

WOMEN OF COLOR IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 2013*
CONGRESS, STATEWIDE, STATE LEGISLATURE

CONGRESSWOMEN – 30 (28D, 2R)

Of the 99 women serving in the 113th U.S. Congress, 30, or 30.3%, 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. Women of color constitute 4.5% of the total 535 members of Congress.

U.S. Senate

Asian Pacific Islander – 1D
Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI)

U.S. House

African American – 14 (14D)
Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA)
Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-OH)
Rep. Corrine Brown (D-FL)
Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-NY)
Rep. Donna Edwards (D-MD)
Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-OH)
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL)
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI)
Rep. Terri Sewell (D-AL)
Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)
Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL)

Asian Pacific Islander – 6D

Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA)
Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI)
Rep. Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI)
Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA)
Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY)

Latina – 9 (7D, 2R)

Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM)
Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)
Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)
Rep. Gloria Negrette McLeod (D-CA)
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA)
Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)
Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)

U.S. HOUSE DELEGATES

African American – 1D
Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Caribbean American – 1D
Del. Donna Christensen (D-VI)

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVES – 11 (8D, 3R)

Of the 73 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, 11, or 15.1%, are women of color. They include the first two women of color to serve as governors. Women of color constitute 3.5% of the total 318 statewide elective executives.

African American – 2 (2D)

Denise Nappier (D-CT), State Treasurer
Sandra Kennedy (D-AZ), Corp. Commissioner

Asian Pacific Islander – 1R

Nikki Haley (R-SC), Governor

Multi Racial – 1D

Kamala Harris (D-CA), Attorney General

Latina – 5 (3D, 2R)

Dianna Duran (R-NM), Secretary of State
Valerie Espinoza (D-NM), Pub. Reg. Commissioner
Susana Martinez (R-NM), Governor
Karen Montoya (D-NM), Pub. Reg. Commissioner
Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Attorney General

Native American – 2D

Theresa Becenti-Aguilar (D-NM), Pub. Reg. Commissioner
Denise Juneau (D-MT), Superintendent, Public Instruction

STATE LEGISLATORS – 372 (349D, 22R, 1NP)

	African American				Asian Pacific Islander			Latina			Native American			Totals			
	D	R	NP	Tot.	D	R	Tot.	D	R	Tot.	D	R	Tot.	D	R	NP	Tot.
Totals	238	4	1	243	28	6	34	72	10	82	11	2	13	349	22	1	372
Senate	66				8			19			1			94			
House/Assem.	177				26			63			12			278			
States	40 - All except AK, HI, KY, ME, MT, ND, SD, UT, VT, WA				10 - AZ, CA, HI, ID, MA, MD, NH, PA, TX, VT, WA			22 - AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OR, RI, TX, UT, WI			6- AZ, KS, MN, MT, NM, OK			No women of color in AK, KY, ND, SD			

Women of color are 20.8% of the 1,789 women state legislators serving nationwide. They constitute 5.0% of the total 7,383 state legislators. Two women of color currently lead state legislative houses: Senate President Donna Mercado Kim (D-HI, Asian Pacific Islander) and Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver (D-NJ, African American).

* 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. As of 2013, the Center for American Women and Politics is adding the category "multiracial" to our descriptors for women of color, to be used for women who identify with more than one of these groups. Within these broad groupings, our policy is to identify individuals as they choose to be identified.

** NP= election was nonpartisan.

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WOMEN OF COLOR IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 2013 (continued)

MAYORS

In the nation's 100 largest cities, two women of color currently serve as mayors:

African American	Stephanie Rawlings-Blake	Baltimore, MD	2010-present
Asian American/Pacific Islander	Jean Quan	Oakland, CA	2011-present

HISTORY OF WOMEN OF COLOR IN U.S. POLITICS

U.S. SENATE

The only woman of color to serve in the U.S. Senate to date is Carol Moseley Braun (D-IL), an African American who was elected in 1992 and served from 1993-1999.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A total of 42 women of color have served in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition to the women currently serving (listed on the front of this fact sheet), they are:

