

## Women in Elected Office

### In Utah

- One Utah woman currently serves in Congress (fourth in Utah history).
- In 2018, 21 women (15 House, 6 Senate) serve in Utah's 104-member Legislature (20.2%).
  - This is an increase from 16 women (15.4%) in 2016, and all 5 of the seats gained were in the House.
  - Utah's historic high was in 2002, when 24 women served in the Legislature (23.1%).
  - In 2018, Utah ranks 36<sup>th</sup> among state legislatures for percentage of women (up from 45<sup>th</sup> in 2016).
- 6 women (2 House, 4 Senate) hold State Legislative Leadership positions in Utah.
- 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. See *The Status of Women in Utah Politics: A 2017 Update* at [www.uvu.edu/uwlp](http://www.uvu.edu/uwlp) for details.
- Utah women register to vote—and vote—in higher numbers than men, but at lower rates than the national average. See *The Well-Being of Women in Utah: An Overview* at [www.ywcautah.org](http://www.ywcautah.org) for more information.

### In U.S.

- The Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers (<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/>) reports that in 2018, 106 women hold seats (of 535 total members) in the U.S. Congress (19.8%). Five women delegates (3D, 2R) also represent American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- 22 women (17D, 5R) serve in the U.S. Senate. 84 women (62D, 22R) serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- In 2018, 74 women hold statewide elective offices across the country (23.7%).
- The number of female governors serving remained the same from 2017 to 2018 at six (2D, 4R). 12 women (5D, 7R) serve as Lt. Governors.
- In 2018, 1,865, or 25.3%, of 7,383 state legislators in the United States are women. CAWP reports that since 1971, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quintupled.
- 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 Election History

- Utah territory gave women right to vote in 1870, then taken away in 1887 by the federal government; Utah wrote women's suffrage into its 1896 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 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 – )