

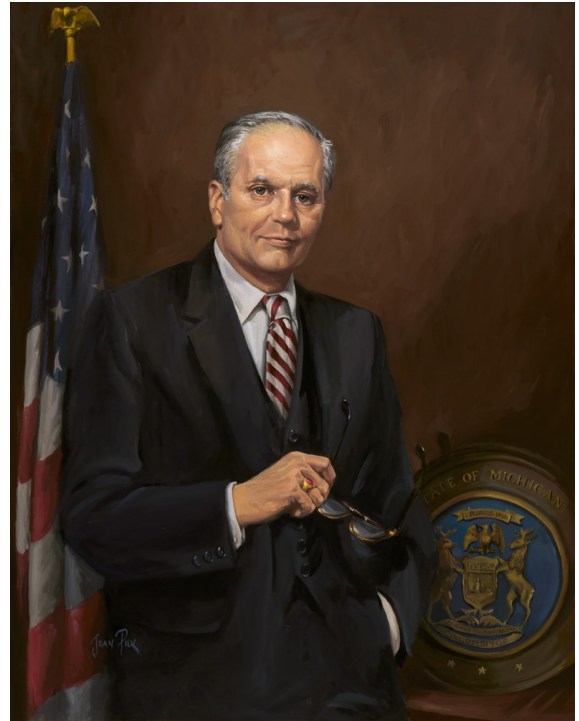
John Dingell, Jr.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM MICHIGAN (1955–2015)

Biography & Milestones

Biography

- Born July 8, 1926, in Colorado Springs, CO
- Educated at the [Capitol Page School](#) and Georgetown Preparatory School (Garrett Park, MD)
- [Page](#), United States House of Representative, 1938–1943
- B.S., Georgetown University, 1949
- J.D., Georgetown University Law School, 1952
- United States Army, 1944–1946
- Worked as a private practice lawyer; legal research assistant; prosecuting attorney for Wayne County, MI
- Delegate to five Democratic National Conventions
- Elected by special election to the 84th Congress (1955–1957), to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his father, United States Representative [John D. Dingell, Sr.](#), December 13, 1955.
- The youngest Member in the 84th Congress upon his election at 29 years, 5 months, 6 days. (The oldest Member of the Michigan delegation at that time was Representative [Clare Hoffman](#), born in 1875.)
- Re-elected to the 29 succeeding Congresses (84th Congress to 113th Congress, 1955–2015).
- Was not a candidate for re-election to the 114th Congress in 2014. Succeeded by his wife, Representative [Debbie Dingell](#).
- Died on February 7, 2019, in Dearborn, MI.



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Length of Service

- From December 13, 1955, to January 3, 2015, a total of **21,572 days (59 years, 22 days)**.
- The next longest serving Member of Congress was [Robert C. Byrd](#) of West Virginia, who served 20,996 days (combined House and Senate service). Dingell surpassed Byrd's service record on June 7, 2013.

Familial Connection

- John Dingell, Sr., John Dingell, Jr., and Debbie Dingell have the longest consecutive service for a single family.
- The total consecutive service for father, son, and wife/daughter-in-law from March 4, 1933 to present is **32,083 days (87 years, 10 months)**; this figure is as of January 3, 2021.

Total Votes Cast in the U.S. House of Representatives

- John Dingell, Jr., cast **28,551 votes** in the House Chamber.

Milestones in the U.S. House of Representatives During Dingell's Tenure

- Congress hosted 96 [Foreign Leaders](#) who addressed Joint Meetings of Congress.
- Eleven different Presidents gave 51 [State of the Union](#) Addresses.
- The [Rayburn House Office Building](#) opened in 1965.
- The House adopted an [electronic voting system](#) in 1973.
- The House began [televising its proceedings](#) in 1979.
- The House adopted [constituent e-mail](#) in 1993.

