

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup> |                          | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup> | 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                          | .....                 | .....                    | Jacob Read, of South Carolina; Theodore          | Theodore Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.        |
|          | 5       | July 17, 1798  | July 19, 1798    | 3                           | .....                 | .....                    | Sedgwick, of Massachusetts.                      |   |
|          | 2       | Nov. 13, 1797  | July 16, 1798    | 246                         | .....                 | .....                    | John Laurance, of New York; James                |   |
| 7th      | 3       | Dec. 3, 1798   | Mar. 3, 1799     | 91                          | .....                 | .....                    | Ross, of Pennsylvania.                           | Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina.         |
|          | 1       | Dec. 2, 1799   | May 14, 1800     | 164                         | .....                 | .....                    | Samuel Livermore, of New Hampshire;              |   |
|          | 2       | Nov. 17, 1800  | Mar. 3, 1801     | 107                         | .....                 | .....                    | Utah Tracy, of Connecticut.                      |   |
| 8th      | 5       | Mar. 4, 1801   | Mar. 3, 1801     | .....                       | Dec. 23-Dec. 30, 1800 | Dec. 23-Dec. 30, 1800    | John E. Howard, of Maryland; James               |   |
|          | 1       | Dec. 7, 1801   | May 3, 1802      | 148                         | .....                 | .....                    | Hillhouse, of Connecticut.                       |   |
|          |         |                |                  |                             |                       |                          | Abraham Baldwin, of Georgia                      |   |

|          |     |     |                      |                     |     |       |  |  |
|----------|-----|-----|----------------------|---------------------|-----|-------|--|--|
| 8th ...  | 2   | 1-E | Dec. 6, 1802 .....   | Mar. 3, 1803 .....  | 88  | ..... | Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont.<br>John Brown, of Kentucky; Jesse Frank-<br>lin, of North Carolina.    | Do.  |
| 9th ...  | 2   | 1   | 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   | 1-E | Dec. 26, 1806 .....  | Apr. 25, 1807 ..... | 185 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 11th ... | 2   | 1-E | Nov. 7, 1808 .....   | Mar. 3, 1809 .....  | 117 | ..... | Stephen R. Bradley, of Vermont; John<br>Milledge, of Georgia.  |  |
| 11th ... | 8   | 1   | Mar. 4, 1809 .....   | Mar. 7, 1809 .....  | 4   | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 11th ... | 1   | 1   | May 22, 1809 .....   | June 28, 1809 ..... | 38  | ..... | Andrew Gregg, of Pennsylvania .....  | Do.  |
| 11th ... | 2   | 1   | Nov. 27, 1809 .....  | May 1, 1810 .....   | 156 | ..... | John Gaillard, of South Carolina.  |  |
| 12th ... | 1-E | 1   | Dec. 3, 1810 .....   | Mar. 3, 1811 .....  | 91  | ..... | John Pope, of Kentucky.  | Henry Clay, of Kentucky.   |
| 12th ... | 2   | 1   | Nov. 4, 1811 .....   | July 6, 1812 .....  | 245 | ..... | William H. Crawford, of Georgia .....  |  |
| 13th ... | 2   | 1   | Nov. 2, 1812 .....   | Mar. 3, 1813 .....  | 122 | ..... | .....do.....   | Do. <sup>4</sup>   |
| 13th ... | 2   | 1   | May 24, 1813 .....   | Aug. 2, 1813 .....  | 71  | ..... | Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts;<br>John Gaillard, of South Carolina.                               | Langdon Cheves, of South Carolina. <sup>4</sup>                              |
| 14th ... | 3-E | 1   | Dec. 6, 1813 .....   | Apr. 18, 1814 ..... | 134 | ..... | John Gaillard, of South Carolina.  | Henry Clay, of Kentucky.   |
| 14th ... | 1   | 1   | Sept. 19, 1814 ..... | Mar. 3, 1815 .....  | 166 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 14th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 4, 1815 .....   | Apr. 30, 1816 ..... | 148 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 15th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 2, 1816 .....   | Mar. 3, 1817 .....  | 92  | ..... | James Barbour, of Virginia.  | Do.  |
| 15th ... | 2   | 1   | Mar. 4, 1817 .....   | Mar. 6, 1817 .....  | 3   | ..... | James Barbour, of Virginia; John<br>Gaillard, of South Carolina.                                       | Do. <sup>5</sup>   |
| 16th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 1, 1817 .....   | Apr. 20, 1818 ..... | 141 | ..... | John Gaillard, of South Carolina .....   | John W. Taylor, of New York; <sup>5</sup><br>Philip P. Barbour, of Virginia. |
| 16th ... | 2   | 1   | Nov. 16, 1818 .....  | Mar. 3, 1819 .....  | 108 | ..... | .....do.....   | Henry Clay, of Kentucky.   |
| 17th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 6, 1819 .....   | May 15, 1820 .....  | 162 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 17th ... | 2   | 1   | Nov. 13, 1820 .....  | Mar. 3, 1821 .....  | 111 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 17th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 3, 1821 .....   | May 8, 1822 .....   | 157 | ..... | Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina .....   | John W. Taylor, of New York.   |
| 18th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 2, 1822 .....   | Mar. 3, 1823 .....  | 92  | ..... | Samuel Smith, of Maryland .....  | Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia.   |
| 18th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 1, 1823 .....   | May 27, 1824 .....  | 178 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 19th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 6, 1824 .....   | Mar. 3, 1825 .....  | 88  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 19th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 4, 1825 .....   | Mar. 9, 1825 .....  | 6   | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 20th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 5, 1825 .....   | May 22, 1826 .....  | 169 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 20th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 4, 1826 .....   | Mar. 3, 1827 .....  | 90  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 20th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 3, 1827 .....   | May 26, 1828 .....  | 175 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 21st ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 1, 1828 .....   | Mar. 3, 1829 .....  | 93  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 21st ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 4, 1829 .....   | Mar. 17, 1829 ..... | 14  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 21st ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 7, 1829 .....   | May 31, 1830 .....  | 176 | ..... | Littleton Waller Tazewell, of Virginia ..  |  |
| 22d ...  | 2   | 1   | Dec. 6, 1830 .....   | Mar. 3, 1831 .....  | 88  | ..... | Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee.   | Do.  |
| 22d ...  | 2   | 1   | Dec. 5, 1831 .....   | July 16, 1832 ..... | 225 | ..... | Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee;<br>George Poindexter, of Mississippi.                                 | Do. <sup>6</sup>   |
| 23d ...  | 2   | 1   | Dec. 3, 1832 .....   | Mar. 2, 1833 .....  | 91  | ..... | John Tyler, of Virginia .....  | John Bell, of Tennessee. <sup>6</sup><br>James K. Polk, of Tennessee.        |
| 23d ...  | 2   | 1   | Dec. 2, 1833 .....   | June 30, 1834 ..... | 211 | ..... | William R. King, of Alabama .....  |  |
| 24th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 1, 1834 .....   | Mar. 3, 1835 .....  | 93  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 24th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 7, 1835 .....   | July 4, 1836 .....  | 211 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 25th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 5, 1836 .....   | Mar. 3, 1837 .....  | 89  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 25th ... | 2   | 1   | Mar. 4, 1837 .....   | Mar. 10, 1837 ..... | 7   | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 25th ... | 2   | 1   | Sept. 4, 1837 .....  | Oct. 16, 1837 ..... | 43  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 26th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 4, 1837 .....   | July 9, 1838 .....  | 218 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 26th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 3, 1838 .....   | Mar. 3, 1839 .....  | 91  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 26th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 2, 1839 .....   | July 21, 1840 ..... | 233 | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 27th ... | 2   | 1   | Dec. 7, 1840 .....   | Mar. 3, 1841 .....  | 87  | ..... | .....do.....   |  |
| 27th ... | 2   | 1   | Mar. 4, 1841 .....   | Mar. 15, 1841 ..... | 12  | ..... | Robert M.T. Hunter, of Virginia.<br>William R. King, of Alabama; Samuel<br>L. Southard, of New Jersey. |  |

