

Senate Campaign Expenditures: Major Party General Election Candidates, 1974-2016 (full cycle, net dollars), Adjusted for Inflation, 2016 Mean Net Dollars

Table 3-5

	2016	2014	2012	2010	2008	2006	2004	2002	2000	1998	1996
All candidates											
Total expenditures	554,571,492	563,399,123	614,178,961	625,391,774 ^c	434,022,835	613,038,715 ^a	466,945,940	375,592,662	536,031,195	366,908,304	352,469,171
Mean expenditure	8,277,186 (n=67)	7,935,199 ^a (n=71)	9,748,873 (n=63)	8,808,335 (n=71)	6,576,104 (n=66)	9,431,364 (n=65)	6,866,852 (n=68)	6,057,946 (n=62)	8,121,685 (n=66)	5,559,217 (n=66)	5,422,595 (n=65)
Mean, Democrats	8,435,559 (n=34)	8,740,188 (n=34)	11,299,735 (n=28)	7,851,056 (n=32)	6,541,121 (n=34)	10,250,150 (n=31)	7,147,261 (n=34)	6,140,671 (n=30)	8,495,648 (n=33)	5,126,628 (n=34)	5,179,354 (n=32)
Mean, Republicans	8,114,015 (n=33)	7,234,767 (n=36)	8,848,350 (n=33)	9,452,088 (n=38)	6,613,273 (n=32)	8,375,755 (n=32)	6,586,444 (n=34)	5,980,392 (n=32)	7,747,721 (n=33)	6,018,843 (n=32)	5,658,466 (n=33)
Incumbents											
Mean, all incumbents	10,146,576 (n=29)	11,048,388 (n=27)	11,186,288 ^a (n=22)	10,477,899 (n=23)	8,642,944 (n=30)	11,221,964 (n=29)	8,343,435 (n=26)	6,051,192 (n=27)	6,314,739 (n=29)	6,962,616 (n=29)	6,475,606 (n=20)
Mean, Democrats	8,868,486 (n=7)	13,440,462 (n=16)	11,782,499 (n=15)	13,869,469 (n=12)	7,077,621 (n=12)	11,381,319 (n=14)	9,425,030 (n=14)	8,194,657 (n=12)	5,119,278 (n=11)	6,715,368 (n=15)	7,965,972 (n=7)
Mean, Republicans	10,553,241 (n=22)	7,858,956 (n=12)	11,098,252 (n=6)	6,778,004 (n=11)	9,686,493 (n=18)	10,427,622 (n=14)	7,081,575 (n=12)	4,336,421 (n=15)	7,045,300 (n=18)	7,227,525 (n=14)	5,673,102 (n=13)
Challengers											
Mean, all challengers	5,755,449 (n=28)	5,093,236 (n=27)	7,553,852 (n=19)	5,789,569 (n=20)	4,227,541 (n=26)	6,738,010 (n=28)	3,081,210 (n=26)	3,849,364 (n=21)	4,395,200 (n=27)	4,629,697 (n=27)	4,757,202 (n=17)
Mean, Democrats	7,399,879 (n=21)	3,577,707 (n=10)	18,906,060 (n=3)	1,974,134 (n=7)	5,689,106 (n=17)	8,487,975 (n=14)	1,975,237 (n=12)	2,911,230 (n=11)	4,573,869 (n=17)	3,850,571 (n=14)	4,466,784 (n=11)
Mean, Republicans	822,157 (n=7)	5,997,449 (n=16)	5,425,314 (n=16)	7,844,034 (n=13)	1,466,810 (n=9)	4,988,045 ^b (n=14)	4,029,185 (n=14)	4,881,311 (n=10)	4,091,464 (n=10)	5,468,755 (n=13)	5,289,633 (n=6)
Open seats											
Mean, all Open	9,916,822 (n=10)	7,282,931 (n=16)	10,207,156 ^a (n=22)	9,593,169 (n=28)	6,481,844 (n=10)	12,367,185 ^a (n=8)	10,619,074 (n=16)	9,383,845 (n=14)	23,423,334 (n=10)	3,999,063 (n=10)	5,074,433 (n=28)
Mean, Democrats	11,555,355 (n=6)	5,792,742 (n=8)	8,293,691 (n=10)	5,460,095 (n=13)	8,150,371 (n=5)	13,194,853 (n=3)	10,919,198 (n=8)	7,694,386 (n=7)	29,257,712 (n=5)	3,933,370 (n=5)	4,345,919 (n=14)
Mean, Republicans	7,459,022 (n=4)	8,773,122 (n=8)	12,600,092 (n=11)	13,046,347 (n=14)	4,813,316 (n=5)	13,051,206 (n=4)	10,318,949 (n=8)	11,073,304 (n=7)	17,588,955 (n=5)	4,064,754 (n=5)	5,802,946 (n=14)

