FEBRUARY 2016





HOOSIER WOMEN LEAD



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INTRODUCTION

In 2011, the Indiana Commission for Women (ICW) published *Hoosier Women Speak*, which collated program participants' opinions on issues affecting women in Indiana and identified key priorities. Those priorities were: Health-related issues, Work-based issues, Care giving, Violence against women, and Leadership. Throughout the discussions, women's leadership, particularly in policy-making offices, was identified not only as a top priority are but also as a perceived solution to other issues facing women in Indiana. If more women became leaders in their communities, at the state level, and on the national stage, participants believed that the overall discussion about issues would shift to more collaborative efforts and progress would be made in solving those issues.

The Indiana Commission for Women has been tracking women in the Indiana General Assembly since 2008, and has collated information on all elected positions since 2011. Its first report, *Women in the Indiana General Assembly: 2009 Status Report*, was published in 2009. In 2011, ICW expanded its efforts to with its *2011 Municipal Election Gender Results and Comparison*. Since 2011, ICW has continued to monitor women's progress as leaders, especially in elected offices in Indiana at the local, county, and state levels, through its *Hoosier Women Lead* initiative.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the inclusion of results from the November 3, 2015, Municipal Election, ICW has collected three election cycles, collating information from the 2011 and the 2009 municipal elections. The 2015 Municipal Elections showed little progress for women in Indiana. Overall, women gained very little from 2011 in elected positions at the city and town levels returning the percentage to the same level as 2007 (32.8%). Twenty-nine (29) counties saw no gain or loss in the percentage of women in municipal offices. In addition, where women gained in some counties, they lost in other counties. While twenty-seven (27) counties saw a net loss, thirty-six counties saw a net gain of women in municipal elected offices.

Generally speaking, the change experienced by most counties was caused by the loss or gain of only one to three women in offices. Because several counties have only a few municipal level elected positions, the percentage change of women in elected positions may appear greater. However, based on the number of women in elected positions, Hendricks County experienced the highest gain in elected positions with the gain of four (4) women in elected offices. Six counties (Elkhart, Jefferson, Johnson, St. Joseph, and Tippecanoe) experienced the greatest loss of women with three seats lost in elected offices. Those counties are.

The following report contains additional information based on the 2015 Municipal Elections results. This report collects data and reports on women in local government only. By tracking these data over the past eight years, we can begin to see whether there is progress for women holding elected office in Indiana. These benchmarks can provide the means to track women's progress and offer local communities important information for increasing diversity in local government and building the pipeline of women for higher offices in federal, state, and local governments.

Gains and Losses: 2009 - 2015

Gains

Thirty percent: In Indiana, one in three elected positions in all of municipal government are held by women

Judges: There has been a slow and steady increase of women serving as municipal level judges.

Losses

Little overall progress: Over the past three election cycles, women in municipal level elected positions saw only a 0.5% increase in 2015 from 2011, which saw a 0.5% decrease in 2011 from 2009.

Mayors: In 2015, Indiana cities lost four women who served their communities as mayors. Only 8 women now serve as mayor of any size city in Indiana.

PARTY AFFILIATION

In 2011, the Indiana Commission for Women began collecting information on political party. Information presented here is based on known affiliation. However, twenty percent of elected officials' political affiliation has not been identified, which omits a considerable amount. Of the known information, one in three women identify as either Democrat or Republican. Thirty-one percent of women in elected positions identify as Democrat; which also comprises thirty-four percent of Democratic office holders. While thirty-six percent of women identify as Republican, women make up only twenty-nine percent of Republican office holders. Ten percent of women identify as Independent.

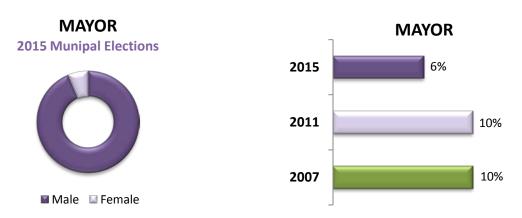
	2015 Election Results														
	Total			Male		Female									
Party	#	#	%	% Men	% Total	#	%	% Women	% Total						
Democrat	984	645	66%	29%	20%	339	34%	31%	10%						
Republican	1313	930	71%	42%	28%	383	29%	36%	12%						
Independent	319	215	67%	10%	7%	104	33%	10%	3%						
Other Parties	13	9	69%	0.4%	0.3%	4	31%	0.4%	0.1%						
Not Known	654	407	62%	18%	12%	247	38%	23%	8%						
	3283	2206	67%	100%	67%	1077	33%	100%	33%						

MAYOR

After the 2015 General Elections, women held only 6% of Mayoral seats, which is a decrease of 3.3% from 2011 when women held 10% of the seats. That six percent translates to eight women who serve as Mayors. Of those eight women, only one woman serves as Mayor of a major city with a population above 30,000 (Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson). Of the other women serving as Mayors, two women serve as Mayors of cities with populations between 10,000 and 25,000; one is Mayor of a city with a population between 5,000 and 10,000; and five are Mayors of cities with populations under 5,000.

