

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS

[Closing date for this table was October 23, 2001.]

MEETING DATES OF CONGRESS: Pursuant to a resolution of the Confederation Congress in 1788, the Constitution went into effect on March 4, 1789. From then until the 20th amendment took effect in January 1934, the term of each Congress began on March 4th of each odd-numbered year; however, Article I, section 4, of the Constitution provided that “The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.” The Congress therefore convened regularly on the first Monday in December until the 20th amendment became effective, which changed the beginning of Congress’s term as well as its convening date to January 3rd. So prior to 1934, a new Congress typically would not convene for regular business until 13 months after being elected. One effect of this was that the last session of each Congress was a “lame duck” session. After the 20th amendment, the time from the election to the beginning of Congress’s term as well as when it convened was reduced to two months. Recognizing that the need might exist for Congress to meet at times other than the regularly scheduled convening date, Article II, section 3 of the Constitution provides that the President “may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them”; hence these sessions occur only if convened by Presidential proclamation. Except as noted, these are separately numbered sessions of a Congress, and are marked by an E in the session column of the table. Until the 20th amendment was adopted, there were also times when special sessions of the Senate were convened, principally for confirming Cabinet and other executive nominations, and occasionally for the ratification of treaties or other executive business. These Senate sessions were also called by Presidential proclamation (typically by the outgoing President, although on occasion by incumbents as well) and are marked by an S in the session column. MEETING PLACES OF CONGRESS: Congress met for the first and second sessions of the First Congress (1789 and 1790) in New York City. From the third session of the First Congress through the first session of the Sixth Congress (1790 to 1800), Philadelphia was the meeting place. Congress has convened in Washington since the second session of the Sixth Congress (1800).

Congress	Session	Date of convening	Date of adjournment	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
1st	1	Mar. 4, 1789	Sept. 29, 1789	210			John Langdon, of New Hampshire	Frederick A.C. Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania.
	2	Jan. 4, 1790	Aug. 12, 1790	221			.....do.
	3	Dec. 6, 1790	Mar. 3, 1791	88			.....do.
2d	S	Mar. 4, 1791	Mar. 4, 1791	1		do.	Jonathan Trumbull, of Connecticut.
	1	Oct. 24, 1791	May 8, 1792	197			Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia	
	2	Nov. 5, 1792	Mar. 2, 1793	119			John Langdon, of New Hampshire.	
3d	S	Mar. 4, 1793	Mar. 4, 1793	1		do.	Frederick A.C. Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania.
	1	Dec. 2, 1793	June 9, 1794	190			John Langdon, of New Hampshire; Ralph Izard, of South Carolina.	
	2	Nov. 3, 1794	Mar. 3, 1795	121			Henry Tazewell, of Virginia.	
4th	S	June 8, 1795	June 26, 1795	19		do.	Jonathan Dayton, of New Jersey.
	1	Dec. 7, 1795	June 1, 1796	177			Henry Tazewell, of Virginia; Samuel Livermore, of New Hampshire.	
	2	Dec. 5, 1796	Mar. 3, 1797	89			William Bingham, of Pennsylvania.	
5th	S	Mar. 4, 1797	Mar. 4, 1797	1				Do.
	1-E	May 15, 1797	July 10, 1797	57			William Bradford, of Rhode Island	
	S	July 17, 1798	July 19, 1798	3				
	2	Nov. 13, 1797	July 16, 1798	246			Jacob Read, of South Carolina; Theodore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.	
	3	Dec. 3, 1798	Mar. 3, 1799	91			John Laurance, of New York; James Ross, of Pennsylvania.	
6th	1	Dec. 2, 1799	May 14, 1800	164			Samuel Livermore, of New Hampshire; Uriah Tracy, of Connecticut.	Theodore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.
	2	Nov. 17, 1800	Mar. 3, 1801	107	Dec. 23-Dec. 30, 1800	Dec. 23-Dec. 30, 1800	John E. Howard, of Maryland; James Hillhouse, of Connecticut.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1801	Mar. 5, 1801	2				
7th	1	Dec. 7, 1801	May 3, 1802	148			Abraham Baldwin, of Georgia	Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina.

8th	2	Dec. 6, 1802	Mar. 3, 1803	88	.....	.....	Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont.	
	1-E	Oct. 17, 1803	Mar. 27, 1804 ..	163	.....	.....	John Brown, of Kentucky; Jesse Franklin, of North Carolina.	Do.
9th	2	Nov. 5, 1804	Mar. 3, 1805	119	.....	.....	Joseph Anderson, of Tennessee.	
	1	Dec. 2, 1805	Apr. 21, 1806	141	.....	.....	Samuel Smith, of Maryland	Do.
10th	2	Dec. 1, 1806	Mar. 3, 1807	93	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1-E	Oct. 26, 1807	Apr. 25, 1808	182	.....	.....	.....do	Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts.
	2	Nov. 7, 1808	Mar. 3, 1809	117	.....	.....	Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont; John Milledge, of Georgia.	
11th	S	Mar. 4, 1809	Mar. 7, 1809	4	.....	.....	.....
	1	May 22, 1809	June 28, 1809	38	.....	.....	Andrew Gregg, of Pennsylvania	Do.
	2	Nov. 27, 1809	May 1, 1810	156	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	
	3	Dec. 3, 1810	Mar. 3, 1811	91	.....	.....	John Pope, of Kentucky.	
12th	1-E	Nov. 4, 1811	July 6, 1812	245	.....	.....	William H. Crawford, of Georgia	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
	2	Nov. 2, 1812	Mar. 3, 1813	122	.....	.....	.....do.	
13th	1	May 24, 1813	Aug. 2, 1813	71	.....	.....	.....do	Do. ⁴
	2	Dec. 6, 1813	Apr. 18, 1814	134	.....	.....	Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts; John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	Langdon Cheves, of South Carolina. ⁴
	3-E	Sept. 19, 1814	Mar. 3, 1815	166	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	
14th	1	Dec. 4, 1815	Apr. 30, 1816	148	.....	.....	.....do	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
	2	Dec. 2, 1816	Mar. 3, 1817	92	.....	.....	.....do.	
15th	S	Mar. 4, 1817	Mar. 6, 1817	3	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 1, 1817	Apr. 20, 1818	141	Dec. 24-Dec. 29, 1817	Dec. 24-Dec. 29, 1817 .....	.....do	Do.
	2	Nov. 16, 1818	Mar. 3, 1819	108	.....	.....	James Barbour, of Virginia.	
16th	1	Dec. 6, 1819	May 15, 1820	162	.....	.....	James Barbour, of Virginia; John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	Do. ⁵
	2	Nov. 13, 1820	Mar. 3, 1821	111	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina	John W. Taylor, of New York. ⁵
17th	1	Dec. 3, 1821	May 8, 1822	157	.....	.....	.....do	Philip P. Barbour, of Virginia.
	2	Dec. 2, 1822	Mar. 3, 1823	92	.....	.....	.....do.	
18th	1	Dec. 1, 1823	May 27, 1824	178	.....	.....	.....do	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
	2	Dec. 6, 1824	Mar. 3, 1825	88	.....	.....	.....do.	
19th	S	Mar. 4, 1825	Mar. 9, 1825	6	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 5, 1825	May 22, 1826	169	.....	.....	Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina	John W. Taylor, of New York.
	2	Dec. 4, 1826	Mar. 3, 1827	90	.....	.....	.....do.	
20th	1	Dec. 3, 1827	May 26, 1828	175	.....	.....	Samuel Smith, of Maryland	Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia.
	2	Dec. 1, 1828	Mar. 3, 1829	93	Dec. 24-Dec. 29, 1828	Dec. 24-Dec. 29, 1828 .....	.....do.	
21st	S	Mar. 4, 1829	Mar. 17, 1829 ..	14	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 7, 1829	May 31, 1830	176	.....	.....	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 6, 1830	Mar. 3, 1831	88	.....	.....	.....do.	
22d	1	Dec. 5, 1831	July 16, 1832	225	.....	.....	Littleton Waller Tazewell, of Virginia ..	Do.
	2	Dec. 3, 1832	Mar. 2, 1833	91	.....	.....	Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee.	
23d	1	Dec. 2, 1833	June 30, 1834	211	.....	.....	Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee; George Poindexter, of Mississippi.	Do. ⁶
	2	Dec. 1, 1834	Mar. 3, 1835	93	.....	.....	John Tyler, of Virginia	John Bell, of Tennessee. ⁶
24th	1	Dec. 7, 1835	July 4, 1836	211	.....	.....	William R. King, of Alabama	James K. Polk, of Tennessee.
	2	Dec. 5, 1836	Mar. 3, 1837	89	.....	.....	.....do.	
25th	S	Mar. 4, 1837	Mar. 10, 1837 ..	7	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1-E	Sept. 4, 1837	Oct. 16, 1837	43	.....	.....	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 4, 1837	July 9, 1838	218	.....	.....	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 3, 1838	Mar. 3, 1839	91	.....	.....	.....do.	
26th	1	Dec. 2, 1839	July 21, 1840	233	.....	.....	.....do	Robert M.T. Hunter, of Virginia.
	2	Dec. 7, 1840	Mar. 3, 1841	87	.....	.....	.....do.	
27th	S	Mar. 4, 1841	Mar. 15, 1841 ..	12	William R. King, of Alabama; Samuel L. Southard, of New Jersey.	

