

WOMEN IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2011

In 2011, 73 women hold seats in the House of Representatives, comprising 16.8% of the 435 members. The women represent 27 states; 49 are Democrats and 24 are Republicans. Democratic women delegates also represent the District of Columbia, Guam and the Virgin Islands. The congresswomen include 24 women of color: 13 African American women, 4 Asian Pacific Islanders, and 7 Latinas. The delegates include a Caribbean American and an African American. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), who was the first woman Speaker of the House, is now House Minority Leader.

Of the 73 women who served in the House in 2010, four did not seek re-election and nine lost their elections. The remaining 59 (44D, 15R) were re-elected.

Of the 73 women who serve in the House in 2011, 56 first entered by winning regular general elections. Fifteen others won special elections; Bono Mack (CA), Capps (CA), Chu (CA), Edwards (MD), Fudge (OH), Hahn (CA), Hochul (NY), Lee (CA), Matsui (CA), Pelosi (CA), Richardson (CA), Ros-Lehtinen (FL), Schmidt (OH), Speier (CA), and Tsongas (MA) succeeded others who died or resigned. Emerson (MO) won a regular election simultaneously with a special election to fill a vacancy. The DC, GU and VI Delegates won regular general elections.

Prior to entering Congress, 54, or 74.0%, of the 73 women lawmakers held previous elective offices; 29 of the 54 held more than one post. The positions include: statewide elective (4); state senator (17); state representative (35); county elective (7); municipal elective (18); judge (1); school board member (7).

The women who serve in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2011 include:

<u>Congresswomen</u>	<u>Routes to Office</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
Sandra Adams (R-FL)	State representative; Sheriff's office investigator; U.S. Air Force. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Michele Bachmann (R-MN)	State senator; assistant minority leader; tax litigation attorney. Elected to the U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)	State representative; county board of supervisors. Elected to U.S. House in 1998.	1/6/99 - present
Karen Bass (D-CA)	State assembly speaker; assemblywoman; Los Angeles school board member; community activist. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Shelley Berkley (D-NV)	Nevada state assembly; vice chair, university board of regents; attorney. Elected to U.S. House in 1998.	1/6/99 - present
Judy Biggert (R-IL)	State representative; planning commissioner; school board member; attorney. Elected to U.S. House in 1998.	1/6/99 - present
Diane Black (R-TN)	State senator; state representative. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)	State senator, state representative, executive director of Tennessee Film, Entertainment and Music Commission, businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2002.	1/7/03 - present
Mary Bono Mack (R-CA)	Businesswoman; restaurateur. Won a special election in 1998 to fill a vacancy caused by the death of her husband.	4/21/98 - present
Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU)	Lieutenant Governor, Guam senator, Guam's First Lady, community organizer. Elected to U.S. House in 2002.	1/7/03 - present
Corrine Brown (D-FL)	State representative; educator. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Ann Marie Buerkle (R-NY)	Attorney; nurse; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	State delegate; counselor; children's advocate. Elected to U.S. House in 2000.	1/3/01 - present

A note to users of our fact sheets: Please credit the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University. Additional information from *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774 - 1989*, U.S. Government Printing Office, and *Women in the United States Congress*, Congressional Research Service.

