

## WOMEN IN NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT

**CONGRESS** Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12), elected in 2014, is the first woman elected to Congress from New Jersey since 2003. New Jersey has sent a total of six women (3D, 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, a newly-created position. She was the first Black woman election 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 eleven women in his cabinet. This represents 52.4% of his 21-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 (nominated)	TBD
<b>Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti</b>	Transportation Commissioner (nominated)	TBD
<b>Catherine McCabe</b>	Environmental Protection Commissioner (nominated)	TBD
<b>Carole Johnson</b>	Human Service Commissioner	4/3/18-present
<b>Christine Norbut Beyer</b>	Commissioner of Children and Families (nominated)	TBD
<b>Sue Fulton</b>	Motor Vehicle Commission Chair (nominated)	4/19/18-present
<b>Deirdre Webster Cobb</b>	Civil Service Commission Chair (nominated)	4/13/18-present
<b>Zakiya Smith Ellis</b>	Higher Education Secretary (nominated)	TBD

**STATE** In 2018, **35** women serve in New Jersey's state legislature, holding **29.2%** of the 120 available seats.  
**LEGISLATURE** Nationally women hold **25.3%** of all state legislative seats; New Jersey ranks 16th among the 50 states in the proportion of women serving in its legislature. Women of color make up 51% of all women in the New Jersey legislature: 60% of women in the Senate and 48% of women in the Assembly.

**Senate** In 2018, of the 40 (25D, 15R) seats in the New Jersey State Senate, **10** are held by women (25.0%). Eight are Democrats and two are Republicans:

**Dawn Marie Addiego** (R-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 2018, of the 80 (54D, 26R) members of the State Assembly, **25**, or **31.3%**, are women. Nineteen are Democrats and six are Republicans:

<b>Annette Chaparro</b> (D-33)	<b>Patricia Egan Jones</b> (D-5)	<b>Eliana Pintor Marin</b> (D-29)
<b>BettyLou DeCroce</b> (R-26)	<b>Pamela R. Lampitt</b> (D-6)	<b>Annette Quijano</b> (D-20)
<b>Serena DiMaso</b> (R-13)	<b>Yvonne Lopez</b> (D-19)	<b>Holly T. Schepisi</b> (R-39)
<b>Joann Downey</b> (D-11)	<b>Angela McKnight</b> (D-31)	<b>Shanique Speight</b> (D-29)
<b>DiAnne C. Gove</b> (R-9)	<b>Gabriela M. Mosquera</b> (D-4)	<b>Shavonda E. Sumter</b> (D-35)
<b>Amy H. Handlin</b> (R-13)	<b>Nancy F. Muñoz</b> (R-21)	<b>Britnee Timberlake</b> (D-34)
<b>Valerie Vainieri Huttle</b> (D-37)	<b>Verlina Reynolds-Jackson</b> (D-15)	<b>Cleopatra G. Tucker</b> (D-28)
<b>Mila M. Jasey</b> (D-27)	<b>Carol Murphy</b> (D-7)	
<b>Angelica M. Jimenez</b> (D-32)	<b>Nancy J. Pinkin</b> (D-18)	

Five Latinas (Chaparro, Jimenez, Lopez, Mosquera, and Quijano) and seven Black women (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	Loretta Weinberg (D-37)
	President Pro Tempore	M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)
	Assistant Majority Leader	Linda R. Greenstein (D-14)
	Deputy Majority Leader	Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31)
	Deputy Republican Whip	Dawn Marie Addiego (R-8)
<b>Assembly</b>	Majority Conference Leader	Shavonda E. Sumter (D-35)
	Deputy Speaker	Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6)
	Deputy Speaker	Mila M. Jasey (D-27)
	Deputy Speaker	Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37)
	Deputy Majority Leader	Annette Quijano (D-20)
	Deputy Republican Whip	Nancy F. Munoz (R-21)
	Deputy Republican Leader	Amy H. Handlin (R-13)
	Assistant Republican Leader	BettyLou DeCroce (R-26)
	Assistant Republican Leaders	Holly T. Schepisi (R-39)
	Policy Co-chair	DiAnne C. Gove (R-9)

**WOMEN COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

<b>Senate</b>	Commerce	Nellie Pou (D-35)
	Economic Growth	Nilsa Cruz Perez (D-5)
	Education	M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)
	Higher Education	Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31)
	Law and Public Safety	Linda Greenstein (D-14)
<b>Assembly</b>	Budget	Eliana Pintor Marin (D-29)
	Education	Pamela Lampitt (D-6)
	Environment and Solid Waste	Nancy J. Pinkin (D-18)
	Higher Education	Mila M. Jasey (D-27)
	Homeland Security and State Preparedness	Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37)
	Human Services	Joann Downey (D-11)
	Judiciary	Annette Quijano (D-20)
	Military and Veterans Affairs	Cleopatra G. Tucker (D-28)
	Women and Children	Gabriela M. Mosquera (D-4)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVES**

In 2018, among the five counties in New Jersey that elect executives, no woman holds that title.

