A thriving democracy is within our reach, but we must level the playing field for women candidates across the racial, political, and geographic spectrum so that our nation’s rich diversity is reflected in our elected bodies.

Electing more women to every level of government will strengthen our democracy by making it more representative, reviving bipartisanship and collaboration, improving policy outcomes, encouraging a new style of leadership, and building greater trust in our elected bodies.

The Gender Parity Report 2017 is an update to our State of Women’s Representation series, which documents and analyzes women’s representation in all fifty states and makes the case for structural changes that are necessary to achieve parity in our lifetime. For additional information or to share your comments on this report, please contact:

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Photos courtesy of iStockPhoto and WikiCommons.

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A note on data presented on women in politics: data on the representation of women in state legislatures, past and present, is courtesy of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. Similarly, much of the data on past women in elected office at all levels of government comes from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. Data on 2016 winners, current members of Congress, statewide executive officials and local officials was collected by Representation2020 from Ballotpedia, government websites and candidate websites.

For the most up-to-date data on the representation of women in elected office in the United States, visit the Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University at www.cawp.rutgers.edu, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Ballotpedia, and local election administrators.
INTRODUCTION

While women of color gained seats in 2016, overall progress toward gender parity is stalled. Women at the federal, state, and local levels struggle to win elective office. Only five governors are women, and the U.S. rank among all nations for the representation of women has declined from 44th in 1995 to 100th in 2017. To achieve gender parity, new strategies are necessary.

Overall, the percentage of women serving in elected office has increased very little since the “Year of the Woman” in 1992. The number of women serving in the U.S. House has increased just 9% in the last 25 years while women’s representation in the Senate has increased by 13 percent. Women’s representation in state legislatures has grown by only 4% over that same time period and the representation of women as mayors and on city councils is still under 20%. Women hold more than a third of the legislature in only eight states and are not more than 40% in a single state. If history is an indicator, the number of women elected to state legislatures is more likely to decline than increase.

To reach true gender parity women from across the political, geographic, racial, and age spectrum must be represented fairly in our governing bodies.

Research confirms that structural reforms are one of the main reasons that 99 nations and a growing number of U.S. jurisdictions are electing more women. We need to change recruitment processes so that more women run, adopt fair voting systems so that more women win, and modernize legislative norms so that more women can serve and lead.

- We must challenge PACs, donors & political parties to set targets for the number of female candidates they recruit and support. These voluntary targets mimic quotas that are used in over 100 nations to fuel the election of women candidates and will create a demand for more women candidates to run.

- We must adopt voting systems that give people the power to choose their representation and create more opportunities for women to run and win. Fair representation combines multi-winner districts with ranked choice voting to create openings for women, people of color, and all partisans in areas that are now one-party strongholds.

- We must modernize legislative norms with on-site childcare, paid leave, and proxy voting to reduce barriers to women serving effectively once elected and encourage gender targets for committee chair and party roles to elevate women to leadership positions.

To win gender parity in our lifetimes we must adopt these institutional strategies that complement current reforms to challenge the status quo and bring new talented voices to the table. To find out more please visit our website, www.representation2020.com.

Cynthia Richie Terrell
Representation2020, Founder and Chair
April, 2017
**WHY ELECT WOMEN?**

Why should we care about the state of women’s representation? What are the benefits of gender parity in elected office? Here are several of the most common answers.

**An Exact Portrait of the People**

Democratic representatives should reflect the citizenry. In describing his vision for Congress, John Adams said that it “should be in miniature an exact portrait of the people.”¹ Such an “exact portrait” must include women, who make up more than half the population and voters in most elections. Descriptive representation, as it is often called, ensures that all members of a diverse society have a voice in government. Research suggests that female constituents respond well to women representatives — they become more informed about, engaged with, and active in, politics when they see women in office.

**What Women Want**

Gender parity in elected office is important because women are uniquely prepared to advocate for women’s interests. Some studies suggest that women legislators tend to be more supportive of so-called “women’s issues,” or policy matters that especially affect women constituents. An example that appears to bolster these findings comes from January 2015, when Republican congresswomen broke from their party to block a bill that would have reduced access to abortion to an unprecedented degree. There is, of course, great diversity of opinion among women, and other studies suggest partisanship trumps gender in our increasingly polarized democracy giving elected women little incentive to work with other women legislators. Efforts to reduce partisan polarization will open up the governing process to cross-partisan problem solving.

**The End to “Politics as Usual”**

Political affiliations aside, women tend to act differently in elected office. Numerous anecdotes and some preliminary research suggest that women have been more effective legislators in recent years. While women in legislative leadership roles are still so rare as to prevent serious study, studies of corporate leadership have shown that women are perceived to be more effective leaders than men. The reasons women currently act differently in elected office are unclear. Perhaps women are more effective because they have faced a higher bar in order to get into office. At a national level, women legislators sponsor and co-sponsor more of their colleagues’ bills and are more effective at advancing their own — especially when they are members of the minority party. Women tend to be better at finding common ground and making extensive use of cross-partisan women’s caucuses at the state and national level.

**The Best and the Brightest**

We need more women in elected office because without them, we are missing out on many of the best and the brightest. Women are just as qualified as men to serve in elected office.

The fact that women’s representation in elected office is so low is indicative of a larger problem. Women face structural barriers to winning and staying in elected office. Until we provide women and men equal opportunities to run, win, and lead, we are missing out on immense talent, passion, and experience.
WOMEN’S REPRESENTATION AND THE 2016 ELECTION

Women of color made significant gains in Congress, but overall, progress towards gender parity is stalled. The number of women serving in the U.S. House of Representatives dropped by one, while the Senate saw its number of women increase by one. Three women of color were elected to the Senate in 2016: Catherine Cortez-Masto (D-NV), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), and Kamala Harris (D-CA). Additionally, the share of female state legislators increased from 24.3% to 24.9%. New Hampshire remains the only state to reach gender parity in elected office according to Representation2020’s Gender Parity Index (GPI).

Measuring women’s representation: Representation2020’s Gender Parity Index

In order to quantify progress toward gender parity in elected office, Representation2020 developed the Gender Parity Index. Each year, a Gender Parity Score and grade is calculated for the U.S. and each of the 50 states. The Gender Parity Score measures women’s recent electoral success at the local, state and national level on a scale of 0 (if no women were elected to any offices) to 100 (if women held all such offices). A state with gender parity in elected office would receive a Gender Parity Score of 50 out of 100.

The key advantage of the GPI is that it enables comparisons over time and between states.

Only five states were more than three-fifths of the way to parity after the 2016 election

Overall, progress toward parity stalled after the 2016 election. The median Gender Parity Score in the 50 states remained at 19. Only five states received a score of more than 30 points: Arizona, California, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Washington. An additional five states are one-fifth or less of the way to gender parity in elected office: Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, and Utah.

The Gender Parity Index shows that we are less than halfway to gender parity

While elections like the “Year of the Woman” in 1992 and others have advanced women’s representation, it is important, however, to keep those advances in perspective. Current strategies to advance women’s representation have gotten us less than two-fifths of the way there — 97 years after the ratification of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing suffrage to women. We can’t wait another 97 years (or longer) to reach gender parity in elective office. Representation2020 understands that it is important to train and fund more women candidates. In addition, we need structural reforms — candidate recruitment practices, electoral systems, and legislative rules — that level the playing field to hasten our progress toward gender parity in elected office.
New Hampshire leads the nation

New Hampshire ranks first in our 2017 GPI with a score of 55, slightly above gender parity in elected office. New Hampshire is the only state to receive an A grade. The state scored 13 points higher than the second-placed state, Washington. In 2012, New Hampshire was the first state in the nation to elect an all-female delegation to Congress, and the state repeated this feat in 2016. Former Governor, Maggie Hassan (D), defeated the incumbent, Kelly Ayotte (R), and Carol Shea-Porter (D) won back her old U.S. House seat. Roughly 29% of its state legislators are women, and the mayor of the state’s fifth largest city, Dover, is a woman. New Hampshire was also the first state in the nation to have a majority-female state legislative chamber (state senate from 2009 to 2010).

Mississippi ranks last

Mississippi received the lowest GPI score in the nation with just 6 points. The Magnolia State is one of four states to receive an F grade. Mississippi remains the only state that has never elected a woman to the governor’s mansion and to the U.S. Congress. In 2016, every Republican and Democratic candidate in both the primary and general elections for congressional races were men. The last time the major party candidate for a congressional seat was a woman was 2012. Only four women have ever served in statewide elective office, with two of four in office today. None of Mississippi’s nine cities with populations greater than 30,000 people currently have female mayors.

Regional Trends: The Northeast and West excel, while the South lags behind

The West and the Northeast outperform the Midwest and the South in gender parity in elected office. Nine of the ten states with the highest Gender Parity Scores after the 2016 elections were in the Northeast or West (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Mexico and Washington). By contrast, six of the ten states with the lowest Gender Parity Score are in the South (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Virginia).
The disparity between the South and other regions has widened in the past few decades. In 1993, two southern states (Maryland and Texas) ranked in the top ten states for gender parity, while six (Alabama, Louisiana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia) ranked in the bottom ten.

No state legislative chambers are at parity

After the 2016 elections, no state legislative chambers are at parity. The legislative chamber closest to parity in the nation is the Arizona Senate, with women comprising 47% of the chamber. In November 2016, 20 female candidates ran for the 30 seats in the Arizona Senate, and 14 were elected, according to the Center for American Women and Politics. However, Vermont ranks first for the proportion of women in its state legislature, with 40% female state legislators in March 2017. Ranked lowest was Wyoming at 11%. In 1993, the range was from 40% (Washington) to 5% (Kentucky) — showing advances for the lowest-ranking states, but less improvement for states at the top.

Flatlining in state legislatures

The proportion of women state legislators increased slightly as a result of the 2016 election. Currently, 1,842 (24.9%) state legislators are women. If we take a broader view, we can see that the progress toward gender parity in state legislatures is slowing down from the 1970s, which is worrying. Without new initiatives, progress may stall completely.
Partisan Breakdown

According to a Pew Research Center poll conducted in 2016, 54% of female registered voters identify as Democrats, while 38% identify as Republicans and the remaining 8% are unaffiliated with a major party.

There are 104 women serving in the 115th Congress. Of these, 78 members - or 75% - are Democrats, and just 26 - or 25% - are Republicans. Sixty percent of female state legislators are Democrats, 38% of female state legislators are Republicans, and 2% of female legislators are members of minor parties. Unsurprisingly, Democratic leaning states typically have a greater share of female legislators who are Democrats than Republicans. The five states where female Democratic legislators make up the largest share of all female legislators are Rhode Island (91%), Oregon (83%), Massachusetts (83%), New York (81%), and Hawaii (81%). Meanwhile, the five states where female Republican legislators make up the largest share of all female legislators are West Virginia (89%), South Dakota (86%), Alaska (78%), Arkansas (76%), and Idaho (66%). If women are to achieve parity in electoral representation, more Republican women must be elected.

Women of Color

According to recent Census figures, approximately 63% of women in the United States are white, 17% are hispanic, 13% are African American, 5% are Asian American, and 2% are Native American and Pacific Islander. Overall, according to Census figures, roughly 19% of Americans are women of color.

