

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 2010, **Kim Guadagno** (R) took office as New Jersey's first lieutenant governor, a newly-created position. She was re-elected in 2013. 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 Chris Christie has seven women in his cabinet. This represents 29.1% of his 24-member cabinet.

Kimberley Harrington	Commissioner of Education	9/2/16-present
Cathleen Bennett	Commissioner of Health	8/3/15-present
Rochelle Hendricks	Secretary of Higher Education	5/13/11-present
Allison Blake	Commissioner of Children and Families	5/14/10-present
Kim Guadagno	Lieutenant Governor; Secretary of State	1/10/10-present
Melissa Orsen	Chief Executive Officer, Economic Development Authority	2/26/15-present
Elizabeth Connolly	Acting Commissioner of Human Services	2/28/15-present
Mary O'Dowd	Commissioner of Health and Senior Services	4/01/11-7/15
Jennifer Velez	Commissioner of Human Services	1/10/10-2/28/15
Michele Brown	Chief Executive Officer, Economic Development Authority	10/1/12-1/22/15
Dianne Solomon	President, Board of Public Utilities	6/27/13-10/05/14
Paula Dow	Attorney General	1/10/10-1/3/12
Lori Grifa	Commissioner of Community Affairs	1/10/10-1/2/12
Poonam Alaigh	Commissioner of Health and Senior Services	1/10/10-4/01/11
Rochelle Hendricks	Acting Commissioner of Education	8/27/10-12/20/10
Janet Rosenzweig	Acting Commissioner of Children and Families	1/10/10-4/16/10
Kara Wood	Acting Commissioner of Children and Families	4/19/10-5/14/10

STATE In 2017, **36** women serve in New Jersey's state legislature, holding **30%** of the 120 available seats.

LEGISLATURE Nationally women hold **24.9%** of all state legislative seats; New Jersey ranks 14th among the 50 states in the proportion of women serving in its legislature. Women of color make up 50% of all women in the New Jersey legislature: 54% of women in the Senate and 48% of women in the Assembly.

Senate In 2017, of the 40 (24D, 16R) seats in the New Jersey State Senate, **11** are held by women (27.5%). Eight are Democrats and three are Republicans:

Dawn Marie Addiego (R-8)

Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31)

M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29)

Diane B. Allen (R-7)

Nia H. Gill (D-34)

Shirley K. Turner (D-15)

Jennifer Beck (R-11)

Linda R. Greenstein (D-14)

Loretta Weinberg (D-37)

Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D-5)

Nellie Pou (D-35)

Loretta Weinberg serves as the Senate majority leader and Nia Gill 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 2017, of the 80 (52D, 28R) members of the State Assembly, **25**, or **31.3%**, are women. Eighteen are Democrats and seven are Republicans:

Marlene Caride (D-36)	Patricia Egan Jones (D-5)	Eliana Pintor Marin (D-29)
Annette Chaparro (D-33)	Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6)	Annette Quijano (D-20)
BettyLou DeCroce (R-26)	Angela McKnight (D-31)	Maria Rodriguez-Gregg (R-8)
Joann Downey (D-11)	Gabriela M. Mosquera (D-4)	Holly T. Schepisi (R-39)
DiAnne C. Gove (R-9)	Nancy F. Muñoz (R-21)	Shavonda E. Sumter (D-35)
Amy H. Handlin (R-13)	Elizabeth Maher Muoio (D-15)	Cleopatra G. Tucker (D-28)
Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37)	Sheila Y. Oliver (D-34)	Blonnie Watson (D-29)
Mila M. Jasey (D-27)	Gail Phoebus (R-24)	
Angelica M. Jimenez (D-32)	Nancy J. Pinkin (D-18)	

Six Latinas (Caride, Chaparro, Jimenez, Mosquera, Quijano and Rodriguez-Gregg) and six Black women (Jasey, McKnight, Oliver, Sumter, Tucker and Watson) 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

Senate	Majority Leader President Pro Tempore Assistant Majority Leader Assistant Majority Leader Majority Whip Deputy Conference Leader Deputy Republican Leader	Loretta Weinberg (D-37) Nia H. Gill (D-34) Linda R. Greenstein (D-14) M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29) Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31) Jennifer Beck (R-11) Diane B. Allen (R-7)
Assembly	Majority Conference Leader Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker Deputy Majority Leader Deputy Majority Leader Deputy Republican Leader Deputy Conference Leader Policy Co-chair	Shavonda E. Sumter (D-35) Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6) Mila M. Jasey (D-27) Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37) Annette Quijano (D-20) Angelica M. Jimenez (D-32) Amy H. Handlin (R-13) Nancy F. Munoz (R-21) DiAnne C. Gove (R-9)

WOMEN COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Senate	Commerce Education Higher Education Law and Public Safety	Nellie Pou (D-35) M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29) Sandra B. Cunningham (D-31) Linda Greenstein (D-14)
Assembly	Education Higher Education Homeland Security and State Preparedness Human Services Military and Veterans Affairs Women and	Marlene Caride (D-36) Mila M. Jasey (D-27) Annette Quijano (D-20) Valerie Vainieri Huttle (D-37) Cleopatra G. Tucker (D-28) Pamela R. Lampitt (D-6)

COUNTY EXECUTIVES In 2017, among the five counties in New Jersey that elect executives, no woman holds that title.

