

MICHIGAN

STATE RANKING **11**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE 25.8 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.

- 10.7 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 8.3 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 5.9 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 0.9 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

25.8 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

Debbie Dingell (D) was elected to take a seat in the House of Representatives. She is replacing her husband, Rep. John Dingell, who is retiring after having served in the very same 12th district seat since 1955. John Dingell's father, Rep. John Dingell Sr, also served in the House for 22 years.

Representative-elect Brenda Lawrence (D) joins Rep. Debbie Dingell in the House of Representatives, representing Michigan's 14th district. She previously served as the first black Mayor of Southfield for 13 years.

Women Statewide Executives

Michigan did not elect a woman to statewide executive office until 1982. Since 1982, Michigan has elected at least one woman every quadrennial statewide executive election.

Women State Legislators

In recent years, the Michigan state legislature has experienced large fluctuations in the percentage of seats held by women. Between 2008 and 2009, it increased 5.4 points, but decreased by 6.1 points to 18.9% in 2012. In November 2014, it jumped 2 points to 20.9%.

Cities and Counties

Five (12.8%) of Michigan's 39 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. None of the state's five largest counties have female county executives or commission chairs.

Analysis

In 1993, Michigan ranked 33rd in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 7.

Did you know?

In 2002, Michigan elected its third foreign-born governor and its first woman governor, Jennifer Granholm (D). Originally from Canada, Granholm became a naturalized American citizen at the age of 21. She served two terms.

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	1 of 2	1
House of Representatives	3 of 14	9

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	1
Statewide executive offices	1 of 4	7

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	4 of 38 (11%)	3 of 38 (8%)
House	27 of 110 (25%)	27 of 110 (25%)
Total	21%	20%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 32nd
Method of election: Single-winner districts