At the start of the 115th U.S. Congress, 38 members, or 7% of all members, are women of color. Among women of color, 35, or 92%, are Democrats, and three, or 8% are Republicans. Women of color comprise just 6% of all state legislators across the country. Among all female state legislators, 24% are women of color. Generally, Democratic leaning states with large minority populations have more women of color serving in their state legislatures. Hillary Clinton won four of the five states with the highest share of female legislators who are women of color: Hawaii (21%), New Jersey (17%), New Mexico (16%), and Nevada (14%). The lone Republican state in the top five is Georgia (14%). Generally, states with small minority populations have a low share of legislators who are women of color. Alaska, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota do not have a single women of color in their legislature. Maine rounds out the bottom five with just one woman of color, out of 64 female state legislators. More women of color must be elected in order to achieve gender parity.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Female Legislators</th>
<th>Overall Share of Female Legislators</th>
<th>Share of Female Legislators who are Democrats</th>
<th>Share of Female Legislators who are Republicans</th>
<th>Share of Women of Color (of all legislators)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>20 of 140</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>70.00%</td>
<td>25.00%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>18 of 60</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>22.22%</td>
<td>77.78%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Arizona</td>
<td>35 of 90</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>51.43%</td>
<td>48.57%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>25 of 135</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>24.00%</td>
<td>76.00%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>26 of 120</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>76.92%</td>
<td>23.08%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
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<td>Colorado</td>
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<td>28.21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>27.8%</td>
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<td>46.15%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
<td>13 of 62</td>
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<td>76.92%</td>
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<td>3.2%</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
<td>41 of 160</td>
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<td>Idaho</td>
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<td>65.63%</td>
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<td>36.2%</td>
<td>73.44%</td>
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<td>12.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>29 of 150</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>44.83%</td>
<td>55.17%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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<td>16.7%</td>
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<td>52.17%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<td>15.3%</td>
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<td>Maine</td>
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<td>78.53%</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
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<td>23.6%</td>
<td>45.71%</td>
<td>54.29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
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<td>32.3%</td>
<td>56.92%</td>
<td>43.08%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>24 of 174</td>
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<td>58.33%</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<td>Missouri</td>
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<td>50.00%</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
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<td>Nevada</td>
<td>25 of 63</td>
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<td>72.00%</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
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<td>64.71%</td>
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<td>81.03%</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
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<td>18.4%</td>
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<td>61.54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>31 of 132</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>54.84%</td>
<td>45.16%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>12.8%</td>
<td>36.84%</td>
<td>63.16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>52.17%</td>
<td>47.83%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>21 of 105</td>
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<td>85.71%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>22 of 132</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>40.91%</td>
<td>59.09%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>37 of 181</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>62.16%</td>
<td>37.84%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>20 of 104</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
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<td>40.0%</td>
<td>69.44%</td>
<td>30.56%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
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<td>19.3%</td>
<td>74.07%</td>
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<td>7.9%</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
<td>54 of 147</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>64.81%</td>
<td>35.19%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>13.4%</td>
<td>11.11%</td>
<td>88.89%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
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<td>23.5%</td>
<td>61.29%</td>
<td>38.71%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>10 of 90</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Orange cells indicate a majority of female legislators are Republicans, and purple cells indicate a majority of female legislators are Democrats. AL, NY, and VT have female legislators who are members of minor parties. Source: Center for American Women and Politics (January 2017)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Female State House Members</th>
<th>Female State Senators</th>
<th>% Women January 2017</th>
<th>% Women 1993</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>11 of 30</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>33.90%</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>17 of 42</td>
<td>8 of 21</td>
<td>39.68%</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>28 of 65</td>
<td>11 of 35</td>
<td>39.00%</td>
<td>35.00%</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>21 of 60</td>
<td>14 of 30</td>
<td>38.89%</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>46 of 118</td>
<td>18 of 59</td>
<td>36.16%</td>
<td>27.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>36 of 98</td>
<td>18 of 49</td>
<td>36.05%</td>
<td>24.70%</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>California</td>
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<td>9 of 40</td>
<td>21.67%</td>
<td>23.00%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>20.44%</td>
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<td>16.67%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6 of 33</td>
<td>16.67%</td>
<td>10.90%</td>
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<td>15.28%</td>
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<td>14.29%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>12.90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>7 of 60</td>
<td>3 of 30</td>
<td>11.11%</td>
<td>7.60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Orange cells indicate a body controlled by Republicans, purple cells indicate a body controlled by Democrats, Nebraska has a non-partisan, unicameral legislature. Italics indicate that a state uses multi-winner districts to elect at least one of its state legislative chambers. Source: Center for American Women and Politics (January 2017)
How does the U.S. rank internationally?

The Inter-Parliamentary Union ranks women’s representation in the national parliaments of 193 nations. In 1995 the U.S. ranked 53rd in the world for women’s representation but as of April 30, 2017 the United States has fallen to 100th place in the world for the percentage of women in its national legislature. Some of the nations that are closer to parity than the United States include: South Africa, Ecuador, Spain, and Mexico. Both Rwanda and Bolivia have legislatures that have a majority of women.

A key reason that half the world’s nations are outpacing the U.S. in women’s representation is that many of those countries use multi-winner districts and some type of proportional voting, which have been proven to increase the percentage of women running for and being elected to public office. Internal legislative rules have been modernized in many of the highly ranked nations so that women can serve and lead effectively one in office. Experts agree, however, that the reform with the greatest impact on women’s representation are party, legal, or constitutionally mandated gender quotas or caps.

“There’s a strong association between the type of electoral system adopted and the representation of women. Proportional representation electoral systems tend to have twice as many women in parliament than those that use first-past-the-post or single member plurality systems like in the United Kingdom’s Upper Westminster or in the U.S. Congress. In addition, quotas have become very common. Over 100 countries have adopted gender quotas, designed to bring more women into parliaments. Many of these have been implemented through proportional representation systems, but some have also been implemented through majoritarian systems. Where there’s effective affirmative action, implemented through the use of penalties for non-compliance, increasing the number of women in elected office has been very effective.”

- Pippa Norris, Professor, University of Sydney & Lecturer, John F. Kennedy School of Government

World Policy Journal, April 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranks</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Lower House % of Women</th>
<th>Electoral System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td>Mix of Single-Member &amp; Multi-Member Districts (with PR &amp; Quotas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Winner-Take-All (one-party system)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<td>42.4%</td>
<td>Mix of Single-Member &amp; Multi-Member Districts (with PR &amp; Quotas)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 (tied)</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 (tied)</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation &amp; Quotas</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
<td>Single-Member District/Winner-Take-All &amp; Quotas &amp; Quotas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>58.5%</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>20 (tied)</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
<td>Multi-Member Districts/Proportional Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>Single-Member District/Winner-Take-All</td>
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</table>

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (2017)
Gender Parity Index

GENDER PARITY INDEX: MEASURING PROGRESS IN THE STATES

The underrepresentation of women in elected office is a major problem across the country. At Representation2020, we want to understand the true extent of the problem and identify practices and structures that are associated with better representation of women in the 50 states. To do this, we designed the Gender Parity Index that scores the states based on its women representation at the local, state legislative, state executive, and federal levels. Furthermore, states receive a letter grade that reflects their score.

There are many possible methodologies for ranking women’s representation in elected office. A simple way to measure women’s representation in a state is by the composition of its state legislature. By that measure, Vermont, with its 40.0% female legislature, ranks highest, and Wyoming, with its 11.1% female legislature, ranks lowest. However, this paints an incomplete picture. Vermont has never sent a woman to Congress, while Wyoming’s sole U.S. Representative has been a woman since 1995.

Representation2020 developed the Gender Parity Index to give a more complete snapshot of the representation of women in all levels of government, giving particular weight to the offices that matter the most to voters, such as governor, member of Congress, and mayor, and to enable meaningful comparisons between states.

In our Gender Parity Index, states earn points based on whether men or women hold various elected offices. We developed our score based on the winners of the following elections in each state:

- the three most recent gubernatorial elections;
- the most recent election for all other statewide elected executive offices;
- the four most recent U.S. Senate elections;
- the most recent U.S. House elections;
- the most recent state legislative elections;
- the gender of their speakers of the state house and state senate presidents;
- the number of women mayors in all cities with populations over 30,000 people;
- the county executives in the five largest counties.

We score states on a scale of 0 to 100. If a state has a score lower than 50, women are underrepresented in elected office in that state, and if it has a score above 50, men are underrepresented. A state with a score of 50, which means that men have earned 50% of the points and women have earned the other 50%, has achieved parity. This is especially true if the state can maintain a score near 50 for several election cycles. Only one state achieved a score above 50 in 2017 (New Hampshire), and the median state score was 18.6.

Visit www.Representation2020.com/parity-index.html to download our calculations for each state’s Parity Score and Ranking.
Calculating Components of the Gender Parity Index
Statewide Elected Executives (30 points total)

We base 30% of a state’s Gender Parity Index score on its statewide elected executive officials, including governor. Offices are weighted comparatively based on their importance.

For the single-seat office of governor, we count the last three elections to give ourselves a clearer picture of whether a woman is likely to become governor in the state. If a state’s only statewide elected executive is governor (as is the case in Maine, New Hampshire, and Tennessee), then the last gubernatorial election is worth 15 points and the preceding two are worth 7.5 points each. If a state’s only elected executive other than the governor is the lieutenant governor (as is the case in Alaska, Hawaii, and New Jersey), then a woman winning the most recent gubernatorial election would be worth 12.5 points and the winners from the two preceding gubernatorial elections would be worth 6.25 points each. The remaining five points are divided between the three most recent elections for lieutenant governor — 2.5 points for the most recent election, and 1.25 each for the two preceding elections.

In states with three or more statewide elected executives, 10 points are awarded for electing a woman in the last gubernatorial election, and 5 points are awarded each for electing a woman in the two previous gubernatorial elections. The remaining 10 points are awarded based on the number of women holding non-gubernatorial elected executive positions (even if the person currently holding that office was appointed). Half a point is awarded for each elected superintendent of public instruction and commissioner if the office is single-seat, or for the popularly elected president of a commission if the commission includes multiple commissioners. Commissions with an appointed rather than elected president or chair are excluded from the tally.

The remaining points are allocated for the offices of lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, treasurer, and auditor/comptroller. Points are weighted so that the first three offices are always worth twice as many points as the last two. For example, if a state had each of the five positions listed above, but no elected commissioners, then a state would receive 2.5 points for a woman lieutenant governor and 1.25 points for a woman state treasurer.

U.S. Congress (30 points total)

Congressional representation is also worth 30% of the Gender Parity Index score. Thirty points are divided between the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate.

A state with six or more representatives in the House could receive as many as 15 points based on the percentage of its House delegation that is female. For example, if a state’s House delegation were half female, then the state would receive 7.5 points (half of 15). The remaining points would be allocated based on how many times women have won in the state’s last four Senate elections. Five points are awarded if a woman won one of the last two elections, and 2.5 are awarded if a woman won one of the two before that. A state like California, where women won all of the last four U.S. Senate elections, would receive the full 15 points, whereas a state like Massachusetts, where a woman won only the most recent election, would receive 5 points.
In order to account for potentially large fluctuations in the percentage of women in U.S. House delegations with fewer than six members, we adjusted how many points these House delegations would be worth in the Gender Parity Index. States with five representatives could earn a total of 14 points for its House delegation and 16 points for its senators, while a state with four representatives could earn a total of 13 points for its House delegation and 17 points for its senators, etc. Then, in states with one or two House members, we included a point allocation similar to the one used for gubernatorial elections. States receive half the available points for the number of women elected to the House from the state in 2014, and then a quarter each for the 2010 and 2012 elections. For example, a state like Wyoming — where a woman won the single House seat in 2010, 2012, and 2014 — would receive a total of 10 points for those elections (5 points for 2014 and 2.5 points each for 2010 and 2012), and would then have 20 points available for its last four senate elections.

**State Legislature (30 points total)**

As state legislatures often serve as a launching pad for men and women who are elected to higher office, they are also worth 30% of the Gender Parity Score. Fourteen points each are allocated based on the percentages of seats held by women in the state house and senate. For example, if a state's house is comprised of 25% women, then it would receive 3.5 points. A state also earns an additional point each for having a woman as house speaker or senate president (or senate president pro tempore, if the senate president is the lieutenant governor).

**Local Office (10 points total)**

Local offices are an important starting point for many aspiring politicians. In order to get a representative snapshot of the state of women’s representation at the local level, we allocated 10 points to local offices in the Gender Parity Score. Six and two thirds points are allocated based on the percentage of women mayors in all of the state's cities with populations greater than 30,000 people. Another 3.33 points are allocated according to the proportion of female county commission chairs or executives in the state's five most populous counties. would receive 7.5 points (half of 15). The remaining points would be allocated based on how many times women have won in the state's last four Senate elections. Five points are awarded if a woman won one of the last two elections, and 2.5 are awarded if a woman won one of the two before that. A state like California, where women won all of the last four U.S. Senate elections, would receive the full 15 points, whereas a state like Massachusetts, where a woman won only the most recent election, would receive 5 points.

