54 State Pages

## **GEORGIA**

STATE 49 Out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE

7.8

out of

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)

0.0 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)

5.8 of 30 points (State Legislature)

2.0 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

7.8 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

### **Analysis**

In 1993, Georgia ranked 39 in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 5.7. In more than twenty years, the state has only advanced about 2 points, mostly because of the low number of women in the state legislature.

### Did vou know?

Rebecca Latimer Felton served as the first female U.S. Senator in the nation and the only female Senator from Georgia when she was sworn in for 24 hours in 1922 to fill a vacancy as a placeholder before a special election.

### Women in Congress

Georgia was the first state to be served by a female U.S. Senator (Rebecca Latimer Felton). The state had elected three women to the U.S. House by 1955. However, Georgia has not elected a woman to Congress since the 2004 election.

Despite a record of volunteer service and a prominent Georgia family name, Michelle Nunn was unsuccessful in the 2014 race for U.S. Senate in Georgia, one of the highest-profile races of the 2014 cycle.

# Senate 0 of 2 1 House of Representatives 0 of 14 5

Number of statewide executive offices held by women

2015

0

0 of 13

**State History** 

0

5

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women

### Women Statewide Executives

Georgia did not elect a woman to statewide executive office until 1995. Since then two women have served as superintendent of public schools, two as secretary of state, and one as public service commissioner.

### Women State Legislators

In 1989 Georgia ranked 40th for its percentage of state legislators who were women. Today it ranks 30th, slightly below the national average.

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	9 of 56 (16%)	6 of 56 (11%)
House	45 of 180 (25%)	35 of 180 (19%)
Total	220/	170/

**State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 30th** Method of election: Single-winner districts

Governor

Statewide executive offices

### Cities and Counties

Six (20%) of Georgia's 30 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. In 2014, one of the chairs (Charlotte Nash in Gwinnet County) of the county boards of commissioners in Georgia's five largest counties.