

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS

[Closing date for this table was July 8, 2003.]

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	Convening Date	Adjournment Date	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.
2d	2	Jan. 4, 1790	Aug. 12, 1790	221			do.	Jonathan Trumbull, of Connecticut.
	3	Dec. 6, 1790	Mar. 3, 1791	88	.....	.....	.....do.	
	5	Mar. 4, 1791	May 8, 1791	1	.....	.....	Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia	
3d	1	Oct. 24, 1791	Mar. 4, 1792	197			John Langdon, of New Hampshire.	Frederick A.C. Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania.
	2	Nov. 5, 1792	Mar. 2, 1793	119	.....	.....	.....do.	
	5	Mar. 4, 1793	Mar. 4, 1793	1	.....	.....	John Langdon, of New Hampshire;	
4th	1	Dec. 2, 1793	June 9, 1794	190			Ralph Izard, of South Carolina.	Jonathan Dayton, of New Jersey.
	2	Nov. 3, 1794	Mar. 3, 1795	121	.....	.....	Henry Tazewell, of Virginia.	
	5	June 8, 1795	June 26, 1795	19	.....	.....	.....do.	
5th	1	Dec. 7, 1795	June 1, 1796	177			Henry Tazewell, of Virginia; Samuel	Do.
	2	Dec. 5, 1796	Mar. 3, 1797	89	.....	.....	Livermore, of New Hampshire.	
	1-E	Mar. 4, 1797	Mar. 4, 1797	1	.....	.....	William Bingham, of Pennsylvania.	
6th	5	May 15, 1797	July 10, 1797	57				Theodore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.
	5	July 17, 1798	July 19, 1798	3	.....	.....	Jacob Read, of South Carolina; Theo-	
	2	Nov. 13, 1797	July 16, 1798	246	.....	.....	dore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.	
7th	3	Dec. 3, 1798	Mar. 3, 1799	91			John Laurance, of New York; James	Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina.
	1	Dec. 2, 1799	May 14, 1800	164	.....	.....	Ross, of Pennsylvania.	
	2	Nov. 17, 1800	Mar. 3, 1801	107	.....	.....	Samuel Livermore, of New Hampshire;	
8th	5	Mar. 4, 1801	Mar. 3, 1801	1			Utah Tracy, of Connecticut.	Theodore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.
	5	Mar. 4, 1801	Mar. 3, 1801	1	.....	.....	John E. Howard, of Maryland; James	
	1	Dec. 7, 1801	May 3, 1802	148	.....	Dec. 23-Dec. 30, 1800	Hillhouse, of Connecticut.	

