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Introduction

This is the second of the *California Journal of Politics and Policy's* annual issues on Western States Budget Reports. The papers paint a broad, nuanced picture of state legislatures and governors across the west still suffering the after effects of the great recession and struggling to repair the damage as their economies slowly improve. The Journal is grateful to our collaborator in this ambitious undertaking, the University of Utah Center for Public Policy and Administration with special thanks to its new Director Jennifer Robinson, with whom we have begun to work on a special issue on Western State Policy concerns that we will publish early next year.