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Congress	Session	Date of convening	Date of adjournment	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
28th ...	1-E	May 31, 1841	Sept. 13, 1841 ..	106	.....	.....	Samuel L. Southard, of New Jersey	John White, of Kentucky.
	2	Dec. 6, 1841	Aug. 31, 1842 ..	269	.....	.....	Willie P. Mangum, of North Carolina.	
	3	Dec. 5, 1842	Mar. 3, 1843	89	.....	.....	.....do.	
29th ...	1	Dec. 4, 1843	June 17, 1844 ...	196	.....	.....	.....do	John W. Jones, of Virginia.
	2	Dec. 2, 1844	Mar. 3, 1845	92	.....	.....	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1845	Mar. 20, 1845 ..	17	.....	.....
30th ...	1	Dec. 1, 1845	Aug. 10, 1846 ..	253	.....	.....	Ambrose H. Sevier; David R. Atchison, of Missouri.	John W. Davis, of Indiana.
	2	Dec. 7, 1846	Mar. 3, 1847	87	.....	.....	David R. Atchison, of Missouri.	
	1	Dec. 6, 1847	Aug. 14, 1848 ..	254	.....	.....	.....do	Robert C. Winthrop, of Massachusetts.
31st ...	2	Dec. 4, 1848	Mar. 3, 1849	90	.....	.....	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 5, 1849	Mar. 23, 1849 ...	19	.....	.....	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 3, 1849	Sept. 30, 1850 ..	302	.....	.....	William R. King, of Alabama	Howell Cobb, of Georgia.
32d	2	Dec. 2, 1850	Mar. 3, 1851	92	.....	.....	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1851	Mar. 13, 1851 ..	10	.....	.....	.....do	Linn Boyd, of Kentucky.
	1	Dec. 1, 1851	Aug. 31, 1852 ..	275	.....	.....	David R. Atchison, of Missouri.	
33d	2	Dec. 6, 1852	Mar. 3, 1853	88	.....	.....	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1853	Apr. 11, 1853	39	.....	.....	.....do	Do.
	1	Dec. 5, 1853	Aug. 7, 1854	246	.....	.....	.....do	
34th ...	2	Dec. 4, 1854	Mar. 3, 1855	90	.....	.....	Lewis Cass, of Michigan; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	
	1	Dec. 3, 1855	Aug. 18, 1856 ..	260	.....	.....	Charles E. Stuart, of Michigan; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	Nathaniel P. Banks, of Massachusetts.
	2-E	Aug. 21, 1856	Aug. 30, 1856 ..	10	.....	.....	Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	
35th ...	3	Dec. 1, 1856	Mar. 3, 1857	93	.....	.....	James M. Mason, of Virginia.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1857	Mar. 14, 1857 ..	11	.....	.....	James M. Mason, of Virginia; Thomas J. Rusk, of Texas.	
	1	Dec. 7, 1857	June 14, 1858 ...	189	Dec. 23, 1857-Jan. 4, 1858 ..	Dec. 23, 1857-Jan. 4, 1858 ..	Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama	James L. Orr, of South Carolina.

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					Senate	House of Representatives		
48th ...	2	Dec. 4, 1882	Mar. 3, 1883	90	George F. Edmunds, of Vermont.	John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky.
	1	Dec. 3, 1883	July 7, 1884	218	Dec. 24, 1883-Jan. 7, 1884 ..	Dec. 24, 1883-Jan. 7, 1884 ..	.....do	
49th ...	2	Dec. 1, 1884	Mar. 3, 1885	93	Dec. 24, 1884-Jan. 5, 1885 ..	Dec. 24, 1884-Jan. 5, 1885 ..	.....do	Do.
	S	Mar. 4, 1885	Apr. 2, 1885	30	.....	.....	.....do	
50th ...	1	Dec. 7, 1885	Aug. 5, 1886	242	Dec. 21, 1885-Jan. 5, 1886 ..	Dec. 21, 1885-Jan. 5, 1886 ..	John Sherman, of Ohio	Do.
	2	Dec. 6, 1886	Mar. 3, 1887	88	Dec. 22, 1886-Jan. 4, 1887 ..	Dec. 22, 1886-Jan. 4, 1887 ..	John J. Ingalls, of Kansas.	
51st ...	1	Dec. 5, 1887	Oct. 20, 1888 ...	321	Dec. 22, 1887-Jan. 4, 1888 ..	Dec. 22, 1887-Jan. 4, 1888 ..	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 3, 1888	Mar. 3, 1889	91	Dec. 21, 1888-Jan. 2, 1889 ..	Dec. 21, 1888-Jan. 2, 1889 ..	.....do	
52d	S	Mar. 4, 1889	Apr. 2, 1889	30	.....	.....	.....do	Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.
	1	Dec. 2, 1889	Oct. 1, 1890	304	Dec. 21, 1889-Jan. 6, 1890 ..	Dec. 21, 1889-Jan. 6, 1890 ..	.....do	
53d	2	Dec. 1, 1890	Mar. 3, 1891	93	.....	.....	Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska.	Charles F. Crisp, of Georgia.
	1	Dec. 7, 1891	Aug. 5, 1892	251	.....	.....	.....do	
54th ...	2	Dec. 5, 1892	Mar. 3, 1893	89	Dec. 22, 1892-Jan. 4, 1893 ..	Dec. 22, 1892-Jan. 4, 1893 ..	.....do	Do.
	S	Mar. 4, 1893	Apr. 15, 1893 ...	43	.....	.....	Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska; Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.	
55th ...	1-E	Aug. 7, 1893	Nov. 3, 1893	89	.....	.....	Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee	Do.
	2	Dec. 4, 1893	Aug. 28, 1894 ..	268	.....	Dec. 21, 1893-Jan. 3, 1894 ..	.....do	
56th ...	3	Dec. 3, 1894	Mar. 3, 1895	97	.....	Dec. 23, 1894-Jan. 3, 1895 ..	.....do	Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.
	1	Dec. 2, 1895	June 11, 1896 ...	193	.....	.....	Matt W. Ransom, of North Carolina; Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.	
57th ...	2	Dec. 7, 1896	Mar. 3, 1897	87	Dec. 22, 1896-Jan. 5, 1897 ..	Dec. 22, 1896-Jan. 5, 1897 ..	William P. Frye, of Maine	Do.
	S	Mar. 4, 1897	Mar. 10, 1897 ..	11	.....	.....	.....do	
58th ...	1-E	Mar. 15, 1897	July 24, 1897 ...	131	.....	.....	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 6, 1897	July 8, 1898	215	Dec. 18, 1897-Jan. 5, 1898 ..	Dec. 18, 1897-Jan. 5, 1898 ..	.....do	
59th ...	3	Dec. 5, 1898	Mar. 3, 1899	89	Dec. 21, 1898-Jan. 4, 1899 ..	Dec. 21, 1898-Jan. 4, 1899 ..	.....do	David B. Henderson, of Iowa.
	1	Dec. 4, 1899	June 7, 1900	186	Dec. 20, 1899-Jan. 3, 1900 ..	Dec. 20, 1899-Jan. 3, 1900 ..	.....do	
60th ...	2	Dec. 3, 1900	Mar. 3, 1901	91	Dec. 20, 1900-Jan. 3, 1901 ..	Dec. 21, 1900-Jan. 3, 1901 ..	.....do	Do.
	S	Mar. 4, 1901	Mar. 9, 1901	6	.....	.....	.....do	