8th ...	2	1-E	Dec. 6, 1802	Mar. 3, 1803	88	.....	.....	Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont. John Brown, of Kentucky; Jesse Frank- lin, of North Carolina.	Do.
9th	2	2	Nov. 5, 1804	Mar. 3, 1805	119	.....	.....	Joseph Anderson, of Tennessee.	Do.
10th ...	2	1-E	Dec. 2, 1805	Apr. 21, 1806 ...	141	.....	.....	Samuel Smith, of Maryland	Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts.
11th ...	2	2	Dec. 26, 1806	Mar. 5, 1807	183	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Oct. 26, 1807	Apr. 25, 1808 ...	182	.....	.....	Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont; John Milledge, of Georgia.	
			Nov. 7, 1808	Mar. 3, 1809	117	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Mar. 4, 1809	Mar. 7, 1809	4	.....	.....	Andrew Gregg, of Pennsylvania	Do.
			May 22, 1809	June 28, 1809 ...	38	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	
			Nov. 27, 1809	May 1, 1810	156	.....	.....	John Pope, of Kentucky.	
12th ...	2	1-E	Dec. 3, 1810	Mar. 3, 1811	91	.....	.....	William H. Crawford, of Georgia	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
13th ...	2	2	Nov. 4, 1811	July 6, 1812	245	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do. ⁴
			Nov. 2, 1812	Mar. 3, 1813	122	.....	.....	Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts;	Langdon Cheves, of South Carolina. ⁴
			May 24, 1813	Aug. 2, 1813	71	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	
			Dec. 6, 1813	Apr. 18, 1814 ...	134	.....	.....	.....do.....	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
14th ...	3-E	1	Sept. 19, 1814	Mar. 3, 1815	166	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 4, 1815	Apr. 30, 1816 ...	148	.....	.....	James Barbour, of Virginia.	Do.
15th ...	2	S	Dec. 2, 1816	Mar. 3, 1817	92	.....	.....	James Barbour, of Virginia; John Gaillard, of South Carolina.	Do. ⁵
			Mar. 4, 1817	Mar. 6, 1817	3	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 1, 1817	Apr. 20, 1818 ...	141	.....	.....	John Gaillard, of South Carolina	John W. Taylor, of New York; ⁵ Philip P. Barbour, of Virginia.
16th ...	2	2	Nov. 16, 1818	Mar. 3, 1819	108	.....	.....	.....do.....	Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
			Dec. 6, 1819	May 15, 1820 ...	162	.....	.....	.....do.....	
17th ...	2	2	Nov. 13, 1820	Mar. 3, 1821	111	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 3, 1821	May 8, 1822	157	.....	.....	Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina	John W. Taylor, of New York.
18th ...	2	2	Dec. 2, 1822	Mar. 3, 1823	92	.....	.....	.....do.....	Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia.
			Dec. 1, 1823	May 27, 1824 ...	178	.....	.....	.....do.....	
19th ...	2	S	Dec. 6, 1824	Mar. 3, 1825	88	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Mar. 4, 1825	Mar. 9, 1825	6	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 5, 1825	May 22, 1826 ...	169	.....	.....	.....do.....	
20th ...	2	2	Dec. 4, 1826	Mar. 3, 1827	90	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 3, 1827	May 26, 1828 ...	175	.....	.....	Samuel Smith, of Maryland	
21st ...	2	S	Dec. 1, 1828	Mar. 3, 1829	93	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Mar. 4, 1829	Mar. 17, 1829 ...	14	.....	.....	.....do.....	
22d ...	2	2	Dec. 7, 1829	May 31, 1830 ...	176	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
			Dec. 6, 1830	Mar. 3, 1831	88	.....	.....	Littleton Waller Tazewell, of Virginia ..	Do.
23d ...	2	2	Dec. 5, 1831	July 16, 1832 ...	225	.....	.....	Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee.	Do. ⁶
			Dec. 3, 1832	Mar. 2, 1833	91	.....	.....	George Poindexter, of Mississippi.	
			Dec. 2, 1833	June 30, 1834 ...	211	.....	.....	John Tyler, of Virginia	John Bell, of Tennessee. ⁶ James K. Polk, of Tennessee.
24th ...	2	2	Dec. 1, 1834	Mar. 3, 1835	93	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 7, 1835	July 4, 1836	211	.....	.....	.....do.....	
25th ...	2	S	Dec. 5, 1836	Mar. 3, 1837	89	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
			Mar. 4, 1837	Mar. 10, 1837 ...	7	.....	.....	.....do.....	
26th ...	2	1-E	Sept. 4, 1837	Oct. 16, 1837 ...	43	.....	.....	.....do.....	Robert M.T. Hunter, of Virginia.
			Dec. 4, 1837	July 9, 1838	218	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 3, 1838	Mar. 3, 1839	91	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Dec. 2, 1839	July 21, 1840 ...	233	.....	.....	.....do.....	
27th ...	2	S	Dec. 7, 1840	Mar. 3, 1841	87	.....	.....	.....do.....	
			Mar. 4, 1841	Mar. 15, 1841 ...	12			William R. King, of Alabama; Samuel L. Southard, of New Jersey.	

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					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.....	John W. Jones, of Virginia.
	1	Dec. 4, 1843	June 17, 1844 ...	196	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	2	Dec. 2, 1844	Mar. 3, 1845	92	.....	.....	.....do.....	
29th ...	5	Mar. 4, 1845	Mar. 20, 1845 ..	17	.....	.....		
	1	Dec. 1, 1845	Aug. 10, 1846 ..	253	.....	.....	Ambrose H. Sevier, of Missouri.	John W. Davis, of Indiana.
30th ...	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.
	2	Dec. 4, 1848	Mar. 3, 1849	90	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	5	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.....	
	5	Mar. 4, 1851	Mar. 13, 1851 ..	10	.....	.....	.....do.....	
33d	1	Dec. 1, 1851	Aug. 31, 1852 ..	275	.....	.....	David R. Atchison, of Missouri.	Linn Boyd, of Kentucky.
	2	Dec. 6, 1852	Mar. 3, 1853	88	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	5	Mar. 4, 1853	Apr. 11, 1853 ...	39	.....	.....	Lewis Cass, of Michigan; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	
	1	Dec. 5, 1853	Aug. 7, 1854	246	.....	.....	Charles E. Stuart, of Michigan; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	
	2	Dec. 4, 1854	Mar. 3, 1855	90	.....	.....	Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.	
34th ...	1	Dec. 3, 1855	Aug. 18, 1856 ..	260	.....	.....	James M. Mason, of Virginia.	Nathaniel P. Banks, of Massachusetts.
	2-E	Aug. 21, 1856	Aug. 30, 1856 ..	10	.....	.....	James M. Mason, of Virginia.	
35th ...	3	Dec. 1, 1856	Mar. 3, 1857	93	.....	.....	James M. Mason, of Virginia; Thomas J. Rusk, of Texas.	
	5	Mar. 4, 1857	Mar. 14, 1857 ..	11	.....	.....	Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama	James L. Orr, of South Carolina.
	1	Dec. 7, 1857	June 14, 1858 ...	189	Dec. 23, 1857–Jan. 4, 1858 ..	Dec. 23, 1857–Jan. 4, 1858 ..		

