

## Chapter 5: Congressional Staff and Operating Expenses

### Table of Contents

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
5-1	Congressional Staff, 1979 - 2015	1
5-2	Staffs of Members of the House and Senate, 1891 - 2015	4
5-3	House Staff Based in District Offices, 1970 - 2016	6
5-4	Senate Staff Based in State Offices, 1972 - 2016	8
5-5	Staffs of House and Senate Committees, 1891 - 2015	10
5-6	Staffs of House Standing Committees, 1947 - 2015	12
5-7	Staffs of Senate Standing Committees, 1947 - 2015	15
5-8	Staffs of Congressional Support Agencies, FY1946 - FY2015	18
5-9	Legislative Branch Appropriations and the Consumer Price Index, 1946 - 2016	20
5-10	Legislative Branch Appropriations, by Category, Fiscal Years 1984 - 2016 (in thousands of dollars)	23
5-11	Allowances for Representatives, 1977 - 2016	28
5-12	Allowances for Senators, 1977 - 2016	30

Table 5-1

## Congressional Staff, 1979 - 2015

	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*	2008	2009*	2010	2011	2012
<b>House</b>																							
Committee staff <sup>a</sup>	2,027	1,917	2,068	2,146	2,136	2,267	2,321	2,147 <sup>b</sup>	1,266	1,276	1,267	1,201	1,255	1,231	1,280	1,272	1,225	1,014	1,362	1,324	1,454	1,127	1,289
Personal staff	7,067	7,487	7,606	7,528	7,584	7,569	7,278	7,400	7,186	7,282	7,216	7,209	7,263	7,048	6,742	6,804	7,117	6,735	6,903	6,907	7,012	6,525	6,683
Leadership staff <sup>c</sup>	162	127	135	144	138	133	149	132	134	126	179	166	158	160	161	176	179	148	195	171	202	181	217
Officers of the House, staff <sup>d</sup>	1,487	1,686	1,728	1,818	1,845	1,215	1,293	1,194	1,327	1,146	974	892	1,023	1,099	453	490	358	394	421	451	332	326	312
Subtotal, House	10,743	11,217	11,537	11,636	11,703	11,184	11,041	10,873	9,913	9,830	9,636	9,468	9,699	9,538	8,636	8,742	8,879	8,291	8,881	8,853	9,000	8,159	8,501
<b>Senate</b>																							
Committee staff <sup>a</sup>	1,410	1,150	1,176	1,178	1,207	1,116	1,154	994	796	1,216	910	889	961	924	903	957	929	874	919	913	n.a.	1,062	973
Personal staff	3,593	3,945	4,059	4,097	4,075	3,837	4,294	4,138	4,247	4,410	4,272	3,994	4,024	3,998	3,687	3,934	3,944	3,753	3,908	3,884	n.a.	4,051	3,894
Leadership staff <sup>c</sup>	91	106	120	118	103	105	125	132	126	148	219	221	201	227	245	189	225	236	199	214	n.a.	187	171
Officers of the Senate, staff <sup>d</sup>	828	878	948	976	904	926	1,092	1,165	994	958	990	950	940	940	995	1,114	1,077	1,085	1,089	1,086	n.a.	920	922
Subtotal, Senate	5,922	6,079	6,303	6,369	6,289	5,984	6,665	6,429	6,163	6,732	6,391	6,054	6,126	6,089	5,830	6,194	6,175	5,948	6,115	6,097	n.a.	6,220	5,960
<b>Joint committee staffs<sup>e</sup></b>																							
	138	126	123	131	132	138	145	145	108	120	104	94	104	103	107	98	90	91	101	96		110	106
<b>Support agencies</b>																							
General Accountability Office	5,303	5,182	4,960	5,042	5,016	5,063	5,054	4,958	4,342	3,500	3,275	3,155	3,275	3,269	3,252	3,215	2,388	3,172	3,137	3,191	3,350	3,134	2,997
Congressional Research Service	847	849	853	860	860	860	831	835	746	726	703	722	681	692	729	700	669	658	705	675	679	658	616
Congressional Budget Office	204	218	211	222	226	226	226	230	214	232	232	228	232	236	236	235	235	232	233	238	254	248	240
Office of Technology Assessment	145	130	130	143	143	143	143	143	n.a. <sup>f</sup>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Subtotal, Support agencies	6,499	6,379	6,154	6,267	6,245	6,292	6,254	6,166	5,302	4,458	4,210	4,105	4,188	4,197	4,217	4,150	3,292	4,062	4,075	4,104	4,283	4,040	3,853
<b>Miscellaneous</b>																							
Architect	2,296	1,986	2,061	2,073	2,412	2,088	2,099	2,060	2,151	1,854	2,012	2,012	2,081	2,133	2,183	1,533	2,158	2,150	2,212	2,212	2,490	2,231	2,186
Capitol Police <sup>g</sup>	1,167	1,163	1,148	1,227	1,250	1,259	1,265	1,159	1,076	1,076	1,251	1,215	1,570	1,771	1,592	1,730							
Subtotal, Miscellaneous	3,463	3,149	3,209	3,300	3,662	3,347	3,364	3,219	3,227	2,930	3,263	3,227	3,651	3,904	3,775	3,263							
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,765</b>	<b>26,950</b>	<b>27,326</b>	<b>27,703</b>	<b>28,031</b>	<b>26,945</b>	<b>27,469</b>	<b>26,832</b>	<b>24,713</b>	<b>24,070</b>	<b>23,604</b>	<b>22,948</b>	<b>23,768</b>	<b>23,831</b>	<b>22,565</b>	<b>22,447</b>	<b>20,594</b>	<b>20,542</b>	<b>21,384</b>	<b>21,362</b>		<b>20,760</b>	<b>20,606</b>

Table 5-1

	2013	2014	2015
<b>House</b>			
Committee staff <sup>a</sup>	1,238	1,163	1,164
Personal staff	6,219	6,201	6,030
Leadership staff <sup>c</sup>	197	191	201
Officers of the House, staff <sup>d</sup>	314	296	308
Subtotal, House	7,968	7,851	7,703
<b>Senate</b>			
Committee staff <sup>a</sup>	934	935	951
Personal staff	3,788	3,827	3,917
Leadership staff <sup>c</sup>	171	169	173
Officers of the Senate, staff <sup>d</sup>	841	842	846
Subtotal, Senate	5,734	5,773	5,887
Joint committee staffs <sup>e</sup>	100	92	99
<b>Support agencies</b>			
General Accountability Office	2,849	2,891	2,989
Congressional Research Service	593	595	609
Congressional Budget Office	225	235	235
Office of Technology Assessment	n.a	n.a	n.a
Subtotal, Support agencies	3,667	3,721	3,833
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Architect	2,102	2,085	2,103
Capitol Police <sup>g</sup>			
Subtotal, Miscellaneous			
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,571</b>	<b>19,522</b>	<b>19,625</b>

n.a. = not available

Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees. Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

