

Tax Foundation says Oregon the state most reliant on income tax revenue

By **CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Out of all U.S. states, Oregon gets the greatest share of revenues from its state income tax, a new analysis finds.

About 41.6 percent of Oregon's state and local taxes came from the state income tax in 2015, according to the analysis from the Washington, D.C.-based Tax Foundation, out Tuesday.

The findings affirm what many acknowledge about Oregon's revenues — that they rely in large part on state income taxes, which fluctuate so dramatically that one state lawmaker compares year-over-year tax collections to the peaks and valleys of the Swiss Alps.

When it comes just to state revenues, the Oregon Center for Public Policy estimates that roughly four out of five General Fund and Lottery Fund dollars comes from the state income tax.

In the upcoming legislative session, scheduled to begin in January, lawmakers must write a two-year state budget in the face of a shortfall in the state's Medicaid program and rising public pension costs. Revenue reform could be on the table as well.

Forty-three states have an



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Associated Press

income tax of some kind. Two of those states — Tennessee and New Hampshire — tax only dividend and investment income, not wages.

Nationally, 23.5 percent of state and local tax revenues are attributable to state income tax collections, according to the Tax Foundation.

The Tax Foundation finds that Oregon's lack of a state-

wide sales tax contributes in part to its outside reliance on income taxes. Certain goods, such as beer and gas, are subject to excise taxes.

State limits on property taxes were passed into law via ballot measure in the 1990s.

The Tax Foundation argues that income taxes "tend to be more harmful to economic growth than con-

sumption taxes" and that they are a less stable source of revenue because many people see their income fluctuate with the business cycle.

"Income taxes affect labor participation, saving, and investment, while consumption taxes, such as sales taxes, tax what people spend as opposed to what they earn," the Foundation stated in a release.

BRIEFLY

Oregon former first lady Cylvia Hayes files for bankruptcy

PORTLAND (AP) — Cylvia Hayes, the fiancée of former Gov. John Kitzhaber, has sought protection from her creditors in bankruptcy court.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports Hayes filed for Chapter 13 bankruptcy protection Tuesday after a protracted battle over public records with The Oregonian/OregonLive.

Hayes was caught up in an influence-peddling scandal that forced Kitzhaber to resign in 2015.

A judge ruled that Hayes should pay about \$125,000 for the newspaper's attorney's fees.

The initial filing says Hayes owes between \$100,001 and \$500,000 to 49 creditors.

She listed the value of her total assets at between \$100,001 and \$500,000.

A Chapter 13 bankruptcy allows a debtor to reorganize their financial situation by extinguishing some debt and establishing a repayment plan for the balance. Chapter 13 also allows the debtor to keep their real estate.

Man can stand trial for 2011 killing of Oregon police chief

ST HELEN, Ore. (AP) — The man accused of killing the police chief of a small Oregon town in 2011 has been found fit to stand trial for aggravated murder.

Daniel Butts, of Kalama, Washington, could face the death penalty if convicted of fatally shooting 55-year-old Ralph Painter, the police chief of Rainier.

KOIN-TV reports that a Columbia County Circuit judge on Tuesday found Butts suffers from schizophrenia but that his symptoms have diminished as a result of his current hospitalization and forced medication. Trial is set for February.

Butts was sent to the Oregon State Hospital in 2013 after being found unable to assist in his own defense. He was diagnosed with schizophrenia shortly after.

Authorities say he gunned down Painter who responded to an attempted theft at a car audio store on Jan. 5, 2011.

Freight broker seeks to collect after beef stolen from truck

BEND (AP) — A Redmond freight broker is suing an independent truck driver after thieves stole nearly \$100,000 in boneless organic beef from his truck.

The Bend Bulletin reports that Sterling Truck Brokerage sued Adrian Ortega Ramirez, of Los Angeles, Monday in Deschutes County Circuit Court to recover about \$42,000.

The lawsuit says Ramirez hauled a truckload of refrigerated beef to Los Angeles for a meat processor in 2012. It alleges Ramirez parked the loaded truck in front of his house and left it unattended. The truck was stolen that night but eventually recovered. The meat, however, was gone.