36th ...	5 1-E	June 15, 1858	June 16, 1858 ... Mar. 3, 1859	2 88 7 202	Dec. 23, 1858-Jan. 4, 1859 ..	do. .....do. Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana. Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama. Solomon Foot, of Vermont. .....do. .....do. .....do. Solomon Foot, of Vermont; Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Lafayette S. Foster, of Connecticut. .....do Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio. .....do	William Pennington, of New Jersey. Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania. Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana. Do. Do. ⁷
37th ...	5 1-E	June 26, 1860	June 28, 1860 ... Mar. 3, 1861	3 93 25 34 228	Dec. 23, 1862-Jan. 5, 1863 ..	do. .....do. .....do. .....do. Solomon Foot, of Vermont; Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Lafayette S. Foster, of Connecticut. .....do Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio. .....do	Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania. Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana. Do. Do. ⁷
38th ...	3 1-E	June 26, 1860	June 28, 1860 ... Mar. 3, 1861	3 93 25 34 228	Dec. 23, 1862-Jan. 5, 1863 ..	do. .....do. .....do. .....do. Solomon Foot, of Vermont; Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire. Lafayette S. Foster, of Connecticut. .....do Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio. .....do	Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania. Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana. Do. Do. ⁷
39th ...	2 5	Dec. 5, 1864	Mar. 3, 1865	89 8 237	Dec. 22, 1864-Jan. 5, 1865 ..	Dec. 21, 1865-Jan. 5, 1866 Dec. 20, 1866-Jan. 3, 1867 .. Mar. 30-July 3, 1867 .. July 20-Nov. 21, 1867 ..	Do. Do. ⁷
40th ...	2 1	Dec. 3, 1866	Mar. 3, 1867	91 273	Dec. 21, 1865-Jan. 5, 1866 Dec. 20, 1866-Jan. 3, 1867 .. Mar. 30-July 3, 1867 .. July 20-Nov. 21, 1867 ..	Dec. 21, 1865-Jan. 5, 1866 Dec. 20, 1866-Jan. 3, 1867 .. Mar. 30-July 3, 1867 .. July 20-Nov. 21, 1867 ..	Do. Do. ⁷
41st ...	3 1 5	Dec. 7, 1868	Mar. 3, 1869	87 38 222	Dec. 20, 1867-Jan. 6, 1868 .. July 27-Sept. 21, 1868 Sept. 21-Oct. 16, 1868 Oct. 16-Nov. 10, 1868 Dec. 21, 1868-Jan. 5, 1869 ..	Dec. 20, 1867-Jan. 6, 1868 July 27-Sept. 21, 1868 Sept. 21-Oct. 16, 1868 Oct. 16-Nov. 10, 1868 Dec. 21, 1868-Jan. 5, 1869 ..	Theodore M. Pomeroy, of New York. ⁷ James G. Blaine, of Maine.
42d ...	2 3	Dec. 6, 1869	July 15, 1870	89 48 18	Dec. 22, 1869-Jan. 10, 1870 Dec. 23, 1870-Jan. 4, 1871 ..	Dec. 22, 1869-Jan. 10, 1870 Dec. 23, 1870-Jan. 4, 1871 ..	Do.
43d ...	3 5	Dec. 4, 1871	June 10, 1872	190 92 23	Dec. 21, 1871-Jan. 8, 1872 .. Dec. 20, 1872-Jan. 6, 1873 ..	Dec. 21, 1871-Jan. 8, 1872 .. Dec. 20, 1872-Jan. 6, 1873 ..	Do.
44th ...	2 1	Dec. 7, 1874	Mar. 3, 1875	87 20 254	Dec. 19, 1873-Jan. 5, 1874 .. Dec. 23, 1874-Jan. 5, 1875 ..	Dec. 19, 1873-Jan. 5, 1874 .. Dec. 23, 1874-Jan. 5, 1875 ..	Do.
45th ...	1-E	Dec. 5, 1875	Aug. 15, 1876	90 13 50	Dec. 20, 1875-Jan. 5, 1876 ..	Dec. 20, 1875-Jan. 5, 1876 ..	Michael C. Kerr, of Indiana. ⁸ Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania. ⁸
46th ...	2 3	Dec. 2, 1878	June 3, 1879	92 106 199	Dec. 15, 1877-Jan. 10, 1878 Dec. 20, 1878-Jan. 7, 1879 ..	Dec. 15, 1877-Jan. 10, 1878 Dec. 20, 1878-Jan. 7, 1879 ..	Do.
47th ...	2 5	Dec. 1, 1879	July 1, 1879	88 78 20	Dec. 19, 1879-Jan. 6, 1880 .. Dec. 23, 1880-Jan. 5, 1881 ..	Dec. 19, 1879-Jan. 6, 1880 .. Dec. 23, 1880-Jan. 5, 1881 ..	Do.
	1	Dec. 5, 1881	Aug. 8, 1882	247	Dec. 22, 1881-Jan. 5, 1882 ..	Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; David Davis, of Illinois. David Davis, of Illinois	J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio.

