

Table 1-16 African Americans in Congress, 41st - 117th Congresses, 1869 - 2021

Congress	House		Senate		Congress	House		Senate	
	D	R	D	R		D	R	D	R
41st	(1869)	2		1	87th	(1961)	3		
42nd	(1871)	5			88th	(1963)	4		
43rd	(1873)	7			89th	(1965)	5		
44th	(1875)	7		1	90th	(1967)	5		1
45th	(1877)	3		1	91st	(1969)	9		1
46th	(1879)			1	92nd	(1971)	13		1
47th	(1881)	2			93rd	(1973)	16		1
48th	(1883)	2			94th	(1975)	16		1
49th	(1885)	2			95th	(1977)	15		1
50th	(1887)				96th	(1979)	15		
51st	(1889)	3			97th	(1981)	17		
52nd	(1891)	1			98th	(1983)	20		
53rd	(1893)	1			99th	(1985)	20		
54th	(1895)	1			100th	(1987)	22		
55th	(1897)	1			101st	(1989)	23		
56th	(1899) ^a	1			102nd	(1991)	25	1	
71st	(1929)	1			103rd	(1993)	38	1	1
72nd	(1931)	1			104th	(1995)	37	2	1
73rd	(1933)	1			105th	(1997)	36	1	1
74th	(1935)	1			106th	(1999)	36	1	
75th	(1937)	1			107th	(2001)	35	1	
76th	(1939)	1			108th	(2003)	37		
77th	(1941)	1			109th	(2005)	40		1
78th	(1943)	1			110th	(2007)	40		1
79th	(1945)	2			111th ^b	(2009)	39		
80th	(1947)	2			112th	(2011)	40	2	
81st	(1949)	2			113th ^c	(2013)	41		1
82nd	(1951)	2			114th	(2015)	42	2	1
83rd	(1953)	2			115th	(2017)	45	2	2
84th	(1955)	3			116th	(2019)	52	1	2
85th	(1957)	3			117th ^d	(2021)	56	2	3
86th	(1959)	3							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.
- d. 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.

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