



Women in Parliament

(as at October 2018)

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Western Australian Parliamentary Female Firsts

Australia's first female Member of Parliament

Edith Cowan (Nationalist) was Australia's first female parliamentarian when she was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly on 12 March 1921. She represented the West Perth electorate. She was one of the first women to be elected to a parliament in the British Empire.

First female Member of Western Australian Legislative Assembly

Edith Cowan (Nationalist) was the first female member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly when she was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly on 12 March 1921 for the seat of West Perth.

Australia's first female Member of Parliament representing the ALP

May Holman (ALP) was Australia's first female Member of Parliament representing the Australian Labor Party. She was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly at a by-election on 3 April 1925 following the death of her father who held the seat. She represented the Forrest Division until her tragic death on 20 March 1939. She had just been re-elected for a fifth term. In the by-election that followed her brother Edward became the third successive member of her family to represent the seat of Forrest.

Australia's first female Member of Parliament to serve ten years in Parliament

May Holman (ALP) was the first female Australian Member of Parliament to hold a parliamentary seat for ten years, from 3 April 1925 to 1935. She was also the first female in the British Empire to hold a parliamentary seat for ten years.

Australia's first female Member of Parliament to be suspended from Parliament

Florence Cardell-Oliver (Nationalist) was the first woman Member of Parliament to be suspended from 'the service of the House' on 10 December 1941 (PD, 10 December 1941, p.2595). She described the speech made by one of her own party colleagues as a 'disgrace to the Assembly'. She then refused all requests to withdraw her remarks.

Australia's first female Senator

Dorothy Tangney (ALP) was Australia's first female Senator. She was elected on 22 September 1949. She retained her seat and was the only female Senator for a record twenty five years. She holds the honour of being the first woman appointed to a parliamentary committee in the Commonwealth Parliament, the first Commonwealth woman to represent Australia on an overseas delegation, to preside over the Senate and take the Chair in any of the English speaking Parliaments. She also has the distinction of being the first Western Australian to be made a Dame Commander of the British Empire - and for ten years, the only one.

Australia's first female Cabinet Minister

Florence Cardell-Oliver (Nationalist) was Australia's first female Cabinet Minister when on 7 October 1949 she was appointed the Western Australian Minister for Health, Supply and Shipping. Previously she had served as Honorary Minister (from 1 April 1947).

First female Member of Western Australian Legislative Council

Ruby Hutchinson (ALP) was the first female member of the Western Australian Legislative Council when she was elected on 22 May 1954. She represented the Suburban Province. She was the first woman to take her place in any Australian legislative council. During her seventeen years of service she was the only woman to serve in that chamber.

Australia's first woman Member of Parliament to serve concurrently with her husband

Ruby Hutchinson (ALP) was Australia's first woman Member of Parliament to serve concurrently with her husband. She was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1954. She represented the Suburban Province. In 1965 she was elected to the North-East Metropolitan Province. She married Mr. Frederick Richard Hugh Lavery MLC on 14 May 1966.

Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the Liberal Party

Margaret McAleer (Lib) was Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the Liberal Party. She was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1974. She was one of two members to represent the Upper West Province. By 1980 she was appointed Government Whip and continued in the role of Opposition Whip until her retirement in 1993. She also assisted as shadow Minister for Women's Interests and served on a number of parliamentary committees.

Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the National Party

Winifred Piesse (NCP) was the first female Member of the Western Australian Parliament to represent the National Party (or National Country Party). She was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1977 for the Lower Central Province.

Western Australia's first female Member of the House of Representatives

Wendy Fatin (ALP) was Western Australia's first female Member of the House of Representatives. She was elected to the House of Representatives in 1983 and represented the Brand electorate. She also has the honour of being the first woman from WA to become a Minister, when she was sworn in as the Minister for Local Government from 4 April 1990.

First female Member of Western Australian Parliament to serve in both the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council

Kay Hallahan (ALP) was the first member of the Western Australian Parliament to serve in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. She was first elected to the Western Australian Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1983, representing the South East Metropolitan Region. She was later elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for the seat of Armadale electorate from 6 February 1993 until retiring at the 1996 state election.

First Labor females to hold ministerial posts

Kay Hallahan (ALP) and Pam Beggs (ALP) share the honour of being the first Labor women selected for a cabinet posting on 26 February 1986. Kay Hallahan (ALP) is also the first female Member of the Legislative Council to hold a ministerial post.

First female Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Kay Hallahan (ALP) on 16 March 1987 became the first female to hold the position of Deputy Leader of a party in the Legislative Council.

First female to chair a Select Committee in the Western Australian Parliament

Beryl Jones (ALP) was the first woman to chair a Select Committee in either house of Parliament. She chaired the Legislative Council's Select Committee into Charitable Collections from 28 April 1987.

First female in the Western Australia to give birth while a member of Cabinet

In 1988 Yvonne Henderson (ALP) became the first woman in Western Australia to give birth while serving as a member of Cabinet. She was the Minister for Lands and the Arts.

First female to chair a Select Committee in the Legislative Assembly

Judyth Watson (ALP) was the first woman to chair a Select Committee in the Legislative Assembly. She was appointed chair of the Select Committee on the Reproductive Technology Working Party's Report on the 15 November 1988.

First females elected to the Western Australian Parliament with a doctorate

Judyth Watson (ALP) and Carmen Lawrence (ALP) share the distinction of being the first women elected to the Western Australian Parliament with a Doctorate of Philosophy. They both graduated from the University of Western Australia.

Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the National Party in the Legislative Assembly

Dr Hilda Turnbull (NPA) was the first female to represent the National Party (Country Party) in the Legislative Assembly. She was elected to Legislative Assembly seat of Collie on 4 February 1989.

Australia's first female Premier

Dr Carmen Lawrence (ALP) became Australia's first female Premier on 12 February 1990. She was elected in 1986 as the Member for Subiaco and in 1989 as the Member for Glendalough. She served as Premier until 1993 when the ALP was defeated in the state election.

First female Independent to be elected to the Western Australian Parliament

Dr Elizabeth Constable (Ind) was the first female to be elected to the Western Australian Parliament without party endorsement. She won the by-election for Floreat in July 1991

First female Leader of the Opposition in Western Australia

Carmen Lawrence (ALP) became Western Australia's first female Leader of the Opposition in 1993 when the Labor Party was defeated in the state election. She served as Leader until resigning in February 1994 to take up office as the Member of the House of Representatives for Fremantle on 12 March 1994.

First female Attorney General in Australia

Cheryl Edwardes' (Lib) appointment as Attorney General on 8 March 1993, made her the first female Attorney General in Australia.

First female Deputy Leader of a political party in Western Australia

Kay Hallahan (ALP) was the first female to be Deputy Leader of the State Parliamentary Opposition when elected to the position on 7 February 1994.

Australia's first female Member of Parliament and Minister to serve in both a State and Federal Parliament

Carmen Lawrence (ALP) was first elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly in 1986 as the Member for Subiaco and in 1989 as the Member for Glendalough. She was then elected to the House of Representatives on 12 March 1994, representing the federal seat of Fremantle. She is the third West Australian, after Lord Forrest and Hon Joe Berinson to serve in both a State and Federal Parliament.

First female Member of Western Australian Parliament born in a non-English speaking country

Ljiljana Ravlich (ALP) was the first female Member of the Western Australian Parliament born in a non-English speaking country, Croatia. She was elected to represent the East Metropolitan region of the Western Australian Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1997.

Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the Democrats

Helen Hodgson (Dem) was the first female Member of Parliament to represent the Democrats. She was elected to the Legislative Council for the North Metropolitan Region commencing 22 May 1997. As leader of the Democrats she became the first female parliamentary party leader in WA.

Western Australia's first female Member of Parliament to represent the Greens

Christine Sharp (GWA) and Giz Watson (GWA) were Western Australia's first female Members of Parliament to represent the Greens. They were elected to the Legislative Council for a term commencing 22 May 1997. Christine Sharp represented the South West region and Giz Watson represented the North Metropolitan region.

First female to chair a Standing Committee in the Western Australian Parliament

Dr Christine (Chrissy) Sharp (GWA) was the first woman to chair a Standing Committee in the Western Australian Parliament. She was selected to chair the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Ecologically Sustainable Development on 26 June 1997.

First openly declared lesbian Member of Parliament in Australia

Giz Watson (GWA) was the first openly declared lesbian parliamentarian in Australia. In her inaugural speech (PD, 10 June 1997, p.3534), she discussed her commitment to represent the lesbian and gay community. She was elected to the Legislative Council representing the North Metropolitan Region for a term commencing 22 May 1997.

Youngest woman ever elected to the Western Australian Parliament

Jaye Radisich (ALP) was the youngest woman elected to the Western Australian Parliament. She was 24 years, 10 months and 11 days old when she was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly on 10 February 2001 as the Member for Swan Hills.

First female Indigenous Member of an Australian Parliament

Carol Martin (ALP) made history as the first Indigenous Member of the Parliament of Western Australia and any Australian Parliament when she was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly on 10 February 2001. She represented the Kimberley electorate.

Youngest woman elected to the Western Australian Legislative Council

Louise Pratt (ALP) was the youngest female elected to the Legislative Council for East Metropolitan Region on 10 February 2001, 2005 (for term commencing 22 May 2001). She resigned 29 October 2007 to contest the 24 November 2007 federal election and was elected to the Australian Senate representing Western Australia.

First female to be made President of the National Party of Western Australia

Wendy Duncan (NPA) was the first female to be elected President of the National Party of Western Australia from 2004 to 2009.

First female sports minister

Mia Davies (NPA) was the first female WA sports Minister. She was appointed on 8 December 2014 following Terry Waldron's resignation from the position.

First female to be elected Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Dianne Guise (ALP) was the first woman to be elected Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, a position she held from 1 May 2001 to 7 August 2008.

First female to be elected to the Australian Senate and Western Australian Legislative Council

Diane (Dee) Margetts (GWA) was the first female Member to be elected to both the Australian Senate for the Greens on 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1999 (defeated) and the Legislative Council of Western Australia on 10 February 2001 (term commencing 22 May 2001) to 26 February 2005 (term concluded 21 May 2005) (defeated).

First female Independent Member to be a Cabinet Minister

Dr Elizabeth Constable (Ind) was the first female Independent Member to become a Cabinet Minister. She was responsible for Education, Tourism and Women's Interests in the 2008 Barnett Liberal minority Government.

Youngest woman Minister in the Parliament of Western Australia

Donna Faragher (Lib), Member for East Metropolitan was the youngest female minister. She was appointed Minister for the Environment and Minister for Youth on 23 September 2008 in the 2008 Liberal, Nationals Government. She was 33 years old.