<u>Congresswomen</u>	<u>Routes to Office</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
Lois Capps (D-CA)	School nurse; educator; health consultant for child development programs. Won a special election in 1998 to fill a vacancy caused by the death of her husband.	3/17/98 - present
Kathy Castor (D-FL)	Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners; assistant general counsel to the Florida Department of Community Affairs in Tallahassee. Elected to U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Donna Christensen (D-VI)	Acting commissioner of health; Board of Education member; Democratic party activist; physician. Elected as delegate from the Virgin Islands in 1996.	1/7/97 - present
Judy Chu (D-CA)	California state board of equalization member; state assembly; Monterey Park mayor and councilwoman; board of education member; educator. Won a special election July 14, 2009 to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Congresswoman Hilda Solis to become Secretary of Labor.	7/16/09 - present
Yvette Clarke (D-NY)	Councilwoman; director of business development for Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation; director of Bronx portion of the New York City Empowerment Zone. Elected to U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Susan Davis (D-CA)	State assemblywoman; president, San Diego city school board. Elected to U.S. House in 2000.	1/3/01 - present
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	Congressional aide; executive director of EMILY's List; community organizer. Elected to U.S. House in 1990.	1/3/91 - present
Diana DeGette (D-CO)	State representative; state house assistant leader; Denver Democratic party resolutions chair; civil rights and employment lawyer. Elected to U.S. House in 1996.	1/7/97 - present
Donna Edwards (D-MD)	Attorney; executive director, The Arca Foundation; businesswoman; clerk to District of Columbia Superior Court Judge. Won special election to fill a vacancy.	6/19/08 - present
Renee Ellmers (R-NC)	Nurse; Dunn, NC planning board. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO)	Advisory board, Members & Family Room, U.S. House; small business advisory commission; business lobbyist. Elected concurrently to fill vacancy caused by her husband's death and to serve a full term in the U.S. House in 1996.	11/25/96 - present
Anna Eshoo (D-CA)	San Mateo County supervisor and board president. Ran unsuccessfully for U.S. House in 1988. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Virginia Foxx (R-NC)	State senator; county board of education; college instructor and administrator. Elected to U.S. House in 2004.	1/4/05 - present
Marcia Fudge (D-OH)	Mayor of Warrensville Heights; Congressional chief of staff; attorney; Won special election to fill a vacancy.	11/19/08 - present
Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ)	State senator; state representative. Elected to U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Kay Granger (R-TX)	Mayor of Fort Worth; board of trustees of the US Conference of Mayors; educator; small business owner. Elected to U.S. House in 1996.	1/7/97 - present
Janice Hahn (D-CA)	Los Angeles city councilwoman; Los Angeles Charter Reform Commission; educator. Won a special election to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Congresswoman Jane Harman.	7/19/11 - present
Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI)	State senator; state senate president; attorney. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Vicky J. Hartzler (R-MO)	Cass County Republican Central Committee; Teacher; businesswoman. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Nan Hayworth (R-NY)	Ophthalmologist; vice president of communications company. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)	State representative; assistant minority floor leader; legislative assistant to congresswoman McMorris Rodgers; Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Mazie Hirono (D-HI)	Lieutenant governor; state representative; state deputy attorney general. Elected to U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Kathy Hochul (D-NY)	County clerk for Erie County; Hamburg Town Board; attorney. Won special election to fill a vacancy.	5/26/11 - present
Lynn M. Jenkins (R-KS)	State treasurer; state senator; state representative; accountant; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2008.	1/6/09 - present

