

## WOMEN IN NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT

**CONGRESS** No woman has served since 2003 in New Jersey's 15-member congressional delegation (two Senators, 13 Representatives). New Jersey has sent a total of five women (2D, 3R) to the U.S. House of Representatives and no women to the U.S. Senate. The New Jersey congresswomen were:

<b>Marge Roukema (R)</b> , 1981-2003	<b>Florence Price Dwyer (R)</b> , 1957-1973
<b>Millicent Fenwick (R)</b> , 1975-1983	<b>Mary Teresa Norton (D)</b> , 1925-1951
<b>Helen Stevenson Meyner (D)</b> , 1975-1979	

**STATEWIDE** In 2011, **Kim Guadagno (R)** took office as New Jersey's first lieutenant governor, a newly-created position. In New Jersey, the governor and lieutenant governor are the only statewide elected officials. **Christine Todd Whitman**, New Jersey's first woman governor, served from 1994-2001.

**CABINET MEMBERS** Governor Chris Christie has five women in his cabinet. This represents 22.7% of his 22-member cabinet.

<b>Mary O'Dowd</b>	Commissioner of Health and Senior Services	4/01/11-present
<b>Allison Blake</b>	Commissioner of Children and Families	5/14/10-present
<b>Kim Guadagno</b>	Lieutenant Governor; Secretary of State	1/10/10-present
<b>Jennifer Velez</b>	Commissioner of Human Services	1/10/10-present
<b>Rochelle Hendricks</b>	Acting Secretary of Higher Education	5/13/11-present
<b>Paula Dow</b>	Attorney General	1/10/10-1/3/12
<b>Lori Grifa</b>	Commissioner of Community Affairs	1/10/10-1/2/12
<b>Poonam Alaigh</b>	Commissioner of Health and Senior Services	1/10/10-4/01/11
<b>Rochelle Hendricks</b>	Acting Commissioner of Education	8/27/10-12/20/10
<b>Janet Rosenzweig</b>	Acting Commissioner of Children and Families	1/10/10-4/16/10
<b>Kara Wood</b>	Acting Commissioner of Children and Families	4/19/10-5/14/10

**STATE LEGISLATURE** In 2012, **35** women serve in New Jersey's state legislature; they hold **29.2%** of the 120 available seats. Nationally women hold **23.6%** of all state legislative seats; New Jersey ranks 10th among the 50 states in the proportion of women serving in its legislature.

**Senate** In 2012, of the 40 (24D, 16R) seats in the New Jersey State Senate, **eleven** are held by women (27.5%). Eight are Democrats and three Republicans:

<b>Dawn Addiego (R-8)</b>	<b>Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31)</b>	<b>M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)</b>
<b>Diane Allen (R-7)</b>	<b>Nia Gill (D-34)</b>	<b>Shirley Turner (D-15)</b>
<b>Jennifer Beck (R-11)</b>	<b>Linda Greenstein (D-14)</b>	<b>Loretta Weinberg (D-37)</b>
<b>Barbara Buono (D-18)</b>	<b>Nellie Pou (D-35)</b>	

Loretta Weinberg serves as the Senate majority leader.

Three African American women (Cunningham, Gill, and Turner) and two Latinas (Pou and Ruiz) currently serve in the New Jersey Senate.

**Assembly** In 2012, of the 80 (48D, 32R) members of the State Assembly, **24**, or **30.0%**, are women. Fifteen are Democrats and nine are Republicans:

<b>Mary Pat Angelini (R-11)</b>	<b>Mila Jasey (D-27)</b>	<b>Celeste Marie Riley (D-3)</b>
<b>Marlene Caride (D-36)</b>	<b>Angelica Jimenez (D-32)</b>	<b>Holly Schepisi (R-39)</b>
<b>Caroline Casagrande (R-11)</b>	<b>Pamela Rosen Lampitt (D-6)</b>	<b>Donna Simon (R-16)</b>
<b>Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-15)</b>	<b>Alison Littell McHose (R-24)</b>	<b>L. Grace Spencer (D-29)</b>
<b>Betty Lou DeCroce (R-26)</b>	<b>Gabriela Mosquera (D-4)</b>	<b>Linda Stender (D-22)</b>
<b>DiAnne C. Gove (R-9)</b>	<b>Nancy Muñoz (R-21)</b>	<b>Shavonda Sumter (D-35)</b>
<b>Amy Handlin (R-13)</b>	<b>Sheila Y. Oliver (D-34)</b>	<b>Cleopatra Tucker (D-28)</b>
<b>Valerie Vainieri Huttie (D-37)</b>	<b>Annette Quijano (D-20)</b>	<b>Connie Wagner (D-38)</b>

Four Latinas (Caride, Jimenez, Mosquera and Quijano) and six African American women (Coleman, Jasey, Oliver, Spencer, Sumter and Tucker) currently serve in the Assembly.

