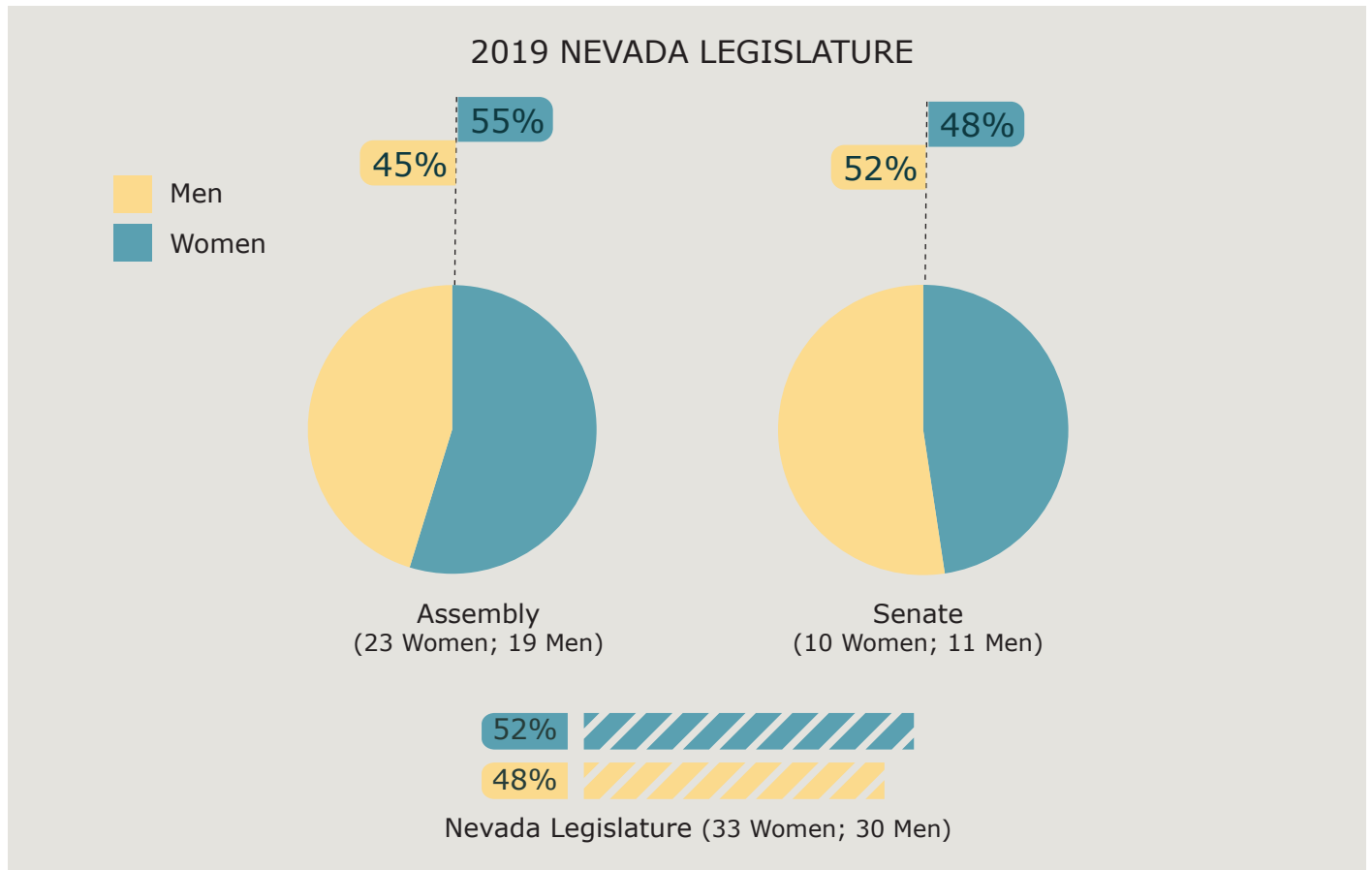


WOMEN SERVING IN THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

DISTINCT NUMBER OF WOMEN TO SERVE AS LEGISLATORS IN NEVADA: 153

Assemblywomen:	129	Democrats:	97
Senators:	38	Republicans:	57
Served in both houses:	14	Nonpartisan:	1
		Changed party affiliation:	2 ¹
Appointed:	19	Replaced spouse:	5
		Reelected after appointment ² :	6

In 2019, Nevada has the first female-majority state legislature in the nation. In total, 33 of Nevada’s 63 legislators are women.



¹ Jean Ford was first elected to the Assembly as a Republican and later was elected to the Senate as a Democrat. Patricia Farley was first elected to the Senate as a Republican and later, while still serving in the Senate, changed her party affiliation to Nonpartisan.

² Includes break in service.

