



# The Freshmen of Congress

## PRO POINTS

- **Democrats have retained control of the House, though they will have a smaller majority than they held in the 116th Congress, shrinking from 232 before the election to 215 as of Monday.**

- **Three Senate seats will remain open after results are finalized: both Georgia seats, which will be filled in a Jan. 5, 2021 runoff, and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris' California seat, which will be filled by a gubernatorial appointment until the 2022 general election.**

- **As of Nov. 8 at 1:32 p.m. ET, there will be at least 51 freshman representatives and seven freshman senators. They will include 15 Democratic representatives and three senators, and 36 Republican representatives and four senators.**

- **There will be at least 17 Democratic freshmen and 41 Republican freshmen.**

- **At least 106 women will serve in the U.S. House and 24 in the Senate.**

## HOW WE GOT HERE

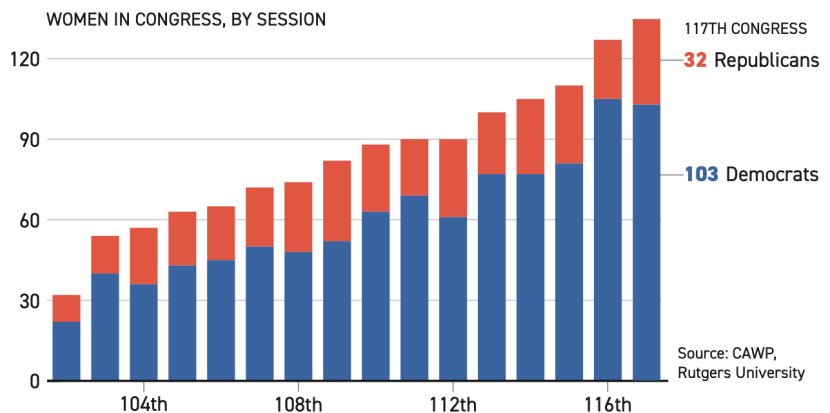
The 117th Congress will include at least 51 freshman representatives and seven freshman senators, including gains for Republican women and a record-breaking 24 Black women elected.

Two hundred and ninety-eight women ran for seats in the House, and 20 women ran for seats in the Senate, according to Rutgers University's Center for American Women and Politics. As of Nov. 8, a total 135 women have been elected to the 117th Congress, including 22 freshmen.

Democrats have led Republicans in Congress by total number of women elected, but Republicans gained more seats than Democrats in the election, including Sen.-elect Cynthia Lummis of Wyoming, for a total of at least eight Republican women in the Senate. Lummis is the first female senator elected from Wyoming. Now, only 17 states have yet to elect a female senator. There will be at least 24 female senators in the 117th Congress.

Democratic women still outnumber Republican women in the House, at 84 to 22 representatives, respectively. The 117th Congress will include more Republican female freshmen than the 116th Congress, when just one woman — Carol Miller of West Virginia — was elected to join House Republicans.

117th Congress sets record for female lawmakers





Women of color set a record in the 117th Congress. Twenty-four Black women were elected to the House, breaking the previous record of 22 Black women, set during the 116th Congress. Democrat Marilyn Strickland is the first Korean American woman to be elected to Congress, representing Washington's 10th Congressional District.

More than half of Asian or Pacific Islander women who ran for congressional seats were elected to office. And 11 of the 32 Hispanic or Latina women who ran for House seats will also be serving in the 117th Congress.

Rep. Kai Kahele (HI-02) is the second man of Native Hawaiian descent to be elected to Congress. He follows the late Sen. Daniel Akaka, who served in both chambers. No Native Hawaiian woman has yet been elected to Congress.

Several Republican congressional candidates were also QAnon proponents — supporters of a baseless far-right conspiracy theory. Two of these candidates — Marjorie Taylor Greene (GA-14) and Lauren Boebert (CO-03) — were elected. Boebert defeated a Democratic candidate to succeed Rep. Scott Tipton, also a Republican. Greene, who ran unopposed, has already clashed on Twitter with Rep. Daniel Crenshaw of Texas, a fellow Republican, over counting votes in the presidential election.

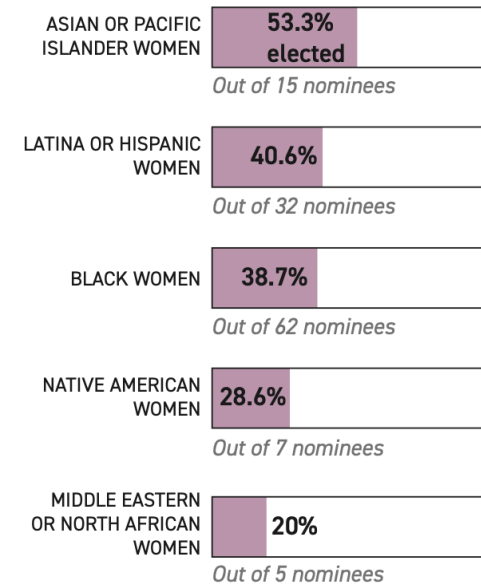
### WHAT'S NEXT

The Senate seat of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, the first woman and woman of color elected to that position — is now open. The seat will be filled by gubernatorial appointment. The appointee will serve until the next general election, in 2022, when Harris' term would have expired.

