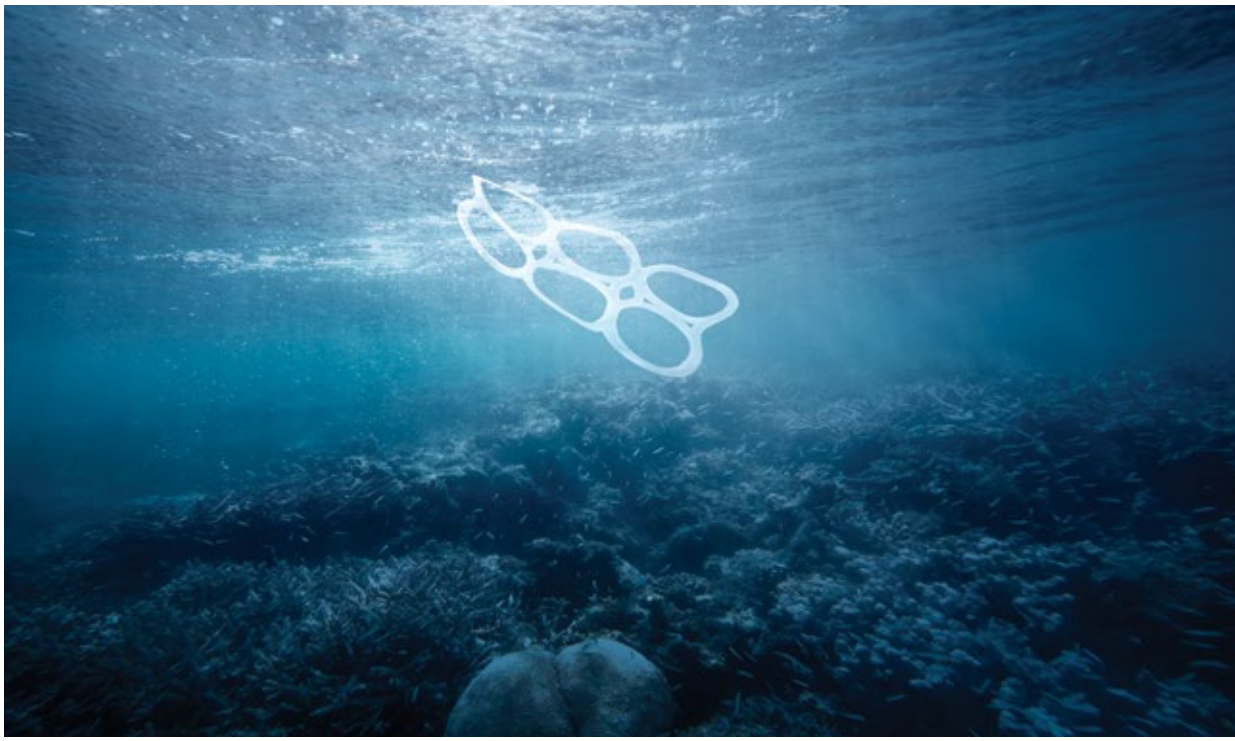
THE BIG PICTURE

It's not just the cars and cityscape that have changed since 1948, when The Pew Charitable Trusts first established itself in its hometown of Philadelphia. The Benjamin Franklin Parkway, the grand boulevard that runs from the Philadelphia Museum of Art to City Hall, has undergone a facelift, too. Years of use had left the parkway overcrowded, unattractive, and unsafe for pedestrians and bicyclists. Beginning in 2001, Pew began to work with city and state officials to install new lighting, bike lanes, granite curbs, and plantings that helped turn the mile-long thoroughfare into an animated urban campus. It's now home to Sister Cities Park, a water wonderland for children, and the Barnes Foundation, one of the world's greatest art collections.

Al Tielemans/The Pew Charitable Trusts



Plastics and other debris from the land are an increasing threat to ocean waters and reefs, according to scientists at a recent Pew-sponsored symposium for science journalists. *Maarten Wouters/Getty Images*

In Search of Healthier Seas

BY CAROL KAUFMANN

Last October, a group of renowned marine researchers offered ideas for dealing with the forces harming the world's marine environments, particularly the earth's changing climate and overfishing. The scientists spoke on a panel, "Can We Save the Oceans From Ourselves?" organized by Pew at the 2017 World Conference of Science Journalists in San Francisco, which attracted some 1,400 journalists from nearly 70 countries. Among other topics, the panel discussed why fish are leaving their traditional waters and the health of coral reefs worldwide.

Addressing ocean threats is considered especially important now because of rising water temperatures and the destruction of key marine habitats. Most of the heat from global warming—90 percent—is absorbed by the oceans. In addition, marine species can tolerate only a narrow range of temperatures before they flee. "When the oceans heat up, animals vote with their fins and move elsewhere," said biologist Malin Pinsky of Rutgers, the state university of New Jersey, whose research project charts the changing locations of marine life.

For example, some lobster populations have moved nearly 200 miles from their historic home waters over the past 50 years, he said, yet they're not moving fast enough to respond to the dramatic temperature shifts in the ocean and to find a suitable habitat.

About half the fish caught around the world don't live in a single country's waters. Communities that depend on knowing where to find certain species—such as lobstermen in Maine and fishermen along the U.S. Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico—must quickly adapt to the animals' movement or risk their livelihoods.

What's more, knowing where fish live, and where they're moving, would help provide a more accurate picture of marine populations, which is essential when determining how to rebuild depleted stocks and what fisheries management measures to pursue. The scientific community should consider migration issues in the framework of a "global ocean," Rashid Sumaila, an environmental economist and 2008 Pew marine fellow at the University of British Columbia in

Vancouver, Canada, told the audience.

"Fish don't need visas, and they don't care about geographic boundaries," Sumaila said, stressing the importance of increased cooperation between countries and fisheries managers as well as data sharing about the fish they observe.

As important as it is to learn where marine species are migrating, it's also crucial to protect the places where they live—particularly coral reefs, which provide numerous benefits to marine and terrestrial life. The reefs offer safe havens where many economically important species of fish spawn. Living reefs are also directly responsible for millions of jobs in the recreation and tourism industries, largely in support of people who snorkel and dive to see fish and their habitat firsthand. Reefs also shield coastal communities from storm surges and erosion, and have been the source of many new pharmaceuticals.

But coral reefs are also severely threatened by climate change, overfishing, and pollution on land. Notably, more than half of the reefs in the Caribbean Sea have been decimated in the last 40 years, with contaminated runoff partly to blame.

One panelist discussed how treating wastewater in terrestrial ponds full of algae—which use nutrients from wastewater to grow, then convert them into oils via photosynthesis—could help keep harmful nutrients and pathogens out of the ocean. As a bonus, these oils could then, under proper conditions, be turned into a viable biofuel, which would provide a sustainable way to help protect coral reefs.

The idea is just one that scientists are exploring to help improve and protect the health of our seas. "We are seeing rapid changes in the oceans," Pinsky said, "but there are tools we have to reduce the impact."

How Students Get Into Philly High Schools

While students in the School District of Philadelphia aren't required to attend a particular high school, they must participate in a centralized application process if they want to go anywhere other than the school in their neighborhood. Since the majority of the 24 neighborhood schools are rated as low-quality by the district's accountability system, most eighth-graders look to go elsewhere. Their options, in addition to publicly funded charter schools, include 21 highly competitive "special admission" programs, all of which have academic standards for admission, and 121 less-competitive programs listed as "citywide admission."

Working with data from the school district, Pew analyzed where eighth-graders ended up attending high school in 2015-16 in an effort to understand how the application process was working and who wound up at the special admission schools.

Pew found that acceptance to these schools hinged on three factors: minimum scores on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment test, student and parent preferences, and admission decisions by the independent schools. However, while test scores were a key factor, some students—11 percent—who lacked minimum scores got in, and some who had the scores were rejected. These factors resulted in student bodies at special admission schools that differed from the district's ninth grades as a whole, with the special admission schools having fewer Latinos and blacks, smaller percentages of low-income students, and a higher percentage of girls.

The research also found that some eighth-graders with qualifying test scores didn't try to get into the special admission schools. Others were accepted but turned down the offers to enroll somewhere else. And a number of students, once enrolled, did not come to school when the academic year started. Opting out at these decision points was more common among certain groups of students, particularly Latinos. Superintendent William R. Hite Jr. called the disappearance of any qualified applicant from the special admission pipeline a "lost opportunity" for the district and the student.

Students on a break between classes at South Philadelphia's Academy at Palumbo High School.
Lexey Swall/GRAIN for The Pew Charitable Trusts

Citing Pew's report, the school district recently changed the admissions system for its citywide trade and technical education high schools, replacing the application process with a lottery system for the 2018-19 school year. The aim of the new system, district officials said, is to promote fairness and equity.

—Demetra Aposporos

Automation Technology Worries People

Advances in robotics and artificial intelligence have the potential to automate a wide range of human activities and dramatically reshape the way Americans live and work in the coming decades. A Pew Research Center survey of 4,135 U.S. adults published in October finds that many Americans anticipate significant changes from various automation technologies in the course of their lifetimes—from the widespread adoption of autonomous vehicles to the replacement of entire job categories with robots. While those surveyed expect certain positive outcomes from these developments, their attitudes more frequently reflect worry and concern over the implications of these technologies for society as a whole.

The survey, conducted in May, presented respondents with four different scenarios relating to automation technologies. Collectively, the scenarios speak to many of the hopes and concerns embedded in the broader debate over automation and its impact on society. The scenarios were: the development of completely autonomous vehicles, robots and computers that could perform many jobs currently done by humans, fully autonomous robot caregivers for older adults, and a computer program that could evaluate and select job candidates without human involvement.

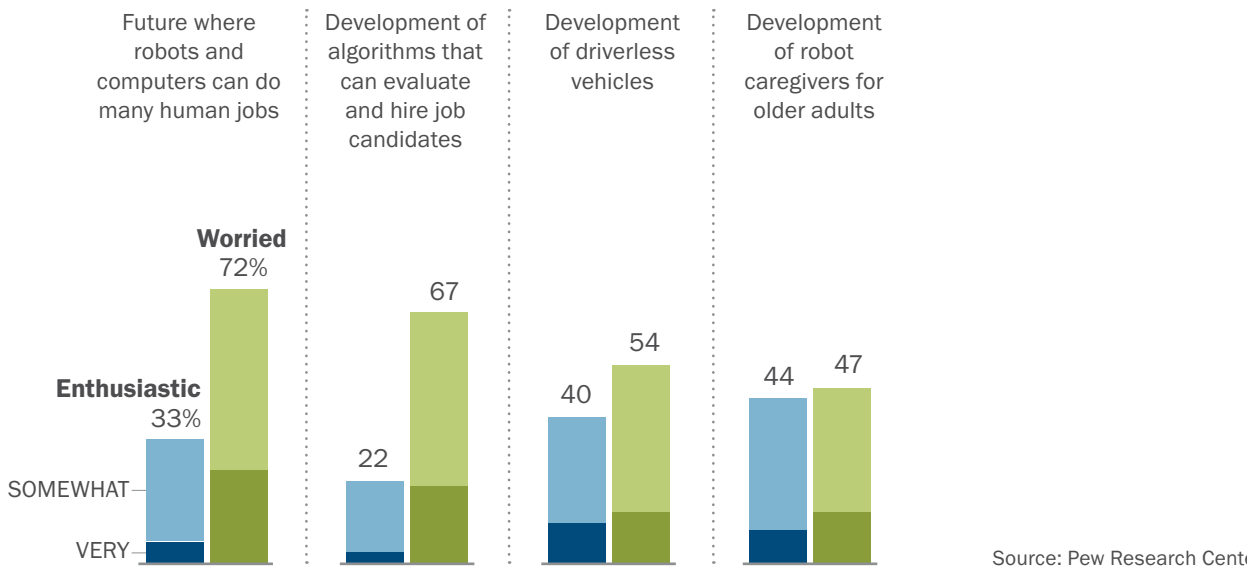
The survey finds that people express more worry than enthusiasm about these technologies. They are roughly twice as likely to express worry (72 percent) as enthusiasm (33 percent) about a future in which robots and computers are capable of doing many jobs currently done by humans. They are also about three times as likely to express worry (67 percent) as enthusiasm (22 percent) about algorithms that can make hiring decisions without human involvement. By comparison, views of driverless vehicles and robot caregivers are more balanced between worry and enthusiasm.

Those surveyed also express a number of concerns about the outcomes they anticipate from these technological developments. For instance, 76 percent expect that economic inequality will become much worse if robots and computers are able to perform many of the jobs currently done by humans. A similar share (75 percent) anticipates that the economy will not create many new, better-paying jobs for people if this scenario becomes a reality. And 64 percent expect that people will have a hard time finding things to do with their lives if forced to compete with advanced robots and computers for jobs.

In the case of driverless vehicles, 75 percent of respondents anticipate that this development will help the elderly and disabled live more independent lives. But a slightly larger share (81 percent) expects that many people who drive for a living will suffer job losses as a result. And although a plurality (39 percent) expects that the number of people killed or injured in traffic accidents will decrease if driverless vehicles become widespread, 30 percent say autonomous vehicles will make the roads less safe for humans. Similarly, 7 in 10 Americans (70 percent) anticipate that robot caregivers will help alleviate the burden of caring for aging relatives—but nearly two-thirds (64 percent) expect these technologies to increase older adults' feelings of isolation.

—Demetra Aposporos

Percentage of U.S. adults who say they are enthusiastic or worried about...



Source: Pew Research Center

A Brighter Future for Pacific Bluefin Tuna

A Pacific bluefin tuna breaches the surface as it chomps through a school of delicate anchovies off the California coast. *Ralph Pace*

The Pacific bluefin tuna is among the most depleted species on the planet, having been fished down more than 97 percent from its historic numbers to a population so low that Pew called in July 2016 for a two-year moratorium on fishing the species. For years, this prized fish has been in dire need of strong policies that would reverse its decline, but the two organizations responsible for its management—the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission—had failed to take the necessary action.

That changed in August. At a joint meeting of the organizations, the Pacific bluefin's primary fishing nations—Japan; Mexico; South Korea; Taiwan, Province of China; and the United States—agreed on a long-term plan that could rebuild the population from its current status of 2.6 percent of pre-fishing levels to 20 percent by 2034. If properly implemented, this agreement would start the species, and the fishing industry that depends on it, on a path toward sustainability.

Perhaps most significant was that Japan, which catches and consumes more Pacific bluefin than any other nation, dropped its long-standing resistance to taking action to rebuild the species' population. That shift followed strong international pressure and growing media attention in the country on the fish's plight.

Although the work has only begun, the August agreement could signal a move toward a greater focus on conservation at regional fisheries management organizations. "Fishing nations and their fleets now hold the key to a sustained recovery for Pacific bluefin," says Amanda Nickson, who directs Pew's international fisheries work. "If they can uphold the new rules, this vital species could rebound sooner than many of us had expected."

—John Briley

Varying Approaches to Prison Health Care

The amount of money states spend on providing health care to incarcerated individuals varies greatly—from a high of $19,796 per person in California to a low of $2,173 in Louisiana in fiscal year 2015—and total overall health care costs represent about a fifth of states' prison expenditures, Pew recently found. While these programs juggle multiple priorities to manage their budgets, from trimming waste to controlling the cost of pharmaceuticals, they also have a ripple effect. "Nearly all incarcerated individuals will eventually return to society, so treatment and discharge planning—especially for those with a substance use disorder, mental illness, or infectious disease—play an important role in public health efforts," says Maria Schiff, who directs this aspect of Pew's work on states' fiscal health.

To help understand how states can better manage the many issues involved in prison health care, as well as which approaches afford the best health and financial outcomes, Pew and the Vera Institute of Justice administered two 50-state surveys and interviewed more than 75 state officials to create two reports on the subject. The first focuses on updating research on spending trends in prison health care, incorporating data on whether states are monitoring the quality of this care—and if so, how they are doing it—as well as the strategies they use to care for individuals after release. The second report takes an in-depth look at prescription drugs, assessing how they were purchased, which drugs were most costly, how these drugs affected the overall health care budget, and whether copayments or federal discounted drug pricing programs were used to help pay for them.

The goal of both of these reports is to provide administrators and policymakers with practical information about how different jurisdictions are funding and delivering health care in prisons, as well as to offer ideas for how states might borrow from one another's approaches to help improve this care while managing the costs of delivering it.

—Demetra Aposporos

J. HOWARD PEW

MARY ETHEL PEW

J. N. PEW JR.

MABEL PEW MYRIN

70

COMMITTED *to* SERVICE

For seven decades, the work of The Pew Charitable Trusts has been guided by its founders' optimism, entrepreneurial spirit, and dedication to public works.

BY HOWARD LAVINE

In the public's imagination, 1948 will likely be remembered for one iconic headline: 'Dewey Defeats Truman.' Of course, he didn't. But other important historical and cultural events did take place in 1948: creation of the World Health Organization, sale of the first Polaroid camera, desegregation of the armed forces, enactment of the Marshall Plan, and the Summer and Winter Olympic Games, which returned after a 12-year absence because of World War II. Amid these world-changing events, J. Howard Pew, Mary Ethel Pew, Joseph Newton Pew Jr., and Mabel Pew Myrin—four children of Joseph Newton Pew Sr., founder of Sun Oil Co., and Mary Anderson Pew—created without fanfare The Pew Memorial Foundation to honor their parents' legacy and values.

