

Table 1-16 African Americans in Congress, 41st - 115th Congresses, 1869 - 2017

Congress		House		Senate		Congress		House		Senate	
		D	R	D	R			D	R	D	R
41st	(1869)		2		1	85th	(1957)	3			
42nd	(1871)		5			86th	(1959)	3			
43rd	(1873)		7			87th	(1961)	3			
44th	(1875)		7		1	88th	(1963)	4			
45th	(1877)		3		1	89th	(1965)	5			
46th	(1879)				1	90th	(1967)	5			1
47th	(1881)		2			91st	(1969)	9			1
48th	(1883)		2			92nd	(1971)	13			1
49th	(1885)		2			93rd	(1973)	16			1
50th	(1887)					94th	(1975)	16			1
51st	(1889)		3			95th	(1977)	15			1
52nd	(1891)		1			96th	(1979)	15			
53rd	(1893)		1			97th	(1981)	17			
54th	(1895)		1			98th	(1983)	20			
55th	(1897)		1			99th	(1985)	20			
56th	(1899) <sup>a</sup>		1			100th	(1987)	22			
71st	(1929)		1			101st	(1989)	23			
72nd	(1931)		1			102nd	(1991)	25	1		
73rd	(1933)		1			103rd	(1993)	38	1		1
74th	(1935)	1				104th	(1995)	37	2		1
75th	(1937)	1				105th	(1997)	36	1		1
76th	(1939)	1				106th	(1999)	36	1		
77th	(1941)	1				107th	(2001)	35	1		
78th	(1943)	1				108th	(2003)	37			
79th	(1945)	2				109th	(2005)	40			1
80th	(1947)	2				110th	(2007)	40			1
81st	(1949)	2				111th <sup>b</sup>	(2009)	39			
82nd	(1951)	2				112th	(2011)	40	2		
83rd	(1953)	2				113th <sup>c</sup>	(2013)	41			1
84th	(1955)	3				114th	(2015)	42	2		1
						115th	(2017)	43	2		1

Note: The data do not include nonvoting delegates or commissioners.  
Figures represent the makeup of Congress on the first day of the session.

- a. After the 56th Congress, there were no African American members in either the House or Senate until the 71st Congress.
- b. Roland Burris was not seated on the first day of the 111th session.
- c. Tim Scott, who was appointed on December 17th to replace outgoing Senator Jim DeMint, is included in the Senate totals.

Source: Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1977, H. Doc. 95-258, 95th Cong., 1st sess., 1977; Congressional Quarterly Almanac (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, various editions); Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, various issues; Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, <http://clerk.house.gov>; "Membership of the 114th Congress: A Profile," Congressional Research Service