

Table 1.58

Characteristics of Presidential appointees to U.S. District Court judgeships

By Presidential administration, 1963-96^a

	President Johnson's appointees 1963-68 (N=122)	President Nixon's appointees 1969-74 (N=179)	President Ford's appointees 1974-76 (N=52)	President Carter's appointees 1977-80 (N=202)	President Reagan's first term appointees 1981-84 (N=129)	President Reagan's second term appointees 1985-88 ^b (N=161)	President Bush's appointees 1989-92 (N=148)	President Clinton's appointees 1993-96 (N=169)
Sex								
Male	98.4%	99.4%	98.1%	85.6%	90.7%	92.5%	80.4%	69.8%
Female	1.6	0.6	1.9	14.4	9.3	7.4	19.6	30.2
Ethnicity								
White	93.4	95.5	88.5	78.7	93.0	91.9	89.2	72.2
Black	4.1	3.4	5.8	13.9	0.8	3.1	6.8	19.5
Hispanic	2.5	1.1	1.9	6.9	5.4	4.3	4.0	6.5
Asian	0	0	3.9	0.5	0.8	0.6	0	1.2
Native American	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0.6
Education, undergraduate								
Public-supported	38.5	41.3	48.1	57.4	34.1	36.6	44.6	44.4
Private (not Ivy League)	31.1	38.5	34.6	32.7	49.6	50.9	41.2	40.8
Ivy League	16.4	19.6	17.3	9.9	16.3	12.4	14.2	14.8
None indicated	13.9	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education, law school								
Public-supported	40.2	41.9	44.2	50.5	44.2	41.0	52.7	42.6
Private (not Ivy League)	36.9	36.9	38.5	32.2	47.3	44.1	33.1	37.3
Ivy League	21.3	21.2	17.3	17.3	8.5	14.9	14.2	20.1
Occupation at nomination or appointment								
Politics or government	21.3	10.6	21.2	4.4	7.8	16.8	10.8	10.7
Judiciary	31.1	28.5	34.6	44.6	40.3	34.8	41.9	44.4
Law firm, large	2.4	11.2	9.6	14.0	11.6	22.4	25.7	17.2
Law firm, moderate	18.9	27.9	25.0	19.8	25.6	14.3	14.9	16.6
Law firm, small	23.0	19.0	9.6	13.9	10.8	9.9	4.7	7.7
Professor of law	3.3	2.8	0	3.0	2.3	1.9	0.7	2.4
Other	0	0	0	0.5	1.6	0	1.4	1.2
Occupational experience								
Judicial	34.4	35.2	42.3	54.5	50.4	43.5	46.6	49.7
Prosecutorial	45.9	41.9	50.0	38.6	43.4	44.7	39.2	37.9
Other	33.6	36.3	30.8	28.2	28.7	27.9	31.8	31.4
Religion								
Protestant	58.2	73.2	73.1	60.4	58.9	60.9	64.2	NA
Catholic	31.1	18.4	17.3	27.7	34.1	27.3	28.4	NA
Jewish	10.7	8.4	9.6	11.9	7.0	11.2	7.4	NA
Political party								
Democrat	94.3	7.3	21.2	92.6	3.1	6.2	5.4	90.5
Republican	5.7	92.7	78.8	4.4	96.9	90.7	88.5	2.4
Independent or none	0	0	0	3.0	0	3.1	6.1	6.5
Other	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0.6
American Bar Association rating								
Exceptionally well/well qualified	48.4	45.3	46.1	50.9	50.4	57.1	57.4	63.9
Qualified	49.2	54.8	53.8	47.5	49.6	42.9	42.6	34.3
Not qualified	2.5	0	0	1.5	0	0	0	1.8

Note: See Note, table 1.57. Percent subtotals for occupational experience sum to more than 100 because some appointees have had both judicial and prosecutorial experience. Data have been revised by the Source and therefore may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK.

Source: Sheldon Goldman, "Reagan's Judicial Legacy: Completing the Puzzle and Summing Up," *Judicature* 72 (April-May 1989), pp. 320, 321, Table 1; and Sheldon Goldman and Elliot Slotnick, "Clinton's First Term Judiciary: Many Bridges to Cross," *Judicature* 80 (May-June 1997), p. 261. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

^bOne appointee classified as non-denominational.