

VERMONT WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE

WOMEN RUNNING FOR STATE LEGISLATURE 1990-2013

Vermont Senate Races - Number of Women - Who Ran, Who Won					
Year	# Who Ran	# Who Won	Total Candidates	% Women Running	% Women That Ran Who Won
1990	9	4	64	14%	44%
1992	13	10	65	20%	77%
1994	20	10	68	29%	50%
1996	15	10	68	22%	67%
1998	16	10	68	23%	63%
2000	11	9	75	15%	81%
2002	16	9	72	22%	56%
2004	19	13	60	31%	68%
2006	13	10	56	23%	77%
2008	18	10	59	31%	56%
2010	19	11	69	28%	58%
2012	13	9	55	24%	69%

Vermont House Races – Number of Women – Who Ran, Who Won					
Year	# Who Ran	# Who Won	Total Candidates	% Women Running	% Women That Ran Who Won
1990	61	38	210	29%	62%
1992	70	43	265	26%	61%
1994	66	36	255	26%	55%
1996	82	46	269	30%	56%
1998	68	42	264	26%	62%
2000	80	38	267	30%	47%
2002	72	48	269	27%	67%
2004	83	50	257	32%	60%
2006	85	57	245	35%	67%
2008	93	57	260	36%	61%
2010	93	58	249	37%	62%
2012	76	64	213	36%	84%

Source: VCW analysis of election data, Vermont Secretary Of State's Office

Although fewer women run for seats in the Legislature, when they run, they are more likely to win than their male counterparts. In 2012 84% of the women who ran for the House won, as compared to 63% of the men. In the Senate, 69% of the women who ran won as compared to 50% of the men.

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WOMEN SERVING IN THE VERMONT LEGISLATURE

Women in the Vermont Legislature 1921-2013										
	Senate #	House #	Senate % Women	House % Women			Senate #	House #	Senate % Women	House % Women
1921	0	1	0.0%	0.4%		1966	2	16	6.7%	10.7%
1923	1	4	3.3%	1.6%		1967	2	20	6.7%	13.3%
1925	0	11	0.0%	4.5%		1969	3	21	10.0%	14.0%
1927	0	8	0.0%	3.3%		1971	3	18	10.0%	12.0%
1929	1	8	3.3%	3.3%		1973	3	14	10.0%	9.3%
1931	1	14	3.3%	5.7%		1975	1	20	3.3%	13.3%
1933	2	8	6.7%	3.3%		1977	2	23	6.7%	15.3%
1935	1	14	3.3%	5.7%		1979	3	32	10.0%	21.3%
1937	1	15	3.3%	6.1%		1981	4	32	13.3%	21.3%
1939	1	12	3.3%	4.9%		1983	4	27	13.3%	18.0%
1941	0	17	0.0%	6.9%		1985	4	38	13.3%	25.3%
1943	0	31	0.0%	12.6%		1987	3	42	10.0%	28.0%
1945	1	45	3.3%	18.3%		1989	6	51	20.0%	34.0%
1947	3	35	10.0%	14.2%		1991	7	50	23.3%	33.3%
1949	1	24	3.3%	9.8%		1993	11	53	36.7%	35.3%
1951	2	36	6.7%	14.6%		1995	12	43	40.0%	28.7%
1953	2	54	6.7%	22.0%		1997	12	48	40.0%	32.0%
1955	2	46	6.7%	18.7%		1999	10	48	33.3%	32.0%
1957	2	49	6.7%	19.9%		2001	9	44	30.0%	29.3%
1959	4	42	13.3%	17.1%		2003	9	46	30.0%	30.7%
1961	5	44	16.7%	17.9%		2005	10	50	33.3%	33.3%
1963	3	43	10.0%	17.5%		2007	10	57	33.3%	38.0%
1965	1	44	3.3%	17.9%		2009	10	57	33.3%	38.0%
						2011	11	58	36.6%	38.6%
						2013	9	64	30%	43%
From 1921 to 1965 there were 246 House members					From 1966 onward there were 150 House members					
Source: Donald G. Milne, Clerk of the Vermont House										

Vermont has the second highest percentage of women in the legislature—40.6%—just behind Colorado with 42%. Arizona is third. The three states ranking last are Alabama, Oklahoma and Louisiana. Vermont also has the second largest number of women legislators, surpassed only by New Hampshire, which has a much larger legislature. Nationally, women make up 24.2% of state legislators.



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Women Serving in State Legislatures 2013

State	# Women House	# Women Senate	Total Number of Women Legislators	Total Legislative Seats	% Women Legislators
#1 Colorado	28	14	42	100	42.0%
#2 Vermont	64	9	73	180	40.6%
#3 Arizona	19	13	32	90	35.6%
New Hampshire	131	9	140	424	33%
#48 Alabama	14	5	19	140	13.6%
#49 Oklahoma	16	4	20	149	13.4%
#50 Louisiana	12	4	16	144	11.1%
All States	1374	405	1779	7,383	24.1%

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures, report dated December 10, 2012

WOMEN SERVING ON VERMONT BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

2011 Board Membership

- Total number of Vermont boards & commissions: 227
- Gender balanced: 95 (42%)
- Male dominated: 96 (42%)
- Female dominated: 36 (16%)

2011 Boards That Pay a Per Diem

- Total number of boards & commissions with per diems: 119 (52%)
- Gender balanced with per diems: 54 (45%)
- Male dominated with per diems: 51 (43%)
- Female dominated with per diems: 14 (12%)

Source: VCW analysis of Vermont boards and commissions from the Civil Government Guide, October 2011, Office of the Vermont Secretary of State

The Vermont Commission on Women has analyzed the gender composition of state boards and commissions since 1983. At that time, not one was gender balanced, and the majority had no female members. Our most recent study revealed 42% commissions were gender balanced and 42% were male dominated. Boards that have a majority of women members are the least likely to offer a per diem. In 2005, 16% of the “per diem” boards had a majority of women members; that percentage dropped to 11% in 2007 and remained the same until 2011 when it increased to 12%.



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