

Note: This report reflects uncertified election results from the general election held November 4, 2008.

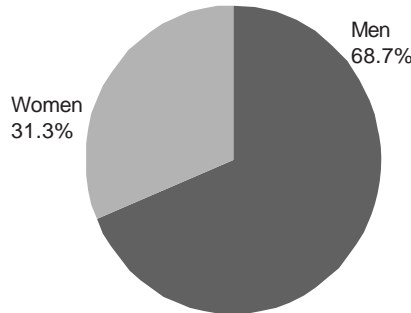
Women in the Minnesota Legislature: 2009

As a result of the election held November 4, 2008, women were elected to serve in 70 (34.8%) of the 201 seats in the Minnesota Legislature in 2009. This is the same number of women who served in the 2008 legislative session, maintaining the highest number of state legislative seats held by women in Minnesota history.

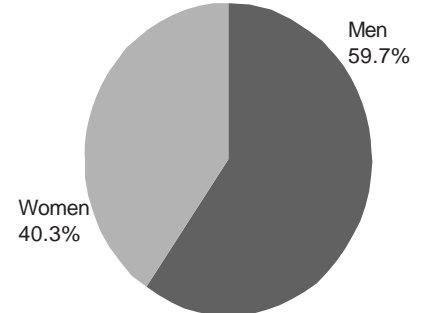
Senate

As a result of the general election held November 4, 2008, one woman was elected to replace Senator Betsy Wergin, who left her seat in 2008 when she was appointed by Governor Tim Pawlenty to serve on the Public Utilities Commission. As a result, women continue to hold 27 (40.3%) of the 67 seats in the Minnesota Senate. The highest number of women elected to the Senate in a general election was 27 (40.3%) in 2006.

Minnesota House, 2009



Minnesota Senate, 2009



Women in the Minnesota Legislature, 2009

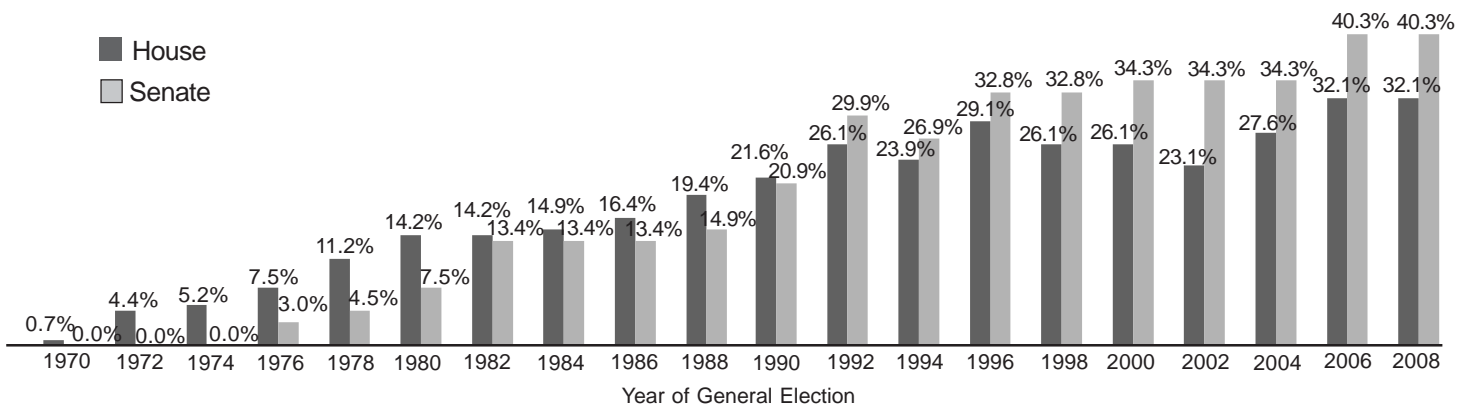
	DFL	Republican	Independence	Total
House	33	10	0	43
Senate	19	8	0	27
Legislature	52	18	0	70

House

Women were elected to hold 43 (32.1%) of the 134 seats in the Minnesota House of Representatives in the 2008 general election. This is the same number of women elected in the 2006 general election, and this number represents the highest number of women serving in the Minnesota House of Representatives in Minnesota history.

Six women will serve their first term in the Minnesota House of Representatives starting in 2009; Rep. Peggy Scott, Rep. Mary Kiffmeyer, Rep. Tara Mack, Rep. Connie Doepke, Rep. Gail Kulick Johnson, and Rep. Jenifer Loon. One woman, Lisa A. Fobbe, will serve her first term in the Minnesota Senate.

Women Elected to the Minnesota Legislature, Senate and House in General Elections, 1970-2008



In 1922, women became eligible to vote and run for election to the Minnesota Legislature. From 1922 to 1970, the percentage of the Legislature comprised by women was very low, ranging from zero to 2.5 percent. Over the next twenty years representation by women increased steadily from 3.0 percent in 1972 to 27.4 percent in 1992. In the 1996 general election, a historic high of 61 (30.4%) women were elected to the Legislature. The numbers of women elected in the 1998, 2000 and 2002 general elections were lower, at 57 (28.4%), 58 (28.9%), and 54 (26.9%), respectively. As a result of the 2004 general election representation by women increased with the number of women elected to the Legislature rising to 60 (29.9%). In the 2006 and 2008 general elections the number of women serving was at a hisotircal high of 70 women(34.8%).

Updated November 5, 2008