

The Pink Wave of Election 2018

Susan J. Carroll
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CAWP CENTER FOR AMERICAN
WOMEN AND POLITICS

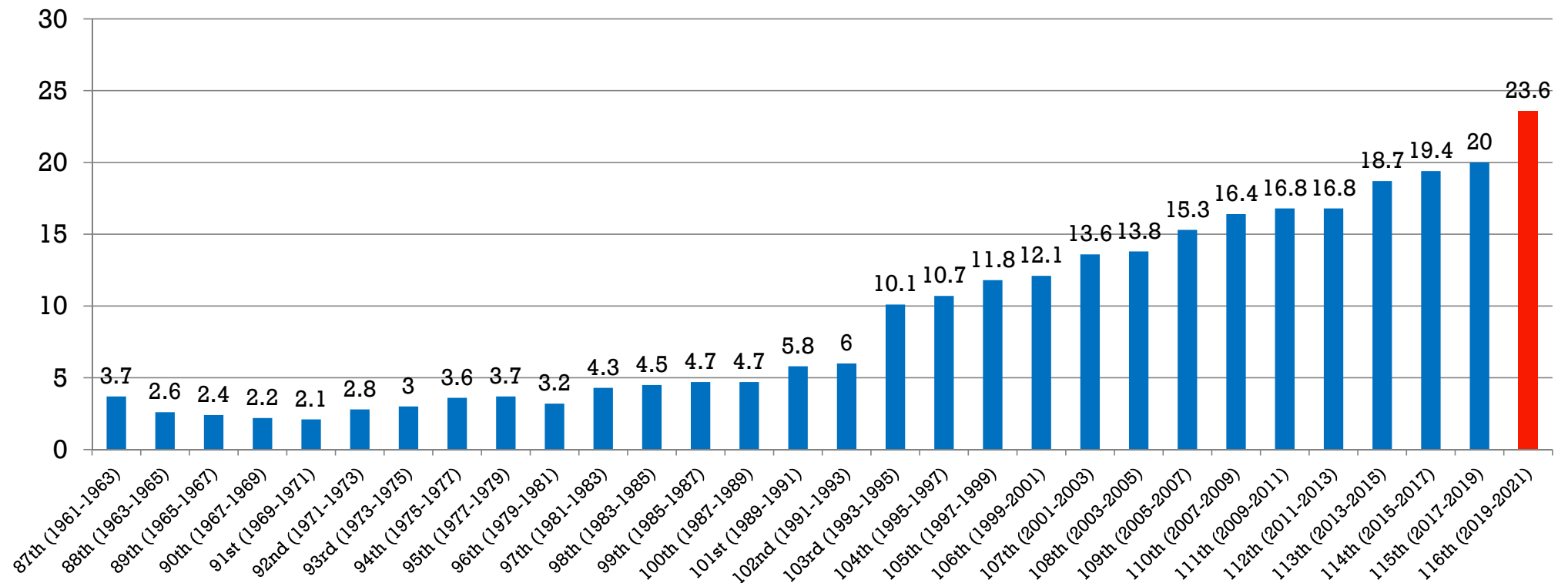
Breaking Records: Congress

A record 126 (106D, 20R) women will serve in the 116th Congress, compared with 108 (79 D, 29R) who served just before the 2018 elections

24 (17D, 7R) of these women will serve in the Senate, compared with 23 (17D, 6R) before he elections

102 (89D, 13 R) of these women will serve in the House, compared with 85 (62 D, 23R) before the elections

Percentage of Women in Congress



Breaking Records: Democrats, not Republicans

- Number of Democratic women in the House will increase by 27
- Number of Republican women in the House will decrease by 10
- Democratic women will outnumber Republican women by a ratio of almost 7:1 (89D, 13R)
- Different picture in the Senate where Republican women increased their numbers by 1, from 6 to 7, a record for Republican women, while Democrat women remained at 17; Republican women still outnumbered by Democrats by more than 2:1 (17D, 7R)

Breaking Records: Women of Color

- A record 43 (42D, 1R) women of color will serve in the U.S. House; 4 D women of color in Senate, same as now



Breaking Records: Historic Firsts

- **Deb Haaland (D-MN) and Sharice Davids are the first Native American women ever elected to the U.S. Congress.**
- **Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN) are the first Muslim women elected to Congress.**
- **Veronica Escobar (D) and Sylvia Garcia (D) will be the first Latinas to represent Texas in Congress.**

Breaking Records: The States

- At least 2088 women (1411 D, 657 R, 20 others) will serve in state legislatures next year, notably exceeding the old record of 1879
- Five new women governors were elected in 2018 -- Laura Kelly (D-KS), Janet Mills (D-ME), Gretchen Whitmer (D-MI), Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM) and Kristi Noem (R-SD)
- A total of nine women (6D, 3R) will serve as governors next year, matching the previous record from 2004 and 2007

The background features several sets of thin, curved lines in shades of gray, some solid and some dashed, sweeping across the page from the left and right sides towards the center.

