

Resources for Beyond Voting: Elections / Campaign Financing

General

Vote 411 Register, check registration, find out what's on the ballot <https://www.vote411.org/>

Vote.org <https://www.vote.org/>

My Congressional District –“quick and easy access to selected statistics collected by the U.S. Census Bureau”
<https://www.census.gov/mycd/>

Oregon Secretary of State – Voting and Elections Division

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections/Pages/default.aspx>

National Conference of State Legislatures - Elections and Campaign page “NCSL provides 50-state research on many election law and procedural issues <http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns.aspx>

SERIES: ARCHAIC ELECTION METHODS CRIPPLE DEMOCRACY

<http://www.sightline.org/series/voting-systems-cripple-democracy/>

Voting by Mail / Absentee Ballots / 2020 Election

Absentee and Mail Voting Policies in Effect for the 2020 Election. National Conference of State Legislators.

9/28/2020 <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-mail-voting-policies-in-effect-for-the-2020-election.aspx>

Mail Voting: What Has Changed in 2020. Weiser et al. Brennan Center. 9/17/20.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/mail-voting-what-has-changed-2020>

The False Narrative of Vote-by-Mail Fraud. Wendy R. Weiser. April 10, 2020

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/false-narrative-vote-mail-fraud>

Oregon's vote-by-mail system gets more tv attention, on '60 minutes'. June 29, 2020. Includes video.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/entertainment/2020/06/oregons-vote-by-mail-system-gets-more-tv-attention-on-60-minutes.html?fbclid=iwar2q-zlxs6voqvbiwvuoqbywrhxh4zww8byi1wzt-cqp8zlphtbnnl530>

Four Ways States Suppress the Absentee Vote. Sightline. 7/30/2020.

<https://www.sightline.org/2020/07/30/four-ways-states-suppress-the-absentee-vote/?fbclid=IwAR24guCMGSwTMT-zLEoL088C769HZ6zUHOhdCdrFG-cW09-ezseyTmAEEQ40>

The Neutral Partisan Effects of Vote-by-Mail: Evidence from County-Level Roll-Outs. Stanford U. April, 2020.

<https://siepr.stanford.edu/research/publications/neutral-partisan-effects-vote-mail-evidence-county-level-roll-outs>

Universal vote-by-mail has no impact on partisan turnout or vote share. Thompson et al. Democracy & Polarization Lab, Stanford University. May 6, 2020 http://www.andrewbenjaminhall.com/thompson_et_al_vbm.pdf

When Absentee/Mail Ballot Processing and Counting Can Begin. National Conference of State Legislatures

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-16-when-absentee-mail-ballot-processing-and-counting-can-begin.aspx>

States That Permit Voters to Correct Signature Discrepancies. 9/21/2020

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/vopp-table-15-states-that-permit-voters-to-correct-signature-discrepancies.aspx>

Electionland. “ProPublica’s Electionland project covers problems that prevent eligible voters from casting their ballots.”

<https://www.propublica.org/electionland> **Election Law Blog** <https://electionlawblog.org/>

Voter Turnout

U.S. voter turnout trails most developed countries Pew Research Center. 5/21/2018

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/08/02/u-s-voter-turnout-trails-most-developed-countries/>

The U.S. Should Require All Citizens to Vote. Ornstein. July 2012.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2012/07/the-us-should-require-all-citizens-to-vote/259902/>

Voter Registration

Automatic Voter Registration Works Everywhere It's Been Implemented Derek Rosenfeld 4/11/2019

Brennan Center study shows that AVR increased registration rates in every state where the policy has gone into effect.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/automatic-voter-registration-works-everywhere-been-implemented>

Election Beat 2020: The mysterious voter registration deadline Patterson. Journalist's Resource. 9/29/20

<https://bit.ly/34s9ueN>

Voting Systems - Primaries

FairVote – Primary Elections

http://www.fairvote.org/primaries#open_and_closed_primaries

Open Primaries <https://www.openprimaries.org/>

Listings of the type of Primaries for each state. National Conference of State Legislatures. 3/3/2020

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/primary-types.aspx>

Voting Process/Methods – Ranked Choice Voting [aka Instant Runoff]

Ranked Choice Voting – Benton County [begins in 2020 if more than three candidates]

