

## WOMEN IN NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT

**CONGRESS** Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12), elected in 2014, and Mikie Sherrill (D-11), elected in 2018, currently represent New Jersey in Congress. New Jersey has sent a total of seven women (4D, 3R) to the U.S. House of Representatives and no women to the U.S. Senate. The New Jersey congresswomen who previously served were:

**Marge Roukema** (R), 1981-2003

**Florence Price Dwyer** (R), 1957-1973

**Millicent Fenwick** (R), 1975-1983

**Mary Teresa Norton** (D), 1925-1951

**Helen Stevenson Meyner** (D), 1975-1979

**STATEWIDE** In 2018, **Sheila Oliver** (D) took office as New Jersey's second lieutenant governor. She is the first woman of color and the first Black woman elected to statewide office in NJ. In New Jersey, the governor and lieutenant governor, elected together, are the only statewide elected officials. **Christine Todd Whitman**, New Jersey's first (and to date, only) woman governor, served from 1994-2001.

**CABINET MEMBERS** Governor Phil Murphy has thirteen women in his cabinet. This represents 52% of his 25-member cabinet.

<b>Sheila Oliver</b>	Community Affairs Commissioner	1/17/18-present
<b>Elizabeth Muoio</b>	State Treasurer	4/13/18-present
<b>Tahesha Way</b>	Secretary of State	2/9/18-present
<b>Marlene Caride</b>	Banking & Insurance Commissioner	6/26/18-present
<b>Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti</b>	Transportation Commissioner	6/20/18-present
<b>Catherine McCabe</b>	Environmental Protection Commissioner	6/19/18-present
<b>Carole Johnson</b>	Human Service Commissioner	4/3/18-present
<b>Christine Norbut Beyer</b>	Commissioner of Children and Families	6/20/18-present
<b>Sue Fulton</b>	Motor Vehicle Commission Chair	4/19/18-present
<b>Deirdre Webster Cobb</b>	Civil Service Commission Chair	4/13/18-present
<b>Beth Noveck</b>	Chief Innovation Officer	8/13/18-present
<b>Judith Persichilli</b>	Health Commissioner	8/5/19-present
<b>Lisa J. Hou</b>	Interim Adjutant General	10/16/20-present
<b>Aneglica Allen-McMillan</b>	Acting Education Commissioner	10/20/20-present
<b>Sarah Adelman</b>	Acting Human Services Commissioner	1/16/21-present
<b>Catherine McCabe</b>	Environmental Protection Commissioner	6/19/18-1/15/21
<b>Carole Johnson</b>	Human Service Commissioner	4/3/18-1/15/21
<b>Zakiya Smith Ellis</b>	Higher Education Secretary	6/17/18-7/5/20

**STATE LEGISLATURE** In 2021, **36 (28D, 8R)** women serve in New Jersey's state legislature, holding **30.0%** of the 120 available seats. Nationally women hold **30.8%** of all state legislative seats; New Jersey ranks 27st among the 50 states in the proportion of women serving in its legislature. Women of color make up 52.8% of all women in the New Jersey legislature: 60% of women in the Senate and 50.0% of women in the Assembly.

**Senate** In 2021, of the 40 (26D, 14R) seats in the New Jersey State Senate, **10 (9D, 1R)** are held by women (25.0%).

**Dawn Marie Addiego** (D-8)

**Nia H. Gill** (D-34)

**Shirley K. Turner** (D-15)

**Kristin Corrado** (R-40)

**Linda R. Greenstein** (D-14)

**Loretta Weinberg** (D-37)

**Nilsa Cruz-Perez** (D-5)

**Nellie Pou** (D-35)

**Sandra B. Cunningham** (D-31)

**M. Teresa Ruiz** (D-29)

Loretta Weinberg serves as the Senate majority leader and M. Teresa Ruiz serves as Senate president pro tempore. Three Black women (Cunningham, Gill, and Turner) and three Latinas (Cruz-Perez, Pou and Ruiz) currently serve in the New Jersey Senate.