COUNTY FREEHOLDERS In 2017, **38**, or **27.7%**, of the 137 (75D, 62R) county freeholders in New Jersey are women; four women serve as freeholder chairs, directors or presidents. Women serve as freeholders in 20 of the state's 21 counties; 23 Democrats and 15 Republicans currently serve. The one county with no women freeholders is Warren.

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

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

COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS In 2017, **25** women serve as elected constitutional officers in New Jersey's counties. They hold 38.5% of the 65 available positions. These women officials include: 12 county clerks, 2 registers, 2 sheriffs and 9 surrogates.

County Clerks

Rita Marie Fulginiti (R-Cape May)
Celeste Riley (D-Cumberland)
Barbara A. Netchert (D-Hudson)
Mary Melfi (R-Hunterdon)
Paula Sollami-Covello (D-Mercer)
Elaine Flynn (D-Middlesex)
Christine Giordano Hanlon (R-Monmouth)
Ann F. Grossi (R-Morris)
Kristin M. Corrado (R-Passaic)
Gilda T. Gill (R-Salem)
Joanne Rajoppi (D-Union)
Patricia J. Kolb (R-Warren)

Register

Pamela Gardner (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 (Gardner, Rone, Scott) and one Latina (Toledo) currently serve in county constitutional offices.

WOMEN MAYORS As of January 2017, among the 74 cities with populations over 30,000 in New Jersey, 9 (12.2%) have women mayors. One Black woman (Dana Redd, Camden) and one Latina (Wilda Diaz, Perth Amboy) serve as big city mayors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>County</u>
Kelly Yaede	Hamilton Township	88,464	Mercer
Dana Redd	Camden City	77,344	Camden
Suzette Cavadas	Union Township	56,642	Union
Theresa Berger	Howell Township	51,075	Monmouth
Wilda Diaz	Perth Amboy City	50,814	Middlesex
Dawn Zimmer	Hoboken City	38,577	Hudson
Joann Gattinelli	Washington Township	48,559	Gloucester
Susan Cohen	Manalapan	38,872	Monmouth
Betsy McBride	Pennsauken Township	35,885	Camden

As of January 2017, of the 491 New Jersey municipalities with populations less than 30,000, 71 or 14.5% 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 V. 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
Janet Sobkowicz	Washington Township	Bergen
Deborah Buzby-Cope	Bass River Township	Burlington
Lauren Kremper	Edgewater Park Township	Burlington
Linda Bobo	Mount Laurel Township	Burlington
Michelle Arnold	Palmyra Borough	Burlington
Suzanne Cairns-Wells	Riverton Borough	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
Pamela Kaithern	West Cape May Borough	Cape May
Patricia Gross	Maurice River Township	Cumberland
Ann Dassing	Caldwell Borough	Essex
Cheryl Burstein	Millburn Township	Essex
Sheena Collum	South Orange Village Township	Essex
Denice Dicarolo	West Deptford Township	Gloucester
Jessica M. Floyd	Woodbury City	Gloucester

WOMEN MAYORS (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>County</u>
Martha Tersigni	Bloomsbury Borough	Hunterdon
Janice Kovach	Clinton Town	Hunterdon
Kathryn Blew	Franklin Township	Hunterdon
Karen Gilbert	Raritan Township	Hunterdon
Betty Ann Fort	Readington Township	Hunterdon
Dana Desiderio	Tewksbury Township	Hunterdon
Janice S. Mironov	East Windsor Township	Mercer
Liz Lempert	Princeton	Mercer
Gayle Brill Mittler	Highland Park Borough	Middlesex
Marlene Lowande	Jamesburg Borough	Middlesex
Rhonda Legrice	Atlantic Highlands Borough	Monmouth
Susan Kiley	Hazlet Township	Monmouth
Susan Howard	Monmouth Beach Borough	Monmouth
Christina Wetter	Ocean Township	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
Diana Orban Brown	Mendham Township	Morris
Sam Morris	Mine Hill Township	Morris
Catherine Winterfield	Pequannock Township	Morris
Christine Carey	Randolph Township	Morris
Nancy Davis	Beach Haven Borough	Ocean
Susan R. Marshall	Tuckerton Borough	Ocean
Bettina A. Bieri	West Milford Township	Passaic
Ellen B. Pompper	Lower Alloways Creek Township	Salem
Carolyn Gaziano	Bernards Township	Somerset
Caryl Shoffner	South Bound Brook Borough	Somerset
Carolann Garafola	Warren Township	Somerset
Margaret Phillips	Green Township	Sussex
Sandra Lee Diglio	Newton Town	Sussex
Rosemarie Maio	Stanhope Borough	Sussex
Lisa Chammings	Stillwater Township	Sussex
Katherine Little	Sussex Borough	Sussex
Colleen Mahr	Fanwood Borough	Union
Angela Garretson	Hillside Township	Union
Christine Dansereau	Roselle Borough	Union
Diane Stampoulos	Springfield Township	Union
Nora G. Radest	Summit City	Union
Susan Wright	Winfield Township	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 (Samuel Raia). In the 21 counties, two women serves as a county chairs:

Lucille Panos (Middlesex)
Lisa Richford (Mercer)

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