



The Executive Branch

A large orange pyramid divided into three horizontal sections by two white lines. The top section is the smallest, the middle section is medium-sized, and the bottom section is the largest.

President

Bureaucracy

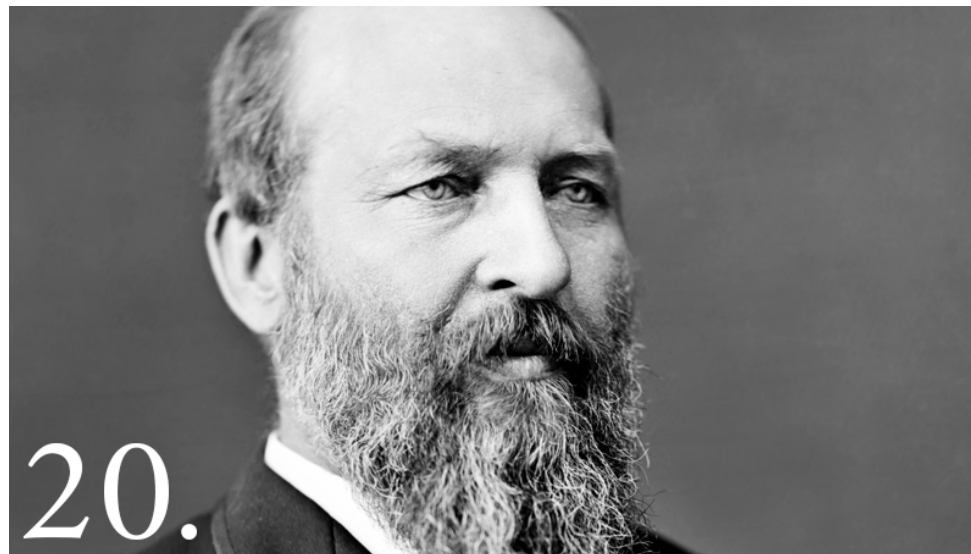


What is a Bureaucracy?

- Large organization
- Hierarchy and chain of command
- Specialized offices or departments
- Formal rules of behavior
- Appointment based on merit
 - Civil Service: career employees hired based on their qualifications and given some job security such as not being fired for political reasons

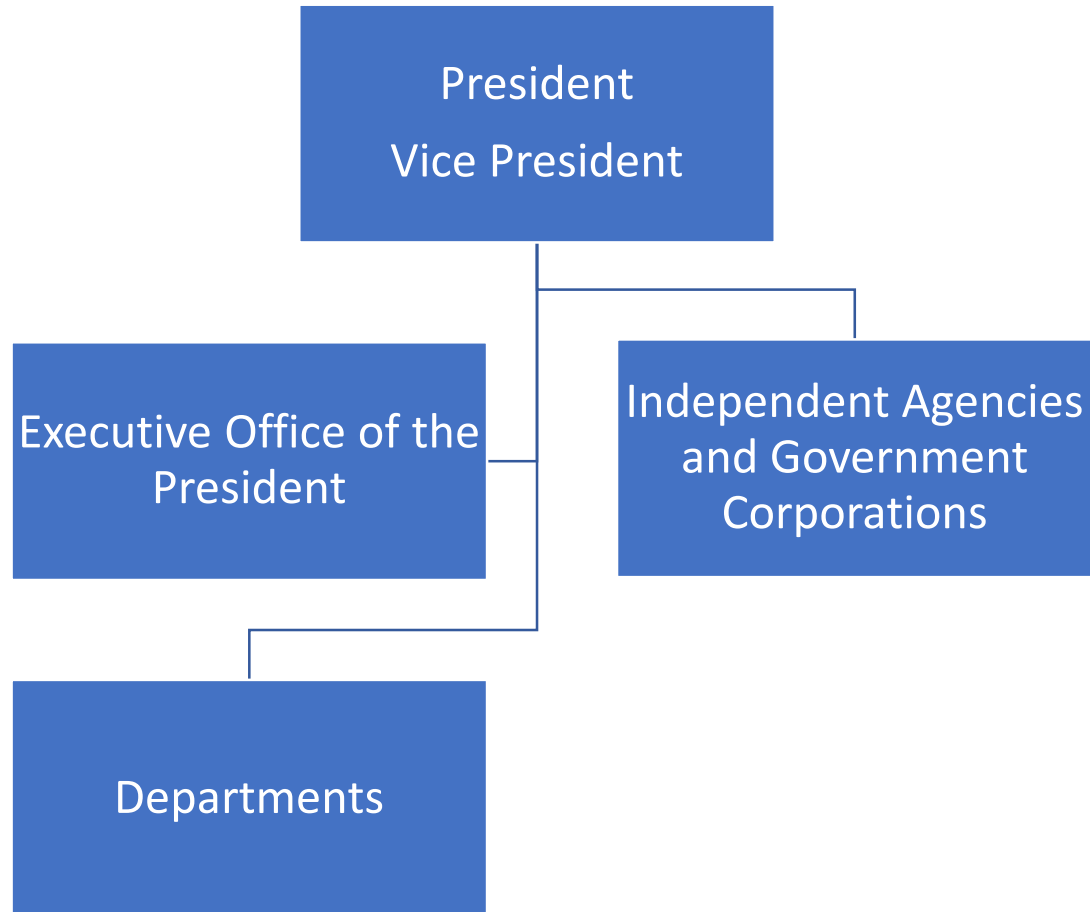
Why a career civil service?

