

INITIATIVE USE

January 2013

A total of 2,421 state-level initiatives have been on the ballot since the first ones went before the voters in Oregon in 1904, and 984 (41 percent) have been approved.

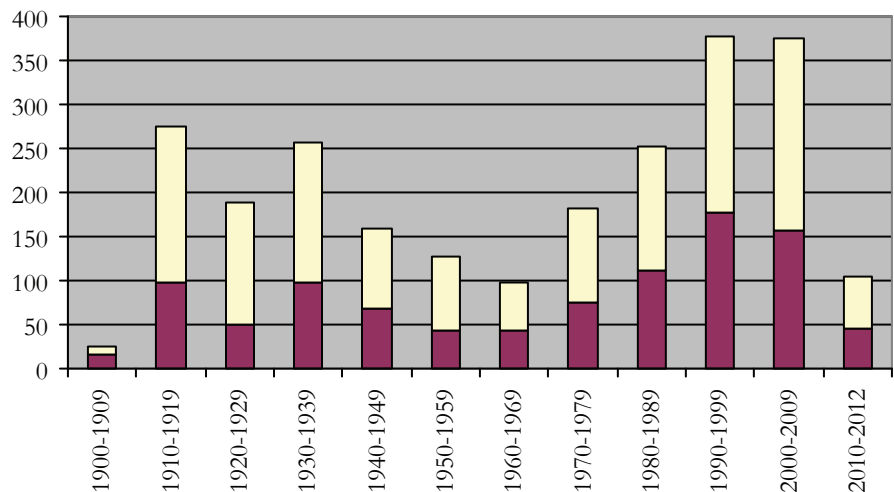
The modern initiative movement began in the late 1970s with California's tax-cutting Proposition 13. Initiative use exploded in the following decades, reaching a peak of 377 in the 1990s, 177 of which were approved. The first decade of the new century saw a total of 373 initiatives, just shy of the historical record, with 157 passing.

Twenty-four states have had at least one initiative during the period 1904-2012. Oregon continues to be the overall leader, with 363 initiatives. California is second with 352. Colorado (218), North Dakota (183), and Arizona (174) round out the top five.

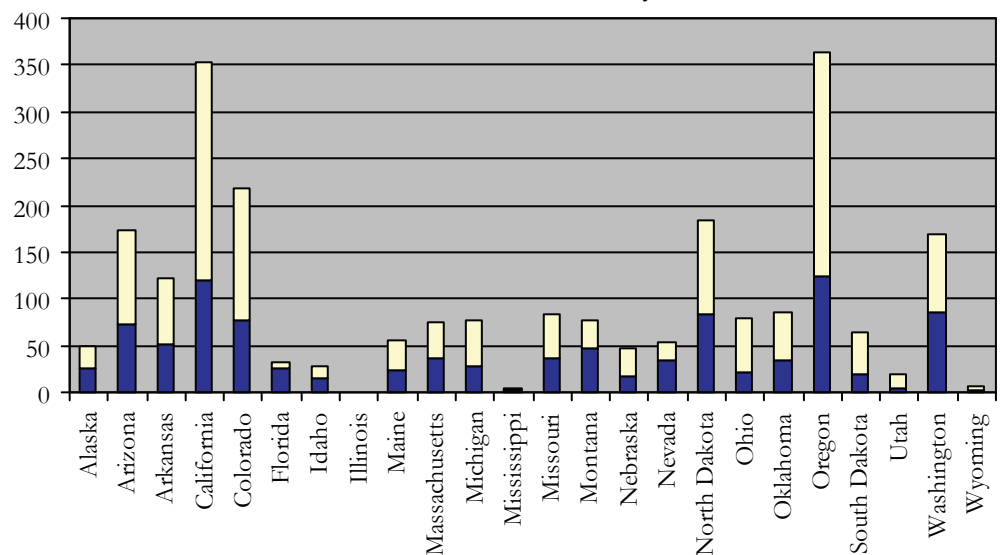
This report summarizes state-level initiative activity during the period 1904-2002. The figures show the total number of initiatives, and (shaded) the number that were approved. A complete year-by-year count is on the second page.

OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVE USE, 1900-2012

Number of Initiatives by Decade



Number of Initiatives by State



YEAR-BY-YEAR LIST OF INITIATIVES

The information in this report is drawn from the IRI Initiatives Database (version 2013-1). The report covers initiatives, new laws placed on the ballot by petition. It does not include popular referendums or measures placed on the ballot by the legislature.

| Year | Total | Passed |
|------|-------|--------|
| 1904 | 2 | 2 |
| 1906 | 10 | 7 |
| 1908 | 13 | 8 |
| 1910 | 34 | 10 |
| 1911 | 1 | 1 |
| 1912 | 71 | 25 |
| 1913 | 1 | 0 |
| 1914 | 89 | 24 |
| 1915 | 3 | 0 |
| 1916 | 40 | 13 |
| 1917 | 1 | 0 |
| 1918 | 32 | 24 |
| 1919 | 3 | 0 |
| 1920 | 51 | 18 |
| 1921 | 6 | 0 |
| 1922 | 41 | 11 |
| 1923 | 3 | 1 |
| 1924 | 28 | 6 |
| 1925 | 1 | 0 |
| 1926 | 31 | 9 |
| 1927 | 2 | 0 |
| 1928 | 26 | 5 |
| 1930 | 36 | 8 |
| 1931 | 4 | 0 |
| 1932 | 69 | 31 |
| 1933 | 7 | 5 |
| 1934 | 36 | 14 |
| 1935 | 3 | 3 |
| 1936 | 40 | 13 |
| 1938 | 54 | 22 |
| 1939 | 8 | 1 |
| 1940 | 47 | 17 |

| Year | Total | Passed |
|------|-------|--------|
| 1942 | 15 | 6 |
| 1943 | 1 | 1 |
| 1944 | 26 | 8 |
| 1946 | 23 | 12 |
| 1947 | 3 | 1 |
| 1948 | 40 | 19 |
| 1949 | 5 | 4 |
| 1950 | 35 | 7 |
| 1952 | 26 | 10 |
| 1954 | 18 | 4 |
| 1955 | 1 | 0 |
| 1956 | 25 | 14 |
| 1957 | 1 | 0 |
| 1958 | 22 | 9 |
| 1960 | 22 | 9 |
| 1962 | 20 | 9 |
| 1964 | 29 | 15 |
| 1965 | 3 | 0 |
| 1966 | 10 | 7 |
| 1968 | 13 | 4 |
| 1969 | 1 | 0 |
| 1970 | 13 | 3 |
| 1971 | 2 | 0 |
| 1972 | 37 | 15 |
| 1973 | 4 | 1 |
| 1974 | 19 | 15 |
| 1975 | 6 | 1 |
| 1976 | 46 | 10 |
| 1977 | 7 | 5 |
| 1978 | 42 | 23 |
| 1979 | 6 | 2 |
| 1980 | 41 | 16 |

| Year | Total | Passed |
|------|-------|--------|
| 1981 | 5 | 2 |
| 1982 | 54 | 23 |
| 1983 | 4 | 0 |
| 1984 | 41 | 22 |
| 1985 | 1 | 1 |
| 1986 | 42 | 18 |
| 1987 | 3 | 1 |
| 1988 | 57 | 27 |
| 1989 | 4 | 2 |
| 1990 | 64 | 22 |
| 1991 | 6 | 2 |
| 1992 | 63 | 32 |
| 1993 | 5 | 3 |
| 1994 | 71 | 36 |
| 1995 | 4 | 0 |
| 1996 | 93 | 43 |
| 1997 | 5 | 0 |
| 1998 | 61 | 37 |
| 1999 | 5 | 2 |
| 2000 | 76 | 33 |
| 2001 | 4 | 3 |
| 2002 | 51 | 21 |
| 2003 | 7 | 3 |
| 2004 | 64 | 35 |
| 2005 | 18 | 2 |
| 2006 | 78 | 31 |
| 2007 | 2 | 1 |
| 2008 | 68 | 26 |
| 2009 | 5 | 2 |
| 2010 | 46 | 20 |
| 2011 | 10 | 5 |
| 2012 | 48 | 20 |

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