**State Grades**

Each state receives a letter grade assessing their progress towards gender parity. States at parity (a GPI score of at least 50) receive an A grade. The breakdown for the other grades are: B=GPI score between 33.0 and 49.9, C=GPI score between 25.0 and 32.9, D=GPI score between 10.0 and 24.9, and F=GPI score below 10.0.
### Calculating North Carolina’s Gender Parity Score

North Carolina ranks 19th in the nation with a score of 22.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Points Received</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statewide Elected Executive</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Governor                        | 5 (of 20)       | NC received no points for its current governor, but it did receive five points for the single term of Gov. Bev Perdue (2009-2013). | 0 of 10 points for current governor  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0 of 5 points for governor one term prior  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 5 of 5 points for governor two terms prior |
| Other Elected Statewide Executives | 3.5 (of 10)   | Five of NC’s nine non-gubernatorial statewide elected executive positions are held by women. Half a point each is awarded for the superintendent of public instruction and the commissioner of labor. Two points are awarded for the Lt. governor, and one point each for the treasurer and auditor. | 0 of 2 points for lieutenant governor  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 2 of 2 points for secretary of state    |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 0 of 2 points for attorney general |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 0 of 1 point for state treasurer   |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 1 of 1 point for auditor           |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 0 of 0.5 points for agriculture commissioner  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0.5 of 0.5 points for commissioner of labor  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0 of 0.5 points for insurance commissioner  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0 of 0.5 points for state superintendent of public schools |
| **U.S. Congress**               |                 |                                                                             |                                                                            |
| U.S. Senate                     | 2.5 (of 15)     | Because NC has more than five representatives in the U.S. House, it can receive a total of 15 points for U.S. senators. NC received 2.5 points for former Sen. Kay Hagan (D), who was voted out of office in the 2014 elections. | 0 of 5 points for most recent U.S. Senate election (2016)  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0 of 5 points for U.S. Senate election one prior (2014)  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0 of 2.5 points for U.S. Senate election two prior (2010) |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 2.5 of 2.5 points for U.S. Senate election three prior (2008) |
| U.S. House of Representatives    | 2.3 (of 15)     | NC received 2.3 points out of 15, as only 2 of its 13 U.S. representatives are women. | 3.5 (2/13 x 15) points of 15 for proportion of female U.S. Representatives |
| **State Legislature**           |                 |                                                                             |                                                                            |
|                                 | 6.9 (of 30)     | 3.6 points for the women in the State Senate and 3.0 for the women in the House. No points awarded for speaker of the house or senate president. | 3.6 (13/50 x 14) of 14 points for proportion of women in state senate  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 3.3 (29/120 x 14) of 14 points for proportion of women in state house |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 0 of 1 points for president of the state senate |
|                                 |                 |                                                                             | 0 of 1 points for speaker of state house |
| **Local Office**                | 2.2 (of 10)     | 1.5 points for 7 female mayors in 31 cities with populations greater than 30,000 people. 0.7 points for one female county executive. | 1.5 (7/31 x 6.67) of 6.67 points for female mayors in cities with populations greater than 30,000 people  
                                  |                  |                                                                             | 0.7 (0/5 x 3.33) of 3.33 points for female county commissioners |
| **Total**                       | 22.4 (of 100)   |                                                                             |                                                                            |
United States

GLOBAL RANKING
100
GENDER PARITY SCORE
20.0
Goal: 50

United States

VOTING SYSTEMS IN THE UNITED STATES
Federal: Single-Winner Districts
State: Ten states use multi-member districts to elect state legislators
Maine: Ranked choice voting will be used in 2018
Winner Take All

Women in Congress
There are 104 women serving in the 115th Congress. Overall, 78 female members (75%) are Democrats, and just 26 (25%) female members are Republicans. Just 38 (7%) of all members are women of color.

NATIONAL AND STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

National Executive Officers
There has never been a woman president or vice-president. There are just five female governors; three are Republicans and two are Democrats. A total of 23 states have never had a female governor. There has never been a black female governor, and there have only been two women of color governors, both Republicans.

State Legislatures

Women State Legislatures
Between 1971 and 1993, the share female legislators increased from 4.5% to 20.5%. Since 1993, the share of female legislators has only increased to 24.9%. Overall, 17 women serve in leadership positions (speaker, president, or president pro tempore) in state legislatures.

Cities and Counties

Cities and Counties
Among the largest 100 cities, just 19 have female mayors. Of the 1,361 mayors of U.S. cities with populations 30,000 and above, 262, or 19.3%, are women.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>U.S. History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>21 of 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>83 of 435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF WOMEN EXECUTIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>U.S. History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT/VICE-PRESIDENT</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>5 of 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1971</th>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts. US Score is the average state score.
**Alabama**

**State Ranking:** 37

**Gender Parity Score:** 11.9 (Goal: 50)

**Voting Systems in Alabama:** Single-Winner Districts

**Winner Take All**

**Primary Type:** Open

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?** Yes

---

**U.S. Congress**

**Women in Congress**

Alabama has never elected a woman to the U.S. Senate; Maryan Pittman Allen (D) and Dixie Bibb Graves (D) were appointed to fill vacancies. Alabama’s two congresswomen, Martha Roby (R-02) and Terri Sewell (D-07), were first elected in 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>115th Congress</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statewide Executive Offices**

**Women Statewide Executives**

Upon the resignation of a scandal-plagued governor, Lt. Governor Kay Ivey (R) became Alabama’s second female governor. Twinkle Cavanaugh (R) serves as Public Service Commissioner of Alabama.

*Because Ivey was not elected governor, her current position does not contribute to Alabama’s overall score.*

**Women State Legislators**

From 1994 to 2002, Alabama ranked last in the nation for its share of state legislators who were women. In 2017, with women making up 14% of the state legislature, it ranks 45th. Furthermore, 70% of female state legislators are Democrats and 30% are Republicans.

**Cities and Counties**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Out of Alabama’s 16 cities with a population of at least 30,000, only Alabaster has a female mayor. Out of Alabama’s five largest counties, only Mobile County has a female county commission president.

---

**Total:** 11.9 / 100 points

**Parity = 50**

---

**Notes:**

- Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.

**Sources:**

Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
Alaska

Grade: C

STATE RANKING
16

GENDER PARITY SCORE
24.7
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S. CONGRESS

10.0
/30 points

Women in Congress
Lisa Murkowski (R) was appointed by her father to fill a vacancy created by his election as governor in 2002. She won her third full term in 2016. Murkowski is the only woman Alaska has elected to the U.S. Congress.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

6.3
/30 points

Women Statewide Executives
Sarah Palin (R) was elected Alaska’s first female governor in 2006. Only one other woman has served in statewide elected executive office in Alaska: Fran Ulmer (D), who was lieutenant governor from 1994 to 2003.

STATE LEGISLATURE

8.4
/30 points

Women State Legislators
The proportion of women in Alaska’s state legislature has increased by roughly eight percentage points since 1993. In 2017, 30% of state legislators are women. Of the female legislators, roughly 78% are Republican and 22% are Democrats.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

0.0
/10 points

Women Mayors
None of Alaska’s five largest cities have female mayors. There are no counties in Alaska.

TOTAL

24.7
/100 points
PARITY = 50

VOTING SYSTEMS IN ALASKA

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Semi-closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
Yes

Voting Systems in Alaska

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

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.

The Formula

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.

Goal: 50

U.S. CONGRESS

# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>0 of 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER AK OFFICE</td>
<td>0 of 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE LEGISLATURE

% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women

| 1993 | 22% |
| 2017 | 30% |

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
# Arizona

## Gender Parity Index 2017

### Grade

C

### Gender Parity Score

32.4

Goal: 50

### State Ranking

3

### Voting Systems in Arizona

**Multi/Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

### Primary Type

Semi-closed

### Women’s Legislative Caucus?

No

### Arizona Gender Parity Score History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>29.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>33.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>32.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

## U.S. Congress

### Women in Congress

Arizona sent one less woman to Congress after the 2016 elections, as former congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick (D-01) lost the U.S. Senate race. Currently, Martha McSally (R-02) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-09) are Arizona’s two congresswomen.

### # of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>2 of 9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Statewide Executive Offices

### Women Statewide Executives

Arizona has elected more female governors (4) than any other state: Rose Mofford (D, 1988–91), Jane Dee Hull (R, 1997–2003), Janet Napolitano (D, 2003–09), and Jan Brewer (R, 2009–15). Arizona has also elected the third most women (21) to statewide executive positions.

### # of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER AZ OFFICES</td>
<td>2 of 10</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## State Legislature

### Women State Legislators

Arizona’s State Senate has the highest share of female members, 46.7%, of any state legislative chamber in the United States. Overall, 38.9% of Arizona state legislators are women. Debbie Lesko (R) serves as the President pro temp of the Arizona Senate. Arizona’s state house uses multi-member districts.

### % of State Legislative Seats Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cities and Counties

### Female Mayors and County Executives

Of Arizona’s 29 cities with a population of at least 30,000, six have female mayors. Arizona’s second largest county, Pima County, has a woman chair of the board of supervisors.

## Total

32.4

PARITY = 50

### Sources:

- Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
- Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Arkansas

**State Ranking** 44

**Gender Parity Score** 10.8

Goal: 50

**The Formula**

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.

### U.S. Congress

**Women in Congress**

Arkansas has elected two women to the U.S. Senate and four to the U.S House. Blanche Lincoln’s (D) 2004 Senate victory was the last time a woman won an Arkansas congressional election. At 38, Lincoln remains the youngest woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate.

### Statewide Executive Offices

**Women Statewide Executives**

In 2014, two women were elected to statewide executive office: Attorney General Leslie Rutledge (R) and State Auditor Andrea Lea (R). Arkansas has never elected a female governor or lieutenant governor.

### State Legislature

**Women State Legislators**

The share of women in Arkansas’ state legislature has roughly doubled, from ten to nineteen percentage points, since 1993. 76% of female state legislators are Republicans and 24% are Democrats.

### Cities and Counties

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Four of Arkansas’ 14 cities with a population of at least 30,000 have women mayors. None of Arkansas’ five largest counties have female county judges.

### Total

10.8

PARITY = 50

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
California

VOTING SYSTEMS IN CALIFORNIA

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMAR Y TYPE
Nonpartisan

WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
Yes

California Gender Parity Score History

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.

U.S Congress

19.8 /30 points

Women in Congress
In 2016, Senator Kamala Harris (D) replaced Barbara Boxer (D), who retired after four terms. Harris joins Diane Feinstein (D), who was first elected in 1992, in the U.S. Senate. In 2016, 27 female congressional candidates ran in the general election, with 17 winning.

Statewide Executive Offices

1.1 /30 points

Women Statewide Executives
The Golden State’s sole elected female statewide executive is Controller Betty Yee (D), who was elected in 2014. No woman has ever served as either governor or lieutenant governor in California.

State Legislature

6.1 /30 points

Women State Legislators
California was an early leader in electing women to the state legislature, electing three women in 1918. However, since 2003, the share of women in the state legislature has dropped eight points, from 30% to 22%. Roughly 77% of female legislators are Democrats, and 23% are Republicans.

Cities and Counties

3.2 /10 points

Women Mayors and County Executives
Of the 243 cities in California with at least 30,000 people, 67 (28.6%) have female mayors. In cities with ranked choice voting, women are elected at a higher rate. In cities with RCV, over half of city councilors and three-quarters of mayors are women. Meanwhile, out of California’s five largest counties, two (San Diego and Orange) have female chairs.

# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>2 of 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>17 of 53</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other CA Offices</td>
<td>1 of 7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women

- 1993: 23%
- 2017: 22%

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.

