



## PACE OF NOMINATIONS: HOW DOES BIDEN COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS PRESIDENTS?

*Nominations to Senate-confirmed positions (PAS) and White House staff*

Jan. 19, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

Presidents are responsible for about 4,000 political appointments, about 1,250 of which require Senate confirmation. They must also staff the White House. This memo includes a comparison of how Biden’s pace of announcements compares with the previous three presidents.

For a detailed list of the nominees and their statuses, see the [Biden Political Appointee Tracker](#) which is updated daily by the [Partnership for Public Service](#) and [The Washington Post](#).

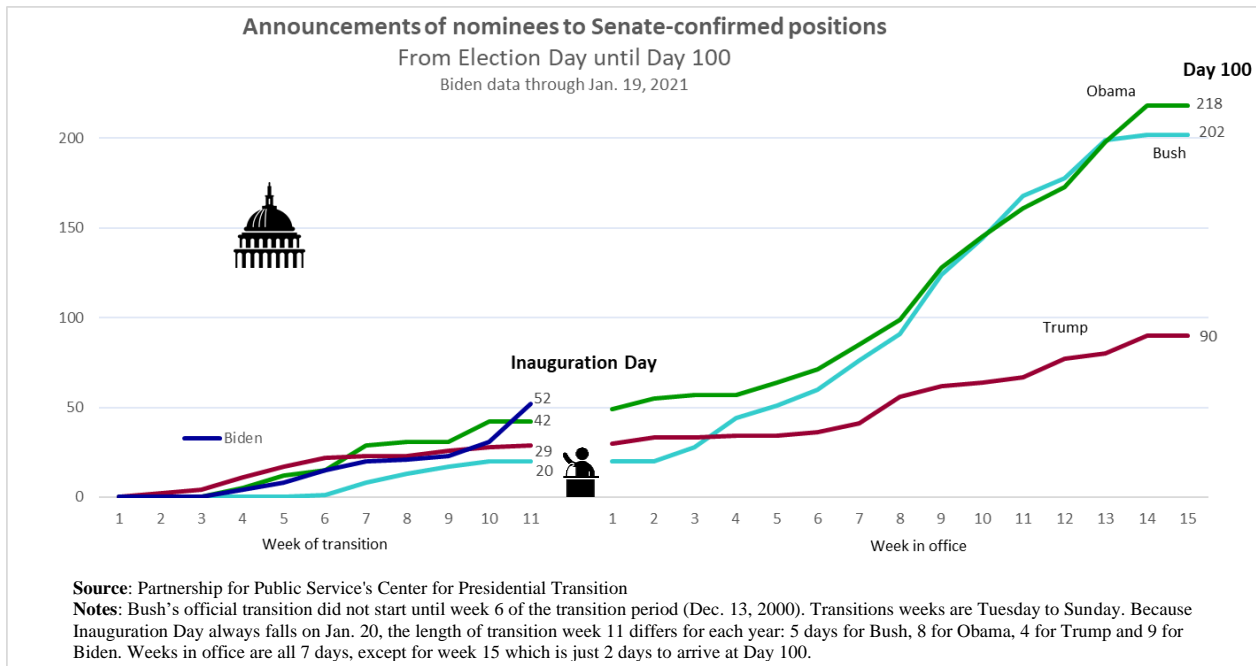
### Nominations for Senate-confirmed positions

As of Jan. 19, 2021:

- President-elect Joe Biden has *announced* nominees for **52 Senate-confirmed positions**.

By Inauguration Day:

- **President-elect Donald Trump had made 29** announcements.
- **President-elect Barack Obama had made 42**.
- **President-elect George W. Bush had made 20**, although the start of Bush’s official transition was delayed because of the contested 2000 election.



