

AN EQUAL VOICE PROVINCE SNAPSHOT, 2025

Yukon (Y.T.) has had one woman premier, and its legislature came very close to achieving gender parity when women and gender diverse people made up nearly half of its MLAs. The Yukon Legislative Assembly seats 19 members, of which 8 are women and gender diverse people (42.1%). Y.T.'s last election took place in April 2021.



Population
46,704



Female to Male
49.6% : 50.4%



GDP
\$3+ billion

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Y.T. has a unicameral legislature, with one chamber: the **Yukon Legislative Assembly**. As a parliamentary democracy, Y.T. has 19 constituencies which are each represented by an elected **Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)**.

The political party with the most elected MLAs forms government, and their leader becomes the head of government, called the **Premier**. The Premier selects MLAs to serve as Cabinet Ministers.

The **Commissioner of Yukon** is appointed by the Government of Canada and represents the federal government in the territory.

MILESTONES

1967

Jean Gordon was the first woman elected to the Yukon Territorial Council, a body which later became the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

1970

Hilda Watson was the first woman named to Cabinet in Y.T.

1978

Y.T. shifted to a system based in political parties, instead of only electing independent MLAs.

1978

Hilda Watson was the first woman elected to lead a political party in Y.T. and in Canada.

1979

Ione Christensen was the first woman to be appointed Commissioner of Y.T.

2000

Pat Duncan was the first woman premier of Y.T.

2002

Y.T.'s cabinet achieved gender parity, with 4 women – Pat Duncan, Sue Edelman, Pam Buckway and Cynthia Tucker – out of 7 members (57.1%). This was the first time that a Cabinet anywhere in Canada consisted of more women than men.

2021

Y.T.'s 2021 election saw a record number of women and gender diverse people win seats in the territory's legislature, with 8 women and gender diverse MLAs out of 19 (42.1%). This is the highest proportion of women and gender diverse MLAs in Y.T.'s history.



CURRENT EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION (as of Mar 2025)

Premier: Ranj Pillai (M)
Assumed office: 14 Jan. 2023
Party: Y.T. Liberal Party

7 Cabinet Members
2 women (28.6%) : 5 men (71.4%)

Notable portfolios currently held by women:

- Justice	- Education
- Health and Social Services	-- Women and Gender Equity Directorate

CURRENT LEGISLATURE

(as of Mar 2025)

19 MLAs total
7 women (36.8%) : 11 men (57.9%) : 1 non-binary person (5.3%)

MLAS PER PARTY

Y.T. Liberal Party: 8 MLAs
2 women (25.0%) : 6 men (75.0%)

Yukon Party: 8 MLAs
3 women (37.5%) : 5 men (62.5%)

Y.T. New Democratic Party: 3 MLAs
2 women (66.7%) : 0 men (0%) : 1 non-binary person (33.3%)



COMMISSIONERS (as of Mar 2025)

18 Commissioners since 1948
5 women : 13 men

Current Commissioner:
Adeline Webber (W)

PAST PREMIERS

(as of Mar 2025)

10 Premiers since 1978
1 women : 9 men

Pat Duncan: 6 May 2000 - 30 Nov. 2002