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OF THE WOMEN WILL GET IT DONE HOME SCREEN\*\*\***

## **GENERAL INFO: FEMALE OFFICE HOLDERS IN THE UNITED STATES, 2015**

Office	Percent Women
U.S. Senators	20.0%
Members of the U.S. House of Representatives	19.3%
State Governors	10%
Statewide Elected Officials	23.6%
State Legislators	24.2%
Mayors of the 100 Largest Cities	13%

Source: Center for American Women & Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, 2015.

## **1. WOMEN IN NATIONAL POLITICS**

### **a. The Executive**

#### **i. Female Presidential Candidates**

Candidates with over 50,000 Votes:

Year	Candidate	Party	Number of Votes
1968	Charlene Mitchell	Communist Party	1,075 Votes- First woman on record to surpass 1,000 votes-
1972	Linda Jenness	Socialist Workers	52,799 Votes
1984	Sonia Johnson	Citizens	72,200 Votes
1988	Lenora Fulani	New Alliance	217,219 Votes (0.2% of the Vote, 4 <sup>th</sup> place)
1992	Lenora Fulani	New Alliance	73,714 Votes
2008	Cynthia McKinney	Green	161,313 Votes

#### **ii. Female Vice Presidential Candidates**

Candidates with over 1 million Votes:

Year	Candidate	Presidential Candidate	Party	Number of Votes
1924	Marie Brehm	Herman P Faris	Prohibition	56,268 Votes First female VP with over 1,000 votes

1984	Geraldine Ferraro	Walter Mondale	Democratic	37,577,185 Votes
2000	Winona LaDuke	Ralph Nader	Green	72,200 Votes
2008	Sarah Palin	John McCain	Republican	59,948,323 Votes

NOTES: There has been little consistency with female performance on the top of the ticket. Just 4 years after the first woman recorded votes, a woman surpassed the 50,000 threshold. But another woman wouldn't pass it again for a dozen years. In 1988 Lenora Fulani came in fourth, the best finish any woman has had in the general election to date.

### iii. Female Cabinet Members

	President	Female Cabinet Members
1969-73	Nixon	0
1973-77	Nixon/Ford	1
1977-81	Carter	3
1981-85	Reagan I	2
1985-89	Reagan II	2
1989-93	Bush (41)	3
1993-97	Clinton I	3
1997-2001	Clinton II	4
2001-05	Bush (43) I	3
2005-09	Bush (43) II	5
2009-13	Obama I	4
2013-	Obama II	3

### Facts for Women serving in the Cabinet or in Cabinet-level Positions:

- **Six** women currently serve in the Obama administration in cabinet or cabinet-level positions
- **Forty-seven** women have held a total of 53 cabinet or cabinet-level appointments in the history of our nation.
- Of these 47, 29 had cabinet posts.
- Thirty women were appointed by Democratic presidents.
- Seventeen were appointed by Republican presidents.
- Ten presidents (4 Ds and 6 Rs) have appointed women to their cabinets.

To date (2014), 22 cabinet or cabinet-level posts have been filled by women:

- 7 women have served as Secretary of Labor
- 5 Women have served as Secretary of Health and Human Services
- 4 Women have served as: Environmental Protection Agency Administrator; U.N. Ambassador
- 3 Women have served as: Secretary of State; Secretary of Commerce; Small Business Administrator; Council of Economic Advisers Chair; U.S. (Special) Trade Representative
- 2 Women have served as: Secretary of Education; Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Secretary of the Interior; and Secretary of Transportation; and as Office of Management and Budget Director
- 1 Woman has served in each of the remaining cabinet or cabinet-level positions (Attorney General, Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Energy, and Secretary of Homeland Security)
- 0 Women have ever been appointed and confirmed to head these three departments: Defense, Treasury, and Veterans Affairs. Also, no woman has served as a president's Chief of Staff.

Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, *Women Appointed to Presidential Cabinets*.

## **1. Cabinet and Cabinet-level Firsts**

- 1933- Frances Perkins was the first woman appointed to a cabinet position. She was the Secretary of Labor under President Roosevelt
- 1977- Patricia Roberts Harris became the first African American woman appointed to the cabinet. She was the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Carter

- 1997- Aida Alvarez was the first Hispanic woman appointed to a Cabinet-level position as the Administrator of the Small Business Administration by President Clinton
- 2001- Elaine Chao was the first Asian American woman appointed as Secretary of Labor under President George W. Bush

Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University, *Women Appointed to Presidential Cabinets*.