California Gender Parity Score History

1993: 23.6
2003: 36.1
2014: 34.1
2015: 35.0
2016: 34.2
2017: 30.2

Parity = 50
Colorado

VOTING SYSTEMS IN COLORADO

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**Primary Type**

**Semi-closed**

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

**Yes**

**THE FORMULA**

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.

**U.S Congress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SENATE</strong></td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOUSE</strong></td>
<td>1 of 7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Women in Congress**

Although Colorado did not elect a woman to Congress until 1972, it has elected at least one woman to the U.S. House every cycle since then. In 2016, Diane DeGette (D-01) won her 11th term. Colorado has never had a female U.S. Senator.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOVERNOR</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER CO OFFICES</strong></td>
<td>2 of 4</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Women Statewide Executives**

No woman has ever served as Governor of Colorado, but three women have served as lieutenant governor. Currently, the two elected female statewide executive officials are Lt. Governor Donna Lynne (D) and Attorney General Cynthia Coffman (R).

**State Legislature**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Women State Legislators**

Colorado has the third highest share of female state legislators, with women making up roughly 39% of members. Crisanta Duran (D) serves as the Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives. About 72% of female legislators are Democrats and 28% are Republicans.

**Cities and Counties**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Of Colorado’s 24 cities with at least 30,000 people, seven (29.2%) have female mayors, and three (Arapahoe, Jefferson, and Adams) of Colorado’s five largest counties have female county commission chairs.

**TOTAL**

| Total | 24.2 | 100 points | PARITY = 50 |

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
**Connecticut**

**Grade:** C

**State Ranking:** 11

**Gender Parity Score:** 26.2

**Goal:** 50

---

### Voting Systems in Connecticut

**Single-Winner Districts Winner Take All**

**Primary Type:** Semi-open

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?** Yes

---

**State Ranking:**

- **1993:** 10.7
- **2003:** 17.0
- **2014:** 26.6
- **2015:** 26.5
- **2016:** 25.9
- **2017:** 26.2

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.

---

**U.S. Congress**

#### Women in Congress

Since 1985, Connecticut has sent at least one woman to Congress. However, it has not elected a female U.S. Senator. Currently, the two female members of Connecticut’s delegation are Rosa DeLauro (D-03) and Elizabeth Esty (D-05).

**# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>2 of 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Statewide Executive Offices**

#### Women Statewide Executives

Ella Grasso (D, 1975-80), Connecticut’s first female governor, was the first woman elected governor of a U.S. state who was not married to a previous governor. Of the 19 women elected to statewide executive office, 14 served as secretary of state.

**# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other CT Offices</td>
<td>3 of 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**State Legislature**

#### Women State Legislators

While the share of women elected to Connecticut’s General Assembly has been above the national average (24.9%) for 40 years, it has dropped two points since 2003, from 29% to 27%. In the state legislature, 54% of female legislators are Democrats, and 46% are Republicans.

**% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women**

- **1993:** 22%
- **2017:** 27%

---

**Cities and Counties**

#### Women Mayors

Of Connecticut’s 31 cities with a population of at least 30,000, six have female mayors. Connecticut’s second largest city, New Haven, elected its first female mayor, Toni Harp (D), in 2013. The Nutmeg State does not have county governments.

---

**Total**

**26.2**

**Parity = 50**

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
In 2016, Delaware elected its first woman to Congress. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D) won Delaware's lone U.S. House seat. Rochester is also the first African-American to represent Delaware in the U.S. Congress.

Ruth Ann Minner (D) served as governor from 2001 to 2009. Delaware's lone elected female statewide executive is Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D) who was elected in 2016.

Since 2003, the share of women in Delaware's state legislature has dropped ten percentage points, from 29% to 19%. Within the legislature, 77% of female legislators are Democrats and 23% are Republicans.

Of Delaware's five largest cities, two have female mayors: Newark and Smyrna. None of Delaware's three counties have women county commission chairs.

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.

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Florida

**State Ranking**

24

**Gender Parity Score**

18.9

Goal: 50

**Voting Systems in Florida**

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**Primary Type**

Closed

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

Yes

**U.S. Congress**

**Women in Congress**

3.9

/30 points

Since 1993, at least four women have been elected to the U.S. House from Florida every election cycle. Of Florida’s seven congresswomen, six are Democrats, while Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-27) is the dean of Florida’s congressional delegation and lone Republican congresswoman.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

3.6

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Attorney General Pam Bondi (R) is the only female elected statewide executive officer in Florida. She is the first and only woman to serve as attorney general. No woman has ever served as Governor of Florida.

**State Legislature**

7.6

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

As a result of the 2016 elections, 26% of Florida state legislators are women. Anitere Flores (R) serves as the President pro Temp of the state senate. Within the legislature, 54% of female members are Republicans and 46% are Democrats.

**Cities and Counties**

3.8

/10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Of Florida’s 89 cities with at least 30,000 people, 24 (27%) have female mayors. Three of Florida’s five largest counties (Broward, Palm Beach, and Orange) are lead by female mayors.

**Total**

18.9

/100 points

Parity = 50

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Georgia

**Voting Systems in Georgia**

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**Primary Type**

Open

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

Yes

**Gender Parity Score**

8.9

Goal: 50

**State Ranking**

48

**Parity Formula**

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.

**U.S Congress**

0.0

/30 points

**Women in Congress**

Rebecca Latimer Felton (D, 1922) was the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate and remains Georgia’s only female U.S. Senator, but her appointment was largely symbolic as she only served one day. The last woman to win a Georgia congressional election was Cynthia McKinney (D-04) in 2004.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

0.0

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Georgia did not elect a woman to statewide executive office until 1995. Currently, all twelve statewide executive officials are men. Of the five women elected, two served as superintendent of schools, two served as secretary of state, and one served as public service commissioner.

**State Legislature**

6.5

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

While Georgia has historically lagged in terms of women’s representation in the state legislature, it now ranks 24th nationally. Just under 26% of Georgia’s state legislators are women. Within the legislature, 66% of female members are Democrats and 34% are Republicans.

**Cities and Counties**

2.4

/10 points

**Female Mayors and County Executives**

Of Georgia’s 31 cities with at least 30,000 people, eight have female mayors. Charlotte Nash (R) serves as the chairwoman of the county board of commissioners in Gwinnett County, Georgia’s second largest county.

**Total**

8.9

/100 points

**Parity = 50**

**Georgia Gender Parity Score History**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Hawaii

**VOTING SYSTEMS IN HAWAII**

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**PRIMARY TYPE**

Open

**WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?**

Yes

---

**U.S. CONGRESS**

**Women in Congress**

Mazie Hirono (D) was elected as Hawaii’s first female U.S. Senator in 2012. Hawaii’s two congresswomen are Colleen Hanabusa (D-01) and Tulsi Gabbard (D-02). Gabbard was also the first Hindu member of Congress.

**STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

**Women Statewide Executives**

Linda Lingle (R, 2003-11) was Hawaii’s first and only female governor, while Jean King (D, 1978-82) and Mazie Hirono (D, 1994-2002) were Hawaii’s only female lieutenant governors.

**STATE LEGISLATURE**

**Women State Legislators**

From 1997 to 2011, the percentage of women in Hawaii’s state legislature consistently increased to a peak of 35.5% in 2012. Since 2012, it has dropped to 28%. Within the legislature, 81% of female members are Democrats and 19% are Republicans.

**CITIES AND COUNTIES**

**Women Mayors**

Out of Hawaii’s four consolidated city-counties, none have female mayors.

---

**HAWAII GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY**

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.

**THE FORMULA**

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.

---

**SOURCES:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**NOTE:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Idaho

**State Ranking**

45

**Gender Parity Score**

10.0

Goal: 50

**Voting Systems in Idaho**

Multi/Single-Winner Districts

Winner Take All

**Primary Type**

Semi-open

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

No

---

**U.S. Congress**

0.0

/30 points

**Women in Congress**

Idaho has elected two women to the U.S. House: Helen Chenoweth (R, 1995–2001) and Gracie Pfost (D, 1953–1963). Idaho has never sent a woman to the U.S. Senate.

---

**Statewide Executive Offices**

0.5

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Sherri Ybarra (R) is Idaho’s Superintendent of Public Instruction and the lone elected female statewide executive officer. No woman has ever been elected governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, or attorney general in Idaho.

---

**State Legislature**

8.2

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

Idaho ranked 7th in the nation in terms of women’s representation in state legislatures back in 1993 with women holding roughly 31% of seats. Progress has stalled, however, as women hold roughly 30% of seats now, which places Idaho 11th. Within the legislature, 66% of female legislators are Republicans and 34% are Democrats.

---

**Cities and Counties**

1.3

/10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Just two of Idaho’s ten cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors: Meridian and Idaho Falls. None of Idaho’s five largest counties have female county commission chairs.

---

**Total**

10.0

/100 points

**Parity = 50**

---

**Source:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Illinois

GENDER PARITY INDEX 2017

REPRESENTATION 20/20

STATE RANKING
13

GENDER PARITY SCORE
25.6
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Illinois elected Tammy Duckworth (D) to the U.S. Senate in 2016. Currently, Illinois has three congresswomen: Robin Kelly (D-02), Jan Schakowsky (D-09), and Cheri Bustos (D-17). Carol Moseley Braun (D, 1993-99) was the first black woman elected to the U.S. Senate.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>3 of 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Susana Mendoza (D) became Illinois Comptroller in 2016, after she defeated the incumbent, Leslie Munger (R), in a special election. She joins Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti (R) and Attorney General Lisa Madigan (D) as elected female statewide executive officials in Illinois.

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER IL OFFICES</td>
<td>3 of 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
Since 1993, the share of women in Illinois’ state legislature has risen from 23% to 36%. Barbara Flynn Currie (D) serves as the House Majority Leader, while Christine Radogno (R) is the Senate Minority Leader. Within the legislature, 73% of female legislators are Democrats and 27% are Republicans.

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Of Illinois’ 65 cities with populations over 30,000, fourteen (21.5%) have female mayors. Since 2010, Toni Preckwinkle (D) has served as the county board president of Cook County, the nation’s second most populous county.

TOTAL

25.6

PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
**VOTING SYSTEMS IN INDIANA**

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**PRIMARY TYPE**

Semi-open

**WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?**

No

---

**THE FORMULA**

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.

---

**U.S CONGRESS**

**Women in Congress**

Jackie Walorski (R-02) and Susan Brooks (R-05) are the two female members of Indiana’s congressional delegation. The Hoosier State has never elected a woman to the U.S. Senate.

**# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>2 of 9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

**Women Statewide Executives**

A majority of elected statewide executive officeholders are women. Currently, Suzanne Crouch (R) serves as lt. governor, Connie Larson (R) serves as secretary of state, Kelly Mitchell (R) serves as treasurer, and Tera Klutz (R) serves as auditor. However, Klutz was appointed to fill a vacancy and does not factor into the score.

**# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER IN OFFICES</td>
<td>4 of 6</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATE LEGISLATURE**

**Women State Legislators**

The proportion of women in Indiana’s state legislature has lagged behind the national average (24.9%) for the past two decades. After the 2016 elections, women only made up 19% of the state legislature, the same number in 1993. 55% of female legislators are Republicans, while 45% are Democrats.

**% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CITIES AND COUNTIES**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Only one of Indiana’s 31 cities with at least 30,000 people has a female mayor. The second and third most populous counties, Allen and Hamilton, have elected female county commission chairs.

---

**TOTAL**

16.4 /100 points PARITY = 50

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Iowa

VOTING SYSTEMS IN IOWA

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Semi-closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
No

STATE RANKING
26

GENDER PARITY SCORE
18.5

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

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.

U.S. CONGRESS

5.7

Women in Congress

Senator Joni Ernst (R) is the only woman Iowa has ever sent to Congress. Iowa is one of six states to have never elected a woman to the U.S. House. In 2016, Patty Judge (D) challenged and lost to Senator Chuck Grassley (R).

