

MAINE

STATE RANKING **8**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE 28.3 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.

- 18.2 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 0.0 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 7.5 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 2.7 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

28.3 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

The 2014 U.S. Senate race in Maine was one of the few featuring female candidates from both parties. In this race, incumbent Senator Susan Collins (R) defeated the Democratic nominee Shenna Bellows.

Between 1997 and 2013, both Maine U.S. Senators — Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins — were Republican women.

Women Statewide Executives

Maine's only statewide elected executive office is governor. Since a woman has never been elected to the governorship, Maine is the only state to have never elected a woman to a statewide executive office.

Women State Legislators

The percentage of Maine's state legislative seats held by women routinely exceeds the national average, but the share today is lower than it was in 1993.

Cities and Counties

One (20%) of Maine's five largest cities (South Portland) has a female mayor. Two of its five largest counties (York and Kennebec) had female commission chairs in 2014.

Analysis

In 1993, Maine ranked 15th in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 13.4.

Did you know?

Moderate Republican and Mainer Margaret Madeline Chase Smith was the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress. She served as a U.S. Representative (1940-1949) and a U.S. Senator (1949-1973).

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	1 of 2	3
House of Representatives	1 of 2	3

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

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	8 of 35 (23%)	11 of 35 (31%)
House	46 of 151 (30%)	48 of 151 (32%)
Total	29%	32%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 12th
Method of election: Single-winner districts