\*Data for years marked with an asterisk are under review for possible data anomalies and are subject to potential revision.

a. This includes select and special committee staffs. Therefore, the figures may not agree with those in table 5-5.

b. In addition to the staffs (twenty-nine members) of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress, which retained twenty-nine staff members, three other select committees were in operation in 1993: the Select Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, and the Special and Select Committee on Funerals. The 104th Congress did not reauthorize those committees, but the committees stayed on for a few months to complete previous business. Although the committees did little business in 1993, they did retain small staffs during that time.

c. This includes legislative counsels' offices.

d. These include doorkeepers, parliamentarians, sergeants-at-arms, the clerk of the House, Senate majority and minority secretaries, and postmasters.

e. This does not include the Joint Committee on the Library.

f. The Office of Technology Assessment was eliminated in 1995.

g. This includes sworn officers only.

Source: Report of the Secretary of the Senate, various editions; Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions; Legislative Branch Appropriations, various years; Architect of the Capitol Performance and Accountability Report, various years. For 2011-present, Report of the Secretary of the Senate and Statements of Disbursements of the House were obtained from the Sunlight Foundation.

Table 5-2 Staffs of Members of the House and Senate, 1891 - 2015

Year	Employees in House	Employees in Senate
1891	n.a.	39
1914	n.a.	72
1930	870	280
1935	870	424
1947	1,440	590
1957	2,441	1,115
1967	4,055	1,749
1972	5,280	2,426
1976	6,939	3,251
1977	6,942	3,554
1978	6,944	3,268
1979	7,067	3,593
1980	7,371	3,746
1981	7,487	3,945
1982	7,511	4,041
1983	7,606	4,059
1984	7,385	3,949
1985	7,528	4,097
1986	7,920	3,774
1987	7,584	4,075
1988	7,564	3,977
1989	7,569	3,837
1990	7,496	4,162
1991	7,278	4,294
1992	7,597	4,249
1993	7,400	4,138
1994	7,390	4,200
1995	7,186	4,247
1996	7,288	4,151
1997	7,282	4,410
1998	7,269	4,281
1999	7,216	4,272
2000	7,226	4,087
2001	7,209	3,994
2002	7,263	4,024
2003	7,048	3,998
2004	6,742	3,687
2005	6,804	3,934
2006	7,117	3,944
2007*	6,735	3,753
2008	6,903	3,908
2009*	6,907	3,884
2010	7,012	
2011	6,525	4,051
2012	6,683	3,894
2013	6,219	3,788
2014	6,201	3,827
2015	6,030	3,917

n.a. = not available
*Data for years marked with an asterisk are under review for possible data anomalies and are subject to potential revision. Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees.
a. Senate figures reflect the period immediately after Gramm-Rudman mandated staffing cuts. House figures are for the entire fiscal year, thus averaging post-Gramm-Rudman staffing levels with previous, higher levels.
Source: Report of the Secretary of the Senate, various editions; Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions. For 2011-present, Report of the Secretary of the Senate and Statements of Disbursements of the House were obtained from the Sunlight Foundation.

Table 5-3 House Staff Based in District Offices,  
1970 - 2016

Year	Employees	Percentage of total personal staffs in district offices
1970	1,035	n.a.
1971	1,121	n.a.
1972	1,189	22.5
1973	1,347	n.a.
1974	1,519	n.a.
1975	1,732	n.a.
1976	1,943	28.0
1977	2,058	29.6
1978	2,317	33.4
1979	2,445	34.6
1980	2,534	34.4
1981	2,702	36.1
1982	2,694	35.8
1983	2,785	36.6
1984	2,872	38.9
1985	2,871	38.1
1986	2,940	43.6
1987	2,503	33.0
1988	2,954	39.6
1989	2,916	38.5
1990	3,027	40.4
1991	3,022	41.5
1992	3,128	41.2
1993	3,130	42.3
1994	3,335	45.1
1995	3,459	48.1
1996	3,144	43.1
1997	3,209	44.1
1998	3,214	44.2
1999	3,192	44.2
2000	3,216	44.5
2001	3,004	41.7
2002	3,302	45.5
2003	3,241	45.9
2004	3,392	50.3
2005	3,450	50.7
2006	3,506	49.3
2007	3,314	49.2
2008	3,418	49.5
2009	3,377	48.9
2010	3,685	49.7
2011	3,496	49.2
2012	3,356	48.6
2013	3,189	47.6
2014	3,216	47.9
2015	3,184	47.6
2016	3,175	47.3

n.a. = not available
<p>Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees.</p> <p>The source material for tables 5-3 and 5-4 is different than the material used for, and therefore should not be compared against, 5-1, 5-2, 5-5, 5-6, and 5-7.</p> <p>Some data from previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.</p>
<p>Previous Update Sources: Congressional Staff Directory, CQ Press, and Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions.</p> <p>Most Recent Update Source: For 2010 through 2016, district-based staff were calculated based on staffs listed in the House telephone directory, published annually.</p>



Table 5-4 Senate Staff Based in State Offices, 1972 - 2016

Year	Employees	Percentage of total personal staffs in district offices
1972	303	12.5
1978	816	25.0
1979	879	24.4
1980	953	25.4
1981	937	25.8
1982	1,053	26.1
1983	1,132	27.9
1984	1,140	28.9
1985	1,180	28.8
1986	1,249	33.1
1987	1,152	28.3
1988	1,217	30.6
1989	1,200	31.3
1990	1,293	31.1
1991	1,316	30.6
1992	1,368	32.2
1993	1,335	32.3
1994	1,345	32.0
1995	1,278	30.1
1996	1,290	31.1
1997	1,366	31.0
1998	1,381	32.3
1999	1,414	33.2
2000	1,405	34.4
2001	1,228	30.7
2002	1,456	36.2
2003	1,440	36.0
2004	1,468	39.8
2005	1,534	39.0
2006	1,562	39.6
2007	1,495	39.8
2008	1,590	40.7
2009	1,661	41.2
2010	1,835	42.2
2011	1,779	42.4
2012	1,804	42.8
2013	1,742	42.7
2014	1,743	42.8
2015	1,712	43.2
2016	1,715	43.2

n.a. = not available
<p>Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees.</p> <p>The source material for tables 5-3 and 5-4 is different than the material used for, and therefore should not be compared against, 5-1, 5-2, 5-5, 5-6, and 5-7.</p> <p>Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.</p>
<p>Previous Update Sources: Congressional Staff Directory, CQ Press, and Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions.</p> <p>Most Recent Update Source: For 2010 through 2016, district-based staff were calculated based on staffs listed in the Senate telephone directory, published annually.</p>