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48th ...	2	Dec. 4, 1882	Mar. 3, 1883	90		Dec. 24, 1883–Jan. 7, 1884 ..	George F. Edmunds, of Vermont.	J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio.
49th ...	1	Dec. 3, 1883	July 7, 1884	218	.....	Dec. 24, 1884–Jan. 5, 1885 ..	do.	John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky.
	2	Dec. 1, 1884	Mar. 3, 1885	93	.....	.....	.....	
	3	Mar. 4, 1885	Apr. 2, 1885	30	.....	.....	.....	
	1	Dec. 7, 1885	Aug. 5, 1886	242	.....	Dec. 21, 1885–Jan. 5, 1886 ..	John Sherman, of Ohio	Do.
50th ...	2	Dec. 6, 1886	Mar. 3, 1887	88	.....	Dec. 22, 1886–Jan. 4, 1887 ..	John J. Ingalls, of Kansas.	Do.
	1	Dec. 5, 1887	Oct. 20, 1888	321	.....	Dec. 22, 1887–Jan. 4, 1888 ..	do.	
	2	Dec. 3, 1888	Mar. 3, 1889	91	.....	Dec. 21, 1888–Jan. 2, 1889 ..	do.	
51st ...	3	Mar. 4, 1889	Apr. 2, 1889	30	.....	.....	.....	
	1	Dec. 2, 1889	Oct. 1, 1890	304	.....	Dec. 21, 1889–Jan. 6, 1890 ..	Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska.	Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.
	2	Dec. 1, 1890	Mar. 3, 1891	93	.....	.....	.....do.	Charles F. Crisp, of Georgia.
52d	1	Dec. 7, 1891	Aug. 5, 1892	251	.....	Dec. 22, 1892–Jan. 4, 1893 ..	Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska; Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.	Do.
	2	Dec. 5, 1892	Mar. 3, 1893	89	.....	.....	.....do.	
53d	3	Mar. 4, 1893	Apr. 15, 1893	43	.....	.....	.....	
	1-E	Aug. 7, 1893	Nov. 3, 1893	89	.....	.....	.....	
	2	Dec. 4, 1893	Aug. 28, 1894	268	.....	Dec. 21, 1893–Jan. 3, 1894 ..	Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.	
	3	Dec. 3, 1894	Mar. 3, 1895	97	.....	Dec. 23, 1894–Jan. 3, 1895 ..	Matt W. Ransom, of North Carolina; Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.	Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.
54th ...	1	Dec. 2, 1895	June 11, 1896	193	.....	Dec. 22, 1896–Jan. 5, 1897 ..	do.	Do.
	2	Dec. 7, 1896	Mar. 3, 1897	87	.....	.....	.....	
55th ...	3	Mar. 4, 1897	Mar. 10, 1897	11	.....	.....	.....	
	1-E	Mar. 13, 1897	July 24, 1897	131	.....	Dec. 18, 1897–Jan. 5, 1898 ..	do.	
	2	Dec. 6, 1897	July 6, 1898	215	.....	Dec. 21, 1898–Jan. 4, 1899 ..	do.	
	3	Dec. 5, 1898	Mar. 3, 1899	89	.....	Dec. 20, 1899–Jan. 3, 1900 ..	do.	
56th ...	1	Dec. 4, 1899	June 7, 1900	186	.....	Dec. 21, 1900–Jan. 3, 1901 ..	do.	David B. Henderson, of Iowa.
	2	Dec. 3, 1900	Mar. 3, 1901	91	.....	.....	.....	
57th ...	3	Mar. 4, 1901	Mar. 9, 1901	6	.....	.....	.....	

