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## Where are the Women? How did we do?

It's been a week since the CA primary, and votes are still being counted in a few races involving women candidates. Here's what we do know:

### 1. Results

- o 76 women ran (47 D, 26 R)
- o 42 will compete in 39 November races (24 D, 18 R) - roughly the same result in 2012
- o 40% of women advancing are women of color
- o 9 non-incumbent progressive women advanced in open seats

### 2. Observations

- o In multi-candidate open seat districts with 2 or more Democratic women, a Democratic women advanced to the top two in 6 out of 7 races.
- o Money matters, but it doesn't always control the outcome.
- o No woman legislator sought any of the 8 Constitutional offices.

### 3. Lessons

- o The more women run, the more women win.
- o "Viability" should be gauged by more than money. Field, social media, organizational support, quality of the candidate matter.
- o Start early, engage organizational support, but don't count on it.

We're on it! Check out our ["16 in '16"](#) winnable open seats in 2016 and help us identify and recruit a talented progressive woman to run in each race.

June 10, 2014

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Why does it matter? Learn the latest research from the **recording** of our [webinar on Why Women](#).



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**close the gap CA** is a statewide campaign to find talented, progressive women to run for open seats in the California legislature in 2014 and 2016. With focus and a targeted strategy, we can 'close the gap' and not just the gender gap. When we elect progressive women, we take steps to close the school funding gap, the access gap to affordable health and reproductive care, and the growing gap between the wealthy and those in poverty.

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