Table 5-5 Staffs of House and Senate Committees, 1891 - 2015

Year	Employees in House	Employees in Senate	Year	Employees in House	Employees in Senate
1891	62	41	1989	1,986	1,013
1914	105	198	1990	1,993	1,090
1930	112	163	1991	2,201	1,030
1935	122	172	1992	2,178	1,008
1947	167	232	1993	2,118	897
1950	246	300	1994	2,046	958
1955	329	386	1995	1,246	732
1960	440	470	1996	1,177	793
1965	571	509	1997	1,250	1,002
1970	702	635	1998	1,305	747
1971	729	711	1999	1,238	805
1972	817	844	2000	1,176	762
1973	878	873	2001	1,177	805
1974	1,107	948	2002	1,222	869
1975	1,460	1,277	2003	1,193	857
1976	1,680	1,201	2004	1,249	838
1977	1,776	1,028	2005	1,272	887
1978	1,844	1,151	2006	1,225	929
1979	1,909	1,269	2007*	1,014	874
1980	1,917	1,191	2008	1,362	919
1981	1,843	1,022	2009*	1,324	913
1982	1,839	1,047	2010	1,406	
1983	1,970	1,075	2011	1,099	995
1984	1,944	1,095	2012	1,259	909
1985	2,009	1,080	2013	1,208	873
1986	1,954	1,075	2014	1,134	872
1987	2,024	1,074	2015	1,110	888
1988	1,976	970			

\*Data for years marked with an asterisk are under review for possible data anomalies and are subject to potential revision.

Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees.

For 1947-1986, figures are for the statutory and investigative staffs of standing committees. They do not include select committee staffs, which varied between 31 and 238 in the House and between 62 and 172 in the Senate during the 1970s. For that reason, the numbers do not agree with those in table 5-1. In an attempt to provide further accuracy, we have counted certain individuals as .5 of a staff member on the basis of the length of employment and salary received. Rounding of those numbers then means that figures in this table do not necessarily equal those of the individual committees in tables 5-6 and 5-7.

For 2006-2009, counts do include select committee staff.

Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

Source: Report of the Secretary of the Senate, various editions; Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions; Legislative Branch Appropriations, various years. For 2011-present, Report of the Secretary of the Senate and Statements of Disbursements of the House were obtained from the Sunlight Foundation.

Table 5-6

Staffs of House Standing Committees, 1947 - 2015

Committee	1947	1960	1970	1975	1981	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Appropriations	29	59	71	98	127	182	188	196	218	227	202	126	143	156	152	158
Government Reform and Oversight (Government Operations)	9	54	60	68	84	86	80	82	90	86	82	75	100	120	161	129
Commerce (Energy and Commerce)	10	45	42	112	151	162	153	138	155	140	139	67	93	94	91	90
Ways and Means	12	22	24	63	91	99	108	94	94	142	122	60	67	65	67	66
International Relations (Foreign Affairs)	10	14	21	54	84	97	101	98	104	96	98	62	69	73	66	68
Transportation and Infrastructure (Public Works)	6	32	40	88	86	84	83	83	97	89	87	70	74	84	75	80
Judiciary	7	27	35	69	75	81	81	80	71	75	74	47	61	85	74	70
Resources (Natural Resources) <sup>b</sup>	4	10	14	57	70	73	71	67	85	71	66	56	62	71	66	69
Banking and Financial Services (Banking)	4	14	50	85	87	90	78	108	112	100	98	46	56	64	52	59
Science (Science, Space and Technology)	— <sup>a</sup>	17	26	47	74	78	70	79	84	87	86	48	56	63	57	59
National Security (Armed Services)	10	15	37	38	49	64	69	66	82	76	78	44	70	60	58	57
Budget	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	67	93	109	124	96	101	98	98	61	67	61	67	68
Agriculture	9	10	17	48	62	67	228	69	69	70	66	48	50	62	53	48
House Oversight (House Administration) <sup>c</sup>	7	4	25	217	252	275	43	275	317	317	316	270	33	36	41	35
Rules	4	2	7	18	43	45	62	41	49	48	47	37	36	41	36	35
Veterans' Affairs	7	18	18	26	34	32	11	41	44	46	45	28	28	27	25	30
Small Business	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	27	54	53	44	54	53	45	40	24	28	40	32	30
Standards of Official Conduct	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	5	5	9	9	85	8	11	9	9	10	9	11	12	13
Post Office and Civil Service <sup>d</sup>	6	9	46	61	74	83	77	83	87	76	70	6				
Merchant Marine and Fisheries <sup>d</sup>	6	9	21	28	82	79	42	74	76	75	75	6				
District of Columbia <sup>d</sup>	7	8	15	43	41	42	42	39	40	34	36	6				
Education and the Workforce	10	25	77	114	121	119	127	114	117	112	114	66	75	77	94	74
Homeland Security																

