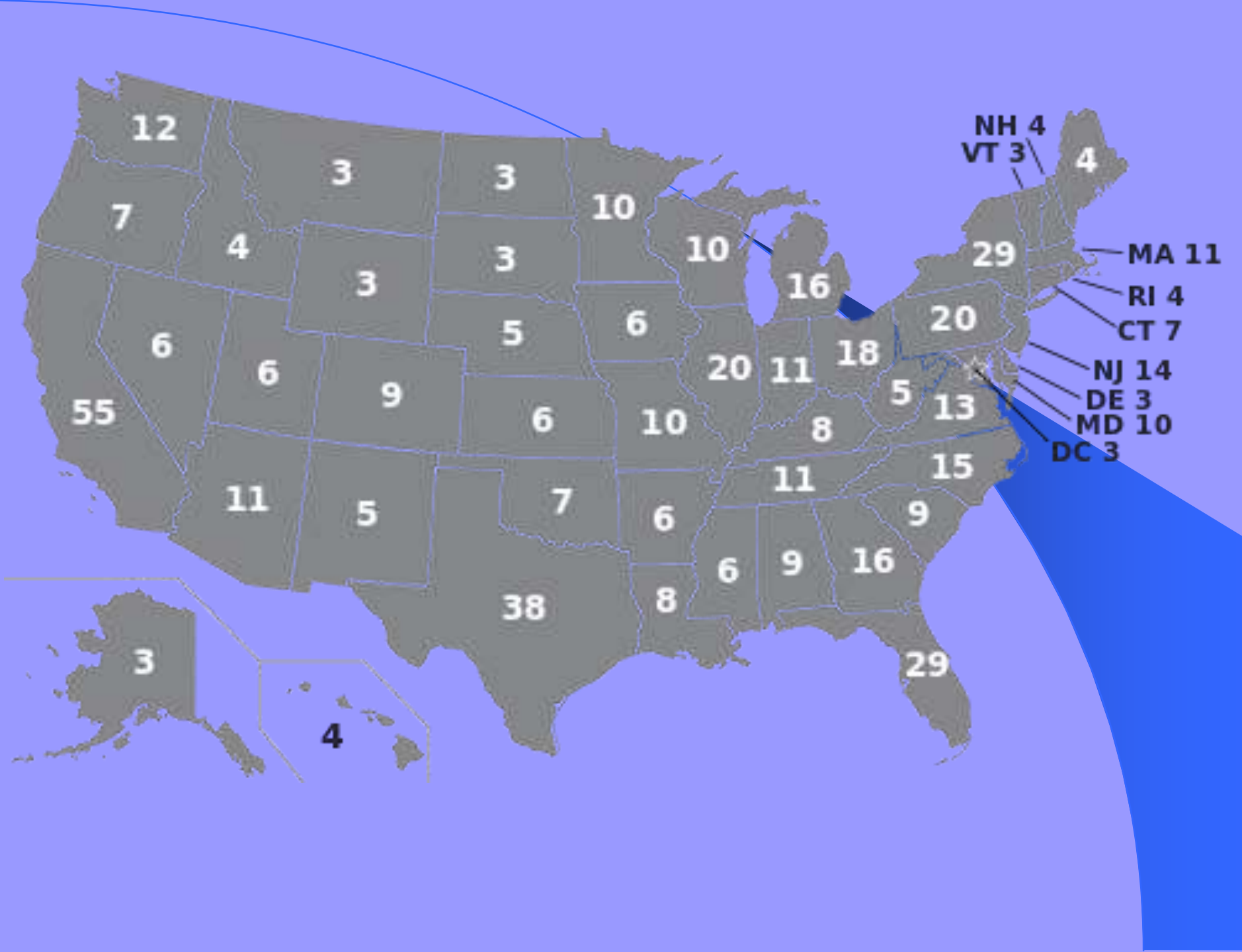
