

Election 2002: Summary of Women Candidates

The following summary includes women who are running for U.S. Senate, U.S. House or governor on major party tickets.

U.S. Senate Races 2002

In 2002 there are 34 states with Senate races. In five states (NC, NH, SC, TN, TX) there will be open seats since the incumbent Senators have announced they will not seek reelection or have lost primaries. No women have announced that they are retiring.

Three female senators are running for re-election this year:
Jean Carnahan (D-MO), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Mary Landrieu (D-LA).

11 (8D, 3R) women are running for the U.S. Senate in a total of 9 states. These include:
Two women who are running for open seats: Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).
Six women who are running as challengers: Joyce Corcoran (D-WY), Susan Parker (D-AL), Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Suzanne Haik Terrell (R-LA), Gloria Tristani (D-NM), and Lois Combs Weinberg (D-KY).

A record 13 (10D, 3R) women currently serve in the U. S. Senate. The most women nominated in any year to date was 11 (10D, 1R) in 1992; in that year, 5 (5D) were elected to the Senate.

U.S. House Races 2002

In 2002, there are races for all 435 House seats and 5 Delegate seats. 42 (19D, 23R) seats will be vacant. Six women will not return. Patsy Mink (D-HI) died 9/28/02, but her name will remain on the ballot. Eva Clayton (D-NC), Carrie Meek (D-FL), and Marge Roukema (R-NJ) are retiring. Cynthia McKinney (D-GA) and Lynn Rivers (D-MI) lost their primaries.

124 (78D, 46R) women are running for House seats. They include:
54 (37D, 17R) incumbent women seeking re-election (not including Mink, although her name will remain on the ballot);
18 (10D, 8R) women running for open seats in 16 districts; and
52 (31D, 21R) women running as challengers in 52 districts.

A total of 186 (113D, 73R) women filed. Of these 124 (79D, 45R) won their primaries, setting a new record (this number includes Mink (D-HI), whose name will remain on the ballot although she died 9/28/02; and L. Louise Lucas (D-VA), who withdrew after winning her primary); 2(1D, 1R) have not yet had their primaries and 61 (34D, 27R) lost their primaries.

In addition, three women, two of whom are incumbents, are running for U.S. Delegates from District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

The previous record for most women to file for U.S. House was set in 1996, when 217 (136D, 80R, 1I) women ran. Of the 217 who filed, 120 (77D, 42R, 1I) won their primaries; in addition 3 (3D) women filed and won

primaries for delegate seats. 51 (35D, 15R, 1I) won U.S. House seats in the general elections, and 2 (2D) won delegate races.

The previous record for major party nominees was set in 2000, when 122 (80D, 42R) women won their primaries, along with 2 (2D) women candidates for delegate. 59 (41D, 18R) women won in the general elections, and 2 (2D) won delegate races.

Governor Races 2002

In 2002, 36 states have gubernatorial races (AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IA, KS, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, NE, NV, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VT, WI, WY).

In at least 18 there will be open seats (AK, AZ, HI, IL, KS, MD, MA, ME, MI, MN, NH, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, VT). Jane Swift (R-MA), chose not to run for re-election. Jane Dee Hull (R-AZ) was term-limited out. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) is running for U.S. Senate.

26 (16D, 10R) women filed for governor in 20 states.
10 (9D, 1R) women have won their primaries:

Jimmie Lou Fisher (D-AR), Jennifer Granholm (D-MI), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Linda Lingle (R-HI), Janet Napolitano (D-AZ), Shannon O'Brien (D-MA), Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS), Kathleen Kennedy Townsend (D-MD), Fran Ulmer (D-AK), and Myrth York (D-RI).

Hawaii will have only the 2nd woman versus woman gubernatorial race in U.S. history. (The first was in Nebraska in 1986, when State Treasurer Kay Orr defeated Lincoln Mayor Helen Boosalis.)

16 (7D, 9R) women lost their primaries.

In addition, a woman in Guam lost her primary. Five women currently serve as Governors - Jane Dee Hull (R-AZ); Judy Martz (R-MT); Ruth Ann Minner (D-DE); Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH); and Jane Swift (R-MA). In addition, Sila Calderon (PDP-PR) serves as Governor of Puerto Rico.

In 1994, a record 34 (18D, 15R, 1ACP) women filed for gubernatorial races and a record 10 (6D, 3R, 1IND) won their primaries. In that year, none of the women won.