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Committee Service

Committee Longevity

- John Dingell, Jr., is the **longest serving Member on any congressional committee** in House history.
- He joined the **Energy and Commerce Committee** on January 10, 1957, serving **21,178 days (57 years, 11 months, 25 days)**, until he left the committee on January 3, 2015.
- John Dingell, Jr., **chaired the Energy and Commerce Committee** from 1981 to 1995, and from 2007 to 2009.
- The next longest-serving Member on any congressional Committee is [Jamie Whitten](#) of Mississippi, who served on the House Appropriations Committee from January 3, 1943, to January 3, 1995, (18,795 days or 51 years, 11 months, 13 days).
- The next longest-serving Member on the Energy and Commerce Committee is Representative [Henry Waxman](#) of California, from January 20, 1975, to January 3, 2015, serving 14,594 days (39 years, 11 months, 15 days).

Committee Service For John Dingell, Sr., and John Dingell, Jr.

Name	House Standing Committee	Term	Congresses
John D. Dingell, Sr.	Civil Service	1933–1935	73rd
	Insular Affairs	1933–1935	73rd
	Patents	1933–1935	73rd
	Ways and Means	1935–1955	74th–84th
	Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation	1945–1947; 1949–1955	79th; 81st–84th
	Joint Committee on Reduction of Federal Expenditures	1955	84th
John D. Dingell, Jr.	Merchant Marine and Fisheries	1956–1981	84th–96th
	Public Works	1956–1957	84th
	Interstate and Foreign Commerce/Energy and Commerce/ Commerce	1957–2015	85th–113th
	Small Business	1975–1981	94th–96th
	Select Committee on Small Business	1963–1975	88th–93rd
	Select Committee on Energy (Ad Hoc)	1977–1979	95th

Subcommittee Leadership for John Dingell, Jr.

Full Committee	Subcommittee	Service	Congresses
Select Committee on Small Business	Activities of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies	1965–1967	89th
	Relating to Small Business		
Merchant Marine and Fisheries	Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation	1965–1973	89th–92nd
Select Committee on Small Business	Activities of Regulatory Agencies Relating to Small Business	1967–1973	90th–92nd
Select Committee on Small Business	Special Subcommittee on Small Business and the Robinson–Patman Act	1970–1971	91st
Merchant Marine and Fisheries	Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment	1973–1975	93rd
Select Committee on Small Business	Activities of Regulatory Agencies	1973–1975	93rd
Small Business	Energy and Environment	1975–1977	94th
Energy and Commerce	Energy and Power	1975–1981	94th–96th
Energy and Commerce	Oversight and Investigations	1981–1995	97th–103rd

John Dingell, Jr.

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Elections & Districts

Election Statistics

Historically, John Dingell, Jr., won his 30 elections to the House by an average of **73 percent** of the vote.

Congressional Districts

Michigan 15th District (John Dingell, Sr., and John Dingell, Jr.), 1933–1962

As a result of the 1930 Census, the 1932 reapportionment of congressional districts in Michigan increased the state's number of House seats from 13 to 15. John Dingell, Sr. was elected to the 15th District, which encompassed four city wards in Detroit (Wards 10, 12, 14, and 16). The district remained the same throughout the elder Dingell's terms of service. John Dingell, Jr., represented the same four wards upon his election to the House in December 1955.

Michigan 15th/16th District (John Dingell, Jr.), 1963–1972

The boundaries of the district did not change after the reapportionment in 1962, but it was renamed the 16th District by the start of the 89th Congress (1965–1967).

Michigan 16th District (John Dingell, Jr.), 1973–1982

A slight change took place in the 1972 reapportionment in which Dingell's district still contained parts of wards 14, 16, 18, and all of ward 20, but certain western and southern suburbs of Wayne County such as Dearborn (home of the Ford Motor Company), Wyandotte, and Trenton were added to the 16th.

Michigan 16th District (John Dingell, Jr.), 1983–1992

In the 1982 reapportionment, Dingell's district lost the city wards, but it expanded to include larger sections of southern and western Wayne County, all of Monroe County, and parts of Lenawee County. The district also extended further south along the Michigan's coastline with Lake Erie to the state's border with Ohio.

Michigan 16th District (John Dingell, Jr.), 1993–2002

By 1993, Dingell's district retained the southeastern and central sections of Wayne and most of Monroe County. The Lenawee County portions were reapportioned to the 7th District.

