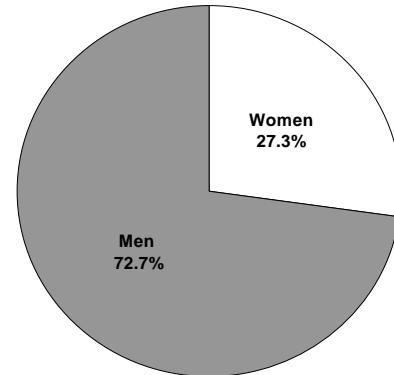


### Women serving in Minnesota District Courts

- ♦ Of 275 judges currently serving in Minnesota District Courts, 75 are women (27.3%).
- ♦ All of Minnesota's ten judicial districts have at least one woman serving as a judge.
- ♦ Lucy Wieland is currently the only female Chief District Judge in Minnesota. She has held the position of Chief Judge in District 4, serving Hennepin County, since 2004.

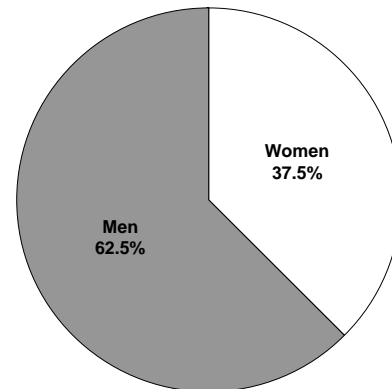
District Court Judges in Minnesota by Gender: 2007



### Women serving on the Minnesota Court of Appeals

- ♦ Of 16 judges currently serving on the Minnesota Court of Appeals, six are women (37.5%).
- ♦ Since its inception in 1983, 11 women have served on the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Only one woman, Anne V. Simonett, has been Chief Justice of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. She served in that role from 1994 to 1995.

Appellate Court Judges in Minnesota by Gender: 2007



### Women serving on the Minnesota Supreme Court

- ♦ Of seven judges currently sitting on the Minnesota Supreme Court, two are women (28.6%).
- ♦ Eight women have served as judge on the Minnesota Supreme Court since its inception in 1858.
- ♦ Only one woman, Kathleen Blatz, has served as the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. She held the position for eight years from 1998 to 2006.

### Women in the history of the Minnesota Judicial Branch

- ♦ The first woman was admitted to the Minnesota bar in 1878, 20 years after Minnesota became a state. Martha Angle Dorsett received her law degree from Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa, and successfully lobbied the Minnesota State Legislature to pass a bill in 1877 allowing women to practice law. She practiced law for 10 years.
- ♦ The first woman to serve on the Minnesota Supreme Court, Rosalie Wahl, was appointed in 1977 by Governor Rudy Perpich. She received her law degree from William Mitchell School of Law, Saint Paul, Minnesota. She served on the Supreme Court until 1994.
- ♦ Kathleen Blatz was the first and only woman to serve as the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. She was first appointed to the Supreme Court in 1996 and was made Chief Justice in 1998 and served in that role until 2006. She had previously served in the Minnesota House of Representatives from 1979 to 1994.

Sources: Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Judicial Branch  
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