<https://www.co.benton.or.us/elections/page/ranked-choice-voting>

Alaska voters adopt ranked-choice voting in ballot initiative. Piper. 11/19/20

<https://www.vox.com/2020/11/19/21537126/alaska-measure-2-ranked-choice-voting-results>

Ranked Choice Voting video created for Maine [1:30] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rkx0e2Cduyk>

Where RCV [Ranked Choice Voting] is Used Has helpful 2-minute video about how it worked in a Mayoral election

<http://www.fairvote.org/where-is-ranked-choice-voting-used>

Fair Vote – Ranked Choice Voting / Instant Runoff <http://www.fairvote.org/rcv#rcvbenefits>

Voting Process/Methods – STAR Voting

STAR Voting <https://www.starvoting.us/>

Star Voting – Multnomah County <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1821618454770952>

Star Voting – Lane County <https://www.facebook.com/starvotinglane>

STAR Voting for Lane County video https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=81&v=w9JZVEOR-Os

Electoral College

About the Electors. National Archives <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html>

Electoral College https://ballotpedia.org/Electoral_College

National Popular Vote <http://www.nationalpopularvote.com/> “Work-around” to the Electoral College

Oregon Just Joined the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact Eberhard. Sightline. 6/5/2019

<https://www.sightline.org/2019/06/05/oregon-just-joined-the-national-popular-vote-interstate-compact/>

FairVote: National Popular Vote http://www.fairvote.org/national_popular_vote#endorsers_of_the_npv_plan

Voting Rights

Voting Laws Roundup 2021. Brennan Center. 2/8/2021

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-laws-roundup-february-2021>

State Voting Bills Tracker. Brennan Center. 2/2021

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/state-voting-bills-tracker-2021>

Electoral Dysfunction – The Right to Vote [4 min. video] NYT. 9/4/2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMI0MHFGH8>

Voting in Texas – A Real Challenge Levine and Salam. 10/2/20

https://billmoyers.com/story/voting-in-texas-a-real-challenge/?fbclid=IwAR0A_wGhj2jYUMIHZIO5gmFKDLyoV_V7AhJeYybuVaet7OGMEHLO6M_ISm0

Cost of Voting in the American States. Li et al. Election Law Journal. Vol. 19, No. 4, 2020.

<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/elj.2020.0666>

Oregon Just Passed a Voting Rights Act. Here’s Why It’s a Big Deal. Eberhard. Sightline Institute. 6/13/2019

<https://www.sightline.org/2019/06/13/oregon-voting-rights-act-passes-senate-june-12/>

How Congress Can Fix a Slew of Voting Problems. Brennan Center. 9/24/20

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/how-congress-can-fix-slew-voting-problems>

Democracy Diminished: State and Local Threats to Voting, Post-Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder

Legal Defense Fund, NAACP. 2014 [Report] <https://www.naacpldf.org/wp-content/uploads/Democracy-Diminished-State-and-Local-Threats-to-Voting-Post-Shelby-County-Alabama-v.-Holder.pdf>

Rep Elijah Cummings Gives Fiery Speech on the State of Voting Rights. Oct, 2019.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZC8WNVsDeE>

‘Politics Ain’t the Same’ — How the 19th Amendment Changed American Elections Sherr. 8/28/2016

<http://billmoyers.com/story/politics-aint-19th-amendment-changed-american-elections/>

Montgomery Cnty, Ohio. voting line during the spring primary. 2020.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwHMpDD-FKM&fbclid=IwAR2CszkEu8cKHnkmak3By_5stmx5rprfF6EODcrPfa61tdQ5HphuiSrPr5g

Pertaining to state efforts to enact voter restrictions after the 2020 election:

Strict absentee voting limits proposed after record Georgia turnout. Niese. Atlanta-Journal Constitution. 1/7/2021.

<https://www.ajc.com/politics/strict-absentee-voting-limits-proposed-after-record-georgia-turnout/BLDBKKOLCJDU7FWUAM4CPNZ43I/>

Gwinnett elections board’s new chairwoman wants limits on no-excuse absentee voting, voter roll review.