Implications for the Future

- Still far from parity; lots of work to be done
- Republicans have a major “woman” problem
- Democrats have momentum with women, but what about 2020 and beyond?
- Are we seeing signs of a gender realignment?

Far from Parity
in Candidacies

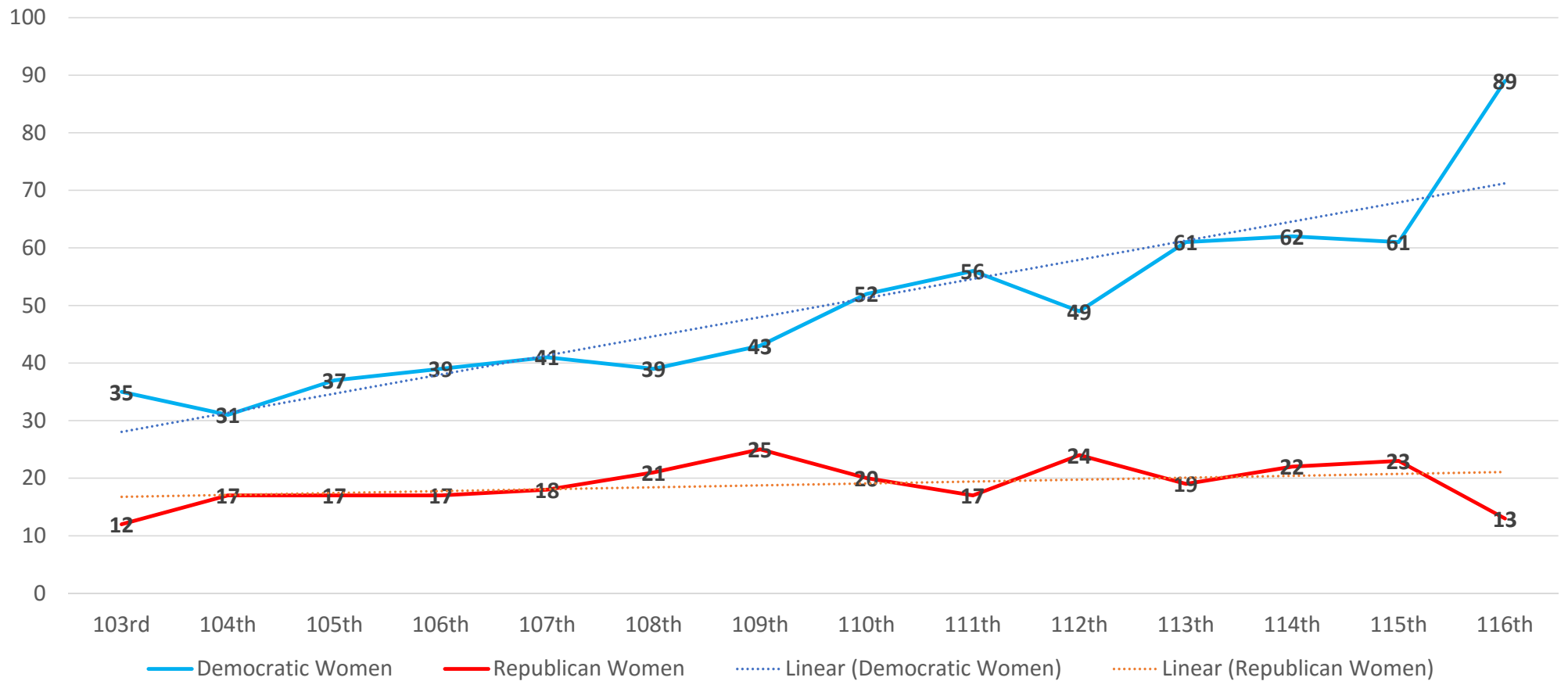
Proportion of Women among All Candidates and Nominees

	Primary Candidates	Nominees
All Major-Party		
U.S. Senate	20.8%	32.9%
U.S. House	24.2%	28.3%
Democrats		
U.S. Senate	32%	41.7%
U.S. House	32.5%	42.4%
Republicans		
U.S. Senate	14%	24.2%
U.S. House	13.7%	13.1%

Proportion of Women among All Gubernatorial Candidates & Nominees, 2018

	Primary Candidates	Nominees
All	20.3%	21.9%
Democrats	26.3%	33.3%
Republicans	13.9%	11.1%

NUMBER OF WOMEN IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY PARTY



Democratic Women

- High enthusiasm and more diverse viewpoints than ever
- But danger that expectations for the impact of newly elected Democratic women in the House may be too high
- Many newly elected Democratic women will be vulnerable in 2020
- Will record numbers of women chose to run again in 2020, or will there be retrenchment?

Gender Realignment?

- Are the party coalitions realigning, and are women becoming an increasingly large part of the Democratic base and a shrinking part of the Republican base? Or is the increasing mobilization of women as Democratic voters, activists, and candidates ephemeral?