First Greens (WA) Member of the Legislative Assembly

Adele Carles (GWA) was the first female GreensWA Member of Parliament. She was elected as the Member for Fremantle at the by-election on 16 May 2009 after the retirement of Jim McGinty (ALP). Her election signified the GreensWA achieving party status as they had five elected members in the Parliament. On 8 May 2010 she quit GreensWA to become an Independent Green.

First all-female leaders of a Parliamentary Party

Mia Davies (NPA) is the first female leader of the National Party of Australia (WA) and first female leader of any National Party in Australia. Jacqui Ellen Boydell, MLC (NPA) was elected the deputy leader.

First female President of the Legislative Council in Western Australia

Hon Catherine (Kate) Doust (ALP), Member for South Metropolitan Region, is the first female President in the Parliament of Western Australia. She was elected President of the Legislative Council 23 May 2017 in the 40th Parliament.

First female Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council in Western Australia

Hon Suzanne (Sue) Ellery (ALP) is the first female to be Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

First Mother of the House in the Parliament of Western Australia

Michelle Roberts (ALP) is the first woman MP in the Parliament of Western Australia to receive the title Mother of the House on 5 February 2018.

Women in the Parliament of Western Australia, 1921 to present

No	Name	House	Party	Electorate	Period of Service
1.	Edith Dircksey Cowan	MLA	Nat	West Perth	12 Mar 1921–22 Mar 1924
2.	Mary Alice (May) Holman	MLA	ALP	Forrest	3 Apr 1925–20 Mar 1939
3.	Florence Gillies Cardell-Oliver	MLA	Nat/Lib	Subiaco	15 Feb 1936–7 Apr 1956
4.	Ruby Florence Hutchison	MLC	ALP	Suburban North Metro Province	22 May 1954–21 May 1965 22 May 1965–21 May 1971
5.	Lyla Daphne Elliott	MLC	ALP	NE Metropolitan	22 May 1971–21 May 1983 22 May 1983–21 May 1986
6.	Margaret June Craig	MLA	Lib	Wellington	30 Mar 1974–19 Feb 1983
7.	Margaret McAleer	MLC	Lib	Upper West Agricultural	22 May 1974–21 May 1989 22 May 1989–21 May 1993
8.	Grace Sydney Vaughan	MLC	ALP	SE Metropolitan	22 May 1974–21 May 1980
9.	Winifred Margaret Piesse	MLC	NCP	Lower Central	22 May 1977–21 May 1983
10.	Pamela Anne Beggs	MLA	ALP	Whitford	19 Feb 1983–6 Feb 1993
11.	Pamela Ann Buchanan	MLA	ALP	Pilbara Ashburton	19 Feb 1983 –4 Feb 1989 4 Feb 1989–3 Mar 1992
12.	Elsie Kay Hallahan	MLC MLA	ALP	SE Metropolitan East Metropolitan Armadale	22 May 1983 - 21 May 1989 22 May 1989–13 Jan 1993 6 Feb 1993 - 14 Dec 1996
13.	Yvonne Daphne Henderson	MLA	ALP	Gosnells Thornlie	19 Feb 1983–4 Feb 1989 4 Feb 1989–14 Dec 1996
14.	Jacqueline Patricia Watkins	MLA	ALP	Joondalup Wanneroo	19 Feb 1983–4 Feb 1989 4 Feb 1989–6 Feb 1993
15.	Dr Carmen Mary Lawrence	MLA	ALP	Subiaco Glendalough	8 Feb 1986–4 Feb 1989 4 Feb 1989–14 Feb 1994
16.	Beryl Lillian Jones	MLC	ALP	Lower West South West	22 May 1986–21 May 1989 22 May 1989–21 May 1993
17.	Dr Judyth Watson	MLA	ALP	Canning Kenwick	8 Feb 1986–4 Feb 1989 4 Feb 1989–14 Dec 1996
18.	Cheryl May Davenport	MLC	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 1989–21 May 2001
19.	Cheryl Lynn Edwardes	MLA	Lib	Kingsley	4 Feb 1989–26 Feb 2005
20.	Muriel Grace Patterson	MLC	Lib	South West	22 May 1989–21 May 2001
21.	Dr Hilda Margaret Turnbull	MLA	NP	Collie	4 Feb 1989–10 Feb 2001
22.	Dr Judith (Judy) Mary Edwards	MLA	ALP	Maylands	26 May 1990–6 Sept 2008
23.	Dr Elizabeth Constable	MLA	Lib Ind	Floreat Churchlands	20 Jul 1991–14 Dec 1996 14 Dec 1996–9 March 2013
24.	Diane Phyllis Airey	MLC	Lib	South Metropolitan	2 Feb 1993–21 May 1993

