



Demographic Composition of the House and its Committees

Last updated December 22, 2020

Congress has historically excluded Black, Brown, and Indigenous people and women -- the majority of American citizens. However, the U.S. House of Representatives is incrementally moving toward reflecting the country that it serves. The 117th Congress will include a record number of women, Black, Latinx, AAPI, and Indigenous members, yet women as well as the Latinx and AAPI communities continue to be vastly underrepresented. Committee leadership is also becoming more demographically representative, but those changes naturally lag changes in House membership.

While both parties improved their gender balance and diversity in the 2020 election, the demographic differences between the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference are vast. Within each party, gender balance and racial/ethnic diversity varies greatly by committee.¹

Member Demographics in the House

Category	Members of the 116th Congress			Members of the 117th Congress			Share of U.S. pop. ²
	D	R ³	All ⁴	D	R	All ⁵	
White ⁶	134 (57%)	186 (94%)	320 (73%)	117 (52%)	194 (91%)	311 (71%)	72%
Black	52 (22%)	1 (1%)	53 (12%)	57 (25%)	2 (1%)	59 (13%)	13%
Latinx	35 (15%)	8 (4%)	43 (10%)	34 (15%)	12 (7%)	46 (10%)	18%
AAPI	14 (6%)	1 (1%)	15 (3%)	15 (7%)	3 (1%)	18 (4%)	6%
Indigenous	2 (1%)	2 (1%)	4 (1%)	3 (1%)	3 (1%)	6 (1%)	1%
Men	148 (62%)	183 (92%)	332 (76%)	135 (60%)	184 (86%)	319 (73%)	49%
Women	89 (38%)	15 (8%)	104 (24%)	91 (40%)	30 (14%)	121 (28%)	51%
Total⁷	237 (100%)	198 (100%)	436 (100%)	226 (100%)	214 (100%)	440 (100%)	100%

¹ Members' racial/ethnic identities are sourced from the [House Press Gallery](#). Figures include five non-voting delegates representing the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Puerto Rico's non-voting resident commissioner.

² Data from [2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates](#).

³ This number does not include Rep. Justin Amash, who left the Republican Conference during the 116th Congress and became an Independent. Rep. Amash is still included under "All." It does include Rep. Paul Mitchell who left the Republican Conference on December 14, 2020.

⁴ There are currently five vacancies in the House (CA-8, CA-50, GA-14, NC-11, and TX-4).

⁵ There is currently no certified winner for one congressional district (NY-22).

⁶ Members not listed in any other category are counted as white. Notably, the House Press Gallery does not have a list of Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) members.

⁷ Racial/ethnic percentages may not sum to 100% because of multiracial members.

Chair and Ranking Member Demographics in the House

Category	Committee Leaders, 116th Congress			Committee Leaders, 117th Congress			Share of U.S. pop.
	D	R	Total	D ⁸	R ⁹	Total	
White	16 (70%)	21 (91%)	37 (80%)	12 (57%)	17 (100%)	29 (76%)	72%
Black	4 (17%)	0 (0%)	4 (9%)	6 (29%)	0 (0%)	6 (16%)	13%
Latinx	2 (9%)	1 (4%)	3 (7%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	2 (5%)	18%
AAPI	2 (9%)	0 (0%)	2 (4%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	2 (5%)	6%
Indigenous	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1%
Men	16 (70%)	21 (91%)	37 (80%)	14 (67%)	14 (82%)	28 (74%)	49%
Women	7 (30%)	2 (9%)	9 (20%)	7 (33%)	3 (18%)	10 (26%)	51%
Total¹⁰	23 (100%)	23 (100%)	46 (100%)	21 (100%)	17 (100%)	38 (100%)	100%

Top and Bottom Committees for Each Demographic in the 116th Congress

Percentages below are the share that a member's demographic represents within all members of that political party on a committee¹¹ (as of December 18, 2020).

Women Democratic Members

Committees with Most Women Democrats

1. Homeland Security 59%
2. Education & Labor 57%
3. Appropriations 53%
4. House Administration 50% (tie)
Modernization (Select) 50% (tie)

Committees with Fewest Women Democrats

1. Natural Resources 23% (tie)
Foreign Affairs 23% (tie)
Intelligence (Perm. Select) 23% (tie)
4. Ways & Means 24%
5. Budget 27%

Women Republican Members

Committees with Most Women Republicans

1. Ethics 25% (tie)
Rules 25% (tie)
3. Modernization (Select) 20%
4. Climate Crisis (Select) 17%
5. Natural Resources 15%

Committees with Fewest Women Republicans

1. Science, Space, & Tech. 0% (tie)
House Administration 0% (tie)
Budget 0% (tie)
4. Financial Services 4%
5. Foreign Affairs 5% (tie)
Agriculture 5% (tie)

⁸ The Speaker has not yet announced chairs for the Ethics and Intelligence Committees for the 117th Congress.

⁹ The Minority Leader has not yet announced ranking members for the Ethics, House Administration, Rules, Intelligence, Climate Crisis, or Modernization of Congress Committees for the 117th Congress.

¹⁰ Racial/ethnic percentages may not sum to 100% because of multiracial members.

¹¹ Figures include the 23 House committees in the 116th Congress, including select committees.

