

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

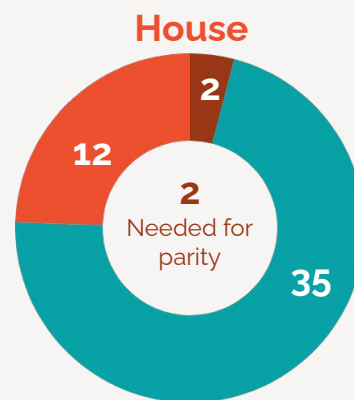
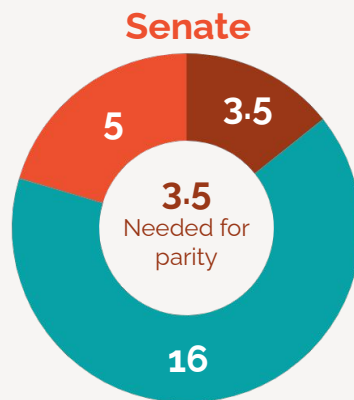
State legislatures create **real change** for communities and serve as a **training ground** for higher office.



How representative is Washington's state legislature today?

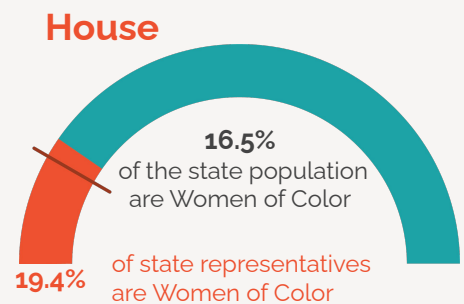
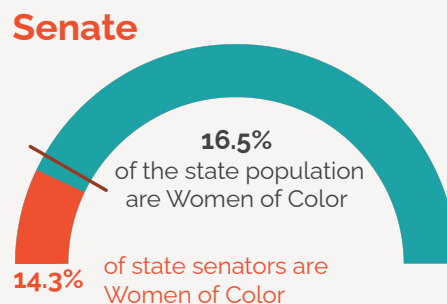
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Six more women are needed to reach a majority of women state legislators.



Democratic women
Republican women

More women of color must be elected to the State Senate to reflect the state population.



2024 Electoral dynamics

While Washington is not a Presidential target state, the Governor's race is open and U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell is up for reelection.

All of the house and half of the senate members are up for reelection in 2024.

Legislative districts are fully nested with one senator and two house members.

The primary process is open with all candidates listed and the top two candidates advance to the general.

There are no term limits.

The primary election is on August 6, 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:

\$1,200 per separate primary or general election.

State Legislative races can cost:

~\$500,000 - \$900,000

- LLCs can contribute directly to candidates.
- The top five donors to an independent expenditure are named in a disclosure report.

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 6



Natasha Hill for State House

House District 3, Pos. 1 (Spokane County)

Born and raised in the Hillyard neighborhood of Spokane, Hill is the editor of The Black Lens, Spokane's only Black newspaper, as well as an attorney who owns and runs her own law firm and event venue owner. Hill's priorities for office are public health and safety, public education, working families, protecting women's access to health care, and environmental justice. She is facing a man in the Democratic primary.



Dr. Pam Kohlmeier for State House

House District 9, Pos. 2 (Aams, Asotin, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Lincoln, Spokane, and Whitman counties)

Dr. Kohlmeier is a dually licensed physician and attorney, who is focused on improving access to health care. She is an active community volunteer who has raised a family in rural Washington state. Her legislative priorities include protecting rural health, improving access to mental health support, and addressing health care provider burnout.

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



Janet St. Clair for State Senate

Senate District 10 (Island, Snohomish, Skagit counties)

St. Clair had a 30-year career as a social worker working in the non-profit sector while also serving as a volunteer foster parent, helping at-risk children find stability and permanency in their lives. She currently serves as a County Commissioner in Island County. Her legislative priorities include addressing the cost of living, protecting access to healthcare, lowering prescription drug costs, environmental justice, public safety, and protecting veterans.



