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Senate Staff Levels in Member, Committee, Leadership, and Other Offices, 1977-2016

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Summary

The manner in which staff are deployed within an organization may reflect the missions and priorities of that organization. This report provides staffing levels in Senators' Senate committee, leadership, and other offices since 1977. From 1977 to 1986, Senate staff, excluding state-based staff, increased from 3,397 to 4,180, or 23.05%. From 1987 to 2016, all Senate staff grew from 4,916 to 5,749, or 16.94%. The changes in both time periods were characterized in part by increases in the number of staff working in chamber leadership offices, and, prior to 2016, increases in the staffing of chamber officers and officials. Additionally, staff working for Members have shifted from committees to the personal offices of Members. Since 2010, however, staff working for the Senate has decreased 6.79%. Some of these changes may be indicative of the growth of the Senate as an institution, or the value the chamber places on its various activities.

This report is one of several CRS products focusing on congressional staff. Others include CRS Report RL34545, *Congressional Staff: Duties and Functions of Selected Positions*, by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report R43947, *House of Representatives Staff Levels in Member, Committee, Leadership, and Other Offices, 1977-2016*, by R. Eric Petersen and Amber Hope Wilhelm; CRS Report R44324, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in Senators' Offices, FY2001-FY2015*, coordinated by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report R44323, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2001-2015*, coordinated by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report R44322, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in House Committees, 2001-2015*, coordinated by R. Eric Petersen; and CRS Report R44325, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in Senate Committees, FY2001-FY2015*, coordinated by R. Eric Petersen.

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The manner in which staff are deployed within an organization may reflect the missions and priorities of that organization.

In Congress, employing authorities hire staff to carry out duties in Member-office, committee, leadership, and other settings. The extent to which staff in those settings change may lend insight into the Senate's work over time. Some of the insights that might be taken from staff levels include

- an understanding of the division of congressional work between Senators working individually through their personal offices, or collectively, through committee activities;
- the relationship between committee leaders and chamber leaders, which could have implications for the development and consideration of legislation, the use of congressional oversight, or deployment of staff; and
- the extent to which specialized chamber administrative operations have grown over time.

This report provides staffing levels in Senators',[1] committee, leadership, and other offices since 1977. No Senate publication appears to officially and authoritatively track the actual number of staff working in the chambers by office or entity. Data presented here are based on staff listed by chamber entity (offices of Senators, committees, leaders, officers, officials, and other entities) in Senate telephone directories. **Figure 1** displays overall staffing levels in the Senate.

Table 1 in the "Data Tables" section below provides data for all staff listed in chamber directories in the Senate through 2016. Joint committee staff data from the Senate for panels that met in the 114th Congress (2015-2016) are provided in **Table 7**.

Senate Staffing

Senate Staff Data Collection

This report provides data based on a count of staff listed in the Senate telephone directories published since 1977.[2] Like most sources of data, telephone directory listings have potential benefits and potential drawbacks. Telephone directories were chosen for a number of reasons, including the following:

- telephone directories published by the Senate are an official source of information about the institution that are widely available;
- presumably, the number of directory listings closely approximates the number of staff working for the Senate;[3]

[1] Throughout this report, the terms "Member office," "personal office," and "Senator's office" refer to the office held by a Senator as a consequence of election or appointment to the Senate. They do not refer to the number of facilities in which that work is carried out. Discussions of how many staff are based in Washington, DC, and state facilities distinguish only between locations in Washington, DC, or in the state. It does not provide an office-by-office accounting of staff working in multiple state facilities.

[2] Senate directories listed some Washington, DC-based staff assigned to specific entities (e.g., Member, committee, and other offices) in 1958. The House first published a directory with detailed staff listings by entity in 1977.

[3] The actual moment is the deadline that was set for the final collection of listings prior to publication. The exact date for each year is not known, but publication dates for the House and Senate directories were generally in the spring of each year.

