



The American Bench, 2010 Edition **Gender Analysis of the Judiciary** **Changes from 2008 to 2009**

- I. **Federal Courts:** Includes U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. District Courts (including magistrate judges), U.S. Bankruptcy Courts and all other Federal Courts.
 - a. Total number of female judges increased by 6 (+1.2%) from 489 to 495.
 - b. Half of that increase was in the U.S. Courts of Appeals system where the number of female judges increased by 3 (+5.1%) from 59 to 62.
 - c. The total number of male judges in the Federal Court system decreased by 19 (-1.19%) from 1,768 to 1,749.
- II. **State Courts:** Includes state final and intermediate appellate courts, general jurisdiction courts, limited and special jurisdiction courts.
 - a. The total number of female judges in all U.S. state courts increased by 195 (+4.5%) from 4,325 to 4,520.
 - b. The largest increase was in state supreme courts where female justices increased by 7 (+6.7%) from 104 to 111.
- III. **State Courts – Individual states – Total judges:**
 - a. The states with the largest number of female judges are California, New York and Florida with 502, 396 and 303 judges, respectively. All 3 states experienced an increase in female judges during the last year as follows: California (+19 female judges, +3.9%), New York (+12, +3.1%) and Florida (+13, +4.5%).
 - b. The states with the highest number of female judges as a percentage of their total judges are Vermont (36, representing 39.6% of their total judges), Rhode Island (30, 34.1%) and Hawaii (30, 34.1%).
 - c. States with the lowest number of female judges as a percentage of their total judges are Wyoming (9, 15.0%), South Dakota (7, 12.7%) and Idaho (16, 11.4%).
- IV. **State Courts – Individual states – Changes in judges:**
 - a. The largest increases in female judges (percentage wise) were experienced by West Virginia (+12 female judges, +63.2% increase from last year), Louisiana (+16, +18.4%) and Arizona (+11, +16.7%).
 - b. The states with the largest decreases, percentage wise, are New Hampshire (-1 female judge, -5.9%), North Dakota (-1, -8.3%) and Idaho (-2, -11.1%).
 - c. Overall, the number of male judges decreased in the state courts by 48 (-0.3%).
 - d. The number of states in which the total number of male judges increased is 20 while the number of male judges decreased in 21 states. For female judges, 33 states saw an increase while only 5 decreased.