



**EQUALITY
INDICATORS**

Who Runs Our Cities?

The Political Gender Gap in the Top 100 U.S. Cities



CUNY INSTITUTE FOR STATE & LOCAL GOVERNANCE

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The Equality Indicators measure progress toward achieving greater equality in New York City and other cities in the United States and internationally.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Women comprise half of the U.S. and world populations but are highly underrepresented at all levels of government. The consequences of the gender gap in political leadership go beyond issues of democratic representation. Studies have found that, on average, women elected officials introduce more legislation than men, and that they do so on a wide range of issues, from health and education to infrastructure and the environment. On balance, women elected officials have also been found to be more transparent, collaborative, and effective. Given the positive impact that women leaders have on the content and quality of public policy, a better understanding of the gender gap in political representation is needed.

22.8%
of national parliaments
are women

19.4%
of U.S. Congress
is women

24.6%
of U.S. state legislatures
are women

While most of the existing studies of women in U.S. politics have focused on the federal and state levels, this report focuses on women's representation at the local level. The Institute for State and Local Governance's 2015 Equality Indicators for New York City included an indicator of "Gender & Representation in Government." This report expands on this indicator by analyzing data on current mayors and city councilors, historical data on mayors, and data on the mayoral candidates in the most recent elections in the 100 largest cities in the United States.

The purpose of this report is to examine three questions raised by existing studies:

1. Are women better represented at the local level than at the state and federal levels of government?
2. As more women are elected, do more women run for - and win - future elections?
3. Are women underrepresented because they do not win elections or because they do not run for office?

Our analysis shows that while the percentage of women in local elected office (mayors and city councilors combined) is higher than at the state and federal levels, the percentage of mayoral offices held by women is even lower than that of Congressional offices. We found moderate correlations between the number of historically-elected women mayors and the percentage of women among mayoral candidates and elected officials in each of the cities. Finally, our results indicate that when they run for office, women perform almost as well as men in mayoral elections.

33.6%
of city councils
in the top 100 U.S. cities
are women

18.2%
of elected mayors
in the top 100 U.S. cities
are women

19.3%
of mayoral candidates
in the top 100 U.S. cities
were women

This finding is consistent with the results of existing studies that have found that women are underrepresented because they do not run for office. There are a number of barriers preventing women from running for office, such as gendered social roles, negative self-perceptions, limited exposure to politics, and lack of support. Addressing these barriers will be an important step toward achieving greater gender parity, and we offer some suggestions for doing so.

KEY FINDINGS

For the top 100 largest cities in the United States, we collected and analyzed data on current mayors and city councilors, historical data on all publicly elected women mayors, and candidate data for the most recent mayoral elections. The following are notable statistics based on our analysis.

CURRENT MAYORS AND CITY COUNCILORS

- Among the 1,156 elected mayors and city councilors, approximately one third (373, or 32.3%) are women
- Among the 1,057 current city councilors, 355 (33.6%) are women
- Among the 99 current elected mayors, 18 (18.2%) are women
- Only one of the demographic factors examined was associated with the proportion of women elected officials. The proportion of the city population with a bachelor's degree or higher is positively correlated with the proportion of current elected officials that are women ($r = 0.323, p < 0.05$)

HISTORICAL MAYORS

- In the 90 years since the first woman was elected mayor, 34 of the top 100 U.S. cities have never elected a woman mayor
- Of the 66 cities that have elected a woman mayor, fewer than half (28, or 42%) have elected a second woman mayor
- There is a strong correlation between the number of newly elected women mayors and the national women's labor force participation rate by decade ($r = 0.905, p < 0.05$)

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

- Among 576 candidates in the most recent mayoral elections, only 111 were women (19.3%)
- Women were almost as likely to win as men were when they ran for mayor (16.2% of female candidates vs. 17.6% of male candidates)
- There is a moderate correlation between the number of historically-elected women mayors and the proportion of mayoral candidates that were women ($r = 0.387, p < 0.01$)

INTRODUCTION

Women comprise half of the population, both in the United States and around the world.¹ Yet, women are highly underrepresented at all levels of government. Globally, 22.8% of national parliaments are women.² Rwanda has the highest percentage of women parliamentarians (57.5% in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies combined) while the United States is ranked 97th out of the 187 countries with available data.³ In the United States, less than a quarter of federal and state elected officials are women: 19.4% of Congress and 24.6% of state legislatures.⁴ Despite an increasing awareness of the lack of women in elected office, experts estimate that at the current rate of progress, it will take nearly 500 years for women to reach fair representation in government.⁵

The consequences of the gender gap in political leadership go beyond issues of democratic representation. Researchers have identified several ways in which women make a difference when elected to public office:

- **Legislation:** In the United States, on average, women elected officials sponsor and co-sponsor more pieces of legislation than men.⁶ They also tend to introduce more legislation on women’s issues and issues affecting children and families.⁷ Internationally, governments with higher percentages of women leaders tend to create more policies and allocate more money around issues of health, education, family care, social welfare, and the environment.⁸ These governments also tend to promote more infrastructure improvement and demonstrate a greater commitment to securing lasting peace.⁹
- **Transparency & Collaboration:** Women elected officials tend to be less corrupt, provide more honest and ethical leadership, and create “higher levels of democracy.”¹⁰ They are also, on average, more likely to work across party lines.
- **Effectiveness & Decision-making:** Women elected officials are ranked higher in “government effectiveness,” which includes quality of service, competence, independence from political pressure, credibility, and commitment to policies.¹¹ They are also, on average, more likely to be responsive to constituent concerns and to make responsible, considered choices that focus on long-term solutions.¹²

Given the positive impact that women leaders have on the content, quality, and effectiveness of public policy, a better understanding of the gender gap in political representation is needed.