Sheila Y. Oliver (D), began serving as speaker of the Assembly in 2011. Oliver is only the second African American 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 second 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.

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**WOMEN IN  
LEGISLATIVE  
LEADERSHIP**

**Senate**

Majority Leader  
President Pro Tempore  
Majority Whip  
Assistant Majority Leaders  
Senate Majority Whip  
Deputy Republican Leader

Loretta Weinberg (D-39)  
Nia H. Gill (D-34)  
Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31)  
Linda Greenstein (D-14); M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)  
Sandra Cunningham (D-31)  
Diane B. Allen (R-7)

**Assembly**

Speaker of the Assembly  
Deputy Speakers  
  
Deputy Majority Leader  
Deputy Conference Leader  
Deputy Republican Whip  
Deputy Republican Leader  
Policy Co-chair

Sheila Y. Oliver (D-34)  
Pamela Lampitt (D-6); L. Grace Spencer (D-29);  
Connie Wagner (D-38)  
Annette Quijano (D-20)  
Mary Pat Angelini (R-11)  
Alison Littell McHose (R-24)  
Amy H. Handlin (R-13)  
Nancy F. Munoz (R-21)

**WOMEN  
COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS**

**Senate**

Commerce  
Education  
Higher Education

Nia H. Gill (D-34)  
M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)  
Sandra Cunningham (D-31)

**Assembly**

Environment and Solid Waste  
Higher Education  
Homeland Security  
Human Services  
Military and Veterans Affairs  
State Government  
Women and Children

L. Grace Spencer (D-29)  
Celeste M. Riley (D-3)  
Annette Quijano (D-20)  
Valerie Vaineri Huttler (D-37)  
Cleopatra Tucker (D-28)  
Linda Stender (D-22)  
Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6)

**COUNTY  
EXECUTIVES**

In 2012, one woman serves as a county executive, **Kathleen Donovan** (R-Bergen).

**COUNTY  
FREEHOLDERS**

In 2012, **30**, or **21.9%**, of the 137 (65D, 72R, 1vacancy) county freeholders in New Jersey are women; four women serve as freeholder chairs, directors or presidents. Women serve as freeholders in 17 of the state's 21 counties; 17 Democrats and 13 Republicans currently serve. The four counties with no women freeholders are Atlantic, Hunterdon, Ocean and Warren.

Maura DeNicola (R-Bergen)  
Joan Voss (D-Bergen)  
MaryAnn O'Brien (R-Burlington)  
Leah Arter (R-Burlington)  
Carmen Rodriguez (D-Camden)  
M. Susan Sheppherd (R-Cape May)  
Kirsten Gabor (R-Cape May)  
Mary Gruccio (R-Cumberland)  
Carol Musso (D-Cumberland)  
Carol Y. Clark (D-Essex)  
Patricia Sebold (D-Essex)  
Blonnie Watson (D-Essex), President  
Heather Simmons (D-Gloucester)  
Doreen DiDomenico (D-Hudson)  
Ann Cannon (D-Mercer)

Lucyille Walter (D-Mercer), Chair  
Carol Barrett (D-Middlesex)  
Blanquita Valenti (D-Middlesex)  
Lillian G. Burry (R-Monmouth)  
Serena DiMaso (R-Monmouth)  
Ann Grossi (R-Morris)  
Deborah E. Ciambone (R-Passaic)  
Julie Acton (R-Salem), Director  
Beth Timberman (D-Salem)  
Patricia Walsh (R-Somerset), Director  
Susan Zellman (R-Sussex)  
Linda Carter (D-Union)  
Bette Jane Kowalski (D-Union)  
Deborah Scanlon (D-Union), Director  
Vernell Wright (D-Union)

Four African American women (Carter, Clark, Watson and Wright) and two Latinas (Rodriguez and Valenti) currently serve as freeholders.