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

3.6

Women Statewide Executives

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds (R) is expected to be Iowa’s first female governor as Terry Branstad is President Trump’s nominee for U.S. Ambassador to China. A woman has been the Lt. Governor of Iowa since 1987. Mary Mosiman (R) serves as Iowa Auditor of State.

STATE LEGISLATURE

7.5

Women State Legislators

In 1993, the share of women in Iowa’s state legislature was roughly 15%, and it is now 22%. Linda Upmeyer (R) serves as the Speaker of the Iowa House of Representatives. In the legislature, 71% of female legislators are Democrats and 29% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

1.8

Women Mayors and County Executives

One (6.7%) of Iowa’s 15 cities with a population of at least 30,000 has a female mayor. After the 2016 elections, two women were elected chair of the board of supervisors in Scott and Johnson counties, the second and third most populous Iowa counties respectively.

Total

18.5

PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Kansas

**VOTING SYSTEMS IN KANSAS**

**Single-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

**Primary Type**

**Semi-closed**

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

**No**

---

**U.S. CONGRESS**

**Women in Congress**

Lynn Jenkins (R-02) is the sole woman in Kansas’ congressional delegation. Nancy Kassebaum (R, 1978-97) was the first woman to be elected to a full U.S. Senate term without her husband having previously served in Congress.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

**Women Statewide Executives**

The last female statewide executive officeholder in Kansas, Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger (R), retired from her position in 2014. The last woman governor was Kathleen Sebelius (D, 2003-09), who became President Obama’s first Health and Human Services Secretary.

**State Legislature**

**Women State Legislators**

The percentage of women in the Kansas Legislature has slightly decreased since 1993, from 29% to 28% in 2017. Susan Wagle (R) has served as the President of the Kansas Senate since 2013. Within the legislature, 60% of female members are Republicans and 40% are Democrats.

**Cities and Counties**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Five (38.5%) of Kansas’ 13 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors, but none of Kansas’ five most populous counties have women chairs of county commissions.

---

**Total**

**20.7**

**Parity = 50**

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts
Kentucky

Grade: D

**State Ranking:** 42

**Gender Parity Score:** 10.8 /100 points

**Goal:** 50

** Voting Systems in Kentucky **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single-Winner Districts</th>
<th>Winner Take All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Type</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Legislative Caucus?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Kentucky Gender Parity Score History **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

** U.S Congress **

Women in Congress

Kentucky has elected two women to the U.S. House: Katherine Gudger Langley (R, 1927–31) and Anne Northup (R, 1997–2007). Kentucky has never elected a woman to the U.S. Senate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>115th Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Statewide Executive Offices **

Women Statewide Executives

Currently, the Bluegrass State has three elected female statewide executives: Lt. Governor Jenean Hampton (R), Attorney General Alison Lundergan Grimes (D), and Treasurer Allison Ball (R).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER KY OFFICES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** State Legislature **

Women State Legislators

In 1993, women held only four percent of seats in Kentucky’s state legislature. In 2017, women hold roughly 17% of state legislature seats. 52% of female legislators are Republicans, and 48% of female legislators are Democrats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Cities and Counties **

Women Mayors and County Executives

Just one of Kentucky’s nine cities with a population of at least 30,000 has a female mayor, while none of Kentucky’s five most populous counties have a county judge.

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
### U.S. Congress

**Women in Congress**

Three-term Senator Mary Landrieu (D) lost her seat in 2014. Congresswoman Lindy Boggs (D, 1973–91) was the first woman to preside over a major political convention (1976 Democratic National Convention).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>0 of 6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statewide Executive Offices

**Women Statewide Executives**

In 2003, Kathleen Blanco (D) was elected as Louisiana’s first female governor. She only served one term. The first woman elected as a statewide executive official was Lucille May Grace (D). She won the (now defunct) position of Register of State Lands in 1932 and held the position until 1952.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other LA Offices</td>
<td>0 of 6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### State Legislature

**Women State Legislators**

Since 1993, Louisiana’s share of women in its state legislature has roughly doubled, from 8% to 15%. Exactly half of Louisiana’s female legislators are Republicans and half are Democrats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cities and Counties

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Just two of Louisiana’s 13 cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors, and two of Louisiana’s five most populous parishes (St. Tammany and Ouachita) have a female president.

### Total

**9.1 /100 points PARITY = 50**

---

*Sources:* Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

*Note:* Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Maine

VOTING SYSTEMS IN MAINE

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
Yes

REPRESENTATION 20/20

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress

Senator Susan Collins (R) and Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D-01) are the two women in Maine’s congressional delegation. Margaret Chase Smith (R, 1940-1973) was the first woman to serve in both the House and Senate. In 1964, she became the first woman to be placed in nomination for the presidency at a major party’s convention.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Women Statewide Executives

Maine’s only statewide elected executive officer is the governor. Since a woman has never been elected to the governorship, Maine is the only state to have never elected a woman to a statewide executive office. As a result of an initiative approved by voters in 2016, Maine will use ranked choice voting for the 2018 elections.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators

Since 1993, the percentage of female members of the Maine Legislature has increased by roughly two percentage points, from 32% to 34% in 2017. Currently, the Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives is a woman: Sara Gideon (D). In the legislature, 66% of female members are Democrats and 34% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives

Only one (South Portland) of Maine’s five most populous cities has a female mayor, while two (York and Kennebec) of Maine’s five most populous counties have female commission chairs.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER ME OFFICES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>40%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maine Gender Parity Score History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Maine Gender Parity Score 2017

State Ranking
9

Gender Parity Score
28.5

Goal: 50

Grade
C

The Formula

U.S. Congress
18.2 (30 points)

Women in Congress

Women Statewide Executives

Women State Legislators

Women Mayors and County Executives

Total
28.5 (100 points)

Parity = 50

Sources:
Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
## Maryland

**Grade: D**

### VOTING SYSTEMS IN MARYLAND

- **Multi/Single-Winner Districts**
  - *Winner Take All*

### PRIMARY TYPE

- Closed

### WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?

- Yes

### Maryland Gender Parity Score History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

### U.S. Congress

#### Women in Congress

2.5 / 30 points

As a result of the 2016 elections, Maryland lost both of its female members of Congress. Former Representative Donna Edwards (D-04) lost in the primary to replace retiring Senator Barbara Mikulski (D, 1977-2017). Mikulski was the longest serving woman in the history of Congress.

#### Women Statewide Executives

0.0 / 30 points

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (D), the only woman ever elected to statewide executive office in Maryland, served as lieutenant governor from 1995 to 2003.

### State Legislature

#### Women State Legislators

7.8 / 30 points

The percentage of women in Maryland’s state legislature peaked in 2005 at roughly 36%. It has declined to about 32% in 2017. Maryland uses multi-member districts to elect state representatives. Within the legislature, 78% of female members are Democrats and 22% of members are Republicans.

### Cities and Counties

#### Women Mayors and County Executives

1.5 / 10 points

Just two (22.2%) of Maryland’s nine cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors: Baltimore and Rockville. None of Maryland’s five largest counties have women executives.

### Total

11.8 / 100 points

**Parity = 50**

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
# Women in Congress
Senator Elizabeth Warren (D), Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (D-03), and Congresswoman Katherine Clark (D-05) are the three female members of the Bay State’s congressional delegation.

# Women Statewide Executives
Attorney General Maura Healy (D), elected in 2014, became the first openly gay state attorney general. She is joined by three other elected women statewide executive officers: Karyn Polito (R, Lt. Governor), Deb Goldberg (D, Treasurer), and Suzanne Bump (D, Auditor).

# Women State Legislators
The percentage of women in the state legislature has not significantly changed since 1993, rising from 23% to 26% in 2017. Within the Massachusetts General Court, 83% of female members are Democrats and 17% of members are Republicans.

# Women Mayors and County Executives
Ten (18.9%) of Massachusetts’ 53 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. Out of the five most populous counties with county governments in Massachusetts, only Barnstable County has a female commission chair.

---

**U.S. Congress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women in Congress</th>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.3 (30 points)</td>
<td>115th Congress State History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>House</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 of 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Statewide Executive Offices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women Statewide Executives</th>
<th># of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.5 (30 points)</td>
<td>2017 State History</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Governor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other MA Offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 of 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

**State Legislature**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women State Legislators</th>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.7 (30 points)</td>
<td>1993 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20% 22% 24% 26% 28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cities and Counties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women Mayors and County Executives</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.9 (10 points)</td>
<td>25.5 (100 points)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Parity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
U.S. CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Debbie Stabenow (D) is the only woman Michigan has ever elected to serve in the U.S. Senate. Currently, Michigan has two congresswomen, Debbie Dingell (D-12) and Brenda Lawrence (D-14).

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Since 1982, Michigan has elected at least one woman every quadrennial statewide executive election. Ruth Johnson (R) currently serves as the Secretary of State of Michigan. Jennifer Granholm (D, 2003-2011) was Michigan’s only woman governor.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
Michigan’s share of women in the state legislature has gone largely unchanged, moving from 20% in 1993 to 23% in 2017. Currently, Tonya Schuitmaker (R) serves as President pro Tempore of the Michigan Senate. 54% of female legislators are Republicans and 46% are Democrats.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Nine (22.5%) of Michigan’s 40 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. None of the state’s five largest counties have female county executives or commission chairs.

TOTAL
25.8 /100 points  PARITY = 50
Minnesota

VOTING SYSTEMS IN MINNESOTA

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY
TYPE
Open

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE
CAUCUS?
No

State Ranking
5

Gender Parity Score
31.1

Goal: 50

The Formula

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.

U.S Congress

Women in Congress

9.4 /30 points

Amy Klobuchar (D) has been one of Minnesota’s U.S. Senators since 2007. Minnesota’s lone congresswoman is Betty McCollum (D-04). McCollum, in office since 2001, is Minnesota’s second woman elected to Congress.

Statewide Executive Offices

Women Statewide Executives

7.1 /30 points

Although Minnesota has never had a woman governor, its last seven lieutenant governors, including the current one Tina Smith (R), have been women. Smith is joined by two other elected female statewide executives: Attorney General Lori Swanson (D) and State Auditor Rebecca Otto (D).

State Legislature

Women State Legislators

9.4 /30 points

In 1993, roughly 27% of state legislators were women, and in 2017, women make up about 32% of state legislators. Michelle Fischbach (R) serves as the President of the Minnesota Senate. Within the legislature, 57% of female members are Democrats, and 43% are Republicans.

Cities and Counties

Women Mayors and County Executives

5.2 /10 points

About 40% (12 of 31) of Minnesota’s cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors. Betsy Hodges (D) is the Mayor of Minneapolis, the state’s largest city. Hodges cites ranked choice voting as an integral part of her election wins. Moreover, four of Minnesota’s most populous counties have women county commission chairs.

Total

31.1

Parity = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Mississippi

Grade F

STATE RANKING 50

GENDER PARITY SCORE 5.8

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

0.0 /30 points

Women in Congress
Mississippi is one of two states that has never elected a woman to the U.S. Congress. In fact, Mississippi did not have any female party nominees for any congressional race in 2014 and 2016.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

1.6 /30 points

Women Statewide Executives
The Magnolia State has two elected female statewide executive officers. Lynn Fitch (R) serves as the Mississippi Treasurer and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R) serves as the Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce.

STATE LEGISLATURE

4.1 /30 points

Women State Legislators
Just 14% of state legislators are women, while in 1993, women roughly made up 11% of state legislators. Within the legislature, 58% of female members are Democrats and 42% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

0.0 /10 points

Women Mayors and County Executives
Across Mississippi’s nine cities with at least 30,000 people and five most populous counties, zero women hold mayoral offices or chairmanships of county board of supervisors.

TOTAL 5.8 /100 points PARITY = 50

MISSISSIPPI GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

VOTING SYSTEMS IN MISSISSIPPI

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE Open

WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS? No

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.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>0 of 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER MS OFFICES</td>
<td>2 of 7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
MISSOURI GENDER PARITY SCORE

GRADE
D

STATE RANKING
28

GENDER PARITY SCORE
18.3

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

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.