The Pew Memorial Foundation was incorporated on Feb. 6, 1948, and capitalized with 800,000 shares of Sun Oil stock with a value of approximately $50 million. The board—which included the four founders and three other family members—decided that it would focus its philanthropy on science, charity, religion, and education. The board members also committed to make their giving anonymous, following the biblical admonition that charity should be done in secret.

The Sun Oil Company opened a filling station in the western Philadelphia suburbs in 1920, the first of what soon became 500 under the familiar Sunoco name. Stock from the corporation would later fund Pew's first philanthropic foray into science, charity, religion, and education. *The Hagley Museum and Library*

The first check written by The Pew Memorial Foundation was for $30,000 to the American Red Cross. Adjusted for inflation, it would be over $300,000 today. Other grant recipients in 1948 included the Institute for Cancer Research, now part of the Fox Chase Cancer Center; the American Biblical Society; and Grove City College. By year's end, the foundation had awarded grants totaling $582,500.

Over the next eight years, the foundation made 181 grants totaling $12.5 million, which would be more than $100 million today. This rapid growth convinced the founders and their board colleagues that

1948

Creation of The Pew Memorial Foundation

Support of the American Red Cross

Support for the Institute for Cancer Research (now part of Fox Chase Cancer Center)

Support for the American Biblical Society

Support for Grove City College

Support for Lankenau Hospital

Time & Life Pictures/Getty Images

1949

Begins longstanding support for historically black colleges and universities

1970s

Supports projects at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the International Oceanographic Foundation

1976

Supports Scheie Eye Institute

The Scheie Institute

they needed a professional staff capable of managing the foundation's assets and administering its grants. In 1956, they chartered The Glenmede Trust Co., whose sole purpose at the time was to manage The Pew Memorial Trust—created the following year.

Over the next two decades, the founders established six more trusts. These seven constitute what is today The Pew Charitable Trusts, and their early gifts helped support hospitals, religious organizations, and colleges and universities, including a pioneering effort on behalf of historically black schools.

From 1957 to 1969, the seven trusts awarded more than 2,500 grants totaling $64.6 million, making them one of the largest and most important grant-makers in the United States.

By 1970, a new set of challenges was facing the world as the public's concern for the environment grew. That year the world celebrated the first Earth Day, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was created. In response to this growing movement to protect the world's natural resources, the Trusts began funding projects at regional conservancies, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the International Oceanographic Foundation. This commitment to environmental protection grew and developed into a major policy area for Pew.

In 1979 alone, the Trusts gave $51 million in grants, nearly as much as it gave throughout the 1960s. But as the size and diversity of grants continued to grow, the organization's leadership faced two questions: Were brick-and-mortar building projects the most effective way to advance the founders' philanthropic mission? And did the increased level of giving require professional expertise that the board did not have?

When R. Anderson Pew, a grandnephew of J. Howard Pew, began his tenure as chair of the board of directors in 1978, he helped set a new strategic direction for the institution. Grants would no longer only go to organizations that appealed for help. The Trusts began to initiate projects—and find organizations capable of implementing them. This marked the beginning of a new form of philanthropy: investments based on ideas developed by staff or outside experts, and often implemented with the help of an advisory panel. By 1989, these sorts of projects covered approximately 25 percent of the Trusts' grants, and the organization had become the nation's second-largest private foundation as measured by giving.

Some of these projects focused on the education of health professionals and health policy research. This led to the creation of the Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences. The first class of scholars was announced in 1985, and the program still supports the research of outstanding early-career scientists.

Dr. Jerome Holland served as a consultant on interracial matters during Pew's early days, helping to create a program that promoted equal opportunity through support of African-American institutions of higher learning, which continued through the 1990s. The first African-American to play football at Cornell University and the first to sit on the board of the New York Stock Exchange, Holland would also serve as a university president and U.S. ambassador to Sweden.
Delaware State University

1978

Begins initiating projects, rather than simply accepting grant applications, following a new strategic vision

1985

Announces first class of Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences

Announces the Health Care for the Homeless program, in partnership with the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation

1990

Launches the Pew Latin American Fellows Program in the Biomedical Sciences

1991

Launches Pew Fund for Health and Human Services to continue assistance to vulnerable Philadelphia families

1996

Launches the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corp. (now called Visit Philadelphia) with the city and state

Peter Tobia for The Pew Charitable Trusts

The Swann Memorial Fountain marks the center of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Starting in 2001, the popular Philadelphia thoroughfare received an 11-year long facelift, supported by the city, the state, civic-minded foundations, and Pew to make it more attractive and user-friendly. *David Grahae, Time & Life Pictures, Getty Images*

In keeping with its long-standing recognition that evolution and reinvention were essential to remaining effective in meeting new societal challenges, Pew's leadership in the 1990s decided to concentrate on issues where the institution could bring about consequential outcomes. This meant focusing on challenges in which the facts, data, and science were clear and pointed to a solution; where Pew could add unique value; bipartisan consensus could be built; and the impact would be measurable and long-lasting. It began to create organizations that could accomplish specific cultural, civic, research, and policy objectives.

One was the Pew Health Professions Commission, charged with improving the health care system by identifying new ways to train and deploy health professionals. Another, created in 1994, was the

1998

Establishes Pew Center on the States through the University of Richmond

1999

Creates Pew Internet & American Life Project

2000

Launches Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life

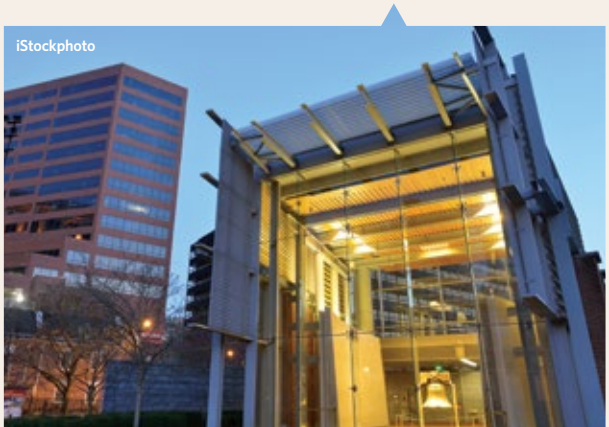
2001

Helps to establish the ocean advocacy organization Oceana

Independence Visitor's Center opens in Philadelphia

2002

Pew becomes a public charity



National Environmental Trust, which organized and supported national public education campaigns to inform citizens about attempts to dismantle protections of endangered species, weaken standards for drinking water, and eliminate pollution regulations.

In 1998, Pew gave a three-year grant to the University of Richmond to establish the Pew Center on the States, which became the platform for the Trusts' robust research portfolio examining state policy and offering states assistance in the development, implementation, and evaluation of their programs. And a year later, it funded the Pew Internet & American Life Project, which continues to track the evolution of the internet and interesting developments online under the umbrella of the Pew Research Center.

Launched in 2000, the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life became another platform for original research. Also part of the Pew Research Center today, it conducts surveys, demographic analyses, and other research about the practice of religion and its place in American life and around the globe.

At the same time, Pew's bond with the city of Philadelphia continued to deepen: The board's first meeting in 1948 had been held in the Sun Oil building on Walnut Street in Philadelphia. In 1987, the Trusts took up residence in an office on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, and in 1992 moved into a new home on 21st and Market streets.

Although Pew has grown over the past 70 years and now, in addition to Philadelphia, maintains offices in Washington, D.C., London, and other cities around the world, it remains committed to supporting the people and institutions of the city that launched its philanthropy and investment philosophy. In 1996, for example, the Trusts joined with the city and state to help launch the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corp., now called Visit Philadelphia. And the Trusts also helped raise funds to renovate Independence Mall, including a new Liberty Bell Center.

Pew's support for the great symbols of American democracy has not been limited to Philadelphia. The Trusts invested in the Founding Fathers Project, whose principle goal is to transcribe, annotate, and make widely available on the internet the papers of America's founding fathers. Pew made a substantial donation toward the design and testing of a new casement for America's founding documents at the National Archives—and a state-of-the-art gallery at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History to protect and display the flag that inspired "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Pew's connection to Philadelphia is not just about tourism and history. It is also very much about people. The Pew Fund for Health and Human Services helps to ensure that the region's most vulnerable residents receive much-needed assistance by supporting a range of programs that serve vulnerable adults; disadvantaged children, youth, and families; and the frail elderly. Since its inception more than 25 years ago, the Pew Fund has awarded nearly $220 million to approximately 320 nonprofit organizations. And since its beginning in 2008, the Philadelphia research initiative has provided timely, impartial data and analysis to help residents and elected leaders address critical social and economic issues facing the city.

With the dawn of the 21st century, Pew would look to reinvent itself again. In 2002, the organization became a public charity, allowing it to develop new tools and new ways of operating, take advantage of economies of scale, raise substantial outside funding, and increase the return on investment.

2003

Establishes Pew Oceans Commission to call attention to the plight of the nation's oceans

Pew scholar Roderick Mackinnon wins the Nobel Prize for his work on the ion channels of cells

Constitution Center opens in Philadelphia

The Liberty Bell opens to the public at a new location

2004

Pew Research Center established

Pew Research Center

2005

Creates the Trust for America's Health

The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage begins support for cultural organizations and artists in the Philadelphia region through project grants.

Constance Mensh

In practice, this meant that Pew began to operate projects directly with its own staff. The National Environmental Trust and the Campaign for America's Wilderness, which had been created as independent entities, were brought in-house, providing continuity but also new policy and advocacy expertise. Around the same time, Pew created the public safety performance project to help states advance fiscally sound, research-based policies and practices in sentencing and corrections. It has helped 33 states revise their sentencing and corrections laws, holding offenders accountable while reducing recidivism rates and saving states billions of dollars.

In addition to corrections policy, the Trusts' national policy agenda in the early 2000s included improving the safety of food, drugs, and medical devices; raising the quality of food and snacks served in schools; reducing the use of antibiotics in animal feed; and providing consumers with better information about financial products.

"The secret of its successes," Duke University philanthropy scholar Joel L. Fleishman has written about Pew, "lies in a combination of its commitments to ongoing rigorous empirical research, its carefully designed and beautifully implemented strategies over an extended period that marry strategically shaped commission and high-quality expert knowledge, and its energetic development of high-quality relationships with major policymakers relevant to its many issues of concern."

In 2004, Pew established the Pew Research Center as the umbrella organization for public opinion polling, demographic research, and other empirical social science research. In addition to religion and internet research, its other areas of emphasis include study of Hispanics in the U.S., global attitudes, journalism, and the role of science in society.

A year later, the Trusts established the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage to support artists and arts and heritage organizations in southeastern Pennsylvania. The center has since awarded over $126 million in grants to artists and arts institutions. Pew also successfully advocated for increasing public access to the Barnes Foundation's world-class art collection by supporting relocation of the artwork to an award-winning new building on Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

In 2006, Pew's economic mobility project began to gather data on the ability of Americans to move up the economic ladder. A year later, the project issued the first of many reports on the state of the American Dream.

That same year, Pew began researching state and local pension promises and found a billion-dollar gap between funding and the promises made to public sector workers. Drawing on this research—and with the understanding that there is no one-size-fits-all solution—Pew now provides technical assistance to policymakers considering ways to ensure that their retirement systems are affordable and sustainable—and put workers on the path to a secure retirement.

In 2008, the Trusts determined that there was no standardized, reliable, nationwide source for information about where and when to vote, and what is on the ballot. That was the beginning of a partnership with leading technology companies to provide that information online—and easily—to voters. And in the 2016 election, voting information was accessed 123 million times.

Meanwhile, Pew's work on behalf of the environment begun in the 1970s was continuing to have impact. The

2006

Begins Economic Mobility project to gather data on the ability of Americans to move up the economic ladder

Creates the Public Safety Performance Project to help states use research-based, fiscally sound policies in their corrections work and sentencing

Papahānaumokuākea marine protected area established with Pew support

Pew scholar Craig Mello wins the Nobel Prize for his joint discovery of RNA interference—gene silencing by double-stranded RNA

Launches Canadian boreal forest project

Begins Global Ocean Legacy project


AFP/Getty Images

2007

Begins Outback to Oceans project, bringing Pew's environmental work to Australia

2008

Creates Philadelphia Research Initiative to provide timely data on the city's social and economic issues

Launches the Voter Information Project, an online initiative that would go on to provide information 123 million times during the 2016 election

organization's efforts are credited with saving tens of millions of acres of pristine American landscapes critical to preserving clean water, safeguarding habitat, and providing opportunities for outdoor recreation—while benefiting local economies at the same time.

This strategy is also being carried out globally. With partners, Pew is working to conserve Canada's boreal forest and Australia's Outback. It is also working on marine policy, promoting sustainable fisheries, seeking to safeguard sensitive marine habitats, and protecting vulnerable marine biodiversity. These efforts build upon findings in 2003 from the Pew Oceans Commission that determined "the oceans are in crisis" and issued a series of recommendations for a new oceans policy that emphasized conservation.

Pew and its partners launched the Global Ocean Legacy project in 2006 to promote the world's first generation of permanently protected marine reserves. This has led to nine parks in the sea around the globe. This work continues in partnership with the Bertarelli Foundation as the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project, which seeks creation of six more large marine reserves by 2022.

In scope and in staff, Pew has continued to grow and do consequential work. The Trusts helped win passage of the Food Safety Modernization Act, the strongest overhaul of protections of Americans' food supply since the Great Depression, and continued to work for its successful implementation. More recently, major poultry producers and restaurant chains—in close collaboration with Pew—have agreed to limit or end their unnecessary use of antibiotics that are important to public health. In the worldwide fight against illegal fishing, Pew and its partners have seen significant successes—from expanded use of identification

Pew's conservation work helps protect vast swaths of Canada's pristine boreal forest. *Getty Images/Minden Pictures*

numbers for tracking vessels, to partnering with Interpol to fight fisheries crime, to Project Eyes on the Seas, a space-based radar system used to detect illegal fishing activities.

And that is just a partial list.

In just the past few years, as Pew has continued to reinvent itself to address the issues of the day, it has invested in new projects aimed at helping prepare communities for flooding, seeking improved maintenance of the national parks, and addressing the opioid epidemic. It is a diverse set of problems. But Pew—at 70 years old—responds to these and many other challenges with a nonpartisan, evidence-driven approach that can bring results on behalf of the nation and the world.

That was true in 1948 and remains true today—as you will see when you turn the page.

Howard Lavine is a Trust *staff writer and author of* Trusting the People*, a history of The Pew Charitable Trusts.*

2009

Pew scholar Carol Greider wins a Nobel Prize for her discovery of telomerase in chromosomes

2012

Barnes Foundation opens to the public in its new location on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway after Pew provides support

2013

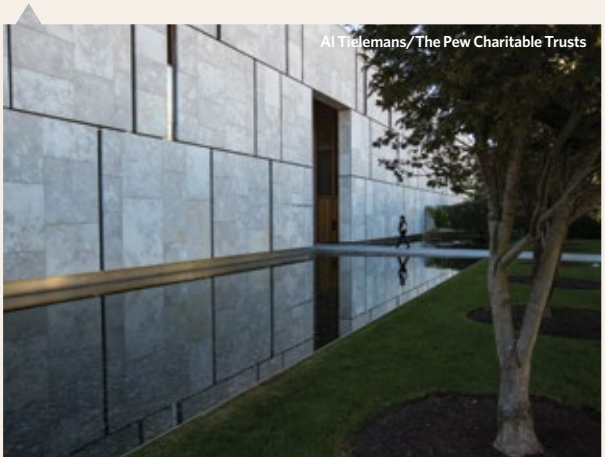
Benjamin Franklin Museum opens

2014

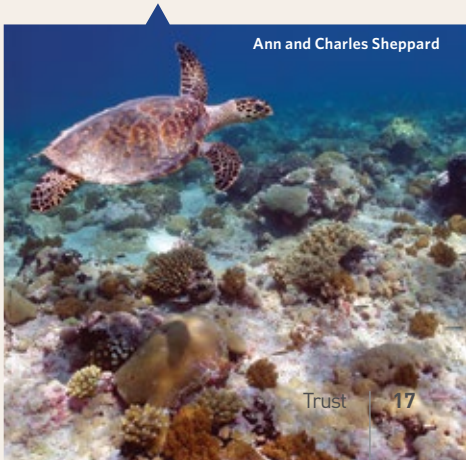
Pew-Stewart Scholars for Cancer Research Program launched

2017

Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy partnership launched



Al Tielemans/The Pew Charitable Trusts



Ann and Charles Sheppard

A YEAR of COLLAB

From helping to protect oceans around the globe to advocating for historic new pension reform legislation in our home state of Pennsylvania, Pew worked in 2017 with a variety of organizations to improve public policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.

