



CAWP

Election Watch

Press Advisory

Revised December 21, 2006

Election 2006: Record Number of Women Run for State Legislatures

A record 2,429 women are general election candidates for state legislative seats in 2006, according to information compiled by the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. The previous peak was in 1992, when 2,375 women ran.¹

CAWP reports that the candidates include 1,559 Democrats, 861 Republicans, 7 women running in non-partisan races and 2 Progressive Party members.² The winners will join 239 holdovers who are not up for election this year. More details and historical information on women state legislative candidates are available here.

For state-by-state information about women candidates for federal, statewide and state legislative offices, visit CAWP's Election Watch page.

For additional information:

Debbie Walsh, director, CAWP
(732) 932-9384, ext. 227
walsh @ rci.rutgers.edu

Gilda Morales, program manager, information services
(732) 932-9384, ext. 264
gmm @ rci.rutgers.edu

1. Because some states hold state senate and/or state house elections every four years, comparisons between four year periods will generally reflect the same overall number of races (except in years with redistricting); comparisons between two year periods may not.
2. Third party candidates are not included unless they are incumbents or until they have won their races.