WOMEN POLITICAL LEADERS 2026

UN WOMEN — FOR ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women in political executive positions: Heads of State, Heads of Government, and Cabinet members heading Ministries as at 1 January 2026

Women Cabinet Ministers 2026

The countries are ranked according to the share of women Cabinet members who head ministries as at 1 January 2026.

	Rank	Country	Total Ministers[1]	Women	%Women
50 - 64.3%	1	Namibia	14	9	64.3
	2	Finland	18	11	61.1
	3	Nicaragua	15	9	60.0
	4	Colombia[2]	18	10	55.6
	5	Australia	22	12	54.5
	6	Sweden	23	12	52.2
	7	Canada	26	13	50.0
	"	Ecuador	14	7	50.0
	"	Germany	16	8	50.0
	"	Guatemala	14	7	50.0
	"	Iceland	10	5	50.0
	"	Seychelles	16	8	50.0
	"	Spain	22	11	50.0
	"	United Kingdom	18	9	50.0
40 - 49.9%	15	Mexico	21	10	47.6
	16	Norway	19	9	47.4
	17	Albania	13	6	46.2
	"	Andorra	13	6	46.2
	19	Chile	24	11	45.8
	20	Ethiopia	22	10	45.5
	21	France	20	9	45.0
	22	South Africa	32	13	40.6
	23	Liechtenstein	5	2	40.0
	"	Monaco	5	2	40.0
	"	Sao Tome and Principe	10	4	40.0
35 - 39.9%	26	Austria	13	5	38.5
	"	Dominica	13	5	38.5
	28	El Salvador	16	6	37.5
	"	Micronesia (Federated States of)	8	3	37.5
	"	Portugal	16	6	37.5
	31	Guyana	19	7	36.8
	"	Slovenia	19	7	36.8
	33	Estonia	11	4	36.4
	34	Gabon	28	10	35.7
	"	Lithuania	14	5	35.7
	"	Uruguay	14	5	35.7
	37	Liberia	17	6	35.3
	"	Panama	17	6	35.3
	39	New Zealand	20	7	35.0
30 - 34.9%	40	Armenia	12	4	33.3
	"	Cyprus	18	6	33.3
	"	Denmark	24	8	33.3
	"	Honduras	24	8	33.3
	"	Luxembourg	15	5	33.3
	"	Madagascar	27	9	33.3
	"	Sierra Leone	27	9	33.3
	"	Uganda	21	7	33.3
	"	United States of America	15	5	33.3
	49	Serbia	25	8	32.0
	50	Poland	19	6	31.6
	51	Burundi	13	4	30.8
	"	Grenada	13	4	30.8
	53	Kenya	23	7	30.4
25 - 29.9%	54	Angola	24	7	29.2
	55	Brazil	31	9	29.0
	56	Belgium	14	4	28.6
	"	Costa Rica	21	6	28.6
	"	Georgia	14	4	28.6
	"	Ireland	14	4	28.6
	"	Latvia	14	4	28.6
	"	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	14	4	28.6
	"	Switzerland	7	2	28.6
	63	Montenegro	25	7	28.0
	64	Barbados	18	5	27.8
	"	Malawi	18	5	27.8
	"	Mozambique	18	5	27.8
	67	Eritrea*	15	4	26.7
	"	Jamaica	15	4	26.7
	69	Benin	19	5	26.3
	"	Morocco	19	5	26.3
	"	Rwanda	19	5	26.3
	72	Mauritania	27	7	25.9
	73	Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	35	9	25.7
	74	Democratic Rep. of the Congo	40	10	25.0
	"	Eswatini	20	5	25.0
	"	Greece	20	5	25.0
	"	Italy	16	4	25.0
	"	Saint Kitts and Nevis	8	2	25.0
20 - 24.9%	79	Zimbabwe	25	6	24.0
	80	Paraguay	17	4	23.5
	"	Suriname	17	4	23.5
	82	Bahrain	22	5	22.7
	"	Lebanon	22	5	22.7
	84	Argentina	9	2	22.2
	"	Bahamas	18	4	22.2
	"	Croatia	18	4	22.2
	"	Haiti	18	4	22.2
	"	Republic of Korea	18	4	22.2