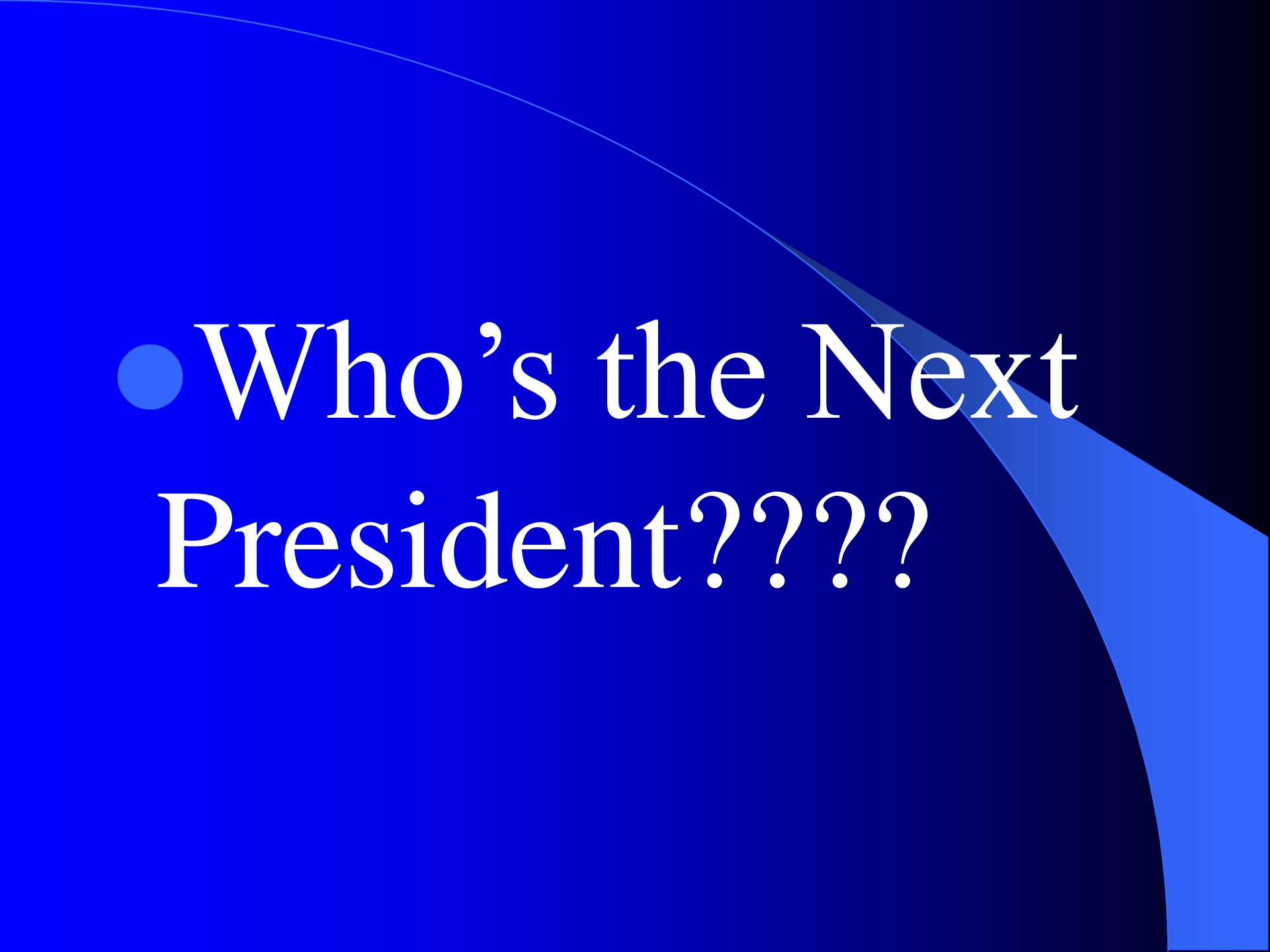


