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From the South Florida Sun-Sentinel

## More women in Fla. moving into the executive suite

By Marcia Heroux Pounds | South Florida Sun-Sentinel  
6:55 PM EST, February 11, 2009

More women moved up to the executive ranks at Florida's public companies, but fewer made it to the boardroom, according to a census released Wednesday.

The number of women in executive positions, such as chief executive officer, president or chief financial officer, increased from 39 in 2006 to 49 in 2008. Not a large leap, "a notable improvement," said Evelyn D'An, who sits on two boards.

But on corporate boards, only 7.4 percent or 1,276 seats in 2008 were held by women, according to Women Executive Leadership and the [University of Miami](#), which conduct the census every two years. That's the same level as a year earlier, but down from 8.7 percent in 2006.

Sixteen of Florida's 150 public companies have two or more women directors, according to the census. In South Florida, [Office Depot](#) and [Ryder System](#) have four women directors; [FPL Group](#), [Hollywood Media](#), [Imperial Industries](#), Flanigan Enterprises and [Spherion Corp.](#) have two women directors.

Men hold 93 percent of the board seats and executive positions at Florida's 150 public companies.

Corporate acquisitions and relocations hurt the board numbers: [Claire's Stores](#), which once had four women directors, was sold; [Jacuzzi Brands](#), which once had two women directors, was acquired and moved to California.

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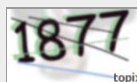
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