58th ...	1 2 1-E	Dec. 2, 1901	July 1, 1902	212	Dec. 19, 1901-Jan. 6, 1902 ..	Dec. 19, 1901-Jan. 6, 1902 ..	Do.	.....
		Dec. 1, 1902	Mar. 3, 1903	93	Dec. 20, 1902-Jan. 5, 1903 ..	Dec. 20, 1902-Jan. 5, 1903 ..	Do.	.....
	1-E	Mar. 5, 1903	Mar. 19, 1903	15	.....	.....	Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois.	.....
		Nov. 9, 1903	Dec. 7, 1903	29	.....	.....		.....
	3	Dec. 7, 1903	Apr. 28, 1904	144	Dec. 19, 1903-Jan. 4, 1904 ..	Dec. 19, 1903-Jan. 4, 1904 ..		.....
59th ...	5	Dec. 5, 1904	Mar. 3, 1905	89	Dec. 21, 1904-Jan. 4, 1905 ..	Dec. 21, 1904-Jan. 4, 1905 ..		.....
	3	Mar. 4, 1905	Mar. 18, 1905	15	.....	.....		.....
	1	Dec. 4, 1905	June 30, 1906	209	Dec. 21, 1905-Jan. 4, 1906 ..	Dec. 21, 1905-Jan. 4, 1906 ..	Do.	.....
60th ...	2	Dec. 3, 1906	Mar. 3, 1907	91	Dec. 20, 1906-Jan. 3, 1907 ..	Dec. 20, 1906-Jan. 3, 1907 ..		.....
	1	Dec. 2, 1907	May 30, 1908	181	Dec. 21, 1907-Jan. 6, 1908 ..	Dec. 21, 1907-Jan. 6, 1908 ..	Do.	.....
	2	Dec. 7, 1908	Mar. 3, 1909	87	Dec. 19, 1908-Jan. 4, 1909 ..	Dec. 19, 1908-Jan. 4, 1909 ..		.....
61st ...	5	Mar. 4, 1909	Mar. 6, 1909	3	.....	.....	Do.	.....
	1-E	Mar. 15, 1909	Aug. 5, 1909	144	Dec. 21, 1909-Jan. 4, 1910 ..	Dec. 21, 1909-Jan. 4, 1910 ..		.....
	2	Dec. 6, 1909	June 25, 1910	202	Dec. 21, 1910-Jan. 5, 1911 ..	Dec. 21, 1910-Jan. 5, 1911 ..		.....
62d	3	Dec. 5, 1910	Mar. 3, 1911	89	.....	.....	Champ Clark, of Missouri.	.....
	1-E	Apr. 4, 1911	Aug. 22, 1911	141	Dec. 21, 1911-Jan. 3, 1912 ..	Dec. 21, 1911-Jan. 3, 1912 ..		.....
	2	Dec. 4, 1911	Aug. 26, 1912 ..	267	.....	.....		.....
					Dec. 19, 1912-Jan. 2, 1913 ..	Dec. 19, 1912-Jan. 2, 1913 ..		.....
63d	3	Dec. 2, 1912	Mar. 3, 1913	92	.....	.....		.....
		Mar. 4, 1913	Mar. 17, 1913 ..	14	Dec. 23, 1913-Jan. 12, 1914 ..	Dec. 23, 1913-Jan. 12, 1914 ..	Do.	.....
	5	Apr. 7, 1913	Dec. 1, 1913	239	Dec. 23-Dec. 28, 1914	Dec. 23-Dec. 28, 1914 .....		.....
	1-E	Dec. 1, 1913	Oct. 24, 1914	87	Dec. 17, 1915-Jan. 4, 1916 ..	Dec. 17, 1915-Jan. 4, 1916 ..	Do.	.....
64th ...	2	Dec. 7, 1914	Mar. 3, 1915	278	Dec. 22, 1916-Jan. 2, 1917 ..	Dec. 22, 1916-Jan. 2, 1917 ..		.....
	1	Dec. 6, 1915	Sept. 8, 1916	90	.....	.....		.....
	2	Dec. 4, 1916	Mar. 3, 1917	12	.....	.....		.....
65th ...	5	Mar. 5, 1917	Mar. 16, 1917 ..	188	Dec. 18, 1917-Jan. 3, 1918 ..	Dec. 18, 1917-Jan. 3, 1918 ..	Do.	.....
	1-E	Apr. 2, 1917	Oct. 6, 1917	354	.....	.....		.....
	2	Dec. 3, 1917	Nov. 21, 1918 ..	92	.....	.....		.....
66th ...	3	Dec. 2, 1918	Mar. 3, 1919	185	July 1-July 8, 1919	July 1-July 8, 1919	Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts.	.....
	1-E	May 19, 1919	Nov. 19, 1919 ..	88	Dec. 20, 1919-Jan. 5, 1920 ..	Dec. 20, 1919-Jan. 5, 1920 ..		.....
	2	Dec. 1, 1919	June 5, 1920	188	.....	.....		.....
	3	Dec. 6, 1920	Mar. 3, 1921	88	.....	.....		.....
67th ...	5	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 15, 1921 ..	12	Aug. 24-Sept. 21, 1921	Aug. 24-Sept. 21, 1921	Do.	.....
	1-E	Apr. 11, 1921	Nov. 23, 1921 ..	227	Dec. 22, 1921-Jan. 3, 1922 ..	Dec. 22, 1921-Jan. 3, 1922 ..		.....
	3-E	Dec. 5, 1921	Sept. 22, 1922 ..	292	.....	.....		.....
	2	Nov. 20, 1922	Dec. 4, 1922	15	Dec. 20, 1923-Jan. 3, 1924 ..	Dec. 20, 1923-Jan. 3, 1924 ..	Do.	.....
68th ...	4	Dec. 4, 1922	Mar. 3, 1923	90	Dec. 20-Dec. 29, 1924	Dec. 20-Dec. 29, 1924 .....		.....
	1	Dec. 3, 1923	June 7, 1924	188	.....	.....		.....
69th ...	2	Dec. 1, 1924	Mar. 3, 1925	93	.....	.....		.....
	5	Mar. 4, 1925	Mar. 18, 1925 ..	15	Dec. 22, 1925-Jan. 4, 1926 ..	Dec. 22, 1925-Jan. 4, 1926 ..	Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.	.....
		Dec. 7, 1925	July 3, 1926	209	Dec. 22, 1926-Jan. 3, 1927 ..	Dec. 22, 1926-Jan. 3, 1927 ..		.....
70th ...	1	Dec. 6, 1926	Mar. 4, 1927	88	Dec. 21, 1927-Jan. 4, 1928 ..	Dec. 21, 1927-Jan. 4, 1928 ..	Do.	.....
	1	Dec. 5, 1927	May 29, 1928 ..	177	Dec. 22, 1928-Jan. 3, 1929 ..	Dec. 22, 1928-Jan. 3, 1929 ..		.....
	2	Dec. 3, 1928	Mar. 3, 1929	91	.....	.....		.....
71st ...	5	Mar. 4, 1929	Mar. 5, 1929	2	June 19-Aug. 19, 1929	June 19-Aug. 19, 1929	Do.	.....
	1-E	Apr. 15, 1929	Nov. 22, 1929 ..	222	Dec. 21, 1929-Jan. 6, 1930 ..	Dec. 21, 1929-Jan. 6, 1930 ..		.....
	2	Dec. 2, 1929	July 3, 1930	214	.....	.....		.....
	5	July 7, 1930	July 21, 1930 ..	15	.....	.....		.....