The Presidency

Chapter 13





● Who's the Next
President????





The Presidents

- Great Expectations

- Americans want a president who is powerful and who can do good: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt and Kennedy.
- But at the same time, they don't want the president to get too powerful since we are individualistic and skeptical of authority.

The Presidents

- Who They Are

- Formal Requirements:

- Must be 35 years old
 - Must be a natural-born citizen
 - Must have resided in U.S. for 14 years

- Informal “Requirements”:





- White, Male, Protestant (except one)
 - All manner of professions, but mostly political ones (former state governors, for example)

The Presidents

Table 13.1 Recent Presidents

PRESIDENT	TERM	PARTY	BACKGROUND	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
Harry S. Truman 	1945–1953	Democrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. senator from Missouri chosen as FDR's running mate in 1944 became president when FDR died 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> made decision to drop atomic bombs on Japan to end World War II presided over postwar recovery laid foundation for Cold War policy relatively unpopular during term
Dwight D. Eisenhower 	1953–1961	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> commander of Allied forces in Europe in World War II never voted until he ran for president 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> presided over relatively tranquil 1950s conservative domestic policies cool crisis management enjoyed strong public approval
John F. Kennedy 	1961–1963	Democrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. senator from Massachusetts from very wealthy family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> known for personal style presided over Cuban missile crisis ushered in era of liberal domestic policies assassinated in 1963
Lyndon B. Johnson 	1963–1969	Democrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senate majority leader chosen as Kennedy's running mate; succeeded him after the assassination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> skilled legislative leader with a coarse public image launched the Great Society won passage of major civil rights laws escalated the Vietnam War war policies proved unpopular; did not seek reelection
Richard M. Nixon 	1969–1974	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. senator from California served two terms as Eisenhower's vice president lost presidential election of 1960 to John F. Kennedy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> presided over period of legislative innovation renewed relations with China ended Vietnam War resigned as result of Watergate scandal
Gerald R. Ford 	1974–1977	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House minority leader only person ever nominated as vice president under Twenty-fifth Amendment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pardoned Richard Nixon helped heal the nation's wounds lost election in 1976 to Jimmy Carter
Jimmy Carter 	1977–1981	Democrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> governor of Georgia peanut farmer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> viewed as honest, but politically unskilled hurt by economic downturn managed Iranian hostage crisis lost bid for reelection 1980

Table 13.1 Recent Presidents (continued)

PRESIDENT	TERM	PARTY	BACKGROUND	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
Ronald W. Reagan 	1981–1989	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> governor of California well-known actor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> won a substantial tax cut led fight for a large increase in defense spending advocated conservative politics known as the Great Communicator
George Bush 	1989–1993	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. representative from Texas director of CIA ambassador to UN served two terms as Reagan's vice president 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> led international coalition to victory in Gulf War presided over end of Cold War popular until economy stagnated lost reelection bid in 1992
William J. Clinton 	1993–2001	Democrat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> governor of Arkansas Rhodes Scholar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> moved Democrats to center presided over balanced budget benefited from strong economy tenure marred by Monica Lewinsky scandal impeached
George W. Bush 	2001–	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> governor of Texas son of President George Bush elected without plurality of the vote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> launched war on terrorism won large tax cut established Department of Homeland Security began war with Iraq

The Presidents

- How They Got There
 - Elections: The Normal Road to the White House
 - Once elected, the president gets a term of four years.
 - In 1951, the 22nd Amendment limited the number of terms to two.
 - Most Presidents have been elected to office.

The Presidents

- How They Got There

- Succession and Impeachment

- Vice-President succeeds if the president leaves office due to death, resignation, or removal.
 - Impeachment is investigated by the House, and if impeached, tried by the Senate with the Chief Justice presiding.
 - Only two presidents have been impeached: A. Johnson & Clinton - neither was convicted.
 - The 25th Amendment clarifies what happens if the president becomes disabled.

The Presidents

Table 13.2 Incomplete Presidential Terms

PRESIDENT	TERM	SUCCEEDED BY
William Henry Harrison	March 4, 1841–April 4, 1841	John Tyler
Zachary Taylor	March 4, 1849–July 9, 1850	Millard Fillmore
Abraham Lincoln	March 4, 1865–April 15, 1865 ^a	Andrew Johnson
James A. Garfield	March 4, 1881–September 19, 1881	Chester A. Arthur
William McKinley	March 4, 1901–September 14, 1901 ^a	Theodore Roosevelt
Warren G. Harding	March 4, 1921–August 2, 1923	Calvin Coolidge
Franklin D. Roosevelt	January 20, 1945–April 12, 1945 ^b	Harry S. Truman
John F. Kennedy	January 20, 1961–November 22, 1963	Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard M. Nixon	January 20, 1973–August 9, 1974 ^a	Gerald R. Ford

^aSecond term.

