

Overview: Biden Administration: Cabinet Members and Biographies

President-elect Biden’s Cabinet is currently expected to include all heads of major agencies and departments; the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations; the Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers; the Director of National Intelligence; the Director of the Office of Management and Budget; and the White House Chief of Staff. This document is organized alphabetically by last name.



General Lloyd J. Austin III  
Secretary of Defense

Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III was born in Mobile, Alabama and raised in Thomasville, Georgia before graduating from the United States Military Academy (West Point) with a BS. General Austin also holds an

MA in counselor education from Auburn University and an MBA from Webster University.

General Austin’s Army career began in 1975. Since then he has led joint forces in combat at the one-, two-, three- and four-star ranks. He has been a Commanding General for the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum; Chief of Staff and Commander for U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) at the Department of Defense; Commander of the Army’s XVIII Airborne Corps; Director of the Joint Staff; member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board; Vice Chief of Staff for the Army; and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Requirements Oversight Council. He has served around the world, including Operation Safe Haven in Panama with the 82nd Airborne Division; Operation Iraqi Freedom as the assistant division commander for the 3rd Infantry Division; and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan as the commander of the 10th Mountain Division. He retired in 2016 after a 40-year career. He will need a Congressional waiver to nullify the mandated seven-year waiting period for active-duty servicemembers to participate in government service.

General Austin also has served in civilian positions and on corporate boards, including as a Partner at Pine Island Capital Partners LLC, and as a member for the Carnegie Corporation of New York Board of Trustees, Tenet Healthcare Corporation Board of Directors, Nucor Corporation Board of Directors, and Raytheon Technologies Board of Directors.



Xavier Becerra  
Secretary of Health and Human Services

General Xavier Becerra was born and raised in Sacramento, California. He earned a B.A. in economics from Stanford University and later received a J.D. from Stanford Law School. He

began his career providing legal aid to individuals with mental disorders in Massachusetts, then as an assistant for California State Senator Art Torres. From 1987 to 1990, he worked as California’s deputy attorney general under Attorney General John Van de Kamp.

From 1990 to 1992, Becerra served one term representing California’s 59th district in the State Assembly. In 1992 he ran for the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served for 24 years (1993 – 2017). Due to redistricting during his tenure, he served as Representative for the 30th, 31st, and 34th districts of California. Becerra was a member of the Congressional Hispanic Congress and served as the CHC’s chairman for the 105th Congress. He was appointed assistant to the Speaker of the House for the 110th Congress, and later won a bid to serve as Vice-Chair in the 111th and 112th. Notably, Becerra was the first Latino to sit on the House Ways and Means Committee and served on the Subcommittees on Health and Social Security. He also served on the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction.

In 2016, Becerra was appointed Attorney General of California by Governor Jerry Brown after Kamala Harris was elected to the U.S. Senate. He was later elected to a full term. Becerra made headlines in recent years for filing nearly 100 lawsuits against the Trump

Administration, many of which were focused on health care and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). He was also active on antitrust, the environment, and immigration.



Antony John "Tony" Blinken  
Secretary of State

Tony Blinken was born in New York City and raised in both New York and Paris, France. He earned a BA from Harvard University in social studies and worked on The Harvard Crimson. Both his father and uncle were U.S. ambassadors, for Hungary and Belgium respectively. He worked as a reporter for The New Republic before earning a J.D. from Columbia Law School. He then practiced law in NYC and Paris, in addition to fundraising for Michael Dukakis's 1988 presidential campaign.

In 1993 he joined the State Department, working as a special assistant for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs. He served President Bill Clinton in numerous roles, including Special Assistant to the President, Senior Director for Strategic Planning in the Executive Office of the President, staff for the National Security Council, and Senior Director for European and Canadian Affairs.

Between Democratic administrations, he served as a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and as Staff Director for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. His time on the Committee overlapped with Biden's, who was serving as the senior Democrat at the time.

Following President Obama's victory, he was a team leader for the transition's National Security Council Review Team and member of the National Security Policy Working Group. He then served the Obama Administration in numerous roles, including Deputy Assistant to the President, Assistant to the Vice President for National Security, Chair of the NSC

Deputies Committee, Deputy National Security Advisor, and Deputy Secretary of the State Department.