#### **iv. President Obama's White House**

Women in top positions:

- Cabinet and positions with cabinet-level status:
  - Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell
  - Secretary of Commerce, Penny Pritzker
  - Secretary of Health and Human Services, Sylvia Mathews Burwell
  - Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Gina McCarthy
  - US Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power
  - Administrator of Small Business Administration, Maria Contreras-Sweet
- National Security Adviser, Susan Rice
- Counsel to the President, Kathy Ruemmler
- Homeland security adviser, Lisa Monaco
- Deputy Chief of Staff, Anita Decker Breckenridge
- Deputy Chief of Staff, Kristie Canegallo
- Senior Advisor, Valerie Jarrett

Pay Gap:

- The average male White House employee currently earns about \$88,600, while the average female White House employee earns about \$78,400.

- The gender pay gap is 13%.
- There are 87 male White House officials who make more than \$100,000, compared to 53 female White House officials.
- One of the key reasons is that more men hold the higher-paying, senior jobs in the White House, and more women hold the lower-paying, junior jobs. The White House states that they have equal pay for equal work.

Sources: Whitehouse.gov; The Washington Post, Zachary A Goldfarb, 7/1/2014; New York Times, Jackie Calmes, 5/26/2013; Politico, Carrie Budoff Brown, 3/25/14.

## **b. Congress**

### **i. Female Members of Congress**

From 1916-2013, of the 298 women have served in Congress:

- 194 have been Democrats and 104 Republicans.
- 254 (165 Ds, 89 Rs) women have served only in the House of Representatives.
- 34 (21 Ds, 13 Rs) women have served in both houses.
- 4 (3 Ds, 1 R) women have served as Delegates in the House.

	Women in the House of Representatives	Women in the Senate
1970	10 (2%)	1 (1%)
1975	19 (4%)	0 (0%)
1980	15 (3%)	2 (2%)
1985	23 (5%)	2 (2%)
1990	29 (7%)	2 (2%)
1995	48 (11%)	9 (9%)
2000	58 (13%)	9 (9%)
2005	70 (16%)	14 (14%)
2010	74 (17%)	17 (17%)
2012	76 (17%)	17 (17%)
2013	77 (18%)	20 (20%)
2014	82 (19%)	20 (20%)

In the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress (2015-2017):

- Women hold 104 seats, or 19.4% of seats, in Congress
- 20 women (20%) serve in the Senate (14D, 6R)
- 84 women (19.3%) serve in the House (62D, 22R and an additional 4 delegates)

In the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress (2013-2014):

- 20 Women serve in the Senate (16 Ds, 4 Rs)
- 82 serve in the House (63 Ds and 19 Rs and 3 delegates)

## ii. Female Incumbents

At least one woman has sought reelection to the senate in every election cycle since 1990. In the last 22 years both male and female senators have a reelection rate of roughly 87%. This trend holds true for House Elections too.

### *Reelection Rate of U.S. Senators by Gender, 1990-2012*

Cycle	# Men	Won	Lost	% Won	# Women	Won	Lost	% Won
1990	31	30	1	<b>96.8</b>	1	1	0	<b>100.0</b>
1992	27	22	5	<b>81.5</b>	1	1	0	<b>100.0</b>
1994	24	22	2	<b>91.7</b>	2	2	0	<b>100.0</b>
1996	20	19	1	<b>95.0</b>	1	0	1	<b>0.0</b>
1998	25	23	2	<b>92.0</b>	4	3	1	<b>75.0</b>
2000	26	20	6	<b>76.9</b>	3	3	0	<b>100.0</b>
2002	25	22	3	<b>88.0</b>	3	2	1	<b>66.7</b>
2004	21	20	1	<b>95.2</b>	5	5	0	<b>100.0</b>
2006	23	17	6	<b>73.9</b>	6	6	0	<b>100.0</b>
2008	27	23	4	<b>85.2</b>	3	2	1	<b>66.7</b>
2010	19	16	3	<b>84.2</b>	6	5	1	<b>83.3</b>
2012	17	15	2	<b>88.2</b>	6	6	0	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>87.8</b>

Note: Includes U.S. Senators running for election that were first appointed into office. Table compiled by Smart Politics.