African American – 16 (16D)			
Shirley Chisholm (D-NY)	1969-83	Denise Majette (D-GA)	2003-2005
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (D-CA)	1973-79	Cynthia McKinney (D-GA)	1993-2003; 2005-2007
Barbara Jordan (D-TX)	1973-79	Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA)	1996-2007
Cardiss Collins (D-IL)	1973-97	Julia Carson (D-IN)	1996-2007
Katie Hall (D-IN)	1982-85	Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH)	1999-2008
Barbara-Rose Collins (D-MI)	1991-97	Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI)	1997-2011
Eva M. Clayton (D-NC)	1992-2003	Diane Watson (D-CA)	2001-2011
Carrie Meek (D-FL)	1993-2003	Laura Richardson (D-CA)	2007-2013
Asian Pacific Islander – 3 (2D, 1R)			
Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI)	1965-77, 1990-2002	Patricia Fukuda Saiki (R-HI)	1987-91
		Mazie Hirono (D-HI)	2007-2013
Latina – 1 (1D)			
Hilda Solis (D-CA)	2001-2009		

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Two women of color currently serve as governors, and four have been lieutenant governors. In addition to the women listed on the front of this fact sheet, women who have served in statewide elective executive offices include:

African American – 7 (3D, 4R)			
Jennifer Carroll (R-FL)	Lieutenant Governor	2011-2013	
Pamela Carter (D-IN)	Attorney General	1993-1999	
Vikki Buckley (R-CO)	Secretary of State	1995-1999	
Karen Freeman-Wilson (D-IN)	Attorney General	2000-2001	
Jennette Bradley (R-OH)	Lieutenant Governor	2003-2005	
Jennette Bradley (R-OH)	State Treasurer	2005-2007	
Velda Jones Potter (D-DE)	State Treasurer	2009-2011	
Asian Pacific Islander – 5 (5D)			
March Fong Eu (D-CA)	Secretary of State	1975-1993	
Jean Sadako King (D-HI)	Lieutenant Governor	1979-1982	
Cheryl Lau (R-NV)	Secretary of State	1991-1995	
Mazie Hirono (D-HI)	Lieutenant Governor	1995-2003	
Mona Pasquil (D-CA)	Acting Lt. Governor	2010-2010	
Latina – 6 (6D)			
Soledad Chacon (D-NM)	Secretary of State	1923-1926	
Margaret Baca (D-NM)	Secretary of State	1931-1934	
Clara Padilla Jones (D-NM)	Secretary of State	1983-1986	
Patricia Madrid (D-NM)	Attorney General	1999-2007	
Rebecca Vigil-Giron (D-NM)	Secretary of State	1987-1990; 1999-2007	
Mary Herrera (D-NM)	Secretary of State	2007-2011	
Susan Castillo (D-OR)	Supt. of Public Instruct.	2003-2012	

STATE LEGISLATURES*

The first women of color to serve in state legislatures, listed in chronological order, were:

African American	Minnie Buckingham Harper (R-WV House) appointed 1929
	Crystal Dreda Bird Fauset (D-PA House) elected 1938
Asian Pacific Islander	Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI Senate) elected 1962
Latina	Fedelina Lucero Gallegos (R-NM House) and Porfirria Hidalgo Saiz (D-NM House) elected 1930
Native American	Cora Belle Reynolds Anderson (R-MI House) elected 1924

Women of color who have previously served in state legislative leadership are:

Asian Pacific Islander	Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI), Senate President 2007-2010
African American	Karen Bass (D-CA), Assembly Speaker, 2008-2010

MAYORS

In the nation's 100 largest cities, in addition to the two women currently serving, women of color who have served as mayors are:

African American					
Lottie Shackelford	Little Rock, AR	1987-1991	Shirley Franklin	Atlanta, GA	2001-2009
Carrie Saxon Perry	Hartford, CT	1987-1993	Yvonne Johnson	Greensboro, NC	2008-2010
Sharon Pratt Kelly	Washington, DC	1991-1995	Sheila Dixon	Baltimore, MD	2007-2010
Sharon Sayles Belton	Minneapolis, MN	1994-2001			
Latina					
Heather Fargo	Sacramento, CA	2001-2009			

* State legislative information from Elizabeth M. Cox, *Women State and Territorial Legislators, 1895-1995*, McFarland & Company, Inc., 1996.