**COUNTY  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
OFFICERS**

As of 2012, **23** women serve as elected constitutional officers in New Jersey's counties. They hold **35.4%** of the 65 available positions. These women officials include: 12 county clerks, 1 register, 2 sheriffs and 8 surrogates.

**County Clerks**

Rita Marie Fulginiti (R-Cape May)  
Gloria Noto (R-Cumberland)  
Barbara A. Netchert (D-Hudson)  
Mary Melfi (R-Hunterdon)  
Paula Sollami-Covello (D-Mercer)  
Elaine Flynn (D-Middlesex)  
M. Claire French (R-Monmouth)  
Joan Bramhall (R-Morris)  
Kristin M. Corrado (R-Passaic)  
Gilda T. Gill (D-Salem)  
Joanne Rajoppi (D-Union)  
Patricia J. Kolb (R-Warren)

**Sheriffs**

Jean Stanfield (R-Burlington)  
Mildred S. Scott (D-Middlesex)

**Surrogates**

Patricia Egan Jones (D-Camden)  
Helene Reed (D-Gloucester)  
Susan Hoffman (R-Hunterdon)  
Diane Gerofsky (D-Mercer)  
Rosemarie Peters (R-Monmouth)  
Bernice Toledo (D-Passaic)  
Nicki A. Burke (D-Salem)  
Nancy D. Fitzgibbons (R-Sussex)

**Register**

Pamela Gardner (D-Hudson)

Four African American women (Brown, Flood, Graves, and Scott) and one Latina (Toledo) currently serve in county constitutional offices.

**WOMEN  
MAYORS**

As of July 2011, among the 58 cities with populations over 30,000 in New Jersey, 6 or 10.3% have women mayors. Two are African American (Dana Redd, Camden and Sharon Robinson-Briggs, Plainfield) and one is a Latina (Wilda Diaz, Perth Amboy).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>County</u>
Antonia "Toni" Ricigliano	Edison	97,687	Middlesex
Dana Redd	Camden	79,904	Camden
Sharon Robinson-Briggs	Plainfield	47,829	Union
Wilda Diaz	Perth Amboy	47,303	Middlesex
Patricia Flannery	Bridgewater	42,940	Somerset
Dawn Zimmer	Hoboken	38,577	Hudson

As of July 2011, of the 508 New Jersey municipalities with populations less than 30,000, 84 or 16.5% have women mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>
Carol Foster	Corbin City	Atlantic
Amy Gatto	Hamilton Township	Atlantic
Theresa Kelly	Ventnor City	Atlantic
Sophie Heymann	Closter Borough	Bergen
Nancy Merse	Edgewater Borough	Bergen
Lisa Swain	Fair Lawn Borough	Bergen
Karen Sasso	Hackensack City	Bergen
Rose Heck	Hasbrouck Heights Borough	Bergen
Mary Heveran	Leonia Borough	Bergen
Ann Subrizi	New Milford Borough	Bergen
Dianne Didio	Oradell Borough	Bergen
Margaret Falahee Watkins	River Edge Borough	Bergen
Karen Chamberlain	Saddle Brook Township	Bergen
Janet Sobkowicz	Washington Township	Bergen
Deborah Buzby-Cope	Bass River Township	Burlington
Gail Cook	Beverly City	Burlington
Kathleen M. Fitzpatrick	Cinnaminson Township	Burlington
Kate Fitzpatrick	Delanco Township	Burlington
Louise Campbell	Eastampton Township	Burlington
Claire Volpe	Maple Shade Township	Burlington
Lisa Post	Medford Township	Burlington
Deborah Butler	North Hanover Township	Burlington
Kim Brown	Tabernacle Township	Burlington
Phyllis A. Magazzu	Berlin Township	Camden
Theresa Branella	Brooklawn Borough	Camden
Letitia G. Colombi	Haddonfield Borough	Camden
Meredith Dobbs	Hi-Nella Borough	Camden
Mary Ann Wardlow	Lawnside Borough	Camden
BettyAnn Cowling-Carson	Magnolia Borough	Camden
Bertha Kalvaitis	Runnemede Borough	Camden
Sue Ann Metzner	Winslow Township	Camden
Susan DeLanzo	Middle Township	Cape May
Suzanne M. Walters	Stone Harbor Borough	Cape May
Pamela Kaithern	West Cape May Borough	Cape May
Kathy Ireland	Maurice River Township	Cumberland
Ann Dassing	Caldwell Borough	Essex
Sandra H. Haimoff	Millburn Township	Essex
Joanne Cocchiola	Nutley Township	Essex
Teena Schwartz	Verona Township	Essex
Patricia M. Koloski	National Park Borough	Gloucester
Anna Docimo	West Deptford Township	Gloucester
Christine Schaumburg	Town of Clinton	Hunterdon
Kristin McCarthy	Delaware Township	Hunterdon
Erica Edwards	Flemington Borough	Hunterdon
Kristine Peterson	Hampton Borough	Hunterdon
Julia C. Allen	Readington Township	Hunterdon
Janice S. Mironov	East Windsor Township	Mercer
Mildred T. Trotman	Princeton Borough	Mercer
Nancy Martin	Helmetta Borough	Middlesex

