

TEACHING TOLERANCE



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Supreme Court Statistics

Since 1789 there have been 112 Supreme Court Justices
17 have been Chief Justices
95 have been Associate Justices

Ethnicity and Religious Affiliation

First Jewish Justice was Justice Louis Brandeis (1916).

There have been seven Jewish Justices and 12 Catholic Justices.

First African American Justice was Justice Thurgood Marshal (1967), who was succeeded on the Court by the second African American, Justice Clarence Thomas (1991).

First Latino/a Justice is Sonia Sotomayor (2009).

Gender

First female Justice was Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (1981).

Second female Justice, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and the third, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, are currently serving on the Court.

In Summary:

For the first 180 years, the Court membership consisted exclusively of white males, almost all Protestant and of Northern/Western European descent.

Youngest age upon nomination and confirmation was 32, the oldest was 65 at initial confirmation, and the oldest Justice was 90 years of age.

The Current Court

Out of the nine Members

Two are Jewish: Justice Ginsburg and Justice Breyer

Six are Catholic: Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Thomas, Scalia, Alito, Kennedy and Sotomayor

One is Protestant: Justice John Paul Stevens

One is African American: Justice Clarence Thomas

One is Latina: Justice Sonia Sotomayor

Two are female: Justices Ginsburg and Sotomayor

All Justices are over the age of 54