**Assembly** In 2021, of the 80 (54D, 26R) members of the State Assembly, **26 (19D, 7R)**, or **32.5%**, are women:

<b>Linda Carter</b> (D-22)	<b>Angelica M. Jimenez</b> (D-32)	<b>Verlina Reynolds-Jackson</b> (D-15)
<b>Annette Chaparro</b> (D-33)	<b>Pamela R. Lampitt</b> (D-6)	<b>Holly T. Schepisi</b> (R-39)
<b>BettyLou DeCroce</b> (R-26)	<b>Yvonne Lopez</b> (D-19)	<b>Shanique Speight</b> (D-29)
<b>Serena DiMaso</b> (R-13)	<b>Angela McKnight</b> (D-31)	<b>Jean Stanfield</b> (R-8)
<b>Joann Downey</b> (D-11)	<b>Gabriela M. Mosquera</b> (D-4)	<b>Shavonda E. Sumter</b> (D-35)
<b>Aura Dunn</b> (R-25)	<b>Nancy F. Muñoz</b> (R-21)	<b>Lisa Swain</b> (D-38)
<b>DiAnne C. Gove</b> (R-9)	<b>Carol Murphy</b> (D-7)	<b>Britnee Timberlake</b> (D-34)
<b>Valerie Vainieri Huttle</b> (D-37)	<b>Eliana Pintor Marin</b> (D-29)	<b>Cleopatra G. Tucker</b> (D-28)
<b>Mila M. Jasey</b> (D-27)	<b>Annette Quijano</b> (D-20)	

Five Latinas (Chaparro, Jimenez, Lopez, Mosquera, and Quijano) and eight Black women (Carter, Jasey, McKnight, Reynolds-Jackson, Speight, Sumter, Timberlake, and Tucker) currently serve in the Assembly.

Sheila Y. Oliver (D), served as speaker of the Assembly from 2011-2013. Oliver is only the second Black woman in the nation to serve as a speaker of a lower house. One woman previously served as speaker of the New Jersey Assembly.

**Marion West Higgins** (R) became speaker in 1965, only the third woman in the nation to be speaker of a state house. She served as acting governor on occasion when Governor Richard Hughes traveled out of state.

**WOMEN IN LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP**

	<b>Senate</b>	Majority Leader President Pro Tempore Assistant Majority Leader Deputy Majority Leader Republican Conference Leader	Loretta Weinberg (D-37) M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29) Linda R. Greenstein (D-14) Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31) Kristin Corrado (R-40)
	<b>Assembly</b>	Majority Conference Leader Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore Deputy Majority Leader Deputy Majority Leader Parliamentarian	Annette Quijano (D-20) Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6) Mila M. Jasey (D-27) Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37) Angelica M. Jimenez (D-32) Nancy Pinkin (D-18) Carol A. Murphy (D-7) Verlina Reynolds-Jackson (D-15) Joann Downey (D-11)
D		Deputy Whip	Linda S. Carter (D-22)
D		Republican Conference Leader Deputy Republican Whip Deputy Republican Leader Deputy Republican Leader	Nancy F. Munoz (R-21) Serena DiMaso (R-13) BettyLou DeCroce (R-26) Holly T. Schepisi (R-39)

**WOMEN COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

	<b>Senate</b>	Commerce Economic Growth Education Higher Education Law and Public Safety	Nellie Pou (D-35) Nilsa Cruz Perez (D-5) M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29) Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31) Linda Greenstein (D-14)
	<b>Assembly</b>	Budget Community Development Affairs Education Environment and Solid Waste Higher Education Homeland Security and State Preparedness Human Services Military and Veterans Affairs Senior Services Women and Children	Eliana Pintor Marin (D-2) Shavonda Sumter (D-35) Pamela Lampitt (D-6) Nancy J. Pinkin (D-18) Mila M. Jasey (D-27) Angela McKnight (D-31) Joann Downey (D-11) Cleopatra G. Tucker (D-28) Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37) Gabriela M. Mosquera (D-4)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE** In 2021, among the five counties in New Jersey that elect executives, no woman holds that title.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** In 2021, **47**, or **34.8%**, of the 135 (88D, 45R, two vacancies) county commissioners in New Jersey are women; five women serve as commissioner chairs, directors or presidents. Women serve as commissioners in 20 of the state's 21 counties; 35 Democrats and 12 Republicans currently serve. The county with no women commissioners is Salem.