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was July 8, 2003.]

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	Convening Date	Adjournment Date	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 ..	Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.
	1	Dec. 7, 1931	July 16, 1932 ...	223	Dec. 22, 1931–Jan. 4, 1932 ..	Dec. 22, 1931–Jan. 4, 1932 ..	do.....	John N. Garner, of Texas.
	2	Dec. 5, 1932	Mar. 3, 1933	89	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	S	Mar. 4, 1933	Mar. 6, 1933	3	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	1–E	Mar. 9, 1933	Mar. 9, 1933	99	.....	.....	Key Pittman, of Nevada	Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois.
74th ...	2	Jan. 3, 1934	June 15, 1933 ...	167	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	1	Jan. 3, 1935	June 18, 1934 ...	236	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	2	Jan. 3, 1936	Aug. 26, 1935 ...	170	.....	.....	.....do.....	
75th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1937	June 20, 1936 ...	229	.....	June 8–June 15, 1936	do.....	Joseph W. Byrns, of Tennessee. ¹¹
	2–E	Nov. 15, 1937	Aug. 21, 1937 ...	37	.....	.....	.....do.....	William B. Bankhead, of Alabama. ¹¹
	3	Jan. 3, 1938	Dec. 21, 1937 ...	165	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do. ¹²
76th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1939	June 16, 1938 ...	215	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	2–E	Sept. 21, 1939	Aug. 5, 1939	44	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	3	Jan. 3, 1940	Nov. 3, 1939	366	.....	.....	.....do.....	
77th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1941	Jan. 3, 1941	365	July 11–July 22, 1940	July 11–July 22, 1940	Key Pittman, of Nevada; ¹³ William H. King, of Utah. ¹³	Sam Rayburn, of Texas. ¹²
	2	Jan. 5, 1942	Dec. 16, 1942 ...	346	.....	.....	Pat Harrison, of Mississippi; ¹⁴ Carter Glass, of Virginia. ¹⁴	Do.
	2	Jan. 6, 1943	Dec. 21, 1943 ...	350	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
78th ...	1	Jan. 10, 1944	Dec. 19, 1944 ...	345	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	2	Jan. 10, 1944	Dec. 19, 1944 ...	345	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	2	Jan. 10, 1944	Dec. 19, 1944 ...	345	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
79th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1945	Dec. 21, 1945 ...	353	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	2	Jan. 14, 1946	Aug. 2, 1946	201	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	15 1	Jan. 3, 1947	Dec. 19, 1947 ...	351	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
80th ...	15 2	Jan. 6, 1948	Dec. 31, 1948 ...	361	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
	15 2	Jan. 6, 1948	Dec. 31, 1948 ...	361	.....	.....	.....do.....	Do.
79th ...	1	Jan. 3, 1945	Dec. 21, 1945 ...	353	.....	.....	Kenneth McKellar, of Tennessee	Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts.
	2	Jan. 14, 1946	Aug. 2, 1946	201	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	15 1	Jan. 3, 1947	Dec. 19, 1947 ...	351	.....	.....	.....do.....	
80th ...	15 2	Jan. 6, 1948	Dec. 31, 1948 ...	361	.....	.....	.....do.....	
	15 2	Jan. 6, 1948	Dec. 31, 1948 ...	361	.....	.....	.....do.....	

