the 119th Congress Jan 2, 2025 at 08:00 AM

Breaking down the number of veterans in

Pentagon & Congress

By **Leo Shane III**

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D foundation

19th Annual

January 16th, 2025

by war

6 - 9 PM

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Holiday Cocktails

REGISTER NOW

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35 W 44th St New York, NY

Help innocent children impacted

Jim Banks (center), who went from an Indiana Republican representative to the state's U.S. senator last election, is one of 100 veterans who will take office in the new session of Congress this week. (J. Scott Applewhite/AP) When lawmakers convene the 119th Congress on Friday, the group will boast 100

military veterans among their members, the largest such caucus in eight years. Sixteen new veterans will join 84 incumbent members of Congress with military experience, but that total will drop by two within days of the start of the new legislative term. That's because two veteran members are headed to the executive branch in the next few weeks.

Higher Education Scholarships for U.S. Surface Navy Families

President-elect Donald Trump's national security adviser.

four times in the last 50 years.

one started before 1980.

by Florida (9) and California (7).

Veterans in the 119th Congress

Q Search in table

Name

Dan Sullivan

Barry Moore

Rick Crawford

Steve Womack

Tom Cotton

Mark Kelly

Ruben Gallego

Mike Thompson

Jimmy Panetta

Ted Lieu

Richard

Blumenthal

Neal Dunn

Barry Loudermilk

GA-11

Yes

List compiled by Military Times, current as of Jan. 3, 2025.

District

AK-Sen

AL-01

AR-01

AR-03

AR-Sen

AZ-Sen

AZ-Sen

CA-04

CA-19

CA-36

CT-Sen

FL-02

volunteer force.

RELATED Congress will open next session with more veterans than two years ago Advocates say the surprise increase in lawmakers with military backgrounds is a positve sign for the veteran community. By Leo Shane III

Still, even a one-person jump in the number of veterans in Congress is significant,

Because of their backgrounds, veterans serving in the House and Senate are often

seen as critical to discussions of military operations and veterans benefits. But the

number of veterans in Congress has declined almost steadily since the mid-1970s,

as the military shifted from an end strength of largely drafted individuals to an all-

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because an increase in members with military backgrounds has only happened

Ohio Republican Sen. JD Vance is set to leave his Senate seat to be sworn in as vice

president on Jan. 20, and Florida Republican Rep. Mike Waltz has been tapped to be

Here's a look at the incoming class, by the numbers: • Nine women veterans will serve in Congress in 2025, the largest total in history. • The group includes 28 Democrats and 72 Republicans. • Congress will have 46 Army veterans, 25 Navy veterans, 16 Air Force veterans and 13 Marine Corps veterans.

• About one-third (31) began their military careers after January 2000. Twenty-

• Texas has the largest caucus of members with military experience (11), followed

Party

GOP

GOP

GOP

GOP

GOP

Dem

Dem

Dem

Dem

Dem

Dem

GOP

Gender

Male

Branch

Marine

Corps

Army

Army

Army

Army

Navy

Marine

Corps

Army

Navy

Air Force

Marine

Corps

Army

Era

1990s-

2010s

1990s

1980s

1970s-

2000s

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2010s

2000s

1960s-

1990s-

2000s

2000s

1990s-

2010s

2000s-2010s

1970s

1980s

2000s

2000s-

1980s-

1990s

Air Force

Army

Trending Now

ace

2025

At 103, this P-51 Mustang pilot

Pentagon chief loses bid to

Major leadership shakeup, new

budget battles coming to VA in

Navy information warfare officers

can now take command at sea

Giants of Kandahar: outlandish

tales of the US military in

Afghanistan

reject 9/11 plea deals

could soon become WWII's last

1970s

• Twenty veterans will serve in the Senate, and 80 will serve in the House.

Below is the full list of veterans elected to Congress last fall or returning to

incumbent Senate seats that were not up for re-election this cycle:

Incumbent?