Table 5-6

Committee	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*	2008	2009*	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Appropriations	147	148	158	156	162	164	156	157	190	207	212	161	162	154	154	147
Government Reform and Oversight (Government Operations)	116	107	111	96	111	108	102	66	101	52	110	90	101	99	92	87
Commerce (Energy and Commerce)	87	87	97	96	90	94	87	67	102	71	107	86	99	99	90	83
Ways and Means	67	69	73	73	71	73	67	59	72	68	77	69	70	71	62	62
International Relations (Foreign Affairs)	64	68	68	73	72	75	76	58	122	75	82	67	82	65	68	74
Transportation and Infrastructure (Public Works)	70	80	75	70	72	65	72	66	76	85	80	59	66	68	61	66
Judiciary	73	73	75	69	73	73	74	58	68	70	83	75	75	68	64	61
Resources (Natural Resources) <sup>b</sup>	64	57	68	67	68	64	59	53	61	59	60	40	60	55	55	44
Banking and Financial Services (Banking)	54	57	66	63	64	62	62	58	80	65	77	55	68	58	54	58
Science (Science, Space and Technology)	58	62	65	59	61	60	51	44	59	54	61	45	56	59	46	45
National Security (Armed Services)	55	53	46	54	54	58	57	52	65	68	68	59	64	63	57	57
Budget	60	50	57	47	45	43	41	32	38	39	41	38	40	44	42	41
Agriculture	44	47	49	46	46	42	43	27	46	42	45	33	43	37	34	37
House Oversight (House Administration) <sup>c</sup>	34	40	40	43	42	41	37	27	40	40	46	38	44	43	35	39
Rules	35	37	33	35	33	34	35	23	29	30	34	24	28	29	27	23
Veterans' Affairs	30	26	30	32	28	28	67	25	31	32	30	18	26	22	24	27
Small Business	30	27	26	31	28	31	30	19	28	26	33	18	28	28	25	22
Standards of Official Conduct	13	11	12	13	11	12	11	11	16	4	24					
Post Office and Civil Service <sup>d</sup>																
Merchant Marine and Fisheries <sup>d</sup>																
District of Columbia <sup>d</sup>																
Education and the Workforce	75	78	80	71	72	73	59	59	73	77	74	46	57	57	58	57
Homeland Security					46	41	39	53	65	64	62	58	66	66	64	55

Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees. Many of the committee names and jurisdictions changed in the 104th Congress. For continuity, we have included the old committee names in parentheses. The committees are ranked in order of their staff size in 2001.

\*Data for years marked with an asterisk are under review for possible data anomalies and are subject to potential revision.

a. Not a standing committee.

b. In 1993, the Natural Resources Committee was created out of the old Interior Committee. The staff figures for 1947-1991 are actually those of the Interior Committee.

c. After 1972, the figures include employees of House Informations Systems, the House of Representatives' central computer facility.

d. These three committees were eliminated in the first few weeks of the 104th Congress. The jurisdictions of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee and the District of Columbia Committee became part of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee. The jurisdiction of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee was divided among several other committees.

Source: Statement of Disbursements of the House, various editions. For 2011-present, Statements of Disbursements of the House were obtained from the Sunlight Foundation.

Table 5-7

## Staffs of Senate Standing Committees, 1947 - 2015

Committee	1947	1960	1970	1975	1979	1981	1985	1989	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Appropriations	23	31	42	72	80	79	82	80	72	70	60	59	76	70	79	80	91
Judiciary	19	137	190	251	223	134	141	127	108	110	74	100	141	90	122	86	89
Governmental Affairs (and Homeland Security)	29	47	55	144	179	153	131	111	96	95	66	63	147	70	75	73	73
Labor and Human Resources	9	28	69	150	155	119	127	122	108	117	80	83	94	76	73	74	78
Finance	6	6	16	26	67	50	54	55	46	54	46	49	51	41	44	43	65
Environment and Public Works	10	11	34	70	74	56	56	50	40	44	37	34	39	35	36	41	50
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	8	52	53	111	96	78	93	76	68	70	56	65	68	53	56	54	49
Armed Services	10	23	19	30	31	36	48	51	50	45	43	49	49	45	48	49	49
Budget	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	90	91	82	81	66	58	66	46	46	48	41	42	46	46
Foreign Relations	8	25	31	62	75	59	61	58	54	58	42	50	54	47	50	46	49
Energy and Natural Resources (Interior)	7	26	22	53	55	50	57	50	46	47	39	37	39	36	41	39	38
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	9	22	23	55	48	39	38	51	51	58	44	47	51	45	29	43	43
Agriculture	3	10	7	22	34	34	34	42	29	35	28	33	47	27	28	33	28
Small Business	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	24	22	24	26	20	20	27	21	22	19	24
Indian Affairs	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	22	15	16	23	12	16	16	20
Rules and Administration	41	15	13	29	37	31	28	27	24	24	20	25	27	16	23	19	17
Veterans' Affairs	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	— <sup>a</sup>	32	24	22	25	25	24	14	14	17	21	22	21	17	16



Table 5-7

Committee	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007*	2008	2009*	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Appropriations	96	105	112	111	114	112	104	100	n.a	99	99	99	100	107
Judiciary	99	98	76	91	95	82	97	92	n.a	99	93	83	87	91
Governmental Affairs (and Homeland Security)	83	81	77	79	100	96	91	102	n.a	115	100	90	93	87
Labor and Human Resources	93	64	81	70	81	66	77	71	n.a	94	85	76	74	76
Finance	59	62	55	50	68	65	74	78	n.a	72	67	66	73	77
Environment and Public Works	44	50	45	43	44	43	40	47	n.a	47	35	38	38	34
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	56	62	57	58	57	58	59	58	n.a	64	58	56	50	64
Armed Services	53	52	46	53	53	54	56	53	n.a	55	47	49	47	49
Budget	40	50	39	50	52	49	51	44	n.a	50	52	51	48	42
Foreign Relations	50	49	58	58	60	53	65	60	n.a	61	54	53	57	57
Energy and Natural Resources (Interior)	44	40	39	44	42	42	44	45	n.a	49	38	47	38	42
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	49	39	44	50	41	40	33	37	n.a	45	40	42	35	36
Agriculture	36	33	31	32	30	33	31	31	n.a	33	34	30	33	32
Small Business	26	25	25	27	31	28	32	31	n.a	29	29	24	17	23
Indian Affairs	17	17	17	16	21	15	19	16	n.a	23	23	16	19	19
Rules and Administration	19	16	16	17	18	14	21	21	n.a	23	20	20	20	18
Veterans' Affairs	22	17	20	34	22	24	25	27	n.a	23	23	21	18	20

n.a. = not available
*Data for years marked with an asterisk are under review for possible data anomalies and are subject to potential revision. Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees. Committees are ranked in the order of their staff size in 2001.
a. The committee did not yet exist or it existed only as a special committee.
Source: Report of the Secretary of the Senate, various editions. For 2011-present, Report of the Secretary of the Senate were obtained from the Sunlight Foundation.