Caren Fitzpatrick (D-Atlantic)	Nina Melker (D-Mercer)
Amy L. Gatto (R-Atlantic)	Lucylle Walter (D-Mercer)
Maureen Kern (R-Atlantic), Chair	Leslie Koppel (D-Middlesex)
Mary Amoroso (D-Bergen)	Shanti Narra (D-Middlesex)
Germaine M. Ortiz (D-Bergen)	Clary Azcona-Barber (D-Middlesex)
Joan Voss (D-Bergen)	Lillian G. Burry (R-Monmouth)
Tracy Silna Zur (D-Bergen)	Susan M. Kiley (R-Monmouth)
Felicia Hopson (D-Burlington), Director	Kathryn A. DeFillippo (R-Morris)
Linda A. Hynes (D-Burlington)	Deborah Smith (R-Morris)
Carmen Rodriguez (D-Camden)	Virginia Haines (R-Ocean)
Melinda Kane (D-Camden)	Cassandra Lazzara (D-Passaic)
E. Marie Hayes (R-Cape May)	Melonie Marano (D-Somerset)
Darlene Barber (D-Cumberland)	Shanel Robinson (D-Somerset), Director
Carol Musso (D-Cumberland)	Sara Soeey (D-Somerset)
Donna Pearson (D-Cumberland)	Dawn Fantasia (R-Sussex), Director
Tyshammie L. Cooper (D-Essex)	Sylvia Petillo (R-Sussex)
Patricia Sebold (D-Essex)	Angela Garretson (D-Union)
Romaine Graham (D-Essex)	Bette Jane Kowalski (D-Union)
Heather Simmons (D-Gloucester)	Kimberly Palmieri-Mouded (D-Union)
Caridad Rodriguez (D-Hudson)	Andrea Staten (D-Union)
Fanny Cedeno (D-Hudson)	Rebecca Williams (D-Union)
Yraida Aponte-Lipski (D-Hudson)	Lourdes M. Leon (D-Union)
Susan Soloway (D-Hunterdon), Director	Lori Ciesla (R-Warren)
Ann Cannon (D-Mercer)	

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Eight Black women (Cooper, Garretson, Graham, Hopson, Pearson, Robinson, Staten, and Williams), eight Latinas (Aponte-Lipski, Azcona-Barber, Cedeno, Leon, Ortiz, Carmen Rodriguez, Caridad Rodriguez, and Soeey) and one Asian Pacific Islander woman (Narra) currently serve as commissioners.

**COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS** In 2021, **21** women serve as elected constitutional officers in New Jersey's counties. They hold 32.3% of the 65 available positions. These women officials include: 11 county clerks, 1 register, 1 sheriff and 8 surrogates.

**County Clerks**

Joanne Schwartz (D-Burlington)  
Rita Marie Fulginiti (R-Cape May)  
Celeste Riley (D-Cumberland)  
Mary Melfi (R-Hunterdon)  
Paula Sollami-Covello (D-Mercer)  
Nancy Pinkin (D-Middlesex)  
Christine Giordano Hanlon (R-Monmouth)  
Ann F. Grossi (R-Morris)  
Danielle Ireland-Imhof (D-Passaic)  
Joanne Rajoppi (D-Union)  
Holly Mackey (R-Warren)

**Register**

Diane Coleman (D-Hudson)

Four Black women (Coleman, Ireland-Imhof, Jalloh, Scott) and two Latinas (Cortes, Toledo) currently serve in county constitutional offices.

