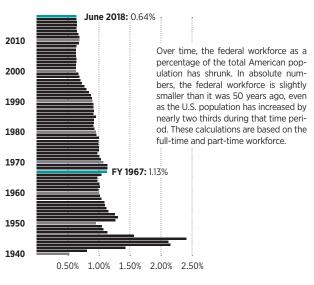
# Federal Workforce



The federal government employs about 2 million people who provide a wide array of critical services to the American public, from defending our national security to responding to natural disasters, caring for veterans and protecting public health and the environment. This data analysis is designed to shed light on several key characteristics of the federal workforce. What is the demographic breakdown of federal employees? What type of work do federal employees do and where are they located? The Partnership for Public Service analyzed recent data to answer these and other questions, focusing on federal civilian employees who do not work in the legislative or judicial branches, the intelligence community, or U.S. Postal Service.

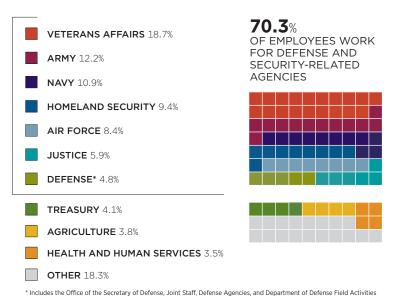
#### FEDERAL WORKFORCE AND THE U.S. POPULATION



FEDERAL WORKFORCE AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AMERICAN POPULATION

# TOP EMPLOYERS

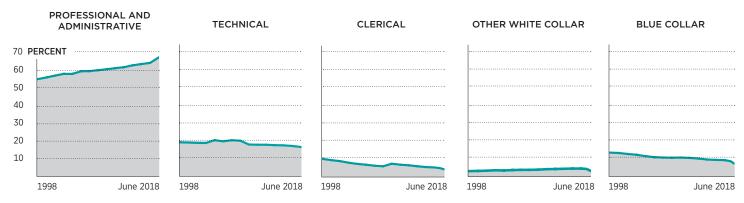
Defense and security-related agencies account for more than 70 percent of the entire federal workforce. Civilian employees at the Department of Defense agencies alone account for about 36 percent of the civilian federal workforce.



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#### FEDERAL WORKFORCE BY OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY

The nature of work performed by federal employees has evolved over time, shifting from largely clerical work to more highly skilled knowledge-based work in professional and administrative occupations.



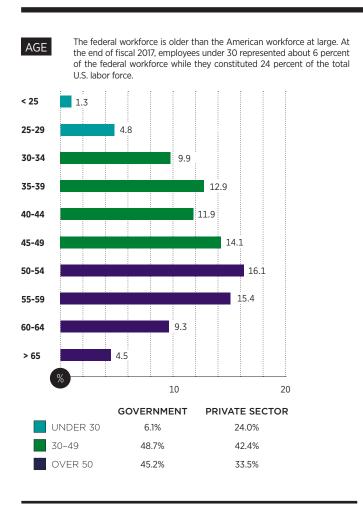
#### **SINCE 1998:**

THE PERCENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES HAS RISEN **11.0**%

THE PERCENT OF CLERICAL EMPLOYEES HAS DROPPED **5.1**%

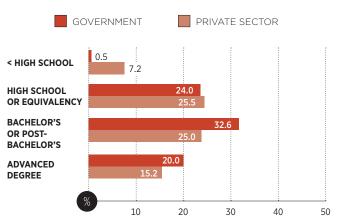
# A profile of the federal workforce

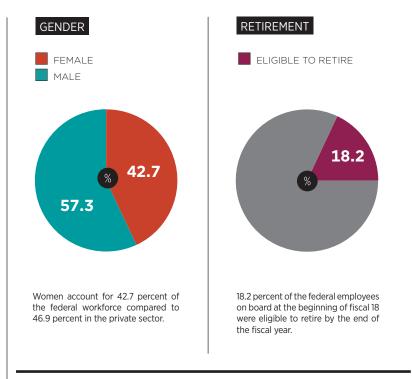
The size of the workforce has been relatively stable during the past 20 years, even as the complexity and the number of services provided has increased. In fact, over the last several decades, the federal workforce has declined as a percentage of the country's population. For the purposes of highlighting the federal workforce, we focus on the nearly 2 million civilian, full-time, permanent employees of the federal government.



#### **EDUCATION LEVEL**

The shift from clerical to more professional and knowledge-based work in government means that federal workers possess bachelor's and advanced degrees at a higher rate than the private sector-52.6 percent to 40.2 percent.





