

Issue Studies:

- Because we need detailed, reliable, carefully researched information.
- So LWV members and citizens can reach their own conclusions.
- To develop advocacy positions that can be used by our Action Team.

You can request a hard copy of any of following reports by contacting the [LWV of Oregon](#). Reports are free; however, there is a small charge to cover shipping. Many college and community libraries have copies as well.

- [\(NEW!\) Hard Rock Mining in Oregon](#)
- [Campaign Finance Reform](#)
- [Children at Risk](#)
- [Coastal and Nearshore Oregon](#)
- [Election Laws](#)
- [Election Methods](#)
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- [Oregon's Homeless Youth](#)
- [Oregon's Initiative System](#)
- [Oregon's Judiciary](#)
- [Postsecondary Education Study Update](#)
- [Redistricting in Oregon](#)
- [Shift in Oregon Household and Business Tax Burdens](#)
- [State Parks](#)
- [The Trial Jury in Oregon's State Courts](#)
- [Water in Oregon](#)

2018 – Hard Rock Mining Study - new

This report seeks to evaluate the current status of hard rock mining in Oregon. It aims to review the history of relevant laws, to summarize the processing and products of hard rock mining, to examine the economic value of mining, to assess the environmental impacts of mining in the state, and finally to consider alternatives to mining.

[Hard Rock Mining in Oregon – Full Study](#) (PDF, 40 pgs)

[Hard Rock Mining Study Summary](#) (PDF)

[Hard Rock Mining Study Consensus Questions](#) (WORD)

[Hard Rock Mining Study Outline](#) (PPT)

2016 – Postsecondary Education Study Update

In 2013, League of Women Voters of Oregon members voted at convention to study and update their state position on higher education. The scope of the study was to include review of our Public Postsecondary Education position, examining the role of the state and its public educational institutions in meeting the goals and challenges of postsecondary education in the 21st century. Downloadable study files at the links below.

[Postsecondary Education Study Update – Full Report](#) (PDF, 54 pgs)

[Executive Summary](#) (PDF, 4 pgs)

[Consensus Questions for Local Leagues](#) (PDF, 7 pgs)

2016 – Election Methods Study Update

The following is an update to the Elections Methods Study (2008), which reviews a range of election systems, discusses specific Oregon proposals and the National Popular Vote.

[Election Methods Study Update – Full Report](#) (70 pgs; pdf)

[Election Methods Executive Summary](#) (4 pgs; pdf)

[Consensus Questions for Leagues](#)

[Positions From Other Leagues – Election Methods Update](#) (7 pgs; pdf)

[2008 – Election Methods Executive Summary](#) (3 pgs; pdf)

2015 – Children at Risk

The Children at Risk (CAR) Study

This study examines how the most vulnerable children in our state are identified and receive early intervention services that may enhance their chances to thrive in life. It specifically addresses:

- Recent changes in legislation relating to early learning;
- Restructuring and delivery of services in Oregon at state, county and local levels for children 0-6 (including 0-8 for 3rd grade reading assessments);
- Flow of federal and state funding, passed through to local Oregon communities;
- Refinement of a quantifiable data system evaluating effectiveness of interventions, funding inefficiencies, and tracking those historically under served.

[Children at Risk Study 2015](#)

[Media Supplement – Overview of Study](#)

[Children at Risk Executive Summary](#)

2012 – Coastal and Nearshore Oregon: Using and Protecting Our Natural Resources

An overview of the complex, interconnected issues and challenges that must be addressed in making decisions to manage the natural resources of the coastline; reflects the economic, social, and cultural impacts of these management decisions with particular emphasis on marine reserves and ocean energy.

[Coastal and Nearshore Oregon](#) (48 pgs; pdf)

[Coastal and Nearshore Oregon HTML online version](#) (html)

[Executive Summary](#) (5 pgs; pdf)

[Acronym List](#) (2 pgs; pdf)

[Mapping the Dynamic Oregon Coast](#) (pdf)

[Coastal Study Presentation](#) (pdf)

2009 – Water in Oregon: Not a Drop to Waste

Part 1 is a concise review of the current Oregon laws and regulations for water resources and water quality.

[Part 1: Regulating Water in Oregon](#) (36 pgs; pdf)

[Part 1: Executive Summary](#) (4 pgs; pdf)

Part 2 covers the current issues facing water quality and quantity from the perspectives of stakeholder groups throughout the state; 2010.

[Part 2: Issues and Perspectives \(40 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Water in Oregon Part II 2010 Online Version](#) (html)

[Part 2: Executive Summary](#) (4 pgs; pdf)

2008 – Election Methods: Review of Alternatives and Oregon Proposals

The Elections Methods Study reviews a range of election systems, discusses specific Oregon proposals and the National Popular Vote.

[Election Methods: Review of Alternatives and Oregon Proposals](#) (40 pgs; pdf)

[Election Methods Executive Summary](#) (3 pgs; pdf)

[Election Methods Presentation](#)

[Borda](#)

[Condorcet](#)

[Multiple Seat Election Methods](#)

[Oregon County Vote Tally Equipment](#)

2007 – Redistricting in Oregon

A study of current redistricting processes and future possibilities.

[Redistricting in Oregon \(32 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Redistricting in Oregon Summary \(4 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2006 – Oregon’s Homeless Youth

Who are Oregon’s homeless youth, who is responsible for them, and what services are available for them? Are there gaps in these services, and if so, what changes can be made?

