

Demosthenes v0.1

Methodology and Sources

Demosthenes is a website, crafted by Wyatt Brannon of Swarthmore College, which aims to aggregate information about congresspeople. Here's how we get our data.

If there are any errors in this document, they are unintentional. Please contact Wyatt Brannon so that they may be fixed.

The unique programming behind Demosthenes (not including libraries used) is copyright 2025 by Wyatt Brannon, while the data and libraries used are not.

BASIC MODE

Header: uses public domain data from [unitedstates/congress-legislators](#) and [unitedstates/images](#) on GitHub.

Voting Record: uses data from [voteview.com](#), which requests the following citation be included:

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke Sonnet (2025). Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database.
<https://voteview.com/>

Signature Work: uses public domain data from [congress.gov](#).

Campaign Finance Overview: uses public domain data from [fec.gov](#).

District and Contact Information: uses public domain data from [census.gov](#) on top of OpenStreetMap data, with visualization facilitated by [Leaflet.js](#). Also uses public domain data from [unitedstates/congress-legislators](#).

ADVANCED MODE

Header: uses public domain data from [unitedstates/congress-legislators](#) and [unitedstates/images](#) on GitHub.

Voting Record: uses data from [voteview.com](#), which requests the following citation be included:

Lewis, Jeffrey B., Keith Poole, Howard Rosenthal, Adam Boche, Aaron Rudkin, and Luke Sonnet (2025). Voteview: Congressional Roll-Call Votes Database.
<https://voteview.com/>

Signature Work: uses public domain data from [congress.gov](#).

Campaign Finance Overview: uses public domain data from [fec.gov](https://www.fec.gov).

District and Contact Information: uses public domain data from [census.gov](https://www.census.gov) on top of OpenStreetMap data, with visualization facilitated by [Leaflet.js](https://leafletjs.com/) and [Turf.js](https://turfjs.org/). Also uses public domain data from [unitedstates/congress-legislators](https://www.congress.gov/). Election data is from MIT [Dataverse](https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/JXPREF), which requests the following citation be included:

MIT Election Data and Science Lab, 2022, "U.S. President Precinct-Level Returns 2020", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/JXPREF>, Harvard Dataverse, V4

SCRIPT LIBRARIES

Demosthenes is largely built on [Python](https://www.python.org/), and uses the following libraries for its backend:

- [beautifulsoup4](https://pypi.org/project/beautifulsoup4/) (MIT License)
- [fiona](https://pypi.org/project/fiona/) (BSD 3-Clause License)
- [geopandas](https://pypi.org/project/geopandas/) (BSD 3-Clause License)
- [pip](https://pypi.org/project/pip/) (MIT License)
- [pandas](https://pypi.org/project/pandas/) (BSD 3-Clause License)
- [pyarrow](https://pypi.org/project/pyarrow/) (Apache Software License)
- [pyogrio](https://pypi.org/project/pyogrio/) (MIT License)
- [pyproj](https://pypi.org/project/pyproj/) (MIT License)
- [pyyaml](https://pypi.org/project/pyyaml/) (MIT License)
- [requests](https://pypi.org/project/requests/) (Apache Software License)
- [shapely](https://pypi.org/project/shapely/) (BSD 3-Clause License)

PLATFORM

Demosthenes is hosted on [GitHub](https://github.com/).