Following Obama’s presidency, Blinken co-founded WestExec Advisors, a consulting firm focused on geopolitical risks and emerging opportunities. He also held positions as a Director for Human Rights First, Partner at Pine Island Capital Partners LLC, Global Affairs Analyst at CNN, and a Managing Director for the Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement at the University of Pennsylvania.



Peter Paul Montgomery “Pete” Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation

Pete Buttigieg was born and raised in South Bend, Indiana before attending Harvard University and earning a BA in literature and history. Buttigieg then became a Rhodes Scholar, studying philosophy, politics, and economics at the University of Oxford.

In his early career Buttigieg worked as an investigative intern for NBC, staff for Jill Thompson’s congressional and gubernatorial bids, a policy and research specialist for John Kerry’s 2004 presidential campaign, and a conference director for the Cohen Group.

Beginning in 2007, he was a consultant for McKinsey & Company where he worked on energy, retail, economic development, and logistics before leaving to launch an ultimately unsuccessful campaign for Indiana state treasurer. In 2009, he joined the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Buttigieg was elected mayor of South Bend, Indiana in 2011 and served two terms. As mayor, he participated in several urban development projects, including a Smart Streets program, smart sewer program, and several home repair initiatives. He took a seven-month leave in

2014 to deploy to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom and was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

In 2017, Buttigieg launched his first national campaign in a bid to chair the Democratic National Committee (DNC). In 2019, Buttigieg launched his campaign for President of the United States. Buttigieg came in first in Iowa, second in New Hampshire, fourth in South Carolina, then dropped out of the race and endorsed then-candidate Joe Biden two days before Super Tuesday. Since his campaign, he has launched a super PAC for down-ballot Democrats and served as a member of the Biden-Harris Transition Team advisory council.



Dr. Miguel Cardona  
Secretary of Education

Dr. Miguel A. Cardona currently serves as Connecticut’s Commissioner of Education — the first Latino to hold the position. He began his career educating and inspiring

Connecticut’s youth as a fourth-grade teacher in Meriden’s public school system, the same school district he attended as a child. Dr. Cardona became the youngest school principal in the state at age 27, serving in the position for 10 years before taking on a role addressing the district’s performance and evaluation process and ultimately rising to the position of assistant superintendent.

In addition to teaching as an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut in the Department of Educational Leadership, Dr. Cardona served as the Co-Chairperson on the Connecticut Legislative Achievement Gap Task Force and the Connecticut Birth to Grade Three Leaders Council. Dr. Cardona earned his bachelor’s degree from Central Connecticut

State University, and his masters in bilingual/bicultural education and his doctorate in education from the University of Connecticut.



Marcia Fudge  
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

U.S. Representative Marcia Fudge was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. She holds a BS in business from Ohio State University and a JD from Cleveland State University

Cleveland–Marshall College of Law.

She began her career in the Cuyahoga County prosecutor's office as Director of Budget and Finance. From 1999 – 2000, she served as Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH-11). After her time on the Hill, she was elected mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, and served for eight years.

Following the death of Rep. Tubbs Jones in 2008, Fudge ran for Ohio's vacant seat in the House. She served as the 11th district's Congresswoman for 12 years. A member of the Congressional Black Caucus, she served as the CBC's Chairwoman during the 113th session. Fudge also sat on the Committees on Agriculture, House Administration, and Education and Labor.





Judge Merrick Garland  
Attorney General

Judge Merrick Garland currently serves on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, where he was also Chief Judge for seven years. He also served as the Chair of the Executive Committee of the

Judicial Conference of the United States, appointed by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. A veteran of the Department of Justice, Judge Garland served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division and Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General. During his time at the Department, Judge Garland supervised some of the most high-profile cases in modern history, including the “Unabomber” and Oklahoma City bombing prosecutions.

A fair-minded and independent jurist, Judge Garland was confirmed to serve on the D.C. Circuit in 1997 and has spent more than 23 years pursuing our nation’s ideal of equal justice under law. He is a dedicated and consensus-building public servant who represented underserved Americans pro bono at the outset of his legal career following a clerkship with Supreme Court Justice William Brennan. Judge Garland was also a career federal prosecutor at the Justice Department during the George H.W. Bush Administration, investigating and trying cases involving public corruption, drug trafficking, and fraud.

