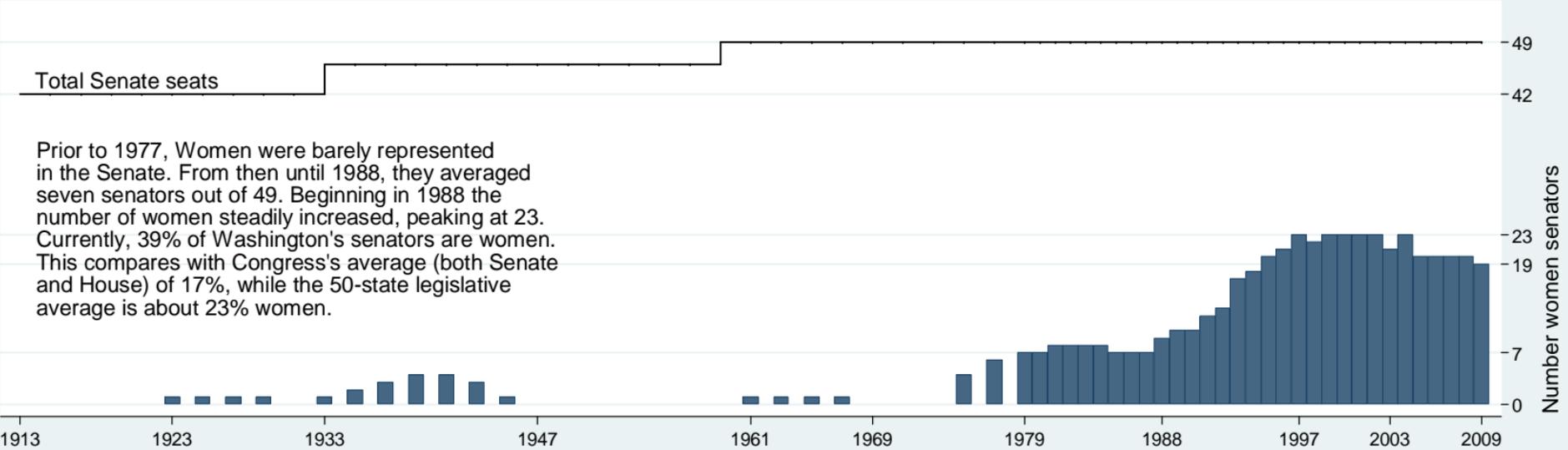


Women legislators in the Washington State Senate



Prior to 1977, Women were barely represented in the Senate. From then until 1988, they averaged seven senators out of 49. Beginning in 1988 the number of women steadily increased, peaking at 23. Currently, 39% of Washington's senators are women. This compares with Congress's average (both Senate and House) of 17%, while the 50-state legislative average is about 23% women.