- At first in the US, government jobs were part of a “spoils system” where jobs were given on the basis of political support.
- President James Garfield was assassinated in 1881 by a disappointed job-seeker.
- This spurred the passage of a civil service reform to professionalize government jobs (there are still some political appointees)





Executive Branch: Simple Diagram



Executive Branch Organization

THE CONSTITUTION

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

THE CONGRESS
SENATE HOUSE

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
UNITED STATES BOTANIC GARDEN

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

JUDICIAL BRANCH

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS
FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER
TERRITORIAL COURTS
UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS
UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE
UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION
UNITED STATES TAX COURT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION
CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BOARD
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE
DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES
FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY
FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE
FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION
MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD
NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION (AMTRAK)
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL
OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

PEACE CORPS
PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Presidential Advisors

- Executive Office of the President
 - Close advisors and advisory units including:
 - White House Staff
 - Chief of Staff, Press Secretary, Counsel, etc.
 - National Security Council
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - Council of Economic Advisors

Cabinet

- Cabinet = Department Secretaries and other important leaders
- Secretaries are the head of departments
 - e.g. the Secretary of State is head of the State Department
 - Except the head of the Justice Department is the Attorney General
- *The Biden Cabinet:*
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/cabinet/>



President Trump's Cabinet

- Cabinet = Department Secretaries and other important leaders





The Departments:

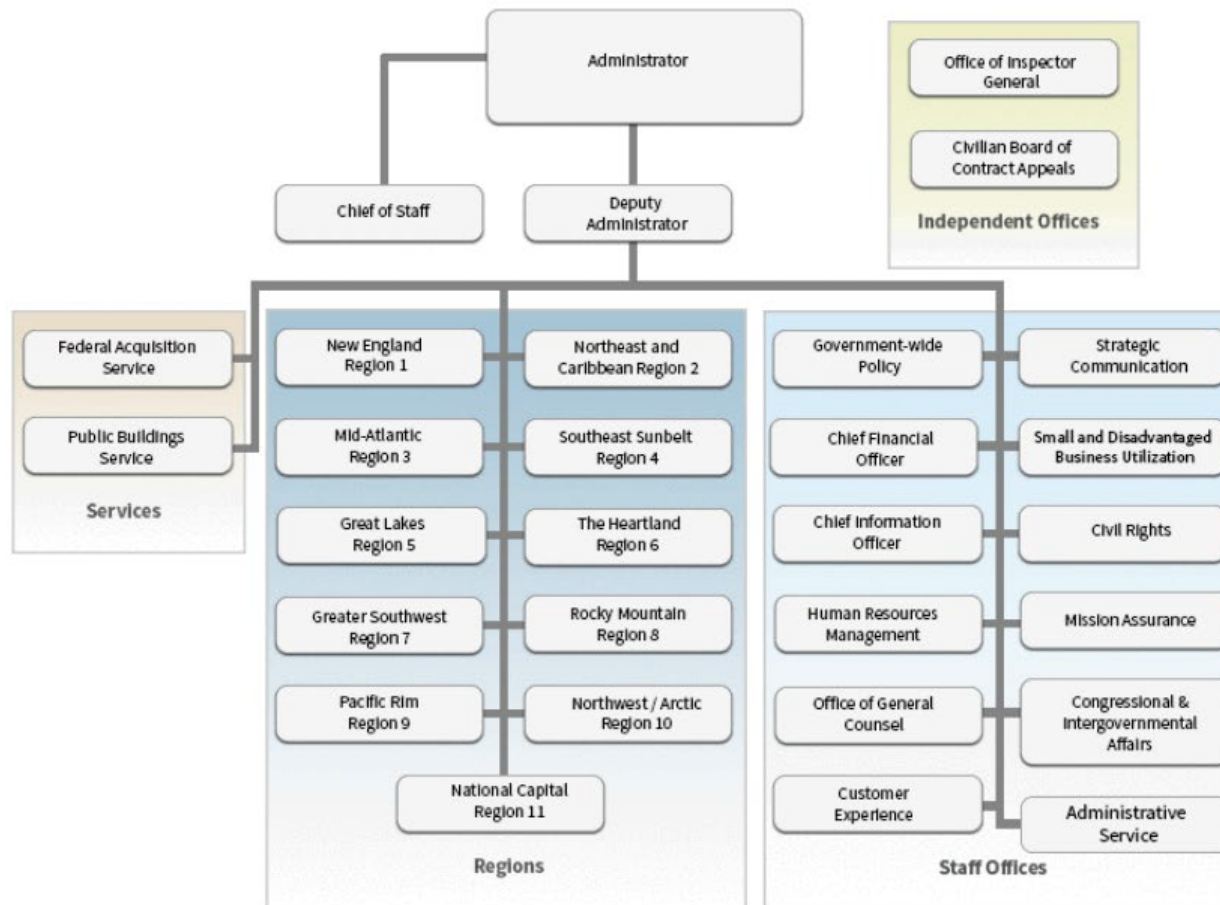
- Department of State (1789)
- Department of Treasury (1789)
- Department of Defense (1947*)
- Department of Justice (1789)
- Department of Interior (1849)
- Department of Agriculture (1889*)
- Department of Commerce (1913)
- Department of Labor (1913)
- Department of Health and Human Services (1953*)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (1965)
- Department of Transportation (1966)
- Department of Energy (1977)
- Department of Education (1979)
- Department of Veterans' Affairs (1989)
- Department of Homeland Security (2002)