58th ...	1	Dec. 2, 1901	July 1, 1902	212	Dec. 19, 1901–Jan. 6, 1902 ..	Dec. 19, 1901–Jan. 6, 1902 ..	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 1, 1902	Mar. 3, 1903	93	Dec. 20, 1902–Jan. 5, 1903 ..	Dec. 20, 1902–Jan. 5, 1903 ..	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 5, 1903	Mar. 19, 1903 ..	15	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	1–E	Nov. 9, 1903	Dec. 7, 1903	29	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois.
59th ...	2	Dec. 7, 1903	Apr. 28, 1904 ...	144	Dec. 19, 1903–Jan. 4, 1904 ..	Dec. 19, 1903–Jan. 4, 1904 ..	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 5, 1904	Mar. 3, 1905	89	Dec. 21, 1904–Jan. 4, 1905 ..	Dec. 21, 1904–Jan. 4, 1905 ..	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1905	Mar. 18, 1905 ...	15	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 4, 1905	June 30, 1906 ...	209	Dec. 21, 1905–Jan. 4, 1906 ..	Dec. 21, 1905–Jan. 4, 1906 ..	.....do	Do.
60th ...	2	Dec. 3, 1906	Mar. 3, 1907	91	Dec. 20, 1906–Jan. 3, 1907 ..	Dec. 20, 1906–Jan. 3, 1907 ..	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 2, 1907	May 30, 1908 ...	181	Dec. 21, 1907–Jan. 6, 1908 ..	Dec. 21, 1907–Jan. 6, 1908 ..	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 7, 1908	Mar. 3, 1909	87	Dec. 19, 1908–Jan. 4, 1909 ..	Dec. 19, 1908–Jan. 4, 1909 ..	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1909	Mar. 6, 1909	3	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
61st ...	1–E	Mar. 15, 1909	Aug. 5, 1909	144	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	Do.
	2	Dec. 6, 1909	June 25, 1910 ...	202	Dec. 21, 1909–Jan. 4, 1910 ..	Dec. 21, 1909–Jan. 4, 1910 ..	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 5, 1910	Mar. 3, 1911	89	Dec. 21, 1910–Jan. 5, 1911 ..	Dec. 21, 1910–Jan. 5, 1911 ..	.....do.	
	1–E	Apr. 4, 1911	Aug. 22, 1911 ...	141	.....do. ⁹	.....do.	.....do.	Champ Clark, of Missouri.
62d	2	Dec. 4, 1911	Aug. 26, 1912 ..	267	Dec. 21, 1911–Jan. 3, 1912 ..	Dec. 21, 1911–Jan. 3, 1912 ..	Charles Curtis, of Kansas; Augustus O. Bacon, of Georgia; Jacob H. Gallinger, of New Hampshire; Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts; Frank B. Brandegee, of Connecticut. Augustus O. Bacon, of Georgia; Jacob H. Gallinger, of New Hampshire. James P. Clarke, of Arkansas.	
	3	Dec. 2, 1912	Mar. 3, 1913	92	Dec. 19, 1912–Jan. 2, 1913 ..	Dec. 19, 1912–Jan. 2, 1913 ..	.....do	Do.
	S	Mar. 4, 1913	Mar. 17, 1913 ..	14	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	1–E	Apr. 7, 1913	Dec. 1, 1913	239	Dec. 23, 1913–Jan. 12, 1914	Dec. 23, 1913–Jan. 12, 1914	.....do.	
63d	2	Dec. 1, 1913	Oct. 24, 1914 ...	328	Dec. 23–Dec. 28, 1914	Dec. 23–Dec. 28, 1914 .....	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 7, 1914	Mar. 3, 1915	87	Dec. 17, 1915–Jan. 4, 1916 ..	Dec. 17, 1915–Jan. 4, 1916 ..	.....do. ¹⁰	Do.
	1	Dec. 6, 1915	Sept. 8, 1916	278	Dec. 22, 1916–Jan. 2, 1917 ..	Dec. 22, 1916–Jan. 2, 1917 ..	Willard Saulsbury, of Delaware ¹⁰	Champ Clark, of Missouri.
	2	Dec. 4, 1916	Mar. 3, 1917	90	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
64th ...	S	Mar. 5, 1917	Mar. 16, 1917 ..	12	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	Do.
	1–E	Apr. 2, 1917	Oct. 6, 1917	188	Dec. 18, 1917–Jan. 3, 1918 ..	Dec. 18, 1917–Jan. 3, 1918 ..	.....do.	
	2	Dec. 3, 1917	Nov. 21, 1918 ..	354	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 2, 1918	Mar. 3, 1919	92	July 1–July 8, 1919	July 1–July 8, 1919	Albert B. Cummins, of Iowa	Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts.
65th ...	1–E	May 19, 1919	Nov. 19, 1919 ..	185	Dec. 20, 1919–Jan. 5, 1920 ..	Dec. 20, 1919–Jan. 5, 1920 ..	.....do.	
	2	Dec. 1, 1919	June 5, 1920	188	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	3	Dec. 6, 1920	Mar. 3, 1921	88	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 15, 1921 ..	12	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
66th ...	1–E	Apr. 11, 1921	Nov. 23, 1921 ..	227	Aug. 24–Sept. 21, 1921	Aug. 24–Sept. 21, 1921 .....	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 5, 1921	Sept. 22, 1922 ..	292	Dec. 22, 1921–Jan. 3, 1922 ..	Dec. 22, 1921–Jan. 3, 1922 ..	.....do.	
	3–E	Nov. 20, 1922	Dec. 4, 1922	15	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	4	Dec. 4, 1922	Mar. 3, 1923	90	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
67th ...	1	Dec. 3, 1923	June 7, 1924	188	Dec. 20, 1923–Jan. 3, 1924 ..	Dec. 20, 1923–Jan. 3, 1924 ..	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 1, 1924	Mar. 3, 1925	93	Dec. 20–Dec. 29, 1924	Dec. 20–Dec. 29, 1924 .....	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1925	Mar. 18, 1925 ..	15	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 7, 1925	July 3, 1926	209	Dec. 22, 1925–Jan. 4, 1926 ..	Dec. 22, 1925–Jan. 4, 1926 ..	Albert B. Cummins, of Iowa; George H. Moses, of New Hampshire.	Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.
70th ...	2	Dec. 6, 1926	Mar. 4, 1927	88	Dec. 22, 1926–Jan. 3, 1927 ..	Dec. 22, 1926–Jan. 3, 1927 ..	.....do.	
	1	Dec. 5, 1927	May 29, 1928 ...	177	Dec. 21, 1927–Jan. 4, 1928 ..	Dec. 21, 1927–Jan. 4, 1928 ..	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 3, 1928	Mar. 3, 1929	91	Dec. 22, 1928–Jan. 3, 1929 ..	Dec. 22, 1928–Jan. 3, 1929 ..	.....do.	
	S	Mar. 4, 1929	Mar. 5, 1929	2	.....do.	.....do.	.....do.	
71st ...	1–E	Apr. 15, 1929	Nov. 22, 1929 ...	222	June 19–Aug. 19, 1929	June 19–Sept. 23, 1929 .....	.....do	Do.
	2	Dec. 2, 1929	July 3, 1930	214	Dec. 21, 1929–Jan. 6, 1930 ..	Dec. 21, 1929–Jan. 6, 1930do.	
	S	July 7, 1930	July 21, 1930 ...	15do.do.do.	