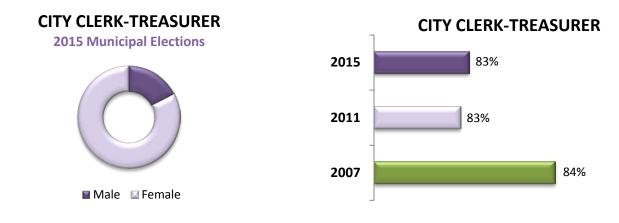
List of Female Mayors in Indiana

Bedford	Shawna Girgis
Cannelton	Mary Snyder
Gary	Karen Freeman-Wilson
Kendallville	Suzanne Handshoe
LaPorte	Blair Milo
Ligonier	Patricia Fisel
Montpelier	Kathy Bantz
Rockport	Gay Ann Harney



CITY CLERK-TREASURER

Of all municipal level offices, women hold the majority of Clerk-Treasurer seats, comprised of over eighty-three percent of the seats. This number has remained relatively steady through the past three election cycles. The relative high percentage of women in this particular office is consistent with general thought on women in political leadership. Whereas men tend to run for offices that are more policy-making and/or command-and-control type roles, women tend to run for offices that are more administrative and that are more constituent-facing.



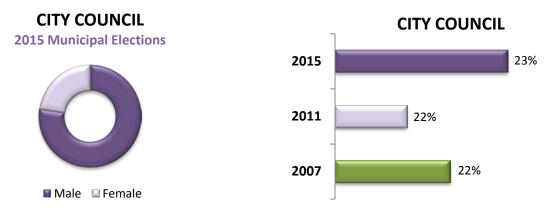
Definition: City Clerk-Treasurers

In Indiana every city (except Indianapolis) must elect a clerk or clerk-treasurer. The duties of the clerk/clerk-treasurer include: keeping record of city council proceedings; preparing ordinance books and compiling ordinances; retaining charge of city documents and books; and licensing and collecting license fees. The clerk may also serve as the clerk of the city court, be empowered to administer oaths, and issue processes and affix the seal of the court to documents of that court.

- From Here is Your Indiana Government (2013), Indiana Chamber of Commerce

CITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

The number of city and town council seats in Indiana held by women has remained relatively steady of the past three election cycles. After the 2015 Municipal Elections, women now hold approximately 22.7% of City and Town Council seats, which is essentially the same in 2011 (22.0%) and 2007 (22.3%).



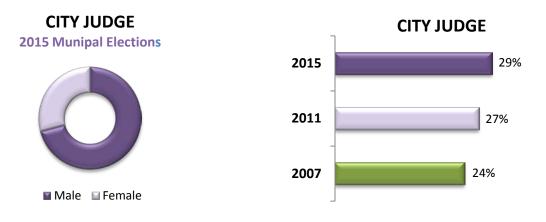
Definition: City / Town Councils

Civil cities are responsible for administration of civil affairs of a city. The mayor is the chief administrative official and the city council is the legislative and fiscal body. Civil towns are responsible for the administration of civil town affairs. The town council and subordinate officials carry out the administrative, fiscal, and legislative functions.

- From Here is Your Indiana Government (2013), Indiana Chamber of Commerce

CITY JUDGE

After the 2015 Municipal Elections, women hold about 29% Judgeships on Municipal Courts. This particular position has seen a steady increase over the past three years, going from 24% in 2007 to 27% in 2011, and 29% in 2015.



City Judge

City and town courts are established by ordinance and serve Indiana communities. They have jurisdiction over ordinance violations, misdemeanors, and infractions and, in city courts, civil cases in which the amount of dispute does not exceed \$500. The local voters elect the judges to four-year terms. The judges are not required to be lawyers.

