

# Women in ministerial positions

The countries are ranked according to the percentage of women in ministerial positions, reflecting appointments up to 1 January 2021.

Rank	Country	Women in ministerial positions (%)
1	Nicaragua	58.8
2	Austria	57.1
3	Belgium	57.1
4	Albania	56.3
5	Rwanda	54.8
6	Costa Rica	52.0
7	Canada	51.8
8	Andorra	50.0
9	Finland	50.0
10	France	50.0
11	Guinea-Bissau**	50.0
12	Spain	50.0
13	South Africa	48.3
14	Netherlands	47.1
15	United States of America**	46.2
16	Mozambique	45.5
17	El Salvador**	45.5
18	Senegal	43.5
19	Lithuania	42.9
20	Switzerland	42.9
21	Mexico	42.1
22	Portugal	42.1
23	Germany	40.0
24	Liechtenstein	40.0
25	New Zealand	40.0
26	Republic of Moldova	40.0
27	Namibia	39.1
28	Bulgaria	38.9
29	Luxembourg	38.9
30	Belgium	37.5
31	Switzerland	36.5
32	Georgia*	36.4
33	Italy	35.4
34	Madagascar	34.9
35	Uganda	34.0
36	Grenada	33.3
37	Sao Tome and Principe**	33.3
38	Seychelles	33.3
39	South Sudan**	33.3
40	Suriname	33.3
41	Trinidad and Tobago	33.3
42	Zambia	32.3
43	Ecuador*	32.0
44	Angola	31.8
45	Guinea	31.8
46	Barbados	31.8
47	Denmark	31.6
48	Lebanon	31.6
49	Dominica	31.3
50	Panama	31.3
51	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)**	31.0
52	Chad	30.8
53	Montenegro	30.8
54	Paraguay	30.8
55	Chile	30.4
56	Kenya	30.0
57	Maldives	30.0
58	Luxembourg	29.4
59	Tunisia	29.2
60	Ireland	28.6
61	Saint Lucia*	28.6
62	Norway	28.6