Yeomans. Gwinnett Daily. 1/1/21.

https://www.gwinnettdaily.com/local/gwinnett-elections-boards-new-chairwoman-wants-limits-on-no-excuse-absentee-voting-voter-roll-review/article_7df1c274-5715-11eb-a31d-dfa23b30ec62.html

Bill seeks two copies of photo ID to vote absentee in Georgia. Niese. Atlanta Journal-Constitution. 1/27/2021.

<https://www.ajc.com/politics/bill-seeks-two-copies-of-photo-id-to-vote-absentee-in-georgia/2IC372BV2NC3VFNAYIWA4OPQKQ/>

Voting and the Criminal Justice System

Felony Disenfranchisement. The Sentencing Project

<http://www.sentencingproject.org/issues/felony-disenfranchisement/>

FAQ on Felons' Voting Rights in Oregon

<https://multco.us/elections/faq%E2%80%99s-felon%E2%80%99s-voting-rights-oregon>

State Felon Voter Laws [map and chart]

<http://felonvoting.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=000286>

Millions Raised to Pay off Debts so Floridians with Criminal Records Can Vote. Coleman. 9/23/2020

<https://www.route-fifty.com/public-safety/2020/09/florida-criminal-records-voting-fundraising/168716/>

Oregon lawmakers consider allowing prisoners to vote. VanderHart. OPB. 2/11/21.

THIS ARTICLE DISCUSSES SEVERAL OTHER VOTING RELATED BILLS IN THE LEGISLATURE, AS WELL.

<https://www.opb.org/article/2021/02/11/oregon-lawmakers-consider-allowing-prisoners-to-vote/>

Restoration of Voting Rights for Felons. National Conference of State Legislators. 1/8/21.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights.aspx>

Voter Fraud

In Their Own Words: Officials Refuting False Claims of Voter Fraud 4/2017

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/their-own-words-officials-refuting-false-claims-voter-fraud>

Myth of Voter Fraud. A section on the Brennan Center site.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/voter-fraud>

Fact-checking Fraud Claims

We fact-checked Trump's claims of election fraud in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Bender et al. 11/5/20.

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/trump-fact-check-pennsylvania-ballot-philadelphia-president-20201105.html>

US election 2020: Donald Trump's speech fact-checked. Reality Check Team, BBC News. 11/6/20.

https://www.bbc.com/news/election-us-2020-54837926?fbclid=IwAR3Aq8ib6CJFiziy1Ky_56d-OdbNdaYhHPwElhGJ44fN0e9mvkGEeHzloNA

Election Security

Interview with Oregon's election system, Steve Trout, on KATU 10/2019

<https://katu.com/news/your-voice-your-vote/director-of-elections-in-oregon-talks-election-security>

Senator Ron Wyden Mar 2018 Senate Hearing on election security

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXjYNLJ9yAM>

Securing American Elections Prescriptions for Enhancing the Integrity and Independence of the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election and Beyond. Michael McFaul, Editor Stanford University 6/2019.

<https://fsi.stanford.edu/publication/securing-american-elections-prescriptions-enhancing-integrity-and-independence-2020-us>

Election Security Funding: Cost Estimates Breakdown. Brennan Center. 8/15/2019

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/what-does-election-security-cost>

Redistricting and Gerrymandering

People Not Politicians [Oregon's campaign to have an independent redistricting commission]

<https://www.peoplenotpoliticiansoregon.com/>

Redistricting commissions: congressional plans. National Conference of State Legislatures. 4/18/2019.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/redistricting/redistricting-commissions-congressional-plans.aspx>

Redistricting. National Conference of State Legislatures <http://www.ncsl.org/research/redistricting.aspx>

A primer on gerrymandering and political polarization. Dews. Brookings Now. 7/6/ 2017

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brookings-now/2017/07/06/a-primer-on-gerrymandering-and-political-polarization/>

How Does a Political Party Get Fewer Votes But Still Win Elections? Gerrymandering on Steroids

<https://billmoyers.com/story/how-does-a-political-party-get-less-votes-but-still-win-elections-gerrymandering-on-steroids/>

The tumultuous life of an independent redistricting commissioner. Vasilogambros et al. Pew. November 26, 2019.

