

# POWER AND DECISION-MAKING

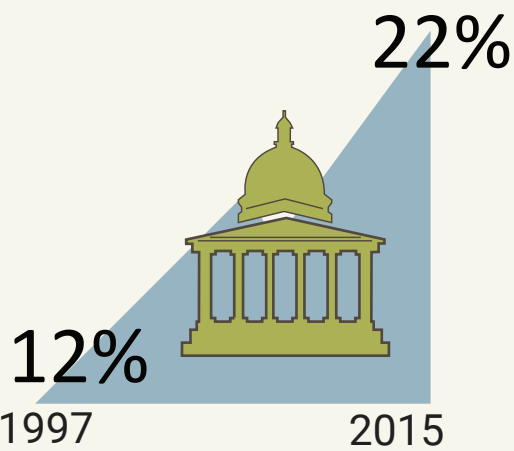
## Politics and governance

women's participation in leadership has improved, but not fast enough

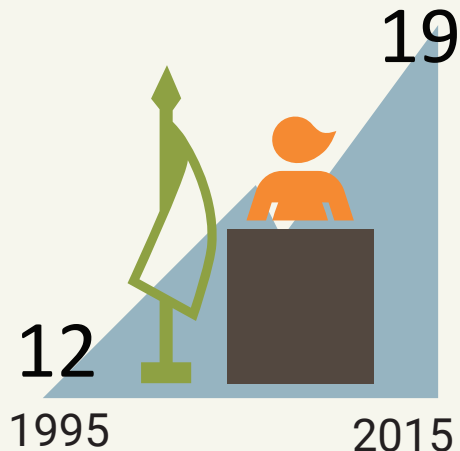
### Parliaments

### Executive branch

### Judiciary



Women's representation in lower or single houses of parliament

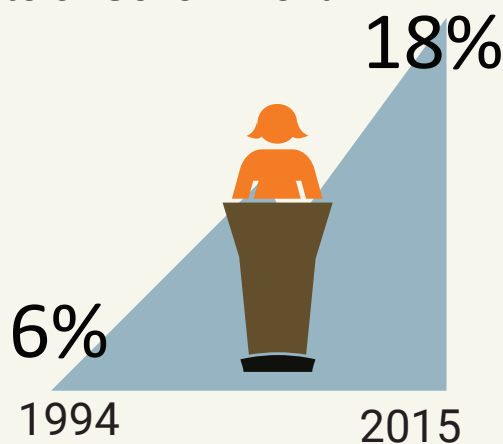


Number of female Heads of State or Government



Men outnumber women as judges and magistrates in 50% of countries

Women preside over 15% of lower or single houses, and 20% of upper houses



Women's representation among cabinet ministers

Higher up in the judicial hierarchy, women's representation declines drastically

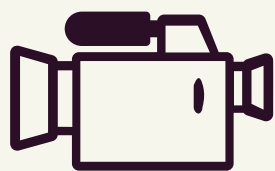
- Around 30% of electoral candidates for lower or single houses of parliament are women
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Most female appointed ministers are assigned portfolios related to social issues

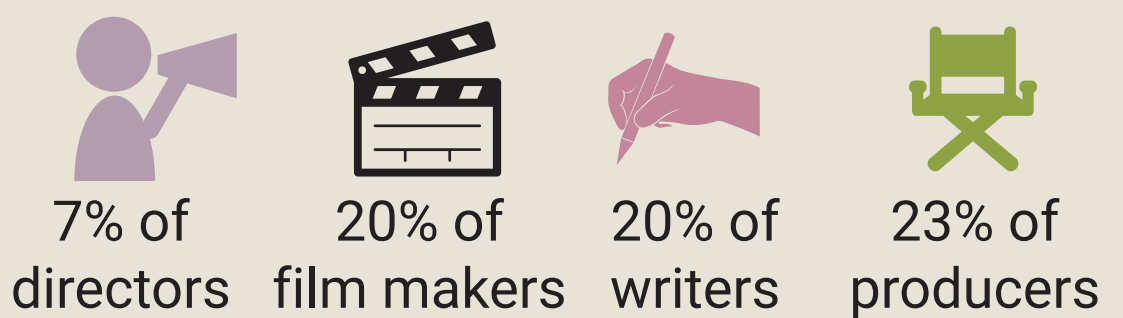


Only 19% of Supreme Courts have a female president

**The media** remains a male-dominated industry that reinforces gender stereotypes



Women in the film industry represent



## The private sector



The glass ceiling appears to be most impenetrable in the world's largest 500 corporations