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

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| Congress | Session | Convening Date     | Adjournment Date   | Length in days <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup> |                               | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup>             | 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.....   | 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; David R. Atchison, 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.....   |   |
| 31st ... | 5       | Dec. 3, 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.....   | 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.....   | 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. | Nathaniel P. Banks, of Massachusetts.   |
|          | 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.                                 |   |
|          | 2–E     | Aug. 21, 1856 .... | Aug. 30, 1856 ...  | 10                          | .....                 | .....                         | James M. Mason, of Virginia; Thomas J. Rusk, of Texas.       |   |
| 35th ... | 3       | Dec. 1, 1856 ....  | Mar. 3, 1857 ....  | 93                          | .....                 | .....                         | Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama .....                       | James L. Orr, of South Carolina.        |
|          | 5       | Mar. 4, 1857 ....  | Mar. 14, 1857 ...  | 11                          | .....                 | .....                         |  |   |
|          | 1       | Dec. 7, 1857 ....  | June 14, 1858 ...  | 189                         | .....                 | Dec. 23, 1857–Jan. 4, 1858 .. |  |   |

|     |                |               |     |                            |                            |  |  |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| S   | June 15, 1858  | June 16, 1858 | 2   | Dec. 23, 1858-Jan. 4, 1859 | Dec. 23, 1858-Jan. 4, 1859 | Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama; Jesse D. Bright, of Indiana.         | William Pennington, of New Jersey.             |
| S   | Dec. 6, 1858   | Mar. 3, 1859  | 7   | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1859   | Mar. 10, 1859 | 8   | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Dec. 5, 1859   | June 25, 1860 | 202 | .....                      | .....                      | Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama.                                      | Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Alabama.              |
| S   | June 26, 1860  | Mar. 28, 1860 | 3   | .....                      | .....                      | Solomon Foot, of Vermont.  | Solomon Foot, of Vermont.                      |
| 2   | Dec. 3, 1860   | Mar. 3, 1861  | 93  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Mar. 4, 1861   | Mar. 28, 1861 | 25  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1-E | S July 4, 1861 | Aug. 6, 1861  | 34  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 2, 1861   | July 17, 1862 | 228 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 1, 1862   | Mar. 3, 1863  | 93  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Mar. 4, 1863   | Mar. 14, 1863 | 11  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Dec. 7, 1863   | July 4, 1864  | 209 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 5, 1864   | Mar. 3, 1865  | 89  | .....                      | .....                      | Solomon Foot, of Vermont; Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire.              | Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana.                   |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1865   | July 11, 1865 | 8   | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Dec. 4, 1865   | July 28, 1866 | 237 | .....                      | .....                      | Daniel Clark, of New Hampshire.  | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 3, 1866   | Mar. 3, 1867  | 91  | .....                      | .....                      | Lafayette S. Foster, of Connecticut.                                   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Mar. 4, 1867   | Dec. 1, 1867  | 273 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Apr. 1, 1867   | Apr. 20, 1867 | 20  | .....                      | .....                      | Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 2, 1867   | Nov. 10, 1868 | 345 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 7, 1868   | Mar. 3, 1869  | 87  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1869   | Apr. 20, 1869 | 38  | .....                      | .....                      | Henry B. Anthony, of Rhode Island                                      | Theodore M. Pomeroy, of New York. <sup>7</sup> |
| 1   | Apr. 12, 1869  | Dec. 22, 1869 | 11  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | James G. Blaine, of Maine.                     |
| S   | Dec. 6, 1869   | July 15, 1870 | 222 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 5, 1870   | Mar. 3, 1871  | 89  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Mar. 4, 1871   | Apr. 20, 1871 | 48  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | May 10, 1871   | May 27, 1871  | 18  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 4, 1871   | June 10, 1872 | 190 | .....                      | .....                      | Matthew H. Carpenter, of Wisconsin.                                    | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 2, 1872   | Mar. 3, 1873  | 92  | .....                      | .....                      | Matthew H. Carpenter, of Wisconsin; Henry B. Anthony, of Rhode Island. | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1873   | June 23, 1873 | 204 | .....                      | .....                      | Thomas W. Ferry, of Michigan.  | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Dec. 1, 1873   | June 26, 1874 | 204 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 7, 1874   | Mar. 3, 1875  | 87  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 5, 1875   | Mar. 24, 1875 | 20  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1   | Dec. 6, 1875   | Aug. 15, 1876 | 254 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 4, 1876   | Mar. 3, 1877  | 90  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 5, 1877   | Mar. 17, 1877 | 13  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1-E | Oct. 15, 1877  | Dec. 3, 1877  | 500 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 3, 1877   | June 20, 1878 | 200 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 2, 1878   | Mar. 3, 1879  | 92  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 1-E | Mar. 18, 1879  | July 1, 1879  | 106 | .....                      | .....                      | Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio  | .....do.                                       |