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

In 1973, only one in every four members of Congress had never served in the

military. In 2025, about one in every six members will be veterans.

2000s-Eli Crane AZ-02 GOP Male Yes Navy 2010s Abraham 2010s-GOP AZ-08 No Male Army Hamadeh 2020s

- Marine CA-24 Dem 1990s Salud Carbajal Yes Male Corps 1990s-Gil Cisneros No Dem Male CA-31 Navy
- 1990s-2000s 1970s-1980s 2000s

Derek Tran	CA-45	No	Dem	Male	Army
Darrell Issa	CA-48	Yes	GOP	Male	Army
Jason Crow	CO-06	Yes	Dem	Male	Army
Gabe Evans	CO-08	No	GOP	Male	Army

- 1990s-FL-06 **GOP** Male Michael Waltz Yes Army 2010s 1990s-GOP Cory Mills FL-07 Yes Male Army 2000s Anna Paulina 2000s-GOP FL-13 Yes Female Air Force 2010s Luna Vern Buchanan FL-16 Yes **GOP** Male 1970s Air Force **Greg Steube** FL-17 Yes **GOP** Male 2000s Army 1980s-FL-18 GOP Scott Franklin Yes Male Navy
- FL-21 GOP Male Army **Brian Mast** Yes 2010s Rick Scott FL-Sen Yes **GOP** Male 1970s Navy Sanford Bishop 1960s-GA-02 Yes Dem Male Army 1970s Jr.
- 1990s-Marine Rich McCormick **GOP GA-07** Yes Male 2010s Corps 1980s-Andrew Clyde GOP Male **GA-09** Yes Navy 2010s
- Mariannette 1970s-GOP IA-01 Yes Female Army Miller-Meeks 1990s 2000s-GOP Male Zach Nunn IA-03 Yes Air Force 2020s 1990s-Joni Ernst IA-Sen GOP Yes Female