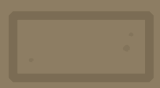
ORATIVE WORK

Divers explore the richly biodiverse waters around Revillagigedo National Park's volcanic island chain, which are home to more than 360 species of fish and harbor the largest number of coral species in the Mexican Pacific. *Erick Higuera/Pelagic Life*

OCEAN PROTECTION

MEXICAN MARINE RESERVE

Hundreds of species of fish, marine mammals, and seabirds can breathe easier thanks to Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto's November designation of the country's largest fully protected marine reserve. The Revillagigedo National Park, a few hundred miles south of Cabo San Lucas, covers 57,177 square miles of dazzling ocean habitat that is home to some 360 species of fish and is known as a marine superhighway for migratory whales, sharks, rays, turtles, and other ocean life. The Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project joined local partners Beta Diversidad and the Coalition for the Defense of the Seas of Mexico to raise awareness of the benefits of preserving this archipelago, and to provide technical and scientific support for establishment of the reserve, which prohibits fishing and other extractive activities.



Revillagigedo National Park

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Bertarelli Foundation

HISTORIC ARCTIC PACT

Near the top of the Earth, melting sea ice is opening parts of the Central Arctic Ocean to boat traffic for the first time in human history. In a show of unified foresight, 10 governments agreed in November after two years of negotiations to prohibit commercial fishing in that ocean until at least 2033 to give scientists time to understand the area's marine ecology and how warming is affecting the region. Pew's Arctic conservation team advocated for the historic deal, which protects 1.08 million square miles (2.8 million square kilometers) of international waters in a region that is warming at twice the rate of the rest of the planet. The newly protected area is the largest ever to be proactively placed off limits to fishing.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Lyda Hill

J.M. Kaplan Fund

Oak Foundation

Oceans 5

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

John Templeton Foundation

WORLD DEMOGRAPHICS

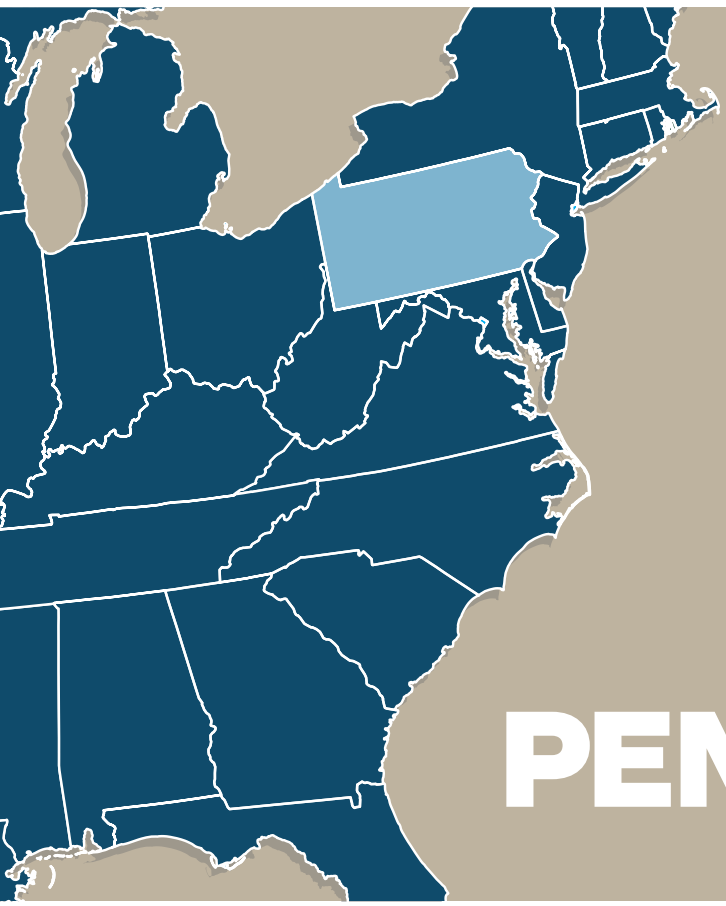
Christianity's status as the world's largest religious group is likely to change in coming years. A global study of religions by the Pew Research Center revealed that in the next 20 years the number of babies born to Muslims is expected to exceed Christian births. The center projects that Muslims will begin to outnumber Christians by 2075; these findings received coverage in about 900 news outlets around the world.
Amir Levy/Getty Images

POLITICAL TYPOLOGY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

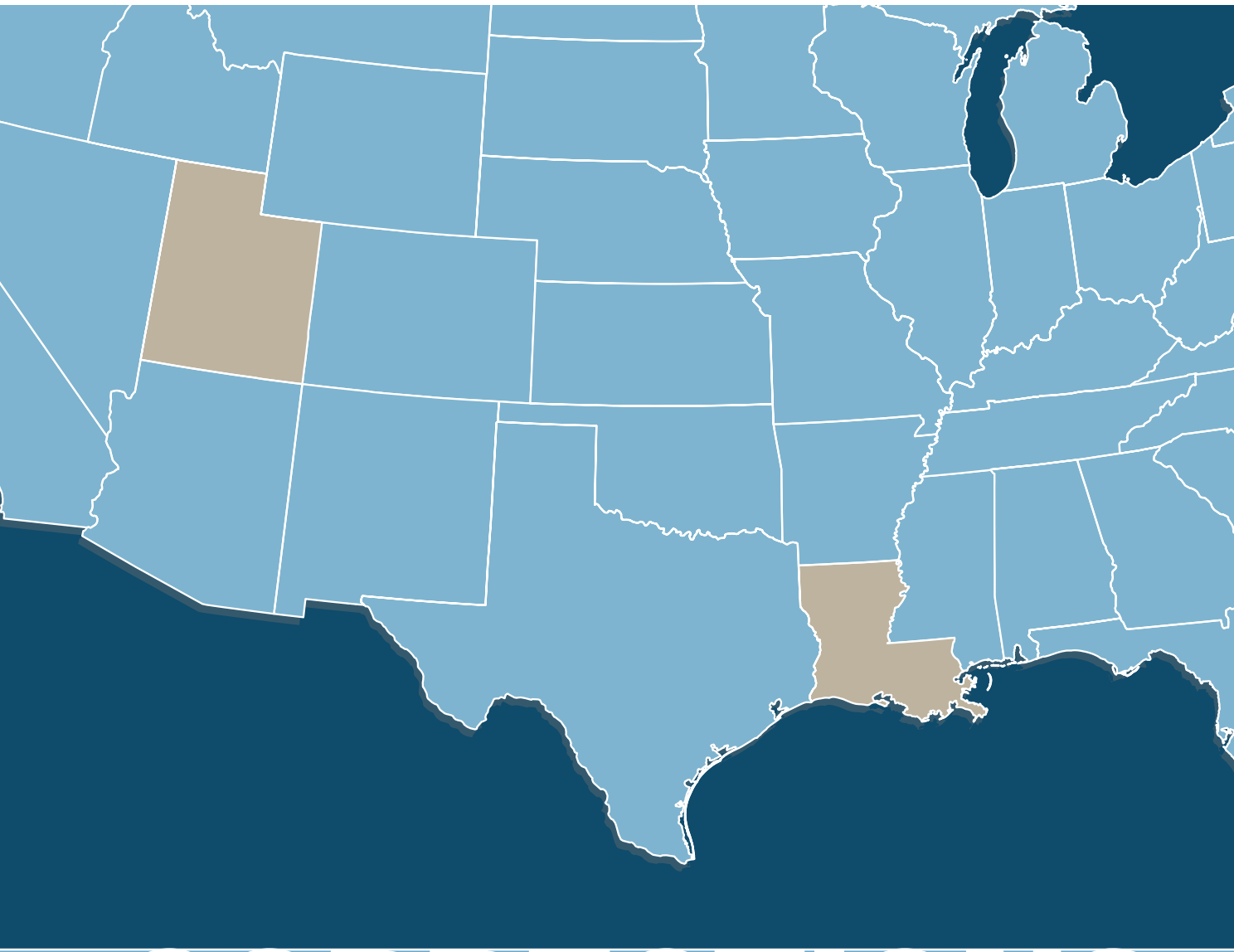
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Deep divisions define both the right and left in the nation's politics, the Pew Research Center found in the 2017 edition of its political typology report, which sorts Americans into cohesive groups based on their values, attitudes, and party affiliation. An online quiz allowed readers to determine where they fit in the typology, ranging from core conservative to solid liberal, and more than 187,000 users took it in the first three days after its release in October. By the end of 2017, 550,000 online users had completed the quiz.



PENSION REFORM

Pennsylvania enacted historic legislation to address soaring and unsustainable state pension debt and costs. Passed with broad bipartisan support in June, the law establishes a plan for new workers that significantly reduces risk to taxpayers, ensures that the employees have a secure path to retirement, and honors the state's commitment to fully fund the existing pension system. Pew provided technical support tailored to Pennsylvania's specific needs.



CORRECTIONS

Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards signed landmark prison reforms in June that were met with support from across the political spectrum in the traditionally conservative state. The bipartisan criminal justice legislation aims to reduce crime and incarceration in the state by steering people away from prison for lower-level crimes, strengthening alternatives to prison, and removing barriers to success for citizens returning to society. These changes are likely to help Louisiana shed its status as the most incarcerated state. Utah passed comprehensive juvenile justice legislation in March that will hold youth accountable while promoting public safety, controlling costs, reducing recidivism, and improving outcomes for youth, families, and communities.


Ryan Collier/The New York Times/Redux


Ryan Collier/The New York Times/Redux

PHILADELPHIA

Budget cuts in Philadelphia's public schools have resulted in a backlog of broken musical instruments—over a thousand of them. Enter the Symphony for a Broken Orchestra, a project that encourages the public to "adopt" the instruments to fund their repair. At its center is a musical composition, created by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer David Lang, and performed on the damaged instruments through a commission funded with major support from the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage. At the time of the 40-minute piece's December debut, conducted by Jayce Ogren (above), the project had helped the School District of Philadelphia raise nearly $250,000.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) took an important action that will help the 12 million Americans who use payday and auto title loans to make ends meet. By regulating the loan market for the first time, the CFPB's rule curtails short-term loans that too often have unaffordable payments, fail to work as advertised, and charge excessive rates. Pew's advocacy for data-driven reforms had a noticeable effect on how the rule was adjusted before being finalized in November. Pew provided research, cited more than 40 times in the CFPB's rule, that shows how these loans harm borrowers. The rule also creates a path for mainstream lenders to provide lower-cost payday loan alternatives, potentially saving millions of consumers billions of dollars.

NATURAL SHORELINES

The land along America's bodies of water—and the property on them—can be effectively protected by natural solutions. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers embraced the idea in January by making it easier for residents and businesses along coastlines, estuaries, and lakeshores to use native elements such as vegetation, oyster reefs, or rock sills to stabilize banks and reduce erosion rather than resorting to bulkheads or seawalls. Prior to the Corps' ruling, living shoreline projects faced greater scrutiny than hard infrastructure plans. Pew provided research and support for the living shorelines approach.

Shoreline-buffering sea grasses are visible at low tide on the banks of the Ashley River in Charleston, South Carolina.
Lee Gillenwater/The Pew Charitable Trusts

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Conservation Media Group

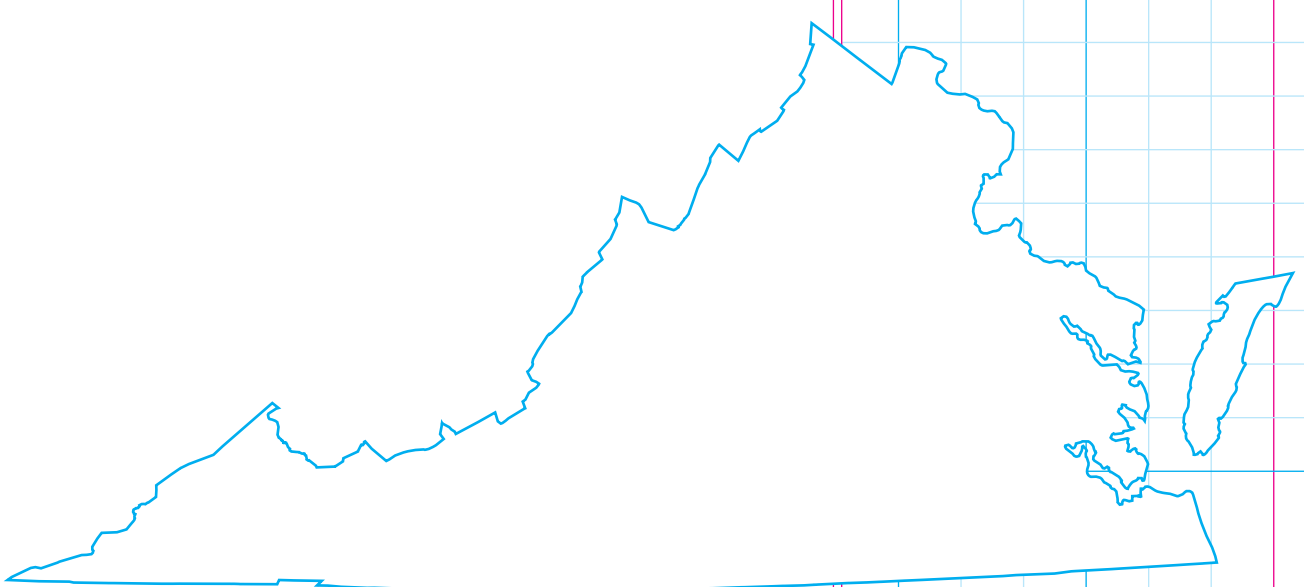
Shark Conservation Fund

The momentum to protect sharks continues to build. In October, the 124 member governments of the United Nations Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals—an international treaty to protect wildlife—agreed to fully protect whale sharks (seen here), angel sharks, and the Mediterranean subpopulation of common guitarfish in any place where they migrate and encouraged action to better protect white-spotted wedgefish, dusky sharks, blue sharks, and the global population of common guitarfish. Minimizing threats to sharks while they migrate is critical because even those that live in protected waters are vulnerable to fishing when they leave those areas. Pew advocated strongly for the new measures, which are in line with its longstanding efforts to achieve global management of vulnerable shark populations.

SHARK PRESERVATION

Andre Seale

VIRGINIA KNOWS HOW TO BALANCE ITS BUDGET



States often struggle with finances, but the Old Dominion's history of sound, bipartisan fiscal practices shows it's possible for political parties to work together.

BY STEPHEN FEHR

When Virginians narrowly chose L. Douglas Wilder as governor in 1989, critics predicted that he would be a tax-and-spend Democrat. But Wilder, a grandson of slaves and a child of the Depression, ran Virginia with the conservative fiscal values his parents taught him growing up in a segregated neighborhood in Richmond.

"I was raised that you don't borrow money from anyone, you don't loan money to anyone, and you don't spend what you don't have," says Wilder, now 86, who was the nation's first elected African-American governor.

Following those instincts, Wilder piloted Virginia through a recession without raising taxes, by cutting the size of government—"we had two student loan offices within 10 blocks of each other in Richmond; no one could explain why"—and by creating a savings account for budget emergencies. Working with the Legislature, Wilder showed how Virginia could become a model of bipartisan fiscal discipline.

That discipline worked to Virginia's advantage 20 years later—when the Old Dominion, with its tradition of responding quickly to financial challenges, came out of the Great Recession of 2007-09 relatively quickly compared with many other states. In some states, the recession persisted after it had officially ended nationally. But while Virginia suffered its share of public employee layoffs, withdrawals from its rainy day fund, and deep cuts to services and programs—Governor Tim Kaine (D) slashed about $5 billion in spending between 2006 and 2010—its strong fiscal practices meant that it has managed most years to match revenue with spending.

Sound budget management remains critical today, a decade after the Great Recession revealed short-sighted fiscal management in several states, because many states still face slow tax revenue growth, rising fixed costs such as Medicaid, and the risk of another downturn.

The practices that helped Virginia weather the recession are at the core of a Pew project aimed at helping governors and legislative leaders emulate fiscally well-managed states. Pew's state fiscal health team conducts research and provides technical assistance tailored to individual states that help lawmakers and other stakeholders understand and address long-term fiscal and economic challenges. On issues ranging from business tax incentives

to managing revenue volatility, Pew researchers travel around the country offering evidence-based approaches. In 2018, for example, Pew staff will assist Georgia lawmakers in developing a process to evaluate the effectiveness of tax incentives, and will help Delaware officials clarify their rainy day fund withdrawals.

State legislators and executives who lack this kind of information often react to fiscal stresses by raising taxes and slashing services across the board instead of targeting the cuts based on performance of specific programs. They defer payments, especially to the public pension system, which in many states and cities is underfunded, and they spend one-time money for ongoing expenses or tax cuts that cannot be sustained. They drain their rainy day funds and, when the economy is growing, fail to rebuild them. Meantime, as costs rise every year, policymakers find it harder to align expected revenue with expenses over time, digging a hole so deep that it's hard to recover. This lack of structural balance plagued Connecticut, Illinois, and Pennsylvania in particular as lawmakers tried to approve budgets in 2017.

"Poor fiscal management makes government less effective for taxpayers," says Michael D. Thompson, Pew's vice president for state and local government performance. "Pew works with state officials to improve budget practices to promote long-term fiscal stability. We highlight states with best practices, such as Virginia, that are committed to putting in place evidence-based policies to ensure the stewardship of public dollars."