U.S. CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Senator Claire McCaskill (D) was first elected in 2006, Congresswoman Ann Wagner (R-02) was first elected in 2012, and Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler (R-04) was first elected in the GOP wave of 2010, defeating a 17-term Democratic incumbent.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>2 of 8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
In 2016, three Democratic women ran in open races for attorney general, secretary of state, and treasurer but lost. *Currently, Nicole Galloway serves as Missouri State Auditor, but, because she was appointed to finish the term and not elected, her presence does not contribute to the overall score.

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER MO OFFICES</td>
<td>1 of 5*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
The percentage of women in Missouri’s legislature has closely mirrored the national average over the last 24 years, moving from 19% in 1993 to 22% in 2017. Exactly half of female legislators are Democrats, while half are Republicans.

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Four (19%) of Missouri’s 21 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. Across Missouri’s five largest counties, there are no female county executives.

TOTAL
18.3

PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Montana

Grade D

Montana has elected only one woman to Congress: Jeanette Rankin (R). First elected in 1916, she was the first female member of Congress. She eventually served two terms in the House, one from 1917-19 and one from 1941-43.

Women in Congress

Judy Martz (R) was Montana’s only female governor and served from 2001-05. The sole elected female statewide executive is Elsie Arntzen (R), who serves as Montana’s Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Women Statewide Executives

Montana’s share of women in the state legislature has increased from roughly 20% in 1993 to 29% in 2017. 77% of female legislators are Democrats and 23% are Republicans.

Women State Legislators

While none of Montana’s six cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors, two (Missoula and Flathead) of Montana’s five most populous counties have female commission chairs.

Women Mayors and County Executives

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.

The Formula

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.

U.S. Congress

Women in Congress

0.0 /30 points

Montana has elected only one woman to Congress: Jeanette Rankin (R). First elected in 1916, she was the first female member of Congress. She eventually served two terms in the House, one from 1917-19 and one from 1941-43.

Statewide Executive Offices

Women Statewide Executives

0.5 /30 points

Judy Martz (R) was Montana’s only female governor and served from 2001-05. The sole elected female statewide executive is Elsie Arntzen (R), who serves as Montana’s Superintendent of Public Instruction.

State Legislature

Women State Legislators

9.0 /30 points

Montana’s share of women in the state legislature has increased from roughly 20% in 1993 to 29% in 2017. 77% of female legislators are Democrats and 23% are Republicans.

Cities and Counties

Women Mayors and County Executives

1.3 /10 points

While none of Montana’s six cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors, two (Missoula and Flathead) of Montana’s five most populous counties have female commission chairs.
Nebraska

**State Ranking**

**31**

**Gender Parity Score**

16.8

Goal: 50

**U.S. Congress**

6.0 /30 points

**Women in Congress**

The Cornhusker State has elected only three women to Congress: two U.S. Senators (Hazel Abel (R) in 1954 and Deb Fischer (R) in 2012) and one representative Virginia Smith (R, 1975–91). Eva Bowring (R) was appointed in 1954 and served less than eight months.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

0.0 /30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Kay A. Orr (R) was the first woman elected to a statewide executive office in Nebraska. In 1982, she was elected Treasurer of Nebraska and served as governor between 1987 and 1991.

**State Legislature**

7.4 /30 points

**Women State Legislators**

Since 1993, the share of women in Nebraska’s unicameral and nonpartisan state legislature has increased from roughly 20% to 27% in 2017.

**Cities and Counties**

3.3 /10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Two (40%) of Nebraska’s five cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors. Out of the five most populous counties, just Douglas County, the state’s largest, has a female commission chair.

**Total**

16.8 /100 points

Parity = 50

**Notes:**

- Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
- Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Grades:**

- 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.
Nevada

VOTING SYSTEMS IN NEVADA
Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
No

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Catherine Cortez Masto (D) became the first Latina U.S. Senator and Nevada’s first female U.S. Senator. Moreover, Jacky Rosen (D) won the open 3rd district, and Dina Titus (D-01) won re-election.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske (R) currently serves as the only elected female statewide executive.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
The share of women in Nevada’s state legislature has increased by 13 percentage points since 1993, from 27% in 1993 to just under 40% in 2017. The share of women in Nevada’s state legislature is the 2nd highest in the nation. Within the legislature, 72% of female members are Democrats and 28% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Just two (33.3%) of Nevada’s six cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors. However, Carolyn Goodman (D) serves as the Mayor of Las Vegas, Nevada’s largest city. Still, none of Nevada’s five largest counties have elected female county executives.

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts
New Hampshire

Grade: A

STATE RANKING
1

GENDER PARITY SCORE
55.4
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S. CONGRESS

28.6
/30 points

Women in Congress
As a result of the 2016 elections, New Hampshire elected its second all-female congressional delegation. Senator Maggie Hassan (D) defeated the incumbent Kelly Ayotte (R). Carol Shea-Porter (D-01) won her old House seat back. Senator Jeanne Shaheen was first elected in 2008, while Ann McLane Kuster (D-02) was first elected in 2012.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

15.0
/30 points

Women Statewide Executives

STATE LEGISLATURE

9.1
/30 points

Women State Legislators
The share of women in New Hampshire’s General Court has dropped from roughly 34% in 1993 to 29% in 2017. Sharon Carson (R) serves as the President pro Tempore of the New Hampshire Senate. Within the legislature, 66% of female members are Democrats and 34% of members are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

2.7
/10 points

Women Mayors and County Executives
Dover, the state’s fifth largest city, is the only city of New Hampshire’s five largest to have a female mayor. Hillsborough and Merrimack Counties have female commission chairs.

TOTAL
55.4
/100 points

PARITY = 50

VOTING SYSTEMS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE
Multi/Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Semi-closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
No

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.

NEW HAMPSHIRE GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>55.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>55.4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
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# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
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<td>GOVERNOR</td>
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<tr>
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% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
New Jersey

Grade: D

STATE RANKING
29

GENDER PARITY SCORE
17.0
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S. CONGRESS

Women in Congress
In 2014, Bonnie Watson Coleman (D) became the first African American woman elected to the U.S. House from New Jersey.

Women Statewide Executives
The only two elected statewide executive offices in New Jersey are governor and lieutenant governor. Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno (R) is running in the gubernatorial election in 2017. Former Governor Christie Todd Whitman (R) served from 1993 to 2001.

Women State Legislators
The share of women in New Jersey’s legislature has more than doubled since 1993 from roughly 13% to 30% in 2017. New Jersey uses multi-member districts to elect state representatives. Within the legislature, 72% of female members are Democrats and 28% are Republicans. Loretta Weinberg (D) serves as the Senate Majority Leader.

Women Mayors and County Executives
Nine (12.2%) of New Jersey’s 74 cities with a population over 30,000 have female mayors. Of New Jersey’s five most populous counties, just Monmouth County has a female county executive.

TOTAL
17.0
Goal: 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
New Mexico

VOTING SYSTEMS IN NEW MEXICO

Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE
Closed

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?
No

STATE RANKING
4

GENDER PARITY SCORE
32.0

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-01) serves as the lone woman in New Mexico’s congressional delegation. Lujan Grisham was first elected in 2012. New Mexico has never sent a woman to the U.S. Senate.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Governor Susana Martinez (R) is the first Hispanic woman governor in the country and was first elected in 2010. Maggie Toulouse Oliver (D) serves as New Mexico Secretary of State. In fact, all 19 secretaries of state since 1923 have been women.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
The proportion of women in New Mexico’s state legislature has increased by nine percentage points since 1993, from just under 20% to roughly 29%. Furthermore, 65% of female legislators are Democrats, and 35% are Republicans. Mary Kay Pappen (D) serves as the President pro Temp of the New Mexico Senate.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Out of New Mexico’s nine cities with at least 30,000 people, just Alamogordo has a female mayor. Out of New Mexico’s five most populous counties, the two largest, Bernalillo and Dona Ana, have a female county commission chair.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>GOVERNOR</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER NM OFFICES</td>
<td>1 of 6</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts
New York State

**Grade:** C

**Gender Parity Score:** 25.4

**State Ranking:** 15

**State History:**
- 1993: Women in Congress: 9.9
- 2003: Women in Congress: 14.8
- 2014: Women in Congress: 17.1
- 2015: Women in Congress: 23.8
- 2016: Women in Congress: 24.4
- 2017: Women in Congress: 25.4

**Voting Systems in New York**
- **Single-Winner Districts:** Winner Take All
- **Primary Type:** Closed
- **Women’s Legislative Caucus?** Yes

**U.S. Congress**

**Women in Congress**
- In 2014, Elise Stefanik (R-21) became the youngest woman elected to Congress. The state’s other eight congresswomen are Kathleen Rice (D-04), Grace Meng (D-06), Nydia Velázquez (D-07), Yvette Clarke (D-09), Carolyn Maloney (D-12), Nita Lowey (D-17), Claudia Tenney (R-22), and Louise Slaughter (D-25).
- Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D) has served in the Senate since 2009.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

**Women Statewide Executives**
- Kathy Hochul (D) became the fourth woman elected as Lieutenant Governor of New York in 2014. No woman has ever been elected governor.

**State Legislature**

**Women State Legislators**
- In 2017, roughly 27% of state legislators are women. In 1993, just under 17% of state legislators were women. Within the legislature, 81% of female members are Democrats and 19% are Republicans.

**Cities and Counties**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**
- The Empire State has 52 cities with at least 30,000 residents, and eight of them have women mayors. Lovely Warren (D) serves as the Mayor of Rochester, New York’s third largest city. Out of the five most populous counties, only Monroe County has a woman county executive.

**Total Gender Parity Score:** 25.4

**Parity Goal:** 50

**Sources:**
- Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
- **Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts
North Carolina

STATE RANKING
19

GENDER PARITY SCORE
22.4

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress

4.8 /30 points

After redistricting in 2016, Renee Ellmers (R-02) lost in a GOP primary to another congressman. As a result, North Carolina only has two congresswomen: Virginia Foxx (R-05) and Alma Adams (D-12).

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

8.5 /30 points

Women Statewide Executives

Secretary of State Elaine Marshall (D) is the first woman elected to a statewide executive office in North Carolina and has held her position since 1997. Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry (R) and State Auditor Beth Wood (D) join Marshall as female elected statewide executive officials.

STATE LEGISLATURE

6.9 /30 points

Women State Legislators

The proportion of women in North Carolina’s state legislature has increased by six percentage points since 1993, from 18% to 24% in 2017.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

2.2 /10 points

Women Mayors and County Executives

North Carolina’s three largest cities, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Greensboro all have female mayors. In total, just seven (22.6%) of North Carolina’s 31 cities with a population over 30,000 have female mayors. Meanwhile, out of North Carolina’s five most populous counties, just Mecklenburg County, the state’s largest, has a chairwoman of the board of county commissioners.

TOTAL

22.4 /100 points

PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.

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Women Statewide Executives

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Women Mayors and County Executives

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North Dakota

Grade

STATE RANKING

3

4

GENDER PARITY SCORE

14.2

Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

6.7

/30 points

Women in Congress

The Peace Garden State has elected just one woman to Congress, Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D) in 2012. In 1992, Jocelyn Burdick (D) was appointed to the Senate for three months to complete her late husband’s term. North Dakota is one of six states to have never elected a woman to the U.S. House.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

1.6

/30 points

Women Statewide Executives

After the 2016 elections, there are three female elected statewide officials. Kelly Schmidt (R) serves as North Dakota Treasurer, Julie Fedorchak (R) serves as a public service commissioner, and Kirsten Baesler (nonpartisan) serves as North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction.

STATE LEGISLATURE

5.2

/30 points

Women State Legislators

In 1993, about 16% of legislators were women, while roughly 18% of legislators are women in 2017. North Dakota uses multi-member districts to elect state representatives. Within the legislature, 62% of female members are Republicans and 38% are Democrats.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

0.7

/10 points

Women Mayors and County Executives

None of North Dakota’s five largest cities have female mayors. Just one of North Dakota’s five largest counties, Grand Forks, has a chairwoman of the county board of commissioners.