- From 1956 to 2006 female members of congress won 95.8% of their reelections compared to male members winning 94.5% of their reelection campaigns. On average female incumbents won 67.3% of the vote in their races while male incumbents won 64.5% of the vote.

Source: Palmer, Barbara and Simon, Dennis. *"Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Women and Congressional Elections,"* Routledge: New York, 2008.

### **iii. Congressional Committees**

The importance of Committee Chairmanship: "In an institution whose core function – writing laws – rests with committees, chairmen and chairwomen wield enormous influence. They alone can call hearings, the first real step in shaping and passing legislation."

114<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- Down from a record 9, there are now only 2 female committee chairs: Lisa Murkowski of Alaska who chairs the Energy Committee and Senator Susan Collins of Maine who chairs the Special Committee on Aging.
- In the House, only one woman leads a committee, Rep. Candice Miller from Michigan, who chairs the Committee on House Administration.
- There are too few Republican women Senators overall, that in five of the 20 committees – including Banking and Finance – they lack a single Republican woman.

113<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- In the Senate, women led a record nine committees, including Appropriations and Intelligence.
- Of the 20 committees in the House, only one- the House Administration Committee is chaired by a woman.

112<sup>th</sup> Congress:

House of Representatives



	Female Republican Heads (23 Congresswomen)	Female Democratic Ranking Members (54 Congresswomen)
Committees (20)	1	4
Subcommittees (~100)	10	25

#### Senate

	Female Republican Ranking Members (5 Senators)	Female Democratic Heads (12 Senators)
Committees (16)	4	4
Subcommittees (73)	5	19

Sources: Sheryl Gay Stolberg, The New York Times, *Republican Takeover of Senate Pushes Women Out of Powerful Committee Posts*, 2/2/15; history.house.gov

#### Testifying Before Congressional Committee Hearings:

- As of Sept. 1, 2014, in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress 23% of the 5,575 witnesses have been women.
- The House Committees with the highest percent of female witnesses are Education and the Workforce at 40% and Ways and Means at 33%, followed closely by House Administration at 33%.
- The House Committees with the lowest percent of female witnesses are Agriculture at 13%, Transportation and Infrastructure at 14% and Armed Services at 15%.
- Part of this is due to the lack of women in top-level positions in the public and private sectors who are typically called to testify before Congress.

Section sources: Lindsay Young, Sunlight Foundation, *Women make up more than half the U.S. population, less than one fourth of U.S. House witnesses*, 9/9/14;

#### Congressional Leadership- 114<sup>th</sup> Congress

- Nancy Pelosi, the first and only woman to serve as Speaker of the House. While no longer serving as the Speaker, she remains the leader of House

Democrats. Congresswoman Pelosi was also the first female Minority leader to serve, when she was selected in 2003.

- In the House, women hold five of the 10 elected Republican leadership positions.
- In the Senate, there are no females in Republican leadership, but Majority Leaders Mitch McConnell expanded his leadership team to include four unelected counselors, two of them women.
- “The women in the Senate – there are no pushovers here. I don’t think that [any Senator] goes shrinking away because she’s not gaveling in the meeting.” –Senator Lisa Murkowski (R, AK)

Sources: Sheryl Gay Stolberg, The New York Times, *Republican Takeover of Senate Pushes Women Out of Powerful Committee Posts*, 2/2/15; [history.house.gov](http://history.house.gov)

#### **iv. Female Congressional Staffers- 113<sup>th</sup> Congress**

Percent staffers who are women:

All Staffers: 50.3%			
House		Senate	
52.4%		54.1%	
House Democrats	House Republicans	Senate Democrats	Senate Republicans
54.5%	50.6%	55.7%	52.1%

All Leadership Offices: 48.2%			
House Leadership		Senate Leadership	
44.2%		52.5%	
House Democrats	House Republicans	Senate Democrats	Senate Republicans
51.2%	36.6%	50.3%	46.1%

Senate Chiefs of Staff: Percent who are women:

- Senate Democrats: 32.8%
- Senate Republicans: 17.2%

House Chiefs of Staff- Percent who are women:

- House Democrats: 46% (95 of 205)
- House Republicans: 22% (51 of 234)

\*Women and men are paid nearly the same for equal positions on Capitol Hill

Sources: *National Journal*, Female Congressional Staffers, July, 2012; *National Journal*, *Taking Charge* Peter Bell and Brian McGill, 7/26/14.