Less than 4% of CEOs in the world's largest 500 corporations are women



The gender composition of executive boards is far from parity



## Power and decision-making – Key findings

- In 2015, on average, women represent 28 per cent of **candidates** in political elections for **single or lower chambers of national parliaments** and hold 22 per cent of **parliament seats**—almost double the level recorded in 1997 (12 per cent). Women preside over the lower or single houses of parliament in 28 out of 190 countries (15 per cent), and over the upper house or senate in 15 out of 76 countries (20 per cent).
- At the country level, 43 countries (23 per cent) reached or surpassed 30 per cent of women in the **single or lower houses of their national parliaments**. Only three countries have reached or surpassed the parity line of 50 per cent: Rwanda (64 per cent), Bolivia (53 per cent) and Andorra (50 per cent).
- At the other extreme, 70 countries (around 1/3) have less than 15 per cent of women in the **single or lower houses of their national parliaments**. In five of those countries, all with a relatively small population size, no women were represented as of January 2015 (Micronesia, Palau, Qatar, Tonga and Vanuatu).
- Most of the 43 countries with at least 30 per cent of representation of women in the lower or single house of parliaments have implemented some type of **gender quota**. Overall, countries with any type of gender quota have higher proportions of seats held by women in lower or single houses of parliament –26 per cent among countries with voluntary party quotas; 25 per cent among countries using legislated candidate quotas and 23 per cent among countries using reserved seats; compared to only 16 per cent among countries without any type of quota.
- As at March 2015, only 10 out of 152 elected Heads of State worldwide were women, and only 14 of 194 governments were headed by women. The total number of countries with a female **Head of State or Government** was 19, a slight improvement over the 12 countries in 1995.
- Globally, the share of women among **cabinet ministers** is 18 per cent in 2015. Although low, it represents important progress since 1994, when the average share was 6 per cent.
- Between 1994 and 2015, the number of countries with no female minister declined notably, from 59 countries to eight. Over the same period, the number of countries with 30 per cent or more **women among ministers** increased from five countries to 31. Most female appointed ministers are assigned portfolios related to social issues. By comparison, fewer female ministers have portfolios related to finance and the budget, and the economy and development. At the country level, only 5 countries have reached or surpassed gender parity among cabinet ministers: Finland (63 per cent), Cabo Verde (53 per cent), Sweden (52), France and Liechtenstein (50 per cent each).
- Fewer women than men hold **elected positions in local government** in all countries with available data. Among mayors, women tend to be elected in smaller municipalities.
- Representation of women in **key senior government positions** is far from parity. In 2015, 47 national statistical offices (25 per cent) have a woman as chief statistician; 14 central banks (8 per cent) have a woman as governor; and 40 countries (21 per cent) have a woman as their permanent representative to the United Nations at UN Headquarters.
- Women’s representation in the **judiciary** varies widely across countries. Overall, women are outnumbered by men in about half of countries. However, women’s representation declines at higher levels of the judicial hierarchy and remains far from parity among judges in the Supreme Court.
- Very few women are able to reach the position of **CEO**. At the global level, data confirm that the glass ceiling remains most impenetrable in the world’s largest corporations, which are still essentially male domains. In 2014, fewer than 4 per cent of CEOs heading the world’s 500 leading corporations were women. More than half of companies working in the materials and information technology sectors have no women among their board members.
- In the **film industry**, women represent an estimated 7 per cent of directors, 20 per cent of filmmakers, 20 per cent of writers and 23 per cent of producers. The news industry in general is dominated by men at all occupational levels. Overall, women represented an estimated 35 per cent of the news workforce in 2008 –2010. Women represented 36 per cent of junior-level professionals, 41 per cent of senior-level professionals, 27 per cent of top managers and 26 per cent of members of boards of directors.