

Women's Representation in Idaho

Parity Ranking: 42nd of 50

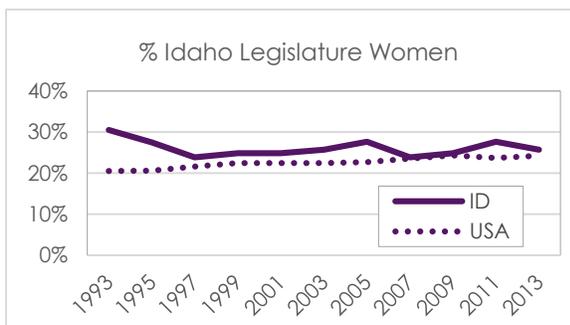
Score of 10: Six points for the percentage of state legislators who are women and 4 points for Mayors Tammy de Weerd of Meridian and Rebecca Casper of Idaho Falls.

Quick Facts

Idaho has elected two women to the U.S. House but has never elected a woman to the U.S. Senate. The percentage of seats held by women in the house is twice that of the senate, which is perhaps due to the house's use of multi-member districts.

Trending

20 years ago, Idaho's state legislature was 30.5% women and ranked 7th nationwide. Today, women hold only 25.7% of seats, putting Idaho in 21st place.



Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University.

Elections to Watch

All seven statewide executive positions are held by men. No Republican women have declared candidacies for governor or Congress. State senator Cherie Buckner-Webb is a potential Democratic candidate for governor, but would face an uphill battle in this heavily Republican state.

Words of Wisdom

"The right to vote was hard fought, especially for women, so I want you to hold on to it, I want you to guard it, and I want you to use it and protect what is important to you."— *Cherie Buckner-Webb, Idaho state senator*

Levels of Government

Statewide Executives

Female governors: None

Current female elected executives: 0 of 7 positions

Number of women to have held statewide elected executive office: 18, one of who was appointed and subsequently re-elected. 11 of the 18 women served as superintendent of public instruction.

Congress

U.S. Senate: 0 of 2 seats are held by women

U.S. House: 0 of 2 seats are held by women

In its history, Idaho has elected two women to the U.S. House, and none to the Senate.

State Legislature

Percentage women: 25.7%

Rankings: 22nd of 50

Senate: 5 of 35 (14.3%) are women

House: 22 of 70 (31.4%) are women

Method of election: single-member districts for senate, two-member districts (by position) for house.

Local

Two of Idaho's five largest cities with elected mayors has a woman mayor: Meridian and Idaho Falls.