**Sheriffs**

Mildred S. Scott (D-Middlesex)

**Surrogates**

Michelle Gentek-Meyer (D-Camden)  
Susan Hoffman (R-Hunterdon)  
Diane Gerofsky (D-Mercer)  
Claribel Cortes (D-Middlesex)  
Rosemarie Peters (R-Monmouth)  
Bernice Toledo (D-Passaic)  
Nicki A. Burke (D-Salem)  
Tina Jalloh (D-Somerset)

**WOMEN  
MAYORS**

As of June 2020, among the 75 cities with populations over 30,000 in New Jersey, 8 (10.7%) have women mayors. One Black woman (Michele S. Delisfort) and one Latina (Wilda Diaz, Perth Amboy) serve as big city mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>County</u>
Michele S. Delisfort	Union Township	56,642	Union
Theresa Berger	Howell Township	51,075	Monmouth
Wilda Diaz	Perth Amboy City	50,814	Middlesex
Joann Gattinelli	Washington Township	48,559	Gloucester
Jaclyn Veasy	Evesham Township	45,538	Burlington
Barbara J. McMorrow	Freehold Township	36,184	Monmouth
Liz Lempert	Princeton	31,249	Mercer
Michelle W. Brindle	Westfield	30,639	Union

As of April 2020, of the 490 New Jersey municipalities with populations less than 30,000, 86 or 17.6% have women mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>
Kim Horton	Absecon City	Atlantic
Loretta Gluckstein	Atlantic Highlands Borough	Monmouth
Patti Harris	Barrington Borough	Camden
Deborah Buzby-Cope	Bass River Township	Burlington
Nancy Taggart Davis	Beach Haven Borough	Ocean
Angie D. Devaney	Berkeley Heights Township	Union
Phyllis A Magazzu	Berlin Township	Camden
Mary Jane Canose	Bernardsville Borough	Somerset
Vicky Papics	Bloomsbury Borough	Hunterdon
Theresa Branella	Brooklawn Borough	Camden
Teresa Kelly	Buena Vista Township	Atlantic
Susan Shin Angulo	Cherry Hill Township	Camden
Janet Hoven	Chester Borough	Morris
Marcia Asdal	Chester Township	Morris
Janice Kovach	Clinton Town	Hunterdon
Melinda Lannuzzi	Demarest Borough	Bergen
Carolyn Blackman	Dover Town	Morris
Dina M. Grilo	East Newark Borough	Hudson
Janice S Mironov	East Windsor Township	Mercer
Lisa Jiampetti	Egg Harbor City	Atlantic
Carolyn King-Sammons	Elk Township	Gloucester
Danielle Dipaola	Emerson Borough	Bergen
Colleen Mahr	Fanwood Borough	Union
Betsy Driver	Flemington Borough	Hunterdon
Sara Todisco	Garwood Borough	Union
Kristine Morieko	Glen Rock Borough	Bergen
Maria Digiovanni	Hackettstown Township	Warren
Michele Lee	High Bridge Borough	Hunterdon
Gayle Brill Mittler	Highland Park Borough	Middlesex
Carolyn Broullon	Highlands Borough	Monmouth
Dahlia Vertreese	Hillside Township	Union
Cathy Weber	Holmdel Township	Monmouth
Kristin McLaughlin	Hopewell Township	Mercer
Marlene Lowande	Jamesburg Borough	Middlesex
Linda Karlovitch	Kenilworth Borough	Union

