

COLORADO

STATE RANKING **17**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE 20.3 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.

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

20.3 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

Although Colorado did not elect a woman to Congress until 1972, it has sent at least one woman to the House of Representatives every election since then.

Women Statewide Executives

Although three women have served as lieutenant governor, which is elected on a joint ticket with governor, none have served as governor.

Women State Legislators

The percentage of Colorado's state legislative seats held by women has been higher than the national average for 20 years. In 2014, Colorado became the second state ever (after New Hampshire in the 2008 election) to elect a majority of women to a legislative chamber. While Colorado excels at women's representation in its state legislature, it has yet to elect a woman governor or U.S. senator, which contributes to its relatively low ranking overall.

Cities and Counties

Six (25%) of Colorado's 24 cities with populations greater than 30,000 have female mayors. Two of Colorado's five largest counties had female commission chairs in 2014.

Analysis

In 1993, Colorado ranked 9th in the nation for gender parity in elected office, with a Gender Parity Score of 16.2.

Did you know?

Cynthia Coffman, the newly-elected attorney general in Colorado, served as a lawyer for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. Following the terrorist bombing at Olympic Park during the Games, Coffman served as legal liaison to the families of the attack victims.

Number of U.S. Congress seats held by women		
	114th Congress	State History
Senate	0 of 2	0
House of Representatives	1 of 7	4

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

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	12 of 35 (34%)	8 of 35 (23%)
House	30 of 65 (46%)	27 of 65 (42%)
Total	42%	35%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 1st
Method of election: Single-winner districts