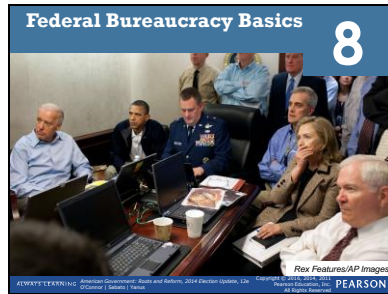




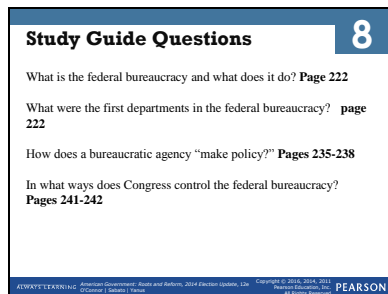
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Slide 1

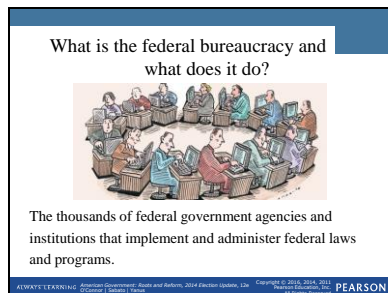


President Obama and his national security team watch live coverage of the capture of Osama bin Laden. In the photo are representatives from several important bureaucracies including the state department, department of defense, and the White House staff.

Slide 2



Slide 3

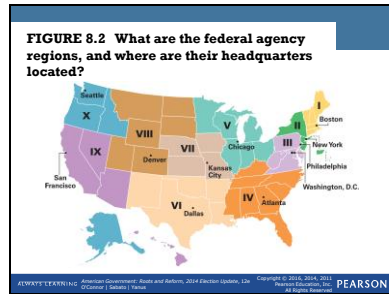


The federal bureaucracy, or the thousands of federal government agencies and institutions that implement and administer federal laws and programs.



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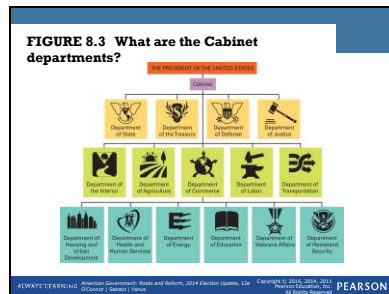
Slide 4



To bring the federal bureaucracy closer to citizens and increase the efficiency of providing government services, the federal agencies maintain an office in Washington, D.C. and in ten other regional locations across the country. These cities are shown on the map above.

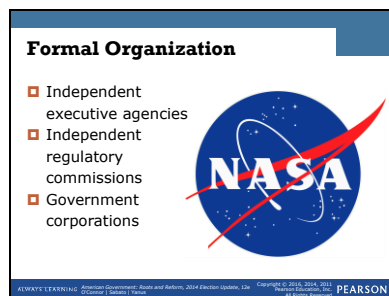
Source: *Department of Health and Human Services*, www.hhs.gov/images/regions.gif.

Slide 5



Cabinet departments reflect the government's permanent interest in a particular issue area. The modern Cabinet includes fifteen agencies focusing on issues ranging from commerce and foreign affairs to education and health.

Slide 6



Today, the federal government consists of four different types of organizations: Cabinet departments, independent executive agencies, independent regulatory commissions, and government corporations.

Cabinet departments generally are large organizations responsible for a broad section of policy such as education, national defense, and transportation. About 60 percent of the federal workforce are employed in these departments.

Independent executive agencies tend to have narrower responsibilities for a



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specific policy area, such as the environment.


There are also independent regulatory commissions, which are not under the control of the president or a department. They have a specific policy mission, such as regulating nuclear power, and their members are drawn from both political parties and are appointed in staggered terms over the course of more than one administration.

Government corporations, like the U.S. Postal Service and AMTRAK, have independent boards and are supposed to be run like a business.

Slide 7

What were the first departments in the federal bureaucracy?

- ❖ State
- ❖ War
- ❖ Treasury
- ❖ Attorney General



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In 1789, three executive departments existed under the Articles of Confederation: Foreign Affairs, War, and Treasury, which President George Washington inherited as his Cabinet. A secretary headed each department, and the Department of State became the new name for Foreign Affairs. Congress also added the office of Attorney General.



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Slide 8

How does a bureaucratic agency “make policy?”

- Rule making
- Administrative adjudication



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Many decisions are left up to individual government employees on a day-to-day basis. Government employees have administrative discretion, and can choose how to implement congressional or executive intentions. There are two formal procedures for this: rule making and administrative adjudication.

Rule making is the process resulting in regulations that have the force of law. Put simply, bureaucratic rule-makers often act both as lawmakers as well as law enforcers when they make rules or write regulations to implement congressional acts.

The Administrative Procedures Act was passed in 1946. Among other things, it requires that the public be made aware of proposed rules and be given the chance to comment.

If people or businesses are not in compliance with federal laws, rules or regulations, the agencies may resort to administrative adjudication. This is a quasi-judicial process that settles disputes between two parties much like the way disputes are handled in court. An administrative law judge presides over the hearings. The judge's rulings can be further reviewed and challenged in court.




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Slide 9

In what ways does Congress control the federal bureaucracy?

- Confirmation
- Oversight and Investigations
- Power of the purse



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Congress checks the power of the federal bureaucracy in several important ways. It must confirm the president's nominees for key government bureaucracy posts. Congress also has *oversight power and can investigate* when it suspects an agency has not implemented its laws properly. Finally, it controls the money by authorizing agencies to spend revenues and then determining a specific allocation of funds to be spent.

To help Congress oversee the bureaucracy's financial affairs, Congress created the General Accounting Office in 1921. That office is now known as the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Slide 10

Exit Questions 8

What is the federal bureaucracy and what does it do?

How does the President control the bureaucracy?

How does Congress control the bureaucracy?

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