#### **v. 2014 Election**

- The newly elected 114<sup>th</sup> Congress has 104 women serving in office, including a record 84 women in the House.
- Iowa elected its first female congressional representative- Joni Ernst who will serve in the Senate.
- 3 states have never had a female member of Congress (either House or Senate): Vermont, Delaware and Mississippi.

#### **vi. Congressional Female Firsts**

- 1916: Jeanette Rankin was the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, winning Montana's at-large seat.
- 1922: Rebecca Latimer Felton from the state of Georgia became the first woman to serve in the United States Senate. She was appointed in a largely symbolic gesture and served only 24 hours after taking oath.
- 1931: Hattie Wyatt Caraway was the first woman *elected* to the U.S. Senate. She served until 1945.
- 1992: Carol Moseley Braun became the first woman to defeat an incumbent senator.
- 1992: The first time two female senators from the same state served concurrently – Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer from California.
- 2007: Nancy Pelosi became the first female Speaker of the House
- As of the beginning of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress (2013):

- 24 states had never been represented by a woman in the United States Senate.
- 6 states had never been represented by a woman in the House of Representatives.
- The 114<sup>th</sup> Congress will have six GOP women senators, the largest number to date.
- Senator Joni Ernst (elected 2014) will be the first woman veteran to serve in the U.S. Senate.
- Mia Love, elected in 2014 is the first African American Republican woman in Congress.

Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University, *2014: Not a Landmark Year for Women, Despite some Notable Firsts*, 11/13/2014.

## **c. The Judicial Branch**

### **i. The Supreme Court**

- For the first time in history, three women currently serve on the Supreme Court out of nine total justices. This is the most women to serve on the court at one time in the 225 year history of the court.
- The 3 female Justices still only account for one-third of the members of that Court.
- Only four of the 112 Justices ever to serve on the highest court in the land have been women.

Source: National Women's Law Center, *Women in the Federal Judiciary: Still a Long Way to Go*, 9/10/2014.

### **ii. Federal Judicial Appointees, District and Trial Judges**

- As of 2013, of the 874 federal judgeships, 39% are held by women.
- As of fall 2014, there were 11 pending female nominees.

### Federal Judicial Appointees by Gender and President:

	Total Appointees	Female Appointees	Percentage Female
Richard Nixon	231	1	0.4%
Gerald Ford	62	1	1.6%
Jimmy Carter	259	40	15.4%
Ronald Reagan	376	31	8.2%
George H.W. Bush	192	36	18.8%
Bill Clinton	373	111	29.8%
George W. Bush	325	72	22.2%
Barack Obama	162	72	44.4%

Before Jimmy Carter, only 8 women had been appointed Federal Judges, with no president appointing more than 3 women. Carter overhauled the Judicial nominating process, taking the nominating power away from individual Senators. Once the Executive branch took more of a role in the nomination of Judges, it was possible to nominate more diverse judges who might not be as politically connected as the Senate appointments.

A noticeable trend is that every president since Nixon has appointed a greater percentage of female judges than their most recent party compatriot at the White House.

- 32% of active U.S. district (or trial) court judges are women.
- There are still nine district courts around the country where there has never been a female judge.
- There are 77 women of color serving as active federal judges across the country, including 39 African-American women, 25 Hispanic women, 10 Asian-American women, and one Native American.
- There are 11 women of color on the U.S. courts of appeals. There are seven federal courts of appeals without a single active minority woman judge.

