

Figure 5.1 The majority of countries with the most women in parliament use political quotas

Rank	Country	Lower or single house of parliament			
		Date of elections	% of women in parliament	Does the country have a quota?	Types of quota*
1	Rwanda	September 2003	48.8	Yes	1
2	Sweden	September 2002	45.3	Yes	3
3	Costa Rica	February 2006	38.6	Yes	2,3
4	Norway	September 2005	37.9	Yes	3
5	Finland	March 2003	37.5	No	-
6	Denmark	February 2005	36.9	Yes	3
7	Netherlands	January 2003	36.7	Yes	3
8	Cuba	January 2003	36.0	No	-
8	Spain	March 2004	36.0	Yes	3
10	Argentina	October 2005	35.0	Yes	1, 2, 3
11	Mozambique	December 2004	34.8	Yes	3
12	Belgium	May 2003	34.7	Yes	2,3
13	Austria	November 2003	33.9	Yes	3
14	Iceland	May 2003	33.3	Yes	3
15	South Africa	April 2004	32.8	Yes	3

* There are several types of quotas, including (1) constitutional quotas; (2) election law quotas; and (3) political party quotas for electoral candidates. For definitions, see Panel, page 79.

Sources: Data are drawn from the Inter-Parliamentary Union database on 'Women in National Parliaments', <<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>>, accessed May 2006. The figures for those legislatures using quotas are derived from the Global Database of Quotas for Women, <<http://www.quotaproject.org/country.cfm>>, also accessed May 2006.