

NORTH DAKOTA

STATE RANKING **37**
out of 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE **13.6** 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.

- 6.7 of 30 points (U.S. Congress)
- 1.4 of 30 points (Statewide Executive Offices)
- 5.2 of 30 points (State Legislature)
- 0.3 of 10 points (Cities and Counties)

13.6 of 100 points (Gender Parity being 50)

Women in Congress

In its history, North Dakota has elected one woman to Congress, Heidi Heitkamp in 2012. Jocelyn Burdick was appointed to the Senate for a few months in 1992, after the death of her husband. North Dakota is one of only six states that have never elected a woman to the U.S. House.

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

Women Statewide Executives

Kiara Kraus-Parr and April Fairfield ran against incumbents in both major statewide offices on the ballot in 2014, attorney general and secretary of state, but both were unsuccessful.

Number of statewide executive offices held by women		
	2015	State History
Governor	0	0
Statewide executive offices	2 of 10	16

Women State Legislators

The percentage of women in the state legislature has increased by less than two percentage points since 1993.

Number of state legislative seats held by women		
	2015	1993
Senate	8 of 47 (17%)	8 of 49 (16%)
House	19 of 94 (20%)	16 of 98 (16%)
Total	19%	16%

State Legislature's Gender Parity Ranking: 37th

Method of election: State house members are elected in two-member districts with plurality voting. State senators are elected from single-winner districts.

Cities and Counties

None of North Dakota's 5 largest cities have female mayors.

Analysis

In 1993, North Dakota ranked 35th in the nation, with a Gender Parity Score of 6.1.

Did you know?

Laura Eisenhuth, superintendent of public instructions from 1893-1894, was the first woman to be elected to a statewide office in the nation. Of the 16 women elected to statewide executive office, none have served as governor and two have served as lieutenant governor.