

# IDAHO

**STATE RANKING** **47**  
out of 50

**GENDER PARITY SCORE** **9.4** out of 100 points

A Gender Parity Score of 50 indicates a state has reached gender parity in elected office. Gender parity is defined as the point at which women and men are equally likely to hold elected office in the state.

- 0.0 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
  - 0.5 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
  - 7.4 of 30 points (State Legislature)
  - 1.5 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)
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- 9.4 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)**

## Women in Congress

Idaho has not elected a woman to Congress since the 1998 election. In its history, Idaho has elected two women to the U.S. House and none to the Senate.

## Women Statewide Executives

Idaho has never elected a female governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state or attorney general. Twelve of the 19 women elected to statewide executive office served as superintendent of public instruction. Sherri Ybarra (R) was elected in 2014 to be the only female statewide representative for Idaho, serving as current superintendent for public instruction.

## Women State Legislators

In 1993, Idaho's state legislature was 30.5% women and ranked 7th nationwide. After the November 2014 election, women held only 26.7% of seats, putting Idaho in 15th place. In November 2014, three new Republican women were elected to the state senate, which increased the number of women in the 35 member body by 50% (to a total of nine).

## Cities and Counties

Two (22.2%) of Idaho's 9 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors: Meridian and Idaho Falls. None of the commission chairs in Idaho's five largest counties were female in 2014.

## Analysis

Idaho has moved farther away from gender parity since 1993, when Idaho ranked 11th in the nation with a Gender Parity Score of 15.7. In 2003, Idaho had dropped to 31st in the nation. After the November 2014 Election, Idaho ranks 47th.

### Did you know?

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-winner district.

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	0 of 2	0
House of Representatives	0 of 2	2

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	0
Statewide executive offices	1 of 7	19

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	9 of 35 (26%)	9 of 35 (26%)
House	19 of 70 (27%)	23 of 70 (33%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>30%</b>

### State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 17th

Method of election: Single-winner districts for senate, two-winner districts (by position) for house. It is notable that the Idaho House has always been made up of a higher proportion of women than the Idaho Senate.