

WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1998

In 1998, 63 women serve in the U.S. Congress. A record 9 women serve in the Senate, and 54 women serve in the House as of June 1998, also an all-time high. The number of women in statewide elective executive posts is 82, down from the record of 84 set in 1995, while the proportion of women in state legislatures is at 21.8 percent. Increases in Republican women accounted for most of the gains at all levels since 1994.

CONGRESS In 1998, women hold **63**, or **11.8%**, of the 535 seats in the 105th U.S. Congress — **9**, or **9.0%**, of the 100 seats in the Senate and **54**, or **12.4%**, of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives. In addition, two women serve as Delegates to the House from the Virgin Islands and Washington, DC.

Nine women serve in the **Senate**: **Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Susan Collins (R-ME); Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX); Mary Landrieu (D-LA); Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); Carol Moseley-Braun (D-IL); Patty Murray (D-WA); and Olympia Snowe (R-ME).**

Fifty-four women from 21 states serve in the House of Representatives; **37** are Democrats and **17** are Republicans. In addition, two Democratic women serve as the Delegates to the House from the Virgin Islands and Washington, DC.

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICES In 1998, **82** women hold statewide elective executive offices across the country; women hold **25.7%** of the 323 available positions. Among these women, **34** are Democrats, **45** are Republicans, and **3** were elected in nonpartisan races.

GOVERNORS — 3 (1D, 2R)

Jane Dee Hull (R-AZ)
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Christine Todd Whitman (R-NJ)

Attorney General - 8 (4D, 4R)

Secretary of State - 12 (5D, 7R)

State Treasurer - 9 (3D, 6R)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS — 18 (8D, 10R)

Fran Ulmer (D-AK)
Gail Schoettler (D-CO)
M. Jodi Rell (R-CT)
Ruth Ann Minner (D-DE)
Mazie K. Hirono (D-HI)
Joy Corning (R-IA)
Kathleen Blanco (D-LA)
Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (D-MD)
Connie Binsfeld (R-MI)
Joanne E. Benson (R-MN)
Judy Martz (R-MT)
Kim Robak (D-NE)
Rosemarie Myrdal (R-ND)
Elizabeth McCaughey Ross (D-NY)
Nancy P. Hollister (R-OH)
Mary Fallin (R-OK)
Carole Hillard (R-SD)
Olene S. Walker (R-UT)

State Comptroller - 3 (2D, 1R)

State Auditor - 3 (3R)

Chief State Education Officials — 11 (2D, 6R, 3NP¹)

Commissioner of Insurance - 3 (2D, 1R)

Commissioner of Labor - 2 (1D, 1R)

Railroad Commissioner - 1 (1R)

Commissioner of Public Lands - 1 (1D)

Corporation Commissioner - 2 (1D, 1R)

Public Service Commissioner - 4 (3D, 1R)

Public Utilities Commissioner - 2 (1D, 1R)

¹ NP = election was nonpartisan.

A note to users of our fact sheets: Please credit the Center for the American Woman and Politics (CAWP), National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.

STATE LEGISLATURES In 1998, **1,615**, or **21.8%**, of the 7,424 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold **366**, or **18.4%**, of the 1,984 state senate seats and **1,249**, or **23.0%**, of the 5,440 state house seats. The number of women serving in state legislatures has increased more than five-fold since 1969 when 301, or 4.0%, of all state legislators were women.

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

<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>
Washington	38.8	Minnesota	31.3
Arizona	36.7	New Hampshire	30.9
Colorado	36.0	Maryland	30.3
Nevada	33.3	Kansas	29.7
Vermont	33.3	Connecticut	28.9

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS In January 1997, among the 100 largest cities in the U.S., **12** have women mayors. In order of city population,¹ the mayors were: **Susan Golding** (San Diego, CA - 4th largest city); **Susan Hammer** (San Jose, CA - 11th); **Vera Katz** (Portland, OR - 29th); **Beverly O'Neill** (Long Beach, CA - 33rd); **Meyera E. Oberndorf** (Virginia Beach, VA - 34th); **M. Susan Savage** (Tulsa, OK - 39th); **Roxanne Qualls** (Cincinnati, OH - 45th); **Sharon Sayles Belton** (Minneapolis, MN - 46th); **Jan Laverty Jones** (Las Vegas, NV - 48th); **Mary Rhodes** (Corpus Christi, TX - 58th); **Pam Miller** (Lexington-Fayette, KY - 68th); **Carolyn Allen** (Greensboro, NC - 80th).

In March 1997, of the 975 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, **202**, or **20.7%**, were women.²

According to the National League of Cities (NLC), in June 1994, of the 21,601 mayors and municipal council members (and their equivalents) serving nationwide in cities with populations over 10,000, **4,513**, or **20.9%**, were women. These figures include: **465**, or **15.8%**, of the 2,947 mayors (and their equivalents); **88**, or **14.8%**, of the 593 council presidents; and **3,960**, or **21.9%**, of the 18,061 council members (and their equivalents). (Please note: NLC data include 352 member cities with populations under 10,000; there were 413 women among the 2,217 elected officials in these cities.)

PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICES

<u>Level of Office</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>
U.S. Congress	4%	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	6%	10%	10%	11%	12%
Statewide Elective	10%	11%	11%	11%	14%	14%	14%	18%	22%	26%	26%	26%
State Legislatures	9%	10%	12%	13%	15%	16%	17%	18%	21%	21%	22%	22%

¹ According to data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

² Source: CAWP. Information was compiled using the United States Conference of Mayors' January 1997 directory, "The Mayors of America's Principal Cities," as the primary reference.