

WOMEN STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRS¹ 2010

In 2010, 1,806, or 24.5%, of the 7,382 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold **434 (306D, 118R, 10 nonpartisans)**, or 22.0%, of the 1,971 state senate seats and **1,372 (964D, 404R, 4 Progressives)**, or 25.4%, of the 5,411 state house or assembly seats.

In 2010, of the 2,015 state legislators chairing standing committees nationwide, **496, or 24.6%**, are women. Women hold 205, or 23.5%, of the 871 committee chair positions in state senates and 291, or 25.4%, of the 1,144 committee chair positions in state houses. Women chair committees in 43 state senates and in 48 state houses.

The **party breakdown** for women chairing standing committees is:

	Total Legislature			State Senate			State House		
	Total Women	Total Comm. Chairs	Percent Women	Total Women	Total Comm. Chairs	Percent Women	Total Women	Total Comm. Chairs	Percent Women
Total	496	2015	23.2	205	871	23.5	291	1144	25.4
D	386	1264	30.5	148	474	31.2	238	790	30.1
R	107	737	14.5	54	383	14.1	53	354	15.0
NP ²	3	14	21.4	3	14	21.4	--	--	--

The 10 states with the **highest percentages** of women committee chairs (combining senate and house) are:

<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>
New Hampshire	66.7	Oregon	42.3
Colorado	50.0	California	39.2
Vermont	48.5	Illinois	38.6
Maryland	45.7	Nevada	38.1
Washington	42.5	Virginia	36.0

MD, WA, CO, VT, NH, and NV also rank among the ten states with the highest percentages of women serving in their state legislatures.

The 10 states with the **lowest percentages** of women committee chairs are:

<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>% Women</u>
South Carolina	0.0	Utah	9.7
Wyoming	4.5	Oklahoma	11.1
Missouri	4.8	Mississippi	11.6
West Virginia	8.3	Tennessee	15.0
Georgia	8.5	Pennsylvania	15.3

SC, WV, MS, OK, PA and WY also rank among the ten states with the lowest percentages of women serving in their state legislatures.

¹ Chairs and co-chairs of all senate, house, and joint standing committees are included in these figures, as are chairs and co-chairs of joint statutory committees and joint commissions as listed in *State Legislative Leadership, Committees & Staff 2010*, Council of State Governments, Lexington, Kentucky, 2010. Chairs and co-chairs of central staff services committees are not included. Members of senates chairing joint committees are counted as senate committee chairs, and members of houses chairing joint committees are counted as house committee chairs. The total number of committee chairs includes six vacancies.

² In Nebraska, where the legislature is unicameral, legislators are elected on a nonpartisan basis.

State Legislative Committee Chairs

State	Rank ¹	Total Leaders		--- Senate ---			--- House ---		
		Who are Women		Majority Party	Women Leaders/ All Leaders		Majority Party	Women Leaders/ All Leaders	
		#	%		#	%		#	%
AL	37	9/49	18.4	D	5/24	20.8	D	4/25	16.0
AK	29	6/28	21.4	R	3/14	21.4	R	3/14	21.4
AZ	18	7/26	26.9	R	3/11	27.3	R	4/15	26.7
AR	40	4/26	15.4	D	3/12	25.0	D	1/14	7.1
CA	7	20/51	39.2	D	11/23	47.8	D	9/28	32.1
CO	2	10/20	50.0	D	6/10	60.0	D	4/10	40.0
CT	11	15/44	34.1	R	7/22	31.8	D	8/22	36.4
DE	22	12/48	25.0	D	7/25	28.0	D	5/23	21.7
FL	19	12/46	26.1	R	4/25	16.0	R	8/21	38.1
GA	46	5/59	8.5	R	1/26	3.8	R	4/33	12.1
HI	16	9/32	28.1	D	5/14	35.7	D	4/18	22.2
ID	33	5/24	20.8	R	1/10	10.0	R	4/14	28.6
IL	8	34/88	38.6	D	7/30	23.3	D	27/58	46.6
IN	35	8/42	19.0	R	5/20	25.0	D	3/22	13.6
IA	25	9/37	24.3	D	3/18	16.7	D	6/19	31.6
KS	21	12/47	25.5	R	6/18	33.3	R	6/29	20.7
KY	32	7/33	21.2	R	4/15	26.7	D	3/18	16.7
LA	26	8/33	24.2	D	4/17	23.5	R	4/16	25.0
ME	11	15/44	34.1	D	6/22	27.3	D	9/22	40.9
MD	4	16/35	45.7	D	9/17	52.9	D	7/18	38.9
MA	34	14/68	20.6	D	7/33	21.2	D	7/35	20.0
MI	27	11/46	23.9	R	3/20	15.0	D	8/26	30.8
MN	14	9/28	32.1	D	5/15	33.3	D	4/13	30.8
MS	43	10/86	11.6	R	4/39	10.3	D	6/47	12.8
MO	48	3/62	4.8	R	1/18	5.6	R	2/44	4.5
MT	38	5/31	16.1	R	0/16	0.0	D	5/15	33.3
NE	29	3/14	21.4	NP	3/14	21.4	UNICAMERAL		
NV	9	8/21	38.1	D	3/9	33.3	D	5/12	41.7
NH	1	24/36	66.7	D	9/14	64.3	D	15/22	68.2
NJ	20	10/39	25.6	D	4/14	28.6	D	6/25	24.0
NM	17	7/25	28.0	D	4/9	44.4	D	3/16	18.8
NY	22	17/68	25.0	D	7/31	22.6	D	10/37	27.0
NC	15	16/53	30.2	D	2/19	10.5	D	14/34	41.2
ND	39	4/25	16.0	R	1/10	10.0	R	3/15	20.0
OH	35	8/42	19.0	R	0/15	0.0	D	8/27	29.6
OK	44	4/36	11.1	R	0/15	0.0	R	4/21	19.0
OR	6	11/26	42.3	D	6/10	60.0	D	5/16	31.3
PA	41	11/72	15.3	R	5/21	23.8	D/R	6/51	11.8
RI	13	10/31	32.3	D	6/15	40.0	D	4/16	25.0
SC	48	0/26	0.0	R	0/15	0.0	R	0/11	0.0
SD	29	6/28	21.4	R	2/14	14.3	R	4/14	28.6
TN	42	6/40	15.0	R	4/17	23.5	R	2/23	8.7
TX	28	12/52	23.1	R	4/18	22.2	R	8/34	23.5
UT	45	3/31	9.7	R	2/13	15.4	R	1/18	5.6
VT	3	16/33	48.5	D	5/9	55.6	D	11/24	45.8
VA	10	9/25	36.0	D	7/11	63.6	R	2/14	14.3
WA	5	17/40	42.5	D	7/15	46.7	D	10/25	40.0
WV	47	3/36	8.3	D	0/18	0.0	D	3/18	16.7
WI	22	15/60	25.0	D	4/19	21.1	D	11/41	26.8
WY	49	1/22	4.5	R	0/11	0.0	R	1/11	9.1
TOTALS		496/2015	24.6		205/871	23.5		291/1144	25.4

¹ Rank is for standing committee chairs only and is based on combined senate and house figures. States with the exact same percentages are given the same rank.