63	Guinea**	27.8
64	Republic of Korea	27.8
65	Cyprus	27.3
66	United Arab Emirates	27.3
67	Gambia	26.7
68	Australia	25.0
69	Haiti*	25.0
70	Israel	25.0
71	Egypt	24.2
72	United Kingdom	23.8
73	Croatia	23.8
74	Fiji	23.1
75	Gabon*	23.1
76	Latvia	22.9
77	Cuba	22.6
78	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	22.2
79	Lesotho	22.2
80	Palau	22.2
81	Mauritania	21.3
82	Congo*	21.2
83	North Macedonia	21.2
84	Benin*	20.8
85	Zimbabwe	20.8
86	Central African Republic*	20.8
87	Chad	20.0
88	Sierra Leone	20.0
89	Slovakia	20.0
90	Slovenia	20.0
91	Bosnia and Herzegovina*	18.8
92	Mongolia	18.8
93	Argentina	18.8
94	Sierra Leone	18.2
95	United States of America**	18.2
96	Democratic Republic of the Congo	17.8
97	United Kingdom	17.8
98	Indonesia	17.4
99	Dominican Republic*	17.4
100	Maldives	17.4
101	Malaysia	16.7
102	Nauru*	16.7
103	Maldives	16.0
104	Botswana	15.8
105	Monrovia	15.8
106	Niger	15.8
107	Niger	15.8
108	Sierra Leone	15.4
109	Sierra Leone	15.4
110	Malta	15.0
111	Timor-Leste	15.0
112	Cameroon*	14.9
113	Algeria	14.7
114	Cabo Verde	14.3
115	Estonia	14.3
116	Uruguay	14.3
117	Uruguay	14.3
118	Sierra Leone	13.8
119	Nepal	13.6
120	Ukraine	13.6
121	Guatemala*	13.3
122	Mauritius	13.0
123	Mauritius	13.0
124	Cote d'Ivoire	12.8
125	Ukraine	12.8
126	Mauritius	12.8
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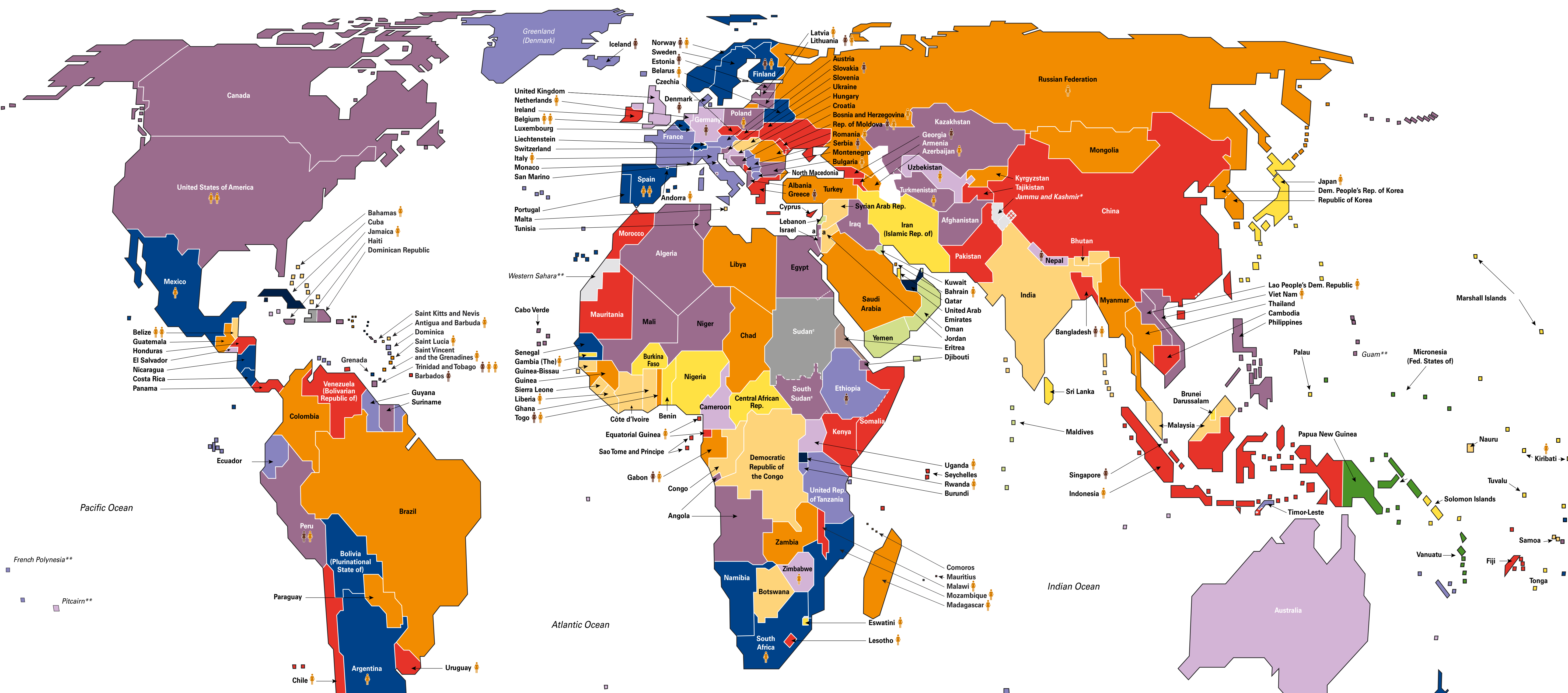


