



Women in Elected Office

In Utah

- One Utah woman will serve in Congress beginning in 2015 (fourth in Utah history).
- In 2015, 16 women (10 House, 6 Senate) will serve in Utah's 104-member Legislature – 15.4%. *This is a drop from 17 women (16.3%) in 2014. Utah's historic high was in 2002, when 24 women served in the Legislature (23.1%). Prior to this election, Utah ranked 45th among state legislatures for percentage of women.*
- No Utah women are currently elected to statewide office.
- Utah women have been elected as mayors and as members of city and county councils and commissions and school boards throughout the state.
- Utah women register to vote – and vote – in higher numbers than men.

In U.S.

- The Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers reports that after the 2014 elections, 104 women will serve in the 114th Congress (19.4%).
- Twenty women (14D, 6R) will serve in the U.S. Senate.
- A new record of 84 women (62D, 22R) will serve in the U.S. House.
- Before the election there were 99 women in Congress (18.5%) – 20 in the Senate, 79 in the House.
- The number of female governors remains the same at five (2D, 3R)
- Statistics show that women running for office win elections at the same rate as men, but nationwide fewer women choose to take the initial step to run for office.
- Women vote in higher numbers than men and have done so in every presidential election since 1964.

Women in Utah Elections 2014

In Utah's 2014 elections, women were on the ballot in federal, state, county, and local races. Voter turnout was 40%, an historic low in Utah for non-presidential years.

- **US Congress:** Three women ran in three of the four races for the U.S. House of Representatives. One Republican candidate – Mia Love – won her bid for office, and will be the first African-American Republican woman in Congress. *No woman has represented Utah in Congress since 1997.*
- **Utah State Legislature:**
 - **Senate:** 10 women competed in nine of the 14 Utah Senate races. Women won seats in four districts, and now hold 6/29 seats (20.7%).
 - **House:** 32 women ran in 26 of the 75 races for a seat in the Utah House of Representatives. Women won seats in 10 districts (10/75 or 13.3% of the House).
 - **In sum:** The total number of women in the 2015 Utah State Legislature will drop by one to 16 (15.4%) – 10 in the House (7D, 3R) and six in the Senate (3R, 3D). *In the 2014 Legislature, 17 women held 16.3% of legislative seats, ranking Utah 45th in the nation. Women held 5 of 29 Senate seats and 12 of 75 House seats.*
- **Utah State School Board:** Six women ran in four of the seven state school board races. Three were elected.
- **Other Races:** Many other women were on the November 4 ballots for county councils, county commissions, and local school boards throughout the state. For example, two women won seats on the Salt Lake County Council.

Women in Utah Election History

- Utah territory gave women right to vote in 1870; renounced when Utah became a state in 1896; Utah wrote women's suffrage into its state constitution, 24 years before federal right to vote in 1920
- Martha Hughes Cannon (D), first state senator in the U.S. (1897-1901)
- Reva Beck Bosone (D), first Utah woman elected to U. S. House of Representatives (1949-53)
- Karen Shepherd (D), second Utah woman elected to U. S. House of Representatives (1993-95)
- Jan Graham (D), first female Utah Attorney General (1993-2001)
- Enid Greene Mickelson (R), third Utah woman elected to U. S. House of Representatives (1995-97)
- Olene S. Walker (R), first female Lieutenant Governor in Utah (1993-2003), then first female Governor (2003-05)
- Deedee Corradini, first (and only) woman to serve as Mayor of Salt Lake City (1992-2000)
- Becky Lockhart (R), first woman to serve as Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives (2010-14)
- Jennifer Seelig (D), first woman to serve as Minority Leader in the Utah House (2013-14)
- Mia Love (R), fourth Utah woman elected to U.S. House of Representatives (2015 –)