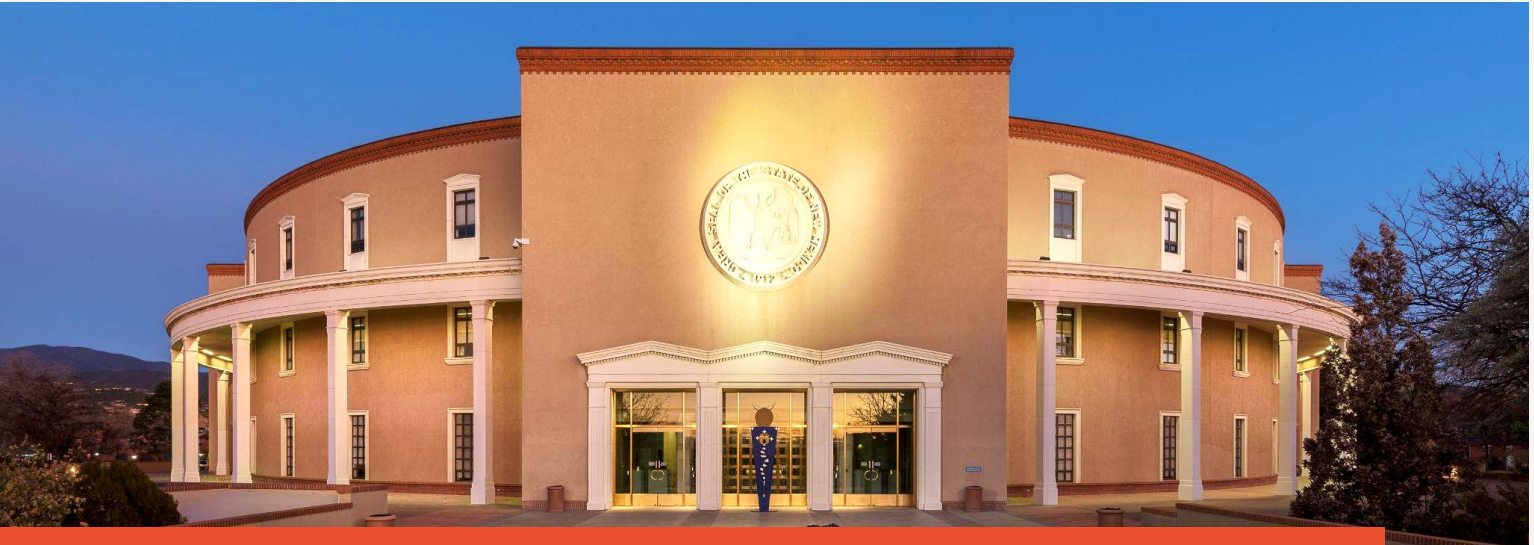


Electing more women, and especially women of color, to state legislatures will create a more representative government and accelerate social progress.

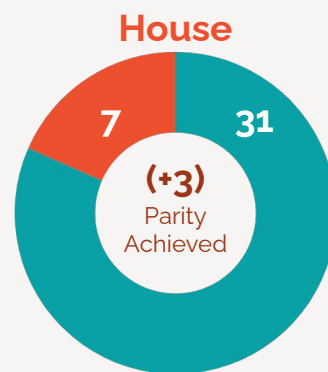
State legislatures create **real change** for communities and serve as a **training ground** for higher office.



How representative is New Mexico's state legislature today?

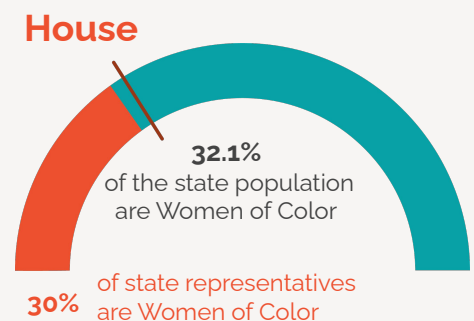
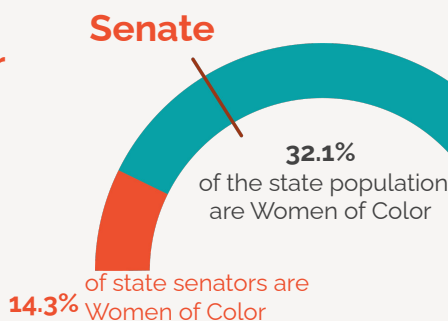
6

Six more women are needed to reach a majority of women state legislators.



Democratic women
Republican women

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



2024 Electoral dynamics

Extensive recruitment efforts by in-state leaders resulted in **women running in 82% of the targeted, competitive state legislative primary races**. This included six of six competitive Senate races and eight out of 12 House races. **Fourteen of the 18 recruited candidates are women of color**.

New Mexico is not a Presidential target state, but U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich is up for reelection and one of the state's Congressional seats is expected to be highly contested.

All state legislative seats are up for reelection in 2024.

There are no term limits.

The primary election was on June 4, 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:

\$5,500

per primary election cycle

\$5,500

per general election cycle

Average cost of state legislative races:

\$150,000

for the House

\$250,000

for the Senate

- LLCs can contribute directly to candidates.
- Any person who makes an independent expenditure of more than \$1,000 in a non-statewide election or question or in an amount more than \$3,000 in a statewide race or ballot measure must file a report with the secretary of state.

