

MONTANA

STATE RANKING **28**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE **17.7** 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.

- 0.0 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 7.3 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 9.1 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 1.3 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

17.7 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

Montana has only ever elected one woman to Congress: Jeanette Rankin. Rankin, first elected in 1916, was the first ever woman elected to Congress. She served two terms, one from 1917-1919 and one from 1941-1943.

Women Statewide Executives

Nine of the eighteen women to have been elected to statewide executive office were elected to the position of superintendent of public instruction. Other than between 1980 to 1989, the superintendent spot has been occupied by a woman since 1917.

Angela McLean was appointed lieutenant governor in February 2014, becoming Montana's second female lieutenant governor.

Women State Legislators

Six new female state legislators were elected in 2012, the biggest increase in 20 years. The legislature now ranks above the national average.

Cities and Counties

None of Montana's 6 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. Missoula and Flathead counties had female commission chairs in 2014.

Analysis

In 1993, Montana ranked 28th in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 9.

Did you know?

Current Secretary of State Linda McCulloch was the first woman to be elected secretary of state in Montana in 2008.

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

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	1
Statewide executive offices	4 of 6	18

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	18 of 50 (36%)	9 of 50 (18%)
House	29 of 100 (29%)	21 of 100 (21%)
Total	31%	20%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 8th

Method of election: Single-winner districts