Sterling says it covered the loss and set up a repayment plan with Ramirez. It alleges he stopped making payments.

Ramirez did not return multiple calls to his cellphone Monday. Records show he had not yet been served with the lawsuit.

Black lawmaker says police called as she knocked on doors

CLACKAMAS (AP) — A black Oregon lawmaker says one of her constituents called police as she canvassed a Portland-area neighborhood that she represents.

State Rep. Janelle Bynum, who is running for re-election this fall, said she was knocking on doors, talking to residents and taking notes on her cellphone in Clackamas on Tuesday when a Clackamas County sheriff's deputy showed up.

Bynum said the deputy told her a woman called police because the lawmaker

appeared to spend a long time at homes and appeared to be casing the neighborhood while on her phone, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

The deputy asked if she was selling something, and she introduced herself as a state legislator and told him she was canvassing, Bynum said. She said she only had campaign fliers, her cellphone and a pen on her.

Bynum, 43, who won election to the state House in 2016, said she has knocked on thousands of doors and

this was the first time someone reported her to police.

"It boils down to people not knowing their neighbors and people having a sense of fear in their neighborhoods, which is kind of my job to help eradicate," Bynum told the newspaper.

"But at the end of the day, it's important for people to feel like they can talk to each other to help minimize misunderstandings," she said.

The sheriff's office did not immediately comment on the incident. Bynum said the deputy was courteous

and professional and later posed for a selfie with her.

Bynum said that at her request, the deputy called the woman who reported her and they talked on the phone. The lawmaker said the woman was apologetic and said she called 911 for the safety of her neighborhood. Bynum did not know the caller's race.

The lawmaker said she understood the woman's concerns but felt the woman could have tried talking to her first rather than calling police.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Sunny and hot	Mostly sunny and hot	Partly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and nice	Mostly sunny and very warm

AccuWeather
DOWNLOAD THE APP

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
96°	63°	93°	58°	83°
63°	58°	59°	91°	63°
90°	56°			

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
100°	66°	96°	60°	88°
66°	60°	57°	95°	64°
94°	57°			

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	85°	51°
Normals	86°	56°
Records	107° (1975)	40° (1918)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.04"
Year to date	6.49"
Last year to date	11.30"
Normal year to date	7.61"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	90°	54°
Normals	86°	57°
Records	106° (1942)	38° (2012)

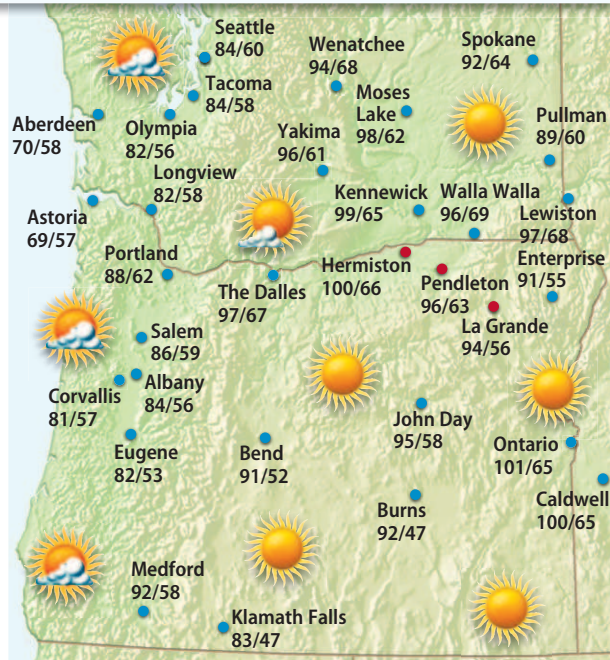
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.03"
Year to date	5.10"
Last year to date	6.59"
Normal year to date	5.73"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:12 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:47 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:28 p.m.
Moonset today	12:29 p.m.

	Last	New	First	Full



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Partly sunny today, except low clouds followed by sunshine in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Brilliant sunshine and very warm today. Mainly clear tonight.

