

WOMEN IN NEW JERSEY GOVERNMENT

CONGRESS No woman has served in New Jersey's 15-member congressional delegation (two Senators, 13 Representatives) since 2003. New Jersey has sent a total of five women (2D, 3R) to the U.S. House of Representatives and no women to the U.S. Senate. The New Jersey congresswomen were:

Marge Roukema (R), 1981-2003	Florence Price Dwyer (R), 1957-1973
Millicent Fenwick (R), 1975-1983	Mary Teresa Norton (D), 1925-1951
Helen Stevenson Meyner (D), 1975-1979	

STATEWIDE In New Jersey, the governor is the only statewide elected official, making the New Jersey governor one of the most powerful in the nation. Christine Todd Whitman was New Jersey's first woman governor; she was only the second Republican woman ever elected governor in any state. She won re-election in a close race in 1997, making her the first Republican woman governor in U.S. history to be re-elected. She resigned early in 2001 to serve in President Bush's cabinet as Environmental Protection Agency Administrator. Whitman resigned from the EPA in June 2003.

CABINET MEMBERS Governor Jon Corzine has eight women in his cabinet. This represents 36.4% of his 22-member cabinet.

Anne Milgram	Attorney General	7/02/07-present
Lisa Jackson	Commissioner of Environmental Protection	2/27/06-present
Jennifer Velez	Commissioner of Human Services	2/05/07-present
Sharon Anne Harrington	Chief Administrator, NJ Motor Vehicle Commission	1/30/06-present
Nina Mitchell Wells	Secretary of State	1/17/06-present
Lucille Davy	Commissioner of Education	9/12/05-present
Virginia Bauer	Secretary of Commerce, Economic Growth and Tourism	9/23/04-present
Jeanne Fox	President, NJ Board of Public Utilities	1/15/02-present
Susan Bass Levin	Commissioner of Community Affairs	1/30/06-7/05/07
Anne Milgram	Acting Attorney General	9/01/06-9/28/06
Zulima Farber	Attorney General	1/30/06-8/31/06

STATE LEGISLATURE In 2007, 26 women serve in New Jersey's state legislature; they hold 21.7% of the 120 available seats. Nationally women hold 23.5% of all state legislative seats; New Jersey ranks 27th among the 50 states in the proportion of women serving in its legislature.

Senate In 2007, of the 40 (22D, 18R) seats in the New Jersey State Senate, eight are held by women (20.0%). Six are Democrats and two are Republicans:

Diane Allen (R-7)	Barbara Buono (D-18)	Shirley Turner (D-15)
Martha Bark (R-8)	Nia Gill (D-34)	Loretta Weinberg (D-37)
Sandra Bolden Cunningham (D-31)	Ellen Karcher (D-12)	

Three African American women (Bolden Cunningham, Gill and Turner) currently serve in the New Jersey Senate.

Assembly In 2007, of the 80 (49D, 31R) members of the State Assembly, 18, or 22.5%, are women. Thirteen are Democrats and five are Republicans:

Jennifer Beck (R-12)	Valerie Vainieri Huttie (D-37)	Nellie Pou (D-35)
Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-15)	Mila Jasey (D-27)	Joan Quigley (D-32)
Niisa Cruz-Perez (D-5)	Marcia Karrow (R-23)	Linda Stender (D-22)
Elease Evans (D-35)	Pamela Rosen Lampitt (D-6)	Oadline Truitt (D-28)
Linda Greenstein (D-14)	Alison Littell McHose (R-24)	Charlotte Vandervalk (R-39)
Amy Handlin (R-18)	Sheila Y. Oliver (D-34)	Joan Voss (D-38)

Two Latinas (Cruz-Perez and Pou) and five African American women (Coleman, Evans, Jasey, Oliver and Truitt) currently serve in the Assembly.

One woman has served as speaker of the New Jersey Assembly. Marion West Higgins (R) became speaker in 1965, only the second woman in the nation to be speaker of a state house. She served as acting governor on occasion when Governor Richard Hughes traveled out of state.

Our thanks to the Office of the NJ Secretary of State, NJ Association of Counties, the NJ League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Democratic State Committee, and the New Jersey Republican State Committee.

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WOMEN IN LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

Senate
 President Pro Tempore
 Conference Chair
 Conference Leader
 Deputy Minority Leader

Shirley Turner (D-15)
 Barbara Buono (D-18)
 Martha W. Bark (R-8)
 Diane Allen (R-7)

Assembly
 Majority Leader
 Deputy Speaker
 Deputy Speaker
 Majority Conference Leader
 Assistant Republican Whip
 Assistant Majority Leader
 Assistant Majority Leader

Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-15)
 Linda Greenstein (D-14)
 Linda Stender (D-22)
 Joan M. Quigley (D-32)
 Alison Littell McHose (R-24)
 Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D-5)
 Sheila Y. Oliver (D-34)

WOMEN COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Senate
 Commerce
 Education
 Wagering, Tourism and Historical Preservation

Nia H. Gill (D-34)
 Shirley K. Turner (D-15)
 Barbara Buono (D-18)

Assembly
 Appropriations
 Consumer Affairs
 Homeland Security and State Preparedness
 Judiciary

Nellie Pou (D-35)
 Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D-5)
 Joan M. Quigley (D-32)
 Linda Greenstein (D-14)

WOMEN COUNTY FREEHOLDERS In 2007, 36, or 26.3%, of the 137 (81D, 56R) county freeholders in New Jersey are women; four women serve as freeholder directors or chairs. Women serve as freeholders in 17 of the state's 21 counties; 26 Democrats and 10 Republicans currently serve. The four counties with no women freeholders are Cape May, Hunterdon, Ocean and Warren.

