

Table 5-11 Allowances for Representatives,
1977 - 2016

	Members' representational allowance ^a
1977	\$298,491
1981	\$402,584 - 584,985
1983	\$425,498 - 646,118
1985	\$500,193 - 701,189
1987	\$512,173 - 713,069
1989	\$540,160 - 738,260
1991	\$610,000 - 792,000
1993	\$709,528 - 859,408
1995	\$720,688 - 903,189
1997	\$814,090 - 1,233,780
1999	\$858,707 - 1,311,594
2001	\$980,699 - 1,469,930
2003	\$1,087,407 - 1,636,750
2004	\$1,198,149
2005	\$1,246,228
2006	\$1,227,837
2007	\$1,275,209
2008	\$1,332,294
2009	\$1,400,000
2010	\$1,522,114
2011	\$1,446,009
2012	\$1,353,357
2013	\$1,243,560
2014	\$1,255,909
2015	\$1,255,960
2016	\$1,268,520

Note: Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

a. As of January 3, 1978, previous individual allowances for travel, office equipment lease, district office lease, stationery, telecommunications, mass mailings, postage, computer services, and other official expenses were consolidated in a single allowance category--the official expenses allowance. Members may budget funds for each category as they see fit. The average allowance for 1995 was \$193,000. On September 1, 1995, members' three former expense allowances (clerk-hire, official expenses, and official mail allowances) were consolidated into one members' representational allowance (MRA). Although the MRA is calculated on the basis of those three components, members may spend the MRA as they see fit. Within the MRA, each member's expenditures for franked mail may not exceed the total amount allocated by the Committee on House Oversight for official mail expenses, plus an additional \$25,000, transferable within the MRA at the member's discretion according to the procedures under the previous allowance structure. The 1997 mean MRA was \$901,771. This data has been simplified to display the total allowance for a member of Congress. For details on the previous breakdown of allowances, see Vital Statistics on Congress 2007-2008.

Source: Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives; Legislative Branch Appropriations Bills, various years.