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

Independent campaign supporting all these women candidates



Better Future for New Mexico

Better Future for New Mexico (BFFNM) is an independent expenditure (IE) political action committee in New Mexico. BFFNM is a project of the New Mexico donor table, which has been actively building long-term political power for women and people of color for more than 15 years. BFFNM will be granting to women, LGBTQ+, and people of color-led groups doing strategically aligned work to elect more women in the New Mexico legislature. There are no contribution limits.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

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

Opportunity to gain new women and women of color in the state legislature



Gabby Begay for State House

House District 39 (Catron, Grant, Hidalgo)

Begay is a Navajo woman, born and raised in southwest New Mexico. She earned her degree in Criminal Justice from Western New Mexico University, where she was appointed as a student to the Board of Regents. She later received her Masters of Education in Teaching and Learning from the University of the Southwest, and she currently is a first grade teacher in Silver City. She is Board president of the Cobre Consolidated Board of Education as well as a commissioner for the southwest region of the state on the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women. Gabby believes that every child deserves access to quality education, regardless of their background. She will tirelessly advocate for better resources, modern classrooms, and support for both students and teachers. She is an ardent supporter of women's healthcare, of creating policies that promote affordable housing for all, of criminal justice reform that addresses systemic issues and promotes community solutions for a safer and more equitable society. Begay is a graduate of Emerge.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

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

Opportunity to hold a seat previously held by a woman



HD32 Linda Alvarez

House District 32 (Hidalgo County)

Alvarez was born, raised and lives in the Hatch Valley, where she is running. She previously served as a volunteer community advocate in Hatch, an early childhood planner, and worked as a bilingual claims representative. Her legislative priorities include the expansion of community resources, creating more good jobs, economic development, education, health care and public safety. She is running against a female incumbent.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

<https://womencount.org/teams/womens-political-parity-new-mexico/>

Women incumbents in need of protection



Rep. Joy Garratt for State House

House District 29 (Northwest Albuquerque)

Rep. Garratt has served in the New Mexico House since January 2019 and is the first Democrat to be elected to Northwest Albuquerque District 29. A retired educator and long-time teacher union activist, she serves as House Education vice chair and member of House Appropriations and Finance. Priorities are education at all levels, workforce development, broadband, transportation, economic development and health care.



Rep. Kathleen Cates for State House

House District 44 (Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties)

Rep. Cates is an advocate for the interests of women with mental and substance use diagnoses, disabled individuals seeking job opportunities, and children in need of special considerations. She most recently worked to negotiate on behalf of first-time homebuyers, who may be overwhelmed with the burdens associated with the process. Rep. Cates is a member of the Developmental Disability Council, a previous CEO of two nonprofits, and a member as well as frequent officer of the Rio Rancho Sunrise Rotary.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

<https://womencount.org/teams/womens-political-parity-new-mexico/>



Rep. Charlotte Little for State House

House District 68 (Bernalillo County)

Rep. Little is a Native American member of the San Felipe Pueblo and just completed her first term in office. She has been a small business owner, served as a Tribal Administrator, and worked as an Administrative Officer for the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Her priorities are public safety (including gun reform and safety), healthcare, and education.



Sen. Katy Duhigg for State Senate

Senate District 10 (Albuquerque)

Sen. Duhigg was elected to the New Mexico Senate in the 2020 election and currently serves as Chair of the Senate Rules Committee and Vice Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. In the NM Legislature, Sen. Duhigg has been a leader on election reform, voting rights protections, and ensuring access to the ballot for New Mexicans. She passed critical legislation to expand public financing for judicial candidates and take big money out of judicial campaigns. In addition, she led efforts to end predatory lending, reform temporary guardianships and conservatorships to prevent abuse and neglect, and close loopholes that prevented workers from being paid a fair wage. She has also been a leader on healthcare issues, passing the Patients' Debt Collection Protection Act, to protect lower-income patients, in 2021, and the Healthcare Consolidation Oversight Act, to ensure that healthcare mergers and acquisitions do not negatively impact the availability, accessibility, affordability, and quality of healthcare for New Mexicans, in 2024.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

<https://womencount.org/teams/womens-political-parity-new-mexico/>



Rep. Meredith Dixon for State House

House District 20 (Bernalillo County)

Rep. Dixon was first elected to serve as state representative in 2020. During the 2023 legislative session, she was appointed vice-chair of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee. In addition to that role, she serves as a member of the House Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee. In the 2023 session, she sponsored several successful pieces of legislation including the general appropriations act, requiring insurance coverage for biomarker testing, an increased disbursement from the Early Childhood Trust Fund (HB 191), and prohibiting local bans of EPA-approved substitute refrigerants. She is facing a woman in the general election.



Rep. Pamela Herndon for State House

House District 28 (Bernalillo County)

Rep. Herndon was born in a small Texas town, and went to one of the nation's top Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Howard University. She earned her law degree at the University of Texas. Pamela currently serves as CEO of a nonprofit that provides affordable legal representation to low-and-middle income New Mexicans. She has also previously worked in varied government roles with the IRS, the state's attorney general, and more. Her legislative priorities are focused on public safety, the economy, and public education. She is facing another woman in the general election.

Contribute now to some or all of these candidates:

<https://womencount.org/teams/womens-political-parity-new-mexico/>