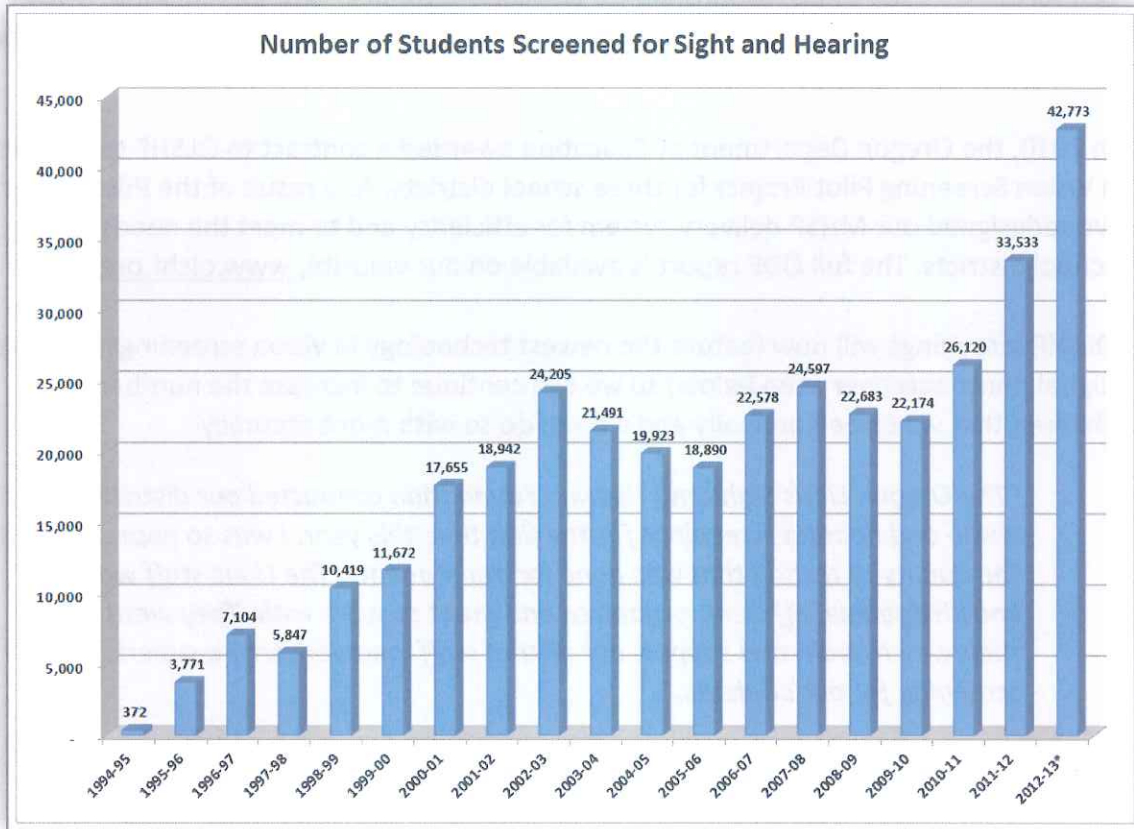




OREGON LIONS  
Sight & Hearing Foundation

OUR MISSION IS TO SCREEN, TREAT, SAVE AND RESTORE SIGHT AND HEARING  
FOR THOSE IN NEED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LIONS CLUBS

**House Committee on Education - HB-3000 Testimony**



- Through our Mobile Health Screening Program (MHSP), we have screened 354,749 children in Oregon since 1994, responding to school districts cutting health screenings from their budgets. OLSHF has significantly increased the number of children that we screen annually, from 26,120 in 2010-11 to 42,773 in 2012-13.\* (Refers to graph above.)
- Studies show 25% of children have vision problems, but only 10% of those who need glasses actually have them.<sup>1</sup>
- Seeing well is connected to learning well – vision affects learning - “Good eyesight facilitates learning in school and development in general.”<sup>2</sup>

\* OLSHF is on pace to screen 50,000 children during this 2012-13 school year.

<sup>1</sup> Children’s Vision Care in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and Its Impact on Education, Literacy, Social Issues and the Workplace: A Call to Action, Joel N. Zaba, M.A., O.D., September 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Healthier Students are Better Learners: A Missing Link in School Reforms to Close the Achievement Gap, Charles E. Basch, March 2010.



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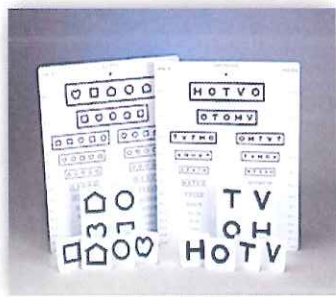
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- School nurses used to be responsible for checking students' sight and hearing. However, now there are fewer nurses and in fact, Oregon ranks near the bottom - 42<sup>nd</sup> - in School Nurse to Student ratio.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2010, the Oregon Department of Education awarded a contract to OLSHF to establish a Vision Screening Pilot Project for three school districts. As a result of the Pilot Project we redesigned our MHSP delivery system for efficiency and to meet the needs of the school districts. The full ODE report is available on our website, [www.olshf.org](http://www.olshf.org).
- OLSHF screenings will now feature the newest technology in vision screenings (handheld digital photo screener seen below) so we can continue to increase the number of children that we screen annually and we will do so with more accuracy.

*"The Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation conducted our district's annual vision and hearing screenings for the first time this year. I was so impressed with the quality of testing that was done for our students. The Lions staff was knowledgeable, efficient, organized and great to work with. They went out of their way to train and support our district staff, and delivered a superior screening for our students."*

Nancy Haning, RN  
District Nurse  
Tigard/Tualatin School District

- A 2012 medical study by Silbert, D.I. and Matta, NS., entitled "Performance of the Spot Vision Screener for the Detection of Amblyopia Risk Factors in Children" reports that the Spot photo screener is a fast, user-friendly and portable tool for the detection of amblyopia risk factors in children.



Distance Visual Acuity Charts



Random Dot E Stereo Vision Test



PediaVision SPOT Photo Screening Device



<sup>3</sup> National Association of School Nurses, [www.nasn.org](http://www.nasn.org), August 2011.