

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN 2012

In 2012, **75** women hold statewide elective executive offices across the country; women hold **23.4%** of the 320 available positions.* Among these women **38** are Democrats, **36** are Republicans, and **1** was elected in a nonpartisan race.

To date, women have been elected statewide to executive offices in 49 of the nation's 50 states. In Maine, the governor is the only executive elected statewide, and a woman has never served as governor there.

GOVERNORS

Six women (2D, 4R) serve as **governors** in 2012.

Jan Brewer, an Arizona Republican, in 2010 was elected to a full term. She became governor by constitutional succession when Janet Napolitano resigned to become Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Brewer was elected secretary of state in 2002 and 2006. She served as Maricopa County supervisor from 1997 to 2002. She served in Arizona's State Senate and House of Representatives from 1983 to 1996.

Mary Fallin, an Oklahoma Republican, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2010. She served as U.S. Representative from 2007-2011. She was lieutenant governor from 1995 to 2007 and served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives from 1990 to 1994.

Christine Gregoire, a Washington Democrat, won a very close race in 2004 for an open gubernatorial seat. She was first elected attorney general in 1992 and re-elected in 1996 and 2000. An attorney, she served as director of Washington State's Department of Ecology.

Nikki Haley a South Carolina Republican, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2010. She served in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 2005 to 2011. She served as majority whip from 2007 to 2011. She was assistant executive director, Lexington Medical Center Foundation. She served as a major in the Civil Air Patrol. She owns a business with her family.

Susana Martinez, a New Mexico Republican, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2010. She was elected the Dona Ana County District Attorney, serving from 1996 to 2009.

Beverly M. Perdue, a North Carolina Democrat, won an open gubernatorial seat in 2008. She was elected lieutenant governor in 2000 and 2004. She served in the North Carolina State Senate and House of Representatives from 1987 to 1999. She was a public school teacher and served as director of geriatric services at a community hospital. She holds a Ph.D. in education administration.

HISTORY OF WOMEN GOVERNORS

Thirty-four women (19D,15R) have served as governors in 26 states. In addition, one woman has served as governor in Puerto Rico. Arizona is the first state where a woman succeeded another woman as governor, and the first state to have had four women governors. Of the 34 women governors, 23 were first elected in their own right; 3 replaced their husbands, and 8 became governor by constitutional succession, three of whom subsequently won a full term. The record number of women serving simultaneously, achieved in 2004 and again in 2007, is 9.

Name (Party-State)	Dates served	Special circumstances
Nellie Tayloe Ross (D-WY)	1925-1927	Won special election to replace deceased husband.
Miriam "Ma" Ferguson (D-TX)	1925-1927, 1933-1935	Inaugurated 15 days after Ross; elected as surrogate for husband who could not succeed himself.
Lurleen Wallace (D-AL)	1967-1968	Elected as surrogate for husband who could not succeed himself.

* These figures do not include: officials in appointive state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; officials elected as commissioners or board members from districts rather than statewide; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN (continued)

HISTORY OF WOMEN GOVERNORS (cont.)

Name (Party-State)	Dates served	Special circumstances
Ella Grasso (D-CT)	1975-1980	First woman elected governor in her own right; resigned for health reasons.
Dixy Lee Ray (D-WA)	1977-1981	
Vesta Roy (R-NH)	1982-1983	Elected to state senate and chosen as senate president; served as governor for seven days when incumbent died.
Martha Layne Collins (D-KY)	1984-1987	
Madeleine Kunin (D-VT)	1985-1991	First and only woman to serve three terms as governor.
Kay Orr (R-NE)	1987-1991	First Republican woman governor and first woman to defeat another woman in a gubernatorial race.
Rose Mofford (D-AZ)	1988-1991	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who was impeached and convicted.
Joan Finney (D-KS)	1991-1995	First woman to defeat an incumbent governor.
Ann Richards (D-TX)	1991-1995	
Barbara Roberts (D-OR)	1991-1995	
Christine Todd Whitman (R-NJ)	1994-2001	Resigned to take presidential appointment as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	1997-2003	
Jane Dee Hull (R-AZ)	1997-2003	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who resigned; later elected to a full term.
Nancy Hollister (R-OH)	1998-1999	Elected lieutenant governor; served as governor for 11 days when predecessor took U.S. Senate seat and successor had not yet been sworn in.
Jane Swift (R-MA)	2001-2003	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned for an ambassadorial appointment.
Judy Martz (R-MT)	2001-2005	
<i>Sila Calderon (Popular Democratic Party-PR)</i>	<i>2001-2005</i>	<i>Former mayor of San Juan, first woman governor of Puerto Rico.</i>
Ruth Ann Minner (D-DE)	2001-2009	
Linda Lingle (R-HI)	2002-2010	
Olene Walker (R-UT)	2003-2005	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned to take a federal appointment.
Janet Napolitano (D-AZ)	2003-2009	First woman to succeed another woman as governor. Resigned to become U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security.
Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS)	2003-2009	Father was governor of Ohio. Resigned to become U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.
Jennifer M. Granholm (D-MI)	2003-2011	
Kathleen Blanco (D-LA)	2004-2007	
M. Jodi Rell (R-CT)	2004-2011	Elected as lieutenant governor, succeeded governor who resigned.
Christine Gregoire (D-WA)	2004-present	
Sarah Palin (R-AK)	2007-2009	Resigned.
Beverly M. Perdue (D-NC)	2009-present	
Jan Brewer (R-AZ)	2009-present	Elected as secretary of state, succeeded governor who resigned.
Mary Fallin (R-OK)	2011-present	
Nikki Haley (R-SC)	2011-present	
Susana Martinez (R-NM)	2011-present	