Michigan 15th District (John Dingell, Jr.), 2003–2012

In 2003, the newly renamed 15th District retained all of Monroe County and the western portion of Wayne County, but also extended along the I-94 highway to encompass part of Washtenaw County, an important engineering and research corridor that includes the University of Michigan's main campus in Ann Arbor.

Michigan 12th District (John Dingell, Jr., and Debbie Dingell), 2013–present

In 2013, the newly renamed 12th District retained southern Wayne County and a significant part of Washtenaw County, but Monroe County was reapportioned to the 7th District. The current district is anchored by Dearborn in the east, Ann Arbor in the west, and Trenton to the south along Lake Erie.

Sources: Election Statistics (Office of the Clerk), <http://history.house.gov/Institution/Election-Statistics/Election-Statistics/>; *Congressional Directory*, various editions (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1933–2012); *Almanac of American Politics* (Washington, D.C.: National Journal Inc., various editions); *Politics in America* (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Inc., various editions); Congressman John Dingell, "Map of the District," <http://dingell.house.gov/our-district/map-district> (accessed 10 May 2013).

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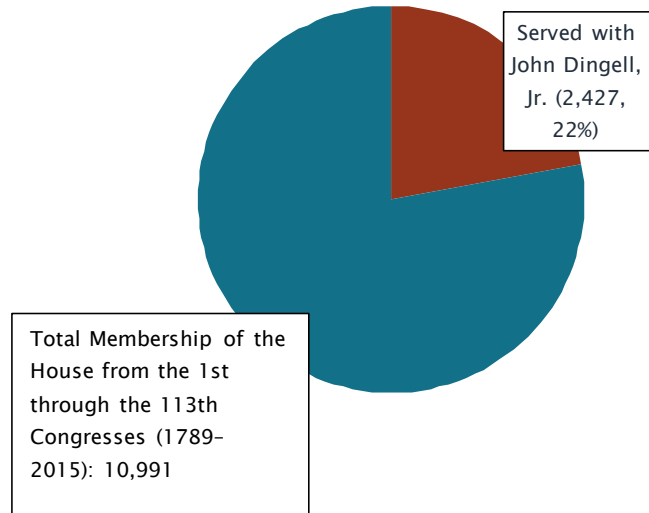
Colleagues

Those With Whom John Dingell, Jr., Served Dingell served with **2,427 House Members**, or **22 percent of the House's total membership**.

Living House Members Who Served With John Dingell, Jr., in the 84th and 85th Congresses (1955–1959)

- Harry Haskell, Jr. of Delaware, 1921–
- Clarence Young of Nevada, 1922–
- William Broomfield of Michigan, 1922–
- Melvin Laird of Wisconsin, 1922–
- Albert Quie of Minnesota, 1923–
- Robert Michel of Illinois, 1923–
- Merwin Coad of Iowa, 1924–

Percentage of Total House Membership Who Served with John Dingell, Jr.



John Dingell, Jr., Served with 11 Presidents

- Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1955–1961
- John F. Kennedy, 1961–1963
- Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963–1969
- Richard M. Nixon, 1969–1974
- Gerald R. Ford, 1974–1977
- James E. (Jimmy) Carter, 1977–1981
- Ronald Reagan, 1981–1989
- George H.W. Bush, 1989–1993
- William J. (Bill) Clinton, 1993–2001
- George W. Bush, 2001–2009
- Barack H. Obama, 2009–present

John Dingell, Jr., Served with 11 Speakers of the House

- Sam Rayburn of Texas, 1955–1961
- John McCormack of Massachusetts, 1962–1971
- Carl Albert of Oklahoma, 1971–1977
- Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill of Massachusetts, 1977–1987
- James Wright of Texas, 1987–1989
- Thomas Foley of Washington, 1989–1995
- Newt Gingrich of Georgia, 1995–1999
- J. Dennis Hastert of Illinois, 1999–2007
- Nancy Pelosi of California, 2007–2011
- John Boehner of Ohio, 2011–present
- *Joseph Martin of Massachusetts served two terms as Speaker of the House prior to Dingell's tenure. However, Martin remained a Member until 1967.*

For more information on individual Members of Congress, see <http://history.house.gov/People/Search/>.