Presidency

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- Centrality of the presidency
- National constituency
- Presidential power

The President in the Constitution
- Qualifications
- Presidential vs. Congressional power
- Limited formal powers
- Vague formal powers
- Modern presidency

Roles of the Modern President
- Head of government
- Head of state
- Chief administrator
- Chief legislator
- Party leader

What Do Presidents Do?

Formal Presidential Powers
- Veto power
- Commander-in-Chief
- Appointment power
- Judicial appointments
- Pardon
Presidential Vetoes and Overrides in last 50 years

Implied Powers
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- Executive orders
- Emergency powers
- Presidential Power and the War on Terror

Informal Powers
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Presidential Power in Policy-Making
- The President’s Agenda
- Presidential popularity
- Sources of popularity
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  - “honeymoon”
  - Crises (“rally round the flag”)

The Presidential Legislative Agenda by year in office

Note: Columns show the average number of new requests to Congress in each year across all administrations from 1945 to 2004, excluding requests made by Lyndon B. Johnson during his re-election campaign as JFK's vice president.
Decline in Presidential Popularity Over the First Term