

# WYOMING

**STATE RANKING** **26**  
out of 50

**GENDER PARITY SCORE 17.9** 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.

- 10.0 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 2.9 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 3.0 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 2.0 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

**17.9 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)**

## Women in Congress

Wyoming did not send any women to Congress until 1994. Since then, Wyoming has elected a woman to its at-large U.S. House seat every election. Cynthia M. Lummis (R) has served since 2009.

## Women Statewide Executives

Twelve (60%) of the 20 women to serve Wyoming in statewide executive office have been superintendents of public instruction. Jillian Balow was elected to that office in 2014, replacing Cindy Hill.

## Women State Legislators

After Wyoming switched from multi-winner state legislative districts to single-winner legislative districts in the early 1990s, the percentage of state legislative seats held by women fell and remains below the national average. Just one woman (Bernadine L. Craft) currently serves in the Wyoming state senate.

## Cities and Counties

In 2014, Gillette elected its first woman mayor, Louise Carter-King. It is the only one of Wyoming's 5 largest cities to have a woman mayor. The 2014 chair of the board of commissioners in Laramie County, the state's most populous county, was woman (Amber Ash).

## Analysis

Wyoming's Gender Parity Score increased 1.1 points from 2014.

### Did you know?

Wyoming remains almost a full life-time away from gender parity despite having a head start on every other state. Wyoming gave women the right to vote 50 years before most states and was the first state to ever elect a woman governor (Nellie Tayloe Ross, who took office in 1925).

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	0 of 2	0
House of Representatives	1 of 1	2

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	1
Statewide executive offices	2 of 5	20

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	1 of 30 (3%)	5 of 30 (17%)
House	11 of 60 (18%)	17 of 60 (28%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>24%</b>

**State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 48th**  
Method of election: Single-winner districts