**WOMEN MAYORS (continued)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Municipality</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
Collette J. Kennedy	Keyport Borough	Monmouth
Adele Starrs	Knowlton Township	Warren
Julia Fahl	Lambertville City	Hunterdon
Mary Ann Wardlow	Lawnside Borough	Camden
Barabara Jo Crea	Little Egg Harbor Township	Ocean
Ellen B. Pompper	Lower Alloways Creek Township	Salem
Bettyann Cowling-Carson	Magnolia Borough	Camden
Janice A. Di Giuseppe	Mansfield Township	Burlington
Claire Volpe	Maple Shade Township	Burlington
Christine Serrano Glassner	Mendham Borough	Morris
Sarah Neibart	Mendham Township	Morris
Jackie Benjamin Lieberberg	Millburn Township	Essex
Trina Mehr	Milltown Borough	Middlesex
Susan Howard	Monmouth Beach Borough	Monmouth
Sadaf Jaffer	Montgomery Township	Somerset
Nicole Gillespie	Moorestown Township	Burlington
Catherine J. Wilson	Morris Township	Morris
Lauren Barnett	Mountain Lakes Borough	Morris
Sandra Lee Diglio	Newton Town	Sussex
Linda H Schwager	Oakland Borough	Bergen
Dianne Camelo Didio	Oradell Borough	Bergen
Gina Ragomo Tait	Palmyra Borough	Burlington
Ladaena D. Thomas	Penns Grove Borough	Salem
Marjorie Sperry	Quinton Township	Salem
Deirdre A Dillon	Ramsey Borough	Bergen
Christine Carey	Randolph Township	Morris
Linda Schaefer	Ringwood Borough	Passaic
Suzanne Cairns Wells	Riverton Borough	Burlington
Peggy Malkin	Roosevelt Borough	Monmouth
Christine Dansereau	Roselle Borough	Union
Victoria Kilpatrick	Sayreville Borough	Middlesex
Chris Shoffner	South Bound Brook Borough	Somerset
Sheena C. Collum	South Orange Village Township	Essex
Molly Whilesmith	Sparta Township	Sussex
Jennifer Naughton	Spring Lake Borough	Monmouth
Patricia Zdichocki	Stanhope Borough	Sussex
Lisa Chammings	Stillwater Township	Sussex
Judith M. Davies-Dunhour	Stone Harbor Borough	Cape May
Nora G Radest	Summit City	Union
Kimberly A. Brown	Tabernacle Township	Burlington
Susan R Marshall	Tuckerton Borough	Ocean
Joanne Minichetti	Upper Saddle River Borough	Bergen
Beth Holtzman	Ventnor City	Atlantic
Melissa Dabal	Wallington Borough	Bergen
Carol E. Sabo	West Cape May Borough	Cape May
Denice Dicarolo	West Deptford Township	Gloucester
Janet W Tucci	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth
Michele Dale	West Milford Township	Passaic
Tiffani A. Worthy	Willingboro Township	Burlington
Margaret M. Mcmanus	Winfield Township	Union
Jessica M. Floyd	Woodbury City	Gloucester

**STATE SUPREME COURT** Three women currently serve on New Jersey's seven-member Supreme Court: Justice Jaynee LaVecchia, appointed by Governor Christine Todd Whitman and sworn in on January 26, 2000; Justice Anne Patterson, appointed by Governor Chris Christie and sworn in on September 1, 2011; and Fabiana Pierre-Louis, appointed by Governor Phil Murphy and sworn in on September 1, 2020. Pierre-Louis is the first black woman to serve on the New Jersey Supreme Court.

The first woman to head New Jersey's highest court was Chief Justice Deborah Poritz; appointed by Governor Whitman, she served from 1996 until she retired in 2006. Whitman also appointed Justice Virginia Long, who served from September 14, 1999 until she retired in March, 2012. Governor Jon Corzine appointed Justice Helen E. Hoens, who served from October 26, 2006 until October 26, 2013. Judge Mary Catherine Cuff was assigned temporarily to serve on the Court by Chief Justice Stuart Rabner in October 2012. The first woman member of New Jersey's Supreme Court was Justice Marie L. Garibaldi, who was appointed by Governor Thomas Kean and served from 1982 until 2000.

**WOMEN IN THE STATE PARTIES** **Democrats:** The chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee is a man (John Currie). In the 21 counties, five women serve as county chairs:

**Amy DeGise** (Hudson)  
**Arlene Perez** (Hunterdon)  
**Janice S. Mironov** (Mercer)  
**Peg Schaffer** (Somerset)  
**Dawne Rowe** (Sussex)

**Republicans:** The chair of the New Jersey Republican State Committee is a man (Michael Lavery). In the 21 counties, five women serves as a county chairs:

**Jacci Vigilante** (Gloucester)  
**Lisa Richford** (Mercer)  
**Lucille Panos** (Middlesex)  
**Laura Ali** (Morris)  
**Linda DuBois** (Salem)

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