

*Black Americans in Party Leadership Positions, 1977–2007**

CONGRESS	MEMBER'S NAME	CAUCUS/CONFERENCE	POSITION
95th (1977–1979)	Shirley Anita Chisholm (D-NY)	Democratic Caucus	Secretary
96th (1979–1981)	Shirley Anita Chisholm (D-NY)	Democratic Caucus	Secretary
97th (1981–1983)	N/A		
98th (1983–1985)	N/A		
99th (1985–1987)	N/A		
100th (1987–1989)	N/A		
101st (1989–1991)	William Herbert Gray III (D-PA)	Democratic Caucus	Chair
	William Herbert Gray III (D-PA)	Democratic Caucus	Majority Whip
102nd (1991–1993)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
103rd (1993–1995)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
104th (1995–1997)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
105th (1997–1999)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
106th (1999–2001)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	Julius Caesar (J. C.) Watts, Jr. (R-OK)	Republican Conference	Chair
107th (2001–2003)	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	Julius Caesar (J. C.) Watts, Jr. (R-OK)	Republican Conference	Chair
108th (2003–2005)	James Enos Clyburn (D-SC)	Democratic Caucus	Vice Chair
	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
109th (2005–2007)	James Enos Clyburn (D-SC)	Democratic Caucus	Vice Chair
			Chair
	John R. Lewis (D-GA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
110th (2007–2009)	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Democratic Caucus	Chief Deputy Whip
	James Enos Clyburn (D-SC)	Democratic Caucus	Majority Whip

* No African-American Senator has ever been elected to a party leadership position.

Black-American Familial Connections in Congress

CHILDREN WHO HAVE SUCCEEDED THEIR PARENTS

William Lacy Clay, Jr., of Missouri (2001–Present), son of William Lacy Clay, Sr., of Missouri (1969–2001)

Harold Eugene Ford, Jr., of Tennessee (1997–2007), son of Harold Eugene Ford, Sr., of Tennessee (1975–1997)

Kendrick B. Meek of Florida, (2003–Present), son of Carrie P. Meek of Florida (1993–2003)

WIDOWS WHO HAVE SUCCEEDED THEIR LATE HUSBANDS

Cardiss Collins of Illinois (1973–1997), wife of George Washington Collins of Illinois (1970–1972)

MISCELLANEOUS FAMILIAL CONNECTIONS

Henry Plummer Cheatham of North Carolina (1889–1893), and George Henry White of North Carolina (1897–1901) were brothers-in-law.

George Washington Murray of South Carolina (1893–1895), and James Enos Clyburn of South Carolina (1993–Present) were distant relatives.