### Announcements of nominees to Senate-confirmed positions: Cumulative

Biden data through Jan. 19, 2021

#### Data used in the above graph

	Week of Transition											Week in office through 100 days														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Bush	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	13	17	20	20	20	20	28	44	51	60	76	91	124	144	168	178	199	202	202
Obama	0	0	0	5	12	15	29	31	31	42	42	49	55	57	57	64	71	85	99	128	145	161	173	198	218	218
Trump	0	2	4	11	17	22	23	23	26	28	29	30	33	33	34	34	36	41	56	62	64	67	77	80	90	90
Biden	0	0	0	4	8	15	20	21	23	31	52															

Source: Partnership for Public Service's Center for Presidential Transition

Notes: Bush's official transition did not start until week 6 of the transition period (Dec. 13, 2000). Transitions weeks are Tuesday to Sunday. Because Inauguration Day always falls on Jan. 20, the length of transition week 11 differs for each year: 5 days for Bush, 8 for Obama, 4 for Trump and 9 for Biden. Weeks in office are all 7 days, except for week 15 which is just 2 days to arrive at Day 100.

### Announcements of nominees to Senate-confirmed positions: Week-by-week

Biden data through Jan. 19, 2021

	Week of Transition												Week in office through 100 days															Total	Overall
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
Bush	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	5	4	3	0	20	0	0	8	16	7	9	16	15	33	20	24	10	21	3	0	182	202
Obama	0	0	0	5	7	3	14	2	0	11	0	42	7	6	2	0	7	7	14	14	29	17	16	12	25	20	0	176	218
Trump	0	2	2	7	6	5	1	0	3	2	1	29	1	3	0	1	0	2	5	15	6	2	3	10	3	10	0	61	90
Biden	0	0	0	4	4	7	5	1	2	8	21	52																	

Source: Partnership for Public Service's Center for Presidential Transition

Notes: Bush's official transition did not start until week 6 of the transition period (Dec. 13, 2000). Transitions weeks are Tuesday to Sunday. Because Inauguration Day always falls on Jan. 20, the length of transition week 11 differs for each year: 5 days for Bush, 8 for Obama, 4 for Trump and 9 for Biden. Weeks in office are all 7 days, except for week 15 which is just 2 days to arrive at Day 100.

## Announcements of key White House staff

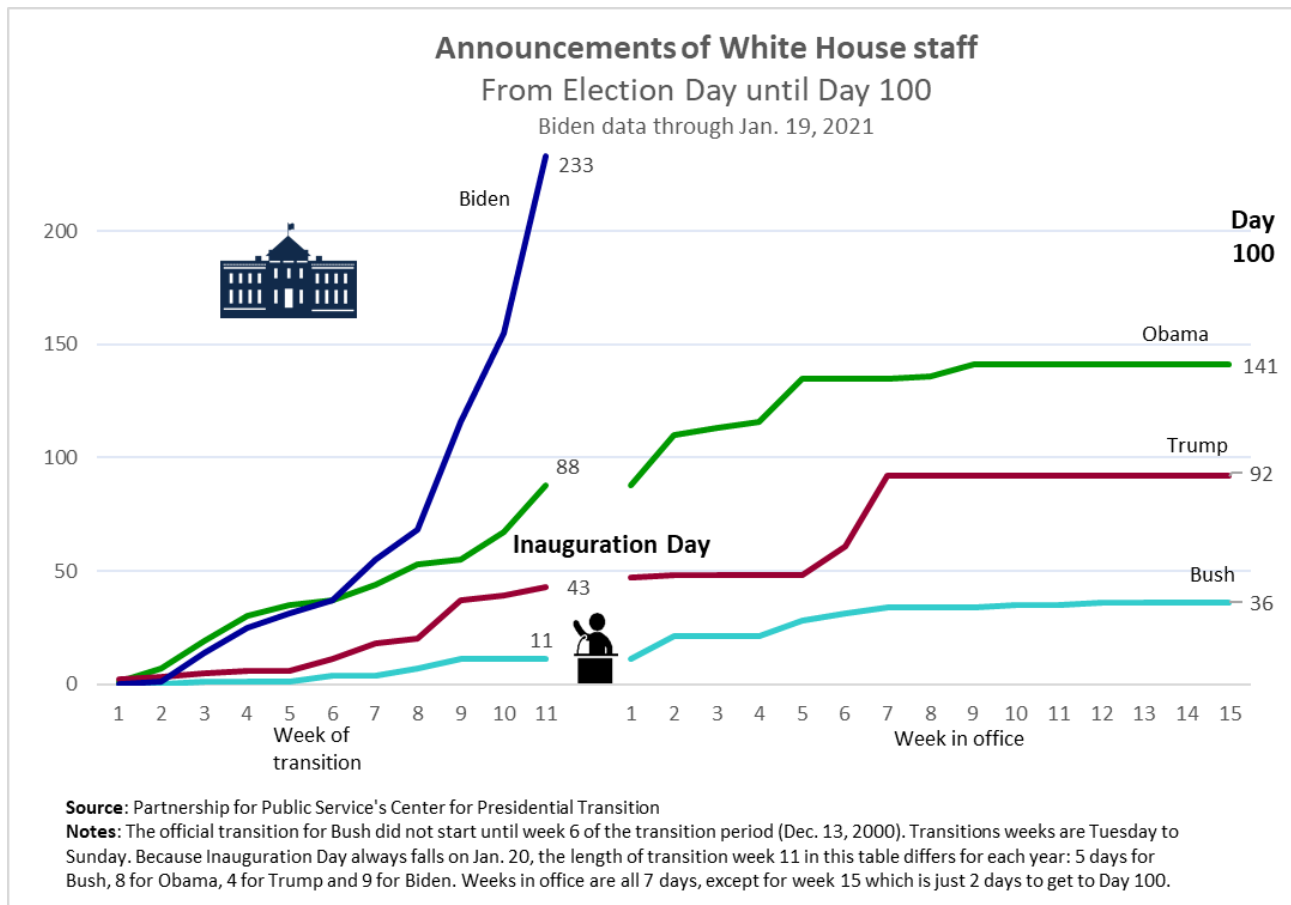
Many important White House staff positions do not require Senate approval. These positions include chief of staff, national security advisor, press secretary, senior advisors to the president and many others.