25.	Valma Eileen Ferguson	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	2 Feb 1993–21 May 1993 4 April 1995–21 May 1997
26.	Alannah Joan Geraldine MacTiernan	MLC MLA MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan Armadale North Metropolitan	22 May 1993 –21 Nov 1996 14 Dec 1996–20 July 2010 22 May 2017–
27.	Barbara Mary Scott	MLC	Lib	South Metropolitan	22 May 1993–21 May 2009
28.	Diana Muriel Warnock	MLA	ALP	Perth	6 Feb 1993–10 Feb 2001
29.	June Dorothy van de Klashorst	MLA	Lib	Swan Hills	6 Feb 1993–10 Feb 2001
30.	Michelle Hopkins Roberts	MLA	ALP	Glendalough Midland	19 Mar 1994–14 Dec 1996 14 Dec 1996–
31.	Rhonda Kathleen Parker	MLA	Lib	Helena Ballajura	10 Sep 1994–14 Dec 1996 14 Dec 1996–10 Feb 2001
32.	Megan Irene Anwyl	MLA	ALP	Kalgoorlie	16 Mar 1996–10 Feb 2001
33.	Katina (Katie) Hodson-Thomas	MLA	Lib	Carine	14 Dec 1996–6 Sept 2008
34.	Sheila Margaret McHale	MLA	ALP	Thornlie Kenwick	14 Dec 1996–26 Feb 2005 26 Feb 2005–6 Sept 2008
35.	Ljiljana Maria Ravlich	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 1996 –10 March 2015
36.	Monica Rose Holmes	MLA	Lib	Southern River	14 Dec 1996–10 Feb 2001
37.	Helen Margaret Hodgson	MLC	AD	North Metropolitan	22 May 1997–21 May 2001
38.	Dr Christine (Chrissy) Sharp	MLC	GWA	South West	22 May 1997–21 May 2005
39.	Giz Watson	MLC	GWA	North Metropolitan	22 May 1997– 9 March 2013
40.	Dianne Joy Guise	MLA	ALP	Wanneroo	10 Feb 2001–6 Sept 2008
41.	Carol Anne Martin	MLA	ALP	Kimberley	10 Feb 2001–9 March 2013
42.	Margaret Mary Quirk	MLA	ALP	Girrawheen	10 Feb 2001–
43.	Dr Janet May Woollard	MLA	Ind	Alfred Cove	10 Feb 2001–9 March 2013
44.	Catherine (Kate) Esther Doust	MLC	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 2001–
45.	Suzanne (Sue) Mary Ellery	MLC	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 2001–
46.	Adele Farina	MLC	ALP	South West	22 May 2001–
47.	Robyn Mary McSweeney	MLC	Lib	South West	22 May 2001–21 May 2017
48.	Jaye Amber Radisich	MLA	ALP	Swan Hills	10 Feb 2001–6 Sept 2008
49.	Diane (Dee) Elizabeth Margetts	MLC	GWA	Agricultural	22 May 2001–21 May 2005
50.	Louise Clare Pratt	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2001–29 Oct 2007
51.	Susan (Sue) Elizabeth Walker	MLA	Lib	Nedlands	9 June 2001– 6 Sept 2008
52.	Judith (Judy) Hughes	MLA	ALP	Kingsley	26 Feb 2005–6 Sept 2008
53.	Lynn Ellen MacLaren	MLC	GWA	South Metropolitan	15 Feb 2005–21 May 2005 22 May 2009–21 May 2017
54.	Shelley Frances Archer	MLC	Ind	Mining and Pastoral	22 May 2005–22 May 2009
55.	Donna Evelyn Mary Faragher	MLC	Lib	East Metropolitan	22 May 2005–
56.	Sheila Mills	MLC	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 2005–22 May 2009
57.	Helen Margaret Morton	MLC	Lib	East Metropolitan	22 May 2005–22 May 2017
58.	Margaret Bernadette Rowe	MLC	Lib	Agricultural	22 May 2005–22 June 2007
59.	Sally Elizabeth Talbot	MLC	ALP	South West Region	22 May 2005–
60.	Wendy Maxine Duncan	MLC	Nat	Agricultural	29 Jan 2008–12 Feb 2013
		MLA	Nat	Kalgoorlie	9 March 2013–11 March 2017

61.	Lisa Loraine Baker	MLA	ALP	Maylands	6 Sept 2008–
62.	Janine Marie Freeman	MLA	ALP	Nollamara	6 Sept 2008–9 March 2013
		MLA	ALP	Mirrabooka	9 March 2013–
63.	Liza Mary Harvey	MLA	Lib	Scarborough	6 Sept 2008–
64.	Andrea Ruth Mitchell	MLA	Lib	Kingsley	6 Sept 2008–11 March 2017
65.	Rita Saffioti	MLA	ALP	West Swan	6 Sept 2008–
66.	Carolyn Anne Burton	MLC	ALP	North Metropolitan	17 Sept 2008–21 May 2009
67.	Shelley Elizabeth Eaton	MLC	ALP	Mining & Pastoral	17 Sept 2008–21 May 2009
68.	Adele Simone Carles	MLA	GWA & Ind GRN	Fremantle	16 May 2009–9 March 2013
69.	Elizabeth (Liz) Lloyd Behjat	MLC	Lib	North Metropolitan	22 May 2009–21 May 2017
70.	Helen Hong Hui Bullock	MLC	ALP	Mining & Pastoral	22 May 2009–21 May 2013
71.	Mia Jane Davies	MLC	Nat	Agricultural	22 May 2009 –12 Feb 2013
		MLA	Nat	Central Wheatbelt	9 March 2013–
72.	Alyssa Kathleen Hayden	MLC	Lib	East Metropolitan	22 May 2009–21 May 2017
				Darling Range	23 June 2018–
73.	Alison Marie Xamon	MLC	GWA	East Metropolitan	22 May 2009 –21 May 2013
				North Metropolitan	22 May 2017-
74.	Linda Rosemary Savage	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	23 March 2010 –21 May 2013
75.	Jacqui Ellen Boydell	MLC	Nat	Mining and Pastoral	22 May 2013–
76.	Alanna Therese Clohesy	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2013–
77.	Eleni Evangel	MLA	Lib	Perth	9 March 2013–11 March 2017
78.	Josie Farrer	MLA	ALP	Kimberley	9 March 2013–
79.	Glenys Jenolan Godfrey	MLA	Lib	Belmont	9 March 2013–11 March 2017
80.	Simone Frances McGurk	MLA	ALP	Fremantle	9 March 2013–
81.	Samantha Helen Rowe	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2013–
82.	Amber Jade Sanderson	MLC	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2013–5 Feb 2017
		MLA	ALP	Morley	11 March 2017-
83.	Elizabeth (Libby) Mettam	MLA	Lib	Vasse	18 Oct 2014–
84.	Laine Courtney McDonald	MLC	ALP	North Metropolitan	27 Sept 2016-21 May 2017
85.	Robyn Marjorie Jane Clarke	MLA	ALP	Murray-Wellington	11 March 2017-
86.	Emily Hamilton	MLA	ALP	Joondalup	11 March 2017-
87.	Lisa Margaret O'Malley	MLA	ALP	Bicton	11 March 2017-
88.	Cassandra (Cassie) Michelle Rowe	MLA	ALP	Belmont	11 March 2017-
89.	Jessica Jane Shaw	MLA	ALP	Swan Hills	11 March 2017-
90.	Jessica Mary Christine Stojkovski	MLA	ALP	Kingsley	11 March 2017-
91.	Sabine Elisabeth Winton	MLA	ALP	Wanneroo	11 March 2017-
92.	Elise Maxine Irwin	MLC	Lib	North Metropolitan	4 April 2017 – 21 May 2017
93.	Diane Evers	MLC	GWA	South West	22 May 2017-

