

## STATEWIDE OFFICE

California has eight statewide offices, of which women hold two—Attorney General Kamala Harris and State Controller Betty Yee. These two women combine for 25% of available statewide offices but women make up 50.3% of the total population in California. California has never elected a woman to the position of Governor or Insurance Commissioner.



Kamala Harris  
Attorney General



Betty Yee  
State Controller



California Women Lead  
ENGAGE • EMPOWER • ELECT

LOCC  
WOMEN'S CAUCUS

# SEPTEMBER 2015

## IN CALIFORNIA HISTORY WE HAVE ELECTED:

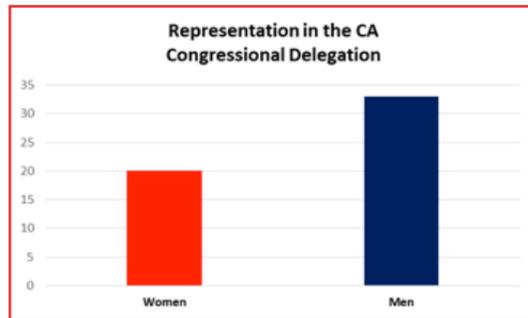
- One woman as Attorney General (Harris - present);
- One woman as Superintendent of Public Instruction (Delaine Eastin - 1995 to 2003);
- Two women as State Controller (Yee - present and Kathleen Connell - 1995 to 2003);
- Two women as Secretary of State (Debra Bowen - '07 to '15; March Fong Eu - 1975 to 1993);
- Three women as State Treasurer (Kathleen Brown - 1995 to 2003; Elizabeth Whitney - 1987 to 1989; Ivy Baker Priest - 1967 to 1974)
- California had an Acting female Lieutenant Governor - Mona Pasquil (2009 to 2010)
- Only one woman from the GOP party has ever been elected statewide in California history: Ivy Baker Priest in 1967. The remainder of the women who have served in statewide offices have been Democrats.

## CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

California was the first state in the nation to elect two women to the United States Senate.

- Dianne Feinstein - 1992 to present
- Barbara Boxer - 1993 to present

20 women serve in the 53 member delegation (37.7%). 19 are Democrats; one is a Republican.



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Our mission is increasing the number of women in elected and appointed office at all levels of California government, state, county and city. We are a statewide non-partisan network of citizen, business and government leaders. Our successful programs include leadership trainings and workshops, providing the tools women need as officeholders, community advocates and policymakers in California.



Elected. Supported. Connected.  
We are building stronger communities throughout California by helping our members lead more effectively and succeed on every level. As an official, non-partisan affiliate of the League of California Cities, the Women's Caucus is a leadership and advocacy group focused on supporting elected officials, increasing the number of women in elected office, and advocating for public policy and budget priorities that benefit the women and children of California.

California Women Lead and the League of California Cities® Women's Caucus are proud to present our updated report on women's representation on city councils in California.

This update to the original 2014 report incorporates election results from the November 2014 General Election and the March 2015 Los Angeles Municipal Election.

The good news is women increased their representation by 21 total council members. Also, we now have one city—Eureka—that has an all-female council. Fifteen additional cities have a majority of women on the council and 177 cities have just one woman on the council, down 14 from the previous report.

We still have much work to do in order to reach parity for women in elected office—at the local, state and federal level. Both California Women Lead and the League's Women's Caucus will continue to work together to empower women to enter public service. Through trainings, appointments to boards and commissions and access to a statewide network of women leaders, it is our hope that we will see increases after the 2016 Election.

Please take a moment to review this report, analyzing the number of women in elected office. We need to do more to empower women to run for office and to create a more representative portrait on our city councils across the state. Let's work together to support more women aspiring to political office.

Together we can help increase the representation of women in local government and in turn inspire more women to consider public service in all levels of government across the state.

Sincerely,

Rachel Michelin  
Executive Director/CEO  
Appointee, State of California

Jan Arbuckle  
Council Member, City of Grass Valley  
President, League of California Cities Women's  
Caucus

Tell people to visit our website at [www.cawomenlead.org](http://www.cawomenlead.org) or [www.cawomenscaucus.org](http://www.cawomenscaucus.org). "Like" us on Facebook.com/CaWomenLead, "follow" us on Twitter @cawomenlead, Periscope @cawomenlead, Instagram @cawomenlead & YouTube, and tell your networks to do the same!

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# THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN CITY GOVERNMENT

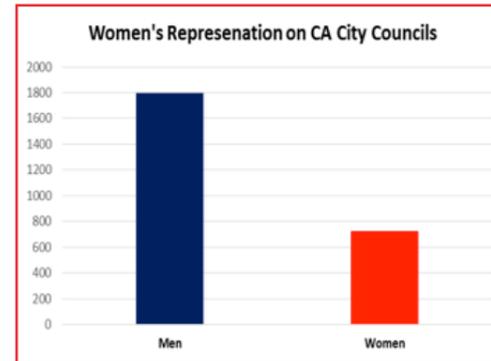
California Women Lead and the League's Women's Caucus is proud to present our 2015 update on the Status of Women in City Government. This study looks at the number of women currently serving on city councils, the State Legislature and in statewide office in California.

Compiled by California Women Lead in partnership with the League's Woman's Caucus, this report incorporates election results through the most recent Statewide General Election and the March 2015 Los Angeles County Municipal elections. The results show that nine city council seats remain vacant as of the drafting of this update.