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2019/11/26/the-tumultuous-life-of-an-independent-redistricting-commissioner>

National Democratic Redistricting Committee <https://democraticredistricting.com/>

Rightlines2020 [GOP effort at redistricting] <https://rightlines.gop/>

This Is a War: Republicans Ramp Up Bid to Control Election Maps for Next Decade. Jindia. 6/22/2020.

<https://billmoyers.com/story/thisisawar/>

Drawing the line on gerrymandering [audio]. Schmeer. Harvard Kennedy School. 12/10/2019.

<https://www.hks.harvard.edu/more/policycast/drawing-line-gerrymandering>

The Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission Needs You! 4/24/2020.

<https://www.hfcc.edu/news/2020/michigan-independent-citizens-redistricting-commission-needs-you>

What is Redistricting? Levitt. Loyola Law School <http://redistricting.lls.edu/what.php>

Fair Vote – Gerrymandering http://www.fairvote.org/gerrymandering#gerrymandering_key_facts

Redistricting. Brennan Center <https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/gerrymandering-fair-representation>

The State of Redistricting Litigation Li, Wolf and Lo. Updated 2/8/21.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/state-redistricting-litigation>

Campaign Finance and Public Financing of Campaigns

Oregon Honest Elections Campaign [Oregon] This measure passed in 2020 – to change the Oregon Constitution to allow campaign finance limits at the local and state levels. <http://or.honest-elections.com/>

Portland Open and Accountable Elections. Portland's program to help support candidates for Mayor and Council.

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/oea/#:~:text=Mission%20Statement,and%20accountable%20to%20all%20Portlanders.>

Portland Open and Accountable Elections: Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/oea/article/736089>

Campaign contribution limits - federal. Federal Election Commission. For federal office.

<https://transition.fec.gov/info/contriblimitschart1718.pdf>

Citizens United Opinion [Be sure to check out the dissenting opinion, too. Starts on page 88.]

<https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/09pdf/08-205.pdf>

Secret Spending in the States. Brennan Center. 2016. Shows the importance of state/local campaign finance laws!

https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/analysis/Secret_Spending_in_the_States.pdf

A 28th Amendment to Restore the American Promise [video] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6igolnTvgA>

Questions about 527 and 501(c) 4 orgs.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/faq.php>

Chart of Disclosure Rules from the Campaign Legal Center [federal]

http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/sites/default/files/CLC_501c_disclosure_chart.pdf

Public Financing of Presidential Elections brochure

<http://www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/pubfund.shtml>

Public Campaign Financing. Brennan Center.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/reform-money-politics/public-campaign-financing>

Here's a research guide from Harvard University on **Campaigns and Elections.**

https://guides.library.harvard.edu/hks/campaigns_elections

Campaign Finance Tracking

Oregon Campaign Finance Information - ORESTAR System Public Search

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/gotoPublicTransactionSearch.do>

Choose other searches: PACs, etc. on left side of page

Public Disclosure Commission - Follow the Money. Washington State Campaign Finance Information

<https://www.pdc.wa.gov/>

Center for Responsive Politics – Open Secrets All things \$ in politics including “dark money” groups.

http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/nonprof_summ.php Info on non-profits acting in the political realm

Money Line. Another approach to tracking campaign money. Federal level. <http://pml.cq.com/>

Congressional Bills to Improve Elections

HR1 - The For the People Act

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr1%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=1>

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr1%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=1>

The “For The People Act” Would Make the U.S. a Democracy. Schwarz. 2/14/2021.

https://theintercept.com/2021/02/14/democracy-voting-campaign-finance-hr1/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Intercept%20Newsletter&fbclid=IwAR3C9AiBCSo3tRFpy-ZrCN4YVegu6--XCQt08tLUOVFXmNFt3ETL8xr2fxk

https://theintercept.com/2021/02/14/democracy-voting-campaign-finance-hr1/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Intercept%20Newsletter&fbclid=IwAR3C9AiBCSo3tRFpy-ZrCN4YVegu6--XCQt08tLUOVFXmNFt3ETL8xr2fxk

Democrats make federal election standards a top priority. Cassidy. 1/23/2021.

<https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-voting-democracy-voting-rights-coronavirus-pandemic-7fc2dde742c261ea897b127254377baa>

<https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-voting-democracy-voting-rights-coronavirus-pandemic-7fc2dde742c261ea897b127254377baa>