Some Other Parts of the Bureaucracy

- Independent Executive Agencies, including:
 - Central Intelligence Agency
 - General Services Administration
 - Post Office
- Independent Regulatory Commissions, including:
 - Federal Reserve System
 - Board of Governors, Federal Reserve Banks, and Federal Open Market Committee


Example of Independent Agency: GSA



Example of Independent Agency: GSA and its former administrator

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 **U.S. General Services Administration**

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Administrator


Emily W. Murphy

Administrator Emily W. Murphy was nominated by President Donald J. Trump to lead the U.S. General Services Administration. She was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate and sworn in as the administrator of GSA on December 12, 2017.

Administrator Murphy leads a staff of more than 11,200 GSA employees nationwide, overseeing more than 370 million square feet of property, approximately \$75 billion in annual contracts, 4.9 million government credit and purchase cards, and 225,000 leased vehicles within GSA's fleet. Under her leadership, GSA has produced more than \$20.3 billion in savings and cost avoidance for customer agencies in fiscal years 2018 - 2020.


During Administrator Murphy's tenure, GSA launched the [Federal Marketplace Initiative](#), which has increased sales using GSA contracts by 36%, from \$55 billion to \$75 billion. As GSA provides building space for more than 1.1 million federal employees, she has overseen \$3.55 billion in lease cost savings from GSA's Public Buildings Service, and has reduced the federal government's leased footprint by 4.7 million square feet. Additionally, customer, vendor, tenant, and employee satisfaction ratings have all increased during her leadership of the agency, with customer, vendor, and employee satisfaction ratings hitting the highest scores in the history of GSA.

Prior to being confirmed as administrator in 2017, Ms. Murphy served as senior advisor to GSA's acting administrator. In that role, she helped launch the Centers of Excellence program within the Technology Transformation Services of the Federal Acquisition Service. There are now fifteen agencies hosting at least one GSA Center of Excellence project.


[Download Official Portrait](#)

Feedback

Example of Independent Agency: an “Acting Administrator” in Biden Administration

 U.S. General Services Administration

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Office of the Administrator

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- Acting Administrator**
- Past Administrators

Acting Administrator

Katy Kale

Katy Kale is the Deputy Administrator, and current Acting Administrator of the General Services Administrator under the Biden-Harris Administration.


In this capacity, she leads a staff of more than 11,200 GSA employees nationwide, overseeing more than 370 million square feet of property, approximately \$75 billion in annual contracts, 4.9 million government credit and purchase cards, and 225,000 leased vehicles within GSA's fleet.

Prior to serving as the Deputy Administrator and Acting Administrator of GSA, Katy was President & Chief Operating Officer of Elevate. There she led growth strategy, operational process, financial planning, and performance management, and ensured they were aligned with the broader purpose of serving the nonprofit sector.

A public servant at heart, Katy was a senior leader in the Obama Administration, serving as Assistant to the President for Management and Administration, Director of White House Operations, and Chief of Staff of the US General Services Administration. She also served 10 years in the United States Senate working on operational and legislative issues for several Senators.

Katy is a graduate of George Mason University.

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Legislative Oversight

- Legislature oversees the bureaucracy's actions
- Ensures that its intent followed
- Investigates fraud, waste, and abuse
- Evaluates effectiveness of programs

Powers of the Legislature

- Legislature can hold hearings
- Subpoena members of the executive branch
 - Require officials to testify in front of Congress
- Pass new laws
- Controls purse strings: can restrict spending



The Departments and Legislative Committees:

Executive Branch

- Department of State (1789)
- Department of Treasury (1789)
- Department of Defense (1947*)
- Department of Justice (1789)
- Department of Interior (1849)
- Department of Agriculture (1889*)
- Department of Commerce (1913)
- Department of Labor (1913)
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- Department of Education (1979)
- Department of Veterans' Affairs (1989)
- Department of Homeland Security (2002)

Legislative Branch

- Committees mirror the departments, such as the following House committees:
- Agriculture Committee
- Armed Services
- Education and Labor
- Energy and Commerce
- Homeland Security
- Judiciary
- Natural Resources
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- Veterans' Affairs

Two Kinds of Oversight

- Police Patrol (direct)
 - Regular hearings and requests for information to check up on what the executive branch is doing
- Burglar Alarm (indirect)
 - Investigations in response to constituent complaints or significant events