

Table 1-13

Prior Occupations of Republican Senators, 83rd - 117th Congresses, 1953 - 2021

Occupation	83rd 1953	84th 1955	86th 1959	89th 1965	90th 1967	91st 1969	92nd 1971	93rd 1973	94th 1975	95th 1977	96th 1979	97th 1981	98th 1983	99th 1985
Acting/entertainer										0	1	4	2	3
Aeronautics										0	2	2	1	1
Agriculture	13	12	10	8	9	9	7	7	6	5	5	7	7	7
Business or banking	18	17	14	11	11	13	11	10	10	10	12	17	20	16
Clergy				0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Congressional aide	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
Education	5	5	3	4	5	5	6	3	2	5	4	11	8	9
Engineering			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Journalism	4	4	3	3	3	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	3
Labor leader				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law	24	24	18	19	20	26	27	26	22	22	22	28	29	29
Law enforcement					0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Military										0	0	1	1	1
Professional sports										0	0	0	0	0
Public service/politics	41	39	33	31	34	41	37	40	35	8	5	6	7	7
Real estate										0	0	0	0	0
Veteran	36	36	25	24	28	34	37	34	31	29	33	44	46	42
New Occupations														
Artistic/Creative										1	1	6	4	3
Healthcare										0	0	0	0	0
Homemaker/Domestic										0	0	0	0	0
Science						1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
Secretarial/Clerical										0	0	0	0	0
Technical/Trade										0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous										0	0	0	0	0

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Occupation	100th 1987	101st 1989	102nd 1991	103rd 1993	104th 1995	105th 1997	106th 1999	107th 2001	108th 2003	109th 2005	110th 2007	111th 2009	112th 2011	113th 2013	114th 2015	115th 2017	116th 2019	117th^b 2021
Acting/entertainer	3	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Aeronautics	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture	5	5	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	5	6
Business or banking	12	11	11	11	14	25	18	16	16	26	18	20	17	15	21	20	22	20
Clergy	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Congressional aide	2	3	3	4	3	9	8	7	5	6	7	6	7	7	10	9	9	6
Education	4	3	5	5	5	8	8	8	5	7	6	8	6	6	7	6	8	7
Engineering	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Journalism	1	1	0	2	3	7	6	6	5	5	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Labor leader	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
Law	28	27	25	25	30	27	28	25	30	34	27	27	25	23	24	22	21	20
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	3	3	5	4	4	4	4	5
Military	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	2
Professional sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	0	0	0	0
Public service/politics	6	4	0	1	2	17	8	10	13	22	13	16	14	16	22	21	22	21
Real estate	0	0	3	1	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	5	5	5	6	6	5	4
Veteran	34	34	32	30	30	29	24	20	18	16	16	11	11	9	14	13	12	9
New Occupations																		
Artistic/Creative	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1
Healthcare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Homemaker/Domestic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Secretarial/Clerical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Technical/Trade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	1
Miscellaneous	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Blanks in the historical data indicate years and occupations for which Congressional Quarterly did not compile data. Some members say they have more than one occupation. Data counted as of the end of the first session of each congress. For the 83rd - 113th congress, these numbers reflect those reported by Congressional Quarterly, whose methodology has changed over time. CQ has since stopped publishing these data by party, so for the 115th congress occupations were coded based on information provided in member profiles published by CQ. Fluctuations in totals between congresses that are larger than the seats lost/gained between congresses represent these methodological changes.

Data from earlier years/previous versions of this table have been changed. Please see the errata document for more details.

a. For these congresses, CQ almanac did not provide occupation data. Instead, data for each representative was taken from an earlier or later congress of which they were also a member. One-term members in these congresses were individually coded based on their biographical data.

b. Vital Statistics collects information on member demographics as of the first day of the Congress. For the 117th Congress, we include both Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock, who were elected on January 5, 2021, and Kamala Harris, who did not resign from office until January 18th, 2021.

Previous Source: In previous updates, this data was compiled from multiple sources, including: 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>; Military Officers Association of America; Veterans in Congress, The Veterans of Foreign Wars National Legislative Service, "Representatives with Military Service, 108th Congress;" Veterans' Information: Veterans in Congress, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Most Recent Update Source: Congressional Quarterly Almanac; Congressional Quarterly Congress Collection; CQ Member Profiles