

## Women in Elected Office in 2019

### In Utah

- Four Utah women have served in Congress (none currently), all in the House, none in the Senate.
- 25 women (19 House, 6 Senate) serve in Utah's 104-member Legislature (24%) and 5 are women of color.
  - This is a historic high and an increase from 21 women in 2018.
  - Utah's previous historic high was in 2002, when 24 women served in the Legislature (23.1%).
  - 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 approaches or exceeds 50% for women serving on boards of education at the state and district level and in county clerk, auditor, recorder, and treasurer positions. However, we are below the national average for women serving in county sheriff and attorney positions, and hover around 10% of mayors and 25% of city council members (*The Status of Women in Utah Politics: A 2017 Update*, [www.uvu.edu/uwlp](http://www.uvu.edu/uwlp)).
- Utah women register to vote—and vote—in higher numbers than men, but at lower rates than the national average (*The Well-Being of Women in Utah in 2018*, [www.ywcautah.org](http://www.ywcautah.org)).

### In U.S.\*

- Women hold 127 of 535 seats in Congress (23.7%) – more than at any time in history. Women of color constitute a historic high of 37% of the women serving in Congress (8.8% of total).
  - 25 women (17D, 8R) serve in the Senate (25%). 102 women (89D, 13R) serve in the House (23%).
  - Four women delegates represent American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and D.C.
- 86 women hold statewide elective offices of 312 seats across the country (27.6%).
  - The number of women governors increased from six (2D, 4R) in 2018 to nine (6D, 3R) in 2019.
  - The number of women lieutenant governors increased from 12 (5D, 7R) in 2018 to 15 (9D, 6R) in 2019.
- 2,112, or 28.6%, of 7,383 state legislators in the United States are women, a 13% increase from 2018. Women of color constitute 24.3% of the women state legislators, or 6.2% of the total state legislators.
- 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 and only women to serve as 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 and only woman to serve as Lieutenant Governor in Utah (1993-2003), then first and only woman to serve as Utah Governor (2003-05)
- Deedee Corradini, first woman to serve as Mayor of Salt Lake City (1992-2000)
- Becky Lockhart (R), first and only woman to serve as Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives (2010-14), no woman has served as President of the Utah Senate
- Jennifer Seelig (D), first and only 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 (2015-2019)