

Freshmen in the Texas Legislature, 61st-86th Legislatures

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Every few years, we update our comparison across Legislatures of the percent of freshmen at the beginning of each regular session. Here's our [first post from 2012](#) on the topic (which explains some of the reasons for unusually high numbers), and the [2014](#) and [2017](#) updates.

Below you can see how the numbers compared over the past 50 years, from 1969-2019 (61st-86th Legislatures). Please note that we defined freshmen as new legislators sworn in during the first day or week of the regular session. Members who first served during a called session of a legislature are counted as freshmen members of that legislature. Excluded are members who were elected to a legislature but never sworn in due to death, resignation, or other factors.

You can see these and other figures on our [member statistics page](#). Exact percentage of freshmen each session can be found [here](#).

Data compiled from the library's [Texas Legislators: Past and Present](#) database