^bFourth term.

Presidential Powers

Table 13.3 Constitutional Powers of the President

National Security Powers

Serve as commander in chief of the armed forces

Make treaties with other nations, subject to the agreement of two-thirds of the Senate

Nominate ambassadors, with the agreement of a majority of the Senate

Receive ambassadors of other nations, thereby conferring diplomatic recognition on other governments

Legislative Powers

Present information on the state of the union to Congress

Recommend legislation to Congress

Convene both houses of Congress on extraordinary occasions

Adjourn Congress if the House and Senate cannot agree on adjournment

Veto legislation (Congress may overrule with two-thirds vote of each house)

Administrative Powers

“Take care that the laws be faithfully executed”

Nominate officials as provided for by Congress and with the agreement of a majority of the Senate

Request written opinions of administrative officials

Fill administrative vacancies during congressional recesses

Judicial Powers

Grant reprieves and pardons for federal offenses (except impeachment)

Nominate federal judges, who are confirmed by a majority of the Senate

Presidential Powers

- The Expansion of Power
 - Presidents may develop new roles for the office
 - Presidents may expand the power of the office
- Perspectives on Presidential Power
 - Through the 50's & 60's a powerful President was perceived as good.
 - From the 70's on, presidential power was checked and distrusted by the public.

Running the Government: The Chief Executive

- The Vice President
 - Basically just “waits” for things to do
 - Recent presidents have given their VPs important jobs
- The Cabinet
 - Presidential advisors, not in Constitution
 - Is made up of the top executives of the Federal Departments, confirmed by the Senate

- Name as many cabinet departments that you can???
- Hint – there are 15...

Running the Government: The Chief Executive

Table 13.4 The Cabinet Departments

DEPARTMENT	YEAR CREATED	FUNCTION
State	1789	Makes foreign policy, including treaty negotiations
Treasury	1789	Serves as the government's banker
Defense	1947	Formed by the consolidation of the former Departments of the Army and the Navy
Justice	1870	Serves as the government's attorney; headed by the attorney general
Interior	1849	Manages the nation's natural resources, including wildlife and public lands
Agriculture	1862	Administers farm and food stamp programs and aids farmers
Commerce	1903	Aids businesses and conducts the U.S. census
Labor	1913	Formed through separation from the Department of Commerce; runs programs and aids labor in various ways
Health and Human Services	1953	Originally created as the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, it lost its education function in 1979 and Social Security in 1995
Housing and Urban Development	1966	Responsible for housing and urban programs
Transportation	1966	Responsible for mass transportation and highway programs
Energy	1977	Responsible for energy policy and research, including atomic energy
Education	1979	Responsible for the federal government's education programs
Veterans Affairs	1988	Responsible for programs aiding veterans
Homeland Security	2002	Responsible for protecting against terrorism and responding to natural disasters

Running the Government: The Chief Executive

- The Executive Office
 - Made up of several policymaking and advisory bodies
 - Three principle groups: NSC, CEA, OMB

