

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONS

Table 7.37
STATE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONS

State or other jurisdiction	Regulatory authority	Members		Selection of Chair	Length of commissioners' terms (in years)	Number of full-time employees
		Number	Selection			
Alabama	Public Service Commission	3	E	E	4	130
Alaska	Regulatory Commission of Alaska	5	GL	G	6	55
Arizona	Corporation Commission	3	E	C	6	296.5
Arkansas**	Public Service Commission	3	GS	G	6	100
California	Public Utilities Commission	5	GS	G	6	891
Colorado	Public Utilities Commission	3	GS	G	4	95
Connecticut	Department of Public Utility Control	5	GL	C	4	153
Delaware**	Public Service Commission	5	GS	G	5	24
Florida	Public Service Commission	5	GS (a)	C	4	401
Georgia**	Public Service Commission	5	E	(b)	6	135
Hawaii*	Public Utilities Commission	3	GS	G	6	31
Idaho**	Public Utilities Commission	3	GS	C	6	57
Illinois	Commerce Commission	7	GS	G	5	325
Indiana	Utility Regulatory Commission	5	G	G	4	70
Iowa	Utilities Board	3	GS	GS	6	75
Kansas	State Corporation Commission	3	GS	C	4	215
Kentucky	Public Service Commission	3	GS	G	4	127
Louisiana**	Public Service Commission	5	E	C	6	108
Maine	Public Utilities Commission	3	GS	G	6	64.5
Maryland**	Public Service Commission	5	GS	G	5	135
Massachusetts	Department of Telecommunications	5	G	G	staggered	140
Michigan	Public Service Commission	3	GS	G	6	139
Minnesota	Public Utilities Commission	5	GS	G	6	45
Mississippi	Public Service Commission	3	E	C	4	139
Missouri**	Public Service Commission	5	GS	G	6	203
Montana**	Public Service Commission	5	E	C	4	46
Nebraska	Public Service Commission	5	E	C	6	45
Nevada**	Public Service Commission	3	G	G	4	97
New Hampshire**	Public Utilities Commission	3	GC	GC	6	70
New Jersey	Board of Public Utilities	3	GS	G	6	388
New Mexico	Public Regulation Commission	5	E	C	4	243
New York	Public Service Commission	5	GS	G	6	620
North Carolina	Utilities Commission	7	GL	G	8	140(e)
North Dakota	Public Service Commission	3	E	C	6	42
Ohio	Public Utilities Commission	5	GS (c)	G	5	353
Oklahoma	Corporation Commission	3	E	C	6	454
Oregon	Public Utility Commission	3	GS	G	4	118
Pennsylvania	Public Utility Commission	5	GS	G	5	538
Rhode Island	Public Utilities Commission	3	GS	G	6	11
South Carolina**	Public Service Commission	7	E	(b)	4	128
South Dakota	Public Utilities Commission	3	E	C	6	24
Tennessee	Tennessee Regulatory Authority	3	G, L, L	C	6	84
Texas	Public Utility Commission	3	GS	G	6	242
Utah	Public Service Commission (e)	3	GS	G	6	15
Vermont**	Public Service Board	3	GS	G	6	14
Virginia	State Corporation Commission	3	L	(b)	6	560
Washington	Utilities & Transportation Commission	3	GS	G	6	160
West Virginia	Public Service Commission	3	GS	G	6	240
Wisconsin	Public Service Commission	3	GS	G	6	184.5
Wyoming	Public Service Commission	3	GS	C	6	30
Dist. of Columbia**	Public Service Commission	3	MC	MC	4	89
Puerto Rico	Public Service Commission	5	GS	GS	4	264
U.S. Virgin Islands	Public Service Commission	7(d)	G	E	3 (d)	4

Source: Survey by The Council of State Governments, January 2000, except as noted by * where data is from *The Book of the States 1998-99*; ** denotes information obtained from state web site.

Note: See Table 7.44, "Selected Regulatory Functions of State Public Utility Commissions," for information on commissions' authority.

Key:

- G — Appointed by Governor.
- GC — Appointed by Governor, with consent of the Governor's Council.
- C — Elected by the Commission.
- GS — Appointed by the Governor, with consent of Senate.
- L — Appointed by the Legislature.
- GL — Appointed by Governor, with consent of entire Legislature.
- MC — Appointed by the Mayor, with consent of City Council.

E — Elected by the public.

(a) Governor chooses candidates from a list developed by a nine member nominating committee.

(b) Chairmanship rotates annually.

(c) Applicants are screened by PUC Nominating Council. Four names then provided to governor.

(d) 7 voting members; 2 non-voting members are appointed for indefinite terms.

(e) Utah has 3 separate governmental agencies involved in the regulation of public utilities.

(f) Employee numbers are authorized positions and include employees of a separate public advocacy body.