1. Since 1921 there have been 93 women elected to the Parliament of Western Australia.

2. Entries in **bold** indicate a sitting member.

Number of Women in the Parliament of Western Australia

Parliament	Legislative Assembly	Legislative Council	Total	Total Seats	% Female
11th Parliament (July 1921–Jan 1924)	1 ¹	-	1	80	1.25
12th Parliament (July 1924–Jan 1927)	1 ²	-	1	80	1.25
13th Parliament (July 1927–Jan 1930)	1	-	1	80	1.25
14th Parliament (July 1930–Jan 1933)	1	-	1	80	1.25
15th Parliament (July 1933–Jan 1936)	1	-	1	80	1.25
16th Parliament (Aug 1936–Jan 1939)	2 ³	-	2	80	2.5
17th Parliament (Aug 1939–Oct 1943)	1 ⁴	-	1	80	1.25
18th Parliament (July 1944–Jan 1947)	1	-	1	80	1.25
19th Parliament (July 1947–Jan 1950)	1	-	1	80	1.25
20th Parliament (July 1950–Jan 1953)	1	-	1	80	1.25
21st Parliament (Aug 1953–Jan 1956)	1	1 ⁵	2	80	2.5
22nd Parliament (Aug 1956–Jan 1959)	-	1	1 ⁶	80	1.25
23rd Parliament (Jun 1959–Jan 1962)	-	1	1	80	1.25
24th Parliament (July 1962–Jan 1965)	-	1	1	80	1.25
25th Parliament (July 1965–Jan 1968)	-	1	1	81	1.23
26th Parliament (July 1968–Jan 1971)	-	1	1	81	1.23
27th Parliament (July 1971–Jan 1974)	-	1 ⁷	1	81	1.23
28th Parliament (May 1974–Jan 1977)	1	3	4 ⁸	87	4.6

¹ Edith Cowan (Nat) was Australia's first woman member of Parliament.

² May Holman (ALP) was elected at a by-election on 3 April 1925, due her father's death who held the seat previously. She held the seat until her death in March 1939, after just having been re-elected for a fifth term.

³ Dame Annie Cardell-Oliver (Nat) was elected, serving until April 1956.

⁴ May Holman (ALP) died just after being re-elected. The seat was won by her brother reducing number of woman members to one.

⁵ Ruby Hutchison (ALP) was elected the first female member of the Legislative Council and the only woman MLC throughout her 17 year term.

⁶ From April 1956, Ruby Hutchison (ALP) was the only woman member of Parliament until her term ended in May 1971.

⁷ Lyla Elliott (ALP) was elected in May 1971. She was the only woman member in the Legislative Council.

⁸ Margaret Craig (Lib), Margaret McAleer (Lib) and Grace Vaughan (ALP) were elected.

Parliament	Legislative Assembly	Legislative Council	Total	Total Seats	% Female
29th Parliament (May 1977–Jan 1980)	1	4 ⁹	5	87	5.75
30th Parliament (July 1980–Jan 1983)	1	3 ¹⁰	4	91	4.40
31st Parliament (Mar 1983–Dec 1985)	4 ¹¹	3 ¹²	7	91	7.69
32nd Parliament (Jun 1986–Jan 1989)	6 ¹³	3 ¹⁴	9	91	9.89
33rd Parliament (Mar 1989–April 1990)	8 ¹⁵	5 ¹⁶	13	91	14.29
33rd Parliament (from May 1990)	9 ¹⁷	5 ¹⁸	14	91	15.38
33rd Parliament (from July 1991)	10 ¹⁹	5	15	91	16.48
34th Parliament (Jun 1993–Nov 1996)	10 ²⁰	6 ²¹	16	91	17.58
34th Parliament (from May 1993)	10	4 ²²	14	91	15.38
34th Parliament (from September 1994)	11 ²³	4 ²⁴	15	91	16.48
34th Parliament (from February 1995)	11	5 ²⁵	16	91	17.58
34th Parliament (from March 1996)	12 ²⁶	5	17	91	18.68

⁹ Winifred Piesse (NCP) was elected and served until May 1983.

