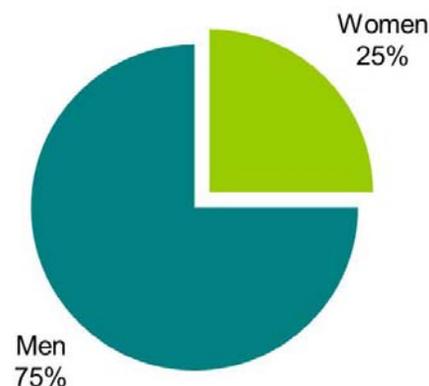


# Women in the Wisconsin Legislature, 2013 update

- ◆ The number of women elected to the Wisconsin State Legislature **decreased** to 33 (from 34) following the November 2012 general election—**25% of seats** in the Legislature. This level of representation that has held, on average, for nearly a quarter century—fluctuating between 22% and 28% since 1989.
- ◆ Women had a net **loss of one seat** in the Senate and **no change** in the Assembly. Nonetheless, there will be **8 new women joining the Wisconsin Legislature in 2013**—one-quarter of all women legislators. Wisconsin also made history electing Tammy Baldwin as its first female U.S. Senator.
- ◆ 48% of **candidates** for Wisconsin State Senate seats were female. Women gained one of two open seats in the Senate and six of 23 open seats in the Assembly, suggesting that despite the slight decrease overall, women are seeking elected office.

Wisconsin State Legislature, 2013



## Women in the Wisconsin State Legislature, 1981–2013

Year	Senate	Assembly	Percent Women
1981	2	18	15%
1983	2	24	20%
1985	3	22	19%
1987	4	24	21%
1989	5	32	28%
1991	5	27	24%
1993	9	27	27%
1995	9	23	24%
1997	10	22	24%
1999	11	20	23%
2001	11	22	25%
2003	9	28	28%
2005	8	26	26%
2007	8	22	23%
2009	7	22	22%
2011	8	23	23%
2011(r)*	10	24	26%
2013	9	24	25%

There are 132 seats in the Wisconsin State Legislature (33 Senate & 99 Assembly).  
 Source for historical figures: Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau.  
 (r) updated following 2011 special elections.

To contact legislators or find out who represents you, visit:  
[www.legis.wisconsin.gov](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov)

**SENATE**—16 of the 33 State Senate seats were up for re-election.

**RESULT: 9 seats (27%) held by women (compared to 10 in 2011)**

**Who Ran** Among Women in the Senate, 7 out of 9\*\* were up for re-election—4 Democrats and 3 Republicans.

**Who Won** Six women retained their seats and one lost her seat. One new woman was elected to an open seat. In addition, two women incumbents were not up for re-election.

### Women in the Senate by Party

- ◆ Republicans (4) - Senators Darling, Harsdorf, Lazich, Vukmir.
- ◆ Democrats (5) - Senators Harris\*, Lassa, Shilling, Taylor, Vinehout.

\* Women newly elected to the State Senate or Assembly in the November 2012 general election.

\*\* Senator Galloway resigned her seat in May 2012, reducing the number of women in the State Senate from 10 to 9.

*Election results were not yet certified by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board at the time of this compilation.*

**ASSEMBLY**—all 99 State Assembly seats were up for re-election.

**RESULT: 24 seats (24%) held by women (the same as in 2011)**

**Who Ran** 17 women incumbents were on the ballot—11 Democrats and 6 Republicans. Seven were not on the ballot, of which 3 ran for other offices (Congress or State Senate), 3 did not seek re-election, and 1 lost in a Primary Election.

**Who Won:** All 17 incumbents who ran retained their seats, plus 7 new women were elected (6 won open seats and 1 defeated an incumbent.)

### Women in the Assembly by Party

- ◆ Republicans (7) - Representatives Ballweg, Bernier, Czaja\*, Kerkman, Loudonbeck, Strachota, Williams.
- ◆ Democrats (17) - Representatives Berceau, Bernard Shaber, Bewley, Billings, Johnson\*, Kolste\*, Hesselbein\*, Pasch, Pope-Roberts, Ringhand, Sargent\*, Shankland\*, Sinicki, Taylor, Vruwink, Wright\*, Zamarippa