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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MEETING DATES OF CONGRESS: Pursuant to a resolution of the Confederation Congress in 1788, the Constitution went into effect on March 4, 1789. From then until the 20th amendment took effect in January 1934, the term of each Congress began on March 4th of each odd-numbered year; however, Article I, section 4, of the Constitution provided that “The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.” The Congress therefore convened regularly on the first Monday in December until the 20th amendment became effective, which changed the beginning of Congress’s term as well as its convening date to January 3rd. So prior to 1934, a new Congress typically would not convene for regular business until 13 months after being elected. One effect of this was that the last session of each Congress was a “lame duck” session. After the 20th amendment, the time from the election to the beginning of Congress’s term as well as when it convened was reduced to two months. Recognizing that the need might exist for Congress to meet at times other than the regularly scheduled convening date, Article II, section 3 of the Constitution provides that the President “may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them”; hence these sessions occur only if convened by Presidential proclamation. Except as noted, these are separately numbered sessions of a Congress, and are marked by an E in the session column of the table. Until the 20th amendment was adopted, there were also times when special sessions of the Senate were convened, principally for confirming Cabinet and other executive nominations, and occasionally for the ratification of treaties or other executive business. These Senate sessions were also called by Presidential proclamation (typically by the outgoing President, although on occasion by incumbents as well) and are marked by an S in the session column. MEETING PLACES OF CONGRESS: Congress met for the first and second sessions of the First Congress (1789 and 1790) in New York City. From the third session of the First Congress through the first session of the Sixth Congress (1790 to 1800), Philadelphia was the meeting place. Congress has convened in Washington since the second session of the Sixth Congress (1800).

Congress	Session	Date of convening	Date of adjournment	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
72d	3	Dec. 1, 1930	Mar. 3, 1931	93	Dec. 20, 1930–Jan. 5, 1931 ..	Dec. 20, 1930–Jan. 5, 1931 ..	George H. Moses, of New Hampshire.	John N. Garner, of Texas.
	1	Dec. 7, 1931	July 16, 1932 ...	223	Dec. 22, 1931–Jan. 4, 1932 ..	Dec. 22, 1931–Jan. 4, 1932 ..	.....do	
73d	2	Dec. 5, 1932	Mar. 3, 1933	89	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois.
	S	Mar. 4, 1933	Mar. 6, 1933	3	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	
74th ...	1–E	Mar. 9, 1933	June 15, 1933 ...	99	.....do .....	.....do	Key Pittman, of Nevada	Joseph W. Byrns, of Tennessee. ¹¹
	2	Jan. 3, 1934	June 18, 1934 ...	167	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	
75th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1935	Aug. 26, 1935 ..	236	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	William B. Bankhead, of Alabama. ¹¹
	2	Jan. 3, 1936	June 20, 1936 ...	170	June 8–June 15, 1936	June 8–June 15, 1936 .....	.....do	
76th ...	1	Jan. 5, 1937	Aug. 21, 1937 ..	229	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	Do. ¹²
	2–E	Nov. 15, 1937	Dec. 21, 1937 ...	37	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	
77th ...	3	Jan. 3, 1938	June 16, 1938 ...	165	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	Sam Rayburn, of Texas. ¹²
	1	Jan. 3, 1939	Aug. 5, 1939	215	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	
78th ...	2–E	Sept. 21, 1939	Nov. 3, 1939	44	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	Do.
	3	Jan. 3, 1940	Jan. 3, 1941	366	July 11–July 22, 1940	July 11–July 22, 1940	Key Pittman, of Nevada; ¹³ William H. King, of Utah. ¹⁵	
79th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1941	Jan. 2, 1942	365	.....do .....	.....do	Pat Harrison, of Mississippi; ¹⁴ Carter Glass, of Virginia. ¹⁴	Do.
	2	Jan. 5, 1942	Dec. 16, 1942 ...	346	.....do .....	.....do .....	.....do	
80th ...	1	Jan. 6, 1943	Dec. 21, 1943 ...	350	July 8–Sept. 14, 1943	July 8–Sept. 14, 1943 .....	.....do	Do.
	2	Jan. 10, 1944	Dec. 19, 1944 ...	345	Apr. 1–Apr. 12, 1944	Apr. 1–Apr. 12, 1944 .....	.....do	
79th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1945	Dec. 21, 1945 ...	353	June 23–Aug. 1, 1944	June 23–Aug. 1, 1944	Sept. 21–Nov. 14, 1944	Do.
	2	Jan. 14, 1946	Aug. 2, 1946	201	Aug. 1–Sept. 5, 1945	July 21–Sept. 5, 1945	Kenneth McKellar, of Tennessee	
80th ...	¹⁵ 1	Jan. 3, 1947	Dec. 19, 1947 ...	351	.....do .....	.....do	Apr. 18–Apr. 30, 1946	Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts.
	¹⁵ 2	Jan. 6, 1948	Dec. 31, 1948 ...	361	July 27–Nov. 17, 1947	July 27–Nov. 17, 1947	Arthur H. Vandenberg, of Michigan	
					June 20–July 26, 1948	June 20–July 26, 1948 .....	.....do	
					Aug. 7–Dec. 31, 1948	Aug. 7–Dec. 31, 1948		

