

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN 2009

In 2009, 71 women hold statewide elective executive offices across the country; women hold 22.6% of the 314 available positions.* Among these women 50 are Democrats, 20 are Republicans, and 1 was elected in a nonpartisan race.

To date, women have been elected statewide to executive offices in 49 of the nation's 50 states. In Maine, the governor is the only executive elected statewide, and a woman has never served as governor there.

GOVERNORS

Six women (3D, 3R) serve as **governors** in 2009.

Jan Brewer, an Arizona Republican, became governor by constitutional succession when Janet Napolitano resigned to become Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Brewer was elected secretary of state in 2002 and 2006. She served as Maricopa County supervisor from 1997 to 2002. She served in Arizona's State Senate and House of Representatives from 1983 to 1996.

Jennifer M. Granholm, a Michigan Democrat, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2002 and re-election in 2006. She served as Michigan's attorney general from 1998-2002. She was Wayne County corporation counsel from 1994 to 1998. After law school, she clerked for a member of the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and was a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's office.

Christine Gregoire, a Washington Democrat, won a very close race in 2004 for an open gubernatorial seat. She was first elected attorney general in 1992 and re-elected in 1996 and 2000. An attorney, she served as director of Washington State's Department of Ecology.

Linda Lingle, a Hawaii Republican, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2002 and re-election in 2006. She first ran for governor in 1998. Lingle served as mayor of Maui County from 1991-1998, the maximum two consecutive four-year terms. She was first elected to the Maui County Council in 1980 and served five terms. Lingle was the founder and publisher of a local community newspaper.

Beverly M. Perdue, a North Carolina Democrat, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2008. She was elected lieutenant governor in 2000 and 2004. She served in the North Carolina State Senate and House of Representatives from 1987 to 1999. She was a public school teacher and served as director of geriatric services at a community hospital. She holds a Ph.D. in education administration.

M. Jodi Rell, a Connecticut Republican, was first elected lieutenant governor in 1994 and re-elected in 1998 and 2002. She became governor July 1, 2004 when her predecessor resigned, and in 2006 was elected to a full term. Prior to her election as lieutenant governor, Rell served in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1984 to 1994, where she was assistant minority leader and deputy minority leader.

HISTORY OF WOMEN GOVERNORS

Thirty-one women (19D, 12R) have served as governors in 23 states. In addition, one woman has served as governor in Puerto Rico. Arizona is the first state where a woman succeeded another woman as governor, and the first state to have had four women governors. Of the 31 women governors, 20 were first elected in their own right; 3 replaced their husbands, and 8 became governor by constitutional succession, two of whom subsequently won a full term. The record number of women serving simultaneously, achieved in 2004 and again in 2007, is 9.

* These figures do not include: officials in appointive state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; officials elected as commissioners or board members from districts rather than statewide; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN (continued)

HISTORY OF WOMEN GOVERNORS (cont.)

Name (Party-State)	Dates served	Special circumstances
Nellie Tayloe Ross (D-WY)	1925-1927	Won special election to replace deceased husband.
Miriam "Ma" Ferguson (D-TX)	1925-1927, 1933-1935	Inaugurated 15 days after Ross; elected as surrogate for husband who could not succeed himself.
Lurleen Wallace (D-AL)	1967-1968	Elected as surrogate for husband who could not succeed himself.
Ella Grasso (D-CT)	1975-1980	First woman elected governor in her own right; resigned for health reasons.
Dixy Lee Ray (D-WA)	1977-1981	
Vesta Roy (R-NH)	1982-1983	Elected to state senate and chosen as senate president; served as governor for seven days when incumbent died.
Martha Layne Collins (D-KY)	1984-1987	
Madeleine Kunin (D-VT)	1985-1991	First and only woman to serve three terms as governor.
Kay Orr (R-NE)	1987-1991	First Republican woman governor and first woman to defeat another woman in a gubernatorial race.
Rose Mofford (D-AZ)	1988-1991	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who was impeached and convicted.
Joan Finney (D-KS)	1991-1995	First woman to defeat an incumbent governor.
Ann Richards (D-TX)	1991-1995	
Barbara Roberts (D-OR)	1991-1995	
Christine Todd Whitman (R-NJ)	1994-2001	Resigned to take presidential appointment as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	1997-2003	
Jane Dee Hull (R-AZ)	1997-2003	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who resigned; later elected to a full term.
Nancy Hollister (R-OH)	1998-1999	Elected lieutenant governor; served as governor for 11 days when predecessor took U.S. Senate seat and successor had not yet been sworn in.
Jane Swift (R-MA)	2001-2003	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned for an ambassadorial appointment.
Judy Martz (R-MT)	2001-2005	
<i>Sila Calderon (Popular Democratic Party-PR)</i>	<i>2001-2005</i>	<i>Former mayor of San Juan, first woman governor of Puerto Rico.</i>
Olene Walker (R-UT)	2003-2005	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned to take a federal appointment.
Kathleen Blanco (D-LA)	2004-2007	
Ruth Ann Minner (D-DE)	2001-2009	
Janet Napolitano (D-AZ)	2003-2009	First woman to succeed another woman as governor. Resigned to become U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security.
Linda Lingle (R-HI)	2002-present	
Jennifer M. Granholm (D-MI)	2003-present	
Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS)	2003-2009	Father was governor of Ohio. Resigned to become U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.
M. Jodi Rell (R-CT)	2004-present	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned.
Christine Gregoire (D-WA)	2004-present	
Sarah Palin (R-AK)	2007-2009	Resigned.
Beverly M. Perdue (D-NC)	2009-present	
Jan Brewer (R-AZ)	2009-present	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who resigned.