Alisa Cooper (D-Atlantic)	Elizabeth Muoio (D-Mercer)
Sue Schilling (R-Atlantic)	Lucy Walter (D-Mercer)
Elizabeth Calabrese (D-Bergen)	Blanquita Valenti (D-Middlesex)
Bernadette McPherson (D-Bergen)	Camille Fernicola (D-Middlesex)
Julie O'Brien (D-Bergen)	Lillian G. Burry (R-Monmouth)
Connie Wagner (D-Bergen)	Anna Little (R-Monmouth)
Dawn Addiego (R-Burlington)	Barbara I. McMorrow (R-Monmouth)
Riletta Cream (D-Camden)	Margaret Nordstrom (R-Morris), Director
Carmen Rodriguez (D-Camden)	Eleese Evans (D-Passaic), Director
Jane Yetman Christy (D-Cumberland)	Sonia Rosado (D-Passaic)
Mary L. Guccio (R-Cumberland)	Tahesha Way (D-Passaic)
Carol Y. Clark (D-Essex)	Susan A. Bestwick (R-Salem)
Patricia Sebold (D-Essex)	Beth Timberman (D-Salem)
Linda Cavanaugh (D-Essex)	Denise Coyle (R-Somerset)
Blonnie Watson (D-Essex), Director	Susan Zellman (R-Sussex)
Helene M. Reed (D-Gloucester)	Bette Jane Kowalski (D-Union), Director
Doreen DiDomenico (D-Hudson)	Deborah Scanlon (D-Union)
Ann Cannon (D-Mercer)	Nancy Ward (D-Union)

Five African American women (Clark, Cream, Evans, Watson, and Way) and three Latinas (Rodriguez, Rosado, and Valenti) currently serve as freeholders.**

COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS As of 2007, 22 women serve as elected constitutional officers in New Jersey's counties. They hold 33.8% of the 65 available positions. These women officials include: 13 county clerks, 1 register 1 sheriff and 7 surrogates.

County Clerks
 Kathleen A. Donovan (Bergen)
 Rita Marie Fulginiti (Cape May)
 Gloria Noto (Cumberland)
 Barbara A. Netchert (Hudson)
 Mary Melfi (Hunterdon)
 Paula Sollami-Covello (Mercer)
 Elaine Flynn (Middlesex)
 M. Claire French (Monmouth)
 Joan Bramhall (Morris)
 Karen Brown (Passaic)
 Gilda T. Gill (Salem)
 Erma Gormley (Sussex)
 Joanne Rajoppi (Union)

Registers
 Carole A. Graves (Essex)

Sheriff
 Jean Stanfield (Burlington)

Surrogates
 Patricia Egan Jones (Camden)
 Susan Hoffman (Hunterdon)
 Diane Gerofsky (Mercer)
 Rosemarie Peters (Monmouth)
 Nicki A. Burke (Salem)
 Nancy D. Fitzgibbons (Sussex)
 Susan Dickey (Warren)

Two African American women (Brown and Graves) currently serve in county constitutional offices.**