There will also be two Senate runoff elections in Georgia, on which control of the Senate will hinge. At least one other runoff election will be held for Louisiana's 5th Congressional District.

Beyond runoff elections, members-elect will begin moving to Washington, D.C., between now and Jan. 3, 2021, when the 117th Congress will gavel into session. Once sworn in, the lawmakers will participate in leadership elections and start the business of the next Congress, including joining committees and providing constituent services. And while House freshmen will be running for reelection in just two years, freshman senators will not be up for reelection until 2026.

### 47 women of color have been elected to the 117th Congress



\*Women who indicated more than one race category were included in each of those groups

Source: CAWP, Rutgers University



## Freshmen of the 117th Congress

RESULTS AS OF 1:32 PM ET, NOV. 8, 2020

### U.S. HOUSE

#### ALABAMA

- Jerry Carl (AL-01)
- Barry Moore (AL-02)

#### CALIFORNIA

- Darrell Issa (CA-50)
- Sara Jacobs (CA-53)

#### COLORADO

- Lauren Boebert (CO-03)

#### FLORIDA

- Kat Cammack (FL-03)
- Scott Franklin (FL-15)
- Byron Donalds (FL-19)
- Carlos Gimenez (FL-26)
- Maria Elvira Salazar (FL-27)

#### GEORGIA

- Nikema Williams (GA-05)
- Carolyn Bourdeaux (GA-07)
- Andrew Clyde (GA-09)
- Marjorie Taylor Greene (GA-14)

#### HAWAII

- Kai Kahele (HI-02)

#### ILLINOIS

- Marie Newman (IL-03)
- Mary Miller (IL-15)

#### INDIANA

- Frank Mrvan (IN-01)
- Victoria Spartz (IN-05)

#### IOWA

- Ashley Hinson (IA-01)
- Randy Feenstra (IA-04)

#### KANSAS

- Tracey Mann (KS-01)
- Jake LaTurner (KS-02)

#### MASSACHUSETTS

- Jake Auchincloss (MA-04)

#### MICHIGAN

- Peter Meijer (MI-03)
- Lisa McClain (MI-10)

#### MINNESOTA

- Michelle Fischbach (MN-07)

#### MISSOURI

- Cori Bush (MO-01)

#### MONTANA

- Matt Rosendale (MT-AL)\*

#### NEW MEXICO

- Yvette Herrell (NM-02)
- Teresa Leger Fernandez (NM-03)

#### NEW YORK

- Ritchie Torres (NY-15)
- Jamaal Bowman (NY-16)
- Mondaire Jones (NY-17)

#### NORTH CAROLINA

- Deborah Ross (NC-02)
- Kathy Manning (NC-06)
- Madison Cawthorn (NC-11)

#### OKLAHOMA

- Stephanie Bice (OK-05)

#### OREGON

- Cliff Bentz (OR-02)

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

- Nancy Mace (SC-01)

#### TENNESSEE

- Diana Harshbarger (TN-01)

#### TEXAS

- Pat Fallon (TX-04)
- August Pfluger (TX-11)
- Ronny Jackson (TX-13)

#### TEXAS (CONT.)

- Pete Sessions (TX-17)
- Troy Nehls (TX-22)
- Tony Gonzales (TX-23)

#### UTAH

- Blake Moore (UT-01)

#### VIRGINIA

- Bob Good (VA-05)

#### WASHINGTON

- Marilyn Strickland (WA-10)

#### WISCONSIN

- Scott Fitzgerald (WI-05)

### U.S. SENATE

- Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)
- Mark Kelly (D-AZ)
- John Hickenlooper (D-CO)
- Roger Marshall (R-KS)
- Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)
- Bill Hagerty (R-TN)
- Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)

\*at large

## NOTABLE FRESHMEN



### Sen. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz)

Husband of former Rep. Gabby Giffords (D-Ariz.), the former astronaut beat out incumbent Republican Sen. Martha McSally to flip Arizona's second Senate seat. After years of Republican control, both Arizona senators are Democrats.



### Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar (FL-27)

Salazar was one of two Republicans to flip House seats in Florida. The former newscaster will replace Democratic Rep. Donna Shalala — the oldest freshman member of the 116th Congress — who had defeated her in the 2018 midterms.



### Rep. Jamaal Bowman (NY-16)

The progressive former school principal ousted 16-term incumbent Eliot Engel, chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Bowman was outspoken about social issues like racial justice and was endorsed by Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

### Georgia Senators

Control of the Senate will rest on the results of the two Georgia Senate runoff elections. Republican incumbents Kelly Loeffler and David Perdue will face Democratic challengers Rev. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff, respectively.