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

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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Congress	Session	Convening Date	Adjournment Date	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	Feb. 10–Feb. 17, 1971	Richard B. Russell, of Georgia; ¹⁷ Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana. ¹⁷	Carl B. Albert, of Oklahoma.
					Apr. 7–Apr. 14, 1971	Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1971		
					May 26–June 1, 1971	May 27–June 1, 1971		
					June 30–July 6, 1971	July 1–July 6, 1971		
					Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1971	Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1971		
93d					Oct. 21–Oct. 26, 1971	Oct. 7–Oct. 12, 1971	Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana; ¹⁸ James O. Eastland, of Mississippi. ¹⁸	Do.
					Nov. 24–Nov. 29, 1971	Oct. 21–Oct. 26, 1971		
	2	Jan. 18, 1972	Oct. 18, 1972 ..	275	Feb. 9–Feb. 14, 1972	Nov. 19–Nov. 29, 1971		
					Mar. 30–Apr. 4, 1972	Feb. 9–Feb. 16, 1972		
					May 25–May 30, 1972	Mar. 29–Apr. 10, 1972		
	1	Jan. 3, 1973	Dec. 22, 1973 ..	354	June 30–July 17, 1972	May 24–May 30, 1972	James O. Eastland, of Mississippi	Do.
					Aug. 18–Sept. 5, 1972	June 30–July 17, 1972		
					Feb. 8–Feb. 15, 1973	Aug. 18–Sept. 5, 1972		
					Apr. 18–Apr. 30, 1973	Feb. 8–Feb. 19, 1973		
					May 23–May 29, 1973	Apr. 19–Apr. 30, 1973		
	2	Jan. 21, 1974	Dec. 20, 1974 ..	334	June 3–Sept. 5, 1973	May 24–May 29, 1973	do.	
					Oct. 18–Oct. 23, 1973	June 30–July 10, 1973		
					Nov. 21–Nov. 26, 1973	Aug. 3–Sept. 5, 1973		
					Feb. 8–Feb. 18, 1974	Oct. 4–Oct. 9, 1973		
					Mar. 13–Mar. 19, 1974	Nov. 15–Nov. 26, 1973		

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

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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					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.
					Feb. 3–Jan. 14, 1983	Feb. 17–Feb. 22, 1983		
					Mar. 24–Apr. 5, 1983	Mar. 24–Apr. 5, 1983		
					May 26–June 6, 1983	May 26–June 1, 1983		
					June 29–July 11, 1983	June 30–July 11, 1983		
99th ...	2	Jan. 23, 1984	Oct. 12, 1984 ...	264	Aug. 4–Sept. 12, 1983	Aug. 4–Sept. 12, 1983	do.	Do.
					Oct. 7–Oct. 17, 1983	Oct. 6–Oct. 17, 1983		
					Feb. 9–Feb. 20, 1984	Feb. 9–Feb. 21, 1984		
					Apr. 12–Apr. 24, 1984	Apr. 12–Apr. 24, 1984		
					May 24–May 31, 1984	May 24–May 30, 1984		
	1	Jan. 3, 1985	Dec. 20, 1985 ...	352	June 29–July 23, 1984	June 29–July 23, 1984	do.	Do.
					Aug. 10–Sept. 5, 1984	Aug. 10–Sept. 5, 1984		
					Jan. 7–Jan. 21, 1985	Jan. 3–Jan. 21, 1985		
					Feb. 7–Feb. 18, 1985	Feb. 7–Feb. 19, 1985		
					Apr. 4–Apr. 15, 1985	Mar. 7–Mar. 19, 1985		
	2	Jan. 21, 1986	Oct. 18, 1986 ...	278	May 9–May 14, 1985	Apr. 4–Apr. 15, 1985	do.	
					May 24–June 3, 1985	May 23–June 3, 1985		
					June 27–July 8, 1985	June 27–July 8, 1985		
					Aug. 1–Sept. 9, 1985	Aug. 1–Sept. 4, 1985		
					Nov. 23–Dec. 2, 1985	Nov. 21–Dec. 2, 1985		
					Feb. 7–Feb. 17, 1986	Feb. 6–Feb. 18, 1986		
					Mar. 27–Apr. 8, 1986	Mar. 25–Apr. 8, 1986		
					May 21–June 2, 1986	May 22–June 3, 1986		
					June 26–July 7, 1986	June 26–July 14, 1986		
					Aug. 15–Sept. 8, 1986	Aug. 16–Sept. 8, 1986		