Most of the existing studies of women in U.S. politics have focused on the federal and state levels. Some research organizations, however, have also analyzed the gender gap in local government. WhoLeads, for example, collects data on elected officials at the county level, and Rutgers University’s Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) collects data on mayors of cities with over 30,000 people. The Institute for State and Local Governance’s 2015 Equality Indicators for New York City (NYC) included an indicator of “Gender & Representation in Government” and found that 29.5% of elected government officials in NYC were women. This report expands on this indicator and the work of CAWP by analyzing data on mayors, city councilors, and mayoral candidates for the top 100 largest cities in the United States.

The purpose of this report is to examine three questions raised by existing studies:

1. Are women better represented at the local level than at the state and federal levels of government?
2. As more women are elected, do more women run for - and win - future elections?
3. Are women underrepresented because they do not win elections or because they do not run for office?

Our analysis of the top 100 U.S. cities consists of three sections that respond to these questions. The first is an analysis of current mayors and city councilors, which we later compare to the state and federal statistics. The second is a historical analysis of women mayors to understand how women's representation has changed over time and how it affects cities today. The third is an analysis of the candidates in the most recent mayoral elections to understand who is running for, and who is winning, the highest local office.

In order to make the cities comparable we limited the number of cities to 100 and looked only at mayors and city councilors, which are the two most commonly elected positions among the cities. We chose not to include historical and candidate data on city councilors because of the variations in city council elections over time and across the 100 cities, and the difficulty in finding reliable data sources.

We conclude our report by highlighting some of the barriers preventing women from running for office and strategies for achieving greater gender parity.

METHODOLOGY

We selected the top 100 U.S. cities based on the U.S. Census's 2015 population and collected data on current mayors and city councilors (as of September 1, 2016), whom we refer to collectively as "elected officials." We then calculated the percentages of mayors and city councilors that are women, both combined and individually. We also counted the number of women mayors of color. In order to better understand the demographic makeup of the top 100 U.S. cities, we identified several social and economic characteristics that are included in the U.S. Census's American Community Survey and therefore comparable across the cities. For each city we collected data on population size, the percentage of the population that is nonwhite, median household income, and the percentage of the population that has a bachelor's degree or higher. We also collected data on the current mayor's party affiliation. We then tested for associations between the proportion of women elected officials and these demographic factors.

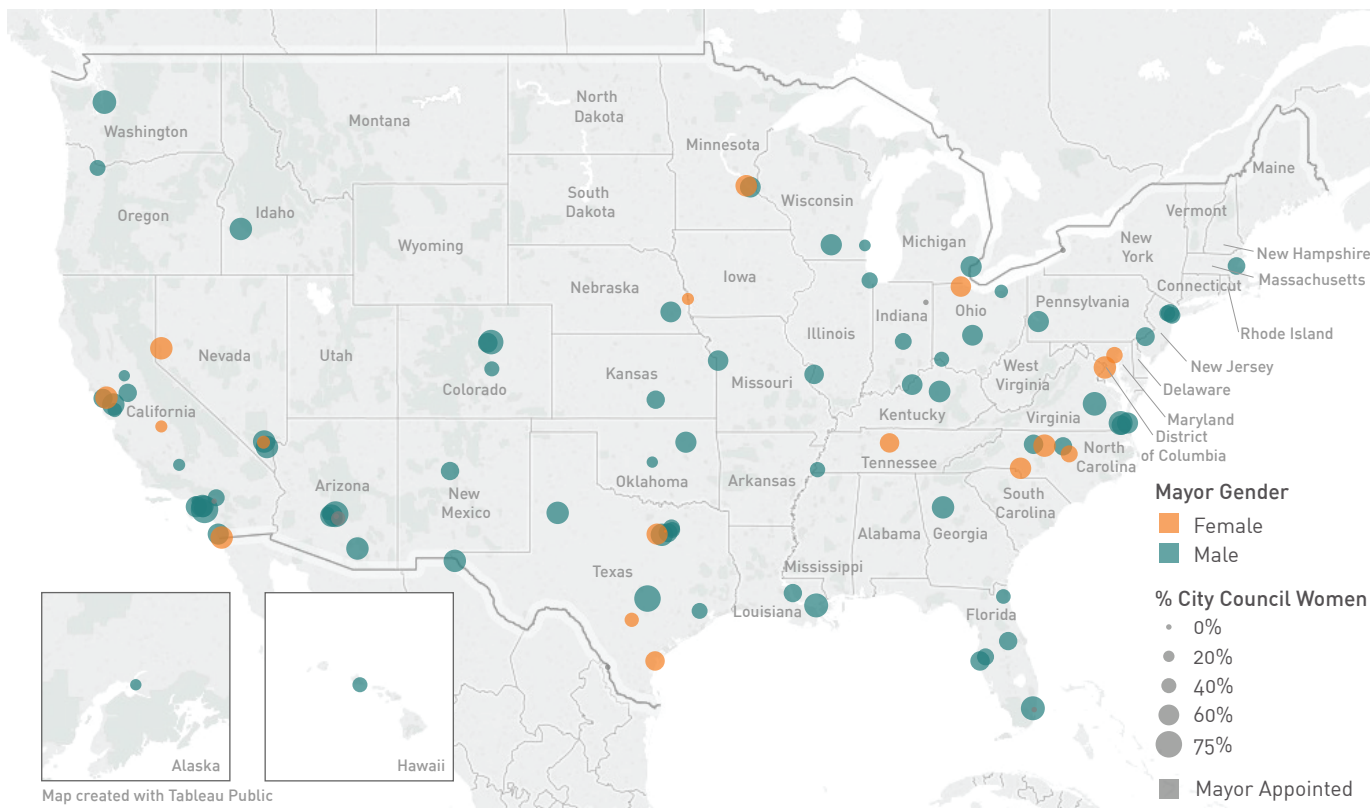
For the historical analysis we collected data on all of the women that have been elected mayor in the top 100 U.S. cities and counted the number of women elected mayors in each city to date. We also counted the number of women elected mayors of color in each city. We included only publicly elected mayors and excluded those that were appointed or filled vacant seats. Women mayors who were publicly elected multiple times were only counted once. We also collected data on participation in the labor force and then tested for the association between the number of newly elected women mayors and women's labor force participation rate by decade.

