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## CONGRESS ELECTS MORE YOUNG ADULTS TO OFFICE

The Young Elected Leaders Project of the Center for Youth Political Participation announces that the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress will include 22 Millennials – an increase of 16 Millennial Members of Congress. Millennials are defined as those born between 1981 and 1996. Of these Millennials, 15 are under the age of 35.

All of the Millennials are serving in the House of Representatives – there are no Millennials serving in the United States Senate. Of the Millennial members serving in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, 45% are women – an increase of 33% from the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. 59% of the current set of Millennials are Democrats and 41% are Republicans. In the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, 4 of the serving Millennials were Republicans and 2 were Democrats. Of the Millennials serving in the House, 68% are White, 18% are African American, 9.1%

### Millennials in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, Democrats

Name	Age	State
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*	29	New York
Abby Finkenauer*	29	Iowa
Katie Hill*	31	California
Lauren Underwood*	31	Illinois
Xochitl Torres Small*	33	New Mexico
Conor Lamb	34	Pennsylvania
Joe Neguse*	34	Colorado
Haley Stevens *	35	Michigan
Colin Allred*	35	Texas
Joe Cunningham*	36	South Carolina
Ilhan Omar*	37	Minnesota
Tulsi Gabbard	37	Hawaii
Sharice Davids*	38	Kansas

\* Newly elected Millennial

are Hispanic/Latino, and 4.5% are Hawaiian Pacific. In the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, 5 of the Millennials serving were white and one was Hawaiian.

### Millennials in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, Republicans

Name	Age	State
Dan Crenshaw*	34	Texas
Elise Stefanik	34	New York
Mike Gallagher	34	Wisconsin
Anthony Gonzalez*	34	Ohio
Trey Hollingsworth	35	Indiana
Guy Reschenthaler*	35	Pennsylvania
Lance Gooden*	35	Texas
Matt Gaetz	36	Florida
Bryan Steil*	37	Wisconsin

\* Newly elected Millennial

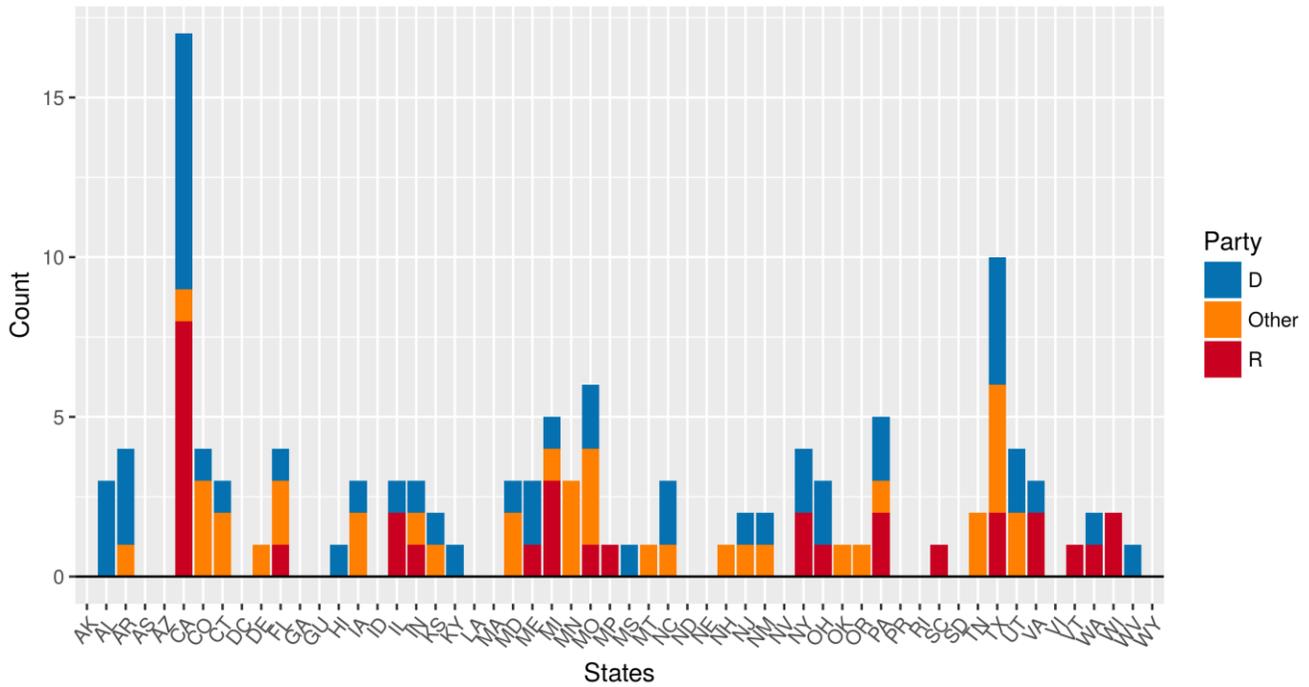
Of the data available on candidates running for the United States House and Senate, 8.9% (120) were Millennials. 72% of these Millennials were under 35 years of age. Thirty-seven percent of the candidates were Baby Boomers (born between 1946-1964), 26% were from Generation X (born between 1965-1980), and 5% were from the Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945). Of these 120 Millennials, 8 ran for the Senate and the remaining for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Most Millennial candidates were Democrats (37.4%), followed by Republicans (24.43%). Almost 38.15% of all Millennial candidates ran from other parties.

### Millennials' Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation	Count	Percentage
Democrat	49	37.40%
Republican	32	24.43%
Libertarian	22	16.79%
Independent	11	8.39%
Green Party	3	2.29%
Other	14	10.68%

Number of Millennials per State and Party



Of the Millennials running for Congress, 27.5% were women and 72.5% were men. When we focus only on those Millennials 35 years or younger, a smaller percentage (20.9%) are women and 79.1% are men. It is worth noting that all 8 candidates for the U.S. Senate were men.

Regarding the ethnic and racial background of Millennial candidates, most were White followed by African American and Hispanic/Latino.

Ethnic Composition of Millennials

Ethnicity/Race	Count	Percentage
White/Caucasian	76	63.33%
Black/African American	8	6.67%
Hispanic/Latino	5	4.17%
Asian/Pacific American	4	3.33%
Indian/Native American	1	0.83%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	0.83%
Two or More Ethnicities	1	0.83%
N/A	23	19.17%

Of the data available, 17 states/territories did not have any millennials running for office. The most millennial candidates ran in California (17), followed by Texas (10), and Montana (6).

### **About the Center for Youth Political Participation**

Eagleton's [Center for Youth Political Participation](#) advances the political learning of young people and equips them to be active citizens and leaders. Through education, research, and public service, the Center for Youth Political Participation plays a lead role locally and nationally in fostering and promoting the active citizenship and leadership of future generations.

### **About the Young Elected Leaders Project**

The [Young Elected Leaders Project \(YELP\)](#) studies and works with young people who run for public office. Launched in 2002, the project originated by constructing a database of young elected officials, conducting a survey and convening a conference of young leaders, and issuing a report entitled [Political Generation Next: America's Young Elected Leaders](#). The original research characterized Young Elected Leaders (YELs) as officeholders age 35 or younger.

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