81st ...	1	Jan. 3, 1949	Oct. 19, 1949 ...	290	.....	.....	Kenneth McKellar, of Tennessee	Sam Rayburn, of Texas.
	2	Jan. 3, 1950	Jan. 2, 1951	365	Sept. 23–Nov. 27–1950	Apr. 6–Apr. 18, 1950 .....	.....do.	
82d	1	Jan. 3, 1951	Oct. 20, 1951 ...	291	.....	Sept. 23–Nov. 27, 1950 .....	.....do.	Do.
	2	Jan. 8, 1952	July 7, 1952	182	.....	Mar. 22–Apr. 2, 1951 .....	.....do.	
83d	1	Jan. 3, 1953	Aug. 3, 1953	213	.....	Aug. 23–Sept. 12, 1951 .....	.....do.	
	2	Jan. 6, 1954	Dec. 2, 1954	331	Aug. 20–Nov. 8, 1954	Apr. 10–Apr. 22, 1952	Styles Bridges, of New Hampshire	Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachu-
84th ...	1	Jan. 5, 1955	Aug. 2, 1955	210	Nov. 18–Nov. 29, 1954	Apr. 2–Apr. 13, 1953 .....	.....do.	
	2	Jan. 3, 1956	July 27, 1956 ...	207	Apr. 4–Apr. 13, 1955	Apr. 15–Apr. 22, 1954	Adjoined sine die Aug. 20, 1954	
85th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1957	Aug. 30, 1957 ..	239	Mar. 29–Apr. 9, 1956	Apr. 4–Apr. 13, 1955	Walter F. George, of Georgia	Sam Rayburn, of Texas.
	2	Jan. 7, 1958	Aug. 24, 1958 ..	230	Apr. 18–Apr. 29, 1957	Mar. 29–Apr. 9, 1956 .....	.....do.	
86th ...	1	Jan. 7, 1959	Sept. 15, 1959 ..	252	Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1958	Apr. 18–Apr. 29, 1957	Carl Hayden, of Arizona	Do.
	2	Jan. 6, 1960	Sept. 1, 1960	240	Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1959	Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1958 .....	.....do.	
87th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1961	Sept. 27, 1961 ..	268	Apr. 14–Apr. 18, 1960	Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1959 .....	.....do.	Do.
	2	Jan. 10, 1962	Oct. 13, 1962 ...	277	May 27–May 31, 1960	Apr. 14–Apr. 18, 1960 .....	.....do.	
88th ...	1	Jan. 9, 1963	Dec. 30, 1963 ...	356	July 3–Aug. 8, 1960	May 27–May 31, 1960 .....	.....do.	Do, ¹⁶
	2	Jan. 7, 1964	Oct. 3, 1964	270	.....	July 3–Aug. 15, 1960 .....	.....do.	John W. McCormack, of Massachu-
89th ...	1	Jan. 4, 1965	Oct. 23, 1965 ...	293	July 10–July 20, 1964	Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1963 .....	.....do.	Do.
	2	Jan. 10, 1966	Oct. 22, 1966 ...	286	Aug. 21–Aug. 31, 1964	Mar. 26–Apr. 6, 1964 .....	.....do.	
90th ...	1	Jan. 10, 1967	Dec. 15, 1967 ...	340	Apr. 7–Apr. 13, 1966	July 2–July 20, 1964 .....	.....do.	Do.
	2	Jan. 15, 1968	Oct. 14, 1968 ...	274	June 30–July 11, 1966	Aug. 21–Aug. 31, 1964 .....	.....do.	
91st	1	Jan. 3, 1969	Dec. 23, 1969 ...	355	Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1967	Apr. 7–Apr. 18, 1966 .....	.....do.	
	2	Jan. 19, 1970	Jan. 2, 1971	349	June 29–July 10, 1967	June 30–July 11, 1966 .....	.....do.	
					Aug. 31–Sept. 11, 1967	Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1967 .....	.....do.	
					Nov. 22–Nov. 27, 1967	June 29–July 10, 1967 .....	.....do.	
					Apr. 11–Apr. 17, 1968	Aug. 31–Sept. 11, 1967 .....	.....do.	
					May 29–June 3, 1968	Nov. 22–Nov. 27, 1967 .....	.....do.	
					June 3–July 8, 1968	Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1968 .....	.....do.	
					Aug. 2–Sept. 4, 1968	May 29–June 3, 1968 .....	.....do.	
					Feb. 7–Feb. 17, 1969	June 3–July 8, 1968 .....	.....do.	
					Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1969	Aug. 2–Sept. 4, 1968 .....	.....do.	
					July 2–July 7, 1969	Feb. 7–Feb. 17, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Aug. 13–Sept. 3, 1969	Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Nov. 26–Dec. 1, 1969	May 28–June 2, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Feb. 10–Feb. 16, 1970	July 2–July 7, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Mar. 26–Mar. 31, 1970	Aug. 13–Sept. 3, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Sept. 2–Sept. 8, 1970	Nov. 6–Nov. 12, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Oct. 14–Nov. 16, 1970	Nov. 26–Dec. 1, 1969 .....	.....do.	
					Nov. 25–Nov. 30, 1970	Feb. 10–Feb. 16, 1970 .....	.....do.	
					Dec. 22–Dec. 28, 1970	Mar. 26–Mar. 31, 1970 .....	.....do.	
						May 27–June 1, 1970 .....	.....do.	
						July 1–July 6, 1970 .....	.....do.	
						Aug. 14–Sept. 9, 1970 .....	.....do.	
						Oct. 14–Nov. 16, 1970do.	
						Nov. 25–Nov. 30, 1970do.	
						Dec. 22–Dec. 29, 1970do.	

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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Congress	Session	Date of convening	Date of adjournment	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
92d	1	Jan. 21, 1971	Dec. 17, 1971 ...	331	Feb. 11–Feb. 17, 1971 Apr. 7–Apr. 14, 1971 May 26–June 1, 1971 June 30–July 6, 1971 Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1971 Oct. 21–Oct. 26, 1971 Nov. 24–Nov. 29, 1971	Feb. 10–Feb. 17, 1971 Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1971 May 27–June 1, 1971 July 1–July 6, 1971 Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1971 Oct. 7–Oct. 12, 1971 Oct. 21–Oct. 26, 1971 Nov. 19–Nov. 29, 1971	Richard B. Russell, of Georgia; ¹⁷ Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana. ¹⁷	Carl B. Albert, of Oklahoma.
	2	Jan. 18, 1972	Oct. 18, 1972 ...	275	Feb. 9–Feb. 14, 1972 Mar. 30–Apr. 4, 1972 May 25–May 30, 1972 June 30–July 17, 1972 Aug. 18–Sept. 5, 1972	Feb. 9–Feb. 16, 1972 Mar. 29–Apr. 10, 1972 May 24–May 30, 1972 June 30–July 17, 1972 Aug. 18–Sept. 5, 1972		
93d	1	Jan. 3, 1973	Dec. 22, 1973 ...	354	Feb. 8–Feb. 15, 1973 Apr. 18–Apr. 30, 1973 May 23–May 29, 1973 June 30–July 9, 1973 Aug. 3–Sept. 5, 1973 Oct. 18–Oct. 23, 1973 Nov. 21–Nov. 26, 1973	Feb. 8–Feb. 19, 1973 Apr. 19–Apr. 30, 1973 May 24–May 29, 1973 June 30–July 10, 1973 Aug. 3–Sept. 5, 1973 Oct. 4–Oct. 9, 1973 Oct. 18–Oct. 23, 1973 Nov. 15–Nov. 26, 1973	.....do	Do.
	2	Jan. 21, 1974	Dec. 20, 1974 ...	334	Feb. 8–Feb. 18, 1974 Mar. 13–Mar. 19, 1974 Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1974 May 23–May 28, 1974 Aug. 22–Sept. 4, 1974 Oct. 17–Nov. 18, 1974 Nov. 26–Dec. 2, 1974	Feb. 7–Feb. 13, 1974 Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1974 May 23–May 28, 1974 Aug. 22–Sept. 11, 1974 Oct. 17–Nov. 18, 1974 Nov. 26–Dec. 3, 1974		

