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For Immediate Release

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Results: Women Candidates in the 2018 Elections

NOTE: Following the elections, Martha McSally was appointed to fill the former Senate seat of John McCain beginning in 2019, so the full numbers of women serving the 116th Congress will be **127 (106D, 21R), 102 (89D, 13R)** in the House and **25 (17D, 8R)** in the Senate. Women will make up **23.7%** of seats in the Congress, **23.4%** in the House and **25%** in the Senate.

***UPDATED** 10:30am ET on 11.29.18. Updated information in **BOLD**. For the most up-to-date figures, see our 2018 election [tally](#).*

A record number of women will serve in the U.S. Congress in January 2019, according to the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers.

In the 116th Congress, **126 (106D, 20R)** women will serve overall, increasing the percentage of women in Congress from 20% to **23.6%**.

- 102 (89D, 13R) women will serve in the U.S. House (previous record: 85 set in 2016), including 43 (42D, 1R) women of color. Women will be **23.4%** of all members of the U.S. House, up from 19.3% in 2018.
- **24 (17D, 7R)** women will serve in the U.S. Senate (previous record: 23), including 4 (4D) women of color. Women will be **24%** of all members of the U.S. Senate, exceeding women's current level of Senate representation.

Nine (6D, 3R) women will serve as governors in 2019, including 1 (1D) woman of color.

The freshman class of women in the House of Representatives in 2019 will be the largest ever, with 36 (35D, 1R) non-incumbent women elected. The previous high was 24, set in 1992.

"We've seen important breakthroughs, particularly in the U.S. House," said CAWP Director Debbie Walsh, "but deepening disparities between the parties in women's representation will continue to hobble us on the path to parity. We need women elected on both sides of the aisle."

U.S. Senate

14 (11D, 3R) women have won races for the U.S. Senate. When combined with the 10 women already serving from other Senate classes, the 116th Congress will see **24** women serving in the Senate; 17 Democrats and **7** Republicans. This exceeds the previous record of 23, set in 2018.

- **11 (9D, 2R)** women incumbent Senators won re-election this year. 2 (2D) incumbent women Senators were defeated: Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO).
- Of the 3 (2D, 1R) newcomers elected, 2 women won an open seat (Marsha Blackburn R-TN, Kyrsten Sinema D-AZ) and 1 woman (Jacky Rosen D-NV) defeated an incumbent.

Incumbent Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI), who was re-elected this year, was the only woman of color nominee for the U.S. Senate. Four women of color will serve in the U.S. Senate in the 116th Congress, the same number as in the 115th.

Two states will send their first women to the U.S. Senate in 2019: Arizona (Kyrsten Sinema) and Tennessee (Marsha Blackburn), bringing the number of states who have never had a woman senator down to 18. **With the election of Cindy Hyde-Smith to a seat she had previously been appointed to, Mississippi has elected its first woman to a U.S. Senate seat.**

U.S. House

102 women won races for the U.S. House and will serve in the 116th Congress, a new record. The previous record number of women serving in the House was 85, set in 2016. While there will be a record number of Democratic women serving in 2019 (89 vs. previous record of 63), there will not be a record number of Republican women in the House next year. In fact, the number of Republican women in the U.S. House **will drop by 10 seats** between 2018 and 2019, while the number of Democratic women in the House will increase by 28 next year.

- 66 (54D, 12R) women House incumbents won re-election this year. **5 (5R)** women House incumbents were defeated: Barbara Comstock (R-VA), Mimi Walters (R-CA), Karen Handel (R-GA), **Mia Love (R-UT)**, and **Claudia Tenney (R-NY)**.
- Of the 36 (35D, 1R) newcomers selected, 21 (20D, 1R) won open seats and 15 (15D) defeated incumbents. Only a single Republican woman will join the incoming class of new legislators in the 116th Congress.

