## Corporate PAC Profile Data from the 2019 PAC Benchmarking survey

# What is a Corporate PAC?

Corporate PACs are voluntary associations of individuals who pool their resources in small-dollar donations to increase the impact of their contributions to candidates.

Political action committees (PACs) remain a popular and **transparent means of participating in the political process** and financing federal elections.

There are 1,732 corporate PACs registered with the FEC. The sample size of the 2019 PAC Benchmarking Report includes 160 corporate PACs.

### PROFILE OF CORPORATE PACS





The federal PAC receipts for the 2017-2018 election cycle of the participating corporations range from just over \$8,000 to just over \$5.2 million, with a median of \$513,661.

From 2016 to 2018, there was a 4% increase in the size of PACs that responded.

### Corporate PACs are Employee-Funded

Corporate PACs do not consist of corporate funds. **They are funded by employees and provide a platform for employees' voices to be heard**. The median number of employees solicited by corporate PACs for a contribution in the 2018 election cycle is 2,550, with a median of 306 employees donating.



The median participation rate for a corporate PAC is 17%, with individuals contributing a median amount of \$1,056.



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# Where does the money go?

A majority of funds contributed to PACs support Congressional candidates, and more than half of survey participants said their company's PAC has never contributed to a super PAC. In fact, **only 6% of respondents supported a super PAC in the last elecation.** 



### PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FEDERAL PAC DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED

#### CORPORATE LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT WITH SUPER PACS



# About the Report

Conducted by the Public Affairs Council every two years, the Corporate PAC Benchmarking Report is the most comprehensive summary of trends in corporate PAC management, budgets, structure, fundraising, political involvement and more.

The Council sent survey questionnaires to members and nonmembers in the PAC community from February through April 2019. A total of 160 usable corporate responses were received, covering federal PAC activities and receipts in the 2017-2018 election cycle.



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