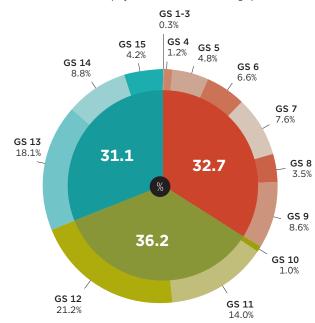
GS LEVEL

ENTRY LEVEL

MID LEVEL

SENIOR LEVEL

The general schedule pay scale was established in 1949. According to the Office of Personnel Management, more than 75 percent of federal workers were in grade GS-7 or below in 1950. That's compared to 20.5 at the end of June 2018, a 54.5 percent drop and another sign of the growing complexity of the work federal employees perform. In addition, more than 27 percent of employees are on pay plans outside of the GS-scale—these employees are not reflected in the graph below.



#### PERCENT OF TOTAL WORKFORCE BY LOCATION

It is a common misperception that the majority of federal employees work in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area when in fact 85 percent of the federal workforce is outside of the D.C. region.

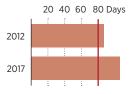
INSIDE D.C. METRO AREA

OUTSIDE D.C. METRO AREA



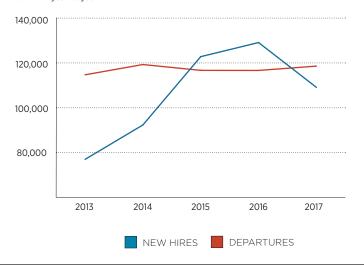
#### TIME TO HIRE

Since 2012, the average time to hire for federal positions has risen from 87 days to 106 days, failing to meet the Office of Personnel Management's 80 day standard for filling vacant jobs.



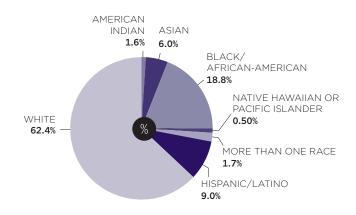
#### NEW HIRES AND DEPARTURES

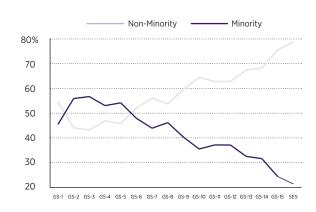
In 2017, the number of new employees hired by the federal government dropped by more than 20,000 from the previous year. During the last five fiscal years, the number of departures in the government has remained relatively stable in contrast to the greater fluctuation in the number of new hires from year to year.



## RACE AND ETHNICITY

While about 37.5 percent of the federal workforce is comprised of individuals who identify as part of a racial or ethnic minority group, this number diminishes significantly at higher levels on the GS-scale.





## SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE

Nearly 70 percent of the members of the SES—the government's elite cadre of senior leaders—are located in the Washington D.C. region. The SES is less diverse in terms of gender and race than the federal workforce as a whole.



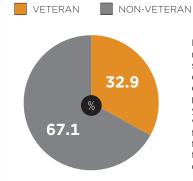
7,123

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE EMPLOYEES

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES TO SES RATIO

261:1

# VETERAN STATUS



Individuals who have served in the uniformed military service constitute a considerable segment of the federal workforce. At the end of fiscal 2016, 32.9 percent of federal employees were veterans compared to 7 percent in the private sector. In the same year, 42 percent of new federal hires were veterans. The percent of veterans in the federal workforce and being hired by the federal government has increased since fiscal 2009, when veterans were 27.7 percent of employees and 35.9 percent of new hires.

#### FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT BY STATE

The federal workforce spans the entire country, with employees located in every state. These numbers are only for civilian employees and do not include postal workers, seasonal workers or members of the uniformed services stationed at bases across the country.

STATE	EMPLOYEES		
ALABAMA	35,115		
ALASKA	9,376		
ARIZONA	27,576		
ARKANSAS	11,663		
CALIFORNIA	122,390		
COLORADO	32,350		
CONNECTICUT	6,838		
DELAWARE	2,738		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	129,758		
FLORIDA	73,113		
GEORGIA	65,285		
HAWAII	20,803		
IDAHO	7,053		
ILLINOIS	37,364		
INDIANA	20,987		
IOWA	7,502		
KANSAS	14,834		

STATE	EMPLOYEES		
KENTUCKY	19,223		
LOUISIANA	16,705		
MAINE	10,078		
MARYLAND	114,556		
MASSACHUSETTS	20,859		
MICHIGAN	22,479		
MINNESOTA	14,482		
MISSISSIPPI	15,973		
MISSOURI	30,291		
MONTANA	7,667		
NEBRASKA	8,774		
NEVADA	10,036		
NEW HAMPSHIRE	3,882		
NEW JERSEY	19,004		
NEW MEXICO	18,938		
NEW YORK	44,427		
NORTH CAROLINA	39,029		