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN (continued)

ADDITIONAL STATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICES

<u>State</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Party</u>
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR - 8 (6D, 2R)			CHIEF STATE EDUCATION OFFICIAL		
CO	Barbara O'Brien	D	5 (3D, 1R, 1NP*)		
IA	Patty Judge	D	<i>(title varies from state to state)</i>		
IN	Becky Skillman	R	GA	Kathy Cox	R
MN	Carol L. Molnau	R	MT	Denise Juneau	D
NM	Diane D. Denish	D	NC	June Atkinson	D
OK	Jari Askins*	D	OK	Sandy Garrett	D
RI	Elizabeth Roberts	D	OR	Susan Castillo	NP*
WI	Barbara Lawton	D	<i>*Election was nonpartisan.</i>		
<i>* Elected independent of governor.</i>			COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE - 3 (2D, 1R)		
ATTORNEY GENERAL - 4 (4D)			DE	Karen Weldin Stewart	D
IL	Lisa Madigan	D	KS	Sandy Praeger	R
MA	Martha Coakley	D	OK	Kim Holland	D
MN	Lori Swanson	D	COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - 1R		
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto	D	NC	Cherie Killian Berry	R
SECRETARY OF STATE - 12 (10D, 2R)			CORPORATION COMMISSIONER - 3 (1D, 2R)		
AL	Beth Chapman	R	AZ	Sandra Kennedy	D
CA	Debra Bowen	D	AZ	Kristen Mayes	R
CT	Susan Bysiewicz	D	OK	Dana Murphy	R
MI	Terri Lynn Land	R	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER - 5 (5D)		
MO	Robin Carnahan	D	AL	Lucy Baxley	D
MT	Linda McCulloch	D	AL	Jan Cook	D
NC	Elaine Marshall	D	AL	Susan D. Parker	D
NM	Mary Herrera	D	MT	Gail Gutsche	D
OH	Jennifer Brunner	D	NE	Anne Boyle	D
OR	Kate Brown	D	PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSIONER - 1D		
VT	Deborah Markowitz	D	NM	Carol K. Sloan	D
WV	Natalie Tennant	D	RAILROAD COMMISSIONER - 1R		
STATE TREASURER/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER			TX	Elizabeth Ames Jones	R
10 (8D, 2R)					
AL	Kay Ivey	R			
AR	Martha Shoffner	D			
CO	Cary Kennedy	D			
CT	Denise Nappier	D			
DE	Velda Jones-Potter	D			
FL	Alex Sink	D			
NC	Janet Cowell	D			
ND	Kelly Schmidt	R			
NV	Kate Marshall	D			
WI	Dawn Marie Sass	D			
STATE AUDITOR - 8 (5D, 3R)					
AL	Samantha Shaw	R			
KY	Crit Luallen	D			
MN	Rebecca Otto	DFL*			
MO	Susan Montee	D			
MT	Monica Lindeen	D			
NC	Beth Wood	D			
OH	Mary Taylor	R			
WY	Rita Meyer	R			
<i>* The Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party is the state's Democratic Party.</i>					
STATE COMPTRROLLER/CONTROLLER - 4 (2D, 2R)					
CT	Nancy Wyman	D			
ID	Donna M. Jones	R			
NV	Kim Wallin	D			
TX	Susan Combs	R			