Western Washington: Partly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight. Intervals of clouds

Eastern Washington: Sunshine today. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

Cascades: Mostly sunny today; pleasant. Patchy clouds tonight. Partly sunny and nice tomorrow.

Northern California: Low clouds followed by sunshine at the coast today; plenty of

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	69	57	pc	67	57	pc
Baker City	95	53	s	88	51	s
Bend	91	52	s	86	46	pc
Brookings	64	55	pc	64	51	pc
Burns	92	47	s	84	45	s
Enterprise	91	55	s	86	51	s
Eugene	82	53	pc	79	50	pc
Heppner	93	60	s	91	54	pc
Hermiston	100	66	s	96	60	pc
John Day	95	58	s	87	56	s
Klamath Falls	83	47	s	81	42	s
La Grande	94	56	s	90	52	s
Meacham	91	53	s	88	51	s
Medford	92	58	s	86	54	s
Newport	64	55	pc	63	54	pc
North Bend	67	55	pc	68	53	pc
Ontario	101	65	s	95	64	s
Pasco	99	62	s	96	61	pc
Pendleton	96	63	s	93	58	s
Portland	88	62	pc	80	59	pc
Redmond	94	52	s	89	47	pc
Salem	86	59	pc	80	55	pc
Spokane	92	64	s	87	58	s
Ukiah	90	51	s	87	49	s
Vancouver	86	60	pc	79	57	pc
Walla Walla	96	69	s	93	63	s
Yakima	96	61	s	92	55	pc

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	98	75	c	91	71	c
Hong Kong	90	84	t	90	83	sh
Jerusalem	88	67	s	88	67	s
London	83	62	pc	85	63	pc
Mexico City	73	51	t	73	52	t
Moscow	70	55	pc	71	57	c
Paris	81	59	t	84	63	pc
Rome	83	67	s	83	67	s
Seoul	82	69	c	78	63	pc
Sydney	74	61	s	76	49	s
Tokyo	85	78	pc	82	77	sh

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Friday
Boardman	WNW 4-8	WSW 7-14
Pendleton	NW 6-12	WSW 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

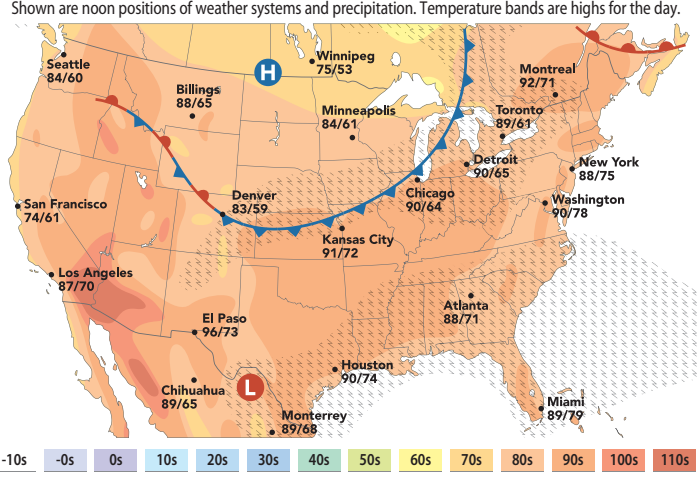
2	5	9	9	5	2
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8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary: Showers and heavy thunderstorms will extend from the Great Lakes and Northeast to the central Plains today. Storms will riddle much of the South and dot the southern Rockies. The rest of West will be sunny.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 108° in Needles, Calif. **Low 27°** in West Yellowstone, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.			Today			Fri.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Albuquerque	88	67	t	87	69	s	Louisville	95	75	pc	85	63	t
Atlanta	88	71	t	88	70	t	Memphis	95	76	t	91	70	t
Atlanta City	84	76	pc	84	64	t	Miami	89	79	c	90	77	sh
Baltimore	90	76	pc	85	63	t	Milwaukee	87	61	c	73	58	s
Billings	88	65	s	99	67	t	Minneapolis	84	61	c	82	65	s