Table 5-8 Staffs of Congressional Support Agencies, FY1946 - FY2015

Year	Library of Congress	Congressional Research Service only	Government Accountability Office	Congressional Budget Office	Office of Technology Assessment
1946			14,219		
1947	1,898	160	10,695		
1950	1,973	161	7,876		
1955	2,459	166	5,776		
1960	2,779	183	5,074		
1965	3,390	231	4,278		
1970	3,848	332	4,704		
1971	3,963	386	4,718		
1972	4,135	479	4,742		
1973	4,375	596	4,908		
1974	4,504	687	5,270		10
1975	4,649	741	4,905	193	54
1976	4,880	806	5,391	203	103
1977	5,075	789	5,315	201	139
1978	5,231	818	5,476	203	164
1979	5,390	847	5,303	207	145
1980	5,047	868	5,196	218	122
1981	4,799	849	5,182	218	130
1982	4,803	849	5,027	218	130
1983	4,815	853	4,960	211	130
1984	4,802	858	4,985	210	139
1985	4,809	860	5,042	222	143
1986	4,806	860	5,019	222	143
1987	4,983	860	5,016	226	143
1988	4,874	825	5,042	211	143
1989	4,793	860	5,063	226	143
1990	4,659	797	5,066	226	143
1991	5,043	831	5,054	226	143
1992	5,050	838	5,062	218	143
1993	5,033	835	4,958	230	143
1994	4,701	835	4,572	218	143
1995	4,572	746	4,572	214	143
1996	4,399	729	3,677	232	
1997	4,299	726	3,341	232	
1998	4,275	708	3,245	219	
1999	4,317	703	3,275	232	
2000	3,920	696	3,192	223	
2001	4,099	722	3,155	228	
2002	4,251	681	3,275	232	
2003	4,200	692	3,269	236	
2004	4,334	729	3,252	236	
2005	4,292	700	3,215	235	
2006	3,994	669	3,388	235	
2007	3,910	658	3,172	232	
2008	3,849	705	3,137	233	
2009	3,871	675	3,191	238	
2010	3,635	679	3,350	254	
2011	3,551	658	3,134	248	
2012	3,270	616	2,997	240	
2013	3,159	593	2,849	225	
2014	3,120	595	2,891	235	
2015	3,160	609	2,989	235	

Note: The totals reflect the number of full-time paid employees.

Previous Updates Sources: Legislative Branch Appropriations, various years. Employment and Trends (Washington, D.C.: Office of Personnel Management, November 2002, 2003, and 2004).

Most Recent Updates Source: "Budget Justification," Library of Congress, various years; "Performance Plan," Government Accountability Office, various years; "CBO's Appropriation Request for Fiscal Year 2017," Congressional Budget Office, 22 March 2016

Table 5-9 Legislative Branch Appropriations and the Consumer Price Index, 1946 - 2016

Year	Appropriation (dollars)	Increase (percent)	Consumer price index <sup>a</sup>	Increase (percent)
1946	54,065,614	n.a	19.5	8.3
1947	61,825,020	14.4	22.3	14.4
1948	62,119,714	0.5	24.1	8.1
1949	62,057,678	-0.1	23.8	-1.2
1950	64,313,460	3.6	24.1	1.3
1951	71,888,244	11.8	26.0	7.9
1952	75,673,896	5.3	26.5	1.9
1953	77,670,076	2.6	26.7	0.8
1954	70,925,361	-8.7	26.9	0.7
1955	86,304,923	21.7	26.8	-0.4
1956	94,827,986	9.9	27.2	1.5
1957	120,775,798	27.4	28.1	3.3
1958	107,785,560	-10.8	28.9	2.8
1959	136,153,580	26.3	29.1	0.7
1960	131,055,385	-3.7	29.6	1.7
1961	140,930,781	7.5	29.9	1.0
1962	136,686,715	-3.0	30.2	1.0
1963	150,426,185	10.1	30.6	1.3
1964	168,467,869	12.0	31.0	1.3
1965	221,904,318	31.7	31.5	1.6
1966	197,965,307	-10.8	32.4	2.9
1967	221,715,643	12.0	33.4	3.1
1968	282,003,322	27.2	34.8	4.2
1969	311,542,399	10.5	36.7	5.5
1970	361,024,327	15.9	38.8	5.7
1971	443,104,319	22.7	40.5	4.4
1972	564,107,992	27.3	41.8	3.2
1973	645,127,365	14.4	44.4	6.2
1974	662,180,668	2.6	49.3	11.0
1975	785,618,833	18.6	53.8	9.1
1976 <sup>b</sup>	947,185,778	20.6	56.9	5.8
1977	963,921,185	1.8	60.6	6.5
1978	1,009,225,350	4.7	65.2	7.6
1979	1,124,766,400	11.4	72.6	11.3
1980	1,199,061,463	6.6	82.4	13.5
1981	1,285,943,826	7.2	90.9	10.3

Table 5-9 Legislative Branch Appropriations and the Consumer Price Index, 1946 - 2016

Year	Appropriation (dollars)	Increase (percent)	Consumer price index <sup>a</sup>	Increase (percent)
1982	1,365,272,433	6.2	96.5	6.2
1983	1,467,318,263	7.5	99.6	3.2
1984	1,644,160,600	12.0	103.9	4.3
1985	1,599,977,138	-2.7	107.6	3.6
1986	1,783,255,000	11.4	109.6	1.9
1987	1,635,190,214	-8.3	113.6	3.6
1988	1,745,201,500	6.7	118.3	4.1
1989	1,804,624,000	3.4	124.0	4.8
1990	1,968,441,000	9.1	130.7	5.4
1991	2,161,367,000	9.8	136.2	4.2
1992	2,303,844,000	6.6	140.3	3.0
1993	2,302,924,000	-0.1	144.5	3.0
1994	2,269,558,000	-1.4	148.2	2.6
1995	2,390,600,000	5.3	152.4	2.8
1996	2,125,000,000	-11.1	156.9	3.0
1997	2,165,400,000	1.9	160.5	2.3
1998	2,288,000,000	5.7	163.0	1.6
1999	2,581,000,000	12.8	166.6	2.2
2000	2,486,000,000	-3.7	172.2	3.4
2001	2,730,000,000	9.8	177.1	2.8
2002	3,227,000,000	18.2	179.9	1.6
2003	3,461,000,000	7.3	184.0	2.3
2004	3,570,000,000	3.2	189.0	2.7
2005	3,639,892,000	2.0	195.3	3.4
2006	3,765,398,000	3.4	201.6	3.2
2007	3,852,184,000	2.3	207.3	2.8
2008	3,970,415,000	3.1	215.3	3.9
2009	4,402,000,000	10.9	214.5	-0.4
2010	4,656,000,000	5.8	218.1	1.6
2011	4,540,000,000	-2.5	224.9	3.2
2012	4,307,000,000	-5.1	229.6	2.1
2013	4,061,000,000	-5.7	233.0	1.5
2014	4,258,000,000	4.9	236.7	1.6
2015	4,300,000,000	1.0	237.0	0.1
2016	4,363,000,000	1.5		
1946-2016	-	7969.82	-	1053.5