For the candidacy analysis we collected data on the candidates in the most recent mayoral elections in the top 100 cities. We compared the proportion of women in the candidate pool to the proportion of elected mayors that were women to see how well women performed in these elections when they ran. We also tested for associations between the proportion of women candidates and the abovementioned demographic factors.

Our data sources include city government websites, recent and archived news websites, historical and political websites, the U.S. Census's American Community Survey, and the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RESULTS

Figure 1: Top 100 U.S. cities by current mayor gender and percentage of current city councilors that are women



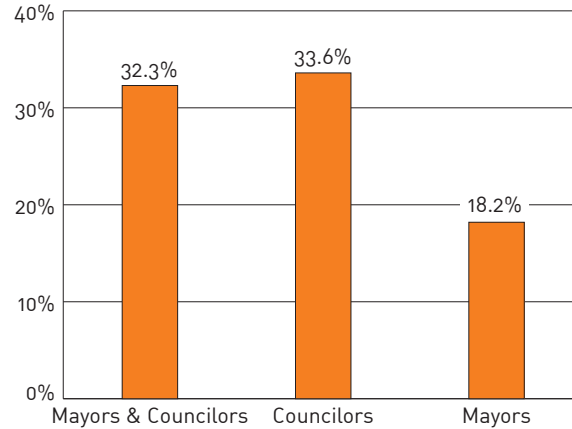
CURRENT MAYORS AND CITY COUNCILORS

Currently, there are 1,158 mayoral and city council positions in the top 100 U.S. cities, including 100 mayor’s offices and 1,058 council seats. Two cases were excluded from our analysis: there is one vacant city council position in the District of Columbia, and in Gilbert, AZ, Jenn Daniels was recently appointed interim mayor after Mayor John Lewis resigned. As a result, there are currently 99 elected mayors and 1,057 elected city councilors across these 100 cities.

Notable statistics:

- Among the 1,156 elected mayors and city councilors, approximately one third (373, or 32.3%) are women
- Among the 1,057 current city councilors, 355 (33.6%) are women
- Among the 99 current elected mayors, 18 (18.2%) are women, which is much lower than the percentage of city councilors (see Figure 2)
- Among cities with women elected officials, Austin, TX has the highest percentage (63.6%) of women elected officials while Los Angeles, CA has the lowest percentage (6.3%)
- Within individual cities, the average percentage of elected officials that are women is 32.6%
- Six cities have both a male mayor and an all-male city council (i.e., no women elected officials): Mesa, AZ; Miami, FL; Riverside, CA; Fort Wayne, IN; Buffalo, NY; and Laredo, TX

Figure 2: Percentage of current elected officials that are women



Notable statistics (continued):

- Of the top 15 largest U.S. cities, only one – San Antonio, TX – has a woman mayor
- There are only 6 elected women mayors of color (6.1%)

Of the demographic factors we examined, only the percentage of the population with a bachelor’s degree or higher was significantly correlated with the proportion of women elected officials, although the correlation was moderate ($r = 0.323, p < 0.05$). While this finding tells us that more educated populations are more likely to have more elected women officials, additional research is needed to understand how these factors are related.

No significant relationships were found between the proportion of women elected officials and the other factors examined (all $ps > 0.05$): city population ($r = -0.100$), nonwhite population ($r = -0.126$), median household income ($r = 0.147$), whether the current mayor is a Democrat ($r = 0.171$), and whether the current mayor is a Republican ($r = -.096$).