WOMEN SERVING IN THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE (CONT'D)

WOMEN WITH THE LONGEST LEGISLATIVE SERVICE

22
YEARS

Maggie Carlton (D-Clark), 11 regular and 14 special sessions, both houses³

20
YEARS

Ann O'Connell (R-Clark), 10 regular and 5 special sessions, Senate

Dina Titus (D-Clark), 10 regular and 9 special sessions, Senate

18
YEARS

Barbara K. Cegavske (R-Clark), 9 regular and 12 special sessions, both houses

Helen Herr (D-Clark), 10 regular and 5 special sessions, both houses

16
YEARS

Eileen Brookman (D-Clark), 8 regular and 2 special sessions, Assembly

Barbara Buckley (D-Clark), 8 regular and 10 special sessions, Assembly, including 2 regular and 4 special sessions as Speaker

Vivian Freeman (D-Washoe), 8 regular and 3 special sessions, Assembly

Chris Giunchigliani (D-Clark), 8 regular and 6 special sessions, Assembly

Sue Wagner (R-Washoe), 8 regular and 3 special sessions, both houses, plus 2 sessions as Senate President and Lieutenant Governor

Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), 8 regular and 10 special sessions, Senate; longest serving Nevada-born female legislator

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

AFTER FIRST STATE ELECTION IN WHICH WOMEN VOTED (1916)

Regular sessions with no women: 1917, 1931, 1933, 1947

Number of regular sessions with only one woman: 8 (1961 was the last)

First regular session with more than one woman: 1923 (4)

First regular session with women in both houses: 1935

Regular session with the most women (both houses): 2019 (23 Assemblywomen, 10 Senators)

Regular session with the most women in the Assembly: 2019 (23)

Regular session with the most women in the Senate: 2019 (10)

REPRESENTATION BY COUNTY

Counties represented by the most women: Clark (88), Washoe (33), Nye (11)

County never represented by a woman: Douglas

³ Anticipates completion of the 2018-2020 term.

WOMEN IN NEVADA LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

ASSEMBLY

Speaker	Barbara Buckley (D-Clark), 2007, 2009 Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D-Clark), 2013
Speaker pro tempore	Louise Aloys Smith (D-Pershing), 1951 Karen W. Hayes (D-Clark), 1981 Myrna T. Williams (D-Clark), 1989, 1991, 1993 Jan Evans (D-Washoe), 1995, 1997, 1999 Sandra Tiffany (R-Clark), 1995 Chris Giunchigliani (D-Clark), 2005 Debbie Smith (D-Washoe), 2011 Irene Bustamante Adams (D-Clark), 2017
Majority floor leader	Barbara Buckley (D-Clark), 2001, 2003, 2005 Teresa Benitez-Thompson (D-Washoe), 2017, 2019
Assistant majority floor leader	Jan Evans (D-Washoe), 1991 Jeannine Stroth (R-Clark), 1995 Barbara Buckley (D-Clark), 1997, 1999 Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D-Clark), 2011 Daniele Monroe-Moreno (D-Clark), 2019
Majority whip	Sheila Leslie (D-Washoe), 2007, 2009
Assistant majority whip	Sandra Krenzer (D-Clark), 1995 Sheila Leslie (D-Washoe), 2001, 2003, 2005 Debbie Smith (D-Washoe), 2007, 2009 Olivia Diaz (D-Clark), 2013 Lucy Flores (D-Clark), 2013 Jill Dickman (R-Washoe), 2015 (North) Victoria Seaman (R-Clark), 2015 (South) Ellen B. Spiegel (D-Clark), 2017 Heidi Swank (D-Clark), 2017, 2019
Assistant majority whip for procedure	Genie Ohrenschall (D-Clark), 2003, 2005
Chief deputy majority whip	Peggy Pierce (D-Clark), 2011, 2013
Minority floor leader	Heidi Seevers Gansert (R-Washoe), 2009 Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D-Clark), 2015
Assistant minority floor leader	Barbara K. Cegavske (R-Clark), 1999 Heidi Seevers Gansert (R-Washoe), 2007 Teresa Benitez-Thompson (D-Washoe), 2015 Maggie Carlton (D-Clark), 2015

WOMEN IN NEVADA LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP (CONT'D)

ASSEMBLY (cont'd)

Minority whip	Deanna Braunlin (R-Clark), 1997 Kathy Von Tobel (R-Clark), 2001 Sharron Angle (R-Washoe), 2003 Heidi Seevers Gansert (R-Washoe), 2005 Valerie Weber (R-Clark), 2005, 2007 Melissa Woodbury (R-Clark), 2017 Lisa Krasner (R-Washoe), 2019
Assistant minority whip	Barbara K. Cegavske (R-Clark), 1997 Robin L. Titus, M.D. (R-Churchill, Lyon), 2019

