



WOMEN IN POLITICS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

SUE LYNCH, PRESIDENT

In 2010, 90 women serve in the U.S. Congress. A record 17 women serve in the Senate, and 73 women serve in the House. The number of women in statewide elective executive posts is 72, while the proportion of women in state legislatures is 24.4 percent.

Congress

Women hold 90, or 16.8%, of the 535 seats in the 111th U.S. Congress -- 17, or 17.0%, of the 100 seats in the Senate and 73, or 16.8%, of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives.

- Seventeen women (4R,13D) serve in the Senate.
- Seventy-three women (17R, 56D) serve in the House.

“We’re half the people; we should be half the Congress.”

- Jeannette Rankin, first woman elected to Congress

Statewide Elective Executive Offices

In 2010, 72 women hold statewide elective executive offices across the country; women hold 22.9% of the 315 available positions. This is less than the number of women -- 88, or 27.4% -- serving in 2002.

Governor - 6 (3R, 3D)
Lieutenant Governor - 9 (3R, 6D)
Attorney General - 4 (4D)
Secretary of State - 12 (2R, 10D)
State Treasurer - 10 (2R, 8D)
State Comptroller - 4 (2R, 2D)
State Auditor - 8 (3R, 5D)
Chief State Education Official - 5 (1R, 3D, 1NP)
Commissioner of Insurance - 3 (1R, 2D)
Commissioner of Labor - 1R
Corporation Commissioner - 3 (2R, 1D)
Public Service Commissioner - 5 (5D)
Public Regulation Commissioner - 1D
Railroad Commissioner - 1R

State Legislatures

In 2010, 1,799 (24.4%) of the 7,382 state legislators in the United States are women. Women currently hold 435 (22.1%) of the 1,971 state senate seats and 1,364 (25.2%) of the 5,411 state house seats. The number of women serving in state legislatures has increased more than four-fold since 1971.

The states with the highest percentages of women state legislators are:

New Hampshire – 37.5%	Washington – 32.7%
Vermont – 37.2%	Nevada – 31.7%
Colorado – 37.0%	Connecticut – 31.6%
Minnesota – 34.8%	Arizona – 31.1%
Hawaii – 32.9%	Maryland – 30.9%

Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University (Updated: 04/10)