STATE	EMPLOYEES		
NORTH DAKOTA	4,653		
OHIO	45,639		
OKLAHOMA	36,182		
OREGON	15,538		
PENNSYLVANIA	54,570		
RHODE ISLAND	6,445		
SOUTH CAROLINA	19,059		
SOUTH DAKOTA	7,239		
TENNESSEE	22,810		
TEXAS	102,587		
UTAH	24,742		
VERMONT	2,911		
VIRGINIA	126,367		
WASHINGTON	47,207		
WEST VIRGINIA	14,019		
WISCONSIN	12,950		
WYOMING	4,726		

Note: For security purposes, FedScope does not provide location information for employees in the following agencies: Federal Bureau of Investigation; Drug Enforcement Agency; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Secret Service and Bureau of the Mint. As a result, states may have a higher number of federal employees than what is listed in the table above

For the federal government to maintain a world-class workforce and deliver effective services to the American public, it is crucial for agencies to recruit young talent and employees with the skills needed for current and emerging needs; ensure a diverse workforce; develop leadership capabilities; improve their hiring processes; and adopt policies to retain high-performing workers.

For further information on agency specific data, see the Partnership's online Fed Figures at: https://ourpublicservice.org/research/fed-figures.php

Data Sources: Unless otherwise noted below, all data are from FedScope (fedscope.opm.gov) from the Office of Personnel Management, for all full-time, nonseasonal, permanent employees (June 2018).

Veteran Status: "Employement of Veterans in the Federal Executive Branch: Fiscal Year 2016," Office of Personnel Management, http://bit.ly/2HV7Jug (Sept. 2017).

Historical Federal Workforce Tables: "Executive Branch Civilian Employment Since 1940," Office of Personnel Management, http://bit.ly/2CPkOSk (accessed Feb. 28, 2017).

Data on the civilian labor force: "Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population by age, sex, and race," Bureau of Labor Statistics, http://bit.ly/2HV9liz (accessed Jan. 7, 2019).

Data on the civilian labor force educational level: "Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 25 years and over by educational attainment, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity," Bureau of Labor Statistics, http://bit.ly/2oAMsOF (accessed Jan. 7, 2019).

Retirement Data: Data provided to the Partnership for Public Service from the Office of Personnel Management on Feb. 13, 2017.

Data on the historical breakdown of the General Schedule: Office of Personnel Management, A Fresh Start for Federal Pay: The Case for Modernization, April 2002.

Data on time to hire: Examining Federal Managers' Role in Hiring: Hearing before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Senate, 115th Cong. 2 (2018) (Testimony of Mark Reinhold).

AGENCY	SIZE	BPTW ENGAGEMENT SCORE
Department of Agriculture	Large	59.0
Department of Commerce	Large	70.3
Department of Justice	Large	62.6
Department of Homeland Security	Large	53.1
Department of the Interior	Large	62.8
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Large	81.2
Department of State	Large	60.7
Department of Transportation	Large	67.7
Department of the Treasury	Large	61.3
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	Small	58.3
Export-Import Bank of the United States	Small	36.8
Farm Credit Administration	Small	81.1
Overseas Private Investment Corporation	Small	73.6
Millennium Challenge Corporation	Small	69.1
International Trade Commission	Small	85.7
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative	Small	57.8
Federal Election Commission	Small	49.4
Federal Labor Relations Authority	Small	41.6
Merit Systems Protection Board	Small	64.2
Selective Service System	Small	44.2
National Gallery of Art	Small	66.1
Federal Maritime Commission	Small	74.4
National Transportation Safety Board	Small	77.8
Surface Transportation Board	Small	64.0
U.S. Agency for International Development	Mid-size	67.2
Environmental Protection Agency	Mid-size	57.5
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Mid-size	60.1
Small Business Administration	Mid-size	62.0
Peace Corps	Mid-size	79.8
National Science Foundation	Mid-size	75.5
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	Mid-size	65.4
Federal Communications Commission	Mid-size	64.4
Federal Trade Commission	Mid-size	84.0
General Services Administration	Mid-size	74.5
National Archives and Records Administration	Mid-size	56.7
National Credit Union Administration	Mid-size	67.2
Office of Personnel Management	Mid-size	65.2
Securities and Exchange Commission	Mid-size	82.1
Smithsonian Institution	Mid-size	76.7
U.S. Agency for Global Media	Mid-size	52.5