SENATE

President	Lieutenant Governor Sue Wagner (R), 1991, 1993 Lieutenant Governor Lorraine Hunt (R), 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall (D), 2019
Majority leader ⁴	Nicole J. Cannizzaro (D-Clark), 2019 (part) ⁵
Assistant majority leader ⁴	Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), 2011 Debbie Smith (D-Washoe), 2013 Nicole J. Cannizzaro (D-Clark), 2019 (part) ⁵ Julia Ratti (D-Washoe), 2019 (part) ⁵
Chief majority whip	Joyce Woodhouse (D-Clark), 2019
Majority whip	Sue Lowden (R-Clark), 1993 Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), 2009 Patricia (Pat) Spearman (D-Clark), 2017, 2019 Joyce Woodhouse (D-Clark), 2017 Julia Ratti (D-Washoe), 2019 (part) ⁵ Yvanna D. Cancela (D-Clark), 2019 (part) ⁵
Assistant majority whip	Sandra Tiffany (R-Clark), 2003, 2005 Sheila Leslie (D Washoe), 2011
Minority leader ⁴	Dina Titus (D-Clark), 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007
Assistant minority leader ⁴	Sue Wagner (R-Washoe), 1983 Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), 1999 Bernice Mathews (D-Washoe), 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 Barbara K. Cegavske (R-Clark), 2011 Debbie Smith (D-Washoe), 2015
Minority whip	Bernice Mathews (D-Washoe), 1999 Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 Barbara K. Cegavske (R-Clark), 2009 Heidi Seevers Gansert (R-Washoe), 2019
Caucus policy coordinator	Heidi Seevers Gansert (R-Washoe), 2017 Becky Harris (R-Clark), 2017

⁴ Titles vary between sessions—some sessions these positions are referred to as “floor leaders.”

⁵ Certain Senate leadership roles changed during the 2019 Session, after Senator Kelvin D. Atkinson resigned on March 5, 2019.

WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE FIRSTS IN NEVADA

First woman elected to Legislature: Sadie Hurst (R-Washoe), elected to Assembly in 1918

First woman to serve in Senate: Frances Friedhoff (D-Lyon), appointed to serve the remainder of 1935 Session

First woman elected to Senate: Helen Herr (D-Clark), 1966

First woman elected to subsequent term: Ethel McGuire (D-Nye), Assemblywoman, 1926–1930

First Assemblywoman elected to Senate: Helen Herr (D-Clark), 1966

First all-female leadership team: Dina Titus (D-Clark), Minority Leader; Bernice Mathews (D-Washoe), Assistant Minority Leader; and Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), Minority Whip, Senate, 2001

First woman to serve in leadership in both majority and minority parties in each house: Valerie Wiener (D-Clark), Assistant Minority Leader, 1999; Assistant Minority Whip, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007; Majority Whip, 2009; and Assistant Majority Leader, 2011, Senate; and Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D-Clark), Assistant Majority Floor Leader, 2011; Speaker, 2013; and Minority Floor Leader, 2015, Assembly

First woman to serve in leadership in both houses: Sandra Tiffany (R-Clark), Speaker Pro Tempore, 1995, Assembly; and Assistant Majority Whip, 2003, 2005, Senate

First woman to chair a legislative committee: Ruth Averill (R-Nye), chaired two Assembly committees in 1921: (1) Engrossment; and (2) State Library

First committee with female majority in each house: Assembly Committee on the State Library, 1923 (but not chaired by a woman); and Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, 1995 (also not chaired by a woman)

First woman to serve on the appropriations committee in each house: Maude Frazier (D-Clark), Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, 1955; and Diana Glomb (D-Washoe), Senate Committee on Finance, 1991

First woman to chair the appropriations committee in each house: Bernice Mathews (D-Washoe), Co-Chair, Senate Committee on Finance, 2009; and Debbie Smith (D-Washoe), Chair, Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, 2011

First general election race between two female candidates: 1922, Mineral County, Rita Millar (D) defeated Genevieve H. Sperling (R), Assembly

First woman to defeat a male incumbent: Alice S. Towle (R-Churchill), Assembly, 1922

First Nevada-born female legislator: Ruth Averill (R-Nye), born September 19, 1897, in Virginia City; elected to Assembly, 1920

First African American female legislator believed to be elected in each house:⁶ Bernice Mathews (D-Washoe), Senate, 1994; and Dina Neal (D-Clark), Assembly, 2010

First Asian American female legislator believed to be elected:⁶ Francis O. Allen (R-Clark), Assembly, 2004

First Hispanic female legislator believed to be elected in each house:⁶ Teresa Benitez-Thompson (D-Washoe); Irene Bustamante Adams (D-Clark); Olivia Diaz (D-Clark); and Lucy Flores (D-Clark), Assembly, 2010; and Yvanna D. Cancela (D-Clark), Senate, 2018

First Native American female legislator believed to be elected:⁶ Shea Backus (D-Clark), Assembly, 2019

⁶ Because data regarding legislators' race and ethnicity has not officially been collected, this information cannot be fully verified, and is based on the best sources available.