**COUNTY FREEHOLDERS** In 2018, **38**, or **28.1%**, of the 135 (82D, 51R, two vacancies) county freeholders in New Jersey are women; five women serve as freeholder chairs, directors or presidents. Women serve as freeholders in 20 of the state's 21 counties; 24 Democrats and 14 Republicans currently serve. The one county with no women freeholders is Warren.

Ashley Bennett (D-Atlantic)	Suzanne Lagay (R-Hunterdon)
Caren Fitzpatrick (D-Atlantic)	Ann Cannon (D-Mercer)
Amy L. Gatto (R-Atlantic)	Lucylle Walter (D-Mercer), Chairman
Maureen Kern (R-Atlantic)	Leslie Koppel (D-Middlesex)
Mary Amoroso (D-Bergen)	Shanti Narra (D-Middlesex)
Germaine M. Ortiz (D-Bergen)	Blanquita Valenti (D-Middlesex)
Joan Voss (D-Bergen)	Lillian G. Burry (R-Monmouth)
Tracy Silna Zur (D-Bergen), Chair	Heather Darling (R-Morris)
Kate Gibbs (R-Burlington), Director	Kathryn A. DeFillippo (R-Morris)
Linda Hughes (R-Burlington)	Christine Myers (R-Morris)
Susan Shin Angulo (D-Camden)	Deborah Smith (R-Morris)
Carmen Rodriguez (D-Camden)	Virginia Haines (R-Ocean)
E. Marie Hayes (R-Cape May)	Cassandra Lazzara (D-Passaic), Director
Darlene Barber (D-Cumberland)	Melissa DeCastro (R-Salem), Chairman
Carol Musso (D-Cumberland)	Patricia Walsh (R-Somerset)
Lebby Jones (D-Essex)	Sylvia Petillo (R-Sussex)
Patricia Sebold (D-Essex)	Linda Carter (D-Union)
Heather Simmons (D-Gloucester)	Bette Jane Kowalski (D-Union)
Caridad Rodriguez (D-Hudson)	Angela Garretson (D-Union)

Four Black women (Bennett, Carter, Garretson, and Jones), four Latinas (Ortiz, Carmen Rodriguez, Caridad Rodriguez, and Valenti) and three Asian Pacific Islander women (DeCastro, Narra and Shin Angulo) currently serve as freeholders.

**COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS** In 2018, **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: 10 county clerks, 2 registers, 2 sheriffs and 9 surrogates.

**County Clerks**

Rita Marie Fulginiti (R-Cape May)  
Celeste Riley (D-Cumberland)  
Mary Melfi (R-Hunterdon)  
Paula Sollami-Covello (D-Mercer)  
Elaine Flynn (D-Middlesex)  
Christine Giordano Hanlon (R-Monmouth)  
Ann F. Grossi (R-Morris)  
Gilda T. Gill (R-Salem)  
Joanne Rajoppi (D-Union)  
Holly Mackey (R-Warren)

**Register**

Diane Coleman (D-Hudson)  
Dana Rone (D-Essex)

**Sheriffs**

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

**Surrogates**

Mary Anne O'Brien (R-Burlington)  
Michelle Gentek-Meyer (D-Camden)  
M. Susan Sheppard (R-Cape May)  
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)

Three Black women (Coleman, Rone, Scott) and one Latina (Toledo) currently serve in county constitutional offices.

**WOMEN MAYORS** As of January 2018, among the 75 cities with populations over 30,000 in New Jersey, 11 (14.7%) have women mayors. One Black woman (Jane E. Williams-Warren, Paterson) and one Latina (Wilda Diaz, Perth Amboy) serve as big city mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>County</u>
Jane E. Williams-Warren	Paterson	146,199	Passaic
Kelly Yaede	Hamilton Township	88,464	Mercer
Stephanie C. Murray	Middletown Township	66,522	Monmouth
Suzette Cavadas	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
Gloria McCauley	Hillsborough Township	38,303	Somerset
Lisa Swain	Fair Lawn Borough	32,457	Bergen
Liz Lempert	Princeton	31,249	Mercer
Michelle W. Brindle	Westfield	30,639	Union

