

TENNESSEE

STATE RANKING **43**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE 10.7 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.

- 3.3 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 0.0 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 5.9 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 1.4 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

10.7 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

Tennessee continues to lag in election of women to state legislature, but both of the state's females members of Congress, Marsha Blackburn and Diana Black, were both reelected in 2014.

In its history, Tennessee has never elected a woman to the U.S. Senate, but has elected six women to the House, three of whom were elected in special elections following the deaths of their husbands.

Women Statewide Executives

Tennessee's only currently elected executive position is governor. Two women have served as public service commissioner, a position that no longer exists.

Women State Legislators

The percentage of Tennessee's legislature that is female has consistently lagged behind the national average for the last 20 years, and has never been higher than 19%.

Cities and Counties

Five (21.7%) of Tennessee's 23 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors.

Analysis

In 1993, Tennessee ranked 45th in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 4.2.

Did you know?

It was not until 2002 that the Volunteer State elected a woman to the U.S. Congress without first electing her husband.

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	0 of 2	0
House of Representatives	2 of 9	6

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	0
Statewide executive offices	NA	2

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	6 of 33 (18%)	3 of 33 (9%)
House	17 of 99 (17%)	13 of 99 (13%)
Total	17%	12%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 40th
Method of election: Single-winner districts