| 2   | Dec. 1, 1879   | June 16, 1880 | 199 | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| 3   | Dec. 6, 1880   | Mar. 3, 1881  | 88  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1881   | May 20, 1881  | 78  | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....do.                                       |
| S   | Oct. 10, 1881  | Oct. 29, 1881 | 20  | .....                      | .....                      | Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; David Davis, of Illinois.               | J. Warren Keifer, of Ohio.                     |
| 1   | Dec. 5, 1881   | Aug. 8, 1882  | 247 | .....                      | .....                      | David Davis, of Illinois   | .....do.                                       |

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>      |                            | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup> | Speaker of the House of Representatives |
|----------|---------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
|          |         |                |                  |                             | Senate                     | House of Representatives   |  |   |
| 48th ... | 2       | Dec. 4, 1882   | Mar. 3, 1883     | 90                          | Dec. 24, 1883–Jan. 7, 1884 | 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 | Dec. 24, 1884–Jan. 5, 1885 | .....do.   | John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky.          |
| 49th ... | 2       | Dec. 1, 1884   | Mar. 3, 1885     | 93                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....  | .....                                   |
| 50th ... | 3       | Mar. 4, 1885   | Apr. 2, 1885     | 30                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....  | .....                                   |
| 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.                                     |
| 50th ... | 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.                      | Do.                                     |
| 51st ... | 1       | Dec. 5, 1887   | Oct. 20, 1888    | 321                         | Dec. 21, 1887–Jan. 4, 1888 | Dec. 21, 1887–Jan. 4, 1888 | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 51st ... | 2       | Dec. 3, 1888   | Mar. 3, 1889     | 91                          | Dec. 21, 1888–Jan. 2, 1889 | Dec. 21, 1888–Jan. 2, 1889 | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 51st ... | 3       | Mar. 4, 1889   | Apr. 2, 1889     | 30                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 52d ...  | 1       | Dec. 2, 1889   | Oct. 1, 1890     | 304                         | Dec. 21, 1889–Jan. 6, 1890 | Dec. 21, 1889–Jan. 6, 1890 | Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska.               | Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.               |
| 52d ...  | 2       | Dec. 1, 1890   | Mar. 3, 1891     | 95                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 52d ...  | 1       | Dec. 7, 1891   | Aug. 5, 1892     | 251                         | Dec. 22, 1891–Jan. 4, 1892 | Dec. 22, 1891–Jan. 4, 1892 | Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska;               | Charles F. Crisp, of Georgia.           |
| 53d ...  | 2       | Dec. 5, 1892   | Mar. 3, 1893     | 89                          | .....                      | .....                      | Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.                   | Do.                                     |
| 53d ...  | 3       | Mar. 4, 1893   | Apr. 15, 1893    | 43                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 54th ... | 1-E     | Aug. 7, 1893   | Nov. 3, 1893     | 89                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 54th ... | 2       | Dec. 4, 1893   | Aug. 28, 1894    | 268                         | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 54th ... | 3       | Dec. 3, 1894   | Mar. 3, 1895     | 97                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 55th ... | 1       | Dec. 2, 1895   | June 11, 1896    | 193                         | Dec. 22, 1895–Jan. 5, 1897 | Dec. 22, 1895–Jan. 5, 1897 | Matt W. Ransom, of North Carolina;               | Thomas B. Reed, of Maine.               |
| 55th ... | 2       | Dec. 7, 1896   | Mar. 3, 1897     | 87                          | .....                      | .....                      | Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee.                   | Do.                                     |
| 55th ... | 3       | Mar. 4, 1897   | Mar. 10, 1897    | 11                          | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 55th ... | 1-E     | Mar. 13, 1897  | July 24, 1897    | 131                         | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 56th ... | 2       | Dec. 6, 1897   | July 8, 1898     | 215                         | Dec. 18, 1897–Jan. 5, 1898 | Dec. 18, 1897–Jan. 5, 1898 | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 56th ... | 3       | Dec. 5, 1898   | Mar. 3, 1899     | 89                          | Dec. 21, 1898–Jan. 4, 1899 | Dec. 21, 1898–Jan. 4, 1899 | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 56th ... | 1       | Dec. 4, 1899   | June 7, 1900     | 186                         | Dec. 20, 1899–Jan. 3, 1900 | Dec. 20, 1899–Jan. 3, 1900 | .....do.   | .....                                   |
| 57th ... | 2       | Dec. 3, 1900   | Mar. 3, 1901     | 91                          | Dec. 21, 1900–Jan. 3, 1901 | Dec. 21, 1900–Jan. 3, 1901 | .....do.   | David B. Henderson, of Iowa.            |
| 57th ... | 3       | Mar. 4, 1901   | Mar. 9, 1901     | 6                           | .....                      | .....                      | .....do.   | .....                                   |