Note: Appropriations include supplementals, except for 1986. Appropriations are for fiscal years, but the consumer price index is the year average for calendar years.

a. The CPI base is 1982-84 = 100.

b. From fiscal year 1946 through fiscal year 1976, the fiscal year began on July 1. Beginning with fiscal year 1977, the start of the fiscal year was shifted to October 1. During the transition quarter of July 1 - September 30, 1976, the amount appropriated for legislative branch operations was \$207,391,365. We have not included that amount.

Previous Update Sources: Paul E. Dwyer, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, RL30512: Appropriations for FY2001: Legislative Branch; Legislative Branch Appropriations Bills, various years; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Most Recent Update Source: Congressional Research Service, "Legislative Branch Appropriations," various years.

Table 5-10

## Legislative Branch Appropriations, by Category, Fiscal Years 1984 - 2016 (in thousands of dollars)

	1984	1985	1986 <sup>a</sup>	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Senate	\$255,856	\$285,930	\$308,834	\$307,658	\$337,314	\$340,677	\$373,761	\$437,223	\$449,568	\$451,451
House of Representatives	\$419,784	\$439,398	\$455,431	\$463,907	\$513,786	\$506,068	\$537,207	\$647,675	\$663,970	\$699,109
Joint Items <sup>b</sup>	\$128,933	\$96,415	\$155,804	\$103,136	\$94,981	\$120,983	\$170,454	\$114,187	\$80,716	\$80,476
Architect of the Capitol <sup>d</sup>	\$82,021	\$85,181	\$112,191	\$101,633	\$107,306	\$103,640	\$116,221	\$139,806	\$151,633	\$149,613
Botanic Garden	\$2,158	\$2,080	\$2,197	\$2,062	\$2,221	\$2,521	\$2,638	\$3,519	\$2,862	\$4,906
Congressional Budget Office	\$16,723	\$17,541	\$18,455	\$17,251	\$17,886	\$18,361	\$19,580	\$21,183	\$22,542	\$22,542
Congressional Research Service	\$36,700	\$39,833	\$38,963	\$39,602	\$43,022	\$44,684	\$46,895	\$52,743	\$56,583	\$57,291
Copyright Royalty Commission <sup>f</sup>	\$210	\$217	\$227	\$123	\$129	\$123	\$101	\$127	\$130	\$130
General Accountability Office	\$271,710	\$299,704	\$339,639	\$304,910	\$329,847	\$347,339	\$364,720	\$419,130	\$442,647	\$435,167
Government Printing Office	\$125,700	\$122,704	\$122,268	\$94,956	\$89,521	\$85,731	\$98,018	\$79,615	\$91,591	\$89,591
Library of Congress <sup>g</sup>	\$228,715	\$228,242	\$242,829	\$227,149	\$235,170	\$244,494	\$253,060	\$291,000	\$304,000	\$310,000
Office of Technology Assessment	\$14,831	\$15,692	\$17,000	\$15,532	\$16,901	\$17,937	\$18,900	\$19,557	\$21,025	\$21,025
Office of Compliance										



Table 5-10

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Senate	\$443,315	\$460,600	\$426,900	\$441,200	\$461,100	\$474,891	\$487,370	\$522,203	\$641,385
House of Representatives	\$684,696	\$728,700	\$671,600	\$684,000	\$709,008	\$740,481	\$757,993	\$830,449	\$921,507
Joint Items <sup>d</sup>	\$78,750	\$86,200	\$86,800	\$85,300	\$86,700	\$204,916 <sup>c</sup>	\$100,854	\$121,860	\$188,204
Architect of the Capitol <sup>d</sup>	\$150,223	\$159,700	\$143,000	\$139,800	\$164,700	\$289,746 <sup>e</sup>	\$213,474	\$210,748	\$327,593
Botanic Garden	\$3,008	\$3,200	\$3,100	\$2,900	\$3,000	\$3,052	\$3,438	\$3,321	\$5,646
Congressional Budget Office	\$22,317	\$23,200	\$24,300	\$24,500	\$24,800	\$25,671	\$26,121	\$28,430	\$30,780
Congressional Research Service	\$56,718	\$60,100	\$60,100	\$62,600	\$64,600	\$67,124	\$70,973	\$73,430	\$81,454
Copyright Royalty Commission <sup>f</sup>	\$128								
General Accountability Office	\$430,815	\$449,400	\$374,000	\$332,500	\$339,500	\$359,268	\$377,561	\$384,020	\$429,444
Government Printing Office	\$88,404	\$84,724	\$83,770	\$81,669	\$81,669	\$74,465	\$73,297	\$81,205	\$81,000
Library of Congress <sup>g</sup>	\$306,531	\$322,950	\$324,912	\$331,658	\$346,912	\$363,640	\$394,353	\$511,727	\$489,163
Office of Technology Assessment	\$21,315	\$22,000							
Office of Compliance				\$2,600	\$2,500	\$2,086	\$1,992	\$1,851	\$2,059

Table 5-10

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Senate	\$663,450	\$712,488	\$729,194	\$777,605	\$803,514
House of Representatives	\$960,871	\$1,008,479	\$1,040,192	\$1,089,898	\$1,137,719
Joint Items <sup>d</sup>	\$257,505	\$19,066	\$18,887	\$19,617	\$24,155
Architect of the Capitol <sup>d</sup>	\$456,782	\$402,976	\$349,900	\$424,193	\$399,917
Botanic Garden	\$6,063	\$6,152	\$6,275	\$7,557	\$7,697
Congressional Budget Office	\$31,892	\$33,620	\$34,640	\$35,096	\$35,204
Congressional Research Service	\$88,250	\$91,185	\$96,118	\$99,907	\$100,786
Copyright Royalty Commission <sup>f</sup>					
General Accountability Office	\$453,051	\$457,606	\$467,205	\$477,571	\$480,696
Government Printing Office	\$89,600	\$90,600	\$88,100	\$88,090	\$87,954
Library of Congress <sup>g</sup>	\$503,175	\$532,001	\$545,362	\$554,893	\$558,694
Office of Technology Assessment					
Office of Compliance	\$2,157	\$2,242	\$2,402	\$3,081	\$3,103