Virginia's adherence to cautious budget management is partially rooted in its history. Even before Southern states borrowed heavily to finance the Civil War, Virginia had piled up debt to build roads, canals, and railroads. By the time that Governor (and later U.S. Senator) Harry F. Byrd (D) was elected in 1925, paying off the debt was a heavy political lift. He was adamant that the state government balance its budget, keep taxes low, and pay for capital improvements out of available revenue instead of issuing debt. The budget was balanced by 1937.

The "pay-as-you-go" fiscal conservatism that he had championed began loosening in the 1960s, coincidentally around the same time that attitudes toward social issues—such as integrating the state's public schools—also began to change. In 1968, Virginia voters approved the issuance of the state's first general obligation bonds, while the U.S. Supreme Court ordered a Virginia county to accelerate integration of its schools. Twenty-one years later, Doug Wilder would be elected governor—a development as unthinkable in Harry Byrd's era as the embracing of debt as a fiscal tool.

L. Douglas Wilder delivers his inaugural address in Richmond after being sworn as the governor of Virginia on Jan. 13, 1990. He went on to show how the state could become a model of bipartisan fiscal discipline. *Bettman/Getty Images*

Wilder's biggest contribution to modern-day Virginia's fiscal management was changing the state's constitution to require a rainy day fund to cover budget shortfalls and unexpected events. Pew has cited this reserve fund as a model for other states because it spells out when officials should deposit money into it and how much, tying those payments to the cyclical ups and downs of tax revenue. It also limits withdrawals, ensuring that money is available during recessions when it's needed most.

Since the Wilder administration, Virginians have elected three Republican and four Democratic governors; the state constitution bars the chief executive from seeking a consecutive term. The two parties have split control between the state House of Delegates and Senate at various times, though Republicans have held a majority in both chambers more years than Democrats have. But partisan advantage does not seem to matter as much in Virginia as it does in other states because of both parties' allegiance to best fiscal practices. Even when Republican Governor James Gilmore proposed the largest tax cut in state history in 1998, a Legislature with split control phased it in and capped the amount of lost revenue.

What longtime Virginia political analyst Robert Holsworth calls the state's "cultural commitment to fiscal responsibility under both parties" is aided by having one of the nation's longest-tenured state budget experts, Secretary of Finance Richard D. "Ric" Brown, who emerged as Wilder's top budget specialist in 1990 and has served under every governor and Legislature since. No one can determine Brown's own party preference, and lawmakers and their staffs implicitly trust him to carry out their policy choices. "Virginia's finances haven't been looked at as a partisan thing," says Brown, who retired in January.

Not every state can clone a respected official like Brown, but some do share Virginia's culture of sound fiscal policy and informed management. One measure of a state's financial standing is its bond rating, and 12 states hold top, or triple-A, ratings across the three credit rating agencies. (Virginia has been a triple-A state since 1938, which state officials say may be longer than any other state.) This top grade allows states to borrow at the lowest rates available, saving on interest costs and boosting the bonds' appeal to investors.

Wilder's biggest contribution to modern-day Virginia's fiscal management was changing the state's constitution to require a rainy day fund to cover budget shortfalls and unexpected events.

"Whenever there is a question on the table about whether the bond rating could be affected by something, the General Assembly has responded," Brown said. "Everyone is committed to that."

At the heart of Virginia's culture, as with other top states, is a dedication to aligning revenue with expenditures over several years, a concept called structural balance. States usually can tolerate cyclical deficits without jeopardizing their long-term fiscal health. But chronic shortfalls may indicate a more serious, unsustainable structural deficit in which revenue will continue to fall short of spending unless officials make policy changes.

To ensure structurally balanced budgets, Virginia policymakers adjust the numbers as quickly as

possible: Virginia is one of 17 states with a two-year budget. Some of the other 16 states leave a budget in place for two years, but Virginia amends its budget each of the two years, reflecting the ups and downs of revenue collection and demographic changes—such as the number of children, seniors, and Medicaid recipients—that can affect state programs. No state agency can incur a budget deficit at year's end; otherwise the agency director is fired—and held personally liable for the full amount of the unauthorized deficit.

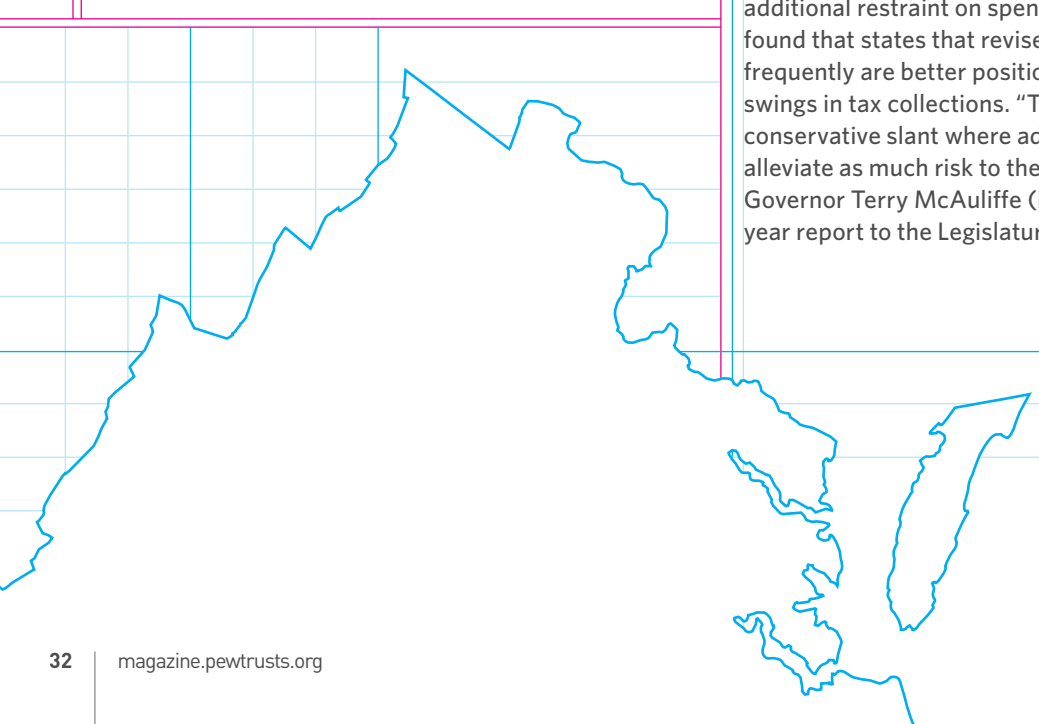
When spending needs to be trimmed, Virginia aims to make targeted, performance-based cuts instead of general, across-the-board cuts that can hurt essential services. With an accountability tool called Virginia Performs, policymakers look at the results that programs are getting to determine budget priorities. Pew has worked with other states to develop evidence-based practices to evaluate their programs, too, notably through the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, which helps policymakers use cost-benefit analyses to understand the relative effectiveness of public programs.

In Virginia, three integrated fiscal reports promote long-term planning that addresses long-term risks and obligations. Governors are required to submit a six-year financial plan along with their budget proposals, which is consistent with how many businesses operate to stay ahead of potential problems. In addition to the financial plan, a six-year capital outlay plan lists current and new construction projects. Policymakers also prepare an annual report aligned with the capital plan and detailing the tax-supported debt and the projected debt service costs over 10 years, with an estimate of the maximum amount of new debt that the state could issue in the following two years.

Even well-managed states—which attempt to be proactive in responding to financial challenges—were thrown off course by the Great Recession's precipitous fall in revenue. In Virginia, once revenue stabilized, policymakers decided to address increases in the state's highest fixed cost: retirement benefits for public employees. Republican Governor Robert F. McDonnell and lawmakers reduced the pension system's long-term liability by trimming benefits for new hires, increasing employee contributions, reducing the assumed rate of return on fund investments, and creating a hybrid 401(k) contribution/defined benefit plan.

Most states have some unique circumstances affecting their fiscal condition; Virginia's finances are mercurial in part because of the extensive military, intelligence, and civilian presence of the federal government and the related technology sector. As the state's largest jobs sector, government helps stabilize Virginia's finances during downturns—but reliance on it also worsens already-volatile revenue when the federal government downsizes. Mandatory federal spending cuts that began in 2013 slowed economic growth in Virginia, costing thousands of jobs.

Entering 2017, Virginia faced the possibility of additional mandatory federal spending cuts, repeal of the Affordable Care Act, and reductions proposed in President Donald Trump's 2018 budget. To respond to the uncertain revenue loss those actions would create, a panel of economists, business leaders, and lawmakers lowered Virginia's revenue forecasts, which led to additional restraint on spending. Pew's research has found that states that revise their revenue estimates frequently are better positioned to manage volatile swings in tax collections. "This process has a natural conservative slant where adjustments are made to alleviate as much risk to the forecast as possible," Governor Terry McAuliffe (D) noted in his end-of-the-year report to the Legislature's budget committees.



State officials also established a cash reserve fund in 2017 to help cover short-term revenue losses and to limit withdrawals from the state's main rainy day fund. The second reserve fund and reduced revenue estimates were prompted in part by a warning from Standard & Poor's Global Ratings in April 2017 that the state was drawing down its rainy day funds to balance its budget at a time when officials should have instead been depositing growing revenue into the rainy day account.

Now, the challenge of maintaining a structurally balanced budget will fall to Gov. McAuliffe's Democratic successor, Ralph Northam, and a General Assembly with slim GOP majorities. Northam will not have much of a honeymoon: One immediate policy decision with fiscal implications is whether to expand Medicaid eligibility under the federal Affordable Care Act. He has picked Gov. McAuliffe's transportation secretary, Aubrey Layne Jr., to replace Brown.

Virginia is unique in barring governors from serving consecutive terms, which may contribute to the state's financial well-being. Though critics say the term limit restricts a governor's agenda and takes away voters' ability to hold the chief executive accountable in the next election, the limit also forces a governor to stick within the two-year budget cycle he or she inherits upon taking office.

No matter who is governor in the years ahead, Virginia faces challenges that will test its fiscal resolve. The number of Virginians 65 and older is growing four times faster than the state's total population while the number of children under age 18 is increasing at a slower rate. Both trends will affect revenue and spending.

"We're facing strong headwinds," Delegate Chris Jones, the Republican chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said following the Nov. 7 election that left the GOP-led Senate and House of Delegates narrowly divided. Del. Jones and other lawmakers stressed the need to uphold Virginia's tradition of focusing on policy, not politics, in making fiscal decisions. "We can continue on the path of bipartisan cooperation or we can allow this committee to become a battleground for the next election."

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Stephen Fehr reported and edited state government coverage at The Kansas City Star *and* The Washington Post *before becoming a member of The Pew Charitable Trusts' state fiscal health team.*

500 Years After Martin Luther

The theological differences that split Christianity in the 1500s have diminished to a degree that might have shocked Christians in past centuries.

BY DAVID O'REILLY

Five hundred years after the start of the Protestant Reformation—the theological revolution that forever changed Christianity, reshaped Europe, and provoked a century of catastrophic wars—new surveys by the Pew Research Center find that most Catholics and Protestants in the United States and Western Europe view one another today as more religiously similar than different, and Western European Protestants and Catholics largely say they would welcome one another as neighbors and family.

The surveys also find that many Protestants in both the United States and Western Europe believe that faith and good works are necessary to get into heaven. Roughly half of U.S. Protestants (52 percent), for example, say that faith and good works are needed to get into heaven—a traditionally Catholic belief that the Reformation vigorously rejected.

Majorities or pluralities of Protestants in most European countries likewise view good works as necessary for salvation. Even in Germany, where the Reformation has its roots, nearly three times as many Protestants (61 percent) believe that faith and good works are both necessary as do those (21 percent) who assert that faith alone is enough.

The surveys also show that U.S. Protestants are split on another issue that played an essential role in the Reformation: Forty-six percent of respondents say the Bible provides all the religious guidance Christians need, a traditionally Protestant belief known as sola scriptura, or "scripture alone." But 52 percent say Christians should seek guidance from church teachings and traditions as well as from the Bible.

The Pew Research Center issued the reports last August in anticipation of the 500th anniversary of the event traditionally understood as having set the Reformation in motion: Martin Luther's nailing 95 critiques of the Catholic Church to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany, on Oct. 31, 1517.

The reports were based on the center's polling of 5,198 adults in the U.S. using its nationally representative American Trends Panel, in which respondents answer questions on their computers or smartphones. Center researchers also added several Reformation-related questions to a broad-ranging religious attitudes survey of 24,599 adults in Western Europe, conducted by telephone between April and August in 15 countries.

"Many of our surveys ask about religious beliefs and practices," says Greg Smith, an associate director of research at the center who helped direct the U.S survey. "That said," he adds, "we never before asked several of the theological questions at the heart of this one, such as `What's needed for eternal salvation?' or `Do you believe in purgatory?' So some of these questions were designed specifically with the intent of gauging what Americans think about the issues at the center of the Protestant Reformation after 500 years."

And with support from the John Templeton Foundation, the center was able to expand its scope to Europe, says Neha Sahgal, also an associate director of research at the center, who oversees the international religion surveys. "With the Reformation's 500th anniversary approaching, we decided to look at attitudes and theological understandings in the land that was the birthplace of the Reformation and fought wars over it. And what we found is that after 500 years, one of the major theological differences between Protestants and Catholics— whether faith alone leads to salvation, or both faith and good works are necessary to achieve eternal life—has been washed over."

Modern scholars now believe that Martin Luther

intended not to cause a schism in Christianity but instead to provoke a dialogue on what he saw as the Catholic Church's flawed understanding of its role in the forgiveness of sins, especially the controversial practice of selling indulgences to spare the buyer from purgatory. Scholars also doubt that Luther, an Augustinian friar and theologian, actually hammered his theses to the church door, although they agree that he wrote letters outlining his concerns to two bishops.

The two bishops and Pope Leo X, however, saw in Luther's concerns only a challenge to their teaching authority, and in 1521 Leo excommunicated Luther, turning him into a hero for reformers. By the time of Luther's death in 1546, large parts of northern Europe had become Protestant—and Catholics and Protestants were condemning one another's doctrines as heresy, leading to such events as the Thirty Years' War of 1618-48, which claimed 8 million lives.

The passage of time has since had its effect—and, for some religious scholars, not all to the good. Gregg R. Allison, professor of Christian theology at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, says the Pew Research Center data "confirm what is widely known among theologians ... that many churches are not doing a very good job teaching doctrine as it relates to salvation and biblical authority." He says many Protestant denominations are too eager to erase their authentic differences among themselves and Catholicism and that the findings are "a wake-up call" that "challenge us to be clear in our preaching Reformation theology."

Theologians underscore that the two faith traditions still maintain sharply different salvation doctrines that remain barriers to full communion. Nevertheless, many religious scholars note that the Catholic Church and most mainline Protestant churches today stress their "common witness" in the face of secularizing trends in the West and competition with Islam throughout the world, and have lately joined hands on humanitarian causes such as the plight of refugees.

This common witness between Catholics and mainline Protestants has been growing since the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960s when the Catholic Church decreed that other churches could be "means of salvation." In 1999, the Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation signed a Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification proclaiming their "common understanding of our justification by God's grace through faith in Christ." Some evangelical and conservative Protestant churches have resisted these moves, saying that many issues that gave birth to the Reformation still remain. But in the years since 1999, other Protestant churches, including the World Methodist Council, the World Communion of Reformed Churches, and the Anglican Communion have signed the Joint Declaration.

Catholics and Protestants "now recognize how much they misunderstood one another back when they were killing each other," says Michael Root, professor of theology at the Catholic University of America, who helped draft the Joint Declaration—and is himself a Lutheran who converted to Catholicism. "So now, with a bit more distance and things calmer, both sides can hear one another and say, 'If that's what you believe, then that's not what we condemned.'"

New surveys find that most Catholics and Protestants in the United States and Western Europe view one another today as more religiously similar than different, and Western European Protestants and Catholics largely say they would welcome one another as neighbors and family.

Those feelings are evident in the Pew Research Center's surveys. In the United States, nearly 6 in 10 Protestants and two-thirds of Catholics view one another's traditions as more similar than different. So while Christianity still wears some visible lines of division, it appears that a half millennium after Martin Luther launched the Protestant Reformation, the rancor of its founding feuds belongs now to history.

David O'Reilly, who covered religion for The Philadelphia Inquirer *for more than two decades, last wrote for* Trust *about the Pew Research Center's surveys of Muslims around the world.*

The Pew Research Center's U.S. survey generated the report *U.S. Protestants Are Not Defined by Reformation-Era Controversies 500 Years Later*, and the Western European survey was summarized in the report *Five Centuries After Reformation, Catholic-Protestant Divide in Western Europe Has Faded*.

Among the findings:

- In every European country surveyed, roughly 9 in 10 or more Catholics and Protestants say they would accept members of the other faith as neighbors, and wide majorities would welcome them into their families. In Germany—where 20 percent of the population died in 17th-century religious wars—98 percent of Protestants and 97 percent of Catholics say they would welcome one another as family.

- Catholics and Protestants in Western Europe report low levels of religious observance. Medians of just 12 percent of Protestants and 13 percent of Catholics say religion is very important in their lives.

- In the U.S., belief that salvation comes through faith alone, long held by Martin Luther and other Protestant reformers, correlates with people's knowledge of the concept. Among Protestants who understand that only Protestantism preaches this belief, known by the Latin sola fide, 77 percent embrace the concept.