|     |               |                |     |                             |                             |  |  |  |
|-----|---------------|----------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1   | Dec. 2, 1901  | July 1, 1902   | 212 | Dec. 19, 1901-Jan. 6, 1902  | Dec. 19, 1901-Jan. 6, 1902  | Do.  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 1, 1902  | Mar. 3, 1903   | 93  | Dec. 20, 1902-Jan. 5, 1903  | Dec. 20, 1902-Jan. 5, 1903  | Do.  |  |  |
| 3   | Mar. 5, 1903  | Mar. 19, 1903  | 15  |                             | do.                         | Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois.               |  |  |
| 1-E | Nov. 9, 1903  | Dec. 7, 1903   | 29  |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 4   | Dec. 7, 1904  | Apr. 28, 1904  | 144 | Dec. 19, 1903-Jan. 4, 1904  | Dec. 19, 1903-Jan. 4, 1904  |  |  |  |
| 5   | Dec. 3, 1904  | Mar. 3, 1905   | 89  | Dec. 21, 1904-Jan. 4, 1905  | Dec. 21, 1904-Jan. 4, 1905  |  |  |  |
| 6   | Mar. 4, 1905  | Mar. 18, 1905  | 209 | Dec. 21, 1905-Jan. 4, 1906  | Dec. 21, 1905-Jan. 4, 1906  | Do.  |  |  |
| 7   | Dec. 3, 1906  | June 3, 1906   | 181 | Dec. 20, 1906-Jan. 3, 1907  | Dec. 20, 1906-Jan. 3, 1907  |  |  |  |
| 8   | Dec. 2, 1907  | Mar. 30, 1908  | 181 | Dec. 21, 1907-Jan. 6, 1908  | Dec. 21, 1907-Jan. 6, 1908  | Do.  |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 7, 1908  | Mar. 7, 1909   | 87  | Dec. 19, 1908-Jan. 4, 1909  | Dec. 19, 1908-Jan. 4, 1909  |  |  |  |
| 2   | Mar. 4, 1909  | Mar. 6, 1909   | 87  |                             | do.                         | Do.  |  |  |
| 3   | Mar. 15, 1909 | Aug. 5, 1909   | 144 |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 1-E | Dec. 6, 1909  | June 25, 1910  | 202 | Dec. 21, 1909-Jan. 4, 1910  | Dec. 21, 1909-Jan. 4, 1910  |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 5, 1910  | Mar. 3, 1911   | 89  | Dec. 21, 1910-Jan. 5, 1911  | Dec. 21, 1910-Jan. 5, 1911  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Apr. 4, 1911  | Aug. 22, 1911  | 141 |                             | do.                         | Champ Clark, of Missouri.                    |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 4, 1911  | Aug. 26, 1912  | 267 | Dec. 21, 1911-Jan. 3, 1912  | Dec. 21, 1911-Jan. 3, 1912  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Dec. 2, 1912  | Mar. 3, 1913   | 92  | Dec. 19, 1912-Jan. 2, 1913  | Dec. 19, 1912-Jan. 2, 1913  |  |  |  |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1913  | Mar. 17, 1913  | 14  |                             | do.                         | Do.  |  |  |
| 1-E | Dec. 7, 1913  | Oct. 24, 1914  | 239 | Dec. 23, 1913-Jan. 12, 1914 | Dec. 23, 1913-Jan. 12, 1914 |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 1, 1913  | Dec. 2, 1914   | 328 | Dec. 23-Dec. 28, 1914       | Dec. 23-Dec. 28, 1914       |  |  |  |
| 3   | Dec. 7, 1914  | Mar. 3, 1915   | 87  | Dec. 17, 1915-Jan. 4, 1916  | Dec. 17, 1915-Jan. 4, 1916  | Do.  |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 6, 1915  | Sept. 8, 1916  | 278 | Dec. 22, 1916-Jan. 2, 1917  | Dec. 22, 1916-Jan. 2, 1917  |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 4, 1916  | Mar. 3, 1917   | 92  |                             | do.                         | Willard Saulsbury, of Delaware <sup>10</sup> |  |  |
| S   | Mar. 5, 1917  | Mar. 16, 1917  | 10  | Dec. 18, 1917-Jan. 3, 1918  | Dec. 18, 1917-Jan. 3, 1918  | Do.  |  |  |
| 1-E | Apr. 2, 1917  | Oct. 6, 1917   | 354 |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 3, 1917  | Nov. 21, 1918  | 188 |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 3   | Dec. 2, 1918  | Mar. 3, 1919   | 92  |                             | do.                         | Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts.      |  |  |
| 1-E | May 19, 1919  | Nov. 19, 1919  | 185 | July 1-July 8, 1919         | July 1-July 8, 1919         |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 1, 1919  | June 5, 1920   | 188 | Dec. 20, 1919-Jan. 5, 1920  | Dec. 20, 1919-Jan. 5, 1920  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Dec. 6, 1920  | Mar. 3, 1921   | 88  |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 1   | 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  |  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 5, 1921  | Sept. 22, 1922 | 292 |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 3-E | Nov. 20, 1922 | Dec. 4, 1922   | 5   | Dec. 20, 1923-Jan. 3, 1924  | Dec. 20, 1923-Jan. 3, 1924  | Do.  |  |  |
| 4   | Dec. 3, 1923  | Mar. 3, 1923   | 188 | Dec. 20-Dec. 29, 1924       | Dec. 20-Dec. 29, 1924       |  |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 1, 1924  | June 3, 1925   | 98  |                             | do.                         | Do.  |  |  |
| S   | Mar. 4, 1925  | Mar. 18, 1925  | 15  |                             | do.                         |  |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 7, 1925  | July 3, 1926   | 209 | Dec. 22, 1925-Jan. 4, 1926  | Dec. 22, 1925-Jan. 4, 1926  | Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio.                 |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 6, 1926  | Mar. 4, 1927   | 88  | Dec. 22, 1926-Jan. 3, 1927  | Dec. 22, 1926-Jan. 3, 1927  |  |  |  |
| 1   | Dec. 5, 1927  | May 29, 1928   | 177 | Dec. 21, 1927-Jan. 4, 1928  | Dec. 21, 1927-Jan. 4, 1928  | Do.  |  |  |
| 2   | Dec. 3, 1928  | Mar. 3, 1929   | 91  | Dec. 22, 1928-Jan. 3, 1929  | Dec. 22, 1928-Jan. 3, 1929  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Mar. 4, 1929  | Nov. 5, 1929   | 222 | 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 |                             | do.                         | Do.  |  |  |
| S   | July 7, 1930  | July 21, 1930  | 15  |                             | do.                         | Do.  |  |  |

