Research done on Wal-Mart

The following studies and reports on Wal-Mart have been released by a variety of sources.

Walmart's $4 Drugs Coming From Indian Company Whose Products Have Been Banned In US and Canada

One of Walmart's Indian drug suppliers, Ranbaxy Laboratories, LTD, has been repeatedly investigated by the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Justice for "inadequate" safeguards against contamination, falsification of records and submitting false information to the FDA. Eight months before the FDA inspected Ranbaxy's Paonta Sahib plant and found significant violations, Walmart awarded the company a "Supplier Award" for improving shipping times and performance.

Learn more about Walmart's close relationship with Ranbaxy by reading the report on our website.

WalmartSubsidyWatch.org - How Wal-Mart Uses Taxpayer Subsidies to Finance Its Never-ending Growth

From Good Jobs First, the group that produced the 2004 report, Shopping for Subsidies, WalmartSubsidyWatch.org is a searchable database of Wal-Mart subsidies, detailing 39 new subsidy deals, combined with more than 240 deals from the original 2004 report.

Learn more about Good Jobs First at http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/.


In May of 2001, WakeUpWalMart.com surveyed crime reports for 551 Wal-Mart stores throughout the country. "Is Wal-Mart Safe?" is the result of these efforts, which show a staggering crime rate at the sampled Wal-Mart stores. Download the report, or visit the website and search for crime at Wal-Mart(s) in your community.

New Research Shows Wal-Mart Rigs the System to Skip Out on $2.3 Billion in State Taxes

Released April 16, 2007, This report, prepared by Citizens for Tax Justice, shows how Wal-Mart avoided billions of dollars in state taxes since 1990.

Wal-Mart and County-Wide Poverty

Released May 9, 2006, Authors Goetz and Swaminathan analyze Wal-Mart's impact on family poverty rates at the county level.

America Pays, Wal-Mart Saves - The Growing Cost of the Wal-Mart Health Care Crisis

Released by WakeUpWalMart.com in February, 2006, this report is a comprehensive analysis of reported state, federal and company data regarding Wal-Mart's health care.

The Effects of Wal-Mart on Local Labor Markets

A study released in November 2005, estimating the effects of Wal-Mart stores on county-level employment and earnings. Among the conclusions is that in the retail sector, on average, Wal-Mart stores reduce employment by two to four percent.

Wal-Mart and Health Care: Condition Critical

This study, released in November 2005 by the Center for a Changing Workforce, reveals how Wal-Mart, the nation's leading retailer with over 1.3 million employees, is considering even less health care coverage for its employees as a cost-saving measure.

Wal-Mart: Rolling Back Workers' Wages, Rights, and the American Dream

American Rights at Work released this report in November 2005, detailing Wal-Mart's mistreatment of its workforce and calling into question the true value of the company's "everyday low prices."

What Do We Know About Wal-Mart? An Overview of Facts and Studies for New Yorkers

The Economic Justice Project at the Brennan Center released this report in September 2005, providing a comprehensive overview of the available information on Wal-Mart's wages and health benefits, compliance with workplace laws, cost to the taxpayer, and impact on local economies.
Everyday Low Wages: The Hidden Price We All Pay for Wal-Mart

A 2004 report released by Congressman George Miller (D-CA), detailing how Wal-Mart's rock bottom wages and benefits cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars a year in basic housing, medical, childcare, and energy needs that the retailer fails to properly cover for its employees.

Impact of the Wal-Mart Phenomenon on Rural Communities [Acrobat PDF]

There is strong evidence that rural communities in the United States have been more adversely impacted by the discount mass merchandisers (sometimes referred to as the Wal-Mart phenomenon) than by any other factors in recent times. Studies in Iowa have shown that some small towns lose up to 47 percent of their retail trade after 10 years of Wal-Mart stores nearby (Stone 1997).

Disclosure of major users of state provided health care

Over the last two years, 13 states have disclosed employers that are major users of state provided health insurance programs. Wal-Mart has topped the list in all the states, except Massachusetts where it was second and Wisconsin, which did not disclose the usage of employers other than Wal-Mart.

Hidden cost of Wal-Mart Jobs [Acrobat PDF]

A study done by Arindrajit Dube, Ph.D. and Ken Jacobs, both of UC Berkeley, looking at the use of safety net programs by Wal-Mart workers in California.

The Costco Challenge: An Alternative to Wal-Martization?

A number of factors explain Costco's success at building a retail chain both profitable and fair to its workers. But the basic formula is one the labor movement has been advocating for decades: a loyal, well-compensated workforce means a more efficient and productive one.

Wal-Mart's Pay Gap [Acrobat PDF]

A study done by The Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), detailing how Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott's Compensation is 871 times as high as U.S. Wal-Mart Workers, and 50,000 times as much as Chinese Workers.

Is Wal-Mart Good for America?

PSS FRONTLINE explores the relationship between U.S. job losses and the American consumer's insatiable desire for bargains in "Is Wal-Mart Good for America?"

Shopping for Subsidies [Acrobat PDF]

In this extensively researched study, Good Jobs First shows that the Wal-Mart has received more than $1 billion in economic development subsidies from state and local governments across the country. Taxpayers have helped finance not only Wal-Mart stores, but also the company's huge network of distribution centers.

Wal-Mart: An Example of Why Workers Remain Uninsured and Underinsured [Acrobat PDF]

Unaffordable premiums, overly strict eligibility requirements, and major gaps in coverage characterize Wal-Mart's health insurance plan, according to this report.

Wal-Mart and County-Wide Poverty

The presence of a Wal-Mart store hinders a community's ability to move families out of poverty, according to this study. After controlling for other factors that influence poverty rates, the researchers found that those U.S. counties in which new Wal-Mart stores were built between 1997 and 1998 experienced a significantly smaller reduction in their poverty rates than those counties that did not add new Wal-Mart stores.

Job Creation or Destruction? Labor-Market Effects of Wal-Mart Expansion

Often cited and typically misrepresented by Wal-Mart supporters, this study examines the impact of the arrival of a Wal-Mart store on retail and wholesale employment. It looks at 1,749 counties that added a Wal-Mart between 1977 and 1998.

Options for Regulating the Development of Superstores [Acrobat PDF]

LA City Attorney's report on the community impact of large supercenters, December 2003.

The Andersonville Study of Retail Economics [Acrobat PDF]

This compelling study, commissioned by the Andersonville Development Corporation, finds that locally owned businesses generate 70 percent more local economic impact per square foot than chain stores.

Understanding the Fiscal Impacts of Land Use in Ohio [Acrobat PDF]

This report reviews and summarizes the findings of fiscal impact studies conducted in eight central Ohio communities between 1997 and 2003. In seven of the eight communities, retail development created a drain on municipal budgets (i.e., if required more in public services, such as road maintenance and police, than it generated in tax revenue).

Fiscal Impact Analysis of Residential and Nonresidential Land Use Prototypes [Acrobat PDF]