- Just 30 percent of all U.S. Protestants affirm both sola fide and sola scriptura (scripture alone), two of the core confessional beliefs of their faith.

- Belief in sola fide and sola scriptura in the U.S is much more prevalent among white evangelical Protestants than among either white mainline Protestants or black Protestants. Among white evangelicals who say they attend church at least once a week, 59 percent express both convictions.

- Seven in 10 U.S. Catholics say they believe in purgatory, their church's teaching that after death the souls of some sinners undergo a period of purification before entering heaven. Two-thirds of Protestants do not believe in purgatory.

- One-quarter of U.S. Christians (26 percent) say they are unfamiliar with the term "Protestant."

Luke Bayley surveys a temporary freshwater lake on the Charles Darwin Reserve, a 168,000-acre conservation area not far from Perth.

A CHAMPION OF THE OUTBACK

Australia's Outback—the country's vast, wild, beautiful heartland—is one of the few large-scale natural regions left on Earth. An area of stark contrasts, alternately lush and inhospitable, it supports people, jobs, and economies as well as a rich and biodiverse landscape filled with some of the world's most unusual plants and animals.

Today, though, it is under threat. Across much of the Outback, there are fewer people managing the land than at any time in world history, which is causing problems such as the uncontrolled spread of feral animals, noxious weeds, and wildfires. This land needs people. It has been home to Indigenous Australians for more than 50,000 years; they have shaped and nurtured the landscape, and had their identity and culture shaped by it in return.

Pew works to conserve this critical region of the world and recently issued a report, *My Country, Our Outback*, that celebrates the relationship of people with the land by profiling those who live and work in the Outback, and are attempting to carry it safely into the future.

SECOND IN A SERIES

Luke Bayley helps to manage and conserve land, water, and wildlife on Western Australia's Charles Darwin Reserve

By Daniel Lewis | Photography by Kerry Trapnell

Bayley, along with Fiona Stewart (at left) and their two kids, has spent more than four years living and working at this reserve owned by Bush Heritage, a non-profit that acquires and protects biodiverse natural landscapes. "Our kids don't realize it yet," says Bayley, "but they're part of something pretty special: looking after this precious country."

What was once a lonely, narrow dirt track wandering across one of Australia's most fascinating environmental projects is now a wide, busy thoroughfare. Every few minutes, huge four-trailer freight trucks roar past, transporting iron ore from a neighboring mine to the nearest rail terminal.

This is Charles Darwin Reserve, a former sheep station located on the border between the wheat-growing and pastoral areas some 200 miles northeast of Perth in Western Australia. Bought with private money, the property is a veritable ark of native plants and animals, and is being rejuvenated in a way that would bring the great naturalist joy.

This jarring industrial road is not everyone's idea of what conservation should look like, but it is welcome in the Outback. It's a place where environmental projects often live side by side with mining, and conservationists make the best of it.

It's a reality that Luke Bayley has no problem with on this isolated conservation reserve. He has been here more than four years with his wife, Fiona Stewart, who helps him manage the place, and their two children. Bayley has no desire to live anywhere else.

"This place is where I feel safe and inspired and needed," Bayley says of Charles Darwin Reserve. "I didn't grow up in the Outback. I ended up here as my career evolved, and now it's definitely my home.

"I love the landscape—the big sky, the weathered rocks and the harshness. The beauty when it all comes together is very inspiring, and resonates with who I am," he says. "I also find it's an endless journey—I'm always discovering new things. And I like the challenge—there's a lot of work to do out here across many spheres and sectors."

PRESERVING LANDSCAPES

Bush Heritage, which owns the reserve, is a not-for-profit organization that acquires and cares for Australian land and partners with Aboriginal people to manage areas of outstanding conservation value and protect the country's biodiversity and natural landscapes. It owns 38 properties across Australia, encompassing almost 15 million acres.

The organization bought this property, also known as White Wells Station, in 2003, when it was a run-down pastoral area plagued by weeds, erosion, soil compaction, wildfires, and feral animals. Protecting the land was seen as a vital step toward conserving some of

the last remaining stands of vegetation that were once widespread across southwestern Australia, as well as creating a strategic refuge for wildlife.

Since its transformation into a conservation reserve, the 168,000-acre property has been intensively managed and monitored to gradually restore its natural environment. Now that grazing pressure from livestock and feral animals has been removed, the results have been stunning, and are most evident in the amazing displays of wildflowers, establishment of a biological soil crust, and growth of widespread native grasses.

To make similar property purchases easier and more secure for organizations such as Bush Heritage, Bayley wants to see a reformed pastoral lease system—in which government land is rented with limited lessee property rights—that embraces the reality that some properties are no longer viable for livestock. Buying leasehold pastoral land can be a big problem, because conditions of the lease transfer with the sale and can require new owners to maintain livestock, clear timber, and even eliminate some native species.

"There's a lot of uncertainty about tenure if you drill down into the detail of the existing pastoral lease system," Bayley says. "Having a rangeland lease that recognizes and supports conservation and Aboriginal land management as legitimate activities would be a big step forward. We would like to know we could buy land and put long-term covenants on it; it would be great to provide that certainty for our donors."

MINING RICHES

Bayley's views about mining in the region might seem out of character for a committed conservationist until one realizes that they are grounded in the real-world practicality required of any Outback land manager. As far as he's concerned, mining in the neighboring Mount Gibson ranges is contributing to Charles Darwin Reserve's success story. He believes that as long as it leaves environmentally and culturally sensitive areas alone, mining can be a good thing for the Outback in general because it brings in much-needed people, money, infrastructure, and skills.

As part of agreed-upon environmental offsets, two regional mine operators jointly fund the Gunduwa Regional Conservation Association, which brings together pastoralists, Traditional Owners (Aboriginal landowners, whose ancestors lived on and had rights to the land before European settlement), conservationists, miners, and local government officers to work on making this corner of the Outback a healthier place, regardless of property boundaries.

"There's so much energy and synergy and positivity in this group," says Bayley, who chairs the Gunduwa.

One mining company distributes grants to the community, and mine money is also funding the Gunduwa's efforts with local groups to collaborate on regional biodiversity and land management.

Contributions from mine operators and local businesses also directly support Bush Heritage's work at Charles Darwin Reserve, such as sponsoring the annual Blues for the Bush family festival and lending resources for firefighting.

The upgraded road has made life in such an isolated location more livable for Bayley's family. It has improved access to the local school, which is 40 miles away, and also helps Stewart get to her other job as a mental health clinician. "That infrastructure enables us to enjoy living in this part of the world," Bayley says.

OUTBACK TIES

Bayley grew up a long way from the Outback—in the Dandenong Ranges in outer Melbourne, among lyrebirds and a cool, temperate rainforest. He swapped all that for the heat and big horizons of the Outback when he moved to Western Australia to work on the reserve.

Bayley loves life in the bush, the autonomy that Bush Heritage gives him, and the opportunity his family has enjoyed living on the reserve. "Our kids don't realize it yet, but they're part of something pretty special: looking after this precious country," he says. "The Outback gets under your skin, and you realize how much opportunity there is to do things differently and better."

In the Outback, he feels that he is needed and that his contribution is valued. He particularly loves finding common ground among stakeholders and achieving results that benefit all.

"The Outback just needs to be reimagined," he says. "We can't do things the way they were done in the past. Being out here, it feels like we're on the cusp of something. It's like the frontier."

The way Bayley sees it, wealth from the Outback through commodities such as wool and gold helped build modern Australia. Now the Outback is depleted and largely ignored but deserves to be nurtured and nursed back to health. "It needs our respect and ideas," he says. "It's a place we've still got lots to learn from.

"To keep the land healthy in this part of the world, we need to keep ensuring that there are large parcels of land not being pressured for production, whether that be for mining or grazing. We need reserves staggered around the Outback that create buffers and support habitat exclusively for the purpose of keeping nature healthy."

DIVERSE ATTRACTIONS

Although Charles Darwin Reserve lies on the northern edge of Western Australia's wheat belt, most of it miraculously escaped being cleared. It was once earmarked for broad-scale clearing and grain growing but remained a pastoral property instead. The land's myriad environments therefore remain intact, a reminder of the nature that once covered thousands

of square miles of southwestern Australia but has long been lost to agriculture.

An important aspect of the reserve's recovery has been simply "giving the land a rest" after decades of ranching so that nature can rejuvenate itself, moisture can once again penetrate the soil, and native plants can grow back. "That approach is working, and we're seeing lots of response from native grasses, sandalwoods, and other species," Bayley says. In fact, the environment on the reserve remains relatively natural and varied.

"Charles Darwin Reserve is a very diverse environment," explains Bayley. "Bush Heritage purchased it for that reason. It's got this interface between the southwest botanical region, which is a very rich floristic part of the world—it's one of only two global biodiversity hot spots in Australia—and the semi-arid rangelands, where it's dryer and you're starting to get little patches of spinifex [a hardy grass].

"There are salt lakes in the middle of the reserve that have a unique vegetation community, and you've got patches of gum woodlands and granite outcrops. It's a rich, biodiverse property."

The size of the reserve—12 by 22 miles—means it can offer genuine protection for a diversity of habitats. According to the Bush Heritage website, it is recognized as one of the few remaining areas of bush in southwestern Australia large enough for ecosystems to function naturally if weeds and exotic predators are controlled, fire is kept out of thriving ecosystems, and drainage patterns are restored.

Bayley says this period of conservation and restoration for the Outback involves engaging meaningfully and over the long term with Indigenous Australians to learn from their land management knowledge, and supporting people moving back onto their traditional country and tending to it.

He has fostered a strong relationship with the Badimia people, the Traditional Owners of Charles Darwin Reserve. Bayley helps care for their gnamma waterholes (natural cavities that collect water and serve as reservoirs) in the rocks, and his favorite place is the Red Hand site, an initiation place for boys, where hand stencils have been painted onto the rock walls.

The Outback of the future will still contain mining and pastoralism, but those activities, along with conservation, "will be underpinned by respect for Traditional Owners and their knowledge, and this will help form exciting partnerships," Bayley says. "We can do so much more if we work together."

ANIMAL KINGDOM

Despite all its environmental charms, the reserve is an ecological apocalypse because it has lost so many mid-size mammals to feral predators.

"The main land management challenges we're facing are really around controlling feral animals," Bayley says.

"The big issue for us is the feral cat, which is a common threat throughout the Outback."

Despite the present-day challenges, Bayley is optimistic that in five to 10 years, Bush Heritage will be in a position to begin reintroducing locally extinct mammals onto the reserve. He thinks the brush-tailed possum would be a good candidate to start with, then maybe the stick-nest rat, which is being bred behind predator-proof fences on a nearby reserve managed by another private environmental group, the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

Although Bayley concedes that "regaining the mammals is going to be a long haul," he's pleased to say there have also been some big wins at the reserve. Goats and weeds are finally under control and are no longer having a significant impact on biodiversity. Native vegetation is being regenerated, the soil is stabilizing, and an ever-increasing number of resident bird species is recorded every year.

Volunteers—a crucial element of the reserve's success—now need to weed only around the old livestock areas, front paddock, and wells. "After a decade, they're nearly on top of the weeds," says Bayley. "And we're getting a healthy skin back on the soil."

With hard-hoofed animals removed and "brush packing" (fallen shrubs lying on the ground) used to slow the flow of surface water, the soil's healthy biological crust—held together by liverworts, lichens, and mosses—is once again in place. Bayley says

Left: A collection of local flowers and fruits gathered by Stewart are left to dry in the sun. Center: Diverse arrays of flora and fauna populate the reserve, including some of the insect variety; the distinctive mound of dirt here denotes the entrance to a large nest of ants. Right: Samphire—a native, edible succulent that people find similar to salty asparagus—grows freely near the reserve's salt flats. The plant is just one of many pieces of the ecosystem—akin to a rich and varied tapestry—safeguarded at the Charles Darwin Reserve.

stabilizing the soil in this way "means we're keeping water on the reserve. It's not rushing off, and this is reducing soil erosion and giving plants and grasses the chance to flourish."

"It's lovely seeing the grasses starting to spread out from under the shrubs and to see the foliage of shrubs like sandalwood starting to drape down to the ground," he says.

Once harvested for their aromatic oil, mature sandalwood trees are now a common feature on the property. With the grazing pressure from feral goats and sheep removed, the sandalwoods are looking healthy. But few seedlings are sprouting, so Bayley gets visiting schoolchildren to help with an important activity once performed by one of the native animals now sadly absent from the reserve.

Burrowing bettongs used to collect the sandalwood nuts and bury them for future consumption, thus helping to spread and position them for germination. Students are now taking up this task, collecting the nuts and burying them in the hope that seedlings will return.

One of the most important summer jobs is monitoring and fighting fires to make sure they don't spread into a destructive inferno. Too much of the reserve has been subjected to such blazes during the many years since the area's earlier Indigenous inhabitants stopped conducting patterned mosaic burning, which can help keep larger fires at bay. Nowadays, the fires are too hot and frequent for threatened animals such as the malleefowl, which prefers bushland that hasn't burned for 40 years to source the leaf litter its enormous egg-incubating mounds require.

Although fires and feral cats pose ongoing threats, Bayley's greatest concern remains the need to tell people in Australia and overseas about the work being done by Bush Heritage and why conserving large tracts of the Outback and its biodiversity is so important.

"We can be doing the greatest work in the world out here in the Outback, but if other people don't know and care about what we're doing and why—well, you'd have to ask, 'What's the point?'" he says with a shrug. "We can do it to make ourselves feel good and for the good of the country, but the Outback is such a special place that it needs to remain relevant and connected with the whole of our society."

His vision for the future of Charles Darwin Reserve, and the Outback generally, starts with getting more people out on the land to help manage it and share its stories far and wide. He wants more partnerships with Aboriginal custodians of the Outback, collaborative research projects, and visits from school groups.

"The Outback's given Australians—and the world—so much," he says, "and we have a responsibility to give it a great deal of our thought and effort in the future."

Daniel Lewis is an Australian writer and an author of My Country, Our Outback.

Sacred Spaces

Whether church, synagogue, temple, or mosque, Philadelphia's historic places of worship are testaments to the city's past—and signposts for its future.

BY TOM INFIELD

When the English Quaker William Penn established Philadelphia in 1682, he espoused a philosophy of "religious toleration."

And to this day, Penn's openness to people of all faiths is reflected in the large number and diversity of the city's historic sacred places, defined in a new Pew report as "buildings designed for religious use and constructed before 1965." Pew's Philadelphia research initiative found that the city of 1,568,000 residents is home to 839 of these places, a considerable concentration of one for every 1,900 residents.

Whether these churches, synagogues, and other houses of worship thrive or become worn and vacant is a matter of public importance that goes beyond their value to the congregations that occupy them, the report suggests.

If well maintained and in active use, historic sacred places can be civic assets. They provide stability in changing neighborhoods. They offer services government cannot. They rent space to nonprofits or startup businesses. They stimulate local economies by offering employment and purchasing goods and services.

Even if these buildings are redeveloped as apartments, offices, or other uses, they might retain stained-glass windows or other significant architectural features that lend beauty and solidity to a neighborhood otherwise chockablock with mundane structures. And, the report found, about 10 percent of the buildings have been converted to these uses.

On the other hand, if buildings of such magnitude become unwanted and derelict, they turn into eyesores—and worse. They become drags on their communities, discouraging investment and thwarting optimism.

"These buildings, even if they are not public buildings in the usual sense, are an important part of the landscape of the city and its civic infrastructure," says Larry Eichel, who directs the research initiative. "Even if you are not a member of one of these congregations, you still think of the buildings as an important part of your neighborhood, and if something happens to them, it matters to you."

The Pew study, notes Eichel, doesn't make recommendations about the future of historic sacred spaces, but does seek to put their fate on the public agenda.

The research included creation of a comprehensive database that assessed the use and condition of Philadelphia's religious buildings. "As far as we know," Eichel says, "there has never been a study like this. We have put facts and numbers behind a situation where there was just anecdotes."

Overwhelmingly Christian in number, Philadelphia's historic sacred places stand on corners where new arrivals from many faith traditions found a home from the 17th century onward. Early Scandinavians who settled along the Delaware River established Old Swedes Church. Some of the Founding Fathers who wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution worshipped at Christ Church in Old City. Mother Bethel AME Church, in Society Hill, is the oldest property in the nation continuously under black ownership.

Irish immigrants of the mid-1800s built St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church at Fourth and New streets. Italians, Poles, and others founded their own churches in the 19th and early 20th centuries. More recently, Russian-speaking immigrants have taken their place at Pennypack Baptist in the northeastern part of the city, and Cambodian immigrants have remade a former church in South Philadelphia as Preah Buddha Rangsey Temple.

The study found that many buildings have remained houses of worship by being handed off from one congregation to another, or from one religion to another. In the West Oak Lane neighborhood, for example, a church that became a synagogue is now a mosque.