- From Here is Your Indiana Government (2013), Indiana Chamber of Commerce

Indiana Commission for Women

Hoosier Women Lead

Gender Breakdown in 2015 Municipal Offices

Based on November 3, 2015 General Elections

By County

By County	<u>.</u>						_						_				
2015 Election Results							2011 Election Results						2007 Elected Offices ¹				
	2015	٨	Nale		Female		2011	M	ale		Female	,	2007	٨	1ale	Fe	male
County	Total	#	%	#	%	%Δ	Total	#	%	#	%	%Δ	Total	#	%	#	%
Adams	22	18	81.8%	4	18.2%	0.0%	22	18	81.8%	4	18.2%	-4.5%	22	17	77.3%	5	22.7%
Allen	54	40	74.1%	14	25.9%	0.0%	54	40	74.1%	14	25.9%	-7.4%	54	36	66.7%	18	33.3%
Bartholomew	35	23	65.7%	12	34.3%	- 2.9%	35	22	62.9%	13	37.1%	2.9%	35	23	65.7%	12	34.3%
Benton	29	18	62.1%	11	37.9%	3.4%	29	19	65.5%	10	34.5%	-2.2%	30	19	63.3%	11	36.7%
Blackford	25	17	68.0%	8	32.0%	0.0%	25	17	68.0%	8	32.0%	0.0%	25	17	68.0%	8	32.0%
Boone	51	38	74.5%	13	25.5%	-5.6%	45	31	68.9%	14	31.1%	-4.4%	45	29	64.4%	16	35.6%
Brown	6	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	0.0%	6	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	0.0%	6	5	83.3%	1	16.7%
Carroll	25	16	64.0%	9	36.0%	0.0%	25	16	64.0%	9	36.0%	4.0%	25	17	68.0%	8	32.0%
Cass	31	21	67.7%	10	32.3%	6.5%	31	23	74.2%	8	25.8%	3.2%	31	24	77.4%	7	22.6%
Clark	51	37	72.5%	14	27.5%	5.9%	51	40	78.4%	11	21.6%	3.4%	44	36	81.8%	8	18.2%
Clay	32	19	59.4%	13	40.6%	6.3%	32	21	65.6%	11	34.4%	- 3.1%	32	20	62.5%	12	37.5%
Clinton	36	20	55.6%	16	44.4%	2.8%	36	21	58.3%	15	41.7%	0.0%	36	21	58.3%	15	41.7%
Crawford	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%	0.0%	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%	0.0%	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%
Daviess	31	24	77.4%	7	22.6%	0.0%	31	24	77.4%	7	22.6%	0.0%	31	24	77.4%	7	22.6%
Dearborn	43	35	81.4%	8	18.6%	0.0%	43	35	81.4%	8	18.6%	0.0%	43	35	81.4%	8	18.6%
Decatur	19	10	52.6%	9	47.4%	8.2%	23	14	60.9%	9	39.1%	-4.3%	23	13	56.5%	10	43.5%
Dekalb	49	35	71.4%	14	28.6%	-4.8%	45	30	66.7%	15	33.3%	5.3%	50	36	72.0%	14	28.0%
Delaware	51	33	64.7%	18	35.3%	2.0%	51	34	66.7%	17	33.3%	- 2.7%	50	32	64.0%	18	36.0%
Dubois	28	21	75.0%	7	25.0%	0.0%	28	21	75.0%	7	25.0%	0.0%	28	21	75.0%	7	25.0%
Elkhart	51	37	72.5%	14	27.5%	- 5.9%	51	34	66.7%	17	33.3%	- 2.0%	51	33	64.7%	18	35.3%
Fayette	11	8	72.7%	3	27.3%	- 9.1%	11	7	63.6%	4	36.4%	9.1%	11	8	72.7%	3	27.3%
Floyd	23	20	87.0%	3	13.0%	- 8.7%	23	18	78.3%	5	21.7%	4.3%	23	19	82.6%	4	17.4%
Fountain	41	28	68.3%	13	31.7%	0.0%	41	28	68.3%	13	31.7%	4.9%	41	30	73.2%	11	26.8%
Franklin	33	25	75.8%	8	24.2%	-0.8%	32	24	75.0%	8	25.0%	0.0%	32	24	75.0%	8	25.0%
Fulton	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%	0.0%	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%	0.0%	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%
Gibson	45	30	66.7%	15	33.3%	-2.2%	45	29	64.4%	16	35.6%	-4.4%	45	27	60.0%	18	40.0%
Grant	70	55	78.6%	15	21.4%	-1.4%	70	54	77.1%	16	22.9%	-1.4%	70	53	75.7%	17	24.3%
Greene	36	23	63.9%	13	36.1%	0.0%	36	23	63.9%	13	36.1%	0.0%	36	23	63.9%	13	36.1%
Hamilton	61	46	75.4%	15	24.6%	1.0%	55	42	76.4%	13	23.6%	0.0%	55	42	76.4%	13	23.6%
Hancock	44	28	63.6%	16	36.4%	2.2%	41	27	65.9%	14	34.1%	8.0%	42	31	73.8%	11	26.2%
Harrison	40	24	60.0%	16	40.0%	4.1%	39	25	64.1%	14	35.9%	0.9%	40	26	65.0%	14	35.0%