Table 5-10

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Senate	\$831,757	\$895,030	\$926,160	\$914,153	\$868,592	\$884,743	\$859,293	\$864,286	\$870,159
House of Representatives	\$1,182,835	\$1,301,267	\$1,369,025	\$1,311,396	\$1,225,680	\$1,225,680	\$1,180,908	\$1,180,735	\$1,180,909
Joint Items <sup>d</sup>	\$23,001	\$29,220	\$21,323	\$19,794	\$20,207	\$18,970	\$18,994	\$19,056	\$20,732
Architect of the Capitol <sup>d</sup>	\$413,471	\$529,586	\$601,586	\$585,782	\$567,509	\$492,381	\$602,030	\$600,261	\$612,904
Botanic Garden	\$8,786	\$10,906	\$11,390	\$11,367	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$11,856	\$15,573	\$12,113
Congressional Budget Office	\$37,306	\$44,082	\$45,165	\$46,711	\$43,787	\$43,787	\$45,700	\$45,700	\$46,500
Congressional Research Service	\$102,344	\$107,323	\$112,490	\$111,018	\$106,790	\$106,790	\$105,350	\$106,945	\$106,945
Copyright Royalty Commission <sup>f</sup>									
General Accountability Office	\$499,748	\$531,000	\$556,849	\$546,254	\$511,296	\$506,282	\$505,383	\$522,000	\$531,000
Government Printing Office	\$89,800	\$96,800	\$93,770	\$93,600	\$90,700	\$83,465	\$79,700	\$79,700	\$79,700
Library of Congress <sup>g</sup>	\$563,049	\$607,096	\$643,337	\$628,677	\$587,344	\$588,607	\$578,982	\$590,921	\$599,912
Office of Technology Assessment									
Office of Compliance	\$3,342	\$4,072	\$4,377	\$4,077	\$3,817	\$3,817	\$3,868	\$3,959	\$3,959

Note: The figures include supplemental appropriations, except for 1986. Appropriations for legislative operations only.

Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

- a. The figures for 1986 are before Gramm-Rudman-Hollings sequestration.
- b. This category includes such items as joint committees and, until 2003, the Capitol Police. Before 1991, official mail costs were also included in this category.
- c. This includes \$106,782,000 for emergency security enhancements funded under the Capitol Police Board's general expenses account, as well as \$2 million for the Trade Deficit Review Commission.
- d. The figures for the Architect of the Capitol and the Government Printing Office include appropriations for legislative activities only.
- e. This includes \$100 million for construction of a Capitol Visitors' Center.
- f. The commission was abolished after fiscal year 1994. Its duties have been taken over by a Copyright Office panel; therefore, there is no further appropriation.
- g. Library of Congress Figure includes the CRS figure listed above.

Previous Update Sources: Paul E. Dwyer, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, RL30512: Appropriations for FY2001: Legislative Branch; Legislative Branch Appropriations Bills, various years.

Most Recent Update Source: Congressional Research Service, "Legislative Branch Appropriations," various years.

Table 5-11 Allowances for Representatives,  
1977 - 2016

	Members' representational allowance <sup>a</sup>
1977	\$298,491
1981	\$402,584 - 584,985
1983	\$425,498 - 646,118
1985	\$500,193 - 701,189
1987	\$512,173 - 713,069
1989	\$540,160 - 738,260
1991	\$610,000 - 792,000
1993	\$709,528 - 859,408
1995	\$720,688 - 903,189
1997	\$814,090 - 1,233,780
1999	\$858,707 - 1,311,594
2001	\$980,699 - 1,469,930
2003	\$1,087,407 - 1,636,750
2004	\$1,198,149
2005	\$1,246,228
2006	\$1,227,837
2007	\$1,275,209
2008	\$1,332,294
2009	\$1,400,000
2010	\$1,522,114
2011	\$1,446,009
2012	\$1,353,357
2013	\$1,243,560
2014	\$1,255,909
2015	\$1,255,960
2016	\$1,268,520

Note: Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

a. As of January 3, 1978, previous individual allowances for travel, office equipment lease, district office lease, stationery, telecommunications, mass mailings, postage, computer services, and other official expenses were consolidated in a single allowance category--the official expenses allowance. Members may budget funds for each category as they see fit. The average allowance for 1995 was \$193,000. On September 1, 1995, members' three former expense allowances (clerk-hire, official expenses, and official mail allowances) were consolidated into one members' representational allowance (MRA). Although the MRA is calculated on the basis of those three components, members may spend the MRA as they see fit. Within the MRA, each member's expenditures for franked mail may not exceed the total amount allocated by the Committee on House Oversight for official mail expenses, plus an additional \$25,000, transferable within the MRA at the member's discretion according to the procedures under the previous allowance structure. The 1997 mean MRA was \$901,771. This data has been simplified to display the total allowance for a member of Congress. For details on the previous breakdown of allowances, see Vital Statistics on Congress 2007-2008.

Source: Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives; Legislative Branch Appropriations Bills, various years.

Table 5-12

## Allowances for Senators, 1977 - 2016

Category	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
Clerk-hire <sup>a</sup>	\$311,577- 588,145	\$508,221- 1,021,167	\$592,608- 1,190,724	\$645,897- 1,297,795	\$695,244- 1,396,947	\$716,102- 1,438,856	\$754,000- 1,636,000	\$814,000- 1,760,000	\$1,540,000- 1,914,000	\$1,660,000- 1,935,000	\$1,087,597- 1,974,051	\$1,210,467- 2,157,222	\$1,347,851- 2,360,512
Legislative assistance <sup>b</sup>	n.a.	\$157,626	\$183,801	\$200,328	\$215,634	\$243,543	\$248,000	\$269,000	\$374,000	\$377,400	\$385,050	\$396,477	\$410,277
District and state offices rental <sup>c</sup>	n.a.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	4,800-8,000 sq. ft.	5,000-8,200 sq. ft.
Furnishings, state offices <sup>d</sup>	n.a.	\$22,550- 31,350	\$22,550- 31,350	\$22,550- 31,350	\$22,550- 31,350	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$30,000- 41,744	\$42,000- 58,000 <sup>f</sup>
Official office expense account <sup>e</sup>	n.a.	\$33,000 - 143,000	\$33,000- 143,000	\$36,000- 156,000	\$36,000- 156,000	\$36,000- 156,000	\$33,000- 156,000	\$47,000- 122,000	\$44,000- 200,000	\$90,000- 250,000	\$95,825- 245,000	\$127,384- 470,272	\$128,178- 474,282