After winning scholarships to attend Harvard University, he graduated summa cum laude, and earned his law degree from Harvard Law School, where he served on the Harvard Law Review.



Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary of Energy

Governor Jennifer Granholm was born in Vancouver, British Columbia and raised in San Carlos, California. She holds a BA in political science and French from UC Berkeley and a JD from

Harvard Law School.

Granholm began her career as a clerk for Judge Damon Keith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. In 1991, she became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. Then in 1995 she was appointed to the Wayne County Corporation Counsel.

She won her first election in 1998, serving as Michigan’s attorney general from 1999 to 2003. In 2002 she ran to be the Governor of Michigan, ultimately succeeding and serving two terms (2003 – 2011). In this position she also served as a member of Obama’s presidential transition team.

Later in her tenure as governor she worked closely with the Obama Administration during its efforts to bolster the auto industry, a dominant industry in Michigan. Her experience could prove valuable as the Biden Administration works to speed up the nation’s transition to electric vehicles, among other energy priorities for the incoming president.

After leaving office, Granholm co-authored a book on her time as governor and accepted a position at UC Berkeley.





Isabel Guzman  
Small Business Administrator

Isabel Guzman currently serves as the Director of the Office of the Small Business Advocate within the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz). A lifelong proponent of small businesses, Guzman grew up as the daughter of a small business owner and served within the Obama-Biden Administration as Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor in the U.S. Small Business Administration. In her current role, Guzman helps connect entrepreneurs in every community with the resources and capital needed for success, and supports small businesses to weather the COVID-19 pandemic. She serves as the voice of small businesses and innovative startups to help them access capital, markets and networks. In addition to overseeing a network of small business centers, Guzman's office has launched the Shop Safe Shop Local initiative aimed at helping small businesses reopen safely, and its Get Digital CA initiative to help businesses adopt technology to safely and successfully operate in the pandemic.

Prior to her career in public service, Guzman was a small business entrepreneur herself, an advisor to fellow founders, and an advisor at ProAmérica Bank, the first California- chartered Latino-formed business bank to form in Los Angeles in over 35 years.. She earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.



Debra "Deb" Haaland  
Secretary of the Interior

U.S. Representative Deb Haaland was born in Winslow, Arizona to a military family, and attended 13 schools before settling in New Mexico to be close to family. Haaland is an enrolled citizen

of the Laguna Pueblo people and a 35th-generation New Mexican. She received a BA in English from the University of New Mexico, then earned her JD in Indian law from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Haaland was later elected to the Laguna Development Corporation Board of Directors, a Laguna- owned business development group that manages the tribe's gaming operations among other businesses. In 2012, Haaland assisted President Obama's re-election campaign as the vote director for Native Americans in New Mexico. She has also chaired the Democratic Party of New Mexico's Native American Caucus from 2012 to 2013, served as the San Felipe Pueblo tribal administrator from 2013 to 2015, ran and lost for Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico in 2014, and was elected as the chair of New Mexico's Democratic Party in 2015.

Following her two-year term as chair of the Democratic Party of New Mexico, Haaland announced her candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives. She ultimately won her seat and has been serving as U.S. Representative for New Mexico's 1st Congressional district since 2019. Notably, she is one of just two Native women to ever serve in the House.



Avril Haines  
 Director of National Intelligence

Avril Haines was born and raised in Manhattan, NY. She holds a BA in theoretical physics from the University of Chicago. Before earning her JD from Georgetown Law School, she had an eclectic past that included building cars,

planes, and launching an independent bookstore in Baltimore.

Haines served as a legal officer at the Hague Conference on Private International Law in 2001 before becoming a law clerk for Judge Danny Julian Boggs of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in 2002. She later worked in the State Department’s Office of the Legal Adviser, where she handled both treaties and political military affairs.

In 2007, Haines became Deputy Chief Counsel for Majority Senate Democrats of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. She worked under Biden, who was then serving as Chairman of the Committee.

Haines returned to the State Department in 2008, working as an assistant legal adviser for treaty affairs until 2010 when she was appointed to serve in the White House. Haines served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President for National Security Affairs. In 2013, Obama nominated her to serve as deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency. She held the position until 2015.