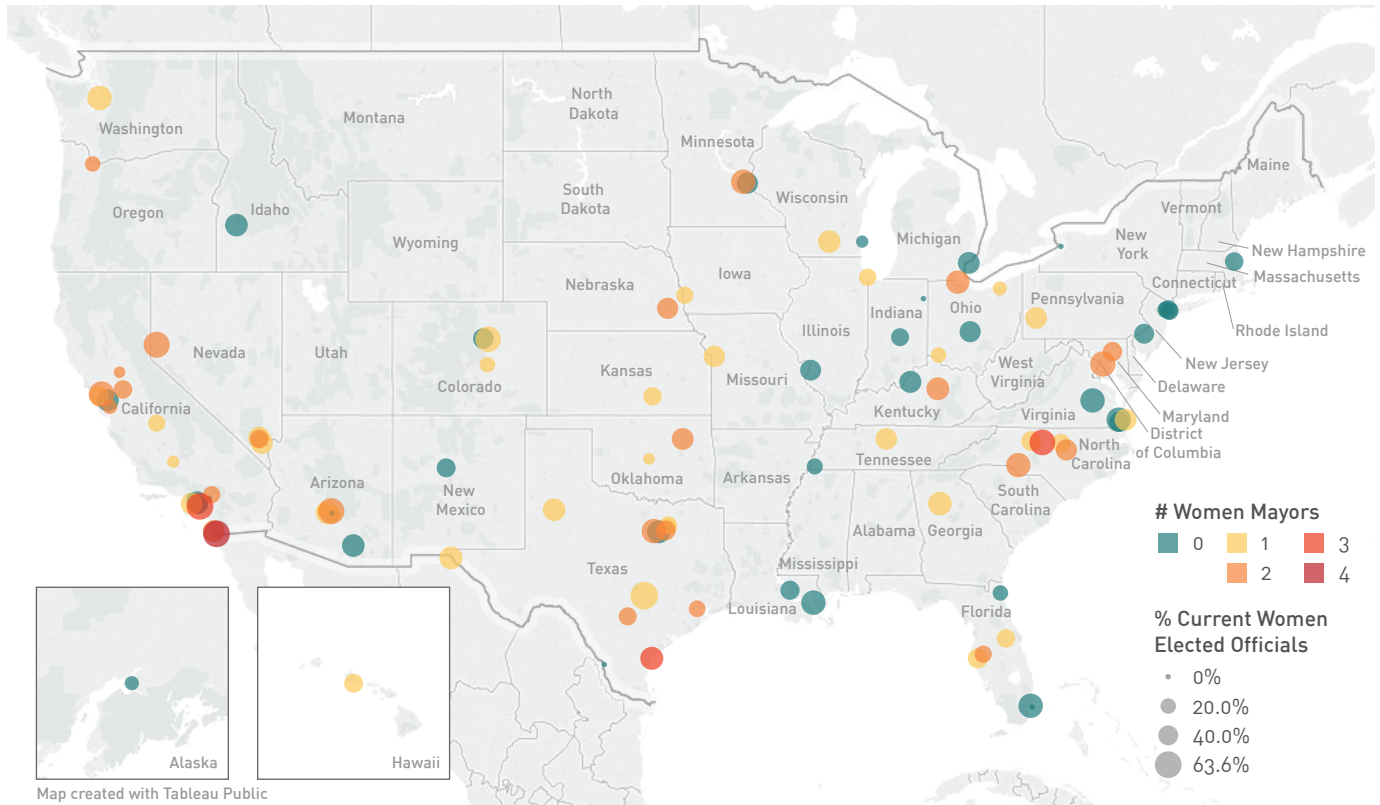
HISTORICAL MAYORS

Due to differing election cycles, term lengths, and term limits, a point-in-time count of women mayors is somewhat limited. Therefore, we also collected data on historical mayors for the top 100 U.S. cities to have a fuller picture of the gender gap in local office.

Notable statistics:

- In the 90 years since the first woman was elected mayor, 34 of the top 100 U.S. cities have never elected a woman mayor
- Only 99 women have been elected mayor of a top 100 U.S. city in almost a century
- Of the 66 cities that have elected a woman mayor, less than half (28, or 42.4%) have elected a second woman mayor
- Only four cities have elected three women mayors, and only one city (Chula Vista, CA) has elected four women mayors
- Of the 99 elected women mayors, only 16 (16.2%) have been women of color

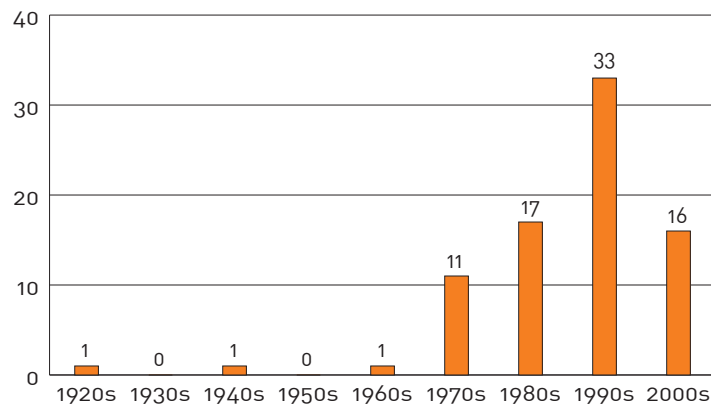
Figure 3: Top 100 U.S. cities by number of historically-elected women mayors and percentage of current elected officials that are women



The first publicly-elected woman mayor of a top 100 U.S. city was Bertha Knight Landes, who was elected mayor of Seattle, WA in 1926. Over 20 years later, Dorothy McCullough was elected mayor of Portland, OR in 1949. It took another 16 years before the third woman, Norma Walker, was elected mayor of Aurora, CO in 1965. It is worth noting that of these three trailblazing cities, only Portland elected a woman mayor a second time.

It was not until the 1970s that there was an increase in the number of women being elected mayor of a top 100 U.S. city (see Figure 4). The 1990s in particular saw many more women mayors elected than in previous decades. Despite the progress made at the end of the 20th century, however, the number of newly elected women mayors dropped by more than half in the 2000s compared to the previous decade. And while in this decade we are on track to meet or exceed the 1990s record, it is noteworthy that 34 of the top 100 U.S. cities (i.e. just over a third) have never elected a woman mayor, including three of the top 10 U.S. cities (New York City, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia).

Figure 4: Number of newly-elected women mayors in top 100 U.S. cities by decade



The pattern of women mayors over time may be related to changes in labor force participation. Consistent with prior studies,¹³ we found that the number of women mayors in each decade is strongly associated with the national women’s labor force participation rate ($r = 0.905, p < 0.05$). Although we were not able to determine the factors that drive this association, such a strong correlation merits future research.

We found a positive relationship between the number of historically-elected women mayors and the percentage of current elected officials that are women ($r = 0.300, p < 0.05$), indicating that the more women mayors a city has elected, the higher the probability of electing another woman to local office.

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

In our final area of data collection and analysis we examined the mayoral candidates in the most recent elections of the top 100 U.S. cities.

Notable statistics:

- Among 576 candidates, only 111 were women (19.3%)
- More than two in five (42 in total) of the top 100 U.S. cities had no women mayoral candidates at any stage in the race

The gender composition of candidates was consistent with the composition of mayors elected most recently: 19.3% of candidates and 18.0% of mayors were women (see Figure 5), which suggests that women are politically underrepresented because they do not run for office, not because they do not win.

Indeed, female mayoral candidates had a similar chance of being elected as their male counterparts in mayoral elections (see Figure 6). 18 out of 111 female mayoral candidates (16.2%) won their elections, compared to 82 out of 465 male mayoral candidates (17.6%).

We examined the relationships between the proportion of women candidates and the same demographic factors from the above analysis of current mayors and city councilors, in addition to the number of women mayors elected historically. While we found no significant relationships with these factors, we did find that the proportion of women candidates is significantly correlated with the number of historically-elected women mayors ($r = 0.387, p < 0.01$).

