

Women in Government and Politics: Local Government, Political Parties and Voting

1. Women and Voting
 - a. U.S. Women's Party ID and Ideology
 - b. Female Votes by Marital Status
 - c. Party Identification by Marital Status
 - d. Gender Gap in Presidential Elections
 - e. Women Voters in 2014 Election
2. Women in Political Parties
 - a. Women in Power- by Position and Party
 - b. National Party Female Chairpersons
3. Women in Local Politics
 - a. Women at the State Level
 - i. General Statistics
 - ii. Women Serving as Governors and Attorney Generals
 - iii. Women Serving in State Legislatures
 - iv. Other Government Offices
 - b. Women in City Government
 - i. Women as Mayors
 - ii. Women in Leadership in Washington, D.C.
4. Women, Politics and Money
 - a. Fundraising
 - b. Donating

*****MORE DATA AND ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE
APPENDIX AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WOMEN WILL GET IT DONE HOME
SCREEN*****

1. WOMEN AND VOTING

- Since 1980, in every presidential election, the proportion of eligible female adults who have voted has exceeded male turnout.
- Women outnumber men among registered voters.
- The female vote can often tip the scale on who will win elections.

a. U.S. Women's Party ID and Ideology- Gallup Poll April 2012

	Stay-at-home mothers	All women
Republican	22%	26%
Independent	45%	38%
Democrat	30%	34%
Conservative	37%	37%
Moderate	39%	36%
Liberal	20%	23%

b. Female Votes by Marital Status

Married women tend to support Republicans while single women tend to vote for Democrats

	Share of Voting Population	Percentage Vote for Democrat	Percentage Vote for Republican
2012-Married Women	31%	46%	53%
2012-Unmarried Women	23%	67%	31%
2010-Married Women*	-	43%	54%
2010-Unmarried Women*	19%	61%	36%
2008-Married Women	32%	47%	50%
2008-Unmarried Women	21%	70%	29%
2006-Married Women	33%	48%	50%
2006-Unmarried Women	18%	66%	32%

*In the 2010 the Edison Research Poll, that year's National Election Pool Poll, did not publish votes by gender and marital status. The numbers used here are from a Lake Research Poll, conducted October 31st through November 2nd 2010. The married female share of the vote was not included.

c. Party Identification by Marital Status-Pew Research Center Poll March 2012

	Married Women	Single Women
Republican/Lean Republican	45%	31%
Democrat/Lean Democrat	48%	62%

	Married Men	Single Men
Republican/Lean Republican	53%	44%
Democrat/Lean Democrat	38%	46%

d. Gender Gap in Presidential Elections

The 1976 election, between Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, was the last election in which a candidate won the male and female vote by the same margin. Since then the Democratic Party has developed a strong base of support from women while Republicans have seen more support from men. The biggest gender gap in a presidential election came in 2000, when Al Gore won the female vote by 11 points while George W Bush won the male vote by 11 points, creating a 22 point total gap between the two genders.

	Winner	Female Vote	Male Vote	Gender Gap
1976	Jimmy Carter	+2	+2	0 points
1980	Ronald Reagan	+2	+19	17
1984	Ronald Reagan	+12	+25	13
1988	George HW Bush	+1	+16	15
1992	Bill Clinton	+8	+3	5
1996	Bill Clinton	+16	-1	17
2000	George W Bush	-11	+11	22
2004	George W Bush	-3	+11	14
2008	Barack Obama	+13	+1	12
2012	Barack Obama	+11	-7	18

e. Women Voters in 2014 Election:

2014 Results/Exit Polling:

- According to exit polls, women made up 51% of the estimated voter turnout.
- In the 2014 election, women voted for Democratic candidates by a four-point margin (51% to 47%).

- Women were ten points less likely than men to support Republicans in 2014. That gap was eight points in 2012, six points in 2010, five points in 2008 and four points in 2006.
- 42% of white women voted Democrat and 56% voted Republican; 91% of black women voted Democrat and 8% voted Republican; 66% of Latino women voted Democrat and 32% voted Republican.
- 44% of married women voted for Democrats, compared with 54% of married women who voted for Republicans.
- 60% of non-married women voted for Democrats, while only 38% voted for Republicans.
- 50% of women with children voted for Democrats, while 48% voted for Republicans
- 51% of women without children voted for Democrats, 47% voted for Republicans.

Source: United States National General Exit Poll, Conducted by Edison Research, 2014.

Pre-2014 Election Voter Survey, Pew Research Poll, May 2014

“How likely are you to vote in the election for Congress in 2014?”

	Total
Almost certain	76%
Probably	12%
50-50	9%
Will not vote	2%

“Who will you most likely be voting for: the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?”