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Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)	State senator; state representative; administrator in Department of Health, Education and Welfare; nurse; consultant. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)	Urban planner; White House domestic policy aide. Elected to U.S. House in 1982.	1/3/83 - present
Barbara Lee (D-CA)	State senator; state assemblywoman; senior advisor and administrative assistant to member of Congress. Won a special election in 1998 to fill a vacancy caused by a resignation.	4/21/98 - present
Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)	Council member; municipal court associate judge; attorney; congressional committee counsel. Elected to U.S. House in 1994.	1/4/95 - present
Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	Santa Clara County Supervisor; attorney; law teacher; executive director of low-income housing development group; congressional aide. Elected to U.S. House in 1994.	1/4/95 - present
Nita Lowey (D-NY)	Assistant New York secretary of state. Elected to U.S. House in 1988.	1/3/89 - present
Cynthia M. Lummis (R-WY)	State treasurer; state senator; state representative; interim director, Office of State Lands and Investments; general counsel, Office of the Governor; clerk, Wyoming Supreme Court; attorney. Elected to U.S. House in 2008.	1/6/09 - present
Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)	New York city council member; educator; administrator. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Doris Matsui (D-CA)	Public policy advocate; deputy assistant to the President and deputy director of public liaison in the Clinton administration. Won special election in 2005 to fill a vacancy caused by the death of her husband.	3/10/05 - present
Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)	Lobbyist on gun control issues; nurse. Elected to U.S. House in 1996.	1/7/97 - present
Betty McCollum (D-MN)	State representative; North St. Paul City Councilwoman; educator; businesswoman. Elected to the U.S. House in 2000.	1/3/01 - present
Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	State representative and House Republican leader. Elected to U.S. House in 2004.	1/4/05 - present
Candice Miller (R-MI)	Michigan Secretary of State, Macomb County Treasurer, Harrison Township Supervisor, Harrison Township Trustee. Elected to U.S. House in 2002.	1/7/03 - present
Gwen Moore (D-WI)	State senator; assemblywoman; city and state government administrator. Elected to U.S. House in 2004.	1/4/05 - present
Sue Myrick (R-NC)	Charlotte mayor; city council member; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 1994.	1/4/95 - present
Grace Napolitano (D-CA)	State assemblywoman; mayor, Norwalk; city council member; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 1998.	1/6/99 - present
Kristi Noem (R-SD)	State representative; assistant majority leader; farmer/rancher; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission chair; New York City Commission on Human Rights chair; law professor. Elected as delegate from the District of Columbia in 1990.	1/3/91 - present
Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)	Chair of California Democratic party; Democratic National Committee member; party activist; public relations executive. Won special election in 1987 to fill a vacancy caused by death of Congresswoman Sala Burton.	6/9/87 - present
Chellie M. Pingree (D-ME)	State senator; Senate majority leader; North Haven Planning Board member; North Haven tax assessor; School Board chair; president, Common Cause; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2008.	1/6/09 - present
Laura Richardson (D-CA)	State assemblywoman; councilwoman; served as Southern California director for Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante; businesswoman. Won special election in 2007 to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald.	9/4/07 - present
Martha Roby (R-AL)	Councilwoman; attorney. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)	State senator; state representative; educator; businesswoman. Won special election in 1989 to fill a vacancy.	9/6/89 - present

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Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)	State assemblywoman. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Linda Sanchez (D-CA)	Executive secretary-treasurer for Orange County Central Labor Council, labor compliance officer, attorney. Elected to U.S. House in 2002.	1/7/03 - present
Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)	Santa Ana businesswoman; financial consultant to local governments. Elected to U.S. House in 1996.	1/7/97 - present
Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)	State representative; director, Illinois Public Action; educator. Elected to U.S. House in 1998.	1/6/99 - present
Jean Schmidt (R-OH)	State representative; trustee for Miami Township, Clermont County; Clermont County Republican chair. Won special election in 2005 to fill a vacancy.	2005-present
Allyson Schwartz (D-PA)	State senator; government agency and non-profit organization manager. Elected to U.S. House in 2004.	1/4/05 - present
Terri Sewell (D-AL)	Staffer for Senator Heflin and Congressman Shelby; attorney. Elected to U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Louise Slaughter (D-NY)	State assemblywoman; Monroe County legislator; gubernatorial staff member. Elected to U.S. House in 1986.	1/3/87 - present
Jackie Speier (D-CA)	State senator; state assemblywoman; San Mateo county supervisor; legal counsel to congressman; attorney. Won special election in 2008 to fill a vacancy caused by death.	4/10/08 - present
Betty Sutton (D-OH)	State representative; councilwoman. Elected to U.S. House in 2006.	1/4/07 - present
Niki Tsongas (D-MA)	College Dean of External Affairs; attorney; social worker. Won special election to fill a vacancy.	10/17/07 - present
Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)	New York city council member; director of the Department of Puerto Rican Community Affairs; educator. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present
Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)	State senator; state representative. Elected to U.S. House in 2004.	1/4/05 - present
Maxine Waters (D-CA)	State assemblywoman; educator. Elected to U.S. House in 1990.	1/3/91 - present
Frederica Wilson (D-FL)	State senator; state representative; school board member. Elected to the U.S. House in 2010.	1/5/11 - present
Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)	Petaluma city council member; vice mayor; businesswoman. Elected to U.S. House in 1992.	1/5/93 - present