

Tennessee

WOMENCOUNT

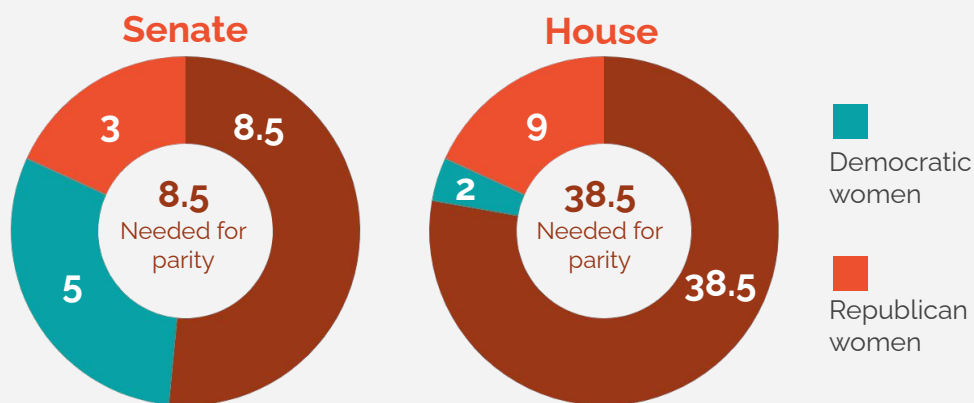
Electing more women, and especially women of color, to state legislatures will create a more representative government and accelerate social progress.

State legislatures create **real change** for communities and serve as a **training ground** for higher office.

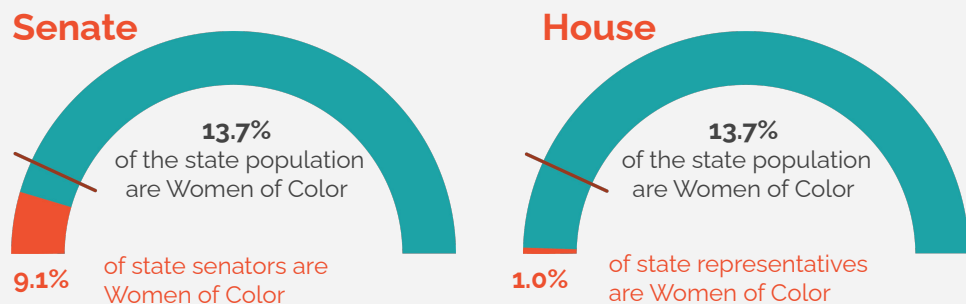


How representative is Tennessee's state legislature today?

47
Forty-seven more women are needed to reach a majority of women state legislators.



More women of color must be elected to both the Senate and House to reflect the state population.



2024 Electoral dynamics

Tennessee is a challenging state with limited, but growing infrastructure. While women were recruited and prioritized in the two open seats held by Democrat men not seeking reelection, there are generally very few open or competitive seats. In 2022, only four races were tight and many were left uncontested.

All members of the State House and half of the State Senate members are up for reelection.

There are no term limits.

The primary election is on August 1, 2024.

WomenCount is an online giving platform that raises funds for women candidates and simplifies the giving process. WomenCount and Electing Women Alliance, a national network of giving groups, work together to close the political gender giving gap as a pathway to electing more women.

Campaign finance considerations

Donation limit:

\$1,800 per separate primary or general election for non-statewide candidates.

The average cost of a state legislative race is roughly

\$150,000 For the House and Senate

- LLCs can contribute directly to candidates.
- There are no unique disclosure requirements for independent expenditure campaigns.

All donors are advised to consult an accountant and/or legal counsel to determine the limits and reporting requirements that apply.

Urgent: Candidates in need of primary support before August 1



Shaundelle Brooks for State House

House District 60 (Travis County)

Shaundelle Brooks is a local gun violence prevention advocate whose son, Akilah DaSilva, was killed in the 2018 Waffle House shooting,

"Stepping into this race, I carry the legacy of my son Akilah and the voices of countless families affected by gun violence," says Brooks via campaign manager Rod Wright. "Beyond advocating for vital gun violence prevention, I am committed to enhancing education, health care access, and economic opportunity for all in District 60. It's time for action that encompasses the full spectrum of our community's needs, ensuring safety, prosperity, and well-being for everyone." This is an open seat with competitive primaries on both sides of the aisle.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

<https://womenscount.org/teams/womens-political-parity-tennessee/>

Candidates without primaries, where pre-primary support is important



Allie Phillips for State House

House District 75 (Montgomery County)

A Tennessee native raised in Ashland City, Allie Phillips is a graduate of MTSU and a full-time working mother. In November 2022, during a planned pregnancy, Allie and her husband Bryan learned at 19 weeks that her pregnancy was not compatible with life and could result in sepsis, blood clots, or worse. Due to Tennessee's restrictive ban on reproductive care, Allie was forced to travel alone to New York City for an emergency abortion.

Following this experience, Allie was spurred to run for the Tennessee House of Representatives to change those laws and ensure reproductive safety and freedom for all women in Tennessee. As State Representative for Tennessee's 75th House District, she aims to fully fund the public education system, keep guns away from schools, and deliver real solutions for Montgomery County families. Phillips will face a first-term incumbent in this house district which overlaps with a competitive Congressional seat (CD7).

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HD22 Karen Reynolds for State House

House District 22 (Montgomery County)

Karen Reynolds is a sitting City Councilperson and retired Army master sergeant running to serve Montgomery County. After retiring with 21 years of honorable service in the Army, Reynolds chose to return to Clarksville in 2001 to raise her two sons. She currently represents City Council Ward 9 in Clarksville, where she resides with her husband, Billy. Reynolds worked as a veteran service representative for the VA and then as a project manager in healthcare informatics at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital. She holds a Master of Arts in Adult Education from East Carolina University. Reynolds is a graduate of Leadership Clarksville and Leadership Clarksville-Montgomery County School System.

Reynolds said she envisions a future for Tennessee marked by equality. "She has proven to be a fighter for all members of the community, advocating for affordable housing, walkability, and sustainable infrastructure. She is committed to advocating for reproductive freedom and accessible healthcare, fighting for well-funded public schools, and addressing the ongoing issue of gun violence," according to the campaign.

Reynolds added, "I'm running because I refuse to stand by as politicians trample on people's freedoms. Advocating for equity, embracing diversity, and championing human rights defines my philosophy — a commitment to a Tennessee where every individual thrives."

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