Figure 5: Percentage of mayoral candidates and elected mayors that were women in the most recent elections of the top 100 U.S. cities

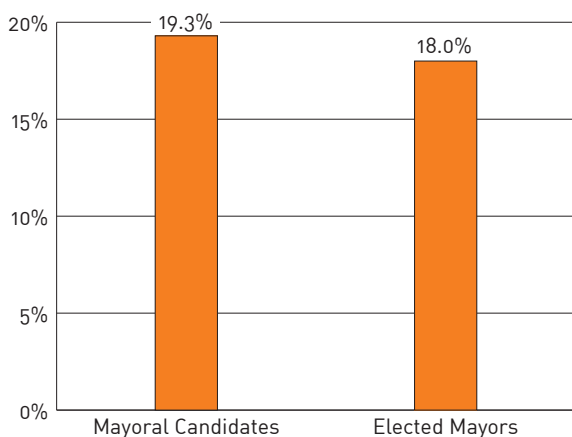
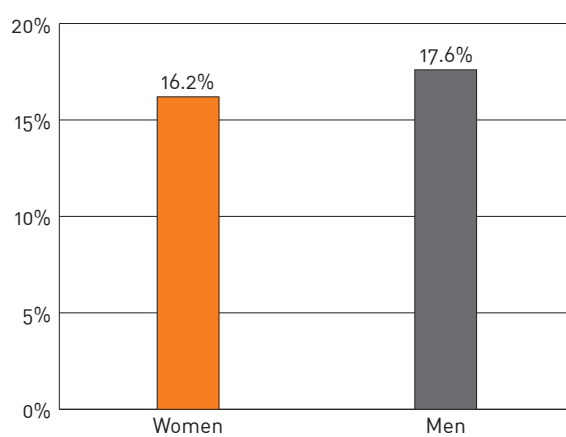


Figure 6: Percentage of women and men mayoral candidates that won in the most recent elections of the top 100 U.S. cities



THE GENDER GAP

Many studies have concluded that the underrepresentation of women in politics is not due to women losing elections but rather the fact that women do not run for office.¹⁴ In fact, when women do run for office, they perform as well as their male counterparts.¹⁵ WhoLeads analyzed ballots from the 2012 and 2014 elections and found a striking similarity between the percentages of candidates and elected officials that were women.¹⁶

Our analysis of mayoral candidates in the top 100 U.S. cities corroborates these findings. In the most recent mayoral elections, 19.3% of the 576 mayoral candidates were women, which is quite similar to the percentage of women mayors at the time of election (18.0%). Furthermore, women were almost as likely to win as men were when they ran for mayor (16.2% vs. 17.6%).

Our analysis also suggests that women are, in fact, better represented in city government compared to the state and federal levels but only when you take into account city councilors. When taken together, the percentage of women in mayoral and city council positions is a combined 32.3%, compared to 24.6% of state legislatures and 19.4% of Congress.¹⁷ That said, we are far from gender parity at the local level even when city councilors are included, considering that 51.2% of the population of the top 100 U.S. cities are women. Furthermore, when looking at the highest office, the local advantage for women disappears: when we examine city councilors and mayors individually, 33.6% of city councilors are women while only 18.2% of mayors are women. At the mayoral level – representing the highest local office – women fare even worse than in Congress. It is also worth noting that this difference in women’s representation between legislative and top executive offices is mirrored at the state level: while 24.6% of state legislatures are women, only 12.0% of governors are women.¹⁸

These results point to another important factor that contributes to the gender gap in politics: there are differences in the level of office women and men are willing to run for, especially the first time they run. A 2004 Brown University Policy Report found that women are slightly more likely than men to consider running for a local office first (45% of women vs. 41% of men), but significantly less likely than men to consider running for state office first (11% of women vs. 17% of men) or federal office first (3% of women vs. 10% of men).¹⁹ However, even if women are as likely to run for local office their first time out, their choice of office is likely to differ, with women more likely not to seek the most powerful positions. When gauging interest in running for different local positions, women were significantly more likely than men to select School Board (41% of women vs. 37% of men) and significantly less likely to select Mayor (11% of women vs. 17% of men).

This disparity in political ambition starts early, as evidenced by a 2013 survey of college students.²⁰ Men were almost twice as likely as women to choose mayor as their preferred job (as opposed to business owner, teacher, and salesperson) if they all paid the same amount.

There are also perceived and actual differences in the level of qualification necessary for women and men to run for, and win, elections. The political pipeline of starting locally and then running for sequentially higher levels of office seems to apply more to women than it does to men. As Political Parity reports, women believe they need to be more qualified than men to run for office, so they are more likely to run if they have prior experience as an elected official. And research backs them up: in order to win elections, women do indeed need to be more qualified than men, in both education and experience.²¹

WHY DON'T WOMEN RUN?

Studies have identified several factors that impede women's political ambition:

- **Gendered social roles:** Childcare and household responsibilities still fall primarily on women, and women are more likely than men to consider family and personal commitments when deciding whether or not to run for office.²²
- **The wage gap:** Given the costs of campaigning, lower annual income prevents women from running.²³
- **Negative self-perceptions:** Both young women and accomplished women are less likely than men to consider themselves qualified to run for office, even when their credentials and experiences are comparable.²⁴
- **Limited exposure to politics:** Young women are less likely than young men to discuss politics at school or at home, engage in competitive activities such as organized sports, or consider politics as a career.²⁵
- **A lack of support:** Women are less likely than men to have been encouraged to run for office by anyone.²⁶
- **Political environment:** Women view political campaigns less favorably than men, considering them highly competitive and biased against female candidates.²⁷

HOW DO WE FIX THE GENDER GAP?

These factors point to several areas of research and action necessary to increase the number of women running for, and winning, elected office:

- Research to confront biases and misconceptions, both those held by the general public and those held by women considering running for office
- Research on the role of the media in campaigns, including sexism against women candidates
- Research on the aspects of modern campaigns that prevent or discourage women from running for office
- Education for girls and young women to include political awareness and participation
- Recruitment of women candidates, including fundraising and education
- Encouragement from spouses, families, and personal networks

Organizations that do this important work include Emerge America, the National Federation of Republican Women, Name It Change It, and Emily's List.