- while arguably not their intended purpose, the directories provide a consistent breakdown of Senate staff by internal organization at a particular moment in time; and
- the directories afford the opportunity to compare staff levels at similar moments across a period of decades.[4]

At the same time, however, data presented below should be interpreted with care for a number of reasons, including the following:

- There is no way to determine whether all staff working for the Senate are listed in the chambers' telephone directories.[5] If some staff are not listed, relying on telephone directories is likely to lead to an undercount of staff.
- In particular, staff working in Senators' state offices were not listed until 1987. This likely led to an undercount of staff, and makes comparisons pre-1987 and post-1987 difficult.
- It is not possible to determine if staff who are listed were actually employed by the Senate at the time the directories were published. If the directories list individuals who are no longer employed by the Senate, then relying on them is likely to lead to an overcount of staff.
- The extent to which the criterion for inclusion in the directories for the Senate has changed over time cannot be fully determined. Some editions of the directory do not always list staff in various entities the same way.[6] This may raise questions regarding the reliability of telephone directory data as a means for identifying congressional staff levels within the Senate over time.
- Some Senate staff may have more than one telephone number, or be listed in the directory under more than one entity.[7] As a consequence, they might be counted more than once. This could lead to a more accurate count of staff in specific entities within the Senate, but multiple listings may also lead to an overcount of staff working in the chamber.
- Chamber directories may reflect different organizational arrangements over time for some entities. This could lead to counting staff doing similar work in both years in different categories, or in different offices.

[4] Other congressional documents list staff by organizational unit, most notably the quarterly *Statement of Disbursements* issued by the House, and the semiannual *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, issued by the Senate. At the same time, because they capture all paid staff activity for a three-month (House *Statements*) or six-month (Senate *Reports*) period, those documents do not provide as clear a picture of staffing at one point in time as the telephone directories.

[5] In the Senate telephone directories, for example, state-based staff in Senators' offices were not listed until 1987. This omission is likely to lead to an undercount of Senate staff prior to 1987.

[6] In some instances, a listing for a Senate entity would not list staff. In other instances, there were significant changes in the number of staff from year-to-year, and it could not be determined whether that was a consequence of changing organizational practices, or differences in the manner in which staff were included in the directory.

[7] For example, some congressional staff may work on a part-time basis for more than one Member, or for a Member and a committee. In limited instances (some commissions and joint committees), it is possible that some staff are listed in both House and Senate directories.

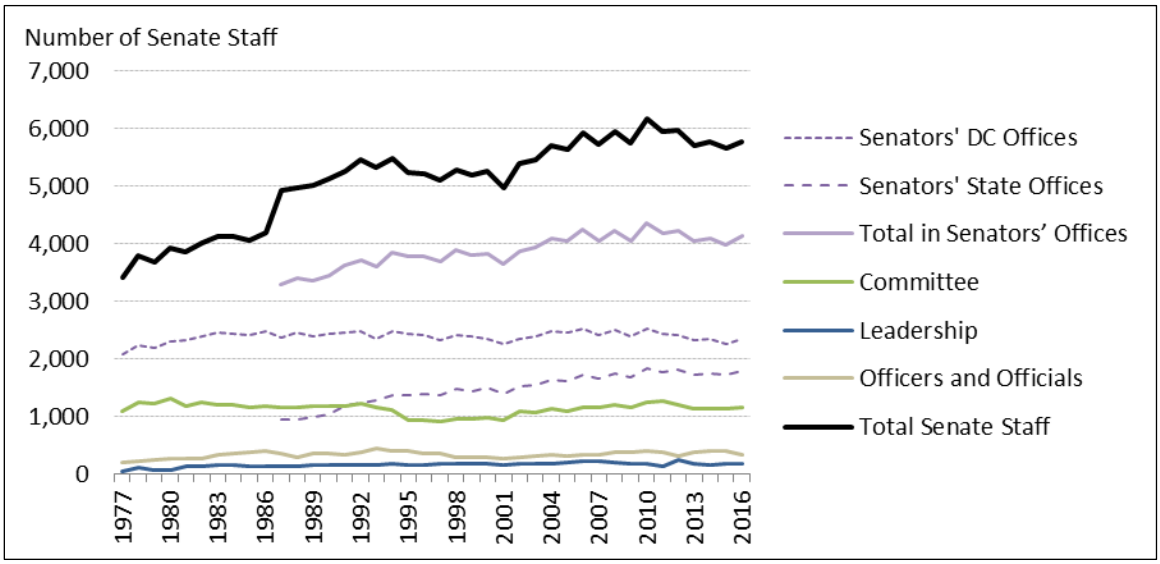
Senate Staff Data

It appears that the Senate telephone directories started listing Senate staff working in Senators' state offices in 1987. Given the lack of consistent staff data from Senators' offices prior to 1987, comparisons between data from those offices from 1977-1986 and 1987-2016, as well as any analysis of total staffing levels in the Senate before 1987, would be incomplete. Staff levels from committees, leadership, and officers and officials, however can be evaluated across the entire 1977-2016 time period. Additionally, analysis of total staffing levels, as well as staff distribution, since 1987 is discussed below.