As of January 2018, of the 491 New Jersey municipalities with populations less than 30,000, 64 or 13.0% have women mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>
Lisa Jiampetti	Egg Harbor City	Atlantic
Beth Holtzman	Ventnor City	Atlantic
Elizabeth White	Allendale Borough	Bergen
Ann Subrizi	New Milford Borough	Bergen
Linda H. Schwager	Oakland Borough	Bergen
Dianne Camelo Didio	Oradell Borough	Bergen
Deirdre A. Dillon	Ramsey Borough	Bergen
Susan Knudsen	Ridgewood Village	Bergen
Joanne Minichetti	Upper Saddle River Borough	Bergen
Deborah Buzby-Cope	Bass River Township	Burlington
Kate Fitzpatrick	Delanco Township	Burlington
Linda Bobo	Mount Laurel Township	Burlington
Michelle Arnold	Palmyra Borough	Burlington
Lorraine M. Hatcher	Riverside Township	Burlington
Suzanne Cairns-Wells	Riverton Borough	Burlington
Stacey F. Jordan	Moorestown Township	Burlington
Phyllis A. Magazzu	Berlin Township	Camden
Theresa Branella	Brooklawn Borough	Camden
Meredith Dobbs	Hi-Nella Borough	Camden
Mary Ann Wardlow	Lawnside Borough	Camden
Bettyann Cowling-Carson	Magnolia Borough	Camden
Judith Davies-Dunhour	Stone Harbor Borough	Cape May
Carol Sabo	West Cape May Borough	Cape May
Abigail O'Brien	Deerfield Township	Cumberland
Patricia Gross	Maurice River Township	Cumberland
Ann Dassing	Caldwell Borough	Essex
Cheryl Burstein	Millburn Township	Essex
Sheena Collum	South Orange Village Township	Essex
Leah Vassallo	Franklin Township	Gloucester
Denice Dicarlo	West Deptford Township	Gloucester

**WOMEN MAYORS (continued)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Municipality</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
Jessica M. Floyd	Woodbury City	Gloucester
Martha Tersigni	Bloomsbury Borough	Hunterdon
Janice Kovach	Clinton Town	Hunterdon
Betty Ann Fort	Readington Township	Hunterdon
Janice S. Mironov	East Windsor Township	Mercer
Gayle Brill Mittler	Highland Park Borough	Middlesex
Marlene Lowande	Jamesburg Borough	Middlesex
Rhonda Legrice	Atlantic Highlands Borough	Monmouth
Susan Howard	Monmouth Beach Borough	Monmouth
Peggy Malkin	Roosevelt Borough	Monmouth
Dina Long	Sea Bright Borough	Monmouth
Jennifer Naughton	Spring Lake Borough	Monmouth
Janet W. Tucci	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth
Janet Hoven	Chester Borough	Morris
Marcia Asdal	Chester Township	Morris
Lauren Barnett	Mountain Lakes Borough	Morris
Catherine Winterfield	Pequannock Township	Morris
Nancy Davis	Beach Haven Borough	Ocean
Debra A. Rivas	Eagleswood Township	Ocean
Susan R. Marshall	Tuckerton Borough	Ocean
Bettina A. Bieri	West Milford Township	Passaic
Ellen B. Pompper	Lower Alloways Creek Township	Salem
Caryl Shoffner	South Bound Brook Borough	Somerset
Janis MCGovern	Andover Borough	Sussex
Rosemarie Maio	Stanhope Borough	Sussex
Lisa Chammings	Stillwater Township	Sussex
Katherine Little	Sussex Borough	Sussex
Rachel Slater	Ogdensburg Borough	Sussex
Colleen Mahr	Fanwood Borough	Union
Dahlia Vertreese	Hillside Township	Union
Christine Dansereau	Roselle Borough	Union
Nora G. Radest	Summit City	Union
Maria Digiovanni	Hackettstown Township	Warren
Adele Starrs	Knowlton Township	Warren

**STATE SUPREME COURT** Two 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 and Justice Anne Patterson, appointed by Governor Chris Christie and sworn in on September 1, 2011.

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, four women serve as county chairs:

**Arlene Perez** (Hunterdon)  
**Verlina Reynolds-Jackson** (Mercer)  
**Peg Schaffer** (Somerset)  
**Leslie Huhn** (Sussex)

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

**Lisa Richford** (Mercer)  
**Lucille Panos** (Middlesex)  
**Patti Page** (Morris)

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