CONCLUSION

Despite the greater gender gap at higher levels of government, the importance of encouraging women to run for local office cannot be overstated. Our analysis has shown that cities that have elected more women mayors in their history have a higher percentage of women both in their mayoral candidate pools and in local elected offices more broadly. When women run for mayor, they perform almost as well as men.

The underrepresentation of women at the municipal level also has national implications: mayoral and city council positions are often considered stepping stones to state and federal positions. While electing women at all levels of government is important, encouraging women at the local level is a crucial first step as more women pave the way to higher offices. Given the importance of the political pipeline for women in particular, recruiting and electing more women to local office will increase the number of qualified candidates for future state and federal elections.

Only by increasing the number of women running for, and being elected to, local office can we challenge the misconceptions and stereotypes about women officials. In doing so, we can also reap the benefits that women officials bring to government, from increased legislation on important issues to more transparent, effective decision-making that raises the standards of political dialogue and crosses party lines. With better political representation, women can become more empowered to seek office and bring much-needed change to all levels of government.

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APPENDIX: TOP 100 CITY DATA

Rank	City	State	Current Mayor	Mayor Gender	% Women Elected Officials	% Women City Council	Total # Women Mayors	# Women Mayors of Color	Population (2015)	Bachelor's Degree	Median Household Income	% Non-White	Mayor's Party
1	New York	New York	Bill de Blasio	Male	26.92%	27.45%	0	0	8,550,405	20.70%	\$52,737	67.26%	Democrat
2	Los Angeles	California	Eric Garcetti	Male	6.25%	6.67%	0	0	3,971,883	20.80%	\$49,682	71.51%	Democrat
3	Chicago	Illinois	Rahm Emanuel	Male	25.49%	26.00%	1	0	2,720,546	20.90%	\$47,831	67.83%	Democrat
4	Houston	Texas	Sylvester Turner	Male	23.53%	25.00%	2	0	2,296,224	18.30%	\$45,728	74.48%	Democrat
5	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	Jim Kenney	Male	33.33%	35.29%	0	0	1,567,442	14.20%	\$37,460	63.80%	Democrat
6	Phoenix	Arizona	Greg Stanton	Male	44.44%	50.00%	1	0	1,563,025	17.20%	\$46,881	54.02%	Democrat
7	San Antonio	Texas	Ivy R. Taylor	Female	27.27%	20.00%	2	1	1,469,845	16.00%	\$46,317	73.70%	Democrat
8	San Diego	California	Kevin L. Faulconer	Male	40.00%	44.44%	2	0	1,394,928	25.30%	\$65,753	56.35%	Republican
9	Dallas	Texas	Mike Rawlings	Male	33.33%	35.71%	2	0	1,300,092	18.60%	\$43,359	70.72%	Democrat
10	San Jose	California	Sam Liccardo	Male	18.18%	20.00%	2	0	1,026,908	23.70%	\$83,787	72.52%	Democrat
11	Austin	Texas	Steve Adler	Male	63.64%	70.00%	1	0	931,830	29.10%	\$55,216	51.34%	Democrat
12	Jacksonville	Florida	Lenny Curry	Male	20.00%	21.05%	0	0	868,031	17.70%	\$46,768	45.84%	Republican
13	San Francisco	California	Edwin M. Lee	Male	33.33%	36.36%	1	0	864,816	32.20%	\$78,378	58.58%	Democrat
14	Indianapolis	Indiana	Joe Hogsett	Male	26.92%	28.00%	0	0	853,173	18.00%	\$42,076	42.41%	Democrat
15	Columbus	Ohio	Andrew J. Ginther	Male	37.50%	42.86%	0	0	850,106	21.80%	\$44,774	41.56%	Democrat
16	Fort Worth	Texas	Betsy Price	Female	50.00%	44.44%	2	0	833,319	18.00%	\$52,492	59.06%	Republican
17	Charlotte	North Carolina	Jennifer Watson Roberts	Female	50.00%	45.45%	2	0	827,097	27.50%	\$53,274	56.10%	Democrat
18	Seattle	Washington	Edward B. Murray	Male	50.00%	55.56%	1	0	684,451	34.40%	\$67,365	33.80%	Democrat
19	Denver	Colorado	Michael B. Hancock	Male	35.71%	38.46%	0	0	682,545	26.60%	\$51,800	47.15%	Democrat
20	El Paso	Texas	Oscar Leaser	Male	44.44%	50.00%	1	0	681,124	15.40%	\$42,037	85.23%	Democrat
21	Detroit	Michigan	Mike Duggan	Male	40.00%	44.44%	0	0	677,116	7.70%	\$26,095	91.31%	Democrat
22	Washington	District of Columbia	Muriel Bowser	Female	53.85%	50.00%	2	2	672,228	23.30%	\$69,235	64.63%	Democrat
23	Boston	Massachusetts	Martin J. Walsh	Male	28.57%	30.77%	0	0	667,137	24.50%	\$54,485	53.97%	Democrat
24	Memphis	Tennessee	Jim Strickland	Male	21.43%	23.08%	0	0	655,770	15.60%	\$37,099	72.57%	Democrat
25	Nashville/Davidson	Tennessee	Megan Barry	Female	39.02%	37.50%	1	0	654,610	22.70%	\$46,758	43.86%	Democrat
26	Portland	Oregon	Charlie Hales	Male	20.00%	25.00%	2	0	632,309	26.80%	\$53,230	28.21%	Democrat
27	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	Mick Cornett	Male	11.11%	12.50%	1	0	631,346	19.10%	\$47,004	44.32%	Republican
28	Las Vegas	Nevada	Carolyn G. Goodman	Female	28.57%	16.67%	2	0	623,747	14.20%	\$50,903	53.73%	Democrat
29	Baltimore	Maryland	Stephanie C. Rawlings-Blake	Female	31.25%	26.67%	2	2	621,849	14.60%	\$41,819	71.92%	Democrat
30	Louisville	Kentucky	Greg Fischer	Male	49.74%	42.31%	0	0	615,366	15.90%	\$44,806	32.11%	Democrat
31	Milwaukee	Wisconsin	Tom Barrett	Male	12.50%	13.33%	0	0	600,155	14.90%	\$35,489	63.45%	Democrat
32	Albuquerque	New Mexico	Richard J. Berry	Male	30.00%	33.33%	0	0	559,121	18.60%	\$47,413	58.65%	Republican