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>         |                               | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup>                                     | 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.                      |
| 73d ...  | 2       | Dec. 5, 1932 .....   | Mar. 3, 1933 ..... | 89                          | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 5       | Mar. 4, 1933 .....   | Mar. 6, 1933 ..... | 3                           | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 1–E     | Mar. 9, 1933 .....   | June 15, 1933 ...  | 99                          | .....                         | .....                         | Key Pittman, of Nevada .....   | Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois.                  |
| 74th ... | 2       | Jan. 3, 1934 .....   | June 18, 1934 ...  | 167                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 1       | Jan. 3, 1935 .....   | Aug. 26, 1935 ...  | 236                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   | Joseph W. Byrns, of Tennessee. <sup>11</sup>   |
|          | 2       | Jan. 3, 1936 .....   | June 20, 1936 ...  | 170                         | .....                         | June 8–June 15, 1936 .....    | .....do.....   | William B. Bankhead, of Alabama. <sup>11</sup> |
| 75th ... | 2–E     | Jan. 5, 1937 .....   | Dec. 21, 1937 ...  | 229                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   | Do.  |
|          | 1       | Nov. 15, 1937 .....  | Dec. 21, 1937 ...  | 37                          | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 3       | Jan. 3, 1938 .....   | June 16, 1938 ...  | 165                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   | Do. <sup>12</sup>                              |
| 76th ... | 2–E     | Jan. 3, 1939 .....   | Aug. 5, 1939 ..... | 215                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 3       | Sept. 21, 1939 ..... | Nov. 3, 1939 ..... | 44                          | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          |         | Jan. 3, 1940 .....   | Jan. 3, 1941 ..... | 366                         | July 11–July 22, 1940 .....   | July 11–July 22, 1940 .....   | Key Pittman, of Nevada; <sup>13</sup> William H. King, of Utah. <sup>13</sup>        | Sam Rayburn, of Texas. <sup>12</sup>           |
| 77th ... | 1       | Jan. 3, 1941 .....   | Jan. 2, 1942 ..... | 365                         | .....                         | .....                         | Pat Harrison, of Mississippi; <sup>14</sup> Carter Glass, of Virginia. <sup>14</sup> | Do.  |
| 78th ... | 2       | Jan. 5, 1942 .....   | Dec. 16, 1942 ...  | 346                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 1       | Jan. 6, 1943 .....   | Dec. 21, 1943 ...  | 350                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 2       | Jan. 10, 1944 .....  | Dec. 19, 1944 ...  | 345                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
| 79th ... | 1       | Jan. 3, 1945 .....   | Dec. 21, 1945 ...  | 353                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 2       | Jan. 14, 1946 .....  | Aug. 2, 1946 ..... | 201                         | .....                         | .....                         | Kenneth McKellar, of Tennessee .....   | Do.  |
| 80th ... | 15 1    | Jan. 3, 1947 .....   | Dec. 19, 1947 ...  | 351                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   |  |
|          | 15 2    | Jan. 6, 1948 .....   | Dec. 31, 1948 ...  | 361                         | .....                         | .....                         | .....do.....   | Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts.       |