In the Senate, the number of staff has grown steadily, from 4,916 in 1987 to 5,749 in 2016, or 16.94%. Each year since 1987, the number of Senate staff has grown by an average of 29 individuals,[8] or 0.58%. From 1977 to 1986, excluding congressional staff from state offices, the number of staff in the Senate has grown steadily from 3,397 in 1977 to 4,180 in 1986, or 23.05%. **Figure 1** displays staff levels in six categories (Senators' DC offices, Senators' state offices, total staff in Senators' offices, committees, leadership, and officers and officials) since 1977. **Figure 2** provides the distributions among categories of offices from 1987 to 2016.

Table 1 in the "Data Tables" section, below, provides detailed staff levels in those categories.

Figure 1. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2016



Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings.

Staff in Senators' Offices

Staff in Senators' offices grew from 2,068 in 1977 to 2,474 in 1986, or 19.63%. Due to the addition of staff in Senators' state offices, comparisons of total staff before 1986 to after are not possible. But staff in Senators' Washington, DC, offices continued to grow. In 2016, there were 2,342 staff in Senators' DC offices, an increase of 13.25% from the 1977 level, 2,068. Staff in Senators' offices, including state-based staff, have grown from 3,286 in 1987 to 4,120 in 2016, or 25.38%. Senators' office staffs have grown as a proportion of overall Senate staff over time. In

[8] Rounded to reflect a whole number.

1987, Member-office staff comprised 66.84% of Senate staff. The proportion grew to 67.51% in 1990, and 72.96% in 2000, before dropping slightly to 71.66% in 2016.

Most of the growth in Senators' staffs since 1987 appears to have been among state-based staff, which nearly doubled in size from 935 in 1987 to 1,778 in 2016. More staff work in Washington, DC, offices than in state offices, but the percentage of Senators' staff based in states has grown steadily since 1987, while the number of staff in Senators' Washington, DC, offices has remained relatively flat. In 2016, 56.84% of staff listed in the Senate telephone directory as working in Senators' offices did so in Washington, DC, down from a high of 72.18% in 1988. **Table 2** in the "Data Tables" section below provides the number of staff working in Senators' offices in Washington, DC, and state offices.

Committees

Senate committee staff levels have shown the smallest change among Senate staff categories, increasing from 1,084 in 1977 to 1,153 in 2016, or 6.37%. Change among Senate committee staff may be characterized in three stages: an increase during 1977-1980 (20.57%); a period of decline in 1980-1999 (-27.93%); and a period of growth from 1999 to 2016 (22.40%).

Between 1987 and 2016, committee staff comprised a decreasing proportion of Senate staff, falling from a peak of 23.39% of Senate staff in 1987 to a low of 17.49% of staff in 1995. The proportion of Senate committee staff grew to 20.06% in 2016, still below its 1987 peak.

In the "Data Tables" section below, three tables provide staff levels in various Senate committees. **Table 3** provides data for 2007-2016; data for 1997-2006 are available in **Table 4**, **Table 5** provides data for 1987-1996, and data for 1977-1986 are in **Table 6**. Totals for each year, which include Senate joint committee staff found in **Table 7**, are provided in **Table 1**.