Rank	City	State	Current Mayor	Mayor Gender	% Women Elected Officials	% Women City Council	Total # Women Mayors	# Women Mayors of Color	Population (2015)	Bachelor's Degree	Median Household Income	% Non-White	Mayor's Party
33	Tucson	Arizona	Jonathan Rothschild	Male	42.86%	50.00%	0	0	531,641	15.10%	\$37,149	53.70%	Democrat
34	Fresno	California	Ashley Swarengin	Female	25.00%	14.29%	1	0	520,052	13.80%	\$41,455	71.40%	Republican
35	Sacramento	California	Kevin Johnson	Male	11.11%	12.50%	2	1	490,712	18.50%	\$50,013	66.03%	Democrat
36	Kansas City	Missouri	Sly James	Male	38.46%	41.67%	1	0	475,378	19.70%	\$45,376	44.90%	Democrat
37	Long Beach	California	Robert Garcia	Male	40.00%	44.44%	1	0	474,140	18.70%	\$52,944	71.94%	Democrat
38	Mesa	Arizona	John Giles	Male	0.00%	0.00%	1	0	471,825	16.00%	\$48,259	35.90%	Nonpartisan
39	Atlanta	Georgia	Kasim Reed	Male	47.06%	50.00%	1	1	463,878	27.30%	\$46,439	63.59%	Democrat
40	Colorado Springs	Colorado	John Suthers	Male	20.00%	22.22%	1	0	456,568	22.00%	\$54,228	30.14%	Republican
41	Virginia Beach	Virginia	Will Sessoms	Male	40.00%	44.44%	1	0	452,745	21.80%	\$67,001	36.41%	Republican
42	Raleigh	North Carolina	Nancy McFarlane	Female	37.50%	28.57%	2	0	451,066	31.50%	\$54,581	46.05%	Democrat
43	Omaha	Nebraska	Jean Stothert	Female	25.00%	14.29%	1	0	443,885	22.10%	\$48,751	31.84%	Republican
44	Miami	Florida	Tomas P. Regalado	Male	0.00%	0.00%	0	0	441,003	14.70%	\$30,858	88.86%	Republican
45	Oakland	California	Libby Schaaf	Female	55.56%	50.00%	2	1	419,267	21.90%	\$52,962	73.47%	Democrat
46	Minneapolis	Minnesota	Betsy Hodges	Female	50.00%	46.15%	2	1	410,939	29.20%	\$50,767	39.03%	Democrat
47	Tulsa	Oklahoma	Dewey F. Bartlett, Jr.	Male	40.00%	44.44%	2	0	403,505	19.80%	\$41,957	43.05%	Republican
48	Wichita	Kansas	Jeff Longwell	Male	28.57%	33.33%	1	0	389,965	19.40%	\$45,907	36.07%	Republican
49	New Orleans	Louisiana	Mitch Landrieu	Male	50.00%	57.14%	0	0	389,617	19.70%	\$36,964	69.30%	Democrat
50	Arlington	Texas	Jeff Williams	Male	44.44%	50.00%	0	0	388,125	19.90%	\$53,055	57.13%	Independent
51	Cleveland	Ohio	Frank G. Jackson	Male	16.67%	17.65%	1	0	388,072	9.40%	\$26,179	65.71%	Democrat
52	Bakersfield	California	Harvey L. Hall	Male	12.50%	14.29%	1	0	373,640	13.80%	\$56,842	64.16%	Republican
53	Tampa	Florida	Bob Buckhorn	Male	25.00%	28.57%	2	0	369,075	20.60%	\$43,740	54.13%	Democrat
54	Aurora	Colorado	Steve Hogan	Male	54.55%	60.00%	1	0	359,407	18.80%	\$52,275	53.73%	Republican
55	Honolulu	Hawaii	Kirk Caldwell	Male	30.00%	33.33%	1	0	352,769	22.70%	\$60,548	83.37%	Democrat
56	Anaheim	California	Tom Tait	Male	40.00%	50.00%	0	0	350,742	17.60%	\$59,707	73.01%	Republican
57	Santa Ana	California	Miguel Pulido	Male	28.57%	33.33%	0	0	335,400	8.50%	\$52,519	90.85%	Democrat
58	Corpus Christi	Texas	Nelda Martinez	Female	44.44%	37.50%	3	1	324,074	13.40%	\$49,675	67.99%	Democrat
59	Riverside	California	William 'Rusty' Bailey	Male	0.00%	0.00%	1	0	322,424	12.90%	\$56,089	68.01%	Independent
60	St. Louis	Missouri	Francis Slay	Male	36.67%	37.93%	0	0	315,685	17.40%	\$34,800	57.19%	Democrat
61	Lexington	Kentucky	Jim Gray	Male	43.75%	46.67%	2	0	314,488	23.20%	\$48,667	27.37%	Democrat
62	Stockton	California	Anthony Silva	Male	28.57%	33.33%	2	0	305,658	11.70%	\$45,347	77.71%	Republican
63	Pittsburgh	Pennsylvania	William Peduto	Male	40.00%	44.44%	1	0	304,391	19.20%	\$40,009	34.92%	Democrat
64	St. Paul	Minnesota	Christopher B. Coleman	Male	37.50%	42.86%	0	0	300,851	22.60%	\$48,258	45.21%	Democrat
65	Anchorage	Alaska	Ethan Berkowitz	Male	16.67%	18.18%	0	0	298,695	21.10%	\$78,121	38.93%	Democrat
66	Cincinnati	Ohio	John Cranley	Male	20.00%	22.22%	1	0	298,550	18.90%	\$34,002	51.21%	Democrat