1994	1992	1990	1988	1986	1984	1982	1980	1978	1976	1974
452,617,591	332,420,881	318,363,284	374,710,170	401,688,699	327,930,125	283,622,064	216,016,987	238,149,927	160,744,562	138,436,369
6,465,965 (n=70)	4,817,693 (n=69)	4,751,691 (n=67)	5,677,427 (n=66)	5,995,353 (n=67)	5,375,903 (n=61)	4,431,586 (n=64)	3,224,133 (n=67)	3,502,206 (n=68)	2,511,844 (n=64)	2,129,792 (n=65)
5,497,762 (n=35)	4,813,314 (n=35)	4,527,052 (n=34)	5,945,002 (n=33)	4,949,958 (n=33)	4,991,030 (n=31)	4,679,214 (n=32)	3,409,556 (n=34)	2,808,049 (n=35)	2,403,875 (n=33)	2,374,633 (n=34)
7,434,168 (n=35)	4,822,204 (n=34)	4,983,137 (n=33)	5,409,853 (n=33)	7,010,002 (n=34)	5,773,605 (n=30)	4,183,961 (n=32)	3,033,094 (n=33)	4,238,432 (n=33)	2,600,997 (n=30)	1,861,359 (n=31)
12,425,877 (n=26)	6,343,944 (n=27)	6,570,316 (n=32)	7,604,209 (n=27)	7,389,855 (n=28)	5,867,187 (n=28)	4,621,416 (n=29)	3,791,447 (n=25)	4,939,808 (n=22)	2,631,257 (n=25)	2,705,380 (n=25)
8,345,179 (n=16)	4,875,317 (n=15)	6,641,796 (n=17)	7,013,853 (n=15)	5,940,602 (n=9)	4,054,025 (n=12)	4,218,716 (n=18)	3,948,639 (n=19)	2,275,690 (n=11)	2,122,147 (n=17)	2,559,585 (n=15)
6,323,048 (n=10)	8,179,728 (n=12)	6,489,304 (n=15)	8,342,152 (n=12)	8,076,343 (n=19)	7,227,057 (n=16)	5,280,375 (n=11)	3,293,665 (n=6)	7,603,930 (n=11)	3,759,724 (n=7)	2,924,074 (n=10)
6,473,081 (n=26)	3,121,961 (n=26)	3,120,361 (n=29)	3,686,656 (n=27)	4,159,429 (n=27)	2,867,689 (n=25)	3,026,909 (n=29)	2,454,092 (n=24)	2,568,539 (n=21)	1,907,718 (n=23)	1,619,093 (n=22)
1,985,852 (n=10)	4,363,447 (n=12)	2,561,686 (n=14)	4,370,609 (n=12)	4,186,311 (n=18)	3,500,573 (n=15)	3,770,510 (n=11)	1,622,395 (n=6)	3,056,342 (n=11)	2,722,502 (n=8)	1,900,081 (n=10)
9,237,112 (n=16)	2,056,283 (n=14)	3,641,793 (n=15)	3,139,494 (n=15)	4,105,661 (n=9)	1,918,360 (n=10)	2,572,487 (n=18)	2,731,323 (n=18)	2,031,957 (n=10)	1,473,166 (n=15)	1,384,933 (n=12)
4,864,676 (n=18)	4,999,067 (n=16)	2,937,118 (n=6)	5,821,403 (n=12)	6,872,351 (n=12)	11,494,582 (n=8)	10,303,356 (n=6)	3,298,815 (n=18)	3,021,390 (n=25)	3,192,857 (n=16)	1,954,543 (n=18)
4,265,833 (n=9)	5,371,854 (n=8)	1,715,207 (n=3)	6,421,658 (n=6)	5,754,932 (n=6)	13,391,261 (n=4)	10,774,098 (n=3)	3,462,925 (n=9)	3,048,409 (n=13)	2,683,924 (n=8)	2,593,298 (n=9)
5,463,518 (n=9)	4,626,278 (n=8)	4,159,029 (n=3)	5,221,148 (n=6)	7,989,770 (n=6)	9,597,903 (n=4)	9,832,614 (n=3)	3,134,707 (n=9)	2,992,118 (n=12)	3,701,785 (n=8)	1,315,788 (n=9)

Note: The data include primary and general election expenditures for major party general-election candidates only.

a. Includes one or more Independents.

b. Alan Schlesinger (CT-Rep) is not included in the data. He raised \$221,019 and was third in the voting.

c. 2010 data includes Charlie Crist (FL) who started as a Republican and finished second as an Independent in the Florida Senate race. 2010 does not include Democrats McAdams (AK) and Meek (FL) who finished third in their respective races.

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