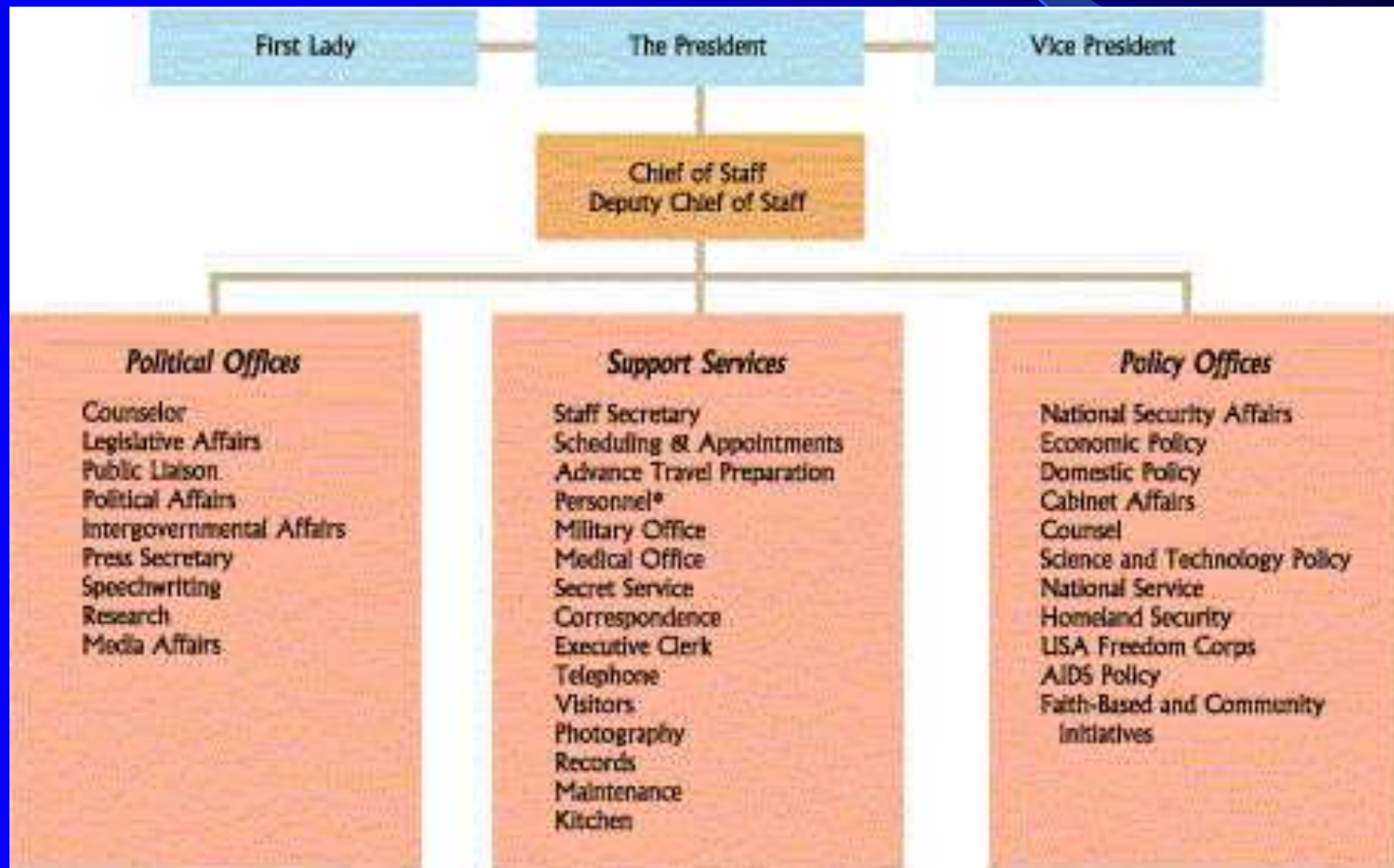


Running the Government: The Chief Executive

- The White House Staff
 - Chief aides and staff for the president - some are more for the White House than the president
 - Presidents rely on their information and effort
- The First Lady
 - No official government position, but many get involved politically
 - Recent ones focus on a single issue

Running the Government: The Chief Executive

- Principal Offices in the White House (Figure 13.2)



Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

- Chief Legislator

- Veto: Sending a bill back to Congress with his reasons for rejecting it. Can be overridden.
- Pocket Veto: Letting a bill die by not signing it
 - only works when Congress is adjourned.
- Line Item Veto: The ability to veto parts of a bill. Some state governors have it, but not the president.
- Vetoes are most used to prevent legislation.

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

Summary of vetoes [\[edit\]](#)

President	Regular vetoes	Pocket vetoes	Total vetoes	Vetoes overridden	Percentage vetoes overridden ^[2]	Percentage <i>regular</i> vetoes overridden
Total ◆	1497 ◆	1067 ◆	2564 ◆	110 ◆	4% ◆	7% ◆
George Washington	2	0	2	0	0%	0%
John Adams	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Thomas Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Franklin Roosevelt	372	263	635	9	1%	2%
Harry Truman	180	70	250	12	5%	7%
Dwight Eisenhower	73	108	181	2	1%	3%
John Kennedy	12	9	21	0	0%	0%
Lyndon Johnson	16	14	30	0	0%	0%
Richard Nixon	26	17	43	7	16%	27%
Gerald Ford	48	18	66	12	18%	25%
Jimmy Carter	13	18	31	2	6%	15%
Ronald Reagan	39	39	78	9	12%	23%
George H. W. Bush ^{[3][4]}	29	15	44	1	2%	2%
Bill Clinton	36	1	37	2	5%	6%
George W. Bush	11	1	12	4	33%	36%
Barack Obama	2	0	2	0	0%	0%