	"	Togo	18	4	22.2
	90	Algeria	32	7	21.9
	"	Guinea	32	7	21.9
	92	Djibouti	23	5	21.7
	"	Guinea-Bissau*	23	5	21.7
	"	Israel	23	5	21.7
	"	United Republic of Tanzania	23	5	21.7
	96	Congo	37	8	21.6
	97	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	14	3	21.4
	"	Nepal	14	3	21.4
	"	Republic of Moldova	14	3	21.4
	100	Ghana	19	4	21.1
	"	Peru	19	4	21.1
	"	Thailand	19	4	21.1
	103	Niger	24	5	20.8
	"	Tunisia	24	5	20.8
	105	Côte d'Ivoire	30	6	20.0
	"	Timor-Leste	20	4	20.0
	"	Ukraine	15	3	20.0
15 - 19.9%	108	Central African Republic	31	6	19.4
	109	Bangladesh	21	4	19.0
	"	Kazakhstan	21	4	19.0
	"	United Arab Emirates	21	4	19.0
	112	Cameroon	32	6	18.8
	113	Mali	27	5	18.5
	114	Cuba	22	4	18.2
	115	South Sudan*	34	6	17.6
	116	Philippines	23	4	17.4
	"	Trinidad and Tobago	23	4	17.4
	118	Botswana	18	3	16.7
	119	Chad	25	4	16.0
	"	Senegal	25	4	16.0
	121	Japan[3]	19	3	15.8
	"	North Macedonia	19	3	15.8
	123	Lao People's Democratic Rep.*	13	2	15.4
	"	Saint Lucia	13	2	15.4
	"	Zambia	26	4	15.4
10 - 14.9%	126	Czechia	14	2	14.3
	"	Gambia	21	3	14.3
	"	Kiribati	14	2	14.3
	"	Palau	7	1	14.3
	"	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	14	2	14.3
	"	Tajikistan	14	2	14.3
	132	Fiji	22	3	13.6
	133	Comoros*	15	2	13.3
	"	Romania	15	2	13.3
	"	Singapore	15	2	13.3
	"	Slovakia	15	2	13.3
	137	Iraq	23	3	13.0
	"	Libya	23	3	13.0
	"	Oman	23	3	13.0
	140	Antigua and Barbuda	8	1	12.5
	"	Bosnia and Herzegovina	8	1	12.5
	"	Cabo Verde	16	2	12.5
	"	Malta	16	2	12.5
	"	Mongolia	16	2	12.5
	"	Naoero	8	1	12.5
	146	Kuwait	17	2	11.8
	"	Lesotho	17	2	11.8
	148	Bhutan	9	1	11.1
	"	Cambodia	27	3	11.1
	"	Kyrgyzstan	18	2	11.1
	"	Malaysia	27	3	11.1
	"	Qatar	18	2	11.1
	153	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	28	3	10.7
	154	Egypt	29	3	10.3
	155	Brunei Darussalam	10	1	10.0
	"	Maldives	20	2	10.0
	"	San Marino	10	1	10.0
2%-9.9%	158	Indonesia	41	4	9.8
	159	Burkina Faso	21	2	9.5
	"	Dominican Republic	21	2	9.5
	"	Russian Federation	21	2	9.5
	"	Solomon Islands	21	2	9.5
	"	Sudan*	21	2	9.5
	164	Tonga	11	1	9.1
	165	Sri Lanka	23	2	8.7
	166	Nigeria	35	3	8.6
	167	China*	24	2	8.3
	"	Mauritius	24	2	8.3
	169	Jordan	26	2	7.7
	170	Viet Nam[4]	14	1	7.1
	171	Samoa	15	1	6.7
	172	Türkiye	17	1	5.9
	173	Belize	18	1	5.6
	"	India	36	2	5.6
	175	Bulgaria	19	1	5.3
	176	Equatorial Guinea*	20	1	5.0
	"	Uzbekistan	20	1	5.0
	178	Syrian Arab Republic*	23	1	4.3
	179	Belarus	24	1	4.2
	180	Somalia	25	1	4.0
	181	Pakistan	29	1	3.4
	182	Papua New Guinea	37	1	2.7
0%	183	Azerbaijan	16	0	0.0
	"	Hungary	11	0	0.0
	"	Marshall Islands	9	0	0.0
	"	Saudi Arabia	24	0	0.0
	"	Turkmenistan*	20	0	0.0
	"	Tuvalu	9	0	0.0
	"	Vanuatu*	12	0	0.0
	"	Yemen	24	0	0.0