¹⁰ Grace Vaughan (ALP) lost her seat in 1980, which reduced the number of female members of the Legislative Council to three.

¹¹ Pamela Beggs (ALP), Pamela Buchanan (ALP), Yvonne Henderson (ALP) and Jacqueline Watkins (ALP) were elected. ¹² Margaret Craig (Lib) defeated in the new seat of Mitchell, having lost her seat in a re-distribution.

¹³ Kay Hallahan (ALP) was elected a member of the Legislative Council. Winifred Piesse (NCP) failed by 400 votes to be re-elected.

¹⁴ Carmen Lawrence (ALP) and Judyth Watson (ALP) were elected.

¹⁵ Beryl Jones (ALP) was elected, Lyla Elliott (ALP) did not re-nominate.

¹⁶ Cheryl Edwardes (Lib) and Hilda Turnbull (Nat) were elected, bringing party political diversity to women members of the Legislative Assembly.

¹⁷ Cheryl Davenport (ALP) and Muriel Patterson (Lib) were elected.

¹⁸ Judy Edwards (ALP) won the by-election for the seat of Maylands on 26 May 1990 after Premier Peter Dowding's resignation.

¹⁹ Elizabeth Constable was the first woman elected as an Independent ie without any party endorsement. She was elected at a by-election on 20 July 1991 for the seat of Floreat, the vacancy caused by the death of Andrew Mensaros.

²⁰ Kay Hallahan (ALP), Diana Warnock (ALP) and June van de Klashorst (Lib) were elected. Pamela Beggs (ALP) and Jacqueline Watkins (ALP) were defeated. Pamela Buchanan (ALP) resigned in March 1992 due to ill health.

²¹ Kay Hallahan (ALP) resigned in January 1993 to successfully contest the Legislative Assembly seat of Armadale. Valma Ferguson (ALP) served out the remainder of Hallahan's term in the Legislative Council until 21 May 1993. Diane Airey (Lib) served out the remainder of Philip Pental's term until May 1993, after he resigned prior to the 1993 elections to successfully contest the Legislative Assembly seat of South Perth.

²² Alannah MacTiernan (ALP) and Barbara Scott (Lib) were elected. Margaret McAleer (Lib) retired and Beryl Jones' (ALP) term ended. Valma Ferguson (ALP) was unsuccessful in gaining a further term in 1993 and Diane Airey did not contest any parliamentary seat in 1993 or subsequently.

²³ Michelle Roberts (ALP) won the seat of Glendalough at a by-election on 19 March 1994 caused by Carmen Lawrence (ALP) vacating the seat to enter federal politics, later becoming Federal MHR for Fremantle in March 1994.

²⁴ Rhonda Parker (Lib) won a by-election for the seat of Helena on 26 September 1994.

²⁵ Valma Ferguson (ALP) re-entered State Parliament on 4 April 1995 to again fill a casual vacancy caused by the resignation of ALP State President Tom Butler, serving until the end of the term on 21 May 1997.

²⁶ Megan Anwyll (ALP) won by-election for seat of Kalgoorlie on 16 March 1996 caused by Ian Taylor vacating the seat. She was re-elected in the state general election in late 1996.

Parliament	Legislative Assembly	Legislative Council	Total	Total Seats	% Female
35th Parliament (Mar 1997–Nov 2001)	13 ²⁷	4	17	91	18.68
35th Parliament (from May 1997)	13 ²⁸	7	20	91	21.98
36th Parliament (1 May 2001–25 Feb 2001)	12	7 ²⁹	19	91	20.88
36th Parliament (from 22 May 2001)	12 ³⁰	10	22	91	24.17
36th Parliament (from 9 June 2001)	13	10 ³¹	23	91	25.27
36th Parliament (from 15 February 2005)	13	11 ³²	24	91	26.37
37th Parliament (26 February 2005)	13	14 ³³	27	91	29.67
37th Parliament (From 22 June 2007)	13	13 ³⁴	26	91	28.57
37th Parliament (From 29 October 2007)	13	12 ^{36 37}	25	91	27.47

²⁷ Katie Hodson-Thomas (Lib), Monica Holmes (Lib), Sheila McHale (ALP) and Alannah MacTiernan (ALP) elected. Judyth Watson (ALP) unsuccessfully contested the seat of Southern River, Yvonne Henderson (ALP) did not contest and Kay Hallahan (ALP) retired.

²⁸ Alannah MacTiernan (ALP) resigned to successfully contest the Legislative Assembly seat of Armadale.

²⁹ Helen Hodgson (Dem), Ljiljana Ravlich (ALP), Christine Sharp (GWA), and Giz Watson (GWA) elected. Valma Ferguson's (ALP) term ended on 21 May 1997.

³⁰ Dianne Guise (ALP), Carol Martin (ALP), Margaret Quirk (ALP), Jaye Radisich (ALP) and Dr Janet Woollard (Ind) elected. Hilda Turnbull (Nat), June van de Klashorst (Lib), Rhonda Parker (Lib), Megan Anwyl (ALP) and Monica Holmes (Lib) were unsuccessful in retaining their seats. Diana Warnock (ALP) did not contest.

