Largely hidden from public view, a subset of California's population is also one of its most vulnerable: immigrant youth, mainly from Mexico, who have very low levels of education. Some of these youth never enroll in U.S. schools and many must work to support families. They have poor English language skills, high poverty rates, and low rates of health insurance. The persistent low educational attainment of these young people could have ramifications for the future of the entire state -- exacerbating the projected shortage of educated workers.

A new report from PPIC, *Out-of-School Immigrant Youth*, finds that improving access to educational services for these young immigrants is especially important because many of them are interested in learning but very few of them are being reached. In particular, the report examines the federal Migrant Education Program (MEP), which devotes some of its resources to helping this group.

The one of the authors of the report, Laura E. Hill, will discuss her study findings on Friday, May 4, 2007 at a Capitol Hill luncheon briefing hosted by PPIC and the California Institute. We expect that this event will be widely-attended. If you would like to attend, please reply with acceptances only to 202-974-6384 or send email to ransdell@calinst.org.

PPIC and the California Institute are both 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that do not employ lobbyists. PPIC is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving public policy through objective, nonpartisan research on the economic, social, and political issues that affect Californians. It was established in 1994 with an endowment from William R. Hewlett.