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

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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.
					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		
	2	Jan. 25, 1994	Dec. 1, 1994	311	Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994	Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994	do.	
					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		
104th..	1	Jan. 4, 1995	Jan. 3, 1996	365	Feb. 16–Feb. 22, 1995	Feb. 16–Feb. 21, 1995	Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina	Newt Gingrich, of Georgia.
					Apr. 7–Apr. 24, 1995 May 26–June 5, 1995 June 30–July 10, 1995 Aug. 11–Sept. 5, 1995 Sept. 29–Oct. 10, 1995 Nov. 20–Nov. 27, 1995	Mar. 16–Mar. 21, 1995 Apr. 7–May 1, 1995 May 3–May 9, 1995 May 25–June 6, 1995 June 30–July 10, 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 Mar. 29–Apr. 15, 1996 May 23–May 29, 1996 June 28–July 8, 1996 Aug. 2–Sept. 3, 1996 Jan. 9–Jan. 21, 1997 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 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 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 Apr. 13–May 2, 2000 May 25–June 6, 2000 June 30–July 10, 2000 July 27–Sept. 6, 2000 Nov. 3–Nov. 13, 2000 Nov. 14–Dec. 4, 2000 Jan. 6–Jan. 20, 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 Nov. 19–Nov. 27, 2001 Jan. 29–Feb. 4, 2002 Feb. 14–Feb. 26, 2002 Mar. 20–Apr. 9, 2002 May 24–June 4, 2002 June 28–July 8, 2002 July 27–Sept. 4, 2002	do. do do. do do do	Do.
106th...	1	Jan. 7, 1997	Nov. 13, 1997	311	Jan. 9–Jan. 21, 1997 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 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 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. 10–Feb. 22, 2000 Mar. 9–Mar. 20, 2000 Apr. 13–Apr. 25, 2000 May 25–June 6, 2000 June 30–July 10, 2000 July 27–Sept. 5, 2000 Nov. 2–Nov. 14, 2000 Nov. 14–Dec. 5, 2000 Jan. 8–Jan. 20, 2001 Jan. 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 Nov. 16–Nov. 27, 2001 Jan. 29–Feb. 4, 2002 Feb. 15–Feb. 25, 2002 Mar. 22–Apr. 8, 2002 May 23–June 3, 2002 June 28–July 8, 2002 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 2002	do. do do. do do do	Do.
107th...	1	Jan. 3, 2001	Dec. 20, 2001	352	Jan. 10–Jan. 22, 1996 Mar. 29–Apr. 15, 1996 May 23–May 29, 1996 June 28–July 8, 1996 Aug. 2–Sept. 3, 1996 Jan. 9–Jan. 21, 1997 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 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 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. 10–Feb. 22, 2000 Mar. 9–Mar. 20, 2000 Apr. 13–Apr. 25, 2000 May 25–June 6, 2000 June 30–July 10, 2000 July 27–Sept. 5, 2000 Nov. 2–Nov. 14, 2000 Nov. 14–Dec. 5, 2000 Jan. 8–Jan. 20, 2001 Jan. 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 Nov. 16–Nov. 27, 2001 Jan. 29–Feb. 4, 2002 Feb. 15–Feb. 25, 2002 Mar. 22–Apr. 8, 2002 May 23–June 3, 2002 June 28–July 8, 2002 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 2002	do. do do. do do do	Do.
	2	Jan. 23, 2002	Nov. 22, 2002	304	Jan. 10–Jan. 22, 1996 Mar. 29–Apr. 15, 1996 May 23–May 29, 1996 June 28–July 8, 1996 Aug. 2–Sept. 3, 1996 Jan. 9–Jan. 21, 1997 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 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 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. 10–Feb. 22, 2000 Mar. 9–Mar. 20, 2000 Apr. 13–Apr. 25, 2000 May 25–June 6, 2000 June 30–July 10, 2000 July 27–Sept. 5, 2000 Nov. 2–Nov. 14, 2000 Nov. 14–Dec. 5, 2000 Jan. 8–Jan. 20, 2001 Jan. 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 Nov. 16–Nov. 27, 2001 Jan. 29–Feb. 4, 2002 Feb. 15–Feb. 25, 2002 Mar. 22–Apr. 8, 2002 May 23–June 3, 2002 June 28–July 8, 2002 Aug. 1–Sept. 3, 2002	do. do do. do do do	Do.

J. Dennis Hastert, of Illinois.

SESSIONS OF CONGRESS—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was July 8, 2003.]

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	Convening Date	Adjournment Date	Length in days ¹	Recesses ²		President pro tempore of the Senate ³	Speaker of the House of Representatives
					Senate	House of Representatives		
108th..	1	Jan. 7, 2003 .....	.....	.....	Feb. 14-Feb. 24, 2003	Jan. 8-Jan. 27, 2003	Ted Stevens, of Alaska.	J. Dennis Hastert, of Illinois.
					Apr. 11-Apr. 28, 2003	Feb. 13-Feb. 25, 2003		
					May 23-June 2, 2003	Apr. 12-Apr. 29, 2003		
					June 27-July 7, 2003	May 23-June 2, 2003		
						June 27-July 7, 2003		

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 period when the Vice President might be ill or otherwise absent. Once the practice was in place (to fill the 25th amendment, this was added in 1967) replacing the Vice President if elected resigned from office, or if he assumed the Presidency, the President pro tempore would continue 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 example). To gain the 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 complete listing of this footnote are taken. Also, a complete listing 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.

CEREMONIAL MEETINGS OF CONGRESS

The following ceremonial meetings of Congress occurred on the following dates, at the designated locations, and for the reasons indicated. Please note that Congress was not in session on these occasions.

July 16, 1987, 100th Congress, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Independence Hall and Congress Hall—In honor of the bicentennial of the Constitution and in commemoration of the Great Compromise of the Constitutional Convention.

September 6, 2002, 107th Congress, New York City, New York, Federal Hall—In remembrance of the victims and heroes of September 11, 2001, and in recognition of the courage and spirit of the City of New York.