

Table 3-14 **Non-Party Independent Expenditures in House and Senate Elections, 1978-2018**
Adjusted for inflation, 2018 Dollars

	For Democrats	Against Democrats	For Republicans	Against Republicans	Total
2018					
House	95,895,390	169,405,042	66,029,919	169,717,843	501,048,194
Senate	78,293,203	195,988,141	56,157,952	218,255,198	548,694,494
2016					
House	23,557,543	53,888,636	31,738,807	57,162,083	166,347,069
Senate	53,577,894	242,592,885	54,972,100	182,683,864	533,826,743
2014					
House	16,190,159	43,061,442	41,840,468	50,969,054	152,061,124
Senate	38,818,120	127,979,693	87,791,959	156,193,002	410,782,774
2012					
House	25,607,310	84,402,069	37,275,930	69,173,681	216,458,991
Senate	19,977,389	111,063,038	46,587,790	105,969,444	283,597,661
2010					
House	23,706,970	42,663,134	16,824,202	29,508,478	112,702,785
Senate	15,557,923	49,974,474	25,948,100	20,502,432	111,982,929
2008					
House	9,883,668	2,369,182	9,781,769	8,237,536	30,272,155
Senate	6,318,233	2,153,901	6,421,891	5,837,295	20,731,320
2006					
House	8,023,322	961,029	7,950,112	15,052,590	31,987,053
Senate	3,642,628	380,233	7,100,540	1,836,589	12,959,990
2004					
House	1,789,263	88,656	5,182,242	724,728	7,784,889
Senate	552,158	413,579	10,288,903	484,625	11,739,264
2002					
House	3,719,457	365,594	3,520,859	752,076	8,357,987
Senate	7,363,327	252,968	4,951,635	1,638,401	14,206,330
2000					
House	5,996,340	341,571	4,219,875	2,429,052	12,986,838
Senate	2,160,951	886,325	6,384,159	3,979,607	13,411,042
1998					
House	2,753,610	397,883	5,820,646	927,364	9,899,504
Senate	1,339,018	225,787	2,218,484	1,558,365	5,341,654
1996					
House	1,087,189	204,384	4,200,940	2,242,360	7,734,873
Senate	465,899	1,331,813	4,596,947	1,333,489	7,728,147
1994					
House	851,631	827,669	1,844,088	86,100	3,609,487
Senate	346,013	735,271	2,218,912	910,781	4,210,976
1992					
House	2,659,207	771,222	2,838,631	810,669	7,079,730
Senate	2,035,561	294,166	1,547,258	376,732	4,253,717
1990					
House	1,362,725	251,097	1,286,709	143,025	3,043,557
Senate	1,500,171	511,494	2,759,973	1,122,833	5,894,471
1988					
House	3,110,827	591,625	1,952,668	315,646	5,970,766
Senate	1,764,040	1,309,802	5,963,562	304,472	9,341,877
1986					
House	5,465,896	520,740	3,009,568	275,008	9,271,212
Senate	2,264,504	1,448,933	7,658,741	797,324	12,169,502
1984					
House	1,355,173	285,597	1,531,405	64,884	3,237,059
Senate	787,956	991,928	4,369,554	5,032,308	11,181,746
1982					
House	628,267	2,244,751	1,281,307	172,512	4,326,836
Senate	331,646	8,282,591	776,506	1,258,788	10,649,531
1980					
House	580,883	115,872	1,250,897	137,536	2,085,188
Senate	388,183	3,908,654	797,441	37,879	5,132,158
1978					
House	110,630	119,522	272,293	20,404	522,849
Senate	394,793	141,409	100,385	7,645	644,232

Note: An independent expenditure is defined by the FEC as an expenditure for a communication "expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate that is not made in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, a candidate's authorized committee, or their agents, or a political party or its agents." 11 CFR 100.16(a).

Source: Campaign Finance Institute analysis of Federal Election Commission data.