Leadership Offices

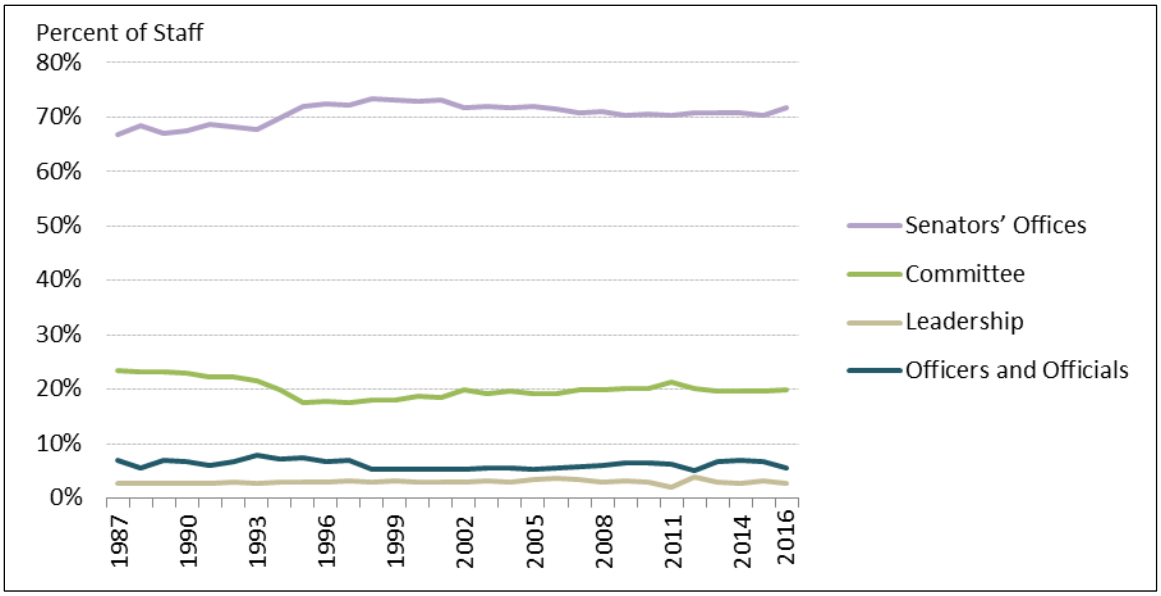
The number of staff in Senate leadership offices grew from 44 in 1977 to 160 in 2016. The majority of the growth in leadership staff occurred between 1977 and 1981, from 44 to 119, or 170.45%. The number of leadership staff peaked in 2012 at 234. As a proportion of Senate staff, leadership employees were 2.69% in 1987 and 2.78% in 2016.

Officers and Officials

Staff working in the offices of Senate officers and officials has grown 57.21% since 1977. Staff levels have grown from 201 in 1977 to 316 in 2016, but were characterized by sharp decreases in 1988, from 1998-2001, in 2012, and in 2016.

Despite the growth, Senate officers and officials' staff decreased as a proportion of Senate staff, falling from 7.08% in 1987 to a low of 5.21% in 2012. In 2016, the proportion of officers and officials' staff was 5.50%.

Figure 2. Percentage of Senate Staff in Each Category, 1987-2016



Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings.

Discussion

Since 1987, the number of staff working for the Senate has grown. There have been increases in the number of staff working in Senate leadership offices, and larger increases in the staffing of officers and officials through 2015, though 2016 saw a dip in those numbers. Staff working for Senators have shifted from committee settings to leadership settings or the personal offices. Some of these changes may be indicative of the growth of the Senate as an institution, or the value the chamber places on its various activities.

One example that may be an indication of institutional development arguably is found in the growth of the number of staff working in leadership and officers and officials' offices. A potential explanation for these changes may be found in what some might characterize as an ongoing professionalization and institutionalization of congressional management and administration. Some note that as organizations such as governing institutions develop, they identify needs for expertise and develop specialized practices and processes.[9] In Congress, some of those areas of specialization arguably include supporting the legislative process through the drafting of measures, oversight and support of floor activities, and the management of legislation in a bicameral, partisan environment. Another potential explanation related to a more institutionalized, professionalized Congress could be the demands for professional management and support. This could arise as a result of congressional use of communications technologies, and the deployment of systematic, professionalized human resources processes, business operations, and financial management. Consequently, increased specialized support of congressional legislative and administrative activities may explain increases among staff working for chamber leaders, and officers and officials.

[9] See, for example, Nelson W. Polsby, "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives," *The American Political Science Review*, vol. 62, no. 1 (March 1968), pp. 144-168.