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

- Party Leadership
 - The Bonds of Party
 - The psychological bond of being in the president's party
 - Slippage in Party Support
 - Presidents cannot always count on party support, especially on controversial issues
 - Leading the Party
 - Presidents can offer party candidates support and punishment by withholding favors.
 - Presidential coattails occur when voters cast their ballots for congressional candidates of the president's party because they support the president.

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

Table 13.6 Congressional Gains or Losses for the President's Party in Presidential Election Years

Presidents cannot rely on their coattails to carry their party's legislators into office to help pass White House legislative programs. The president's party typically gains few, if any, seats when the president wins election. For instance, the Republicans lost seats in both houses when President George W. Bush was elected in 2000.

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HOUSE	SENATE
1952	Eisenhower (R)	+22	+1
1956	Eisenhower (R)	-2	-1
1960	Kennedy (D)	-22	-2
1964	Johnson (D)	+37	+1
1968	Nixon (R)	+5	+6
1972	Nixon (R)	+12	-2
1976	Carter (D)	+1	0
1980	Reagan (R)	+34	+12
1984	Reagan (R)	+14	-2
1988	G. Bush (R)	-3	-1
1992	Clinton (D)	-10	0
1996	Clinton (D)	+9	-2
2000	G. W. Bush (R)	-2	-4
2004	G. W. Bush (R)	+4	+4
	Average	+7	+7

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

Table 13.7 Congressional Gains or Losses for the President's Party in Midterm Election Years

The president's party typically *loses* seats in midterm elections. Thus, presidents cannot be certain of helping to elect members of their party once in office.

YEAR	PRESIDENT	HOUSE	SENATE
1954	Eisenhower (R)	-18	-1
1958	Eisenhower (R)	-47	-13
1962	Kennedy (D)	-4	+3
1966	Johnson (D)	-47	-4
1970	Nixon (R)	-12	+2
1974	Ford (R)	-47	-5
1978	Carter (D)	-15	-3
1982	Reagan (R)	-26	0
1986	Reagan (R)	-5	-8
1990	G. Bush (R)	-9	-1
1994	Clinton (D)	-52	-8
1998	Clinton (D)	+5	0
2002	G. W. Bush (R)	+6	+2
	Average	-21	-3

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

- Public Support
 - Public Approval
 - Operates mostly in the background
 - Public approval gives the president leverage, not command
 - Mandates
 - Perception that the voters strongly support the president's character and policies
 - Mandates are infrequent, but presidents may claim a mandate anyway

Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers

- Legislative Skills
 - Variety of forms: bargaining, making personal appeals, consulting with Congress, setting priorities, etc.
 - Most important is bargaining with Congress.
 - Presidents can use their “honeymoon” period to their advantage.
 - Nation’s key agenda builder

The President and National Security Policy

- Chief Diplomat
 - Negotiates treaties with other countries
 - Treaties must be approved by the Senate
 - Use executive agreements to take care of routine matters with other countries
 - May negotiate for peace between other countries
 - Lead U.S. allies in defense & economic issues

The President and National Security Policy

- Commander in Chief
 - Writers of the constitution wanted civilian control of the military
 - Presidents often make important military decisions
 - Presidents command a standing military and nuclear arsenal - unthinkable 200 years ago

The President and National Security Policy

- War Powers

- Constitution gives Congress the power to declare war, but presidents can commit troops and equipment in conflicts
- War Powers Resolution was intended to limit the president's use of the military - but may be unconstitutional
- Presidents continue to test the limits of using the military in foreign conflicts

The President and National Security Policy

- Crisis Manager
 - A crisis is a sudden, unpredictable, and potentially dangerous event.
 - The role the president plays can help or hurt the presidential image.
 - With current technology, the president can act much faster than Congress to resolve a crisis.
- Working with Congress
 - President has lead role in foreign affairs.
 - Presidents still have to work with Congress for support and funding of foreign policies.