A basket that invites charitable giving sits beneath one of many stained glass windows at the Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Center City Philadelphia. Founded in 1787 by a former slave, it is the mother church of the country's first black denomination and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1974. *Lexey Swall/ GRAIN*

The pews in Mother Bethel AME Church signify another first. Prior to the church's founding, black congregants were segregated—often in balconies—during services at predominately white places of worship. But here they chose their own seats. *Lexey Swall/GRAIN*

Regardless of denomination, these buildings represented immense investment in their day. They were made to last, and exterior examination of all 839 buildings— undertaken in 2015 and 2016 by Pew's research partners, PennPraxis of the University of Pennsylvania School of Design and Partners for Sacred Places—found that the majority are still in good or very good condition.

The report found, however, that deferred maintenance has taken a toll in some locations, with boarded-up windows, sagging roofs, and weed trees growing from steeples. In addition, a number of buildings face major and potentially costly repairs to their interiors and operating systems.

To determine factors that affect vulnerability and resilience, the researchers took deeper looks at 22 of the buildings and interviewed pastors, rabbis, and other leaders.

They found that some factors are internal: An institution's precarious financial condition goes hand in hand with poor maintenance. Likewise, poor church leadership and lack of communication between pastor and laity put buildings at risk. Structurally, the more complex a building's architecture—if it has spires, vaulted ceilings, and other ornamentation—the more costly it is to keep it up.

The fate of historic religious buildings can be linked with the relationship between congregations and their surrounding communities, the study found. Congregations that are buttoned up, serving mainly their own, were judged to be more at risk of their church shrinking or deteriorating than congregations that reach out.

The Rev. Cheryl Pyrch, pastor of Summit Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia's West Mount Airy section, told the researchers that her church "wants to be a good neighbor" and considers community services an important part of its mission. Summit houses a day care center and after-school program, and it shares space with a Jewish congregation, P'nai Or. It also invites community groups to hold meetings

in its facilities, and it rents space to a theater troupe, a dance studio, and a classical-music group.

"The congregation considers itself very much rooted in the neighborhood," Pyrch said, "and most people in the congregation live in the neighborhood. Or perhaps they used to live here and are now retired just a little bit further away."

The Rev. Joe Melloni, pastor of First Christian Assembly in South Philadelphia, said in the report that outreach is the church's purpose. "God provided the building. People from all over the community, from all over the city, even further ... they come and they get help."

External factors that lead to vulnerability for congregations and their churches, the researchers found, include the general decline of religiosity in American life. Lack of a support from a denomination —or, conversely, autocratic decision-making from afar —can also weigh on a church's future.

Factors of resilience, in many cases, were seen as the flip side of vulnerability—strong finances, good leadership, helpful denominational support.

An additional positive factor is historical recognition. Of the 839 sacred places in the report, 177 are named on the National Register of Historic Places or a similar registry in Philadelphia. When a building is redeveloped for nonreligious purposes, historic designation may protect distinctive architectural features. And when a building faces demolition, the designation may halt—or at least slow the advance of—the wrecking ball.

Historic sacred places, taken together, represent the religious life of Philadelphians from many nations and cultures over more than 300 years. All may not be preserved over the long haul, Eichel says, and all may not deserve to be, but he calls their collective fate "an issue worthy of public attention." One reason that historic sacred places may not gain attention from policymakers is the unease some public officials may feel when government takes an interest in anything religious—even if it's just the use of brick and mortar.

"It's understandable," Eichel says. "But it's a similar issue to the fate of school buildings," which Pew has also looked at. "In residential neighborhoods, churches are often the largest buildings, the most notable structures. When they are closed, that's a big deal for a lot of the same reasons that a school becoming vacant is a big deal."

Tom Infield is author of the Philadelphia's Sacred Spaces *report and a longtime journalist in the city.*

Changing Neighborhoods Affect Churches

Neighborhood change, whether downscale or upscale, can threaten religious congregations and the buildings they occupy, according to the Pew report on Philadelphia's historic sacred places.

It makes intuitive sense that a place of worship in a deteriorating neighborhood might struggle. Membership diminishes. Adherents who remain may lack resources to continue to pay the bills and maintain the structure.

Garden of Prayer Church of God in Christ (above) is an example. The Pentecostal congregation, which had to abandon its first location after a fire in 1991, occupies two problem-ridden buildings in a section of North Philadelphia that has felt economically left behind for decades. As the roof leaked and the heating system kept failing, "the congregation realized we were putting good money in a bad situation," says the pastor, Elder Gregory Frison. In spring 2017, church leaders began to seek a buyer.

It may be less intuitive, though equally true, that neighborhood gentrification presents risks for historic sacred places. Quickly rising home values can push property taxes so high that long-time residents move away; those who stay may feel ill at ease with the new types of people, often younger or more affluent, who move in. Though having moved away, older residents might return for weekly church services. But after a time, the challenge of distance—plus finding a parking spot in areas now crowded with bistros and coffee shops—may wear down the resolve to remain connected.

In Philadelphia's Bella Vista section, the Church of the Crucifixion, an Episcopal congregation with deep roots in the neighborhood, has struggled with such upscale change. "Here is a minority parish with not a lot of money finding itself in the midst of a quickly gentrifying, economically moving, quickly upper-middle-class situation," says the Rev. Peter Grandell, the pastor. "How do you [attract new members] when you don't have the fancy music programs, and you don't have all of the bells and whistles?"

CEO: Our Values are Our Guiding Principles

Rebecca W. Rimel joined Pew in 1983 as health program manager, became executive director five years later, and in 1994 was named president and CEO. During her tenure, Pew has evolved from a grant-making organization to become an innovative public charity with a global reach. She spoke with Trust *about that transformation.*

Amy Murrell/The Pew Charitable Trusts

Over the last seven decades, Pew has changed as an organization—and even today continues to view reinvention as necessary to remaining effective. Why is that so?

The organization reinventing itself is very much in the tradition of our founders. They were highly entrepreneurial. And we have always felt that one of our key obligations is to candidly assess our core strengths, and think about how we can best serve the public interest. And if that requires new approaches, that's the course we've taken. So whether it's reinventing our approach to carrying out our mission as a private foundation, which we did numerous times, or our biggest reinvention, which was the change in our structure to a public charity in the early 2000s, we have always been eager and willing to change to meet the demands and opportunities of the times.

From the start, Pew has invested and made grants strategically to have impact in improving society. What have been the most transformative grants over the years?

There were many important grants in the early years of the Trusts, especially in our hometown of Philadelphia, that included helping launch the Fox Chase Cancer Center and the Scheie Eye Institute, as well as early support for Lankenau Hospital and the nation's historically black colleges.

More recently in Philadelphia I would call out our efforts to remake Independence Mall and a whole series of projects over more than two decades that have enlivened America's most historic square mile. There's a new home for the Liberty Bell, a new visitor center, the National Constitution Center, and the Benjamin Franklin Museum. Those have all helped turn an important part of Philadelphia—that had not been a particularly welcoming or informative place—into a public space where millions of visitors now come to learn about the founding of the country. And I'd add to my list the effort with many local partners to save the Barnes Foundation and help move this priceless art collection to a new, more accessible home on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

More national—and increasingly international—in scope was the funding in 1995 of the Pew Center for the People and the Press. Over the years we went on to take a number of projects on religion, the internet, immigration, the media, and other topics, and brought them together under one umbrella that in 2004 became the Pew Research Center, strengthening its mission to provide nonpartisan, rigorous surveys and analysis of the important issues of the day.

From those early days as a grant-making institution rooted in its hometown of Philadelphia, Pew is now an international nonprofit with a broad focus. This really changed how Pew works on a daily basis. Describe that change.

As a private foundation, you make grants, and other organizations usually operate the programs. As a public

charity, for most of our investments, we work to achieve the intended goals directly with our own staff.

Our change in structure and approach may have seemed revolutionary from the outside looking in, but it really was, like most things, evolutionary. Prior to becoming a public charity, we were working innovatively through the success of our partners and grantees. And when we could not find an organization that was focused on the strategic areas where we hoped to advance solutions, we would often create a new organization, such as the Trust for America's Health, Oceana, and the National Environmental Trust. We eventually applied to become a public charity, and that has afforded us a lot more latitude, a lot more flexibility, in how we are able to approach our mission, partner with others, and launch new lines of work.

Throughout this evolution, there have been constants as well—the values that guide how the organization conducts itself. Tell us about those.

Over these seven decades, our values have been the consistent guiding principles of the organization. And they can be attributed to the founders and the way they lived their lives. They were very private people, deeply humble. They believed in wise stewardship and service to others. They believed very much in the biblical teaching that to those whom much is given, much is expected. They felt strongly about inclusiveness, about transparency, honesty, and integrity. And, to paraphrase one of our Founding Fathers, to follow truth, wherever it may take you. They lived their lives that way. They built their business that way. And so it is no surprise that they would have the expectation that the philanthropy that carried their name would conduct itself accordingly.

That's also because members of this family have continued to be deeply involved here.

Yes. Half of our board is made up of members of the Pew family, and many of them are long-tenured. We just celebrated the 50th anniversary of R. Anderson Pew on this board, and the 40th anniversary of J. Howard Pew II. Many of the rest of the members have provided long and valued service as well. So we have a lot of continuity and institutional memory. That constancy of leadership has been important in carrying on the values of the organization. But it also speaks to the fact that the board has been willing to embrace change and reinvention in its governance and its approach to stewarding this organization. And I think that's really been quite remarkable and a great gift to those of us who have been fortunate enough to serve with the board members.

There are foundations, think tanks, and nonprofit organizations with distinct topics of interest. Pew does not fit any of those molds. How would you describe Pew's role in the world today?

Most organizations, whether foundations or nonprofits, are created to address a limited number of issues or work in a specific city or country. Our founders were geographically and issue agnostic and gave us enormous latitude in how we would deploy our resources over time to best serve the public good. Over the years we have developed an investment philosophy to guide our strategy and the decisions on the topics we select to address. We pick issues where the facts and data are clear. We look for orphaned issues; if other talented people are addressing a problem, then we can turn our attention to other concerns that are ripe for attention. We focus on topics where we believe that we can take meaningful steps in advancing a solution toward success in five years and can quantify the impact of our investments. That means we are very much metrics-driven, learning from our disappointments as well as our wins. And we focus on areas where we have core competencies that we have built over the years. We like to think we are good at some things, but there are many topics, approaches, and skills that do not play to our strengths. We work to be candid and clear in our assessments so as to get the highest, best use out of the deployment of our time, talent, resources, and partnerships, which are critically important to all of our efforts.

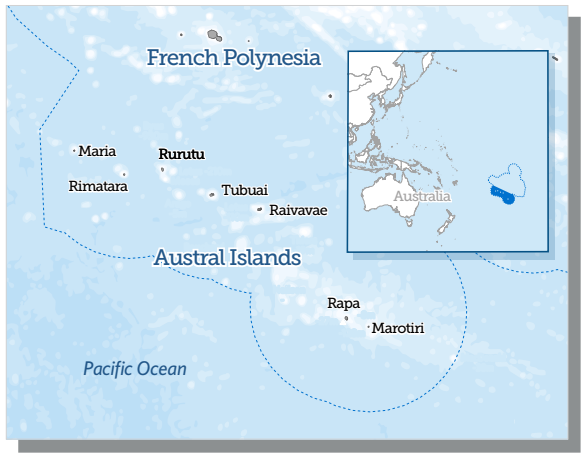
Look ahead a decade for us and describe how you see Pew working in the world.

It's hard to answer that question, so I'll tell you a story. Many years ago, we were sitting in the boardroom and debating an issue. Some people were looking at the portraits of our founders on the wall and saying, "What do you think Uncle Howard or Aunt Mabel would have thought about this?" And with us was Joseph Pew III, the son of one of the founders, who was on the board from our founding until he passed away a few years ago. He was a very quiet man but very forceful when he spoke, and I remember as if it was yesterday when he said: "First of all, 70 percent of the issues we're dealing with today as a society didn't exist when they were alive. They gave us the stewardship responsibility; hopefully they thought we would be wise. Now, it's our job to make these kinds of judgments and to ensure that we are relevant today and will be in the future on the key issues and opportunities facing the public."

I can't predict what in 10 years those issues and opportunities will be. But with our values as our compass, we should make our best effort to follow the facts while being pragmatic about where we can add the greatest value in serving and advancing the public interest. To put it another way, we should honor our past and take pride in our future while we, as one of our founders wisely said, "tell the truth and trust the people."

Pacific Voyage Connects People to the Ocean for Conservation

Austral Islands expedition by Polynesian canoe helps revive traditional protection measures and ancient navigation techniques



BY JÉRÔME PETIT

After four days at sea and amid a violent storm, our voyaging canoe finally approached Raivavae, a Pacific island some 445 miles south of Tahiti. As thick rain and waves lashed the deck, I fought to keep the boat on course during a shift at the helm. As happy as I was to see land, I was already growing nostalgic about leaving the great ocean.

This crossing from Tahiti, part of a 20-day spring expedition on board the Fa'afaite, a 72-foot double-hulled traditional Polynesian canoe called a pirogue, gave me a taste of what the great Polynesian wayfinders must have felt as they plied these waters. For almost 3,000 years, they explored thousands of Pacific islands navigating by the stars, sun, salinity, ocean currents, instinct, and the flight paths of seabirds.

The Australs are the southernmost islands in French Polynesia, and I was here on a trip led by the Tahiti Voyaging Society to help revive the practice of traditional navigation and promote ocean conservation. In particular, the Fa'afaite canoe was visiting four islands in support of a large marine reserve proposed by Austral Island leaders. The Rāhui Nui Nō Tuha'a Pae, or the great rāhui (protected area) of the Australs, would include a 20-nautical-mile coastal fishing area around each island for locals and a large, strictly protected zone of some 386,000 square miles offshore.

Our crew, hosted by captain Titaua Teipoarii, included local leaders, fishermen, journalists, scientists, my colleague Donatien Tanret, and me. As part of the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project—and before it, the Global Ocean Legacy campaign—Pew has worked with local communities in French Polynesia for years to help protect this region's extraordinary marine environment.

Warm welcomes on distant shores

When we finally came ashore in Raivavae, locals greeted us with flower leis, music, and dancing. Moved by this outpouring, crew member Mooria Mooria Iti, from the island of Rurutu, said: "Today, thanks to this canoe, the islands of the Australs are united to protect their great ocean." This set the tone for the rest of our voyage, which would cover about 1,240 miles and also take us to the islands of Tubuai, Rurutu, and Rimatara.

On Rurutu and Rimatara, our arrival set off joyous celebrations because the Fa'afaite was the first Polynesian pirogue to land since traditional navigation ended centuries ago, after Europeans colonized the area. At each stop, our crew welcomed locals, especially schoolchildren, on board to learn about traditional Pacific voyaging.

Threats to ocean health

As we sailed around the island of Rurutu, the scientist on board, Hannah Stewart of the University of California, Berkeley, described how the local reefs had suffered a major bleaching event due to warming seas—a reminder that even the remote waters of the Australs are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

"Scientific research has long confirmed the benefits of marine reserves for biodiversity," Stewart told me. "If we want to protect our habitats, our food security, and ultimately ourselves, it is essential to

Locals in canoes welcome the Fa'afaite's crew upon the traditional Polynesian vessel's arrival at the lagoon on the island of Raivavae, one of many stops the sailors made on their 20-day journey around French Polynesia. *Danee Hazama/The Pew Charitable Trusts*

The 72-foot pirogue, or double-hulled Polynesian canoe, sails seemingly unnoticed past a local girl along the shores of Tubuai, an island south of Tahiti. The Fa'afaite's 20-day voyage helped to promote ancient navigation techniques and ocean conservation measures.
Danee Hazama/The Pew Charitable Trusts

save some areas for resource regeneration."

Like many other experts, including those from the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Stewart recommends strict protections for at least 30 percent of the world's oceans—a goal that seems even more critical with the recent publication of a study showing that large, fully protected reserves help build climate change resilience in ocean species.

As Viriamu Teuruarii, president of the Rurutu Environmental Association, said: "We just ask to protect part of our ocean. It is in the general interest not only for the Australs but for all the islands of Polynesia."

The Austral people are committed to the reserve. "We will not backtrack. We will go all the way!" said Fernand Tahiata, the mayor of the island of Tubuai.

As fish populations dwindle, locals call for 'rāhui'

Austral islanders believe that the proposed reserve would restore the tradition of rāhui, an ancestral measure of restricting access to protect natural resources. Traditionally, Polynesians used rāhui to protect a part of a lagoon to allow its regeneration. The concept has helped the islanders fish sustainably and preserve their limited resources.

About 30 years ago, the people of the island of Rapa re-established a rāhui to prevent overfishing of some reef species along the coast. Now fishermen throughout the Australs are observing a decline in pelagic fish, including tuna, due to overfishing by international vessels just outside French Polynesian waters. This is hurting Austral fishermen, and without the long-term protection of their waters through a broader rāhui, industrial fishing vessels could enter the Austral exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and threaten the locals' way of life and very existence.

Establishing the new reserve is something the people of the Austral Islands, especially the fishermen, see as a duty for themselves and future generations. As Henri Teipoarii, a fisherman from Raivavae, explained, "With the rāhui, the fish of the Australs will be for the population of the Australs."

In a sign of hope for these waters, the government of French Polynesia has committed to make its whole EEZ, which covers almost 2 million square miles, a marine managed area. This area could soon include large protection zones, such as the great rāhui of the Australs.

