



SUMMARY OF WOMEN CANDIDATES 2008

Number of states where filing deadlines have passed: 50

Number of states where primaries have been held: **50**

U.S. Senate - 7 (4D, 3R)

Won Primary

7 (4D, 3R)

U. S. Senate Races in 2008

In 2008, 33 states have Senate races. In five states (CO, ID, NE, NM, VA) there are open seats because incumbent senators are not seeking reelection. No women are planning to retire.

A total of **7 (4D, 3R) women are candidates in six states.**

3 (1D, 2R) are incumbents: Susan Collins (R-ME); Elizabeth Dole (R-NC); and Mary Landrieu (D-LA).

4 (3D, 1R) are challengers: Vivian Davis Figures (D-AL); Kay Hagan (D-NC); Christine O'Donnell (R-DE); and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).

Six women (3D, 3R) lost Senate primaries.

A record 16 (11D, 5R) women currently serve in the U. S. Senate. The candidate records to beat are the 1992 Senate race in which 29 (22D, 7R) women filed, and 2006 when 12 (8D, 4R) women won their primaries.

U.S. House - 132 (95D, 37R)

(does not include candidates for the four non-voting delegate seats)

Won Primary

132 (95D, 37R)

Lost Primary 82 (54D, 28R)

U.S. House Races in 2008

Of the current 435 House members and 5 Delegates, **39 (9D, 30R)** will be leaving Congress, including five women. Heather Wilson (R-NM) ran for the U.S. Senate but lost her primary; Deborah Pryce (R-OH); Darlene Hooley (D-OR); and Barbara Cubin (R-WY) are retiring; Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH) won her primary but passed away August 20, 2008. (Tubbs Jones was replaced on the ballot by another woman.)

A total of **132 (95D, 37R) women are candidates for House seats**, and three incumbent women, as well as one challenger, are candidates for delegate to Congress from American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam and the Virgin Islands. In Louisiana, one woman is facing an incumbent in a primary runoff; the general election will be held on December 6.

67 (50D, 17R) incumbents are running for re-election.

11 (9D, 2R) women are running in 10 districts with open seats.

54 (36D, 18R) are running as challengers.

A record 222 (140D, 82R) women filed for the U.S. House in 1992. Of the 222 who filed, 106 (70D, 36R) won their parties' primaries. In 2004 a record 141 (88D, 53R) women won their primaries.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL WOMEN CANDIDATES 2008 (continued)

Governor 4 (4D)

Won Primary 4 (4D)
Lost Primary 3 (1D, 2R)

Governor Races in 2008

In 2008, 11 states have gubernatorial races; in four there will be open seats.

Four (4D) women are candidates in four states. One is an incumbent running for re-election: Christine Gregoire (D-WA). The others are: Beverly Perdue (D-NC); Gaye Symington (D-VT); Jill Long Thompson (D-IN).

Eight women currently serve as governors: Jennifer Granholm (D-MI); Christine Gregoire (D-WA); Linda Lingle (R-HI); Ruth Ann Minner (D-DE); Janet Napolitano (D-AZ); Sarah Palin (R-AK); M. Jodi Rell (R-CT) and Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS).

In 1994, a record 34 (18D, 15R, 1ACP) women filed for gubernatorial races and a record 10 (6D, 3R, 1IND) won their primaries. In 2002 and 2006, the record was tied with 10 (9D, 1R) and 10 (5D, 5R) women winning their primaries.

Lieutenant Governor 3 (1D, 2R)

Won Primary 3 (1D, 2R)
Lost Primary 3 (3D)

The record number of nominees for lieutenant governor is 29, set in 1994.

Additional Statewide Elective Executives 29 (21D, 7R, 1NP)

Won Primary 29 (21D, 7R, 1NP)
Lost Primary 11 (9D, 1R, 1NP)

State Legislative Candidates 2,337 (1,546D, 774R, 9NP, 7Prg, 1I)

44 states hold legislative elections in 2008. This year's 2,328 women candidates for state legislative seats set a record for a presidential election year, surpassing the previous record of 2,302 set in 1992. The record number of women running for state legislative seats in a non-presidential year was set in 2006, when 2,429 women ran. (More states hold legislative elections in non-presidential even-numbered years than in presidential election years or odd-numbered years.)

* ACP is A Connecticut Party, a third party in that state that is included here because there was a governor from that party at the time.

A note to users of our information: Please credit the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.