Power from the People: The Public Presidency

- Going Public

- Public support is perhaps the greatest source of influence a president has.
- Presidential appearances are staged to get the public's attention.
- As head of state, presidents often perform many ceremonial functions, which usually result in favorable press coverage.

Power from the People: The Public Presidency

- Presidential Approval
 - Receives much effort by the White House
 - Product of many factors: predispositions, “honeymoon”
 - Changes can highlight good / bad decisions

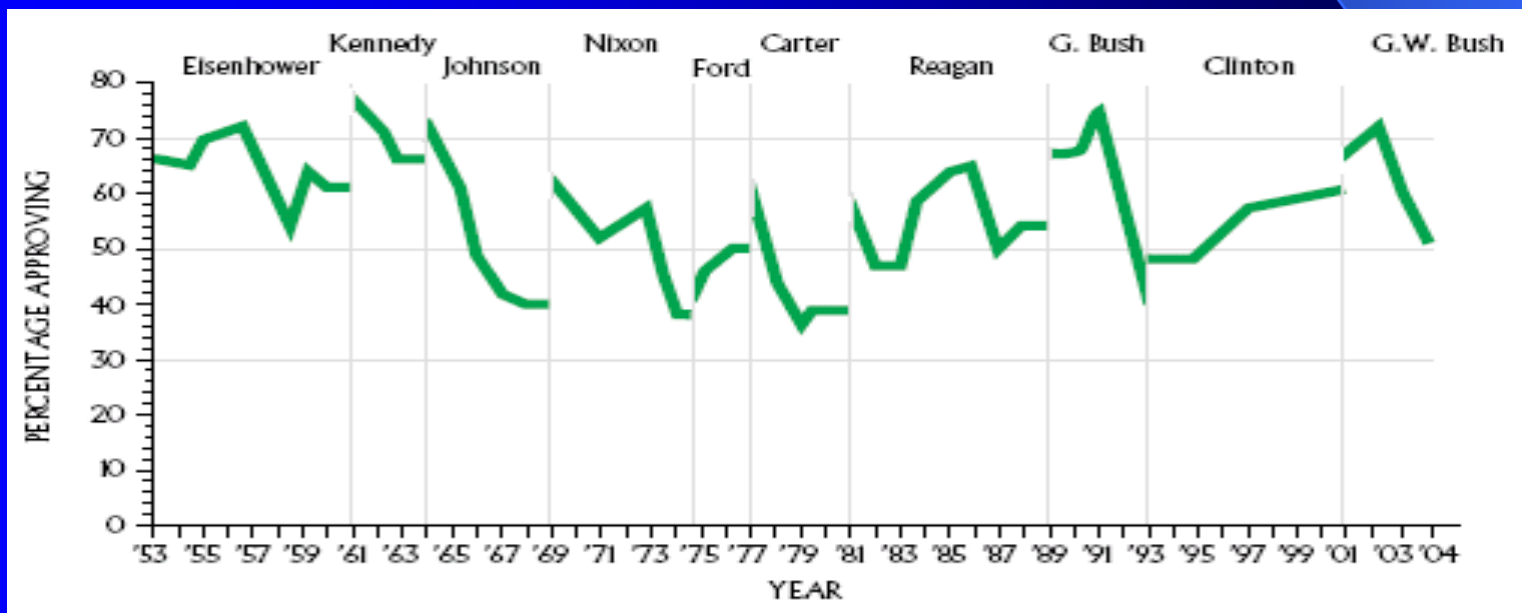
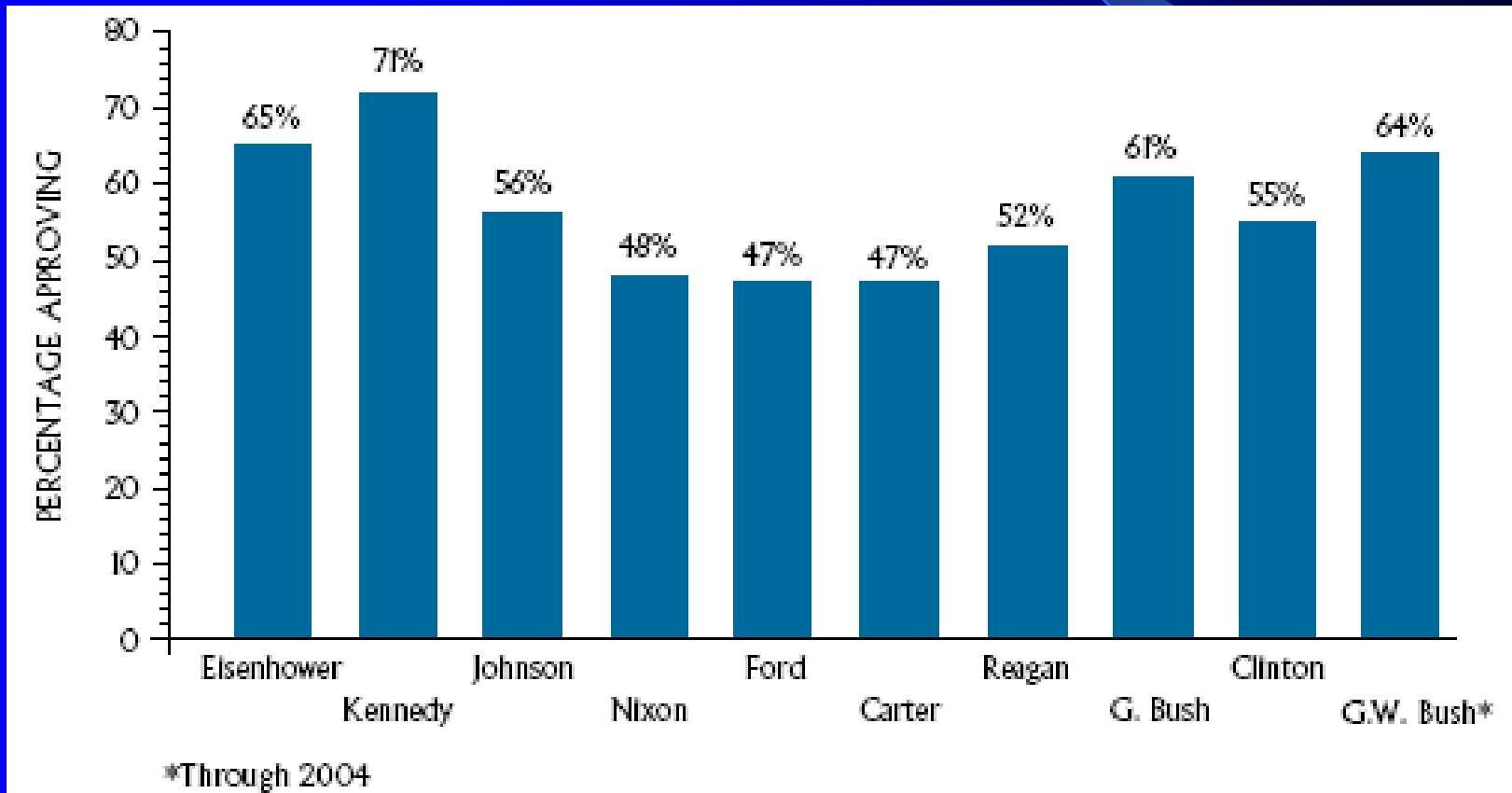


Figure 13.3

Power from the People: The Public Presidency

- Average Presidential Approval for Entire Terms in Office (Figure 13.4)



Power from the People: The Public Presidency

- Policy Support
 - Being an effective speaker is important.
 - The public may still miss the message.
- Mobilizing the Public
 - The president may need to get the public to actually act by contacting Congress.
 - Difficult to do since public opinion and political action are needed.

The President and the Press

- Presidents and media are often adversaries due to different goals
- Many people in the White House deal with the media, but the press secretary is the main contact person
- Media are often more interested in the person, not the policies
- News coverage has become more negative

Understanding the American Presidency

- The Presidency and Democracy
 - There are still concerns over the president having too much power.
 - Others argue there are too many checks and balances on the president.
- The Presidency and the Scope of Government
 - Some presidents have increased the functions of government.