After her time in the White House, Haines became a senior research scholar and deputy director for Columbia World Projects. She consulted for Palantir Technologies and was briefly an employee of WestExec Advisors. Additionally, Haines is a fellow at the Human Rights Institute and National Security Law Program at Columbia, a member of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service, and a fellow at the Institute for Security Policy and Law at Syracuse University.



Ron Klain  
White House Chief of Staff

Ron Klain was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana before receiving his BA from Georgetown and JD from Harvard Law School. He began his career as a clerk for Supreme Court Justice Byron White.

From 1989 to 1992, Klain served as Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, for which Biden was Chairman at the time. After his time on the Committee he stayed on the Hill, working as a Legislative Director for Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) and Staff Director of the Senate Democratic Leadership Committee. Klain was also involved in both of Bill Clinton's presidential campaigns, leading to an eventual White House position. He served as Associate Counsel to the President, where he assisted with judicial selection efforts. Klain then served as Chief of Staff and Counselor to Attorney General Janet Reno.

In 1995, Klain became then-Vice President Al Gore's Chief of Staff, the same position he would later perform for a Vice President Joe Biden. Between administrations, he worked on various campaigns including Wesley Clark and John Kerry, as a registered lobbyist for O'Melveny & Myers, and as executive vice president of Revolution LLC, a technology venture capital firm. In addition to Chief of Staff for Vice President Biden, Klain was tapped to serve as the White House Ebola response coordinator in 2014.

After the White House, Klain worked as an external adviser to the Skoll Foundation Global Threats Fund, returned to his role as executive vice president at Revolution LLC, and served on the advisory board of Higher Ground Labs. He has taken a leave of absence from these roles to assist with Biden's campaign and transition.



Alejandro Mayorkas  
Secretary of Homeland Security

Alejandro Mayorkas was born in Cuba and raised in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from UC Berkeley and received his JD from Loyola Law School. Mayorkas worked in private practice for three years as a litigation associate before becoming an Assistant United States Attorney in the Central District of California in 1989.

In 1998, President Bill Clinton appointed Mayorkas to be U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California. He left the role in 2001, joining O'Melveny & Myers as a litigation partner. In 2008, then- President-elect Obama selected him to lead the transition team responsible for the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division. After his work on the transition team, Mayorkas was appointed to be the Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS). In this role he ran the implementation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This experience may be valuable given Biden's campaign promise to restore the program.

In 2013, Mayorkas was promoted to Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Notably, no Republicans voted to confirm him. During his tenure he led the Department's response to both the Ebola and Zika virus epidemics. He also became well-versed in cybersecurity issues, and he is credited for a 2015 agreement that briefly reduced cyberattacks from China.

Since being in public office, Mayorkas has been working at the law firm of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr.



Denis McDonough  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Denis McDonough was born and raised in Stillwater, Minnesota. He holds a BA from St. John's University and an MSFS from Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.

Prior to his work in the Obama Administration, McDonough worked as a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress and as a longtime Capitol Hill staffer. His work on the Hill includes serving as Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle's (D-SD) Foreign Policy Advisor.

In 2008, McDonough joined the Obama campaign as a senior advisor on foreign policy issues. He served a similar role on the transition team. From 2010 to 2013, McDonough was the Deputy National Security Advisor. He also served as the Chief of Staff of the National Security Staff and as the Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications. McDonough became Obama's Chief of Staff during the administration's second term, serving from 2013 to 2017.

Since leaving the White House, he has joined the Markle Foundation and taught at the Keough School of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame, where he oversees the school's research on presidential transitions. McDonough is also a visiting senior fellow in Carnegie's Technology and International Affairs Program.





Lisa Monaco  
Deputy Attorney General

Lisa Monaco is a veteran prosecutor and public servant with decades of experience in the U.S. Department of Justice, the FBI, and as White House Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Adviser. Monaco served in the Department of Justice for fifteen years, spending the majority of her time there as a career federal prosecutor. In 2009, she was appointed Associate Deputy Attorney General and went on to serve as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, responsible for assisting the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General in overall management and supervision of the Department, including the country's 94 United States Attorney Offices. In 2011, Monaco was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as the first woman Assistant Attorney General for National Security, where she created the first nationwide network of national security cyber prosecutors.

