

Nev. Legislature one of highest percentages of women in country

By Audrey Carlsen and Denise Lu, New York Times

A record number of women won Nevada's primaries in June. And there is now a possibility for the Legislature to have more women than men, which would be a first in United States history. Of the states that have had primaries so far, at least eight more have a shot at reaching or surpassing the 50 percent mark in November.

To reach this milestone, however, a woman must win the general election in every district where at least one is running, a difficult feat. Some female candidates are running in districts favoring the other party, and many are challenging incumbents, who historically almost always win.

"The power of incumbency is so, so strong, particularly at the state level," said Katie Ziegler, a program manager at the National Conference of State Legislatures. "It's rare for an incumbent to lose their seat."

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