

Women's Representation in Ohio

Parity Ranking: 37th of 50

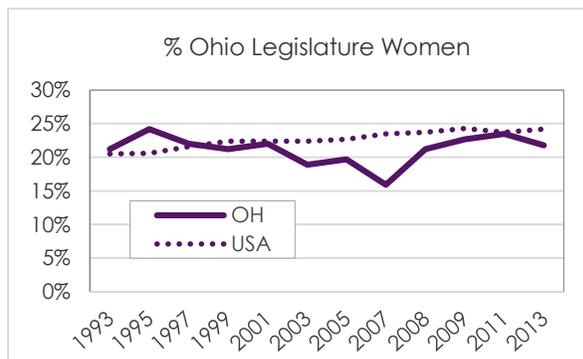
Score of 12: Two points for lieutenant governor, 3 points for its three women U.S. House members, and 7 for the percentage of state legislators who are women.

Quick Facts

Nancy Hollister was serving as Lt. Governor when Gov. George Voinovich resigned his office to take a seat in the U.S. Senate in 1998. She became governor upon his resignation, but served only for the 11 days that remained of his term. Thus far, she is Ohio's first and only woman governor. A woman has never been a major party candidate for governor in Ohio, and no woman is seeking a major party nomination for governor in 2014.

Trending

The percentage of women in Ohio's state legislature declined sharply in 2002 and today is only two percentage points higher than it was 20 years ago.



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

Elections to Watch

No women are running for governor, but Gov. John Kasich (R) will likely run again with Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor in 2014. Nina Turner (D) is taking on incumbent Jon Husted (R) for Secretary of State. Ohio's three female U.S. House Members are projected to win in 2014; only one male incumbent is potentially vulnerable.

Levels of Government

Statewide Executives

Female governors: Nancy Hollister served for 11 days from 1998-1999 when the previous governor was sworn in as U.S. senator.

Statewide elected executives: 1 of 6 (lieutenant governor)

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

Congress

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

U.S. House: 3 of 16 seats are held by women

In its history, Ohio has elected 11 women to Congress.

State Legislature

Percentage women: 23.5%

Rankings: 26th of 50

Senate: 8 of 33 (24.2%) are women

House: 23 of 99 (23.2%) are women

Method of election: Single-member districts

Local

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

Notable Recent Election

In 2013, Cincinnati Vice Mayor Roxanne Qualls lost her bid for mayor against John Cranley by 16 points.

Words of Wisdom

"A few of [the party leaders] opposed my nomination, but most of them thought it would be a graceful gesture which would do them no harm since they were sure I would get tired of politics in a few months, and flit on to something else." - Frances Bolton, U.S. representative from Ohio (1940-1969)