In 2013, Monaco was appointed Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism. Earlier in her career, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Jane R. Roth on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Counsel to the Attorney General, an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and as counsel and ultimately Chief of Staff to FBI Director Robert Mueller after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. As Assistant U.S. Attorney, she proved that no one was above the law, prosecuting a range of cases from violent crime to fraud and public corruption, including serving on the Enron Task Force, for which she received the Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service — the Justice Department's highest award.

Monaco is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Chicago Law School.



Governor Gina Raimondo  
Secretary of Commerce

Gina Raimondo is currently serving her second term as the 75th Governor of Rhode Island. The first woman to lead in this role, she has revitalized the state's economy through innovative investments in economic

development, job training, and infrastructure, while spurring the creation and growth of small- and medium-sized businesses across Rhode Island. A believer in the power of education, Governor Raimondo more than quadrupled the number of public Pre-K classrooms, ensured every school had a computer science curriculum, and made Rhode Island the nation's fourth state to provide free community college opportunities to every high school graduate. Under her governance, Rhode Island has provided its population with the most tests per capita in the United States and she has worked to quickly bring the state economy back from the brink.

Prior to her tenure as Governor, Raimondo helped found the first venture capital firm in Rhode Island, Point Judith Capital, and served for four years as the state's General Treasurer. A Rhode Island native, Governor Raimondo received her bachelor of arts degree from Harvard University, her master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees as a Rhodes Scholar at the University of Oxford, and her JD from Yale Law School.



Michael Regan  
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency

Michael Regan spent nearly a decade at the Environmental Protection Agency as an air quality specialist. A career civil servant, he stayed at the EPA under both the Clinton and (W.) Bush administrations. After the EPA, he served at the Environmental Defense Fund for eight years.

In 2017 Regan became North Carolina’s environmental chief, running the state’s Department of Environmental Quality. In 2018, Regan created an environmental justice and equity board at the agency. He has been praised by environmental activists for his work in North Carolina. This includes a landmark settlement with Duke Energy to close its regional basins and move millions of tons of the ash. He has also ordered former DuPont subsidiary Chemours to work to clean up Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from the Cape Fear River.

Another aspect of his role in North Carolina has been assisting Governor Roy Cooper (D) with carbon neutrality goals; Regan has been overseeing the state’s climate change interagency council.



Cecilia Rouse  
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers

Cecilia Rouse grew up in Del Mar, California. She holds both a BA and PhD in economics from Harvard. Rouse joined Princeton University as faculty after earning her PhD.

From 1998 to 1999, Rouse worked on President Bill Clinton’s National Economic Council. Between administrations, she conducted years of research including a study on sexism in symphony orchestra auditions. President Barack Obama later tapped her to join his Council of

Economic Advisers, where she worked for the first two years of the administration (2009 – 2011).

Currently the dean of the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, Rouse’s work focuses largely on labor economics. She has expressed interest in the gig economy, paid sick leave, inequality, discrimination, and strategies to address long-term unemployment.

Rouse has served as an editor of the Journal of Labor Economics and as a senior editor of The Future of Children. She is also the founding director of the Princeton University Education Research Section, a member of the National Academy of Education, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.



Katherine Tai  
United States Trade Representative

Katherine Tai was born in Connecticut and grew up in Washington, D.C. She holds a BA in history from Yale University and a JD from Harvard Law School.

Tai served in the U.S. Trade Representative's Office of General Counsel beginning in 2007. In 2011 she became chief counsel for China trade enforcement, a position she held until her departure in 2014. She primarily worked on trade cases at the World Trade Organization. In 2012 she oversaw an effort to build a coalition to join the U.S. in a trade dispute against China which involved restrictions on exports of rare earth elements.

In 2014, Tai joined the House Ways and Means Committee as trade counsel. She became chief trade counsel in 2017 and played a large role in negotiations around the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA).

A fluent Mandarin speaker with roots in Taiwan, Tai is expected to bring substantial subject matter expertise on China.



Neera Tanden  
 Director of the Office of Management and Budget

Neera Tanden was born and raised in Bedford, Massachusetts. She holds a BS from UCLA and a JD from Yale Law School. She began her career as a domestic policy advisor to First Lady Hillary Clinton and associate director for domestic policy in the Clinton White House, where she worked on energy policy and health care reform.