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# Women in Politics: 2021



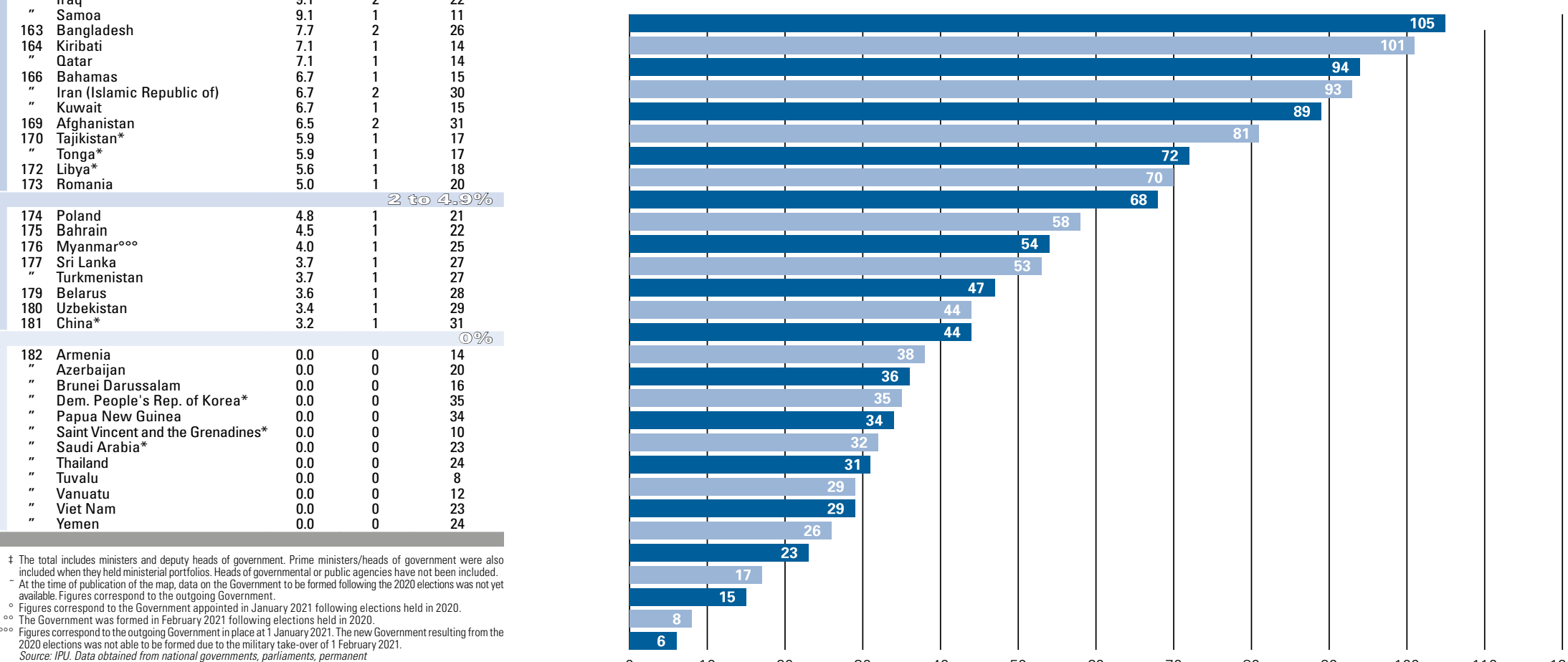
Situation on 1 January 2021



**About this map**  
The colour coding of the countries reflects the percentage of women in ministerial positions or in the lower house of parliament, and corresponds to the data found in the world ranking of women in parliament on the right-hand side of the map. A world ranking of women in ministerial positions is on the left-hand side of the map. All data reflects the situation on 1 January 2021. As the source of the data presented here, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is responsible for the criteria applied in displaying the information. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UN Women or of the IPU concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. \* Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. \*\* Non Self-Governing Territory  
a. State of Palestine (women in ministerial positions: 3/23 = 13% as at 1 January 2020); women in parliament: the Palestinian Legislative Council was dissolved in December 2018.  
b. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).  
c. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.  
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Contacts:  
Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)  
E-mail: postbox@ipu.org  
www.ipu.org  
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)  
www.unwomen.org

## Portfolios held by Women Ministers

(1432 portfolios in 193 countries)



- Environment/Natural Resources/Energy
- Social Affairs
- Family/Children/Youth/Elderly/Disabled
- Employment/Labour/Vocational Training
- Education
- Culture
- Home Affairs/Immigration (including Integration and Refugees)
- Women's Affairs/Gender Equality
- Trade/Industry
- Foreign Affairs (including Development Assistance)
- Research and Development/Science and Technology
- Agriculture/Food/Forestry/Fishing
- Public Works/Territorial Planning
- Health
- Justice
- Tourism
- Public Administration/Public Service
- Sports
- Housing and Urban Affairs
- Communications/Telecommunications/Postal Affairs
- Local Government
- Defence and Veteran Affairs
- Economy/Development
- Human Rights
- Finance/Budget
- Information/Media
- Transport
- Parliamentary Affairs
- Population

## Women in the highest positions of State

**Women heads of state\* (9/152 = 5.9%) and women heads of government (13/193 = 6.7%)**

Bangladesh (HG), Barbados (HG), Denmark (HG), Estonia (HS), Ethiopia (HS), Finland (HG), Gabon (HG), Georgia (HS), Germany (HG), Greece (HS), Iceland (HG), Lithuania (HG), New Zealand (HG), Norway (HG), Peru (HG), Republic of Moldova (HS), Serbia (HG), Singapore (HS), Slovakia (HS), Togo (HG), United States of America (HS), Trinidad and Tobago (HS)

**Women speakers of parliament\* (58/277 = 20.9%)**

Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium (2 chambers), Belize (2 chambers), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Finland, Gabon, Gambia (The), Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Spain (2 chambers), Togo, Trinidad and Tobago (2 chambers), Turkmenistan, Uganda, United States of America (2 chambers),\*\* Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

**Women deputy speakers of parliament (165/582 = 28.3%)**

Of the 224 chambers in 163 countries for which information is available, 117 have at least one woman deputy speaker.

\* Only elected heads of state have been taken into account.  
\*\* Of a total of 272 Parliamentary chambers, two have 2 additional Speakers and three have 1 additional Speaker, for a total of 279 Speakers. At 1 January 2021, there were 2 vacancies.  
\* The woman Vice President became President of the Senate upon her taking office on 20 January 2021, as a result of the November 2020 elections.