|          |   |               |                    |     |                        |                        |  |
|----------|---|---------------|--------------------|-----|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 81st ... | 1 | Jan. 3, 1949  | Oct. 19, 1949 ...  | 290 | Sept. 23–Nov. 27, 1950 | Apr. 6–Apr. 18, 1950   | Sam Rayburn, of Texas.                   |
|          | 2 | Jan. 3, 1950  | Jan. 2, 1951 ...   | 365 | Mar. 22–Apr. 2, 1951   | Sept. 23–Nov. 27, 1950 | Do.                                      |
| 82d ...  | 1 | Jan. 3, 1951  | Oct. 20, 1951 ...  | 291 | Aug. 23–Sept. 12, 1951 | Mar. 22–Apr. 2, 1951   | Do.                                      |
| 83d ...  | 2 | Jan. 8, 1952  | July 7, 1952 ...   | 182 | Apr. 10–Apr. 22, 1952  | Aug. 23–Sept. 12, 1951 | Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts. |
|          | 1 | Jan. 3, 1953  | Aug. 3, 1953 ...   | 213 | Apr. 2–Apr. 13, 1953   | Apr. 10–Apr. 22, 1952  | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 6, 1954  | Dec. 2, 1954 ...   | 331 | Aug. 20–Nov. 8, 1954   | Apr. 15–Apr. 22, 1954  | Do.                                      |
|          |   |               |                    |     | Nov. 18–Nov. 29, 1954  | Apr. 15–Apr. 22, 1954  | Do.                                      |
| 84th ... | 1 | Jan. 5, 1955  | Aug. 2, 1955 ...   | 210 | Apr. 4–Apr. 13, 1955   | Apr. 15–Apr. 22, 1954  | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 3, 1956  | July 27, 1956 ...  | 207 | Mar. 29–Apr. 9, 1956   | Apr. 4–Apr. 13, 1955   | Do.                                      |
| 85th ... | 1 | Jan. 3, 1957  | Aug. 30, 1957 ...  | 239 | Apr. 18–Apr. 29, 1957  | Mar. 29–Apr. 9, 1956   | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 3, 1958  | Aug. 24, 1958 ...  | 230 | Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1958   | Apr. 18–Apr. 29, 1957  | Do.                                      |
| 86th ... | 1 | Jan. 7, 1959  | Sept. 15, 1959 ... | 252 | Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1959   | Apr. 3–Apr. 14, 1958   | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 6, 1960  | Sept. 1, 1960 ...  | 240 | Apr. 14–Apr. 18, 1960  | Mar. 26–Apr. 7, 1959   | Do.                                      |
| 87th ... | 1 | Jan. 3, 1961  | Sept. 27, 1961 ... | 268 | May 27–May 31, 1960    | Apr. 14–Apr. 18, 1960  | Do. <sup>16</sup>                        |
|          | 2 | Jan. 10, 1962 | Oct. 13, 1962 ...  | 277 | July 3–Aug. 8, 1960    | May 27–May 31, 1960    | Do.                                      |
| 88th ... | 1 | Jan. 9, 1963  | Dec. 30, 1963 ...  | 356 | July 10–July 20, 1964  | July 3–Aug. 8, 1960    | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 7, 1964  | Oct. 3, 1964 ...   | 270 | Aug. 21–Aug. 31, 1964  | July 10–July 20, 1964  | Do.                                      |
| 89th ... | 1 | Jan. 4, 1965  | Oct. 23, 1965 ...  | 293 | Apr. 7–Apr. 13, 1966   | Aug. 21–Aug. 31, 1964  | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 10, 1966 | Oct. 22, 1966 ...  | 286 | June 30–July 11, 1966  | Apr. 7–Apr. 13, 1966   | Do.                                      |
| 90th ... | 1 | Jan. 10, 1967 | Dec. 15, 1967 ...  | 340 | Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1967   | June 30–July 11, 1966  | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 15, 1968 | Oct. 14, 1968 ...  | 274 | June 29–July 10, 1967  | Mar. 23–Apr. 3, 1967   | Do.                                      |
| 91st ... | 1 | Jan. 3, 1969  | Dec. 23, 1969 ...  | 355 | Aug. 31–Sept. 11, 1967 | June 29–July 10, 1967  | Do.                                      |
|          | 2 | Jan. 19, 1970 | Jan. 2, 1971 ...   | 349 | Nov. 22–Nov. 27, 1967  | Aug. 31–Sept. 11, 1967 | Do.                                      |
|          |   |               |                    |     | Apr. 11–Apr. 17, 1968  | Nov. 22–Nov. 27, 1967  | Do.                                      |
|          |   |               |                    |     | June 29–June 3, 1968   | Apr. 11–Apr. 17, 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. 6–Nov. 12, 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  | 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, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>        |                              | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup>  | 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; <sup>17</sup> Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana. <sup>17</sup>    | 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; <sup>18</sup> James O. Eastland, of Mississippi. <sup>18</sup> | 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 .....  |   |   |
|          |         |                     |                  |                             | 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 .....  |   |   |
|          | 1       | Jan. 3, 1973 .....  | Dec. 22, 1973 .. | 354                         | June 3–Sept. 5, 1973 .....   | May 24–May 29, 1973 .....    | James O. Eastland, of Mississippi .....   | 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 .....  | Oct. 18–Oct. 23, 1973 .....  |   |   |
|          | 2       | Jan. 21, 1974 ..... | Dec. 20, 1974 .. | 334                         | Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1974 .....  | Nov. 15–Nov. 26, 1973 .....  | .....do.  | .....do.                                |
|          |         |                     |                  |                             | May 23–May 28, 1974 .....    | Feb. 7–Feb. 13, 1974 .....   |   |   |
|          |         |                     |                  |                             | Aug. 22–Sept. 11, 1974 ..... | Apr. 11–Apr. 22, 1974 .....  |   |   |
|          |         |                     |                  |                             | Oct. 17–Nov. 18, 1974 .....  | May 23–May 28, 1974 .....    |   |   |
|          |         |                     |                  |                             | Nov. 26–Dec. 2, 1974 .....   | Aug. 22–Sept. 11, 1974 ..... |   |   |

