

Women in the WI Legislature, 2017

Wisconsin Women's Council
December 2016



23%

When the Wisconsin State Legislature convenes in 2017, women will hold 31 of the 132 seats (23%), combined, in the Senate and Assembly, down from 34 seats (26%) in 2016.

Did you know ...

The election of Senator Mary Lazich as Senate President in 2015 marked the first time any woman had served as presiding officer of either house.

27% Senate

Women will hold 9 of 33 seats (27%) in the State Senate, down from 11 seats (33%) in 2015.

22% Assembly

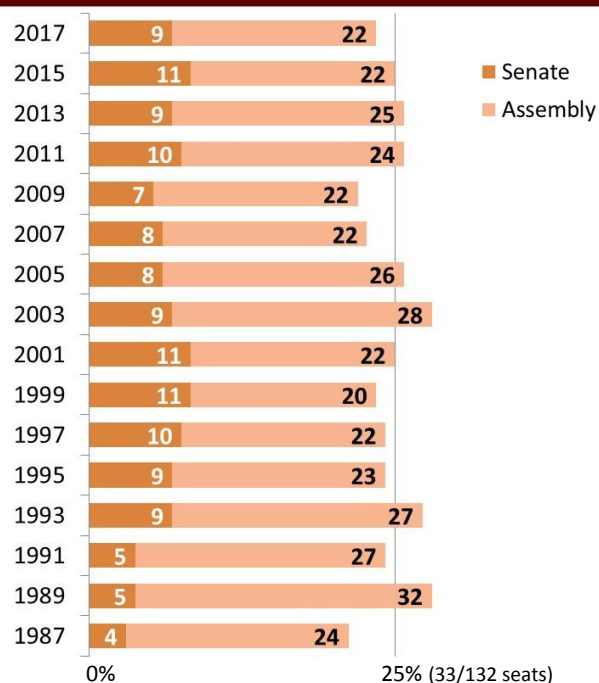
Women will hold 22 of 99 seats (22%) in the State Assembly, the same as in 2015.

42% Leadership

Women will hold 10 of 24 Majority and Minority Party Leadership seats, including Assistant Senate Majority Leader and Senate Minority Leader.

Three Decades of Women in the WI Legislature

Women have held about one-quarter of the state's legislative seats for the past 30 years.



The percentage of seats held by women in the Wisconsin State Legislature has hovered around 25% for the past three decades.

HIGHPOINTS

Legislature - 1989 and 2003 (37 of the 132 total legislative seats, or 28%).

Senate - 1999, 2001 and 2015 (11 of 33 Senate seats, or 33%)

Assembly - 1989 (32 of 99 Assembly seats, or 32%)

Since 2005, the Women's Council has tracked and published statistics on women in state and local elected offices in Wisconsin, including post-election fact sheets updating data on Women the in the Wisconsin Legislature.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Moving Wisconsin Forward, 2015

An analysis of women in elected office in Wisconsin's state and local governments with updated statistics and 10-years trends.

Wisconsin Women's Political Firsts Timeline, 2015

Timeline of women in elected office in Wisconsin state government, including | the first women elected to the State Legislature (1925), first female Lieutenant Governor (2001), and first Latina elected to the Legislature (2011). Printed copies available by request (while supplies last).

Moving Wisconsin Forward, 2010

An analysis of Wisconsin Women in Elected Office, with updated statistics.

Women and Elected Office, 2005

Wisconsin's first statewide benchmark report on women holding elected office in state and local government, including elected seats in Wisconsin's counties, cities, towns, villages and school districts.

Sources: November 2016 General Election Results as published by the Wisconsin Elections Commission (elections.wi.gov, viewed 12/12/16). Historical data: Legislative Reference Bureau, *Wisconsin Women Legislators—A Historical List*, Wisconsin Brief, January 2015.

About Us

The Wisconsin Women's Council is the state's statutory commission on the status of women and girls. Founded in 1983, the 15-member Women's Council is appointed by the Offices of the Governor, Senate President, Senate Majority Leader and Assembly Speaker.

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