



Congressional Fact Sheet

The 2023 Congressional App Challenge has long concluded with unprecedented success, setting new benchmarks and engaging communities across the United States. For the upcoming 2024 Challenge, we are providing general information and statistics for your teams; these key facts will help Members shape their social media posts for National App Challenge Day:

Key Facts

- **Member Participation** - A remarkable 374 Members of the House of Representatives actively hosted competitions in 2023, surpassing the previous record of 340.
- **Student Participants** - An impressive 11,334 students from all corners of the United States participated in 2023, reflecting a substantial increase of nearly 1,000 participants compared to the previous record set in 2019. This year, we anticipate an estimated 15,000-20,000 student participants, marking a significant surge from previous years.
- **Original Applications** - The Challenge received 3,645 original applications in 2023, a notable increase of almost 1,000 compared to the previous record set in 2022. With students submitting their 2024 applications earlier than ever, we expect to see a new record high in applications for this year's challenge.
- **AI Integration** - Over 25% of last year's submitted apps incorporated Artificial Intelligence (AI), signaling a remarkable leap into the future of technology development.
- **Student Dynamics** - Encouragingly, 90% of last year's applicants expressed a heightened likelihood of pursuing a career in STEM, 88% intend to continue coding, and 82% plan to recommend the program to a friend.
- **Pipeline Development** - Over 58,000 students from all 50 states have participated in the Congressional App Challenge since its inception in 2015. By the end of the 2024 Challenge, we expect this number to reach nearly 80,000.
- **Community Impact** - These achievements extend to 374 Congressional districts, representing over 85% of the American population.
- **Program Prestige** - The Challenge has become the most prestigious prize in computer science for students and stands as the largest competition of its kind in the country.
- **HouseOfCode Reception** - Winners from each participating district will receive exclusive invitations to our #HouseOfCode reception, scheduled for April of 2025. This event serves as a platform to recognize and celebrate the innovative contributions of young minds in the field of computer science.

Director's Perspective

Joseph Alessi, the Program's National Director, expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming Challenge with the following quotes which are free to use:

- "The overwhelming participation from Members of the House of Representatives demonstrates a collective commitment to fostering technological innovation and inspiring the next generation of STEM leaders."
- "The exponential increase in student engagement highlights the Congressional App Challenge's growing influence as a beacon for young minds interested in computer science. It's evident that students are not only embracing the Challenge as a competition but also as a platform to express their passion for technology and contribute to the ever-evolving landscape of digital innovation."
- "Seeing the substantial increase in student participation and the integration of AI in their applications is a testament to the growing influence of the Congressional App Challenge in shaping the future of technology development."
- "The success of this year's Challenge reflects not only the program's growth but also its profound impact on students, with a majority expressing a sustained interest in STEM fields. It's inspiring to witness the lasting influence of the Congressional App Challenge on our nation's youth."

About Congressional App Challenge

The Congressional App Challenge is an annual competition hosted by the U.S. House of Representatives aimed at inspiring, engaging, and encouraging students to pursue careers in STEM fields. Since its inception in 2015, the Challenge has grown to become the largest student computer science competition in the United States.

About #HouseOfCode

The #HouseOfCode reception is an exclusive event that honors the winners of the Congressional App Challenge, providing them with a unique opportunity to showcase their innovative applications and interact with policymakers.