Table 5-12

Category	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Clerk-hire <sup>a</sup>	\$1,568,333- 2,669,720	\$1,809,792- 3,008,969	\$1,926,936- 3,170,602	\$1,926,936 - 3,170,602	\$2,147,165 - 3,467,575	\$2,147,665 - 3,467,575	\$2,453,206 - 3,898,853	\$2,512,574 - 3,993,206	\$2,361,820 - 3,753,614	\$2,361,820 - 3,753,614	\$2,361,820 - 3,753,614	\$2,361,820 - 3,753,614	\$2,385,439 - \$3,791,151
Legislative assistance <sup>b</sup>	\$436,377	\$460,677	\$472,677	\$472,677	\$481,977	\$481,977	\$508,377	\$508,377	\$477,874	\$ 477,784	\$ 477,874	\$ 477,874	\$ 477,874
District and state offices rental <sup>c</sup>	5,000-8,200 sq. ft.	5,000-8,200 sq. ft.	5,000-8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.	5,000 - 8,200 sq. ft.
Furnishings, state offices <sup>d</sup>	\$43,000- 60,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$43,000- 60,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$45,000- 63,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$45,000- \$63,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$48,000- 67,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$48,000- 67,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$50,000- 70,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$50,000- 70,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$51,000- 72,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$51,000- 72,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$53,000- 74,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$53,000- 74,000 <sup>f</sup>	\$55,000- 77,000 <sup>f</sup>
Official office expense account <sup>e</sup>	\$128,525- 468,377	\$128,553- 466,908	\$128,580- 468,102	\$128,580 - 468,102	\$128,601 - 467,441	\$128,601 - 467,441	\$128,585 - 465,919	\$128,585 - 465,922	\$121,032 - 453,791	\$121,032 - 453,791	\$121,022 - 454,144	\$121,049 - 453,828	\$121,120 - 453,274



Note: Before January 1, 1973, senators were authorized individually controlled allowances for six expense categories as follows: transportation expenses for the senator and his staff; stationery; air mail and special delivery postage; long-distance telephone calls; telegram charges; and home state expenses, which include home state office expenses; telephone service charges incurred outside Washington, DC; subscriptions to newspapers, magazines, periodicals, and clipping or similar services; and home state office rent (repealed effective July 1, 1974). Effective January 1, 1973, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1973, provided for the consolidation of those same allowances to give senators flexibility in the management of the same dollars allocated for their expense allowances. That authorization imposed no limit on any expense category. The allowance was designated as the consolidated office expense allowance. Effective January 1, 1977, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act redesignated the consolidated office expense allowance as the official office expense account.

Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

a. There is no limit on the number of employees a senator may hire. He or she must, however, use only the clerk-hire or legislative assistance allowance to pay staff salaries. The clerk-hire allowance varies according to state population.

b. In addition to clerk-hire, each senator has a legislative assistance allowance worth \$385,050 in 1997. That allowance is reduced for any committee chairman or ranking minority member of a committee. It is also reduced for any other senator authorized by a committee chairman to recommend or approve any individuals for appointment to the committee staff who will assist that senator "solely and directly" in his duties as a member of the committee. The reduction requirements were waived for the 99th and 100th Congresses.

d. Effective July 1, 1974, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1975, provided a formula for the allowable aggregate square feet of office space in the home state of a senator. There is no limit on the number of offices that a senator may establish in his home state, but the designated square footage may not be exceeded. The cost of office space in the home state is not chargeable to the official office expense account.

e. An aggregate furniture and furnishings allowance is provided through the General Services Administration for one or more state offices in either federal or privately owned buildings. Before 1987, the \$22,550 minimum allowance for office space not greater than 4,800 square feet was increased by \$550 for each authorized increase of 200 square feet of space. From 1987 through 1999, the \$30,000 minimum allowance for office space not greater than 4,800 square feet was increased by \$734 for each authorized increase of 200 square feet of space. In 2001, the \$40,000 minimum allowance for office space not greater than 5,000 square feet is increased by \$1,000 for each authorized increase of 200 square feet of space.

f. The expense account may be used for the following expenses (2 U.S.C. 58[a], as amended):

- (1) official telegrams and long-distance phone calls and related services;
- (2) stationery and other office supplies purchased through the stationery room for official business;
- (3) costs incurred in the mailing or delivery of matters relating to official business;
- (4) official office expenses in home state, other than equipment or furniture (purchase of office equipment beyond stated allocations may be made through 10 percent of the funds listed under item 9 below);
- (5) official telephone charges incurred outside Washington, D.C.;
- (6) subscriptions to newspapers, magazines, periodicals, or clipping or similar services;
- (7) travel expenses incurred by a senator or staff member, subject to certain limitations;
- (8) expenses incurred by individuals selected by a senator to serve on panels or other bodies making recommendations for nominees to service academies or federal judgeships; and
- (9) other official expenses as the senator determines are necessary, including (a) additional office equipment for Washington, D.C., or state offices; (b) actual transportation expenses incurred by the senator and employees for official business in the Washington metropolitan area (this is also allowed to employees assigned to a state office for actual transportation expenses in the general vicinity of the office to which assigned but is not available for a change of assignment within the state or for commuting between home and office).

The total reimbursement expense for the calendar year may not exceed 10 percent of the total official office expense account.

Beginning with FY1981, each senator was also allowed to transfer funds from the administrative, clerical, and legislative assistance allowances to the official office expense account.  
g. Beginning in 2001, the amount for state office furnishings was indexed for inflation at the start of each congress. Numbers here are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Previous Update Sources: Paul E. Dwyer, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, RL30512: Appropriations for FY2001: Legislative Branch; Legislative Branch Appropriations Bills, various years.

Most Recent Update Source: Congressional Research Service, "Congressional Salaries and Allowances," various years. Senate Report 113-70, Legislative Branch Appropriations, 2014.