Tanden also served as deputy campaign manager and policy director for Hillary Clinton during her campaign for Senator in New York. She then followed Sen. Clinton the Hill to serve as her Legislative Director from 2003 to 2005. Tanden later joined Clinton as a campaign adviser and policy director during her presidential campaign. After Clinton's loss, she became a campaign adviser and domestic policy director for the Obama-Biden campaign. During the Obama Administration, Tanden was the senior adviser on health reform to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. In this role she worked as an architect of the Affordable Care Act.

After her time in the Obama Administration, Tanden became president and CEO of the Center for American Progress (CAP), a center-left think tank. She was also CEO of CAP's Action Fund. In addition to these roles, Tanden joined New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's Restart and Recovery Commission beginning in April 2020. The Commission assisted the state with its reopening efforts following a lockdown due to COVID-19. She resigned from this post in November to prepare for Biden's transition.



Linda Thomas-Greenfield  
U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations

Linda Thomas-Greenfield was born and raised in Louisiana. She holds a BA from Louisiana State University and an MPA from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She taught political science at Bucknell University until 1982, when she joined the foreign service.

Thomas-Greenfield served in the foreign service for 35 years. Some of her positions include Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (2004–2006); Ambassador to Liberia (2008–2012); and Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Human Resources (2012–2013). She has held posts in Switzerland, Pakistan, Kenya, Gambia, Nigeria, and Jamaica. From 2013 to 2017, she served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

Having been removed from her post under the Trump Administration, at a time when many other senior officials were dismissed, Thomas-Greenfield has written about the need to rebuild the State Department. She is currently on leave from her senior vice president position at the Albright Stonebridge Group, where her work included consulting for the firm’s Africa practice.





Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary Tom Vilsack grew up in Pittsburgh, PA before receiving his BA from Hamilton College and JD from Albany Law School.

Vilsack served as the mayor of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa beginning in 1987. He also volunteered for Joe Biden’s 1987 presidential campaign at the time. In 1992 he was elected to serve in the Iowa State Senate. Vilsack was later elected to be the Governor of Iowa, serving two terms before stepping down in 2007.

In early 2007, Vilsack briefly campaigned for the presidency, but ultimately dropped out to serve as the nation’s 30th Secretary of Agriculture. He remained in this position until 2017.

After his time in the Obama Administration, Vilsack became president and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC). He provides strategic oversight and leadership of the Council’s global promotional and research activities, regulatory affairs, and trade policy initiatives.



Mayor Marty Walsh  
Secretary of Labor

Marty Walsh is currently serving his second term as the Mayor of Boston, Massachusetts. For the past 7 years, he has worked tirelessly to rebuild the middle class, build a more inclusive, resilient economy, and fight for workers in his hometown — including fighting for a \$15 minimum wage and paid family leave. Mayor Walsh is credited with setting records for new affordable housing in the city, putting a roof over the heads of hundreds of homeless people and ending chronic veterans' homelessness, providing universal pre-k, and bringing free community college to low-income students in the city. During his tenure as Mayor, 100,000 new jobs were created.

Prior to his service as Mayor, Walsh served as a legislator for the 13th Suffolk District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party Labor Caucus, and Co-Chair for the Special Commission on Public Construction Reform. He was also president of the Laborers' Union Local 223, joining the union at age 21. He was elected secretary-treasurer and general agent of the Boston Metropolitan District Building Trades Council, and ultimately named to lead the union in 2011.

Mayor Walsh received his bachelor's degree from the Woods College of Advancing Studies at Boston College.



Janet Yellen  
Secretary of the Treasury

Janet Yellen was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. She holds a BA from Brown University and a PhD from Yale University, both in economics. Early in her career Yellen worked as an economics professor for a handful of universities, including The London School of Economics, UC Berkley, and Harvard.

She also worked for the Federal Reserve Board of Governors as both an economist and a member.

From 1997 to 1999, Yellen chaired then-President Bill Clinton’s Council of Economic Advisers. She largely worked on the gender pay divide. At the same time, she also chaired the Economic Policy Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). From 2004 to 2010, she led the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

In 2010, then-President Obama appointed Yellen to serve as the Vice-Chair of the Federal Reserve System. She also returned to her position as a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors. Yellen served as Vice-Chair until being nominated to become Chair in 2013.

Yellen departed both the Federal Reserve System and Board of Governors in 2017. She joined the Brookings Institution, a think tank, where she remained as of November 2020.