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

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>       |                             | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup> | 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. |
|          |         |                     |                   |                             | 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.   | 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 ..... |  |   |

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

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>      |                            | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup> | Speaker of the House of Representatives |
|-----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Senate                     | House of Representatives   |  |   |
| 103rd ... | 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       | Jan. 27–Feb. 2, 1993       |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1993       | Feb. 4–Feb. 16, 1993       |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | May 28–June 7, 1993        | Apr. 7–Apr. 19, 1993       |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | July 1–July 13, 1993       | May 27–June 8, 1993        |  |   |
| 104th ... | 1       | Jan. 4, 1995 ..... | Jan. 3, 1996 ..... | 365                         | Aug. 7–Sept. 7, 1993       | July 1–July 13, 1993       | .....do.   | Newt Gingrich, of Georgia.              |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Oct. 7–Oct. 13, 1993       | Aug. 6–Sept. 8, 1993       |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Nov. 11–Nov. 16, 1993      | Sept. 15–Sept. 21, 1993    |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994      | Oct. 7–Oct. 12, 1993       |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Mar. 26–Apr. 11, 1994      | Nov. 10–Nov. 15, 1993      |  |   |
| 104th ... | 1       | Jan. 4, 1995 ..... | Jan. 3, 1996 ..... | 365                         | May 25–June 7, 1994        | Jan. 26–Feb. 1, 1994       | Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina .....          | Newt Gingrich, of Georgia.              |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | July 1–July 11, 1994       | Feb. 11–Feb. 22, 1994      |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Aug. 25–Sept. 12, 1994     | Mar. 24–Apr. 12, 1994      |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Oct. 8–Nov. 30, 1994       | May 26–June 8, 1994        |  |   |
|           |         |                    |                    |                             | Feb. 16–Feb. 22, 1995      | June 30–July 12, 1994      |  |   |

