

Women's Representation in New Mexico

Parity Ranking: 11th of 50

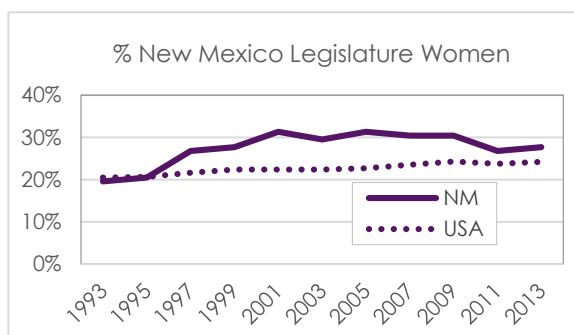
Score of 24: Ten points for current Governor Susana Martinez, 2 for secretary of state, 4 for the percentage of U.S. House seats held by women, 8 for the percentage of state legislative seats held by women, and 1 for senate president.

Quick Fact

Susana Martinez (R) became New Mexico's first female governor in 2010 when she won the third woman v. woman gubernatorial race in U.S. history. She is the first elected Latina governor of any state.

Trending

The proportion of women in New Mexico's state legislature rose steadily between 1993 and 2001, but has declined gradually since 2005.



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

Elections to Watch

Gov. Susana Martinez is favored to win re-election in 2014. Potential challengers include state Senator Linda Lopez (D). Sen. Tom Udall and all three U.S House incumbents are expected to win re-election, including first-term Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D).

Words of Wisdom

"As the first Hispanic female governor in history, little girls often come up to me in the grocery store or the mall. They look and point, and when they get the courage, they ask "Are you Susana?" and they run up and give me a hug. And I wonder. How do you know who I am? But they do. And these are little girls. It's in moments like these when I'm reminded that we each pave a path. And for me, it's about paving a path for those little girls to follow." –Susana Martinez, governor of New Mexico

Levels of Government

Statewide Executives

Female governors: Susana Martinez (2011-present)

Current female statewide elected executives: 2 of 7 (governor and secretary of state) plus 3 of 5 public regulation commissioners

Number of women to have held statewide elected executive office: 31, 20 of whom served as secretary of state.

Congress

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

U.S. House: 1 of 3 seats is held by a woman

New Mexico has elected 3 women to the U.S. House and none to the U.S. Senate

State Legislature

Percentage women: 27.7%

Ranking: 17th of 50

Senate: 6 of 42 (14%) are women

House: 25 of 70 (36%) are women

Method of election: Single-member districts

Local

None of New Mexico's five largest cities with elected mayors has a woman mayor.