As we departed Rurutu to sail back to Tahiti, the voices of the locals on shore faded. Soon we were left with just the push of the wind, the pull of the currents, and the sights and sounds of the ocean.

Jérôme Petit directs the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project's French Polynesia work.

Stateline, an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts, is a team of veteran journalists who report and analyze trends in state policy with a focus on fiscal and economic issues, health care, demographics, and the business of government. More stories are available at pewtrusts.org/stateline.

How Free Legal Help Can Prevent Evictions

BY TERESA WILTZ

In much of the country, more and more renters are devoting larger and larger portions of their income to rent. For low-income families, this can push them further into poverty and put them at risk for being evicted—and becoming homeless.

Evictions destabilize families, forcing them into poorer neighborhoods with higher crime rates. And evictions cost cities money: After a family is evicted, a city can end up losing thousands of dollars in property taxes and unpaid utility bills, and may have to bear increased costs from homeless shelters and hospitals.

To address the problem, some cities are trying a new tactic: providing tenants with free legal counsel in housing court. In eviction proceedings, the vast majority of landlords, 85 to 90 percent in some housing courts, show up to court with a lawyer, while tenants often face eviction without legal counsel.

The idea is that tenants with lawyers have a better chance of reaching agreements with landlords so they can stay in their homes—and avoid having an eviction on their record, which makes it harder to find another place to live.

Without a lawyer, eviction proceedings can be hard to navigate. Tenants often don't realize that they can, for example, use housing code violations as a defense for nonpayment. A judge makes the final eviction decision, but often tenants and landlords can work out a deal before it gets to that. One study found that two-thirds of tenants who had a legal aid attorney were able to stay in their homes, compared with a third of tenants who represented themselves in housing court.

Even showing up to court and having one's case heard can be a challenge. That's because housing courts "can be bursting at the seams," with dozens of cases rushed through the docket, said Michael Lucas, deputy director of the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, which provides free representation to low-income tenants in housing courts. "If you don't pull off parking and security just right, you could get evicted just for being five minutes late."

In August, after years of wrangling and a class action suit dating back to the '80s, New York became the first city in the country to guarantee all families that face eviction the

A family that was evicted from its home in Rhode Island. To combat homelessness, some cities have created legal defense funds for families facing eviction. *Associated Press*

right to legal counsel in housing court. The city plans to spend $155 million each year on the program.

Inspired by New York's effort, Washington, D.C., set aside $4.5 million in May for a grant program that will pay the legal fees of families facing eviction. In June, Philadelphia approved $500,000 in funding to provide legal defense to low-income renters who face eviction.

"We've got what I view as a crisis in affordable housing," said District of Columbia Councilman Kenyan McDuffie (D), who sponsored the Washington measure, which was first introduced last year. When the legislative calendar ran out, the bill was added to the district's 2018 budget.

"This isn't just about building new units," McDuffie said. "It's also about protecting tenants from unjust evictions and not creating housing insecurity in the first place."

In Los Angeles County, which had 56,000 eviction filings in 2016, officials have just started to set up an eviction defense program. Next year, the county will spend $8.5 million on counseling, as well as legal and financial assistance, for families and individuals at risk of eviction.

In January, Boston Mayor Martin Walsh (D) asked state lawmakers to introduce legislation in the Massachusetts Legislature to address tenants' rights issues. One of the bills would make legal representation in eviction proceedings a right and would guarantee legal representation.

In recent years, some states, such as California, have experimented with pilot programs that provide funding for some form of eviction defense. But New York's new law codifies the practice and ensures that legal defense in housing court is an ongoing right and not contingent on political will or funding levels, said Maya Brennan, a research associate with the Urban Institute, an economic and social policy think tank based in Washington, D.C.

Landlord advocates such as Adam Skolnik, executive director of the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, say they're all for eviction defense funds for tenants—as long as property owners aren't expected to foot the bill.

"Everyone should have a right to counsel," said Tracey Benson, president of the National Association of Independent Landlords.

Even better, Benson said: if tenants can work out a deal with their landlords before they end up in court. Evictions are expensive for landlords, she said, because by the time they get to housing court, they've usually gone without rent payments for at least a month. If the tenant is evicted, it can take several months before landlords find and screen a new tenant, Benson said.

Eviction rates

It's virtually impossible to measure whether evictions are on the rise, because there's no national database. (The U.S. Census Bureau plans to begin tracking evictions this year.) Rent laws vary from state to state, and jurisdictions use different methods to track evictions.

Most evictions are informal and never reach the courts, the Urban Institute's Brennan said. A landlord might send a letter to tenants demanding that they move out. Or they might lock a tenant out, pressure them to leave—or shut off the heat.

Formal evictions, cases that end up in housing court, are rarer, Brennan said. Most are about unpaid rent. But because some cases get resolved before the tenant and landlord end up in court, it's hard to get an accurate picture of how many people are evicted, housing experts say.

Still, there are indications of an increase in the rate of displaced renters. According to an August report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "severe housing problems are on the rise." The number of very low-income renters who do not receive government housing assistance and who spend most of their income on rent, live in inadequate conditions, or both, has increased 40 percent over the past decade, the report found.

And a December report by Redfin, which analyzed public eviction records, estimated that 2.7 million people faced eviction in the U.S. in 2015. The report found that the lack of rental units drove up housing costs, while incomes have not kept pace with rising rents.

Right to counsel?

The new push for eviction defense in housing court is based on a number of factors, according to Megan Hatch, assistant professor of urban policy and city management at Cleveland State University.

The U.S. is increasingly a nation of renters: More than a third of Americans are renters, the highest percentage in 50 years. And as more low-income families are displaced by higher rents, cities are seeing that evictions are having negative, long-term impacts on families.

"They're looking at the cost-benefit analysis," Hatch said. "A little bit of money now can prevent all those social costs down the line."

By law, anyone who faces criminal charges has a right to legal counsel, thanks to the Sixth Amendment and its application to the states in the 1963 Supreme Court decision Gideon v. Wainwright. There are no such protections at the civil level, such as in housing court or family custody hearings, said Andrew Scherer, policy director of the Impact Center for Public Interest Law at New York Law School, who helped craft the New York legislation.

For a while after the Great Recession, federal law protected the tenants whose landlords were in foreclosure. But the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act expired in 2014. Since then, some states and localities have stepped in with policies that let tenants stay in their homes under the same lease agreements if their building is foreclosed.

A leaflet about the affordable housing crisis on the door of an aging apartment complex in Portland, Oregon. *Sipa USA via Associated Press*

Advocates for eviction defense protections are part of the "right to counsel" movement: Even if someone is not charged with a crime, a day in civil court can be life-altering, with consequences such as losing your home—or your family, said John Pollock, an attorney and coordinator of the National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel.

Eviction can cause significant hardship to families and have an impact on childhood development. Women with children are much more likely to face eviction, and African-American women are disproportionately affected. Studies show that the rise in evictions is linked with higher suicide rates. And people who are evicted are more likely to lose their jobs. The waitlist for public housing can stretch into the decades.

Facing eviction without a lawyer "is really an outrageous imbalance in the justice system," Scherer said.

Avoiding eviction in the Big Apple

Since the 1990s, New York City has provided some legal assistance to low-income families that face eviction, though funding has ebbed and flowed over the years. A February report by the city found that when the administration of Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) increased legal assistance tenfold, to $62 million, evictions decreased by 24 percent and 40,000 more residents were able to stay in their homes in 2015 and 2016.

This year, the city started to guarantee free legal assistance to anyone who faces eviction. Families with incomes under $50,000 will have full legal representation, while those with higher incomes will have limited free counsel to avoid eviction.

The program will be phased in, ZIP code by ZIP code, over five years. The city estimates that an additional 400,000 tenants each year will now have legal representation in housing court.

The legal assistance program will help keep families in their homes, help stem the increase in the city's homeless rates, and, hopefully, said Scherer, the co-author of *Residential Landlord-Tenant Law in New York*, shore up the city's rent-stabilized market.

Teresa Wiltz is a Stateline *staff writer.*

The Geography of Poverty

BY LARRY EICHEL AND OCTAVIA HOWELL

There are a number of ways to look at Philadelphia's 25.7 percent poverty rate, the highest among the nation's 10 largest cities.

You can examine it, for instance, by age, gender, race, and ethnicity.

Alternatively, you can study the geography of poverty, which helps explain why the city's rate is as high as it is. More so than in many other parts of the country, the Philadelphia region's poor are concentrated within the city limits. The city is home to only 26 percent of the area's residents but 51 percent of its poor.

The gap between those two numbers, 25 percentage points, is a lot higher than the gap in metropolitan New York, Chicago, Atlanta, and Miami, to mention a few.

While the suburbanization of poverty has been much discussed nationally, and there are pockets of poverty in the counties surrounding Philadelphia, the phenomenon has happened less in this region than in others: The city's poverty rate is high, but the metropolitan region's rate is a relatively low 12.9 percent.

In researching The Pew Charitable Trusts' new report, "Philadelphia's Poor: Who They Are, Where They Live, and How That Has Changed," we tried to figure out why poverty is more concentrated in the core cities of some regions, including the Philadelphia metropolitan area, than in others.

In conversations with experts, three elements emerged as possible explanations.

Transportation: Philadelphia has a far more extensive public transit network in the city than in the suburbs, and the cost of car ownership in this region is among the highest in the nation, due in part to the high cost of car insurance.

Housing: In metropolitan Philadelphia, unlike some other regions, the least expensive homes are found in the city. And a relatively high 28 percent of residents of poor households in Philadelphia own their homes, giving those people a reason to stay put.

Land use in the suburbs: Studies have shown that land use in the Philadelphia suburbs is highly regulated, as compared with other regions, and that these regulations tend to impede the development of affordable housing.

A look at the city's census tracts underlines the degree to which poverty has become a defining characteristic of large parts of Philadelphia.

In 1970, the city had 99 census tracts (out of 372 citywide) with poverty rates of at least 20 percent, 15 of which had rates of at least 40 percent. Those tracts were largely confined to areas of North, West, and Southwest Philadelphia.

As of 2015, the last year for which tract data were available, there were 225 tracts where the poverty rate was at least 20 percent, 77 of which had rates of at least 40 percent, and they were found throughout much of the city.

Put another way, 60 percent of all Philadelphians and 82 percent of the poor live in areas with poverty rates of at least 20 percent. Those figures vary dramatically by race and ethnicity. Eighty percent of all Hispanics—and 91 percent of all poor Hispanics—live in these poverty areas, as do 78 percent of blacks, 58 percent of Asians, and 31 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

Other elements of poverty in the city have changed, too. In the last decade, working-age adults and Hispanics have not only grown as a share of the city's overall population but have also come to represent higher shares of those who are poor.

What has not changed is Philadelphia's ranking as the poorest of the nation's 10 largest cities. For the roughly 400,000 Philadelphians in poverty, life continues to be filled with struggle: finding safe, decent housing; feeding a family; and seeking work in neighborhoods where opportunities are few. This should be a concern of all Philadelphians, because such a high level of poverty has impacts that reach far beyond those who live it on a daily basis

Larry Eichel is director of The Pew Charitable Trusts' Philadelphia research initiative; Octavia Howell is a researcher on the team and author of the report "Philadelphia's Poor: Who They Are, Where They Live, and How That Has Changed." A version of this op-ed appeared in The Philadelphia Inquirer *on Nov. 22, 2017.*

How Pew Grew to Recognize the Power of Partnerships

As The Pew Charitable Trusts has expanded over the past seven decades, it has increasingly embraced partnerships with like-minded philanthropists to increase the impact of its work—for the benefit of all.

BY DEMETRA APOSPOROS

On April 3, 1948, J.N. Pew Jr. and his sisters, Mary Ethel Pew and Mabel Pew Myrin, gathered in the office of their brother J. Howard Pew, in the Art Deco style Sun Oil Building at 1608 Walnut St. in the heart of Center City Philadelphia.

It was a Saturday, clear but chilly for spring, and the meeting marked the first time these founders of what has become The Pew Charitable Trusts would decide where they wanted to direct their giving. Like many fledgling philanthropists, they had a general sense of the topics they were interested in supporting—the siblings wanted to honor their parents, Sun Oil Co. founder Joseph N. Pew and his wife, Mary Anderson Pew. Although each was new to philanthropy, all four brought causes dear to them to the discussion.

For J. Howard Pew, it was democracy, religion, and education, especially his alma mater, Grove City College. Mary Ethel Pew had long been interested in public health and better medical care, and had volunteered at the Philadelphia area's Lankenau Hospital. J.N. Pew Jr. also believed education was critically important, and he championed historically black colleges, engineering, and science. Mabel Pew Myrin, the youngest of the four, was unwavering in her support for art and culture, soil conservation, and healthy food, as well as hands-on learning—taught through the Waldorf school curriculum in particular. The four knew they wanted to honor the ideals of American liberty and democracy that their parents had so deeply imbued in them, and they envisioned an organization that was rooted in solid facts and unbiased research and not swayed by political ideology or momentary fads.

They also knew that transparency and accountability were important—but so were results. Perhaps most importantly, they wanted their support to remain relevant with the times, so the siblings envisioned an organization as adaptable, creative, and entrepreneurial as the country itself. In the early years, the work centered around the family's home city of Philadelphia and helped to launch facilities such as the Scheie Eye Institute and the Fox Chase Cancer Center. Along with other local philanthropists, the Trusts provided early and ongoing support to Lankenau Hospital. The nation's historically black colleges were other early grantees, and these institutions of higher learning received sustained support over several decades.

As time went on, and the Trusts grew and expanded its grant-making across the country, the organization's leadership began to realize that these efforts could have an even greater impact if they were carried out in partnership with like-minded organizations. To assess this thinking, Pew would launch one of its earliest partnerships—the Health Care for the Homeless Program—in 1985, alongside the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF).

Despite a strong national economy, homelessness had become a rampant problem in American cities in the mid-1980s, with many homeless people lacking access to health care. Recognizing this unmet need, Pew and RWJF joined forces and supported an effort to address health care for the homeless through a new and aggressive outreach process and also by offering targeted, flexible services able to vary by region. For example, in New York, health care was offered at soup kitchens, while in Philadelphia the program linked hospitals to homeless shelters.

This program also encouraged community organizations and agencies to work together to solve the problem of homelessness. It started in five cities but expanded over the course of its four years to serve a total of 19, with work that ultimately documented that homeless people were more susceptible to health problems and that innovative outreach methods were successful in serving them. The initiative is largely credited with helping to forge a persuasive case for federal action: In 1987, Congress passed the first

The founders of The Pew Charitable Trusts: J. Howard Pew, Mary Ethel Pew, J.N. Pew Jr., and Mabel Pew Myrin.

significant legislation authorizing federal assistance to the homeless, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The measurable success of this partnership would lead Pew to seek out additional collaborations in an effort to amplify its work, maximize its impact, and promote tangible, long-lasting results in areas such as governing, public health, and the environment.

One leading example is a partnership called Results First, launched with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in 2010, which works with states to implement an innovative evidence-based policymaking approach, including a customizable cost-benefit analysis model, that helps them identify and invest in policies and programs proved to make the most of limited taxpayer dollars.

In New Mexico, for instance, Results First helped the state assess the costs and benefits of its programs in early education, child welfare, and adult criminal justice. Since completing the analysis in September 2012, New Mexico has directed $104 million into evidence-based programs shown to deliver high returns. The majority of the funds have been dedicated to child welfare and early education programs, including pre-K, early literacy, improvements to early childhood programs, and evidence-based home visiting. Results First has worked in 27 states and was expanded in 2016 with additional support from RWJF to begin addressing state health care programs as well.

Pew's work to protect the world's oceans has also been grounded in philanthropic collaboration. The Global Ocean Legacy project, a decade-long project founded in 2006 in partnership with several foundations and individual philanthropists, recognized the important services that healthy oceans contribute to the planet, and the dangers the oceans face from exploitation, illegal fishing, and declining predator stocks. With research showing that very large, fully protected marine reserves are key to rebuilding the abundance and diversity of species and protecting the overall health of the marine environment, the project set out to protect the oceans for generations to come by establishing parks in the sea.

So far, 2.4 million square miles of ocean have been successfully safeguarded across nine reserves. In 2017, Pew and its longtime partner, the Bertarelli Foundation, recommitted to the project—now called the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project—with an aim to increase the number of fully protected parks to 15 by 2022.

These partnerships, and others like them, have been a critical component of Pew's success, and they continue to infuse much of the organization's work today.

"If an issue is important, it's almost guaranteed that it can't be accomplished by any one individual or institution," says Rebecca W. Rimel, Pew's president and CEO. "Partnerships and collaboration are crucial. People bring different things to the table in order to achieve success. The real 'secret sauce' to a creative and successful partnership is understanding the various players' strengths and weaknesses, because we all have both, and how then to make sure that the whole really is greater than the sum of the parts."

For more information about philanthropic partnerships at Pew, please contact Senior Vice President Sally O'Brien at 202-540-6525 or sobrien@pewtrusts.org.

Demetra Aposporos is the senior editor of Trust.

