

The 2016 Statistical Bulletin on Party Membership in the Communist Party of China

Communist Party Member Website

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The 2016 Statistical Bulletin of the Communist Party of China by the Organization

Department of the CPC Central Committee

As of December 31, 2016, the total membership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was 89.447 million, a net increase of 688,000 compared to the previous year, representing a growth rate of 0.8%.

The CPC currently has 4.518 million grassroots organizations, an increase of 105,000 over the previous year, representing a growth rate of 2.4%. Among them, there are 220,000 grassroots committees, 277,000 general branches, and 4.021 million branches.

I. Overview of the Party Membership

The gender, ethnicity, and educational background of Party members. Female members total 22.982 million, accounting for 25.7% of the total membership, an increase of 0.6 percentage points from the previous year. Ethnic minority members total 6.3 million, accounting for 7.0%, which is unchanged from the previous year. Party members with college degrees or higher total 41.031 million, accounting for 45.9%, an increase of 1.6 percentage points.

The age of Party members. Members aged 30 and below: 13.69 million; 31-35: 9.035 million; 36-40: 8.392 million; 41-45: 9.18 million; 46-50: 8.793 million; 51-55: 8.784 million; 56-60: 7.447 million; 61-65: 7.787 million; 66-70: 6.092 million; 71 and older: 10.246 million.

The date a member joins the Party. 29,300 members joined before the founding of the People's Republic of China; 5.384 million between its founding and the Cultural Revolution; 10.395 million during the Cultural Revolution; 2.459 million between the fall of the 'Gang of Four' and the Third Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee; 35.131 million from that session to the 16th CPC National Congress; 26.85 million from the 16th to the 18th Congress; 8.935 million since the 18th Congress.

Occupations of Party Members. Members by occupation include: 7.092 million workers (including skilled personnel); 25.96 million farmers, herders, and fishermen; 13.241 million professionals in enterprises, institutions, and NGOs; 9.31 million managerial staff in these organizations; 7.562 million Party and government staff; 1.87 million students; 7.485 million in other professions; and 16.927 million retirees.

II. Development of Party Membership

In 2016, all regions and departments adhered to the general principle of 'controlling the total numbers, optimizing the structure, improving quality, and enhancing roles,' while continuing to limit the growth rate of party membership to ensure quality. A total of 1.911 million new members were recruited throughout the year, a decrease of 54,000 compared to the previous year, representing a decline of 2.7%.

Gender, ethnicity, age, and educational background of new Party members. Among them, 772,000 were female members, accounting for 40.4% of the total, an increase of 0.8 percentage points from the previous year. 179,000 were ethnic minority members, accounting for 9.4%, an increase of 0.5 percentage points. 1.571 million members were aged 35 and below, accounting for 82.2%, an increase of 0.4 percentage points. 785,000 members had college degrees or higher, accounting for 41.1%, an increase of 1.5 percentage points.

Occupations of new Party members. There are 133,000 workers (skilled labor personnel), including 7,101 migrant workers; 237,000 technical professionals in enterprises, institutions, and non-governmental organizations; 177,000 managers in enterprises, institutions, and non-governmental organizations; 341,000 farmers, herders, and fishermen, including 13,000 working outside their home regions; 108,000 staff of Party and government agencies; 689,000 students; and 226,000 individuals in other professions.

Party members are developed from the frontlines of production, work, and new social strata. A total of 953,000 Party members were developed from the frontlines of production and work, accounting for 49.9% of all new members, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the previous year. Additionally, 123 Party members were developed in urgent and challenging situations such as flood control and disaster relief; 14,000 Party members were developed from new social strata.

III. Commendations within the Party

In 2016, a total of 304,000 advanced grassroots Party organizations were commended nationwide, along with 1.4 million outstanding Communist Party members and 281,000 excellent Party workers.

IV. Applications for Party Membership

As of the end of 2016, there were 20.264 million Party membership applicants nationwide, including 9.402 million active applicants.

V. Party Organization Overview

Local committees of the Party. There were 3,207 Party local committees at all levels nationwide. Among them, there were 31 provincial (autonomous regions, municipalities) committees, 396 city (prefecture) committees, and 2,780 county (city, district, banner) committees.

Party organizations in urban neighborhoods, townships, communities (residents' committees), and administrative villages. Party organizations had been established in 8,138 urban neighborhoods, 31,819 townships, 97,911 communities (residents' committees), and 550,636 administrative villages nationwide, with a coverage rate exceeding 99%.

Party organizations in government and public institutions. A total of 232,000 government units nationwide had established Party organizations, accounting for 99.6% of all government units, consistent

with the previous year. A total of 515,000 public institutions nationwide had established Party organizations, accounting for 94.7% of all public institutions, an increase of 1.0 percentage points.

Party organizations in enterprises. A total of 189,000 state-owned enterprises nationwide had established Party organizations, accounting for 91.3% of all state-owned enterprises, an increase of 0.4 percentage points from the previous year. A total of 1.855 million non-state-owned enterprises had established Party organizations, accounting for 67.9% of all non-state-owned enterprises, an increase of 16.1 percentage points.

Party organizations in social organizations. Among legal entities of social organizations nationwide, 289,000 had established Party organizations, an increase of 85,000 from the previous year, accounting for 58.9% of all social organization legal entities, an increase of 17.3 percentage points.

(Note: Calculation errors in some totals or percentages in this bulletin due to rounding have not been mechanically adjusted.)

Further Reading

2015 Statistical Bulletin on Party Membership in the Communist Party of China Illustrated.

2014 Statistical Bulletin on Party Membership in the Communist Party of China Illustrated.

The 2013 Statistical Bulletin on the Communist Party of China Membership

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