As of Jan. 19, 2021:

- President-elect Joe Biden has announced **233 people to fill White House staff positions.**

By Inauguration Day:

- **President-elect Trump had made 43 announcements.**
- **President-elect Barack Obama had made 88.**
- **President-elect George W. Bush had made 11,** although the start of Bush's official transition was delayed because of the contested 2000 election.



### Announcements of White House staff: Cumulative

Biden data through Jan. 19, 2021

#### Data used in the above graph

	Week of Transition											Week in office through 100 days														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Bush	0	0	1	1	1	4	4	7	11	11	11	11	21	21	21	28	31	34	34	34	35	35	36	36	36	36
Obama	1	7	19	30	35	37	44	53	55	67	88	88	110	113	116	135	135	135	136	141	141	141	141	141	141	141
Trump	2	3	5	6	6	11	18	20	37	39	43	47	48	48	48	48	61	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
Biden	0	1	14	25	31	37	55	68	116	155	233															

Source: Partnership for Public Service's Center for Presidential Transition

Notes: Bush's official transition did not start until week 6 of the transition period (Dec. 13, 2000). Transitions weeks are Tuesday to Sunday. Because Inauguration Day always falls on Jan. 20, the length of transition week 11 differs for each year: 5 days for Bush, 8 for Obama, 4 for Trump and 9 for Biden. Weeks in office are all 7 days, except for week 15 which is just 2 days to arrive at Day 100.

### Announcements of White House staff: Week-by-week

Biden data through Jan. 19, 2021

	Week of Transition												Week in office through 100 days															Overall	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		Total
Bush	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	3	4	0	0	11	0	10	0	0	7	3	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	25	36
Obama	1	6	12	11	5	2	7	9	2	12	21	88	0	22	3	3	19	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	141
Trump	2	1	2	1	0	5	7	2	17	2	4	43	4	1	0	0	0	13	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	92
Biden	0	1	13	11	6	6	18	13	48	39	78	233																	

Source: Partnership for Public Service's Center for Presidential Transition

Notes: Bush's official transition did not start until week 6 of the transition period (Dec. 13, 2000). Transitions weeks are Tuesday to Sunday. Because Inauguration Day always falls on Jan. 20, the length of transition week 11 differs for each year: 5 days for Bush, 8 for Obama, 4 for Trump and 9 for Biden. Weeks in office are all 7 days, except for week 15 which is just 2 days to arrive at Day 100.