[Oregon’s Homeless Youth Report \(24 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Oregon’s Homeless Youth Audio Presentation \(summary\) \(17 min, MP3\)](#)

[Complete Bibliography \(6 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2005-2007 – The Oregon Judiciary: Challenges for the 21st Century

Part 2 of the 2005-07 study of Oregon’s Judiciary. Covers the challenges faced by the most poorly understood and least visible of the three branches of government.

[The Oregon Judiciary: Challenges for the 21st Century \(Part 2\) \(40 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Presiding Judges’ Questionnaire](#)

[Trial Court Administrators’ Questionnaire](#)

Presents a history and general overview Oregon’s judiciary system; 2006.

[An Overview of Oregon’s Judiciary \(Part 1\) \(14 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2005 – The Trial Jury in Oregon’s State Courts

Presents a general overview of a juror’s role in Oregon state trial courts.

[The Trial Jury in Oregon’s State Courts \(4 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2005 – Oregon Taxes: Myths and Facts

[Oregon Taxes: Myths and Facts \(pdf\)](#)

2004 – Funding Oregon: The Ins and Outs of State Finance

Helps Oregon citizens better understand the state’s taxation system.

[Full Report \(20 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Summary: Oregon and Its Taxes \(2 pgs; pdf\)](#)

[Where Does the Money Come From? \(7.8 MB\)](#)

[Where Does the Money Go? \(5.4 MB\)](#)

[Changes in the System \(2.6 MB\)](#)

[Is Tax Reform Needed? \(1.5 MB\)](#)

[Proposals for Tax Reform \(2.5 MB\)](#)

[What Can You Do? \(2 MB\)](#)

[Sources \(3 MB\)](#)

[Oregon and Its Taxes \(5.2 MB\)](#)

2004 – Campaign Finance Reform

Purpose: to review the history of campaign finance reform in Oregon and present options for reform.

[Campaign Finance Reform in Oregon \(10 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2003 – Understanding Oregon’s Electricity Issues

Purpose: to trace the history of energy policy and review current issues pertaining to electricity in Oregon.

[Understanding Oregon’s Electricity Issues \(8 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2002 – Land Use: Progress and Challenges

Purpose: to review the history, accomplishments and challenges to Oregon’s unique land use planning system.

[Land Use: Progress and Challenges \(8 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2001 – Oregon’s Initiative System

Purpose: to understand the initiative process and review current issues in Oregon.

[Oregon’s Initiative System: Current Issues \(6 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2001 – Mental Health in Oregon

Purpose: to review the care system for the mentally ill and understand recent changes to the system.

[Mental Health in Oregon in the 1990s and Beyond \(4 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2000 – Farmworkers in Oregon

Purpose: to understand the history and current issues of agriculture, labor and immigration in Oregon.

[Farmworkers in Oregon \(24 pgs; pdf\)](#)

2000 – Effects of Measure 11 on Juvenile Justice

Purpose: to understand how recent mandatory minimum sentence laws have affected the juvenile justice system.

[Effects of Measure 11 on Juvenile Justice in Oregon \(4 pgs; pdf\)](#)

1999 – Shift in Oregon Household and Business Tax Burdens

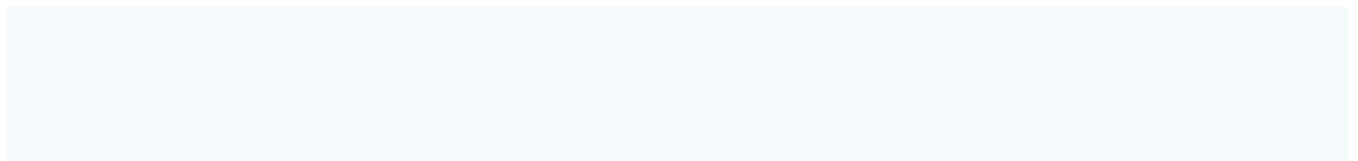
Purpose: to understand how recent voter-approved tax changes have affected the relationship between household and business tax burdens.

[Shift in Oregon Household and Business Tax Burdens \(4 pgs; pdf\)](#)

1999 – K through 12 School District Financing

Purpose: to understand changes initiated by tax reforms in the 1990s.

[K – 12 School Finance Study \(6 pgs; pdf\)](#)



1998 – A Study of Oregon State Parks

Purpose: to understand the history and current issues of Oregon's state parks system

[Oregon State Parks; Part 1 \(7 pgs; pdf\)](#)

Review of funding, history, and mission of parks, March 1998

[Oregon State Parks; Part II \(8 pgs; pdf\)](#)

Funding alternatives and future planning for state parks, October 1998

1996 Election Laws Study

Purpose: to review registration, elections, and the voting process; covers vote-by-mail, voter education, and election officials

[Election Laws Study– 1996 \(12 pgs\)](#)

Print only:

Children at Risk – 1995

Seismic Risks Study – 1994

Education Reform in Oregon: a Blueprint for the 21st Century – 1993

Adult Mental Health in Oregon – 1986 (Supplement – 1990)

Energy, Ecology, Economics: Oregon Offshore Development Issues – 1990

Oregon School Finance: Solving the Dilemma – 1988

Schools Project Report of Round I & II – 1988

Public Post-Secondary Education in Oregon – 1984

Adult Corrections in Oregon II – 1983

Public Policy on Reproductive Choices – 1982

Oregon's Emergency Board: One of a Kind – 1982

Economic Development and Revenue Bonds – 1982

Who Will Elect the President? The Electoral College System – 1980

You and Your National Government – 1980