Heather Koellen for State House

House District 12, Pos 1 (Chelan, Douglas, King, Snohomish counties)

Heather Koellen is Charge and Staff nurse in a level one trauma center and teaching institution as well as a member of the King County Board of Health, Koellen is also the former chair of a Unit Practice Council as well as a former member of the Nursing Practice Council. Her legislative priorities include education, affordable housing, protecting women's access to health care, the environment, workers' rights, and health care affordability.



Maria Beltran for State Senate

Senate District 14 (Klickitat and Yakima counties)

Beltran is the oldest of three and the daughter of immigrants from Mexico. Both of her parents were seasonal workers for Del Monte, and she often worked alongside them as a child during the summer. She was the first in her family to graduate from high school, and she went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Gonzaga. Beltran her career as a community organizer in her hometown, and over the last decade, she has helped candidates up and down the ballot across the entire state get elected and help constituents. Her priorities include economic development, supporting veterans, and protecting access to healthcare.

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Ana Ruiz Kennedy for State House

House District 14, Pos. 1 (Klickitat and Yakima counties)

Ruiz Kennedy was born in the city of Guadalajara, Jalisco, and raised in Colima City, Mexico. Her dad served with distinction in the Mexican military, became a doctor and achieved the rank of Colonel. Her mom had her first child as she worked her way through medical school, she had her fifth child as she finished her residency program. She has worked as a business liaison in financial services and nonprofits and is an active community volunteer.



Chelsea Dimas for State House

House District 14, Pos 2 (Klickitat and Yakima counties)

Dimas is a longtime servant leader, communications professional, and proud daughter of Indigenous immigrants from México. Dimas was the first openly Queer, Indigenous Latinx woman running for office in the city of Sunnyside in 2021 and is now the first (again) to be running as State Representative, in the new District 14. She previously founded a nonprofit, served as a Commissioner for the WA State Human Rights Commission, and a Board Director with the Central Washington Chamber of Commerce.



Marla Keethler for State Senate

Senate District 17 (Clark and Skamania counties)

The daughter of an Air Force pilot and a special education teacher, Marla's years as a military brat began and ended in the Pacific Northwest, near Pierce County's Joint Base Lewis McChord. A childhood-long fascination with storytelling led her to pursue broadcast journalism as a career. Keethler is to help bridge gaps in our politics, better connect people to the services and support they deserve, improve care and educational outcomes for kids, and protect rights and freedoms.

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Terri Niles for State House

House District 17, Pos. 2 (Clark and Skamania counties)

Niles has worked as an ICU nurse and community volunteer for more than 25 years. Her legislative priorities include affordable housing, economic development, education and workforce development, improving access to health care, and improving public safety.



Tiffany Mitchell for State House

House District 23, Pos 1 (Kitsap County)

Mitchell knows that government programs make a huge difference in people's lives. Since 2009 she has worked in areas including child welfare, the judicial system, and other essential services that provide people with financial support to handle life's biggest challenges. Mitchell is from a proud union family and will work to make housing more affordable, stabilize rents, increase funding for students and schools, and ensure access to affordable healthcare. Mitchell served as a state legislator in Oregon from 2019-2021, voting to make historic investments in education, create the Paid Family and Medical Leave program, for statewide rent control, and to modify single-family zoning regulations to create a larger "middle housing" supply.



Brynn Felix for State House

House District 23, Pos 2 (Kitsap County)

Felix is an attorney, organizer and lobbyist. work as an organizer and lobbyist with the ACLU of Washington. She played a key role in advancing marriage equality, the Washington Voting Rights Act, and criminal justice reform policies. As a Japanese American and a member of the LGBTQ+ community, Brynn understands the importance of diverse representation and equal rights. Her priorities include access to health care, education, housing, and environmental justice.

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Candidates without primaries, where pre-primary support is important



Melissa Demyan for State House

House District 45, Pos 2 (XX County)

After graduating from Trinity College Dublin with a degree in Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Sociology, Demyan dove headfirst into community organizing, political activism, and the labor movement. Since 2021, she has been organizing local workers with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. Her legislative priorities include education, affordable housing, ensuring access to health care, and protecting the environment.

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