



Pace of Senate confirmations: How does Biden compare with previous presidents?

Nominations to Senate-confirmed positions August 9, 2021, at 8:00 a.m.

Presidents are responsible for about 4,000 political appointments, about 1,200 of which require Senate confirmation. This paper includes a comparison of how President Joe Biden's pace of appointments and confirmations compares with the previous three presidents.

The table below includes the number of nominations submitted to and confirmed by the Senate for positions in the executive, legislative and judicial branches on key dates early in an administration. Nominations for concurrent positions, like the ambassador to the General Assembly of the United Nations and the representative of the United States in the United Nations Security Council, are counted as a single nomination.

For a detailed list of many key 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 and confirmations by key dates

		Jan. 20	April 29	May 31	June 30	Aug. 7
		Day 1	Day 100	Day 132	Day 162	Day 200
W. Bush	Submitted	13	85	216	308	448
	Confirmed	7	34	126	130	291
Obama	Submitted	34	190	225	325	430
	Confirmed	7	67	145	179	304
Trump	Submitted	26	72	118	213	308
	Confirmed	2	28	42	49	130
Biden	Submitted	36	220	243	304	400
	Confirmed	1	44	57	91	127
Notes:						
Submitted	The submitted category captures the number of nominations formally submitted to the Senate. Due to the confirmation process, nominations are often announced days or weeks before they are officially submitted to the Senate.					
Confirmed	The number of confirmed nominations captures non-concurrent positions.					
	For example, we count nominations to the be the ambassador to the General Assembly of the UN separate nomination to be the representative of the United States in the UN Security Council as a nomination.					
Dates	The days refer to the number of days after the first inauguration for W. Bush, Obama, Trump and Biden (2001, 2009, 2017 and 2021, respectively).					
Source:	Data compiled by the Center for Presidential Transition from Congress.gov and The Washington Post and Partnership for Public Service Biden Political Appointee Tracker. Only includes civilian nominations.					