Hendricks	61	37	60.7%	24	39.3%	6.6%	61	41	67.2%	20	32.8%	-1.6%	61	40	65.6%	21	34.4%
Henry	68	43	63.2%	25	36.8%	-0.7%	72	45	62.5%	27	37.5%	-1.4%	72	44	61.1%	28	38.9%
Howard	23	16	69.6%	7	30.4%	0.0%	23	16	69.6%	7	30.4%	0.0%	23	16	69.6%	7	30.4%
Huntington	32	21	65.6%	11	34.4%	10.1%	33	25	75.8%	8	24.2%	0.0%	33	25	75.8%	8	24.2%
Jackson	25	19	76.0%	6	24.0%	11.0%	23	20	87.0%	3	13.0%	-13.0%	23	17	73.9%	6	26.1%
Jasper	22	15	68.2%	7	31.8%	-5.0%	19	12	63.2%	7	36.8%	-5.3%	19	11	57.9%	8	42.1%
Jay	36	24	66.7%	12	33.3%	5.6%	36	26	72.2%	10	27.8%	- 2.8 %	36	25	69.4%	11	30.6%
Jefferson	20	14	70.0%	6	30.0%	-7.5%	24	15	62.5%	9	37.5%	- 2.5 %	25	15	60.0%	10	40.0%
Jennings	12	9	75.0%	3	25.0%	0.0%	12	9	75.0%	3	25.0%	6.8%	11	9	81.8%	2	18.2%
Johnson	58	44	75.9%	14	24.1%	- 6.2%	56	39	69.6%	17	30.4%	0.0%	56	39	69.6%	17	30.4%
Кпох	43	32	74.4%	11	25.6%	-4.7%	43	30	69.8%	13	30.2%	-2.3%	43	29	67.4%	14	32.6%
Kosciusko	60	37	61.7%	23	38.3%	0.0%	60	37	61.7%	23	38.3%	5.5%	61	41	67.2%	20	32.8%
Lagrange ⁴	19	16	84.2%	3	15.8%	0.0%	19	16	84.2%	3	15.8%	0.0%	19	16	84.2%	3	15.8%
Lake	153	104	68.0%	49	32.0%	2.0%	153	107	69.9%	46	30.1%	3.9%	153	113	73.9%	40	26.1%
LaPorte	67	39	58.2%	28	41.8%	7.1%	75	49	65.3%	26	34.7%	-3.9%	70	43	61.4%	27	38.6%
Lawrence	18	14	77.8%	4	22.2%	-11.1%	18	12	66.7%	6	33.3%	0.0%	18	12	66.7%	6	33.3%
Madison	94	65	69.1%	29	30.9%	0.1%	91	63	69.2%	28	30.8%	0.0%	91	63	69.2%	28	30.8%
Marion	112	79	70.5%	33	29.5%	1.9%	109	79	72.5%	30	27.5%	-6.4%	109	72	66.1%	37	33.9%
Marshall	34	18	52.9%	16	47.1%	0.2%	32	17	53.1%	15	46.9%	3.1%	32	18	56.3%	14	43.8%
Martin	15	11	73.3%	4	26.7%	6.7%	15	12	80.0%	3	20.0%	-13.3%	15	10	66.7%	5	33.3%
Miami	31	16	51.6%	15	48.4%	6.5%	31	18	58.1%	13	41.9%	0.0%	31	18	58.1%	13	41.9%
Monroe	21	13	61.9%	8	38.1%	4.8%	21	14	66.7%	7	33.3%	0.0%	21	14	66.7%	7	33.3%
Montgomery	53	32	60.4%	21	39.6%	-1.9%	53	31	58.5%	22	41.5%	-1.9%	53	30	56.6%	23	43.4%
Morgan	40	27	67.5%	13	32.5%	5.2%	44	32	72.7%	12	27.3%	2.3%	44	33	75.0%	11	25.0%
Newton ⁴	20	14	70.0%	6	30.0%	0.0%	20	14	70.0%	6	30.0%	0.0%	20	14	70.0%	6	30.0%
Noble	35	19	54.3%	16	45.7%	1.6%	34	19	55.9%	15	44.1%	5.9%	34	21	61.8%	13	38.2%
Ohio	7	6	85.7%	1	14.3%	-14.3%	7	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	0.0%	7	5	71.4%	2	28.6%
Orange	20	15	75.0%	5	25.0%	5.0%	20	16	80.0%	4	20.0%	0.0%	20	16	80.0%	4	20.0%
Owen	8	5	62.5%	3	37.5%	-12.5%	8	4	50.0%	4	50.0%	0.0%	8	4	50.0%	4	50.0%
Parke	32	19	59.4%	13	40.6%	-1.3%	31	18	58.1%	13	41.9%	0.0%	31	18	58.1%	13	41.9%
Perry	19	13	68.4%	6	31.6%	-10.5%	19	11	57.9%	8	42.1%	0.0%	19	11	57.9%	8	42.1%
Pike	15	10	66.7%	5	33.3%	- 6.7%	15	9	60.0%	6	40.0%	0.0%	15	9	60.0%	6	40.0%
Porter	71	48	67.6%	23	32.4%	1.0%	70	48	68.6%	22	31.4%	-4.4%	67	43	64.2%	24	35.8%
Posey	25	16	64.0%	9	36.0%	-4.0%	25	15	60.0%	10	40.0%	-4.0%	25	14	56.0%	11	44.0%
Pulaski	18	11	61.1%	7	38.9%	0.0%	18	11	61.1%	7	38.9%	0.0%	18	11	61.1%	7	38.9%
Putnam	31	21	67.7%	10	32.3%	-9.1%	29	17	58.6%	12	41.4%	-6.9%	29	15	51.7%	14	48.3%
Randolph	46	26	56.5%	20	43.5%	6.5%	46	29	63.0%	17	37.0%	0.0%	46	29	63.0%	17	37.0%
Ripley	33	21	63.6%	12	36.4%	3.0%	33	22	66.7%	11	33.3%	-4.6%	29	18	62.1%	11	37.9%
Rush	15	9	60.0%	6	40.0%	-6.7%	15	8	53.3%	7	46.7%	0.0%	15	8	53.3%	7	46.7%
Scott	15	12	80.0%	3	20.0%	13.3%	15	14	93.3%	1	6.7%	0.0%	15	14	93.3%	1	6.7%

