

Women's Representation in Missouri

Parity Ranking: 23rd of 50

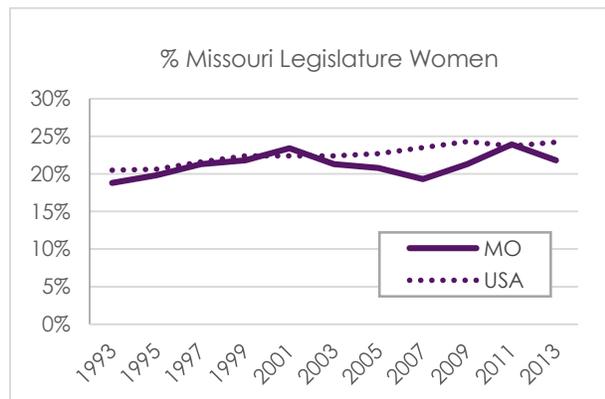
Score of 17: Eight points for Sen. McCaskill's two elections, 4 for the percentage of the state's U.S. House Members who are women, and 5 for its percentage of state legislators who are women.

Quick Fact

Since the appointment of Jean Carnahan as the state first female U.S. Senator in 2000 (when her husband was elected posthumously), a woman has run as a major party nominee in every U.S. Senate race in Missouri.

Trending

The percentage of women in Missouri's legislature has closely mirrored the national average over the last 20 years.



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

Elections to Watch

In 2014, Missouri is unlikely to see an election with a woman that garners as much attention as Sen. Claire McCaskill's defeat of Republican Todd Akin in 2012. There is no Senate race, and all of the state's U.S. House districts are uncompetitive, including the two currently held by women. There is also little opportunity for women to gain representation in statewide elected office, as the governor and most other executive offices are chosen during presidential election years.

Levels of Government

Statewide Executives

Female governors: None

Current female statewide elected executives: 0 of 6 positions

Number of women to have held statewide elected executive office: 9, two of whom were appointed to fill vacancies.

Congress

U.S. Senate: 1 of 2 seats held by a woman, Claire McCaskill (2007-present)

U.S. House: 2 of 8 seats held by women (A third, Jo Ann Emerson, resigned this year.)

In its history, Missouri has elected eight women to the U.S. Congress, one through a special election.

State Legislature

Percentage women: 21.8%

Rankings: 31st of 50

Senate: 5 of 34 (14.7%) are women

House: 38 of 163 (23.3%) are women

Method of election: single-member districts

Local

None of Missouri's five largest cities and counties with elected executives has a woman mayor of county executive.

Words of Wisdom

"I think this is why I am so attracted to her [Chicago activist Joanna Alter] legacy. She considered tough a compliment. And what a great thing for a woman, to consider tough a compliment."— Claire McCaskill, U.S. senator from Missouri