

The Executive Branch: What Are the Executive Departments?

Fill in the blanks to identify the correct department. Each department will be used exactly once.

1. The Department of Housing and Urban Development would provide funding for new apartment buildings in U.S. cities where housing is expensive.
2. The Department of Defense is responsible for sending military forces around the world to protect the United States.
3. The Department of Energy would conduct studies on increasing solar and wind resources to fuel the nation's power grid.
4. The Department of Transportation is responsible for repairing old or damaged highways and bridges.
5. The Department of Justice would argue court cases against people, states, and businesses who violate federal civil rights laws.
6. The Department of the Treasury is responsible for printing money, collecting taxes, and managing the public debt.
7. The Department of Agriculture would enforce safety procedures in the event of an outbreak of the salmonella bacteria in vegetables grown in the United States.
8. The Department of Homeland Security would respond to threats of cyberterrorism or security issues along U.S. borders.
9. The Department of Veterans Affairs would provide programs to help soldiers who were wounded during military service.
10. The Department of State is responsible for selecting ambassadors to develop relationships with governments around the world.
11. The Department of the Interior is responsible for overseeing national park lands and protecting endangered animals.
12. The Department of Health and Human Services would organize the government's response during a pandemic or other medical emergency.
13. The Department of Commerce would be involved in collecting data on the number of new jobs that are created every month.
14. The Department of Labor is responsible for creating new job safety policies to prevent workers from being injured in U.S. factories.
15. The Department of Education is responsible for researching how American schools are performing and sharing this information with Congress, educators, and the general public.

Bonus activity: The leaders of the 15 executive departments create government policies and serve in the president's Cabinet. Research the current leaders of the executive departments. Write each leader's name under the department name on page one.