**WOMEN  
MAYORS** (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>
Gloria M. Bradford	Milktown Borough	Middlesex
Julie Schreck	Bradley Beach Borough	Monmouth
Suzanne S. Castleman	Little Silver Borough	Monmouth
Nancy A. Grbelja	Millstone Township	Monmouth
Susan Howard	Monmouth Beach Borough	Monmouth
Beth Battel	Roosevelt Borough	Monmouth
Maria D. Fernandes	Sea Bright Borough	Monmouth
Jennifer Naughton	Spring Lake Borough	Monmouth
H. Frances Enright	Spring Lake Heights Borough	Monmouth
Lorisue H. Mount	Upper Freehold Township	Monmouth
Ann Marie Conte	Wall Township	Monmouth
Janet W. Tucci	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth
Barbara Shepard	Boonton Township	Morris
Nicole Hagner	Chatham Township	Morris
Mary-Anna Holden	Madison Borough	Morris
Trina Ruane Mitsche	Randolph Township	Morris
Betty Simmons	Victory Gardens Borough	Morris
Bonnie Berga	Beachwood Borough	Ocean
Kathleen Cole	Pompton Lakes Borough	Passaic
Bettina Bieri	West Milford Township	Passaic
Ellen Pompper	Lower Alloways Creek Township	Salem
Linda A. DuBois	Pittsgrove Township	Salem
Gloria McCauley	Hillsborough Township	Somerset
Lillian M. Zuza	Manville Borough	Somerset
Jo-Ann Liptak	Raritan Borough	Somerset
Sylvia Petillo	Hopatcong Borough	Sussex
Kristin S. Becker	Newton Township	Sussex
Diana Kuncken	Stanhope Borough	Sussex
Sally A. Rinker	Vernon Township	Sussex
Colleen Mahr	Fanwood Borough	Union
Patricia Quattrochi	Garwood Borough	Union
Kathi Fiamingo	Kenilworth Borough	Union
Nancy Malool	Scotch Plains Township	Union
Margaret McManus	Winfield Township	Union
Tanya Segal	Greenwich Township	Warren

**STATE SUPREME COURT** Four women currently serve on New Jersey's seven-member Supreme Court, making this the first time in New Jersey history that a majority of the State Supreme Court is female. Two were appointed by Governor Christine Todd Whitman: **Justice Virginia Long**, sworn in on September 14, 1999 and **Justice Jaynee LaVecchia**, sworn in on January 26, 2000. The third, **Justice Helen E. Hoens**, was appointed by Governor Jon Corzine and sworn in on October 26, 2006. The fourth, **Justice Anne Patterson**, was appointed by Governor Chris Christie and sworn in on September 1, 2011.

**WOMEN IN THE STATE PARTIES** 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. 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.

**Democrats:** The chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee is a man (John Wisniewski). In the 21 counties, four women serve as county chairs:

**Lois Zarish** (Hunterdon)  
**Liz Muoio** (Mercer)  
**Peg Schaffer** (Somerset)  
**Charlotte DeFilippo** (Union)

**Republicans:** The chair of the New Jersey Republican State Committee is a man (Samuel Raia). In the 21 counties, two woman serve as a county chairs:

**Maria Bua** (Mercer co-chair)  
**Ailish Hambel** (Sussex)