TOTAL

14.2

/100 points

PARITY = 50

VOTING SYSTEMS IN NORTH DAKOTA

Multi/Single-Winner Districts

Winner Take All

PRIMARY TYPE

Open

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS?

No

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.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

115th Congress State History

SENATE

1 of 2

2

HOUSE

0 of 1

0

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

2017 State History

GOVERNOR

0

0

OTHER ND OFFICES

3 of 12

17

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

1993

20%

16%

14%

1993

18%

18%

18%

18%

18%

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18%
**Ohio**

**STATE RANKING**

| 33 | Gender Parity Score | 14.2 | Goal: 50 |

**VOTING SYSTEMS IN OHIO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single-Winner Districts</th>
<th>Winner Take All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Type</td>
<td>Semi-open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Legislative Caucus?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**U.S. CONGRESS**

**Women in Congress**

Ohio has never elected a female U.S. Senator, and three members of its congressional delegation are women: Joyce Beatty (D-03), Marcy Kaptur (D-09), and Marcia Fudge (D-11). Kaptur, first elected in 1982, is currently the longest-serving woman in Congress.

**STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

**Women Statewide Executives**

Mary Taylor (R) currently serves as lt. governor, and four of Ohio’s last six lt. governors have been women. Ohio has never elected a female governor. Nancy Hollister (R) served as governor for 11 days from 1998-99 when the office was left vacant by Gov. George Voinovich’s ascension to the U.S. Senate.

**STATE LEGISLATURE**

**Women State Legislators**

The proportion of women in Ohio’s state legislature has barely moved since 1993, moving from 21%, to 23% in 2017. Within the legislature, 55% of female members are Democrats and 45% are Republicans.

**CITIES AND COUNTIES**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Eleven (22.4%) of Ohio’s 49 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors, and two of Ohio’s five most populous counties (Montgomery and Summit) have female county executives.

**TOTAL**

| 14.2 | PARITY = 50 |

**OHIO GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
### Oklahoma Gender Parity Index 2017

#### Grade: D

**State Ranking:** 22

**Gender Parity Score:** 20.2

**Goal:** 50

---

### Voting Systems in Oklahoma

- **Single-Winner Districts**
- **Winner Take All**

#### Primary Type:
- Semi-open

#### Women's Legislative Caucus?
- No

### U.S. Congress

#### Women in Congress

The second woman to ever serve in the U.S. Congress and the first ever to defeat an incumbent came from Oklahoma: Alice Mary Robertson (R, 1921-23). The next woman to represent Oklahoma in Congress was Mary Fallin (R, 2007-11).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>115th Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statewide Executive Offices

#### Women Statewide Executives

Mary Fallin (R) serves as Oklahoma’s first female governor. Dana Murphy (R) serves as one of Oklahoma’s Corporation Commissioners, and Joy Hofmeister (R) serves as Superintendent of Public Instruction of Oklahoma.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 State History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER OK OFFICES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### State Legislature

#### Women State Legislators

Since 1993, Oklahoma’s proportion of female state legislators has increased from just over 9.4% to 13% in 2017, although it remains far below the national average of 24.9%. Within the legislature, 63% of female legislators are Republicans and 37% of female legislators are Democrats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cities and Counties

#### Women Mayors and County Executives

Just two (14.3%) of Oklahoma’s 14 cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors, while none of Oklahoma’s five most populous counties have female county executives.

| Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017) |
| Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts |

---

**Total Score:** 20.2

**Parity:** 50
Oregon

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>1 of 5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER OR OFFICES</td>
<td>1 of 4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women in Congress
Oregon has not elected a woman to the U.S. Senate since Maurine Brown Neuberger (D) served one term after her 1960 election. No major party has nominated a woman to run for the Senate in more than two decades. Oregon’s lone congresswoman is Suzanne Bonamici (D-01).

Women Statewide Executives
In 2015, Kate Brown (D) became governor after the resignation of the incumbent. In 2016, Brown won the special election and became Oregon’s second woman governor and the first openly bisexual governor in the country. The other elected female statewide executive is Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum (D).

Women State Legislators
In Oregon, 33% of state legislators are women. Tina Kotek (D) serves as the Speaker of the House and Jennifer Williamson (D) serves as House Majority Leader. State Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson (D) serves as President pro Temp and Ginny Burdick (D) serves as Senate Majority Leader.

Women Mayors and County Executives
Only four (23.5%) of Oregon cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors. The Beaver State’s largest county, Multnomah County, has a female county chair.

OREGON GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>27.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>23.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>29.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

The Formula
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.

Oregon’s Gender Parity Score of 29.7 indicates that women and men are not equally likely to hold elected office in Oregon. The states with the highest scores are those that have elected women to all major offices, as well as those that have a high percentage of women in state legislatures and cities.

U.S. Congress

- **Women in Congress**: 2.8/30 points

  - **Senate**: 0 of 2
  - **House**: 1 of 5

Statewide Executive Offices

- **Women Statewide Executives**: 13.8/30 points

  - **Governor**: 1
  - **Other or Offices**: 1 of 4

State Legislature

- **Women State Legislators**: 10.9/30 points

Cities and Counties

- **Women Mayors and County Executives**: 2.2/10 points

TOTAL

- **29.7/100 points**

Sources:
Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note:
Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Pennsylvania

Grade: F

U.S. CONGRESS

Women in Congress
In 2016, Katie McGinty challenged and lost to Republican Senator Pat Toomey. The last woman to serve in the U.S. House from Pennsylvania was Allyson Schwartz (D, 2005–15).

Statewide Executive Offices

Women Statewide Executives
No woman has ever served as governor in Pennsylvania, but four have been elected state treasurer.

State Legislature

Women State Legislators
The percentage of state legislative seats held by women has almost doubled since 1993, from roughly 10% to 19% in 2017. Within the legislature, 53% of female members are Republicans and 47% are Democrats.

Cities and Counties

Women Mayors and County Executives
Just six (17.1%) of Pennsylvania’s 35 cities with at least 30,000 people have female mayors. Out of the five most populous counties in Pennsylvania, just Montgomery County has a female county commissioner.

TOTAL

6.5/100 points  PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Rhode Island

Grade C

STATE RANKING
17

GENDER PARITY SCORE
24.6
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Claudine Schneider (R), the only woman to represent Rhode Island in Congress, served in the U.S. House between 1981 to 1991. She retired to run for the U.S. Senate but lost. No women ran for Congress in 2016.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
In 2014, Gina Raimondo (D) became Rhode Island’s first woman governor. Nelie Gorbea (D) was also elected as the new secretary of state, making her the first Latina elected statewide and the first Latina elected to a statewide executive office in New England.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
Following the 2016 elections, women make up roughly 31% of the state legislature, which is the largest share in state history. M. Teresa Paiva-Weed (D) serves as President of the Rhode Island Senate. Within the legislature, 91% of female members are Democrats and 9% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors
Just two (20%) of Rhode Island’s ten cities with a population over 30,000 have a female mayor. There are no county governments in Rhode Island.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 of 2</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other RI</td>
<td>1 of 4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
South Carolina

Grade: D

STATE RANKING: 23
GENDER PARITY SCORE: 20.0
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

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.

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
The Palmetto State has not elected a woman to Congress since 1990. The first four women to represent South Carolina in Congress were elected in special elections following the deaths of their husbands.

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Former Governor Nikki Haley (R), first elected in 2010, was South Carolina’s first female governor and the nation’s first Indian-American woman governor. She resigned her position in 2017 to become Ambassador to the UN. Molly Mitchell Spearman (R) is South Carolina Superintendent of Education.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
In 2013, South Carolina relinquished its place as the state with the lowest percentage of state legislative seats held by women. Within the legislature, 52% of female members are Democrats and 48% are Republicans.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors and County Executives
Out of South Carolina’s 14 cities with at least 30,000 people, just Mount Pleasant has a woman mayor. Out of the five most populous counties in South Carolina, just Richland County has a female county executive.

TOTAL
20.0 /100 points
PARITY = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)
Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
South Dakota

**Grade:** D

**State Ranking:** 25

**Gender Parity Score:** 18.8

**Goal:** 50

**The Formula**

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.

**U.S. Congress**

**10.0**

/30 points

**Women in Congress**

South Dakota’s lone congresswoman has been a woman since 2004. In 2010, Congresswoman Kristi Noem (R) defeated the incumbent Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D). During the 1950s, two women (one by appointment and the other through a special election) served in the U.S. Senate.

**Statewide Executive Offices**

**2.4**

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Shantel Krebs (R) serves as South Dakota’s Secretary of State, and Kristie Fiegen (R) serves as one of three Public Utilities Commissioners.

**State Legislature**

**5.0**

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

The proportion of women in South Dakota’s state legislature has slightly decreased since 1993, from 20% to 19% in 2017. Multi-member districts are used to elect state representatives. Within the legislature, 86% of female members are Republicans and 14% are Democrats.

**Cities and Counties**

**1.3**

/10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

None of South Dakota’s five largest cities have female mayors, while two of South Dakota’s most populous counties, Pennington and Brown, have female commission chairs.

**Total**

18.8

/100 points

Parity = 50

**# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>1 of 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER SD OFFICES</td>
<td>2 of 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
TENNESSEE GENDER PARITY INDEX 2017

TENNESSEE GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

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.

U.S CONGRESS

**Women in Congress**
Currently, Tennessee has two congresswomen: Diane Black (R-06) and Marsha Blackburn (R-07).

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

**Women Statewide Executives**
Tennessee’s only currently elected executive position is governor. Two women served as public service commissioner, a position eliminated in 1995.

STATE LEGISLATURE

**Women State Legislators**
The share of women in Tennessee’s state legislature stands at 17% in 2017, a five percent increase from 12% in 1993. However, Beth Harwell (R) has served as Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives since 2011. Within the legislature, 59% of female members are Republicans and 41% are Democrats.

CITIES AND COUNTIES

**Women Mayors and County Executives**
Six (25%) of Tennessee’s 24 cities with a population over 30,000 have female mayors, and none of Tennessee’s five most populous counties have women county executives.

TOTAL

**Parity = 50**

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
# Gender Parity Score: 11.6

## U.S. Congress

### Women in Congress
Texas has three congresswomen in its delegation. First elected in 1992, Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-30) serves as the ranking member on the House Science and Technology Committee. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-18) and Kay Granger (R-12), a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, join her in the U.S. Congress.

### Women Statewide Executives
Texas was the second state to elect a female governor. Miriam "Ma" Ferguson (D) was elected twice (1924 and 1932) as a surrogate for her impeached and electorally ineligible husband. Ann Richards (D) lost her re-election campaign in 1994 to President George W. Bush.

## State Legislature

### Women State Legislators
After reaching a peak of 23.8% in 2009, the proportion of women in the state legislature has declined to roughly 20% in 2017. Within the legislature, 62% of female members are Democrats and 38% are Republicans.

## Cities and Counties

### Women Mayors and County Executives
While just ten of the 98 cities with at least 30,000 people in Texas have female mayors, the largest and third largest cities in America with a female mayor are in Texas. Kay Ivy (D) is mayor of San Antonio and Betsy Price (R) is mayor of Fort Worth. Out of the five most populous counties in Texas, only Travis County has a female county judge.

