Women’s History Month
Kansans Breaking Barriers

Minnie Tamar Johnson Grinstead
First female elected to the Kansas state legislature (1918)

Patricia Solander
First woman elected to the Kansas Senate (1928)

Kathryn Ellen O’Loughlin McCarthy
First Kansas woman elected to U.S. Congress (1932)

Nancy Landon Kassebaum
First woman elected to represent Kansas in the U.S. Senate (1978)

Joan Finney
First woman elected governor of Kansas (1990)

Ruby Gilbert
Appointed for the 1992 session, one of the first two African American women elected to the Kansas House. (1992)

Barbara W. Ballard
One of the first two African American women elected to the Kansas House. (1992)

Delia Garcia
First Hispanic woman elected to the Kansas House (2004)

Oletha Faust-Goudeau
First African American woman elected to the Kansas Senate (2008)

Ponka-We Victors
First Native American woman elected to the Kansas House (2010)

Susan Wagle
First woman elected Kansas Senate president (2012)

Sharice Davids
First Native American woman and openly-gay person to represent Kansas in U.S. Congress (2018)