94th ...	1	Jan. 14, 1975	Dec. 19, 1975 ...	340	Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1975 May 22–June 2, 1975 June 27–July 7, 1975 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 1975 Oct. 9–Oct. 20, 1975 Oct. 23–Oct. 28, 1975 Nov. 20–Dec. 1, 1975	Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1975 May 22–June 2, 1975 June 26–July 8, 1975 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 1975 Oct. 9–Oct. 20, 1975 Oct. 23–Oct. 28, 1975 Nov. 20–Dec. 1, 1975	.....do	Do.
	2	Jan. 19, 1976	Oct. 1, 1976	257	Feb. 6–Feb. 16, 1976 Apr. 14–Apr. 26, 1976 May 28–June 2, 1976 July 2–July 19, 1976 Aug. 10–Aug. 23, 1976 Sept. 1–Sept. 7, 1976	Feb. 11–Feb. 16, 1976 Apr. 14–Apr. 26, 1976 May 27–June 1, 1976 July 2–July 19, 1976 Aug. 10–Aug. 23, 1976 Sept. 2–Sept. 8, 1976	.....do.	
95th ...	1	Jan. 4, 1977	Dec. 15, 1977 ...	346	Feb. 11–Feb. 21, 1977 Apr. 7–Apr. 18, 1977 May 27–June 6, 1977 July 1–July 11, 1977 Aug. 6–Sept. 7, 1977	Feb. 9–Feb. 16, 1977 Apr. 6–Apr. 18, 1977 May 26–June 1, 1977 June 30–July 11, 1977 Aug. 5–Sept. 7, 1977 Oct. 6–Oct. 11, 1977	.....do	Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., of Massachu- setts.
	2	Jan. 19, 1978	Oct. 15, 1978 ...	270	Feb. 10–Feb. 20, 1978 Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1978 May 26–June 5, 1978 June 29–July 10, 1978 Aug. 25–Sept. 6, 1978	Feb. 9–Feb. 14, 1978 Mar. 22–Apr. 3, 1978 May 25–May 31, 1978 June 29–July 10, 1978 Aug. 17–Sept. 6, 1978	.....do.	
96th ...	1	Jan. 15, 1979	Jan. 3, 1980	354	Feb. 9–Feb. 19, 1979 Apr. 10–Apr. 23, 1979 May 24–June 4, 1979 June 27–July 9, 1979 Aug. 3–Sept. 5, 1979 Nov. 20–Nov. 26, 1979 Adjourned sine die, Dec. 20, 1979	Feb. 8–Feb. 13, 1979 Apr. 10–Apr. 23, 1979 May 24–May 30, 1979 June 29–July 9, 1979 Aug. 2–Sept. 5, 1979 Nov. 20–Nov. 26, 1979	Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington ...	Do.
	2	Jan. 3, 1980	Dec. 16, 1980 ...	349	Apr. 3–Apr. 15, 1980 May 22–May 28, 1980 July 2–July 21, 1980 Aug. 6–Aug. 18, 1980 Aug. 27–Sept. 3, 1980 Oct. 1–Nov. 12, 1980 Nov. 25–Dec. 1, 1980	Feb. 13–Feb. 19, 1980 Apr. 2–Apr. 15, 1980 May 22–May 28, 1980 July 2–July 21, 1980 Aug. 1–Aug. 18, 1980 Aug. 28–Sept. 3, 1980 Oct. 2–Nov. 12, 1980 Nov. 21–Dec. 1, 1980	Warren G. Magnuson, of Washington; Milton Young, of North Dakota; ¹⁹ Warren G. Magnuson, of Wash- ington. ¹⁹	
97th ...	1	Jan. 5, 1981	Dec. 16, 1981 ...	347	Feb. 6–Feb. 16, 1981 Apr. 10–Apr. 27, 1981 June 25–July 8, 1981 Aug. 3–Sept. 9, 1981 Oct. 7–Oct. 14, 1981 Nov. 24–Nov. 30, 1981	Feb. 6–Feb. 17, 1981 Apr. 10–Apr. 27, 1981 June 26–July 8, 1981 Aug. 4–Sept. 9, 1981 Oct. 7–Oct. 13, 1981 Nov. 23–Nov. 30, 1981	Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina	Do.
	2	Jan. 25, 1982	Dec. 23, 1982 ...	333	Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1982 Apr. 1–Apr. 13, 1982 May 27–June 8, 1982 July 1–July 12, 1982 Aug. 20–Sept. 8, 1982 Oct. 1–Nov. 29, 1982	Feb. 10–Feb. 22, 1982 Apr. 6–Apr. 20, 1982 May 27–June 2, 1982 July 1–July 12, 1982 Aug. 20–Sept. 8, 1982 Oct. 1–Nov. 29, 1982do	Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., of Massachu- setts.

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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Congress	Session	Date of convening	Date of adjournment	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
98th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1983	Nov. 18, 1983 ..	320	Jan. 3–Jan. 25, 1983	Jan. 6–Jan. 25, 1983	Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina	Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., of Massachusetts.
	2	Jan. 23, 1984	Oct. 12, 1984 ...	264	Feb. 3–Feb. 14, 1983 Mar. 24–Apr. 5, 1983 May 26–June 6, 1983 June 29–July 11, 1983 Aug. 4–Sept. 12, 1983 Oct. 7–Oct. 17, 1983 Feb. 9–Feb. 20, 1984	Feb. 17–Feb. 22, 1983 Mar. 24–Apr. 5, 1983 May 26–June 1, 1983 June 30–July 11, 1983 Aug. 4–Sept. 12, 1983 Oct. 6–Oct. 17, 1983 Feb. 9–Feb. 21, 1984		
99th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1985	Dec. 20, 1985 ...	352	Apr. 12–Apr. 24, 1984 May 24–May 31, 1984 June 29–July 23, 1984 Aug. 10–Sept. 5, 1984 Jan. 7–Jan. 21, 1985	Apr. 12–Apr. 24, 1984 May 24–May 30, 1984 June 29–July 23, 1984 Aug. 10–Sept. 5, 1984 Jan. 3–Jan. 21, 1985 .....	.....do.	Do.
	2	Jan. 21, 1986	Oct. 18, 1986 ...	278	Feb. 7–Feb. 18, 1985 Apr. 4–Apr. 15, 1985 May 9–May 14, 1985 May 24–June 3, 1985 June 27–July 8, 1985 Aug. 1–Sept. 9, 1985 Nov. 23–Dec. 2, 1985 Feb. 7–Feb. 17, 1986	Mar. 7–Mar. 19, 1985 Apr. 4–Apr. 15, 1985 May 23–June 3, 1985 June 27–July 8, 1985 Aug. 1–Sept. 4, 1985 Nov. 21–Dec. 2, 1985 Feb. 6–Feb. 18, 1986		
					Mar. 27–Apr. 8, 1986 May 21–June 2, 1986 June 26–July 7, 1986 Aug. 15–Sept. 8, 1986	Mar. 25–Apr. 8, 1986 May 22–June 3, 1986 June 26–July 14, 1986 Aug. 16–Sept. 8, 1986		