³¹ Helen Hodgson (Dem) defeated, Cheryl Davenport (ALP) and Muriel Patterson (Lib) did not contest their seats. Kate Doust (ALP), Sue Ellery (ALP), Adele Farina (ALP), Robyn McSweeney (ALP), Dee Margetts (GWA) and Louise Pratt (ALP) elected.

³² Sue Walker (Lib) elected MLA for Nedlands at the by-election on 9 June 2001, caused by the resignation of Richard Court.

³³ Lynn MacLaren elected for the South Metropolitan Region on 15 February 2005 to fill casual vacancy to 22 May 2005 caused by the resignation of Jim Scott who unsuccessfully contested the seat of Fremantle in the Legislative Assembly.

³⁴ Cheryl Edwardes (Lib) retired. Judith Hughes (ALP) elected to the seat of Kingsley.

³⁵ Christine Sharp (GWA) did not contest a seat, Dee Margetts (GWA) and Lynn MacLaren (GWA) were defeated. Shelley Archer (ALP), Sheila Mills (ALP), Helen Morton (Lib), Margaret Rowe (Lib), Sally Talbot (ALP) and Donna Taylor (Lib) elected.

³⁶ On 22 June 2007 Margaret Rowe (Lib) resigned from the Legislative Council due to ill health. Brian Ellis (Lib) elected to fill the vacancy caused by her resignation.

³⁷ Louise Pratt (ALP) resigned on 29 October 2007 to contest a seat in the Australian Senate. Bantong Vu Pham (ALP) elected to fill the vacancy caused by her resignation.

³⁸ Wendy Duncan (Nat) was elected to Legislative Council on 29 January 2008 to fill a vacancy consequent upon the resignation of Hon Murray Criddle.

³⁹ Dr Judith (Judy) Edwards (ALP), Katie Hodson-Thomas (Lib), Sheila McHale and Jaye Radisich (ALP) retired from the Legislative Assembly and did not contest a seat in the 6 September 2008 election. Dianne Guise (ALP), Judith (Judy) Hughes (ALP) and Sue Walker (Ind) were defeated. Lisa Baker (ALP), Janine Freeman (ALP), Liza Harvey (Lib), Andrea Mitchell (Lib) and Rita Saffioti were elected to the Legislative Assembly.

⁴⁰ Carolyn Burton (ALP) and Shelley Eaton (ALP) were elected to the Legislative Council on 17 September 2008 to fill vacancies due to the resignation of Hon Graham Giffard and Hon. Vincent (Vince) Catania.

Parliament	Legislative Assembly	Legislative Council	Total	Total Seats	% Female
38th Parliament (From 6 September 2008)	11 ³⁹	15	26	95 ⁴⁰	27.96
38th Parliament (From 22 May 2009)	12 ⁴¹	16 ⁴²	28	95	29.47
38th Parliament (From 22 May 2009)	12	17 ⁴³	29	95	30.53
39th Parliament (From 11 April 2013)	13	15 ⁴⁴	28	95	29.47
39th Parliament (From 18 October 2014)	14 ⁴⁵	14	28	95	26.6
39th Parliament (From 10 March 2015)	14	14 ⁴⁶	28	95	29.47
39th Parliament (From 11 October 2016)	14	15 ⁴⁷	28	95	30.53
40th Parliament (From 11 May 2017)	18 ⁴⁸	11	29	95	30.52
40th Parliament (From 23 June 2018)	19 ⁵⁰	11	30	95	31.57

⁴¹ The number of seats in the Legislative Assembly increased by two to 59 at the State General Election on 6 September 2008.

⁴² Adele Carles (GWA) won a by-election for the seat of Fremantle on 16 May 2009 caused by the retirement of Hon. Jim McGinty (ALP) vacating the seat. On 8 May 2010 she quit GreensWA, to become an Independent Green.

⁴³ The number of seats in the Legislative Council increased by two, to 36 at the State General Election on 6 September 2008. The new MLCs took their places on 22 May 2009.

⁴⁴ Linda Rosemary Savage (ALP) was elected to the Legislative Council 23 March 2010 due to the sudden death of the Hon John (Jock) Kilday Ferguson on 13 February 2010.

⁴⁵ Elizabeth (Libby) Mettam (Lib) won a by-election for the seat of Vasse on 18 October 2014 following Troy Buswell's resignation due to ill health.

⁴⁶ The number of women in the Legislative Council decreased by one on the retirement of Ljiljana Ravlich, (ALP) 10 March 2015.

⁴⁷ The number of women in the Legislative Council increased by one on 11 October 2016 when Hon Laine McDonald was elected for the North Metropolitan Region to fill casual vacancy (to 22 May 2017) caused by the retirement of Hon Ken Travers.

⁴⁸ Elise Maxine Irwin (Lib) was elected to the Legislative Council for North Metropolitan Region on 4 April 2017 to fill a vacancy upon the resignation of Hon Peter Katsambanis.

⁴⁹ The fortieth Parliament has the highest number of women in the Legislative Assembly since the first woman was elected to parliament in 1921.

⁵⁰ Alyssa Hayden (Lib) won the by-election for the seat of Darling Range on 23 June 2018 to fill a vacancy following Barry Urban's resignation, before the Parliament of Western Australia's Procedure and Privileges Committee tabled a report that recommended his expulsion.