	Total
Democratic candidate	42%
Lean Democratic candidate	4%
Total Democratic	46%
Republican candidate	37%
Lean Republican candidate	4%
Total Republican	41%
Other candidate	1%

2. WOMEN IN POLITICAL PARTIES

a. Women in Power- by Position and Party

Number of Women in Congress:

	Since 1992	Since 1789
Republicans	40	87
Democrats	83	157

Number of Women in the Senate:

	Since 1992	Since 1789
Republicans	8	15
Democrats	19	29

Number of Women Governors:

	Since 1992	Since 1789
Republicans	13	14
Democrats	9	20

b. National Party Female Chairpersons

- Neither party has a strong record of Chairperson Diversity.
- Since 1970 there have been 20 Chairpersons of the Democratic National Committee. Of those 20, only 3 have been women. First was Jean Westwood in 1972, then was Debra DeLee from 1994-1995 and last was Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, who is the current Chairperson and has held that role since 2011.
- Since 1970 there have been 19 Chairpersons of the Republican National Committee. Of them only one was female, Mary Louise Smith from 1974-1977.

Party	Total Number of Chairwomen	Percentage of Chairpersons that have been female (Since 1970)	Total Years of Female leadership (Since 1970)	Percentage of Years led by a female Chairperson (Since 1970)
Democratic	3	15.0%	5	

National Committee				11.9%
Republican National Committee	1	5.3%	3	7.1%

3. WOMEN IN LOCAL POLITICS

a. Women at the State Level

i. General Statistics (2014)

- In 2015, 77 women hold statewide elective executive offices across the country.
- Nationwide, women make up 24% of state legislatures
- Only 5 of the nation's 50 governors are women
- In the nation's 100 largest cities, there are only 12 female mayors.
- 18% of cities that have populations over 30,000 have female mayors
- In 2011: one-fifth of the female state legislators were minorities, 10% of the women in statewide elected executive officers were women of color, and 3 women of color were serving as mayors in the nation's 100 largest cities.
- There are nearly twice as many female Democrats in state legislatures (1,113) as female Republicans (636), and blue states elect far more women than red states (though, Republicans have narrowed the gap in recent years).
- Women have been elected statewide to executives offices in 49 if 50 states.

Source: Washington Post, Jaime Fuller, 5/22/14; Washington Post, Aaron Blake, 7/2/14 CAWP Fact Sheet, Women in Elective Office, 2015;

ii. Women as Governors and Attorneys General

- In 1975, Ella Grasso (D,CT) became the first woman elected governor in her own right

	Female Governors	Female State Attorneys General
1970	0 (0%)	0
1975	1 (2%)	0
1980	2 (4%)	0
1985	2 (4%)	2
1990	3 (6%)	2
1995	4 (8%)	10
2000	3 (6%)	9
2005	9 (18%)	6
2010	6 (12%)	5
2012	6 (12%)	8

iii. Women Serving in State Legislatures

Percent of Women in State Chambers, 2015

	Number of Women	Total	Percent Women	Party Division
Both Houses	1,789	7,383	24.2%	1,072D; 701R; 9NP; 4Ind
Senate	435	1,972	22.1%	261D, 164R, 9NP, 1Ind
House	1,351	5,411	25%	811D, 537R, 3Ind

Since 1971, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quintupled:

Year	Female Legislators	% of Total Legislators
1971	344	4.5%
1981	908	12.1%
1991	1,368	18.3%
2001	1,666	22.4%
2011	1,750	23.7%
2014	1,784	24.2%

Breakdown by Party for 2014:

	Total Female Legislators		Female State Senators		Female State Representatives	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Democrats	1,136	63.7	258	62.9	878	63.9
Republicans	663	65.5	141	34.4	492	35.8
Nonpartisans*	10	0.6	10	2.4	---	---
Progressives	4	0.2	---	---	4	0.3
Independent	1	0.1	1	0.2	---	---
Total	1,784	100.1	410	99.9	1,374	100.0

*In Nebraska, where the legislature is unicameral, legislators are elected on a nonpartisan basis

States with the highest percentage of women in the state legislature:

State	Total number of women in lower chamber and Senate	% Women in legislature
Colorado	41	41%
Vermont	73	40.6%
Arizona	32	35.6%
Minnesota	68	33.8%
Washington	48	32.7
New Hampshire	137	32.3%
Hawaii	24	31.6%
Illinois	55	31.1%
Maryland	57	30.3%
New Jersey	36	30%
Oregon	270	30%

States with the lowest percentage of women in the state legislature:

State	Total number of women in lower chamber and Senate	% Women in legislature
Louisiana	18	12.5%
Oklahoma	20	13.4%
Alabama	20	14.3%
Wyoming	14	15.6%
Utah	17	16.3%
West Virginia	22	16.4%
Arkansas	23	17%
North Dakota	24	17%
Virginia	24	17.1%
Mississippi	30	17.2%

Sources: National Conference of State Legislatures via Aaron Blake, *The Fix*, 7.2.14; Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) Fact Sheet, January 2014

iv. **Other Government Offices:**

In 2015, there are:

- 14 female Secretaries of State (7D, 7R)
- 7 State Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (4D, 3R)
- 2 State Comptroller (1 D, 1R)
- 8 State Auditors (4D, 4R)
- 9 Chief State Education Officials (3D, 5R, 1NP)
- 1 Agriculture and Commerce Commissioner (1R)
- 1 Commissioner of Labor (1R)
- 3 Corporation Commissioners (3R)
- 3 Public Service Commissioners (1D, 2R)
- 1 Public Utilities Commissioner (1R)
- 1 Railroad Commissioner (1R)

b. Women in City Government

i. Women as Mayors

In the last hundred years, the 50 largest American cities of 2012 have had 52 different women serve as mayor. Of those 50 cities, 19 have never seen a female mayor, including three of the nation's five largest cities: New York, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia.

-Portland, Oregon and Sacramento all had female mayors serve in the 1940s.

Year	Female Mayors
1970	0
1975	4
1980	9
1985	4
1990	10
1995	11
2000	9
2005	9
2010	4
2012	7

ii. Women in Leadership in Washington, D.C.

- D.C. started 2015 with three women in the District's most high-profile jobs
- Mayor Muriel Bowser was elected in 2014 and began her term January 2015
- Police Chief Cathy Lanier has been serving since January 2007
- Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson has been serving since June 2011
- This line-up makes D.C. the only big city in the country to have such prominent female leadership.

4. WOMEN, POLITICS AND MONEY

b. Fundraising

- “The role of money in political campaigns has grown significantly in the last 20 years and has drastically altered the landscape for campaigns, elections, and political participation. The cost of winning a congressional election has nearly doubled in 2012 dollars, with the average cost of winning a U.S. House seat at \$1.6 million, while a successful U.S. Senate bid averages \$10.35 million.” –*Money in Politics with a Gender Lens*
- As candidates, female Democrats rely most heavily on the support of female contributors and receive the highest proportion of their money from women.
- Democratic women running for Congress in 2014 received almost 40 percent of their money from women, compared with 29 percent for female Republicans.
- Once women accumulate power, their fund-raising ability grows much stronger.
- Women often don't have access to the same networks that men do, which is a special difficulty when it comes to money and fundraising.

c. Donating

- Males contribute more money to federal campaigns and make larger donations.
- Women historically have been more interested in giving to causes rather than to candidates.
- Of the top 100 contributors in 2012, only 11 were women; that's down from 21 in 1990.
- Women donate more consistently to congressional Democrats.
- Of the top ten Senators with the highest percent of campaign donations from women, only one is not a female democrat.
- In 2012, 56% of the donations from women who reported being employed outside the home went to Democrats, compared with 37% from women who identified themselves as homemakers.
- Women only made up 20% of donors to PACs in 2012, compared with 15% in 1990.
- Only five of the top 20 female donors gave to the GOP.
- Donation records for married couples are often filed under the name of the husband, but this does not mean that the wife is not an active participant in choosing and supporting issues and candidates.
- Hilary Clinton: Super PACs have historically raised only one-fifth of their resources from women but the majority of money raised by the Ready for Hillary PAC has come from women.

Total percent of contributions by women to candidates, political action committees (PACs) and party committees:

Year	Women's contributions %
1990	22%
2006	27%
2008	31%
2010	26%
2012	25%

* Many women give alongside their husbands, but contributions from both husband and wife are often reported only under the husband's name, underrepresenting the money that women are donating.

2014 Federal Campaigns:

	Total Amount from top male donors:	Total Amount from top female donors:
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Top 10 donors	\$51,140,820	\$8,058,370
Top 20 donors	\$62.6 million	\$11.2 million
Top donor overall:	Tom Steyer: \$18,290,200	Virginia James: \$1,831,000

Sources: Sarah Bryner and Doug Weber, *Sex, Money & Politics*, OpenSecrets.org; Jennifer Steinhauer, *As Fund-Raisers in Congress, Women Break the Cash Ceiling*, *New York Times*, 11/30/13; Anna Palmer and Tarini Parti, Politico, *Money gap: Why don't women give?*, July 22, 2014; Katy Waldeman, Slate, *Study: Men Shell Out a Lot More for Politicians than Women Do*, 1/15/14.