GOP

Male

- 2010s 1970s-Marine IL-12 Mike Bost Yes **GOP** Male 1980s Corps 1990s-Tammy IL-Sen Yes Dem Female Army Duckworth 2010s 1960s-
- IN-04 Yes GOP Male Jim Baird Army 1970s 1990s-Marine **Todd Young GOP** IN-Sen Yes Male Corps 2000s IN-Sen **GOP** 2010s Jim Banks No Male Navy
- GOP 2010s Roger Marshall KS-Sen Yes Male Army 1980s-**Brett Guthrie** GOP KY-02 Yes Male Army 1990s
- KY-05 GOP Male Hal Rogers Yes Army
- GOP Mitch McConnell KY-Sen Yes Male Army
- 1950s-GOP Clay Higgins LA-03 Yes Male Army Marine
- 1960s 1960s 1970s-1980s Dem 2010s **Jake Auchincloss** MA-04 Yes Male Corps
- Marine Seth Moulton MA-06 Dem Male 2000s Yes Corps 1960s-**Ed Markey** MA-Sen Yes Dem Male Army 1970s 1980s-GOP **Andrew Harris** MD-01 Yes Male Navy 2010s Marine 2000s-ME-02 Jared Golden Yes Dem Male 2010s Corps 1970s-Marine
- MI-01 **GOP** Male Jack Bergman Yes 2000s Corps 2000s-**Tom Barrett** MI-07 No GOP Male Army 2020s 2000s-GOP John James MI-10 Yes Male Army 20210s
 - 1990s-MI-Sen Male Yes Dem Navy 2000s 1990s-GOP Army MS-01 Yes Male 2010s
- **Gary Peters** Trent Kelly 1970s-Yes GOP Roger Wicker MS-Sen Male Air Force 2000s 1980s-GOP MT-01 Yes Male Navy 2000s
- Ryan Zinke MT-02 No **GOP** Air Force 2000s **Troy Downing** Male 2000s-GOP Tim Sheehy MT-Sen No Male Navy 2010s NC-01 Yes Male Air Force 1990s Dem 2000s-GOP NC-10 No Male Army 2010s
- **Donald Davis** Pat Harrigan 1980s-Don Bacon GOP Yes Male NE-02 Air Force 2010s Maggie 2010s-NH-02 No Dem Female Navy 2020s Goodlander
- Herbert C. NJ-03 No Dem Male Air Force 1990s Conaway Jr.
- 1990s-Yes Dem Mikie Sherrill NJ-11 Female Navy 2000s GOP NV-02 Yes Male 1980s Army 2000s-GOP NY-01 Yes Male Navy 2010s 2000s-Yes Dem Male NY-18 Army
- Mark Amodei Nicholas LaLota Pat Ryan 2010s 2010s-Marine OH-07 GOP Yes Male Max Miller 2020s Corps
 - 1980s-GOP Male 0H-08 Yes Army 1990s
 - 1980s-
- Warren Davidson GOP Mike Carey OH-15 Yes Male Army 1990s Marine **OH-Sen GOP** Male 2000s J.D. Vance Yes Corps Chrissy Houlahan Yes Dem Air Force PA-06 Female 1980s
- 1980s-**Scott Perry** PA-10 Yes **GOP** Male Army 2010s 2000s-GOP Yes PA-14 Male Navy 2010s
- Guy Reschenthaler Yes Dem Navy Chris Deluzio PA-17 Male 2000s 1990s-**David McCormick** No PA-Sen **GOP** Male Army 2000s RI-Sen Yes Jack Reed Male 1970s Dem Army
- SC-02 Male 1970s Joe Wilson **GOP** Yes Army 2010s-Sheri Biggs SC-03 No GOP Air Force Female 2020s
- SC-04 Yes GOP Male 2010s William Timmons Army
 - 19th Annual 1980s-SC-Sen Yes GOP Male Air Force **TD Foundation** 2010s
- **foundation** Lindsey Graham Holiday Cocktails 1980s-GOP Mark Green TN-07 Male Yes
 - Army 2000s 2000s-GOP TX-02 Yes Male Navy 2010s
- Help innocent children impacted by war Harvard Club **Daniel Crenshaw** REGISTER NOW 1970s-GOP TX-03 Male Yes Army 2000s 1980s-TX-04 Yes Male Air Force
- Keith Self GOP Pat Fallon 1990s 1990s-TX-06 GOP Male Jake Ellzey Yes Navy 2010s
- 2000s-**GOP** Navy Morgan Luttrell TX-08 Yes Male 2010s
- 1990s-TX-11 **GOP** Male Air Force Yes 2010s 1990s-TX-13 Yes **GOP** Male Navy 2010s
- August Pfluger Ronny Jackson 1980s-**GOP** TX-22 Male Yes Army 2000s
- 1990s-Yes GOP Navy TX-23 Male 2010s TX-36 **GOP** Air Force 1970s Yes Male

Male

Female

Male

Male

Male

Male

Male

GOP

GOP

Dem

GOP

Dem

GOP

GOP

Leo covers Congress, Veterans Affairs and the White House for Military Times. He has covered

earned numerous honors, including a 2009 Polk award, a 2010 National Headliner Award, the

Washington, D.C. since 2004, focusing on military personnel and veterans policies. His work has

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Bobby Scott

John McGuire

Eugene Vindman

Derrick Van

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come to troops

troops and their families.

program in 2025?

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Jennifer Kiggans

TX-38

VA-02

VA-03

VA-05

VA-07

WI-03

WI-05

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

No

Yes

Yes

IAVA Leadership in Journalism award and the VFW News Media award.

Major leadership shakeup, new budget battles coming to

The major Veterans Affairs stories we're keeping an eye on in 2025.

Rollback of DOD anti-extremism efforts coming in 2025,

The piecemeal progress of extremism-prevention efforts during the

past four years is more than can be expected out of the Pentagon in

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2000s

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