100th ..	1	Jan. 6, 1987	Dec. 22, 1987 ...	351	Jan. 6–Jan. 12, 1987 Feb. 5–Feb. 16, 1987 Apr. 10–Apr. 21, 1987 May 21–May 27, 1987 July 1–July 7, 1987 Aug. 7–Sept. 9, 1987 Nov. 20–Nov. 30, 1987	Jan. 8–Jan. 20, 1987 Feb. 11–Feb. 18, 1987 Apr. 9–Apr. 21, 1987 May 21–May 27, 1987 July 1–July 7, 1987 July 15–July 20, 1987 Aug. 7–Sept. 9, 1987 Nov. 10–Nov. 16, 1987 Nov. 20–Nov. 30, 1987	John C. Stennis, of Mississippi	James C. Wright, Jr., of Texas.
	2	Jan. 25, 1988	Oct. 22, 1988 ...	272	Feb. 4–Feb. 15, 1988 Mar. 4– Mar. 14, 1988 Mar. 31–Apr. 11, 1988 Apr. 29–May 9, 1988 May 27–June 6, 1988 June 29–July 6, 1988 July 14–July 25, 1988 Aug. 11–Sept. 7, 1988	Feb. 9–Feb. 16, 1988 Mar. 31–Apr. 11, 1988 May 26–June 1, 1988 June 30–July 7, 1988 July 14–July 26, 1988 Aug. 11–Sept. 7, 1988	.....do.	
101st ..	1	Jan. 3, 1989	Nov. 22, 1989 ..	324	Jan. 4–Jan. 20, 1989 Jan. 20–Jan. 25, 1989 Feb. 9–Feb. 21, 1989 Mar. 17–Apr. 4, 1989 Apr. 19–May 1, 1989 May 18–May 31, 1989 June 23–July 11, 1989 Aug. 4–Sept. 6, 1989	Jan. 4–Jan. 19, 1989 Feb. 9–Feb. 21, 1989 Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1989 Apr. 18–Apr. 25, 1989 May 25–May 31, 1989 June 29–July 10, 1989 Aug. 5–Sept. 6, 1989	Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia	James C. Wright, Jr., of Texas; ²⁰ Thomas S. Foley, of Washington. ²⁰
	2	Jan. 23, 1990	Oct. 28, 1990 ...	260	Feb. 8–Feb. 20, 1990 Mar. 9–Mar. 20, 1990 Apr. 5–Apr. 18, 1990 May 24–June 5, 1990 June 28–July 10, 1990 Aug. 4–Sept. 10, 1990	Feb. 7–Feb. 20, 1990 Apr. 4–Apr. 18, 1990 May 25–June 5, 1990 June 28–July 10, 1990 Aug. 4–Sept. 5, 1990	.....do.	
102d ...	1	Jan. 3, 1991	Jan. 3, 1992	366	Feb. 7–Feb. 19, 1991 Mar. 22–Apr. 9, 1991 Apr. 25–May 6, 1991 May 24–June 3, 1991 June 28–July 8, 1991 Aug. 2–Sept. 10, 1991 Nov. 27, 1991–Jan. 3, 1992	Feb. 6–Feb. 19, 1991 Mar. 22–Apr. 9, 1991 May 23–May 29, 1991 June 27–July 9, 1991 Aug. 2–Sept. 11, 1991 Nov. 27, 1991–Jan. 3, 1992	.....do	Thomas S. Foley, of Washington.
	2	Jan. 3, 1992	Oct. 9, 1992	281	Jan. 3–Jan. 21, 1992 Feb. 7–Feb. 18, 1992 Apr. 10–Apr. 28, 1992 May 21–June 1, 1992 July 2–July 20, 1992 Aug. 12–Sept. 8, 1992	Jan. 3–Jan. 22, 1992 Apr. 10–Apr. 28, 1992 May 21–May 26, 1992 July 2–July 7, 1992 July 9–July 21, 1992 Aug. 12–Sept. 9, 1992do.	

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					Senate	House of Representatives		
103d ...	1	Jan. 5, 1993	Nov. 26, 1993 ..	326	Jan. 7–Jan. 20, 1993	Jan. 6–Jan. 20, 1993	Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia	Thomas S. Foley, of Washington.
	2	Jan. 25, 1994	Dec. 1, 1994	311	Feb. 4–Feb. 16, 1993 Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1993 May 28–June 7, 1993 July 1–July 13, 1993 Aug. 7–Sept. 7, 1993 Oct. 7–Oct. 13, 1993 Nov. 11–Nov. 16, 1993	Jan. 27–Feb. 2, 1993 Feb. 4–Feb. 16, 1993 Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1993 May 27–June 8, 1993 July 1–July 13, 1993 Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1993 Sept. 15–Sept. 21, 1993 Oct. 7–Oct. 12, 1993 Nov. 10–Nov. 15, 1993		
104th ..	1	Jan. 4, 1995	Jan. 3, 1996	365	Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994	Jan. 26–Feb. 1, 1994	Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina	Newt Gingrich, of Georgia.
					Mar. 26–Apr. 11, 1994 May 25–June 7, 1994 July 1–July 11, 1994 Aug. 25–Sept. 12, 1994 Oct. 8–Nov. 30, 1994	Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994 Mar. 24–Apr. 12, 1994 May 26–June 8, 1994 June 30–July 12, 1994 Aug. 26–Sept. 12, 1994 Oct. 8–Nov. 29, 1994		
					Feb. 16–Feb. 22, 1995	Feb. 16–Feb. 21, 1995		
					Apr. 7–Apr. 24, 1995	Mar. 16–Mar. 21, 1995		
					May 26–June 5, 1995	Apr. 7–May 1, 1995		
					June 30–July 10, 1995	May 3–May 9, 1995		
					Aug. 11–Sept. 5, 1995	May 25–June 6, 1995		
					Sept. 29–Oct. 10, 1995	June 30–July 10, 1995		
					Nov. 20–Nov. 27, 1995	Aug. 4–Sept. 6, 1995		
						Sept. 29–Oct. 6, 1995		
						Nov. 20–Nov. 28, 1995		

