



## POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS MEMO

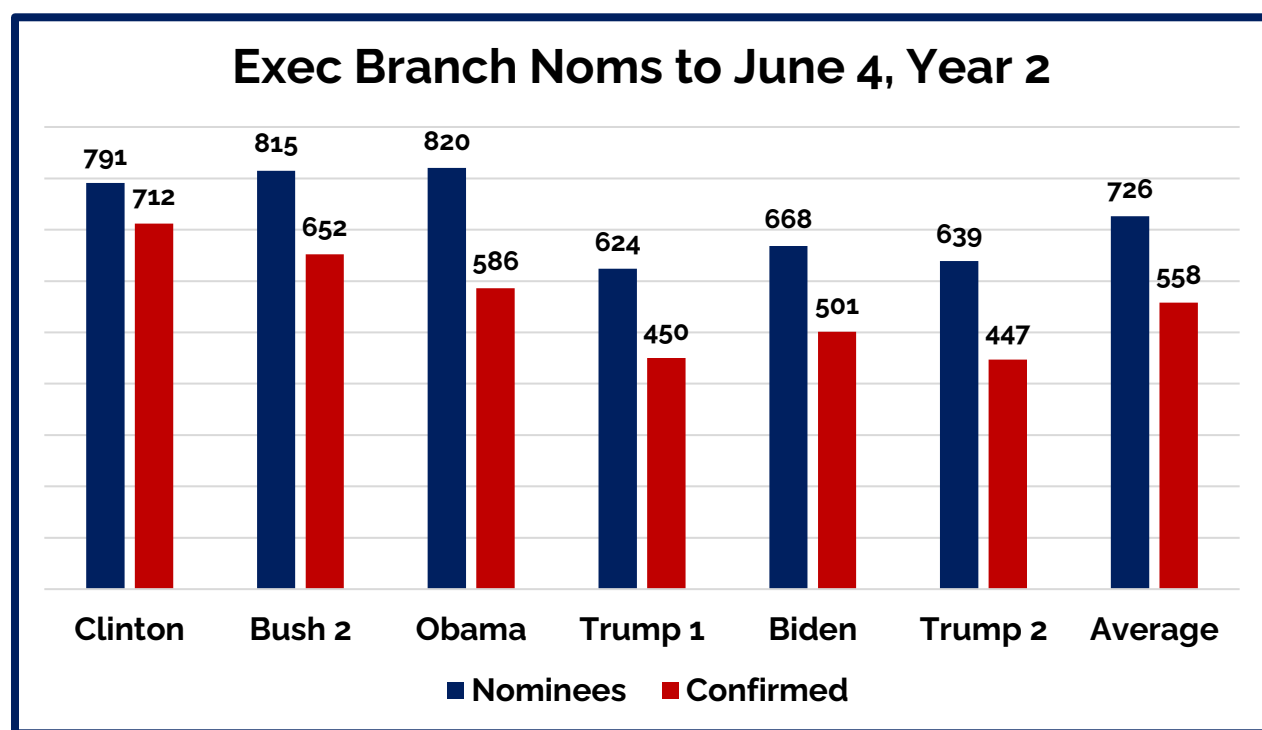
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DATA AS OF JUNE 4, YEAR 2, FOR EACH PRESIDENT

ADVANCING AMERICAN  
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**Background:** [Article II](#) of the Constitution gives the President authority to nominate and, with Senate consent, to appoint "Officers of the United States." The [Plum Book](#), published shortly after each presidential election, lists the positions requiring presidential nomination and Senate confirmation. Nominations are referred to the relevant Senate committee and, if approved, listed on the [Executive Calendar](#). The Majority Leader decides which nominations to put before the Senate for consideration.

**Confirmation Norms:** The Senate traditionally confirmed the vast majority of executive branch nominees without either a cloture vote or a time-consuming recorded vote. Democrats began rejecting those norms during President Donald Trump's first term, Republicans made it a trend under President Joe Biden, and Democrats have taken it even further in Trump's second term.



*The "Plum Book," linked above, shows that the number of executive branch positions requiring presidential nomination and Senate confirmed, has been stable during the periods covered by this graph.*



## Exec Branch Confirmations to June 4, Year 2

