

## WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 2009

In 2009, 90 women serve in the U.S. Congress. Seventeen women serve in the Senate and 73 women serve in the House. The number of women in statewide elective executive posts is 73, while the proportion of women in state legislatures is 24.3 percent.

**CONGRESS** In 2009, women hold **90**, or **16.8%**, of the 535 seats in the 111th U.S. Congress — **17**, or **17.0%**, of the 100 seats in the Senate and **73**, or **16.8%**, of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) is Speaker of the House and second in the presidential line of succession. She is the first woman to hold the top House post.

**Seventeen women serve in the Senate: Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Maria Cantwell (D-WA); Susan Collins (R-ME); Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY); Kay Hagan (D-NC); Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX); Amy Klobuchar (D-MN); Mary Landrieu (D-LA); Blanche Lincoln (D-AR); Claire McCaskill (D-MO); Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); Lisa Murkowski (R-AK); Patty Murray (D-WA); Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH); Olympia Snowe (R-ME); and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI).**

**Seventy-three** women from 31 states serve in the House of Representatives; **56** are Democrats and **17** are Republicans. In addition, three Democratic women serve as the Delegates to the House from Guam, the Virgin Islands and Washington, DC.

**STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICES** 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.

### GOVERNORS — 6(3D, 3R)

AZ Jan Brewer (R)  
CT M. Jodi Rell (R)  
HI Linda Lingle (R)  
MI Jennifer Granholm (D)  
NC Beverly M. Perdue (D)  
WA Christine Gregoire (D)

### LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS — 8 (6D, 2R)

CO Barbara O'Brien (D)  
IA Patty Judge (D)  
IN Becky Skillman (R)  
MN Carol L. Molnau (R)  
NM Diane D. Denish (D)  
OK Jari Askins (D)  
RI Elizabeth Roberts (D)  
WI Barbara Lawton (D)

### Attorney General - 4 (4D)

### Secretary of State - 12 (10D, 2R)

### State Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer - 10 (8D, 2R)

### State Comptroller - 4 (2D, 2R)

### State Auditor - 8 (5D, 3R)

### Chief State Education Official — 5 (3D, 1R, 1NP\*)

*(title varies from state to state)*

### Commissioner of Insurance - 3 (2D, 1R)

### Commissioner of Labor - 1R

### Corporation Commissioner - 3(1D, 2R)

### Public Service Commissioner - 5 (5D)

### Public Regulation Commissioner - 1D

### Railroad Commissioner - 1R

\* NP = election was nonpartisan.

## WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 2009 (continued)

**STATE LEGISLATURES** In 2009, 1,797, or 24.3%, of the 7,382 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold 433, or 22.0%, of the 1,971 state senate seats and 1,364, or 25.2%, of the 5,411 state house seats. Since 1971, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quintupled.

The states with the highest percentages of women state legislators are:

<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>
New Hampshire	37.5	Washington	32.7
Vermont	37.2	Nevada	31.7
Colorado	37.0	Connecticut	31.6
Minnesota	34.8	Arizona	31.1
Hawaii	32.9	Maryland	30.9

**MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS** As of July 2009, among the 100 largest cities in the U.S., 10 had women mayors. Three are African American (Shirley Franklin, Atlanta; Sheila Dixon, Baltimore; and Yvonne J. Johnson, Greensboro). In order of city population,<sup>1</sup> the mayors are:

<u>City</u>	<u>Mayor</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Baltimore, MD	Sheila Dixon	15
Fresno, CA	Ashley Swearengin	36
Atlanta, GA	Shirley Franklin	38
Tulsa, OK	Kathryn L. Taylor	40
Tampa, FL	Pam Iorio	55
Stockton, CA	Ann Johnston	67
Greensboro, NC	Yvonne J. Johnson	75
Glendale, AZ	Elaine M. Scruggs	79
Chula Vista, CA	Cheryl Cox	89
Spokane, WA	Mary Verner	100

As of July 2009, of the 244 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 100,000, 33, or 13.5%, were women, including five African Americans, one Latina and one Asian/Pacific Islander. Of the 1156 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, 203, or 17.6%, were women.<sup>2</sup>

### PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICES

<u>Year</u>	<u>U.S. Congress</u>	<u>Statewide Elective</u>	<u>State Legislatures</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>U.S. Congress</u>	<u>Statewide Elective</u>	<u>State Legislatures</u>
1979	3%	11%	10%	1997	11.0%	25.4%	21.6%
1981	4%	11%	12%	1999	12.1%	27.6%	22.4%
1983	4%	11%	13%	2001	13.6%	27.6%	22.4%
1985	5%	14%	15%	2003	13.6%	26.0%	22.4%
1987	5%	14%	16%	2004	13.8%	26.0%	22.5%
1989	5%	14%	17%	2005	15.0%	25.7%	22.7%
1991	6%	18%	18%	2006	15.0%	25.1%	22.8%
1993	10.1%	22.2%	20.5%	2007	16.1%	24.1%	23.5%
1995	10.3%	25.9%	20.6%	2008	16.5%	23.2%	23.7%
				2009	16.8%	22.6%	24.3%

<sup>1</sup> According to data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

<sup>2</sup> Information was compiled using the United States Conference of Mayors' 2009 website directory, [www.usmayors.org/uscm/meet\\_mayors](http://www.usmayors.org/uscm/meet_mayors), as the primary reference.