In another example, the distribution of staff working directly for Senators has shifted from committee settings to personal office settings. Staff in Member offices has grown while staff in Senate committees has decreased, both in real numbers and in percentage of total staff. This may represent a shift from collective congressional activities typically carried out in committees (including legislative, oversight, and investigative work) to individualized activities typically carried out in Senators' personal offices (including direct representational activities, constituent service and education, and political activity).[10]

[10]See CRS Report RL33686, *Roles and Duties of a Member of Congress: Brief Overview*, by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report RL34035, *Grants Work in a Congressional Office*, by Julie Jennings and Maria A. Kreiser and CRS Report RL33209, *Casework in a Congressional Office: Background, Rules, Laws, and Resources*, by R. Eric Petersen.

Data Tables

Table 1. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2016

Year	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Senators' Offices	2,068	2,215	2,173	2,296	2,308	2,385	2,454	2,430	2,409	2,474
Committee	1,084	1,244	1,209	1,307	1,161	1,228	1,200	1,191	1,137	1,177
Leadership	44	103	55	49	119	132	136	138	121	131
Officers and Officials	201	213	230	261	253	264	327	354	376	398
Totals	3,397	3,775	3,667	3,913	3,841	4,009	4,117	4,113	4,043	4,180
Year	**1987**	**1988**	**1989**	**1990**	**1991**	**1992**	**1993**	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**
Senators' Offices	3,286	3,393	3,354	3,445	3,612	3,707	3,593	3,826	3,771	3,773
Committee	1,150	1,147	1,167	1,174	1,176	1,216	1,141	1094	915	929
Leadership	132	133	138	144	146	156	147	163	157	156
Officers and Officials	348	276	350	340	321	362	425	393	388	353
Totals	4,916	4,949	5,009	5,103	5,255	5,441	5,306	5,476	5,231	5,211
Year	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**
Senators' Offices	3,678	3,876	3,801	3,823	3,639	3,855	3,915	4,091	4,047	4,232
Committee	899	955	942	979	915	1,071	1,047	1,126	1,078	1,146
Leadership	166	162	166	159	154	166	176	167	193	220
Officers and Officials	353	280	282	279	260	282	309	315	297	325
Totals	5,096	5,273	5,191	5,240	4,968	5,374	5,447	5,699	5,615	5,923
Year	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**
Senators' Offices	4,044	4,221	4,029	4,346	4,180	4,219	4,037	4,071	3,965	4,120
Committee	1,147	1,182	1,153	1,246	1,262	1,200	1,116	1,131	1,114	1,153
Leadership	204	182	175	180	126	234	164	158	177	160
Officers and Officials	326	361	372	396	372	311	379	398	381	316
Totals	5721	5946	5732	6168	5,940	5,964	5,696	5,758	5.637	5,749

Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings. Senate telephone directories published in 1981, 1996, 2009, and 2013 provided listings for 99 Senators' offices. Before 1987, the Senate directories did not list congressional staff in Senators' state offices. Therefore, the staffing levels for "Senators' Offices", as well as the "Totals" from 1977 to 1986 do not reflect the same data as the years 1987 to 2016.

Table 2. Staff Working in Senators' Offices, 1977-2016

Year	DC-Based Staff	State-Based Staff	Total Member Staff	DC %	State %
1977	2,068				
1978	2,215				
1979	2,173				
1980	2,296				
1981	2,308				
1982	2,385				
1983	2,454				
1984	2,430				
1985	2,409				
1986	2,474				
1987	2,351	935	3,286	71.55%	28.45%
1988	2,449	944	3,393	72.18%	27.82%
1989	2,381	973	3,354	70.99%	29.01%
1990	2,430	1,015	3,445	70.54%	29.46%
1991	2,439	1,173	3,612	67.52%	32.48%
1992	2,473	1,234	3,707	66.71%	33.29%
1993	2,332	1,261	3,593	64.90%	35.10%
1994	2,474	1,352	3,826	64.66%	35.34%
1995	2,422	1,349	3,771	64.23%	35.77%
1996	2,397	1,376	3,773	63.53%	36.47%
1997	2,318	1,360	3,678	63.02%	36.98%
1998	2,407	1,469	3,876	62.10%	37.90%
1999	2,375	1,426	3,801	62.48%	37.52%
2000	2,329	1,494	3,823	60.92%	39.08%
2001	2,258	1,381	3,639	62.05%	37.95%
2002	2,334	1,521	3,855	60.54%	39.46%
2003	2,378	1,537	3,915	60.74%	39.26%
2004	2,474	1,617	4,091	60.47%	39.53%
2005	2,436	1,611	4,047	60.19%	39.81%
2006	2,521	1,711	4,232	59.57%	40.43%
2007	2,394	1,650	4,044	59.20%	40.80%
2008	2,496	1,725	4,221	59.13%	40.87%
2009	2,370	1,659	4,029	58.82%	41.18%
2010	2,513	1,833	4,346	57.82%	42.18%
2011	2,417	1,763	4,180	57.82%	42.18%
2012	2,409	1,810	4,219	57.10%	42.90%
2013	2,321	1,716	4,037	57.49%	42.51%
2014	2,340	1,731	4,071	57.48%	42.52%
2015	2,257	1,708	3,965	56.92%	43.08%
2016	2,342	1,778	4,120	56.84%	43.16%

Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: The Senate telephone directory did not provide listings for state-based staff prior to 1987. Senate telephone directories published in 1981, 1996, 2009, and 2013 provided listings for 99 Senators' offices.

Table 3. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 2007-2016

Committee	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	30	35	32	43	37	39	33	30	34	33
Appropriations	124	121	116	114	119	113	115	125	127	133
Armed Services	51	53	49	50	49	51	45	48	50	49
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	41	46	48	60	51	51	47	54	40	44
Budget	50	49	45	54	54	50	62	59	47	39
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	69	69	69	65	69	71	62	62	74	71
Energy and Natural Resources	42	44	47	52	54	51	54	47	43	50
Environment and Public Works	41	40	45	44	45	41	43	39	42	37
Finance	82	83	84	84	87	74	80	78	80	77
Foreign Relations	52	46	47	66	63	62	50	51	55	48
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	77	90	89	91	85	83	77	77	89	93
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	89	100	112	127	123	123	93	122	85	104
Judiciary	143	121	106	120	168	125	108	109	112	121
Rules and Administration	22	22	20	23	23	21	21	21	19	18
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	25	32	31	29	29	29	26	18	16	25
Veterans Affairs	24	25	26	27	22	21	22	20	18	20
Select Ethics	11	11	15	15	14	12	13	14	18	14
Indian Affairs	16	20	20	21	17	24	14	17	21	21
Select Intelligence	37	43	39	42	45	45	43	38	41	40
Select Aging	23	23	13	20	16	15	16	23	19	22

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 114th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. "-"indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 4. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1997-2006

Committee	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	26	27	23	27	22	32	27	33	22	29
Appropriations	63	61	87	89	102	90	101	118	120	118
Armed Services	45	45	43	47	44	51	47	48	46	48
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	41	41	44	42	38	60	41	46	47	46
Budget	44	45	44	48	46	52	50	49	47	49
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	54	58	51	56	48	59	72	69	64	68
Energy and Natural Resources	40	38	37	40	38	43	42	42	46	43
Environment and Public Works	34	36	36	43	33	49	53	56	51	50
Finance	45	52	52	46	52	56	60	62	53	63
Foreign Relations	48	51	49	54	55	54	49	56	57	53
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	76	85	98	86	76	72	74	90	95	92
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	78	76	65	85	74	92	82	86	71	109
Judiciary	85	93	84	98	82	112	115	129	127	137
Rules and Administration	21	19	15	16	16	18	16	16	19	18
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	17	18	20	22	29	21	22	24	28
Veterans Affairs	21	38	19	16	18	19	20	17	22	23
Select Ethics	8	11	10	11	11	11	9	9	10	10
Indian Affairs	18	15	16	20	18	21	19	18	16	11
Select Intelligence	27	34	33	29	31	32	30	34	28	42
Select Aging	18	20	18	17	10	25	20	19	12	15
Select Year 2000 Technology Problem	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 114th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. "-"indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 5. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1987-1996