105th ..	2	Jan. 3, 1996	Oct. 4, 1996	276	Jan. 10–Jan. 22, 1996	Jan. 9–Jan. 22, 1996 .....	.....do.	Do.
	1	Jan. 7, 1997	Nov. 13, 1997 ..	311	Mar. 29–Apr. 15, 1996 May 24–June 3, 1996 June 28–July 8, 1996 Aug. 2–Sept. 3, 1996 Jan. 9–Jan. 21, 1997	Mar. 29–Apr. 15, 1996 May 23–May 29, 1996 June 28–July 8, 1996 Aug. 2–Sept. 4, 1996 Jan. 9–Jan. 20, 1997 .....	.....do	
	2	Jan. 27, 1998	Dec. 19, 1998 ...	327	Feb. 13–Feb. 24, 1997 Mar. 21–Apr. 7, 1997 June 27–July 7, 1997 July 31–Sept. 2, 1997 Oct. 9–Oct. 20, 1997 Feb. 13–Feb. 23, 1998	Jan. 21–Feb. 4, 1997 Feb. 13–Feb. 25, 1997 Mar. 21–Apr. 8, 1997 June 26–July 8, 1997 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 1997 Oct. 9–Oct. 21, 1997 Jan. 28–Feb. 3, 1998 .....	.....do.	
106th ..	1	Jan. 6, 1999	Nov. 22, 1999 ..	321	Apr. 3–Apr. 20, 1998 May 22–June 1, 1998 June 26–July 6, 1998 July 31–Aug. 31, 1998 Adjourned sine die, Oct. 21, 1998. Feb. 12–Feb. 22, 1999	Feb. 5–Feb. 11, 1998 Feb. 12–Feb. 24, 1998 Apr. 1–Apr. 21, 1998 May 22–June 3, 1998 June 25–July 14, 1998 Aug. 7–Sept. 9, 1998 Oct. 21–Dec. 17, 1998 Jan. 6–Jan. 19, 1999 .....	.....do	J. Dennis Hastert, of Illinois.
	2	Jan. 24, 2000	Dec. 15, 2000 ...	326	Mar. 25–Apr. 12, 1999 May 27–June 7, 1999 July 1–July 12, 1999 Aug. 5–Sept. 8, 1999 Feb. 10–Feb. 22, 2000	Jan. 19–Feb. 2, 1999 Feb. 12–Feb. 23, 1999 Mar. 25–Apr. 12, 1999 May 27–June 7, 1999 July 1–July 12, 1999 Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1999 Feb. 16–Feb. 29, 2000 .....	.....do.	
107th ..	1	Jan. 3, 2001 .....	.....	.....	Jan. 8–Jan. 20, 2001	Jan. 6–Jan. 20, 2001	Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia; ²¹ Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina; ²¹ Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia. ²¹	Do.
					Feb. 15–Feb. 26, 2001 Apr. 6–Apr. 23, 2001 May 26–June 5, 2001 June 29–July 9, 2001 Aug. 3–Sept. 4, 2001 Oct. 18–Oct. 23, 2001	Jan. 20–Jan. 30, 2001 Jan. 31–Feb. 6, 2001 Feb. 14–Feb. 26, 2001 Apr. 4–Apr. 24, 2001 May 26–June 5, 2001 June 28–July 10, 2001 Aug. 2–Sept. 5, 2001 Oct. 17–Oct. 23, 2001		

¹ For the purposes of this table, a session's "length in days" is defined as the total number of calendar days from the convening date to the adjournment date, inclusive. It does not mean the actual number of days that Congress met during that session.

² For the purposes of this table, a "recess" is defined as any period of three or more complete days—excluding Sundays—when either the House of Representatives or the Senate is not in session. As listed, the recess periods also are inclusive of days only partially in the recess, i.e., the day (or days) when the House and Senate each adjourn to begin the recess, as well as the day (or days) when each body reconvenes at the end of the recess.

³ The election and role of the President pro tempore has evolved considerably over the Senate's history. "*Pro tempore* is Latin for 'for the time being'; thus, the post was conceived as a temporary presiding officer. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the Senate frequently elected several Presidents pro tempore during a single session. Since Vice Presidents presided routinely, the Senate thought it necessary to choose a President pro tempore only for the limited periods when the Vice President might be ill or otherwise absent." Since no provision was in place (until the 25th amendment was adopted in 1967) for replacing the Vice President if he died or resigned from office, or if he assumed the Presidency, the President pro tempore would continue under such circumstances to fill the duties of the chair until the next Vice President was elected. Since Mar. 12, 1890, however, Presidents pro tempore have served until "the Senate otherwise ordered." Since 1949, while still elected, the position has gone to the most senior member of the majority party (see footnote 19 for a minority party exception). To gain a more complete understanding of this position, see Robert C. Byrd's *The Senate 1789–1989: Addresses on the History of the United States Senate*, vol. 2, ch. 6 "The President Pro Tempore," pp. 167–183, from which the quotes in this footnote are taken. Also, a complete listing of the dates of election of the Presidents pro tempore is in vol. 4 of the Byrd series (*The Senate 1789–1989: Historical Statistics, 1789–1992*), table 6–2, pp. 647–653.

⁴ Henry Clay resigned as Speaker on Jan. 19, 1814. He was succeeded by Langdon Cheves who was elected on that same day.

⁵ Henry Clay resigned as Speaker on Oct. 28, 1820, after the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 16th Congress. He was succeeded by John W. Taylor who was elected at the beginning of the second session.

⁶ Andrew Stevenson resigned as Speaker on June 2, 1834. He was succeeded by John Bell who was elected on that same day.

⁷ Speaker Schuyler Colfax resigned as Speaker on the last day of the 40th Congress, Mar. 3, 1869, in preparation for becoming Vice President of the United States on the following day. Theodore M. Pomeroy was elected Speaker on Mar. 3, and served for only that one day.

⁸ Speaker Michael C. Kerr died on Aug. 19, 1876, after the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 44th Congress. Samuel J. Randall was elected Speaker at the beginning of the second session.

⁹ William P. Frye resigned as President pro tempore on Apr. 27, 1911.

¹⁰ President pro tempore James P. Clarke died on Oct. 1, 1916, after the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 64th Congress. Willard Saulsbury was elected President pro tempore during the second session.

¹¹ Speaker Joseph W. Byrns died on June 4, 1936. He was succeeded by William B. Bankhead who was elected Speaker on that same day.

¹² Speaker William B. Bankhead died on Sept. 15, 1940. He was succeeded by Sam Rayburn who was elected Speaker on that same day.

¹³ President pro tempore Key Pittman died on Nov. 10, 1940. He was succeeded by William H. King who was elected President pro tempore on Nov. 19, 1940.

¹⁴ President pro tempore Pat Harrison died on June 22, 1941. He was succeeded by Carter Glass who was elected President pro tempore on July 10, 1941.

¹⁵ President Harry S. Truman called the Congress into extraordinary session twice, both times during the 80th Congress. Each time Congress had essentially wrapped up its business for the year, but for technical reasons had not adjourned sine die, so in each case the extraordinary session is considered an extension of the regularly numbered session rather than a separately numbered one. The dates of these extraordinary sessions were Nov. 17 to Dec. 19, 1947, and July 26 to Aug. 7, 1948.

¹⁶ Speaker Sam Rayburn died on Nov. 16, 1961, after the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 87th Congress. John W. McCormack was elected Speaker at the beginning of the second session.

¹⁷ President pro tempore Richard B. Russell died on Jan. 21, 1971. He was succeeded by Allen J. Ellender who was elected to that position on Jan. 22, 1971.

¹⁸ President pro tempore Allen J. Ellender died on July 27, 1972. He was succeeded by James O. Eastland who was elected President pro tempore on July 28, 1972.

¹⁹ Milton Young was elected President pro tempore for one day, Dec. 5, 1980, which was at the end of his 36-year career in the Senate. He was Republican, which was the minority party at that time. Warren G. Magnuson resumed the position of President pro tempore on Dec. 6, 1980.

²⁰ James C. Wright, Jr., resigned as Speaker on June 6, 1989. He was succeeded by Thomas S. Foley who was elected on that same day.

²¹ The 2000 election resulted in an even split in the Senate between Republicans and Democrats. From the date the 107th Congress convened on Jan. 3, 2001, until Inauguration Day on Jan. 20, 2001, Vice President Albert Gore tipped the scale to a Democratic majority, hence Robert C. Byrd served as President pro tempore during this brief period. When Vice President Richard B. Cheney took office on Jan. 20, the Republicans became the majority party, and Strom Thurmond was elected President pro tempore. On June 6, 2001, Republican Senator James Jeffords became an Independent, creating a Democratic majority, and Robert C. Byrd was elected President pro tempore on that day.