

WOMEN OF COLOR IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1999*
CONGRESS, STATEWIDE, STATE LEGISLATURE**CONGRESSWOMEN — 20 (19D, 1R)**

Of the 65 women serving in the 106th U.S. Congress, 18, or 28%, are women of color; in addition, an African American woman and a Caribbean American woman serve as Delegates to the House from Washington, DC and the Virgin Islands, respectively.

African American (13)

Representative Corrine Brown (D-FL)
Representative Julia M. Carson (D-IN)
Representative Eva Clayton (D-NC)
Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH)
Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI)
Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA)
Representative Cynthia McKinney (D-GA)
Representative Carrie Meek (D-FL)
Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA)

Caribbean American (1)

Delegate Donna Christian-Green (D-VI)

Asian American/Pacific Islander (1)

Representative Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI)

Latina (5)

Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA)
Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)
Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)
Representative Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVES — 5 (5D)

Of the 89 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, 5, or 5.6%, are women of color.

African American (1)

Denise Nappier (D-CT), State Treasurer

Asian American/Pacific Islander (1)

Mazie K. Hirono (D-HI), Lieutenant Governor

Latina (3)

Lynda Lovejoy (D-NM), Public Regulatory Commissioner
Patricia Madrid (D-NM), Attorney General
Rebecca Vigil-Giron (D-NM), Secretary of State

STATE LEGISLATORS — 250 (241D, 9R)

Of the 1,664 women state legislators serving nationwide, 250 or 15.0% are women of color. They include 69 senators and 181 representatives; all but 9 are Democrats. Women of color constitute 3.4% of the total 7,424 state legislators.

African American women hold 172 (171D, 1R) seats in state legislatures. They include 45 senators and 127 representatives serving in 36 states.

Asian American/Pacific Islander women hold 17 (14D, 3R) seats in state legislatures. They include 6 senators and 11 representatives serving in 3 states (HI, OR, WA).

Latinas hold 49 (45D, 4R) seats in state legislatures. They include 17 senators and 32 representatives serving in 16 states (AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, IL, MA, MI, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OR, TX, UT, WA).

Native American women hold 12 (11D, 1R) seats in state legislatures. They include one senator and 11 representatives in 7 states (AK, AR, AZ, CO, GA, MT, OR). In addition, one woman in ME was elected in November 1997 as a non-voting member representing the Penobscot Nation.

* We use "women of color" when referring to African American, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Caribbean American, Latina, and Native American women as a group. We understand that both the terms "women of color" and "minority women" are problematic, but know of no preferable inclusive term.

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