Sources: *Federal Judicial Center Database*; National Women's Law Center, *Women in the Federal Judiciary: Still a Long Way to Go*, 9/10/2014

#### **d. Women in the Federal Reserve**

2014 Members of the Federal Reserve Board:

2 of 5 are women with 2 vacancies (as of January 2015)

-Janet L Yellen (Chair) - First female to chair the Federal Reserve Board

-Stanley Fischer (Vice Chairman)

-Daniel K Tarullo

-Jerome H. Powell

-Lael Brainard

Female Board Members Historically:

1913- Federal Reserve Board established

<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>
1978-1984	Nancy H. Teeters	Chicago
1984-1991	Martha R. Seger	Chicago
1991-1998	Susan M. Phillips	Chicago
<b>1994-1997/2010-Present</b>	<b>Janet L. Yellen</b>	<b>San Francisco</b>
1996-1999	Alice M. Rivlin	Philadelphia
2001-2007	Susan S. Bies	Chicago
2008-2013	Elizabeth A. Duke	Philadelphia
2010-2014	Sarah Bloom Raskin	Richmond
<b>2014—Present</b>	<b>Lael Brainard</b>	---

History of Federal Reserve Female Bank Presidents by Regional Bank – There are **three current female presidents** (in bold) among the heads of the 12 Regional Federal Reserve Banks:

Boston	1994-2007 Cathy E Mineham (2 <sup>nd</sup> female president overall)
New York	No female president to date
Philly	No female president to date
Cleveland	1982-1987 Karen N Horn (1 <sup>st</sup> female president overall); 2003-2014 Sandra Pianalto <b>2014-Present: Loretta J Mester</b>
Richmond	No female president to date

Atlanta	No female president to date
Chicago	No female president to date
St. Louis	No female president to date
Minneapolis	No female president to date
Kansas City	<b>2011-Present : Esther L. George</b>
Dallas	2004-2005 Helen Holcomb (Interim) <b>2014- Present: Renu Khator</b>
San Francisco	2004-2010 Janet Yellen

#### Directors of Federal Reserve Banks and Branches:

Men	Women
192	74

### **e. Women in Other Important Federal Positions**

- Attorney General:
  - Janet Reno became the first female A.G. in 1993
  - Loretta Lynch is on course to become the first African American Attorney General in 2015.
  - Sally Quillian Yates has been selected by President Obama to serve as Deputy Attorney General, pending congressional approval 2015.
  - If and when confirmed, Loretta Lynch and Sally Quillian Yates will hold the top two positions in the Justice Department- the first time two women have done so.
- Surgeon General
  - 1990- Antonia C. Novello became the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the position under President George H. W. Bush.
  - There have been three total women who have served as Surgeon General: Antonia C. Novello (1990-1993), M. Joycelyn Elders (1993-1994) who was the first African American to serve, and Regina M. Benjamin (2009-2013).
- The Secret Service

- Julia Pierson was the first woman appointed to be the Director of the Secret Service. Ms. Pierson served from March 2013 until her resignation October of 2014.
- Historically, women working in the Secret Service exclusively held clerical positions. There were no female Secret Service agents until 1971, when 4 women simultaneously received appointments. 7 years later in 1978 Special Agent Mary Ann Gordon became the first female agent to get a permanent assignment to the White House detail. That same year a female agent also was assigned to Vice President Walter Mondale. The next major milestone for women in the Secret Service came in 2004 when Barbara Riggs was named deputy director, the first woman to hold that position. Riggs first became an agent in 1975 and was one of the first 10 women to achieve that role.
- United States Postal Service
  - In 2014, Megan Brennan was appointed as the first female Postmaster General. She serves as the Postal Service's 74<sup>th</sup> Postmaster General and CEO.
  - Women have been postmasters since colonial times- at least two women served as postmasters under the British postal system in North America. In 1775 Mary Katherine Goddard was the first female postmaster in the United Colonies and then, once formed, in the United States.
  - In 1792, the first woman was appointed postmaster under the Constitution.

#### **f. Presidential Debate Moderators**

	First Debate Moderator	Second Debate Moderator	Third Debate Moderator	Fourth Debate Moderator
1960	Howard K. Smith	Frank McGee	Bill Shadel	Quincy Howe
1976	Edwin Newman	<b>Pauline Frederick</b>	<b>Barbara Walters</b>	
1980	Bill Moyers	Howard K Smith		



1984	<b>Barbara Walters</b>	Edwin Newman		
1988	Jim Lehrer	Bernard Shaw		
1992	Jim Lehrer	<b>Carole Simpson</b>	Jim Lehrer	
1996	Jim Lehrer	Jim Lehrer		
2000	Jim Lehrer	Jim Lehrer	Jim Lehrer	
2004	Jim Lehrer	Charlie Gibson	Bob Schieffer	
2008	Jim Lehrer	Tom Brokaw	Bob Schieffer	
2012	Jim Lehrer	<b>Candy Crowley</b>	Bob Schieffer	

- From 1976 to 1984 the debates were sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Under the League of Women Voters' stewardship, women made up 43% of moderators.
- In 1987 the two parties established the Commission on Presidential Debates. Under the Commission on Presidential Debates, women have been selected to moderate 11% of debates.
- Jim Lehrer alone has moderated more than twice as many debates as women have.
- Both moderators of Vice Presidential debates sponsored by the League of Women Voters were male. Of the Six Vice Presidential debate moderators selected by the Commission on Presidential debates, half were female.