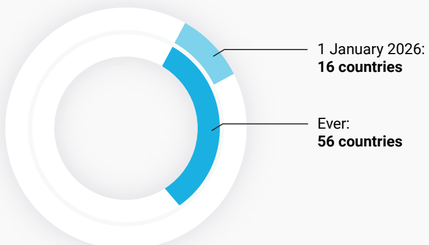
Information not available:
Afghanistan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar

Based on United Nations Geospatial, Map No.4687, Rev.2, August 2026, based on UN Women data. The colour coding of the countries on the map reflects the percentage of women among Cabinet members who head Ministries, and corresponds to the data found in the world ranking of countries on the left-hand side of the map. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. 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. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. 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).

Countries with women in the highest position of State

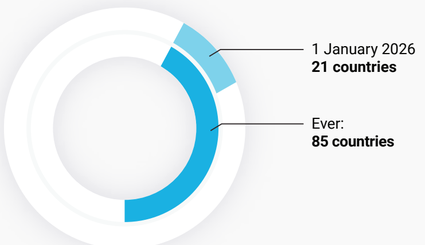
Heads of State

Excludes countries with monarchy-based systems



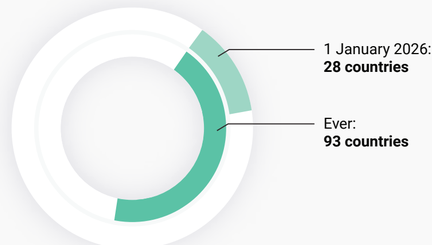
Dominica, Honduras,*** Iceland,** India, Ireland, Malta, Marshall Islands,*** Mexico,*** Namibia,*** Nicaragua,*** North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Suriname,*** Trinidad and Tobago,** and the United Republic of Tanzania***

Heads of Government



Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Honduras,*** Iceland,** Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Marshall Islands,*** Mexico,*** Namibia,*** Nepal, Nicaragua,*** Suriname,*** Trinidad and Tobago,** Tunisia, Ukraine, and the United Republic of Tanzania***

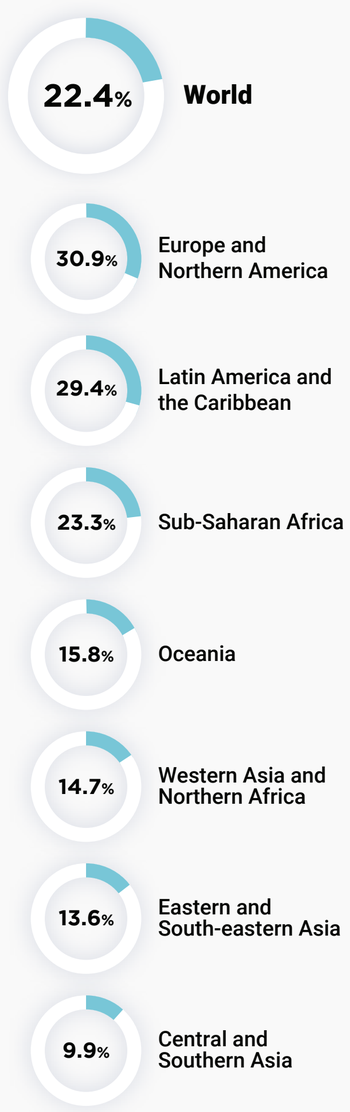
Total countries led by women



Includes countries with a woman Head of State and/or Head of Government.

Note: Includes women holding the positions of Head of State or Head of Government for 7 days or more ad interim.
**Both Head of State and Head of Government are women.
***A woman holds both positions of Head of State and Head of Government.

World and regional share of women Cabinet ministers



Allocation of ministerial portfolios

(based on 190 countries)

	Women/Total Cabinet ministers with the portfolio	Women (%)
Women and gender equality	78/87	90%
Family and children affairs	61/83	73%
Social affairs (general)	36/64	56%
Social inclusion and development	41/74	55%
Social protection and social security	63/158	40%
Indigenous and minority affairs	10/27	37%
Culture	66/184	36%
Tourism	46/140	33%
Youth	40/125	32%
Labour affairs	59/186	32%
Education	75/261	29%
Human rights (general)	12/42	29%
Environment	53/200	27%
Health	50/190	26%
Sport and recreation	37/143	26%
Research, science, innovation and technology	38/156	24%
Public administration	25/105	24%
Civil and other governance affairs	49/207	24%
Executive affairs	6/28	21%
Foreign affairs	44/226	19%
Economic affairs (general)	44/239	18%
Justice	33/184	18%
Industry, commerce and trade	40/232	17%
Financial and fiscal affairs	36/214	17%
Communication, information and media	29/173	17%
Housing and community infrastructure	50/310	16%
Parliamentary affairs	5/32	16%
Agriculture, food, forestry, fishing and hunting	39/269	14%
Local government affairs	15/104	14%
Defence	20/164	12%
Energy, natural resource fuels and mining	27/228	12%
Home affairs	25/226	11%
Transport	19/195	10%
Religious affairs	3/47	6%

- Human rights, gender equality & social affairs
- Recreation, culture and religion
- Economic affairs
- Education
- Governance and public affairs
- Environment
- Health
- Justice and home affairs
- Housing and community infrastructure
- Defence

Countries with gender equality portfolios

World	**87**
Sub-Saharan Africa	38
Latin America and the Caribbean	18
Europe and Northern America	10
Oceania	8
Central and Southern Asia	5
Eastern and South-eastern Asia	5
Western Asia and Northern Africa	3

Note: UN Women classification of ministerial portfolios, based on ministerial titles of Cabinet members who head Ministries. One person may hold one or more ministerial portfolios. A type of portfolio may be held by multiple ministers in a country.

Notes:
[1] The total includes women and men Cabinet members who head ministries. Heads of Government are also included where they hold ministerial portfolios.
[2] Colombia: In addition, one non-binary person is a Cabinet member who heads a ministry.
[3] Japan: Figures refer to Cabinet ministers who head ministries and ministry-equivalent entities leading the development and implementation of key policy areas.
[4] Viet Nam: In addition, one woman and two men have a ministerial-rank position in the Government.
* Publicly available information.

Source:
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