

WOMEN OF COLOR IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 2014* CONGRESS, STATEWIDE, STATE LEGISLATURE

CONGRESSWOMEN – 31 (29D, 2R)

Of the 100 women serving in the 113th U.S. Congress, 31, or 31.0%, 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 5.8% of the total 535 members of Congress.

U.S. Senate

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

U.S. House

African American – 15 (15D)

Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC)
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 – 7 (4D, 3R)

Of the 72 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, 7, or 9.7%, 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 – 1D

Denise Nappier (D-CT), State Treasurer

Asian Pacific Islander – 1R

Nikki Haley (R-SC), Governor

Multi Racial – 1D

Kamala Harris (D-CA), Attorney General

Latina – 3 (1D, 2R)

Dianna Duran (R-NM), Secretary of State

Susana Martinez (R-NM), Governor

Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Attorney General

Native American – 1D

Denise Juneau (D-MT), Superintendent, Public Instruction

STATE LEGISLATORS – 377 (349D, 27R, 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	237	4	1	242	28	6	34	73	15	88	11	2	13	349	27	1	377
Senate	67				8			20			1			96			
House/Assem.	175				26			68			12			281			
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, TN, TX, UT, WI			6 - AZ, KS, MN, MT, NM, OK			No women of color in AK, KY, ND, SD			

Women of color are 21.0% of the 1,792 women state legislators serving nationwide. They constitute 5.1% of the total 7,383 state legislators. One woman of color currently leads a state legislative house: Senate President Donna Mercado Kim (D-HI, Asian Pacific Islander).

* 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 2014 (continued)

MAYORS

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

African American	Stephanie Rawlings-Blake	Baltimore, MD	2010-present
	Ivy Taylor	San Antonio, TX	2014-present
Asian American/Pacific Islander	Jean Quan	Oakland, CA	2011-present
Latina	Nelda Martinez	Corpus Christi, TX	2014-present

HISTORY OF WOMEN OF COLOR IN U.S. POLITICS

U.S. SENATE

The only women of color to serve in the U.S. Senate to date are: Carol Moseley Braun (D-IL), an African American who was elected in 1992 and served from 1993-1999; and Mazie Hirono (D-HI), an Asian American who was elected in 2012.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A total of 49 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		
Cardiss Collins (D-IL)	1973-97	Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA)	1996-2007
Katie Hall (D-IN)	1982-85	Julia Carson (D-IN)	1996-2007
Barbara-Rose Collins (D-MI)	1991-97	Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH)	1999-2008
Eva M. Clayton (D-NC)	1992-2003	Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI)	1997-2011
Carrie Meek (D-FL)	1993-2003	Diane Watson (D-CA)	2001-2011
		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
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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 – 9 (5D, 4R)

Sandra D. Kennedy (D-AZ)	Corporation Comm.	2008-2012
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
Velvalea "Vel" Phillips (D-WI)	Secretary of State	1979-1983

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