Committee	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	30	35	38	45	40	36	36	35	31	31
Appropriations	78	78	84	80	79	81	78	72	71	61
Armed Services	46	49	49	49	50	48	47	49	43	43
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	34	31	44	49	50	51	49	48	40	42
Budget	61	61	54	58	58	55	56	52	46	39
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	76	75	72	70	70	72	73	67	59	61
Energy and Natural Resources	44	46	48	50	50	51	49	48	42	44
Environment and Public Works	46	47	48	50	47	47	37	39	37	37
Finance	54	54	54	54	58	57	49	49	47	53
Foreign Relations	54	57	57	51	69	67	66	58	47	51
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	95	107	104	102	106	102	93	108	81	79
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	88	92	97	92	93	96	96	86	61	63
Judiciary	101	100	98	111	105	119	106	106	86	93
Rules and Administration	29	27	27	28	27	28	27	25	18	18
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	22	20	21	22	21	21	19	22	19	20
Veterans Affairs	25	26	25	26	24	26	21	21	18	17
Select Ethics	9	7	9	11	11	10	11	12	11	9
Indian Affairs	23	41	26	23	22	28	20	20	14	16
Select Intelligence	38	40	41	40	40	41	32	36	24	30
Select Aging	24	26	30	32	33	32	26	23	16	20
Select POW/MIA Affairs	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-
Select Impeachment Trials	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Investigations	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Iran-Contra	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 114th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. "-"indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 6. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1977-1986

Committee	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	28	37	30	35	33	34	35	32	33	32
Appropriations	69	67	74	89	63	76	81	81	80	82
Armed Services	28	29	27	27	36	34	37	39	42	42
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	39	49	43	46	38	39	33	29	29	31
Budget	47	79	67	77	63	70	73	74	68	63
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	89	91	83	92	77	88	78	78	80	78
Energy and Natural Resources	40	51	52	55	49	52	49	51	48	48
Environment and Public Works	30	33	38	38	52	51	54	51	49	50
Finance	28	34	36	40	45	50	45	53	54	55
Foreign Relations	63	57	55	68	62	62	61	62	60	61
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	93	122	118	121	118	123	123	112	101	105
Homeland Security Governmental Affairs	108	153	140	156	113	121	120	117	94	99
Judiciary	119	144	139	153	120	135	116	119	121	126
Rules and Administration	27	30	30	31	30	32	29	28	29	28
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	22	21	23	23	22	23	24	21	22	21
Veterans Affairs	18	19	20	23	20	22	22	20	21	25
Select Ethics	2	9	15	12	17	13	12	10	8	8
Indian Affairs	0	25	26	15	13	14	19	20	19	23
Select Intelligence	40	46	43	46	41	41	41	36	32	47
Select Aging	19	19	19	21	28	28	25	34	25	27
Select Nutrition and Human Needs	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Senate Committee Systems	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Transition Staff for Former Postal Workers	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 114th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. "-"indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 7. Staff of Active Joint Committees Listed in the Senate Directories, 1977-2016

Joint Committee	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Economic	46	51	53	58	46	43	44	44	40	39
Library of Congress	-	-	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
Printing	15	15	16	16	15	16	16	17	17	16
Taxation	-	63	60	63	58	59	60	60	62	68
Joint Committee	**1987**	**1988**	**1989**	**1990**	**1991**	**1992**	**1993**	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**
Economic	35	45	44	43	41	44	45	29	35	32
Library of Congress	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Printing	17	17	14	16	14	14	17	16	7	8
Taxation	66	64	59	70	66	73	73	71	60	61
Joint Committee	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**
Economic	23	25	23	31	21	34	35	36	31	31
Library of Congress	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2
Printing	9	8	-	-	1	2	2	4	4	4
Taxation	56	60	62	58	57	58	60	65	64	57
Joint Committee	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**
Economic	35	35	34	34	29	37	30	17	21	31
Library of Congress	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taxation	55	66	66	65	63	62	62	62	63	63

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Individual staff members for the joint committees may appear in both the House and the Senate directories, as they are considered neither solely House nor solely Senate staff. They are included where they appear in the directory. Excludes staff listed at various times since 1977 for the Joint committees on Inaugural Ceremonies, Atomic Energy, Defense Production, Internal Revenue Service, and Organization of Congress. Staff data for those panels are available to congressional clients from the authors upon request. "-"indicates that no staff were listed in the relevant chamber for that year. In some instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

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