			12			22 50/	F 00/	47		02 40/	2	47.60/	44.00/	47	40	70.60/	-	20.40/
Shelby		17	13	76.5%	4	23.5%	5.9%	17	14	82.4%	3	17.6%	-11.8%	17	12	70.6%	5	29.4%
Spencer		39	21	53.8%	18	46.2%	0.0%	39	21	53.8%	18	46.2%	2.0%	34	19	55.9%	15	44.1%
St. Joseph		51	33	64.7%	18	35.3%	-1.5%	57	36	63.2%	21	36.8%	1.8%	57	37	64.9%	20	35.1%
Starke		16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%	0.0%	16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%	0.0%	16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%
Steuben		39	23	59.0%	16	41.0%	-0.6%	36	21	58.3%	15	41.7%	1.7%	35	21	60.0%	14	40.0%
Sullivan		37	25	67.6%	12	32.4%	-3.9%	33	21	63.6%	12	36.4%	0.0%	33	21	63.6%	12	36.4%
Switzerland		8	3	37.5%	5	62.5%	12.5%	8	4	50.0%	4	50.0%	0.0%	8	4	50.0%	4	50.0%
Tippecanoe		41	28	68.3%	13	31.7%	- 3.1%	46	30	65.2%	16	34.8%	2.2%	46	31	67.4%	15	32.6%
Tipton		25	14	56.0%	11	44.0%	-4.0%	25	13	52.0%	12	48.0%	-4.0%	25	12	48.0%	13	52.0%
Union		10	5	50.0%	5	50.0%	10.0%	10	6	60.0%	4	40.0%	0.0%	10	6	60.0%	4	40.0%
Vanderburgh		17	10	58.8%	7	41.2%	3.7%	16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%	0.0%	16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%
Vermillion		33	23	69.7%	10	30.3%	4.7%	39	29	74.4%	10	25.6%	-2.6%	39	28	71.8%	11	28.2%
Vigo		23	18	78.3%	5	21.7%	0.9%	24	19	79.2%	5	20.8%	8.3%	24	21	87.5%	3	12.5%
Wabash		29	18	62.1%	11	37.9%	3.4%	29	19	65.5%	10	34.5%	-1.2%	28	18	64.3%	10	35.7%
Warren ⁴		16	12	75.0%	4	25.0%	0.0%	16	12	75.0%	4	25.0%	0.0%	16	12	75.0%	4	25.0%
Warrick		31	18	58.1%	13	41.9%	0.6%	29	17	58.6%	12	41.4%	0.0%	29	17	58.6%	12	41.4%
Washington		35	25	71.4%	10	28.6%	-2.9%	35	24	68.6%	11	31.4%	0.0%	35	24	68.6%	11	31.4%
Wayne		82	51	62.2%	31	37.8%	0.5%	83	52	62.7%	31	37.3%	0.0%	83	52	62.7%	31	37.3%
Wells		32	21	65.6%	11	34.4%	-3.1%	32	20	62.5%	12	37.5%	-3.1%	32	19	59.4%	13	40.6%
White		41	30	73.2%	11	26.8%	2.4%	41	31	75.6%	10	24.4%	-2.4%	41	30	73.2%	11	26.8%
Whitley		19	11	57.9%	8	42.1%	- 2.9 %	20	11	55.0%	9	45.0%	0.0%	20	11	55.0%	9	45.0%
,	Total	3283	2206	67.2%	1077	32.8%	0.5%	3277	2217	67.7%	1060	32.3%	-0.5%	3259	2189	67.2%	1070	32.8%
		- 200				22.070	21			2.1770					00	2		