Rank	City	State	Current Mayor	Mayor Gender	% Women Elected Officials	% Women City Council	Total # Women Mayors	# Women Mayors of Color	Population (2015)	Bachelor's Degree	Median Household Income	% Non-White	Mayor's Party
67	Henderson	Nevada	Andy Hafen	Male	40.00%	50.00%	1	0	285,667	19.10%	\$53,830	32.16%	Democrat
68	Greensboro	North Carolina	Nancy Vaughan	Female	55.56%	50.00%	3	1	285,342	23.70%	\$41,518	54.60%	Democrat
69	Plano	Texas	Harry LaRosiliere	Male	25.00%	28.57%	1	0	283,558	33.90%	\$82,944	43.12%	Democrat
70	Newark	New Jersey	Ras J. Baraka	Male	22.22%	25.00%	0	0	281,944	9.40%	\$34,012	88.93%	Democrat
71	Toledo	Ohio	Paula Hicks-Hudson	Female	46.15%	41.67%	2	1	279,789	11.40%	\$33,485	38.72%	Democrat
72	Lincoln	Nebraska	Chris Beutler	Male	37.50%	42.86%	2	0	277,348	23.80%	\$49,794	17.68%	Democrat
73	Orlando	Florida	Buddy Dyer	Male	28.57%	33.33%	1	0	270,934	21.90%	\$41,901	60.16%	Democrat
74	Chula Vista	California	Mary Casillas Salas	Female	60.00%	50.00%	4	2	265,757	18.90%	\$66,110	80.23%	Democrat
75	Jersey City	New Jersey	Steven M. Fulop	Male	30.00%	33.33%	0	0	264,290	25.60%	\$58,907	78.52%	Democrat
76	Chandler	Arizona	Jay Tibshraeny	Male	14.29%	16.67%	0	0	260,828	24.60%	\$72,072	41.67%	Republican
77	Fort Wayne	Indiana	Tom Henry	Male	0.00%	0.00%	0	0	260,326	17.10%	\$43,994	30.61%	Democrat
78	Buffalo	New York	Byron Brown	Male	0.00%	0.00%	0	0	258,071	13.70%	\$31,668	54.38%	Democrat
79	Durham	North Carolina	William V. "Bill" Bell	Male	28.57%	33.33%	1	0	257,636	25.20%	\$49,585	61.72%	Democrat
80	St. Petersburg	Florida	Rick Kriseman	Male	33.33%	37.50%	1	0	257,083	19.30%	\$45,483	36.86%	Democrat
81	Irvine	California	Steven S. Choi	Male	60.00%	75.00%	3	0	256,927	37.60%	\$91,999	55.55%	Republican
82	Laredo	Texas	Pete Saenz	Male	0.00%	0.00%	1	1	255,473	12.60%	\$39,408	96.35%	Democrat
83	Lubbock	Texas	Dan Pope	Male	42.86%	50.00%	1	0	249,042	18.50%	\$44,139	45.21%	Nonpartisan
84	Madison	Wisconsin	Paul R. Soglin	Male	42.86%	45.00%	1	0	248,951	30.70%	\$53,933	25.04%	Democrat
85	Gilbert	Arizona	Jenn Daniels (Appointed)	Female	20.00%	20.00%	1	0	247,542	27.50%	\$81,485	28.51%	Nonpartisan
86	Norfolk	Virginia	Kenneth Cooper Alexander	Male	50.00%	57.14%	0	0	246,393	15.30%	\$44,150	55.92%	Democrat
87	Reno	Nevada	Hillary Schieve	Female	57.14%	50.00%	2	0	241,445	18.90%	\$46,489	38.09%	Democrat
88	Winston-Salem	North Carolina	Allen Joines	Male	33.33%	37.50%	1	0	241,218	20.20%	\$40,480	53.46%	Democrat
89	Glendale	Arizona	Jerry Weiers	Male	14.29%	16.67%	1	0	240,126	14.30%	\$46,855	49.86%	Republican
90	Hialeah	Florida	Carlos Hernandez	Male	50.00%	57.14%	0	0	237,069	9.70%	\$29,959	96.47%	Republican
91	Garland	Texas	Douglas Athas	Male	22.22%	25.00%	1	0	236,897	15.40%	\$51,997	67.91%	Republican
92	Scottsdale	Arizona	W.J. "Jim" Lane	Male	57.14%	66.67%	2	0	236,839	32.10%	\$72,455	18.31%	Republican
93	Irving	Texas	Beth Van Duyne	Female	11.11%	0.00%	1	0	236,607	21.30%	\$50,942	71.53%	Republican
94	Chesapeake	Virginia	Alan P. Krasnoff	Male	33.33%	37.50%	0	0	235,429	18.50%	\$70,176	40.46%	Republican
95	North Las Vegas	Nevada	John J. Lee	Male	40.00%	50.00%	1	0	234,807	10.00%	\$53,105	69.86%	Democrat
96	Fremont	California	Bill Harrison	Male	40.00%	50.00%	0	0	232,206	27.80%	\$103,591	75.17%	Democrat
97	Baton Rouge	Louisiana	Melvin L. "Kip" Holden	Male	30.77%	33.33%	0	0	228,590	19.30%	\$38,790	63.43%	Democrat
98	Richmond	Virginia	Dwight C. Jones	Male	50.00%	55.56%	0	0	220,289	21.30%	\$41,331	60.35%	Democrat
99	Boise City	Idaho	David H. Bieter	Male	42.86%	50.00%	0	0	218,281	24.90%	\$49,209	16.41%	Democrat
100	San Bernardino	California	R. Carey Davis	Male	25.00%	28.57%	2	1	216,108	7.90%	\$38,774	82.05%	Republican