## World and regional averages of women in parliament

Region	Single house or lower house	Upper house or Senate	Both houses combined
<b>World average</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>
<b>Regional averages</b>			
<b>Nordic countries</b>	<b>44.5%</b>	—	—
<b>Americas</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>32.4%</b>
<b>Europe (Nordic countries included)</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>30.4%</b>
<b>Europe (Nordic countries not included)</b>	<b>29.1%</b>	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	<b>25.1%</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>
<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>17.8%</b>
<b>Pacific</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>44.9%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>

## Women in parliament

The countries are ranked and colour-coded according to the percentage of women in unicameral parliaments or the lower house of parliament, reflecting elections/appointments up to 1 January 2021.

Rank	Country	Lower or single house (%)	Upper house or Senate (%)	Both houses combined (%)
1	Rwanda	61.3	49.0	55.2
2	Cuba	53.4	31.3/58.6	33.3
3	United Arab Emirates	50.0	29.4	39.4
4	Nicaragua	48.4	47.9	48.2
5	New Zealand	48.3	58/120	—
6	Mexico	47.0	241/500	49.2
7	Sweden	47.0	164/349	63/128
8	Grenada	46.7	7/15	15.4
9	Andorra	46.4	12/15	27/33
10	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	46.2	60/130	55.6
11	Finland	46.0	82/203	54.0
12	South Africa	45.9	182/397	41.5
13	Costa Rica	45.8	—	—
14	Norway	44.4	75/169	—
15	Kambija	44.2	11/15	14.3
16	Spain	44.0	154/350	40.8
17	Singapore	43.0	17/155	10.0/28.5
18	Argentina	42.4	109/257	40.3
19	Mozambique	42.4	102/252	40.3
20	Belgium	42.0	63/150	45.0
21	Switzerland	42.0	84/200	46.1
22	Belarus	40.0	44/110	25.0
23	Portugal	40.0	92/230	—
24	Austria	39.9	73/183	42.6
25	Denmark	39.7	11/178	39.7
26	Iceland	39.7	25/63	—
27	France	39.6	228/577	34.8
28	Ecuador	39.4	54/137	—
29	North Macedonia	39.2	54/137	—
30	Serbia	39.2	88/250	—
31	Chad	39.2	54/137	—
32	Timor-Leste	38.5	25/65	—
33	Suriname	38.5	25/65	—
34	United Republic of Tanzania	38.4	141/384	—
35	Guyana	38.2	29/70	—
36	Turkey	37.7	63/169	—
37	Uganda	34.9	160/459	—
38	Dominica	34.4	11/32	—
39	Cameroon	33.8	180	26.0
40	United Kingdom	33.9	220/650	21.9
41	Sri Lanka	33.8	29/85	—
42	Monaco	33.3	8/24	—
43	Netherlands	33.3	29/85	28.7
44	San Marino	33.3	20/60	—
45	Chad	33.3	20/60	—
46	Uzbekistan	33.3	20/60	—
47	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	33.3	20/60	—
48	Uzbekistan	33.3	20/60	—
49	Uzbekistan	33.3	20/60	—
50	Australia	31.3	39/75	—
51	Croatia	31.1	47/151	—
52	Angola	29.6	65/220	—
53	Canada	29.5	38/122	49.5
54	Albania	29.5	38/122	—
55	Singapore	29.5	29/85	—
56	Suriname	29.4	15/51	—
57	Latvia	29.0	29/100	—
58	Jamaica	28.6	18/63	38.1
59	South Sudan	28.6	18/63	—
60	Poland	28.3	130/450	24.0
61	Philippines	28.0	85/304	29.2
62	Dominican Republic	27.9	180	12.9
63	Estonia	27.7	28/101	—
64	Lithuania	27.4	39/141	—
65	Lao People's Dem. Republic	27.5	41/149	—
66	United States of America	27.3	33/121	25.0
67	Maldives	27.3	33/121	—
68	Kenya	27.1	65/240	18.8
69	Bulgaria	27.1	65/240	—
70	Kazakhstan	27.1	65/240	—
71	Alghanistan	27.0	67/248	27.9
72	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	27.0	67/248	—
73	Slovenia	26.7	24/90	10.0
74	Cabo Verde	26.7	24/90	—
75	Viet Nam	26.7	24/90	—
76	Tajikistan	26.7	24/90	—
77	Tajikistan	26.7	24/90	—
78	Bosnia and Herzegovina	26.2	11/42	20.0
79	Djibouti	26.2	11/42	—
80	Peru	26.2	34/130	40.6
81	Trinidad and Tobago	26.2	34/130	—
82	Algeria	26.0	120/452	5.7
83	Niger	26.0	43/160	—
84	Saint Kitts and Nevis	26.0		