Newly-Elected Women, U.S. House		
<i>Cindy Axne (D-IA)</i>	Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA)	Kim Schrier (D-WA)
<i>Angela Craig (D-MN)</i>	Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)	Donna Shalala (D-FL)
<i>Sharice Davids (D-KS)</i>	Susie Lee (D-NV)	Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)
Madeleine Dean (D-PA)	<i>Elaine Luria (D-VA)</i>	<i>Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)</i>
Veronica Escobar (D-TX)	<i>Lucy McBath (D-GA)</i>	<i>Abigail Spanberger (D-VA)</i>
<i>Abby Finkenauer (D-IA)</i>	Carol Miller (R-WV)	Haley Stevens (D-MI)
<i>Elizabeth Pannill Fletcher (D-TX)</i>	<i>Debbie Mucarsel-Powell (D-FL)</i>	Rashida Tlaib (D-MI)
Sylvia Garcia (D-TX)	Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY)	Xochitl Torres Small (D-NM)
Debra Haaland (D-NM)	<i>Katie Porter (D-CA)</i>	Lori Trahan (D-MA)
Jahana Hayes (D-CT)	Ilhan Omar (D-MN)	<i>Lauren Underwood (D-IL)</i>
<i>Katherine Hill (D-CA)</i>	Ayanna Pressley (D-MA)	<i>Jennifer Wexton (D-VA)</i>
<i>Kendra Horn (D-OK)</i>	Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA)	Susan Ellis Wild (D-PA)

*Challengers (nominees who defeated incumbents) are *italicized*. All other women listed won open seat contests.

There will be a record total of 43 women of color in the House. Of the women of color selected, 22 (22D) are Black women, 12 (11D, 1R) are Latinas, 6 (6D) are Asian/Pacific Islander women, 2 (2D) are Native American women, and 1 (1D) is a Middle Eastern/North African woman. The previous high was 34. The number of non-incumbent women of color elected in 2018 is also a record high; 13 (13D) new women of color will enter the 116th Congress, up from a previous record of 6 (first set in 2012). The new House members include 5 (5D) Black women (Hayes, McBath, Omar, Pressley, Underwood), 5 (5D) Latinas (Escobar, Garcia, Murcarsel-Powell, Ocasio-Cortez, Torres Small), 2 (2D) Native American women (Davids, Haaland), and one Middle Eastern/North African woman (Tlaib).

- Deb Haaland (D-NM) and Sharice Davids (D-KS) are the first Native American women elected to the U.S. Congress.
- Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN) are the first Muslim women elected to Congress.
- Four states will send their first women of color to Congress: Connecticut (Hayes), Massachusetts (Pressley), Minnesota (Omar), and Kansas (Davids).
- Veronica Escobar (D) and Sylvia Garcia (D) will become the first Latinas to represent Texas in Congress, a state that is nearly 40% Hispanic.

Iowa elected their first women to the U.S. House in 2018. In 2019, four states will have *never* sent a woman to the U.S. House: Alaska, Mississippi, North Dakota, and Vermont.

In addition, 3 non-voting delegates from American Samoa, Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands were re-elected this year. All of the women delegates serving in the 116th Congress will be women of color.

Governor

9 (6D, 3R) women have won races for governor in 2018, matching the previous record number of women governors serving simultaneously, in both 2004 and 2007. The current number matches the previous high for Democratic women governors serving at the same time, but falls short of hitting the record for Republican women governors serving together (3 vs. previous record of 4).

- 4 (2D, 2R) incumbent women governors won re-election this year and 2 more women were term-limited: Susana Martinez (R-NM) and Mary Fallin (R-OK).
- Of the 5 (4D, 1R) new women governors selected, all won open seats (Laura Kelly in Kansas, Michelle Lujan Grisham in New Mexico, Janet Mills in Maine, Kristi Noem in South Dakota, and Gretchen Whitmer in Michigan).
- As a Latina, Michele Lujan Grisham (NM) will be the first Democratic woman of color governor nationwide.

Three states elected their first woman governors in 2018: Maine, South Dakota, and Iowa (where incumbent Governor Kim Reynolds was previously appointed). In 2019, 20 states will remain that have never had a woman governor.

In addition, 58 (33D, 24R, 1NP) women won *other statewide elected executive offices this year*.

- Peggy Flanagan (D-MN), elected as Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota, will be the first woman of color elected to statewide executive office in Minnesota as well as just the second Native American woman ever elected to statewide executive office nationwide.

- With her election to the New York Attorney General's office, Letitia James is the first woman of color elected statewide in New York.
- Kimberly Yee, elected to the State Treasurer's office, will be the first GOP woman of color serving statewide in Arizona.
- Jeanette Núñez is the first Latina elected to statewide office in Florida, following her election to the state's Lieutenant Governor's office.