White Democratic Members

Committees with Most White Democrats

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Science, Space, & Tech. | 90% |
| 2. Modernization (Select) | 83% |
| 3. Appropriations | 67% (tie) |
| Rules | 67% (tie) |
| 5. Veterans' Affairs | 63% |

Committees with Fewest White Democrats

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Homeland Security | 29% |
| 2. Judiciary | 39% |
| 3. Natural Resources | 42% |
| 4. Small Business | 43% |
| 5. Financial Services | 47% |

Black Democratic Members

Committees with Most Black Democrats

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Homeland Security | 53% |
| 2. House Administration | 33% |
| 3. Judiciary | 30% |
| 4. Education & Labor | 29% (tie) |
| Financial Services | 29% (tie) |
| Oversight & Reform | 29% (tie) |

Committees with Fewest Black Democrats

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Armed Services | 3% |
| 2. Science, Space, & Tech. | 5% |
| 3. Rules | 11% |
| 4. Veterans' Affairs | 13% (tie) |
| Appropriations | 13% (tie) |

White Republican Members

Committees with Only White Republicans

1. Agriculture
2. Armed Services
3. Education & Labor
4. Ethics
5. House Administration
6. Judiciary
7. Oversight & Reform
8. Climate Crisis (Select)
9. Modernization (Select)

Committees with Fewest White Republicans

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Intelligence (Perm. Select) | 75% |
| 2. Appropriations | 86% |
| 3. Small Business | 90% (tie) |
| Natural Resources | 90% (tie) |
| 5. Veterans' Affairs | 91% |

Black Republican Members

Committees with 1 Black Republican

1. Appropriations
2. Intelligence (Permanent Select)

Committees with No Black Republicans

1. Agriculture
2. Armed Services
3. Budget
4. Education & Labor
5. Energy & Commerce
6. Ethics
7. Financial Services
8. Foreign Affairs
9. Homeland Security
10. House Administration
11. Judiciary
12. Natural Resources
13. Oversight & Reform
14. Rules
15. Science, Space, & Technology
16. Small Business
17. Veterans' Affairs
18. Ways & Means
19. Climate Crisis (Select)
20. Modernization (Select)

Latinx Democratic Members

Committees with Most Latinx Democrats

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Natural Resources | 35% |
| 2. Armed Services | 23% (tie) |
| Foreign Affairs | 23% (tie) |
| 4. Climate Crisis (Select) | 22% |
| 5. Transportation & Infrastruct. | 19% (tie) |
| Veterans' Affairs | 19% (tie) |

Committees with Fewest Latinx Democrats

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Ethics | 0% (tie) |
| Science, Space, & Tech. | 0% (tie) |
| Modernization (Select) | 0% (tie) |
| 4. Budget | 5% |
| 5. Ways & Means | 8% (tie) |
| Intelligence (Perm. Select) | 8% (tie) |
| Oversight & Reform | 8% (tie) |

Latinx Republican Members

Committees with Most Latinx Republicans

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Intelligence (Perm. Select) | 13% |
| 2. Transportation & Infrastruct. | 10% |
| 3. Appropriations | 9% |
| 4. Budget | 7% |
| Homeland Security | 7% (tie) |

Committees with No Latinx Republicans

1. Agriculture
2. Armed Services
3. Education & Labor
4. Ethics
5. House Administration
6. Judiciary
7. Oversight & Reform
8. Rules
9. Small Business
10. Veterans' Affairs
11. Climate Crisis (Select)
12. Modernization (Select)

Asian American and Pacific Islander Democratic Members

Committees with Most AAPI Democrats

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Ethics | 20% |
| 2. Budget | 14% (tie) |
| Education & Labor | 14% (tie) |
| 4. Small Business | 14% |
| 5. Veterans' Affairs | 13% |

Committees with No AAPI Democrats

1. Agriculture
2. Homeland Security
3. House Administration
4. Transportation & Infrastructure
5. Modernization (Select)
6. Climate Crisis (Select)

Asian American and Pacific Islander Republican Members

Committees with 1 AAPI Republican

1. Natural Resources
2. Small Business
3. Veterans' Affairs

Committees with No AAPI Republicans

1. Agriculture
2. Appropriations
3. Armed Services
4. Budget
5. Education & Labor
6. Energy & Commerce
7. Ethics
8. Financial Services
9. Foreign Affairs
10. Homeland Security
11. House Administration
12. Judiciary
13. Oversight & Reform
14. Rules
15. Science, Space, & Technology
16. Transportation & Infrastructure
17. Ways & Means
18. Intelligence (Permanent Select)
19. Climate Crisis (Select)
20. Modernization (Select)

Indigenous Democratic Members

Committees with 1 Indigenous Democrat

1. Armed Services
2. Natural Resources
3. Small Business
4. Transportation & Infrastructure

Committees with No Indigenous Democrats

1. Agriculture
2. Appropriations
3. Budget
4. Education & Labor
5. Energy & Commerce
6. Ethics
7. Financial Services
8. Foreign Affairs
9. Homeland Security
10. House Administration
11. Judiciary
12. Oversight & Reform
13. Rules
14. Science, Space, & Technology
15. Veterans' Affairs
16. Ways & Means
17. Intelligence (Permanent Select)
18. Climate Crisis (Select)
19. Modernization (Select)

Indigenous Republican Members

Committees with 1 Indigenous Republican

1. Agriculture
2. Appropriations
3. Energy & Commerce
4. Rules

Committees with No Indigenous Republicans

1. Armed Services
2. Budget
3. Education & Labor
4. Ethics
5. Financial Services
6. Foreign Affairs
7. Homeland Security
8. House Administration
9. Judiciary
10. Natural Resources
11. Oversight and Reform
12. Science, Space, & Technology
13. Small Business
14. Transportation & Infrastructure
15. Veterans' Affairs
16. Ways & Means
17. Intelligence (Permanent Select)
18. Climate Crisis (Select)
19. Modernization (Select)