## 6. WHY WOMEN IN POLITICS?

### a. Women Get Things Done

- Female senators moved an average of 4.88 bills out of committee and had an average of 2.31 bills enacted in the past seven years compared to the 3.24 bills their male counterparts got out of committee and 1.57 bills enacted.
- Over the last seven years, the average female senator has cosponsored 6.29 bills with another female senator, whereas the average male senator cosponsored 4.07 bills with his average male peer.
- Female senators demonstrate more bipartisanship with other women than their male counterparts and work more frequently across the aisle.

- The average female senator has cosponsored 3.79 bills with a female senator of the opposite party since the 111<sup>th</sup> congress, while the average male senator only cosponsored 2.16 bills with a male senator of the opposite party.
- The average female senator introduced 96.31 bills over the last seven years while the average male senator only introduced 70.72 bills.
- Bills introduced by female senators received an average of 9.1 cosponsors while the average bill introduced by a male senator received only 5.94 cosponsors.
- A 2006 study found that when 120 mayors of comparable cities over 30,000 were interviewed, “Women mayors were far more likely to alter the budget process and seek broad participation.”

Sources: Denise Restauri, *5 Stats Prove that Female Senators Get More Done than Men*, Forbes, 2/23/2015; Quorum Report: *Working Together and Across the Aisle, Female Senators Pass more Legislation than Male Colleagues*, 2/19/2015; Melvin Konner, *A Better World, Run by Women*, The Wall Street Journal, 3/6/2015.

## **b. The Impact of Women**

- Women are notably more likely than men to focus on “Women’s Distinctive Concerns” (bills dealing with women’s traditional areas of interest such as health care, children and the family, education, environment, housing, and the elderly):

Percent of federal lawmakers who said “Women’s Distinctive Concerns” were part of their Top Legislative Priority (2014):

Women	Men
51%	37%

- Female public officials are more active than men on women’s rights legislation

Female and Male Lawmakers’ Work on Women’s Rights Bills (2014):

Women	Men
59%	36%

- Issues of particular importance to women are more likely to be introduced by women legislators than by men.
- Women officeholders are changing the way government works. When compared with their male colleagues:
  - Women are more likely to bring citizens into the process
  - Women are more likely to opt for government in public view rather than government behind closed doors.
  - Women are more responsive to groups previously denied full access to the policymaking process
- It is common for congresswomen to consider how legislation will affect women throughout the country, beyond the boundaries of the districts they represent; they see themselves as “surrogate representatives” for women throughout the United States.
- Both women and men in the legislatures believe that female legislators have increased legislative attention to how bills will affect women, and that women have increased political access for economically disadvantaged groups.
- Women are often very good at finding common ground and building bipartisan support.
- Women tend to have a more collaborative style to legislating and have real trust in each other.

SOURCES: Center for American Women and Politics and Political Parties, Research Inventory: American Women and Politics, August 2012; Center for American Women and Politics and Political Parties, Research Inventory: American Women and Politics, August 2012; Ed O’Keefe, *Women are wielding notable influence in Congress*, Washington Post, 1/16/2014;

### **c. The Challenges Women Face**

- 42% of women legislators disagreed with the statement that “Most men in my legislature are supportive of moving women into leadership positions”

- Around 42% also disagreed with the statement that “The leaders in my legislature are as likely to consult with the women in their legislature as the men when making important decisions.

SOURCES: Rutgers Center for the American Woman and Politics: The Impact of Women in Public Office 1991.

#### **d. Why more Women aren’t Running**

Women make up 51% of the population in the United States, yet they only make up 25% of those who have run for public office. When women run for political office – regardless of the position they seek – they are just as likely as men to win their races. Therefore, the reason more women are not running for office is not that women can’t win, it goes further than that and exposes some of the deep societal barriers keeping women from running.