** Eleven African American men and six Latino men currently serve as freeholders. One serves in a constitutional office.

WOMEN MAYORS As of October, 2007, there are 82 women mayors serving in New Jersey's 566 municipalities, holding 14.5% of the available positions. There are women mayors in all but one county (Hudson).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>County</u>
Carol Foster	Corbin City	Atlantic
Mary C. Garvin	Longport Borough	Atlantic
Kathy Chasey	Mullica Township	Atlantic
Sophie Heymann	Closter Borough	Bergen
Nancy Merse	Edgewater Borough	Bergen
Maura R. DeNicola	Franklin Lakes Borough	Bergen
Karen Viscana	Lodi Borough	Bergen
Ester Vierheilig	Midland Park Borough	Bergen
Margaret Falahee Watkins	River Edge Borough	Bergen
Phyllis Strohmeyer	Rochelle Park Township	Bergen
Bernadette P. McPherson	Rutherford Borough	Bergen
Jean Wetherill	Beverly City	Burlington
Darlene A. Scocca	Burlington City	Burlington
Judith Hall	Edgewater Park Township	Burlington
Claire Volpe	Maple Shade Township	Burlington
Phyllis A. Magazzu	Berlin Township	Camden
Gwendolyn A. Faison	Camden City	Camden
Cindy Rau-Hatton	Gloucester Township	Camden
Letitia G. Colombi	Haddonfield Borough	Camden
Beth Ann Haven	Haddon Heights Borough	Camden
Irene Murphy-Wolick	Hi-Nella Borough	Camden
BettyAnn Cowling-Carson	Magnolia Borough	Camden
Virginia Betteridge	Runnemede Borough	Camden
Sue Ann Metzner	Winslow Township	Camden
Ruth J. Blessing	Dennis Township	Cape May
Suzanne M. Walters	Stone Harbor Borough	Cape May
Pamela Kaithern	Borough of West Cape May	Cape May
Susan H. Gartland	Caldwell Borough	Essex
Joanne Cocchiola	Nutley Township	Essex
Patricia Gannon	Clayton Borough	Gloucester
Terry L. Ratzell	Elk Township	Gloucester
Patricia M. Koloski	National Park Borough	Gloucester
Alice Polocz	Pitman Borough	Gloucester
Anna Docimo	West Deptford Township	Gloucester
Christine Schaumburg	Clinton Town	Hunterdon
Kristin McCarthy	Delaware Township	Hunterdon
Janice S. Mironov	East Windsor Township	Mercer
Vanessa Sandom	Hopewell Township	Mercer
Mildred T. Trotman	Princeton Borough	Mercer
Phyllis L. Marchand	Princeton Township	Mercer
Nancy Martin	Helmetta Borough	Middlesex
Meryl L. Frank	Highland Park Borough	Middlesex
Gloria M. Bradford	Milltown Borough	Middlesex
Dorothy H. Avallone	Freehold Township	Monmouth
Serena DiMaso	Holmdel Township	Monmouth
Lisa Strydio	Keansburg Borough	Monmouth
Suzanne S. Castleman	Little Silver Borough	Monmouth
Betty McBain	Loch Arbour Village	Monmouth
Mary Aufseeser	Matawan Township	Monmouth
Nancy A. Grbelja	Millstone Township	Monmouth
Susan Howard	Monmouth Beach Borough	Monmouth
Lucille A. Chaump	Oceanport Borough	Monmouth
Elsbeth Battel	Roosevelt Borough	Monmouth
Jo-Ann Kalaka-Adams	Sea Bright Borough	Monmouth
Emilia M. Siciliano	Shrewsbury Borough	Monmouth
Jennifer Naughton	Spring Lake Borough	Monmouth
Janet W. Tucci	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth
Phyllis Florek	Mendham Township	Morris

**WOMEN
MAYORS** (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>County</u>
Mary E. Lockwood	Rockaway Borough	Morris
Betty Simmons	Victory Gardens Borough	Morris
Barbara Jo Crea	Little Egg Harbor Township	Ocean
DiAnne C. Gove	Long Beach Township	Ocean
Joanne Atlas	Ringwood Borough	Passaic
Ellen Pompper	Lower Alloways Creek Township	Salem
Mary Pavlini	Bernards Township	Somerset
Patricia Flannery	Township of Bridgewater	Somerset
Patricia L. Walsh	Green Brook Township	Somerset
Cecilia Xie Birge	Montgomery Township	Somerset
Janice G. Allen	North Plainfield Borough	Somerset
Jo-Ann Liptak	Raritan Borough	Somerset
Shirlee M. Bollard	Andover Borough	Sussex
Carol Ann Kristensen	Frankford Township	Sussex
Thea Uncoch	Newton Township	Sussex
Diana Kuncken	Stanhope Borough	Sussex
Katherine Little	Sussex Borough	Sussex
Janet Morrison	Vernon Township	Sussex
Colleen Mahr	Fanwood Borough	Union
Karen McCoy-Oliver	Hillside Township	Union
Sharon Robinson-Briggs	Plainfield City	Union
Brenda C. Restivo	Union Township	Union
Bonnie Butler	Franklin Township	Warren
Marianne Van Deursen	Washington Borough	Warren

STATE SUPREME COURT Three women currently serve on New Jersey's seven-member Supreme Court. Two were appointed by Governor Christine Todd Whitman: Justice Virginia Long, sworn in on September 14, 1999 and Justice Jaynee LaVecchia, sworn in on January 26, 2000. The third, Justice Helen E. Hoens, was appointed by Governor Jon Corzine and sworn in on October 26, 2006.

The first woman to head New Jersey's highest court was Chief Justice Deborah Poritz; appointed by Governor Whitman, she served from 1996 until she retired in 2006. The first woman member of New Jersey's Supreme Court was Justice Marie L. Garibaldi, who was appointed by Governor Thomas Kean and served from 1982 until 2000.

WOMEN IN THE STATE PARTIES **Democrats:** The chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee is a man (Joseph Cryan). In the 21 counties, three women serve as county chairs:

Brenda Hall (Salem)
Megan Ward (Sussex)
Charlotte DeFilippo (Union)

Republicans: The chair of the New Jersey Republican State Committee is a man (Tom Wilson). In the 21 counties, two women serve as county chair:

Dawn Lacy (Burlington)
Loran Oglesby (Gloucester)