Number of Women in Australian Parliaments, as at 10 October 2018

Parliament	ALP	LIB	NPA	LNP	GRN	IND	Other	Total MPs	No Females	% Female
Australian Capital Territory (15/10/16)										
Legislative Assembly	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	25	14	56.0
Commonwealth* (2/7/2016)										
House of Representatives	29	12	1	-	-	1	1	149	44	29.5
Senate	15	8	1	-	5	-	1	76	30	39.5
Total	44	20	2		5	1	2	225	74	32.8
New South Wales (28/3/2015)										
Legislative Assembly	14	8	3	-	2	-	-	93	27	29.0
Legislative Council	3	3	2	-	2	-	-	42	10	23.8
Total	17	11	5	-	4	-	-	135	37	27.4
Northern Territory (27/8/2016)										
Legislative Assembly	9	-	-	-	-	2	1	25	12	48.0
Queensland (25/11/2017)										
Legislative Assembly	23	-	-	6	-	1	-	93	30	32.3
South Australia (17/3/2018)										
Legislative Assembly	6	4	-	-	-	1	-	47	11	23.4
Legislative Council	3	2	-	-	1	-	1	22	7	31.8
Total	9	6			1	1	1	69	18	26.1
Tasmania (3/3/2018)										
Legislative Assembly	7	4	-	-	2	-	-	25	13	52.0
Legislative Council	2	2	-	-	-	3	-	15	7	33.3
Total	9	6	-	-	2	3	-	40	20	50.0
Victoria (29/11/2014)										
Legislative Assembly	21	7	2	-	2	1	-	88	33	37.5
Legislative Council	5	5	1	-	5	1	1	40	18	45.0
Total	26	12	3	-	7	2	2	128	51	39.8
Western Australia (11/3/2017)										
Legislative Assembly	15	3	1	-	-	-	-	59	19	32.2
Legislative Council	7	1	1	-	2	-	-	36	11	30.6
Total	22	4	2	-	2	-	-	95	30	31.5

1. The date next to each state or territory is the latest general election.
2. Includes any by-election results and any casual vacancies filled since the latest general election.
3. Information from Commonwealth Parliamentary Library

Women Members in the 40th Parliament of Western Australia

Women Members in the Legislative Assembly

No	Name	Party	Electorate	Date first elected
1.	Lisa Loraine Baker	ALP	Maylands	6 September 2008
2.	Robyn Clark	ALP	Murray-Wellington	11 March 2017
3.	Mia Jane Davies	NPA	Central Wheatbelt	9 March 2013
4.	Josie Farrer	ALP	Kimberley	9 March 2013
5.	Janine Marie Freeman	ALP	Nollamara	6 September 2008
6.	Liza Mary Harvey	Lib	Scarborough	6 September 2008
7.	Emily Hamilton	ALP	Joondalup	11 March 2017
8.	Alyssa Hayden	Lib	Darling Range	23 June 2018
9.	Simone McGurk	ALP	Fremantle	9 March 2013
10.	Elizabeth (Libby) Mettam	Lib	Vasse	18 October 2014
11.	Lisa O'Malley	ALP	Bicton	11 March 2017
12.	Margaret Mary Quirk	ALP	Girrawheen	10 February 2001
13.	Hon Michelle Hopkins Roberts	ALP	Midland	19 March 1994
14.	Cassandra (Cassie) Rowe	ALP	Belmont	11 March 2017
15.	Rita Saffioti	ALP	West Swan	6 September 2008
16.	Amber-Jade Sanderson	ALP	Morley	11 March 2017
17.	Jessica Shaw	ALP	Swan Hills	11 March 2017
18.	Jessica Stojkovski	ALP	Kingsley	11 March 2017
19.	Sabine Winton	ALP	Wanneroo	11 March 2017

Women Members in the Legislative Council

No	Name	Party	Region	Date first term
1.	Hon Jacqui Boydell	NPA	Mining and Pastoral	22 May 2013
2.	Hon Alanna Clohesy	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2013
3.	Hon Catherine (Kate) Doust	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 2001
4.	Hon Suzanne (Sue) Ellery	ALP	South Metropolitan	22 May 2001
5.	Hon Diane Evers	GWA	South West	22 May 2017
6.	Hon Donna Faragher	Lib	East Metropolitan	22 May 2005
7.	Hon Adele Farina	ALP	South West	22 May 2001
8.	Hon Alannah MacTiernan	ALP	North Metropolitan	22 May 2017
9.	Hon Samantha Rowe	ALP	East Metropolitan	22 May 2013
10.	Hon Sally Elizabeth Talbot	ALP	South West	22 May 2005
11.	Hon Alison Xamon	GWA	North Metropolitan	22 May 2017

Total Number of Women Members in the 40th Parliament

Chamber	ALP	Lib	GWA	NAT	IND	Total MPs	Female MPs	% Female
Legislative Assembly	15	2	-	1	-	59	18	30.5
Legislative Council	7	1	2	1	-	36	11	30.6
Total	22	3	2	2	-	95	29	30.5

Women Members in the McGowan Ministry March 2017

Name	Portfolio
Hon Suzanne (Sue) Ellery	Minister for Education and Training
Hon Alannah MacTiernan	Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Minister assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
Hon Simone McGurk	Minister for Child Protection, Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
Hon Michelle Roberts	Minister for Police; Road Safety
Hon Rita Saffioti	Minister for Transport; Planning and Lands

Abbreviations

ALP	Australian Labor Party
GWA	Greens (WA)
Ind	Independent
Ind GRN	Independent Green
Lib	Liberal
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council
NPA	National Party of Australia (WA) (Nationals)
NCP	National Country Party

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