- There is a substantial and persistent gender gap in political ambition: men tend to have it, and women don’t.

#### **The Gender Gap in Political Ambition:**

Question presented to 2,100 college students: “Have you ever thought that, when you’re older, you might want to run for political office?”

	Men	Women
Thought about it many times	20%	10%
Has crossed my mind	37%	27%
Never thought about it	43%	63%
“Definitely” plan to run for office at some point in the future	14%	7%
Would “never” run for office	23%	36%

Question presented to thousands of “potential candidates”: “Have you ever considered running for office?”

	Men	Women
2001	59%	43%
2011	62%	46%
2012	57%	37%

- Even politically active young women didn't see themselves as future politicians.

### **Why don't women want to run for public office?**

- Young women are less likely than young men to be socialized by their parents to think about politics as a possible career path.
- Young women tend to be exposed to less political information and discussion than do young men.
- Young women are less likely than young men to receive encouragement to run for office – from anyone.
- Women are more concerned about their credentials and viability than men are.
- Personal lives are subjected to national discussion.
- 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.
- Women are substantially more likely than men to perceive the electoral environment as highly competitive and biased against female candidates.
- Women react more negatively than men to many aspects of modern campaigns.

### **The Effects of Sexism on Women Running for Office:**

- Voters exposed to media sexism are less likely to vote for the female candidate being targeted.
- Sexism in any form, even mild sexism, hurts female candidates and makes nearly every potential voter less likely to cast a ballot for her.
- "When a woman's appearance is commented on publicly during a campaign, it undermines her; it actually hurts her. And it doesn't matter if the comment is positive or negative. It undermines her credibility."  
–Senator Kristen Gillibrand (D, NY)
- In a study focusing on the effects of sexism on female candidates, it was determined that nearly seven in ten voters reported being less likely to

vote for a female candidates after they heard her being called derogatory names (like ice queen or mean girl), as well as more strongly sexist language.

- Sexism can cost a woman an average of 10 points in favorability.

Sources: NY Magazine, Ann Friedman, 5/9/2013; Washington Post, Jaime Fuller, 5/22/14; Jennifer L. Lawless and Richard L. Fox, *Girls Just Wanna Not Run: The Gender Gap in Young Americans' Political Ambition*, American University School of Public Affairs, March 2013; Charlotte Alter, *Kristen Gillibrand on why she Hates the Phrase 'Having it All,'* Time, 10/1/2014; Seth Motel, *Who runs for office? A profile of the 2%*, PEW Research Center, 9/3/2014; Study by Lake Research Partners, 9/23/10 via Linda Lowen, *Media Sexism-Does Media Sexism Hurt Female Candidates*, aboutnews.com; Jennifer Lawless and Richard Fox, *Men Rule: The Continued Under-Representation of Women in U.S. Politics*, January 2012.

## **7. WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AROUND THE WORLD**

### **a. Women as Heads of State around the World:**

- Since 2005, 20 women have been elected to be heads of state/government.
- These countries include: Germany, Liberia, Chile, Nederlandse Antillen, Jamaica, South Korea, India, Argentina, South Africa, San Marino, Bangladesh, Iceland, Croatia, Lithuania, Switzerland, Kyrgyzstan, Costa Rica, Finland, Australia and Slovakia.

### **The United States rank in Worldwide Female Leadership, 2008-2014:**

Year	Rank
2008	69 <sup>th</sup>
2009	71 <sup>st</sup>
2010	72 <sup>nd</sup>
2012	80 <sup>th</sup>
2013	77 <sup>th</sup>
2014	84 <sup>th</sup>

Sources: Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University; Worldwide Guide to Women in Leadership,

### **i. Angela Merkel**

- German Chancellor since 2005
- 71% Approval Rating (as of July, 2014)
- During her time as Chancellor, Germany has become the world's most connected nation by flows of goods, money, information and people.
- Under her leadership, German society has turned into a more inclusive, tolerant, rational society capable of leading by example.
- Merkel has been described as a patient, consensus seeking, tireless, ultra-constructive negotiator.

Source: Leonid Bershidsky, *Merkel shows men how it's Done*. BloombergView, 7/18/14.