

Jacques Chirac

President of France

Jacques Chirac was born on Nov. 29, 1932, in Paris. He completed his education at the Paris Institute of Political Studies; the École nationale d'administration, France's senior civil service college; and Harvard University summer school.

After a career in public administration, Mr. Chirac was first elected to office in 1965 as a municipal councillor. He became mayor of Paris in 1977 and was re-elected to that post in 1983 and 1989.

In 1967, Mr. Chirac was elected to the National Assembly, the first of eight victories through to 1993. His cabinet posts included Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Minister of the Interior.

Mr. Chirac served twice as Prime Minister, from 1974 to 1976 and from 1986 to 1988. After his first tour as Prime Minister, Mr. Chirac became the founding president of a national party, the Rassemblement pour la République, which became part of the Union pour un mouvement populaire in 2002.

On May 7, 1995, Mr. Chirac was elected President of France. He was elected for a second term on May 5, 2002.

Mr. Chirac is married and has two children.