## Total Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Parity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Congress</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide Executive Offices</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Legislature</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities and Counties</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Utah

**Grade:** F

### Gender Parity Score History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Single-Winner Districts</th>
<th>Women in Congress</th>
<th>Women Statewide Executives</th>
<th>Women State Legislators</th>
<th>Women Mayors and County Executives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

### Voting Systems in Utah

- **Single-Winner Districts:** Winner Take All
- **Primary Type:** Semi-closed
- **Women’s Legislative Caucus?** Yes

### U.S. Congress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># of Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women**

- **Senate:** 0 of 2
- **House:** 1 of 4

### Statewide Executive Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other UT Offices</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women**

### State Legislature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cities and Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% of City Executive Seats Held by Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**# of City Executive Seats Held by Women**

- 1993: 0
- 2017: 0

**# of City Executive Seats Held by Women**

### Sources

- Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University
- Ballotpedia
- United States Conference of Mayors
- City and county websites (January 2017)

### Note

Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Vermont

Grade: D

STATE RANKING
35

GENDER PARITY SCORE
14.1
Goal: 50

THE FORMULA

VOTING SYSTEMS IN VERMONT
Multi-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

PRIMAR Y
TYPE
Open

WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE
CAUCUS?
Yes

VERMONT GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

1993: 19.4
2003: 11.5
2014: 11.5
2015: 11.5
2016: 15.5
2017: 14.1

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.

U.S CONGRESS

Women in Congress
Vermont has never elected a woman to Congress. Only Vermont and Mississippi hold that dubious distinction.

# OF U.S. CONGRESS SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENATE</td>
<td>0 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>0 of 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women Statewide Executives
Madeleine Kunin (D, 1985-1991) served as Vermont’s only woman governor. She was also the first Jewish woman to be elected governor of a U.S. state. Currently, Vermont’s only elected female statewide executive officer is Vermont Treasurer Elizabeth Pearce (D).

# OF STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICES HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNOR</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER VT OFFICES</td>
<td>1 of 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE LEGISLATURE

Women State Legislators
Vermont’s state legislature has the highest share (40%) of female members of any state legislature in the nation. Becca Balint (D) serves as Senate Majority Leader, Mitzi Johnson (D) serves as Speaker of the House, and Sarah Copeland-Hanzas (D) serves as House Majority Leader. Vermont uses multi-member districts for to elect in both chambers.

% OF STATE LEGISLATIVE SEATS HELD BY WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CITIES AND COUNTIES

Women Mayors
Out of Vermont’s five largest cities only South Burlington has an elected female executive. Helen Riehle serves as the chair of the city council. There are no county governments in Vermont.

TOTAL
14.1

Parity for Women in Politics

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Virginia

**State Ranking**

40

**Gender Parity Score**

11.4

*Goal: 50*

**Voting Systems in Virginia**

- **Single-Winner Districts**
  - **Winner Take All**

**Primary Type**

- Semi-open

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**

- No

---

**U.S. Congress**

1.4

/30 points

**Women in Congress**

First elected in 2014, Barbara Comstock (R-10) serves as Virginia’s only woman in Congress. In 2016, Comstock defeated LuAnn Bennett (D).

**Statewide Executive Offices**

0.0

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Mary Sue Terry (D) is the only woman elected to statewide executive office. She served as attorney general from 1986 to 1993. State Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel (R) is running for Lt. Governor in 2017 and is seen as the frontrunner in the GOP primary.

**State Legislature**

5.9

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

The percentage of Virginia state legislative seats held by women has consistently trailed the national average (24.9%). In 1993, women held just 12% of seats, while in 2017, women held 19% of seats. Within the legislature, 74% of female members are Democrats, and 26% are Republicans.

**Cities and Counties**

4.1

/10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Just four (22.2%) of Virginia’s 18 cities with a population of at least 30,000 have female mayors. However, four of Virginia’s five most populous counties (Fairfax, Loudon, Chesterfield, and Henrico) have a female county commission chair.

---

**Total**

11.4

/100 points

**Parity: 50**

**Virginia Gender Parity Score History**

- 1993: 4.3
- 2003: 7.8
- 2014: 4.5
- 2015: 8.5
- 2016: 9.8
- 2017: 11.4

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.

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Washington

Grade B

Gender Parity Score 42.6

Goal: 50

The Formula

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.

State Ranking 2

Voting Systems in Washington

Multi/Single-Winner Districts
Winner Take All

Primary Type Nonpartisan
Top-Two

Women's Legislative Caucus? No

Washington Gender Parity Score History


17.7 28.9 42.5 43.8 45.6 42.6

WASHINGTON GENDER PARITY SCORE HISTORY

U.S. Congress

Women in Congress

In 2016, Washington re-elected three congresswomen: Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R), Jaime Herrera Beutler (R), and Susan DelBene (D). Senator Patty Murray (D) won her fifth term. Also, Priya Jayapal (D) won the open 7th District.

# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>2 of 2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>4 of 10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statewide Executive Offices

Women Statewide Executives

In 2016, Washington elected two new women to statewide executive offices. Pat McCarthy (D) was elected State Auditor and Hilary Franz (D) was elected Commissioner of Public Lands. Secretary of State Kim Wyman (R) won a second term.

# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other WA Offices</td>
<td>3 of 8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Legislature

Women State Legislators

Since 1993, the share of women elected to the Washington State Legislature has slightly decreased by four percentage points, from 40% to 36%, in 2017. Within the state legislature, 65% of members are Democrats and 35% are Republicans.

% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women

40% 36%

1993 2017

Cities and Counties

Women Mayors and County Executives

Out of the 38 Washington cities with at least 30,000 people, 11 currently have female mayors. The largest city with a female mayor is Tacoma, Washington’s third largest city. Marylin Strckland is currently in her second term as mayor.

Total

42.6 /100 points  Parity = 50

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

Note: Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
West Virginia

**State Ranking**
36

**Gender Parity Score**
12.3

**Goal:** 50

---

**U.S. Congress**

**Women in Congress**
Shelley Moore Capito (R) was first elected to the Senate in 2014. Capito also served in the U.S. House for 14 years (2001-2015).

---

**Statewide Executive Offices**

**Women Statewide Executives**
With the defeat of Natalie Tennant (D, Secretary of State) in the 2016 elections, West Virginia is left without a woman elected to a statewide executive office.

---

**State Legislature**

**Women State Legislators**
Since 1993, the share of women in the state legislature has dropped from roughly 16% to 13% in 2017. West Virginia uses multi-member districts to elect both chambers. Furthermore, 89% of female members are Republicans and 11% are Democrats.

---

**Cities and Counties**

**Women Mayors and County Executives**
Out of West Virginia’s five most populous cities, only Morgantown has a woman mayor. Meanwhile, out of the Mountain State’s five most populous counties, only Cabell County has a female county commission president.

---

**Total**
12.3

**Parity:** 50

---

**Voting Systems in West Virginia**

**Multi-Winner Districts**

**Winner Take All**

---

**Primary Type**
Semi-closed

**Women’s Legislative Caucus?**
Yes

---

**The Formula**

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.

---

Sources:
Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Notes:**
Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
**Wisconsin**

**State Ranking:** 27

**Gender Parity Score:** 18.3

**Goal:** 50

---

### U.S. Congress

**Women in Congress**

Wisconsin has elected two women to Congress, both of whom are currently in office: Senator Tammy Baldwin (D) and Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-04). Baldwin served in the U.S. House (1999-2013) before her election as the first openly gay Senator in 2012.

**# of U.S. Congress Seats Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>115th Congress</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>1 of 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Statewide Executive Offices

**Women Statewide Executives**

Rebecca Kleefisch (R) serves as Wisconsin’s Lieutenant Governor. All three lieutenant governors, elected since 2000, have been women.

**# of Statewide Executive Offices Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>State History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other WI Offices</td>
<td>1 of 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### State Legislature

**Women State Legislators**

In 1993, the percentage of Wisconsin state legislators who were women was 27%, roughly seven percentage points higher than the national average. In 2017, that share stands at 23%. Also, 61% of female legislators are Democrats and 39% are Republicans.

**% of State Legislative Seats Held by Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Cities and Counties

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

Just three (11.5%) of Wisconsin’s 26 cities with populations over 30,000 have female mayors. None of Wisconsin’s five most populous counties have female county executives.

---

**Total Score:** 18.3

**Parity:** 50

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
Wyoming

**State Ranking**

20

**Gender Parity Score**

21.2

Goal: 50

---

**U.S. Congress**

10.0

/30 points

**Women in Congress**

Wyoming did not send any women to Congress until 1994. Since then, Wyoming has elected a Republican woman to its lone House seat every election. Congresswoman Liz Cheney (R) won her first election in 2016.

---

**Statewide Executive Offices**

2.9

/30 points

**Women Statewide Executives**

Cynthia Cloud (R) serves as Wyoming State Auditor and Jillian Balow (R) serves as Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction. In fact, twelve of the 20 women elected to statewide executive office were elected as superintendents of public instruction.

---

**State Legislature**

3.0

/30 points

**Women State Legislators**

After Wyoming switched from multi-winner state legislative districts to single-winner legislative districts in the early 1990s, the share of seats held by women fell below the national average. In 1993, the share was 24%, while in 2017 the share is just 11%, the lowest in the country. In the legislature, 60% of female members are Republicans.

---

**Cities and Counties**

5.3

/10 points

**Women Mayors and County Executives**

With recent elections, four of Wyoming’s five largest cities have female mayors. On the other hand, none of Wyoming’s five most populous counties have female chairman of county commissioners.

---

**Total**

21.2

/100 points

**Parity = 50**

---

**The Formula**

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.

---

**Sources:** Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, Ballotpedia, United States Conference of Mayors and city and county websites (January 2017)

**Note:** Due to rounding, the total score may not exactly equal the sum of the four parts.
U.S. TERRITORIES

Did you know?

District of Columbia
Mayor: Muriel Bowser (D) has served as mayor since 2015. Sharon Pratt Kelly served as mayor from 1991-1995. She was also the first African American woman to serve as mayor of a major American city.
City Council: Four (31%) of the District's 13 city council members are women.
Delegate to the U.S. House: Eleanor Holmes Norton has served as the District's one non-voting representative in Congress since 1991. She is the second person to hold this position.

Guam
Governor: No woman has ever served as governor of Guam.
Legislature: Five (33%) of the 15 seats in Guam's legislature are filled by women. Therese M. Terlaje currently serves as the Vice-Speaker.
Mayors: Dededo, Tamuning and Barrigada, Guam's first, third and fifth largest villages respectively, all have female mayors.
Delegate to the U.S. House: Since 2003, Madeleine Bordallo (D) has served as the first woman non-voting delegate from Guam.

U.S. Virgin Islands
Governor: A woman has never served as governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.
Legislature: Three (20%) of 15 seats are held by women.
Delegate to the U.S. House: Stacey Plaskett (D) currently serves as the delegate to the U.S. House starting in 2015. Her predecessor, Donna Christian-Christensen, served from 1997 to 2015.

Northern Mariana Islands
Governor: A woman has never served as governor of the Northern Mariana Islands.
Commonwealth Legislature: Two (10%) of 20 House seats held by women, one (11.1%) of nine Senate seats held by women.
Delegate to the U.S. House: The post of delegate to the U.S. House has been filled by men since its creation in 2008.

Puerto Rico
Governor: Sila Calderon of the Popular Democratic Party served as the first and only woman governor of Puerto Rico from 2001 to 2005. Prior to her election as governor, she had served as Secretary of State and as the Mayor of San Juan.
Legislative Assembly: Seven of 27 (26%) Senate seats are held by women, 7 of 51 (14%) of House seats are held by women. 16 senators are elected in two-member districts, and 11 senators are elected at-large by a fair representation voting method. The House is elected primarily from single-member districts, with some add-on seats to provide representation to smaller parties.
Mayors: The current mayor of San Juan, the territory’s largest city, is Carmen Yulin Cruz, who was elected in 2012. The current mayor of Ponce, the fourth largest city, is Maria Melen-dez.
Resident Commissioner: Jennifer Gonzalez serves as Puerto Rico’s single non-voting member of the U.S. House. First elected in 2016, she is the only woman to hold this position.

American Samoa
Governor: No woman has ever served as governor of American Samoa.
Legislature: Two women out of 39 (5.1%) currently serve in American Samoa’s legislature. Legislators are chosen by election in single-winner districts (House) or by the island chiefs (Senate).
Delegate to the U.S. House: Amata Coleman Radewagen has served as American Samoa’s non-voting Congressional delegate since 2015.