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN (continued)

Additional Statewide Elected Offices

State	Name	Party
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR - 11 (4D, 7R)		
AL	Kay Ivey*	R
CT	Nancy Wyman*	D
FL	Jennifer Carroll	R
IA	Kim Reynolds	R
IL	Sheila Simon	D
IN	Becky Skillman	R
MN	Yvonne Solon	DFL**
NJ	Kim Guadagno	R
OH	Mary Taylor	R
RI	Elizabeth Roberts*	D
WI	Rebecca Kleefisch	R

* Elected independent of governor.

** The Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party is the state's Democratic Party.

ATTORNEY GENERAL - 7 (5D, 2R)

CA	Kamala Harris	D
FL	Pam Bondi	R
IL	Lisa Madigan	D
MA	Martha Coakley	D
MN	Lori Swanson	DFL*
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto	D
PA	Linda L. Kelly	R

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SECRETARY OF STATE - 12 (8D, 4R)

AL	Beth Chapman	R
CA	Debra Bowen	D
CT	Denise Merrill	D
IN	Connie Lawson	R
KY	Alison Lundergan Grimes	D
MI	Ruth Johnson	R
MO	Robin Carnahan	D
MT	Linda McCulloch	D
NC	Elaine Marshall	D
NM	Dianna Duran	R
OR	Kate Brown	D
WV	Natalie Tennant	D

STATE TREASURER/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER 8 (6D, 2R)

AR	Martha Shoffner	D
CT	Denise Nappier	D
MS	Lynn Fitch	R
NC	Janet Cowell	D
ND	Kelly Schmidt	R
NV	Kate Marshall	D
RI	Gina Raimondo	D
VT	Beth Pearce	D

STATE AUDITOR - 6 (4D, 2R)

AL	Samantha Shaw	R
MA	Suzanne Bump	D
MN	Rebecca Otto	DFL*
MT	Monica Lindeen	D
NC	Beth Wood	D
WY	Cynthia Cloud	R

* The Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party is the state's Democratic Party.

State	Name	Party
STATE COMPTROLLER/CONTROLLER - 4 (1D, 3R)		
ID	Donna M. Jones	R
IL	Judy Topinka	R
NV	Kim Wallin	D
TX	Susan Combs	R

CHIEF STATE EDUCATION OFFICIAL 5 (2D, 2 R, 1NP*)

(title varies from state to state)

MT	Denise Juneau	D
NC	June Atkinson	D
OK	Janet Barresi	R
OR	Susan Castillo	NP*
WY	Cindy Hill	R

*Election was nonpartisan.

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE - 2 (1D, 1R)

DE	Karen Weldin Stewart	D
KS	Sandy Praeger	R

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - 1R

NC	Cherie Killian Berry	R
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CORPORATION COMMISSIONER - 4 (1D, 3R)

AZ	Sandra Kennedy	D
AZ	Brenda Burns	R
OK	Dana Murphy	R
OK	Patrice Douglas	R

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE COMMISSIONER - 1R

MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith	R
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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER - 5 (3D, 2R)

AL	Lucy Baxley	D
AL	Twinkle Cavanaugh	R
MT	Gail Gutsche	D
NE	Anne Boyle	D
ND	Bonny Fetch	R

PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSIONER - 1D

NM	Theresa Becenti-Aguilar	D
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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER - 1R

SD	Kristie Fiegen	R
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RAILROAD COMMISSIONER - 1R

TX	Elizabeth Ames Jones	R
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