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RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The Pew Charitable Trusts applies a rigorous, analytical approach to ***improve public policy, inform the public,*** *and* ***invigorate civic life,*** *as these accomplishments from the past 70 years illustrate.*

IMPROVING PUBLIC POLICY

A colorful array of market produce—including gooseberries, blackberries, and blueberries—is protected from contamination by nationwide safety standards passed in 2010. *Joseph Cyr/EyeEm*

Food safety

In 2010, Congress passed the most important food safety legislation since the Great Depression, the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. Pew played a significant role in garnering support for the law, which fundamentally shifted the Food and Drug Administration's focus from reacting to foodborne illness outbreaks to actively preventing them. The act gave FDA the authority to mandate recalls of unsafe food and established that food growers and manufacturers have an enforceable responsibility to take steps to prevent contamination of their products. After the law passed, Pew became a leading advocate for adequate funding and strong rules to implement it, including the first nationwide safety standards for fresh fruits and vegetables, and regulations to ensure that imported foods meet the same requirements as domestic products.

Biomedical scholars

Since 1985, Pew has selected more than 900 promising young scientists for multiyear grants. The Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences has established a community of researchers who have shared knowledge and whose work has led to numerous discoveries in human health. Three of the scholars have gone on to receive Nobel Prizes. In 1990, the program was expanded to include the Latin American Fellows Program in the Biomedical Sciences, which provides young scientists in Latin America postdoctoral training in the United States and additional funding upon returning to Latin America to start their own labs. And since 2014, the Pew-Stewart Scholars Program for Cancer Research, in collaboration with the Alexander and Margaret Stewart Trust, has supported early-career scientists whose research aims to accelerate discovery and advance progress toward a cure for cancer.

Cognitive neuroscience

In the early 1980s, Pew's leaders took notice of a new field of research—cognitive neuroscience—and in 1989 began a collaboration with the James S. McDonnell Foundation to support the nascent discipline, which combines basic and clinical neuroscience principles, computer science, linguistics, psychology, and philosophy. In 1996, independent evaluators noted that cognitive neuroscience had "taken off dramatically," and researchers said the field "would not exist without the support of the two foundations."

Checking account and prepaid card disclosures

More than 30 financial institutions, including the 12 largest banks and three biggest credit unions, voluntarily adopted Pew's model checking account disclosure box in the wake of a 2011 Pew report revealing that the median length of disclosure materials for checking account agreements and fee schedules was 111 pages. Pew developed a simple, one-page disclosure statement, similar to a nutrition label for food products, to provide consumers with clear and concise information about the key fees, terms, and conditions of checking accounts. In 2016, new federal protections, partly based on Pew's recommendations, restricted overdraft fees and required disclosures and conditions on prepaid cards, used by some 23 million Americans, so that consumers could accurately and easily compare the costs of the cards.

Public health hazards

In 1999, Pew began taking steps to strengthen the public health system by focusing on a way to track environmental health hazards and infectious diseases. Pew awarded a grant to Georgetown University to educate the public and federal policymakers about the benefits of adopting a national approach to tracking and monitoring environmental health. The work eventually lead to the creation of the nonprofit Trust for America's Health, which built a public health defense network nimble enough to counter disease threats from nature or bioterrorism.

Data-driven corrections policies

Since 2006, Pew has helped three dozen states develop research-based policies to reduce prison populations while lowering reoffense rates and keeping communities safer. These states have avoided billions in prison costs and reinvested much of the money in programs to reduce recidivism.

While Pew has been working with the states, the national incarceration rate has dropped by 13 percent—even as the crime rate also was falling. The project has also worked in seven states for juvenile justice reforms that have yielded an estimated savings of $319 million.

Prekindergarten programs

In 2001, Pew and advocates from nearly 40 states and the District of Columbia partnered with policymakers to increase the quality and availability of pre-K education, a proven way to give children a head start for school. By 2011, when Pew released its final report on the subject, more than 600,000 kids had been added to pre-K classes and enrollment had exceeded 1.3 million children.

State pension systems

A 2010 Pew report highlighted the $1 trillion gap between the retirement benefits promised to public employees and the money states had on hand to pay for them. Pew began working in states and cities to help find solutions to protect promises to employees and help retain a talented workforce. Providing technical support—and acknowledging that there is no one-size-fits-all answer—Pew has helped seven states and one city develop retirement benefit systems that are affordable and fiscally sustainable.


Ezra Bailey/Getty Images

Antibiotics in poultry

In 2015, some of the nation's largest poultry producers, including Tyson and Perdue, began minimizing use of antibiotics important to public health in order to help preserve the drugs' effectiveness. Pew worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the poultry industry to formalize a production standard that promotes responsible antibiotic use in commercial production of chicken. In addition, popular chain restaurants such as McDonald's also began adopting policies to use chicken produced without antibiotics.

Information for voters

Pew has long held the view that voting is a cornerstone of American democracy and has invested in making the electoral process more accountable and accessible.

In 2009, Pew released the first analysis of states' voting systems for military personnel stationed overseas, which found that a third of the states did not provide enough time for these voters to receive and return their ballots in order to have them counted. The report, along with further research, led to the passage of the federal 2009 Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, which brought about significant changes in state laws that have greatly improved the ability of Americans abroad to cast ballots and have their votes counted.

In 2012, Pew helped launch the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a sophisticated data-matching process that state election officials use to cross-reference voter rolls against other official government data and the voter rolls of other states. To date, ERIC has helped its member states identify millions of voters who had moved from their addresses of record but failed to inform election officials, as well as contact more than 25 million eligible but unregistered citizens and provide them with information on the most secure and convenient ways to register to vote.

In February 2013, Pew released the first-of-its-kind Elections Performance Index (EPI), examining election data for 2008 and 2010 in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The EPI evaluates how elections are managed, including data on wait time at polls, problems with voter registrations or absentee ballots, and voter turnout. The index provides a way to compare states' performance in election administration or to review a state's progress over time. The EPI subsequently reviewed every federal election.

In 2016, more voting information was available to more people than in any previous U.S. election—thanks in large measure to the Voting Information Project, a collaboration among state election officials, Pew, Google, and other technology experts that collected state election data, confirmed its accuracy, and made it widely available. The project placed key information on where and how to cast a ballot in places where voters would naturally find it—on social media and frequently visited websites—without requiring the voters to submit any personally identifying information.

Ocean conservation

Supporting the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in 1970 signaled the beginning of Pew's decadeslong involvement in helping preserve the seas and all that lives in them. The founding of Woods Hole signified a transition from management of a single fish species to focusing on entire marine ecosystems, a philosophy and practice Pew continues to embrace today:

- In 1988, Pew established a fellowship in conservation, which included scientists working in marine environments. In 1996, the program evolved into one focused exclusively on marine conservation, with three-year grants that support leading natural or social scientists and other experts dedicated to researching the world's oceans and marine life. Since its inception, the program has awarded funding to more than 164 people from 38 countries.
- In 2000, Pew helped found Oceana, an organization focused on ending destructive bottom trawling of the world's oceans and other concerns, as well as on public education and scientific analysis of the challenges to the seas.
- In 2003, the Pew Oceans Commission published

a 144-page report declaring that "the oceans are in crisis and reforms are essential," which spurred creation of the nation's first ocean policy to emphasize conservation and helped win bipartisan support in Congress for science-based limits on fishing. From 2000 to 2013, these changes helped restore 34 fish species to healthy levels in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and put the United States on track to ending overfishing in its ocean waters. The U.S. now has one of the best fisheries management systems in the world.

Parks in the sea

Inspired by national parks on land, Pew and a group of partners established the Global Ocean Legacy project in 2006 and set a goal of creating 15 protected areas in the ocean. The first, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, established that year, lies northwest of the Hawaiian Islands. A decade later, the project has secured commitments for nine marine protected areas across the globe that comprise more than 3 percent of the world's oceans (a swath larger than Australia), giving the seas' burdened ecosystems and many endangered creatures a fighting chance to survive. And Pew's work continues toward creation of six more parks, in partnership with the Bertarelli Foundation.

The largest marine protected area on the planet

In 2016, the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) made history by declaring the Earth's largest marine protected area in Antarctica's Ross Sea—the first time nations have agreed to protect a huge area of the ocean that lies beyond the jurisdiction of any country. Pew worked with CCAMLR's 24 member countries and the European Union to help them reach consensus on safeguarding this part of the Southern Ocean after they had voted down similar proposals for the previous five years. The 795,000-square-mile (2.06-million-square-kilometer) reserve will protect critical habitat, including breeding and foraging grounds for whales, seals, penguins, krill, and other species.

American landscapes

Fragmentation and loss of core habitat pose formidable threats to the survival of species and overall biodiversity. So Pew has worked for the protection of large-scale landscapes harboring diverse ecosystems—as well as smaller parcels that connect areas critical to accommodating breeding and migration—by building support for wilderness measures in Congress, advocating for national monuments, and working with the Bureau of Land Management to develop plans that balance conservation and development. Together with local partners, Pew has provided data and recommendations that resulted in new land protections across the nation, including Basin and Range National Monument in Nevada, three California Desert monuments, wilderness designations in New Hampshire and Vermont, Sleeping Bear Dunes Wilderness in Michigan, Owyhee Canyonlands and Boulder-White Clouds wilderness in Idaho, Wild Sky Wilderness in Washington state, and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument northeast of Los Angeles.

Australia's Outback and oceans

The Outback is one of the few large-scale natural regions left on Earth, and the oceans surrounding Australia are no less exceptional. Pew has worked

Credit card fees and penalties

A 2009 reform to the credit card industry known as the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility, and Disclosure Act saved consumers more than $20 billion annually, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research, by protecting them from unfair or deceptive practices, including hidden fees and high penalties for late payments. The law, which received bipartisan support from Congress, incorporated evidence-based research and findings from a Pew study that evaluated general-purpose credit cards offered online by the 12 largest banks and 12 largest credit unions.

Getty Images

with Indigenous people, scientists, community and conservation organizations, industry, and government agencies to obtain huge areas of protection in Outback Australia and the adjacent remote seas.

When Pew began work in Australia in 2007, less than 4 percent of the nation's waters were safeguarded from overfishing and industry as marine sanctuaries. Since then, Pew has helped create the world's largest network of marine sanctuaries and reserves there, covering 591,000 square miles, or 35 percent of Australia's waters. On land, Pew's efforts have resulted in state and federal commitments to preserve more than 176 million acres of the Outback.

A key part of this success is the Country Needs People campaign. Pew works with Aboriginal communities whose ancestors have lived on the land for some 65,000 years to create Indigenous Ranger programs and Indigenous Protected Areas (parks on Aboriginal-owned lands) that provide environmental, social, and economic benefits for Indigenous populations in remote areas. Australia's federal and states governments have invested and committed more than $880 million into this work.

The boreal forest

Vital to the health of the globe, Canada's boreal forest—the most intact forest on Earth and a major habitat for key mammal species—stores more carbon than tropical forests, offsetting the equivalent of 26 years of global emissions from the burning of fossil fuels. Thanks to the efforts of First Nations, conservation organizations, scientists, and industry members, actions to safeguard more than 867 million acres of the boreal have been secured: Pew began working with partners to preserve the boreal in 2000 with a goal of protecting 1 billion acres by 2022.

INFORMING THE PUBLIC

The Pew Research Center

Pew began its support of the Center for the People and the Press in 1996. That center and other research groups Pew supported were brought under one umbrella in 2004 and became the Pew Research Center. A nonpartisan and nonadvocacy fact tank, it conducts surveys and analyzes data on the issues, attitudes, and trends shaping the United States and the world.

Since the center's inception, it has become the go-to source for data on a wide array of topics, including trends in internet use, the role of Hispanics in U.S. life, and religious practices and attitudes around the world. The center's reports are cited frequently by the news media, and staff members often brief policymakers and other public officials who rely on the data.

The documentaries of Ken Burns

Helping the public understand events that have shaped American culture has long been part of Pew's mission. After the success of filmmaker Ken Burns' acclaimed 1990 documentary "The Civil War," Pew awarded grants to Virginia-based PBS affiliate WETA to support his work. His five-part series "Baseball" explored how the game evolved and mirrored American society. The "American Lives" series chronicled Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, Mark Twain, and other notable figures. "Jazz" offered a look at the significance of a uniquely American art form. "The War" probed the impact of World War II on the nation. And "The National Parks: America's Best Idea" told of the evolution and enduring importance of these iconic places. Most recently, Pew supported Burns' 18-hour series "The Vietnam War," released in September of 2017.

Leading institutions of research

Pew's dedication to high-quality academic research began with the founding of the Hoover Center (later the Hoover Institution) at Stanford University in 1971—the first time Pew publicly attached its name to an investment. This early support for the think tank had a significant impact on its growth and success. Pew subsequently funded other major institutions that advance democracy, free markets, and international security—including the American Enterprise Institute, Brookings Institution, and Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies, all of which continue to inform public policy debates.

Philadelphia's Broad Street Ministry offers up free meals five days a week to people in need. *Spencer Platt/Getty Images*

Care for the vulnerable

Those in the Philadelphia region who need the most help—disadvantaged children, youth, and their families and the frail elderly—receive assistance from organizations best equipped to serve them. The Pew Fund for Health and Human Services identifies such nonprofits and has awarded more than 300 of them some $230 million to help make a difference in the lives of needy Philadelphians through approaches grounded in evidence-based best practices and years of experience.

Arts and culture

How can a city's arts and cultural life be invigorated? By supporting the bold initiatives of organizations with a record of success. Since 2005, the Pew Center for Arts & Heritage has helped foster a vibrant cultural community by granting more than $89 million to artists and arts and cultural institutions in Greater Philadelphia, such as the Philadelphia Zoo, Opera Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Penn Museum at the University of Pennsylvania. Each year, the center also awards Pew fellowships in the arts, supporting the growth of visual artists, writers, choreographers, and other types of artists—including two who went on to win Pulitzer Prizes. The investment in ambitious, imaginative projects that showcase the region's cultural vitality and enhance public life has, to date, enabled some 5.5 million people to experience more than 2,700 cultural events, including exhibitions, performances, and history programs.

U.S. history in Philadelphia

The rebuilding of Independence Mall, involving public and private partners, revitalized a landmark with special meaning not only for Philadelphia but also for the nation. Parts of the Mall, first built in the 1950s, had become underused and had fallen into disrepair decades later. Starting in the 1990s, Pew and partners began a renaissance, and by 2006 three important civic buildings—the National Constitution Center, the Independence Visitor Center, and the new Liberty Bell Center—and updated landscaping had restored the Mall to the beautiful and vibrant place first envisioned half a century ago.

Tourists visiting the Liberty Bell Center at night linger beside the iconic symbol, which sits across the street from Independence Hall (reflected in the window). *Joe Sohm/Visions of America/UIG via Getty Images)*

Pew experts explore innovative ideas on the most critical subjects facing our world.

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Juvenile Commitment Rate Falls by Half Nationally in 10 Years

BY JAKE HOROWITZ AND ARNA CARLOCK

Over the past decade, the nation's juvenile commitment rate—the share of adjudicated youths in residential facilities—dropped by half, falling to the lowest level since the federal government began tracking it in 1997, according to a new analysis by The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Data from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention indicate that between February 2006 and October 2015, the rate declined from 201 per 100,000 juveniles to 100 per 100,000. A total of 24 states reduced their commitment rates by at least 50 percent during that period. Connecticut saw the largest drop, a decline of 83 percent. Since 1997, the national rate has decreased by a total of 61 percent.

The nationwide reduction in commitment parallels the decline in juvenile violent crime arrests—including for murder and non-negligent manslaughter, aggravated assault, and robbery—which fell by 49 percent from 2006 to 2015. The tandem drops illustrate that juvenile crime and incarceration can be cut at the same time.

States across the nation have adopted policies to safely decrease their juvenile residential populations by ensuring that only the most serious and chronic offenders are placed in out-of-home facilities. The reforms have been based on a growing body of research indicating that for many juvenile offenders, residential placement fails to produce better outcomes than other responses.

And the results of these state efforts have often been significant. For example, after Georgia enacted a 2013 reform package, the state's juvenile residential population fell 35 percent, and rather than opening two new facilities as planned, the state closed three. Lawmakers also reinvested $30 million of the savings into community programs, funding that has given judges and probation departments across the state greater access to evidence-based options for youths adjudicated delinquent. In 2016, evidence-based interventions supported through new grants served 1,723 juvenile offenders, and nearly two-thirds of participants successfully completed their programs.

As other states seek better outcomes and lower costs, they are adopting similar policies, and the findings of this new analysis illustrate that such an approach can protect public safety while reducing costly juvenile incarceration.

Jake Horowitz is director of research and policy and Arna Carlock is associate manager of research for Pew's public safety performance project.

In 1932 during the Great Depression, President Herbert Hoover (R) vied with New York Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt (D) for the highest office in the land, and the Pew family's Sun Oil Co. produced a citizen's roadmap for the occasion. Filled with details and statistics about current and former elected officials—such as where each member of the House of Representatives stood on Prohibition— the booklet also outlined the Democratic and Republican party platforms and provided 31 pages of election facts and figures, much as voter guides do today. The handbook was distributed to the company's employees and the public alike—perhaps the Pew family's first foray into the art of widely disseminating election information.

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Philadelphia's Visitation BVM Catholic Church is one of the city's 839 historic religious buildings.

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