Let's work together to support more women aspiring to public service.

## Key findings include:

- The total number of women on city councils is 727 compared to 1799 men (28.6%)<sup>1</sup>
- There is a total of 482 cities in California<sup>2</sup>
- Women represent 50.3% of the population (2013)<sup>3</sup>
  - One city—Eureka—is an all female city council<sup>4</sup>
  - 76 (15.7%) of city councils have a majority of women
  - 177 (36%) of city councils have only ONE woman on the council
  - 67 (13.9%) of city councils have no women serving
  - 116 (24%) women serve as mayor of their respective cities
- 402 cities with populations under 100,000 have at least one woman on the council
- 46 cities with populations between 100,000 and 200,000 have at least one woman on the council
- 20 cities with populations between 200,000 and 300,000 have at least one woman on the council



Of the 12 largest cities in California, with populations over 300,000, Oakland has the highest percentage of women serving (55%) and Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Bakersfield have only one woman on the council. Riverside has no women on its council and only TWO cities—Fresno and Oakland—have a woman serving as mayor.

<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>1/16 (6%)</b>	<b>Long Beach</b>	<b>5/10 (50%)</b>
<b>San Diego</b>	<b>4/9 (44%)</b>	<b>Oakland</b>	<b>5/9 (55%)</b>
<b>San Jose</b>	<b>2/11 (18%)</b>	<b>Bakersfield</b>	<b>1/8 (12%)</b>
<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>5/12 (42%)</b>	<b>Anaheim</b>	<b>2/5 (40%)</b>
<b>Fresno</b>	<b>2/8 (25%)</b>	<b>Santa Ana</b>	<b>2/7 (28%)</b>
<b>Sacramento</b>	<b>1/9 (11%)</b>	<b>Riverside</b>	<b>0/7 (0%)</b>

## COMPARISON FROM PRIOR REPORTS<sup>5</sup>

In 2014, CA Women Lead and the League's Women's Caucus released a preliminary report with the following findings:

- 706 women were serving on city councils
- 61 cities had a majority of women on the council
- 191 had one woman on the council
- 71 had NO women serving on the council

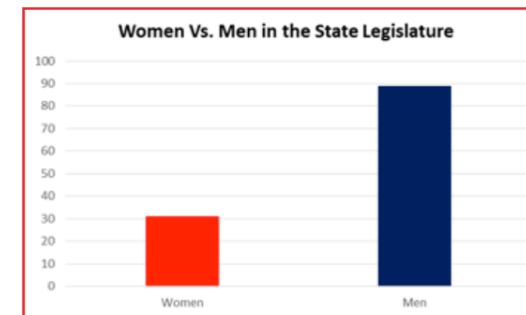
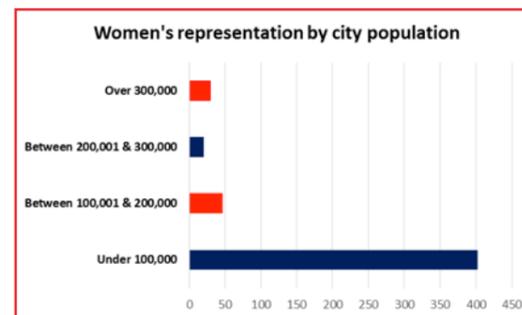
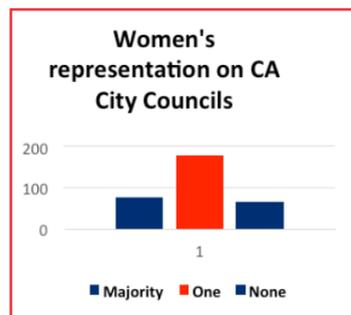
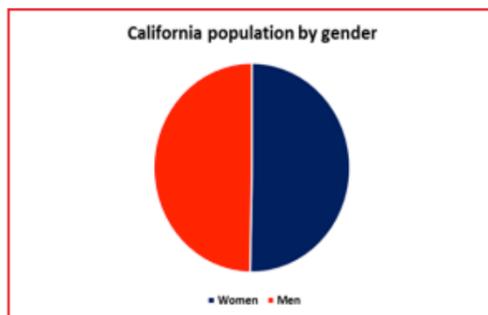
Today, there has been some gains in terms of women in city government:

- More women are serving on city councils in California - 21
- One city—Eureka—has an all female council
- 76 cities have a majority of women on the council - 15 more women than previous report
- 177 cities have one woman on the council - down 14 from the previous report
- 67 cities have no women on the council - down four from the previous report

Other statistics for women in elected office in California:

## STATE LEGISLATURE

There are 31 women serving in the California Legislature, which total 25 percent of the Legislative body. Twelve women serve in the California Senate and 19 in the California Assembly. California made history with two women serving as leaders in the Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins (only the third woman to serve in the Speaker position) and Kristin Olsen as Minority Leader. Senator Jean Fuller recently made history as the first woman to serve as Minority Leader in the Senate.



Toni Atkins  
Speaker  
California State Assembly



Kristin Olsen  
Minority Leader  
California State Assembly



Jean Fuller  
Minority Leader  
California State Senate

<sup>5</sup>Based on preliminary report written and released by California Women Lead; September 2014

<sup>1</sup>According to League of California cities data there are 9 vacancies on city councils through the state at the drafting of this report

<sup>2</sup>Per data from the League of California Cities

<sup>3</sup><http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06000.html>

<sup>4</sup>The mayor is a man