By Office

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	2015 Election Results							2011 El	ection Res	ults		2007 Elected Offices ¹					
		м	ale		Female			Male		Female				Male		Female	
Office	Total	#	%	#	%	%Δ	Total	#	%	#	%	%Δ	Total	#	%	#	%
City Mayor ²	127	119	94%	8	6.3%	-3.4%	124	112	90.3%	12	9.7%	0.0%	124	112	90.3%	12	9.7%
City Judge ³	79	56	71%	23	29.1%	2.4%	75	55	73.3%	20	26.7%	2.7%	75	57	76.0%	18	24.0%
City Clerk-Treasurer ³	573	99	17%	474	82.7%	0.2%	582	102	17.5%	480	82.5%	-1.1%	585	96	16.4%	489	83.6%
City Council ³	2504	1932	77%	572	22.8%	0.9%	2496	1948	78.0%	548	22.0%	-0.3%	2475	1924	77.7%	551	22.3%
	3283	2206	67.2%	1077	32.8%	0.5%	3277	2217	67.7%	1060	32.3%	- 0.5%	3259	2189	67.2%	1070	32.8%

By Party

2015 Election Results

		Female							
					% of				% of
Party	Total	#	%	% of M	Total	#	%	% of W	Total
Democrat	984	645	66%	29%	20%	339	34%	31%	10%
Republican	1313	930	71%	42%	28%	383	29%	36%	12%
Independent	319	215	67%	10%	7%	104	33%	10%	3%
Other Parties	13	9	69%	0.4%	0.3%	4	31%	0.4%	0.1%
Not Known	654	407	62%	18%	12%	247	38%	23%	8%
	3283	2206	67.2%	100%	67%	1077	32.8%	100%	33%

¹Based on research done in 2010.

²Fishers and Zionsville elected mayors for the first time in 2015.

³Numbers may vary due to some positions being vacant at time of data collection.

⁴Did not have elections in 2015.

ABOUT THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

The Indiana Commission for Women is committed to the full participation of women in all aspects of society in order to make Indiana a better place to live, work and raise a family. Our mission is to understand the needs of Indiana women and their families, and to work strategically both within government and in our communities to help bring about positive solutions. We work to remove barriers that hinder that participation by increasing awareness of women's status and the issues they face; recognizing and promoting contributions Hoosier women make to their community, state and nation and providing balanced analysis of public policy issues that impact Indiana women. It is our hope that we can keep moving women forward by encouraging them to retrain and become more educated, to become better connected to their communities, to become aware of the opportunities and resources available, to start a business or to step forward as leaders in their industries and in their communities so that they can achieve economic stability and prosperity. We exist to voice the needs, concerns, challenges and viewpoints of women in order to ensure that women play a representative role in resolving the challenges they face.

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