|         |                    |                     |     |                                    |                             |  |                                 |
|---------|--------------------|---------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 2       | Jan. 3, 1996 ..... | Oct. 4, 1996 ....   | 276 | Jan. 10-Jan. 22, 1996 .....        | Jan. 9-Jan. 22, 1996 .....  | .....do.   |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Mar. 29-Apr. 15, 1996 .....        | Mar. 29-Apr. 15, 1996 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 24-June 3, 1996 .....          | May 23-May 29, 1996 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 28-July 8, 1996 .....         | June 28-July 8, 1996 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Aug. 2-Sept. 3, 1996 .....         | Aug. 2-Sept. 4, 1996 .....  |  |                                 |
| 105th.. | 1                  | Jan. 7, 1997 .....  | 311 | Jan. 9-Jan. 21, 1997 .....         | Jan. 9-Jan. 20, 1997 .....  | .....do  | Do.                             |
|         |                    |                     |     | Feb. 13-Feb. 24, 1997 .....        | Jan. 21-Feb. 4, 1997 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Mar. 21-Apr. 7, 1997 .....         | Feb. 13-Feb. 25, 1997 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 27-July 7, 1997 .....         | Mar. 21-Apr. 8, 1997 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | July 31-Sept. 2, 1997 .....        | June 26-July 8, 1997 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Oct. 9-Oct. 20, 1997 .....         | Aug. 1-Sept. 3, 1997 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | Oct. 9-Oct. 21, 1997 .....  | .....do.   |                                 |
|         | 2                  | Jan. 27, 1998 ..... | 327 | Feb. 13-Feb. 23, 1998 .....        | Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 1998 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Apr. 3-Apr. 20, 1998 .....         | Feb. 5-Feb. 11, 1998 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 22-June 1, 1998 .....          | Feb. 12-Feb. 24, 1998 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 26-July 6, 1998 .....         | Apr. 1-Apr. 21, 1998 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | July 31-Aug. 31, 1998 .....        | May 22-June 3, 1998 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Adjourned sine die, Oct. 21, 1998. | June 25-July 14, 1998 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | Aug. 7-Sept. 9, 1998 .....  |  |                                 |
| 106th.. | 1                  | Jan. 6, 1999 .....  | 321 | Feb. 12-Feb. 22, 1999 .....        | Oct. 21-Dec. 17, 1998 ..... | .....do  | J. Dennis Hastert, of Illinois. |
|         |                    |                     |     | Mar. 25-Apr. 12, 1999 .....        | Jan. 6-Jan. 19, 1999 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 27-June 7, 1999 .....          | Jan. 19-Feb. 2, 1999 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | July 1-July 12, 1999 .....         | Feb. 12-Feb. 23, 1999 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Aug. 5-Sept. 8, 1999 .....         | Mar. 25-Apr. 12, 1999 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | May 27-June 7, 1999 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | July 1-July 12, 1999 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | Aug. 6-Sept. 8, 1999 .....  | .....do.   |                                 |
|         | 2                  | Jan. 24, 2000 ..... | 326 | Feb. 10-Feb. 22, 2000 .....        | Feb. 16-Feb. 29, 2000 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Mar. 9-Mar. 20, 2000 .....         | Apr. 13-May 2, 2000 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Apr. 13-Apr. 25, 2000 .....        | May 25-June 6, 2000 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 25-June 6, 2000 .....          | June 30-July 10, 2000 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 30-July 10, 2000 .....        | July 27-Sept. 6, 2000 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | July 27-Sept. 5, 2000 .....        | Nov. 3-Nov. 13, 2000 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Nov. 2-Nov. 14, 2000 .....         | Nov. 14-Dec. 4, 2000 .....  |  |                                 |
| 107th.. | 1                  | Jan. 3, 2001 .....  | 352 | Jan. 8-Jan. 20, 2001 .....         | Jan. 6-Jan. 20, 2001 .....  | Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia; <sup>21</sup> Strom Thurmond, of South Carolina; <sup>21</sup> Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia. <sup>21</sup> | Do.                             |
|         |                    |                     |     | Feb. 15-Feb. 26, 2001 .....        | Jan. 20-Jan. 30, 2001 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Apr. 6-Apr. 23, 2001 .....         | Feb. 31-Feb. 6, 2001 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 26-June 5, 2001 .....          | Feb. 14-Feb. 26, 2001 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 29-July 9, 2001 .....         | Apr. 4-Apr. 24, 2001 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Aug. 3-Sept. 4, 2001 .....         | May 26-June 5, 2001 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Oct. 18-Oct. 23, 2001 .....        | June 28-July 10, 2001 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Nov. 16-Nov. 27, 2001 .....        | Aug. 2-Sept. 5, 2001 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | Oct. 17-Oct. 23, 2001 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     |                                    | Nov. 19-Nov. 27, 2001 ..... |  |                                 |
|         | 2                  | Jan. 23, 2002 ..... | 304 | Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2002 .....         | Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2002 .....  | Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia. ....   |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Feb. 15-Feb. 25, 2002 .....        | Feb. 14-Feb. 26, 2002 ..... |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Mar. 22-Apr. 8, 2002 .....         | Mar. 20-Apr. 9, 2002 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | May 23-June 3, 2002 .....          | May 24-June 4, 2002 .....   |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | June 28-July 8, 2002 .....         | June 28-July 8, 2002 .....  |  |                                 |
|         |                    |                     |     | Aug. 1-Sept. 3, 2002 .....         | July 27-Sept. 4, 2002 ..... |  |                                 |

## SESSIONS OF CONGRESS, 1st–111th CONGRESSES, 1789–2009—CONTINUED

[Closing date for this table was September 29, 2009.]

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 <sup>1</sup> | Recesses <sup>2</sup>       |                             | President pro tempore of the Senate <sup>3</sup> | Speaker of the House of Representatives |
|----------|---------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Senate                      | House of Representatives    |  |   |
| 108th... | 1       | Jan. 7, 2003 .....  | Dec. 9, 2003 ..... | 337                         | 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 .....   |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Aug. 1–Sept. 2, 2003 .....  | June 27–July 7, 2003 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Oct. 3–Oct. 14, 2003 .....  | July 29–Sept. 3, 2003 ..... |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Nov. 25–Dec. 9, 2003 .....  | Nov. 25–Dec. 8, 2003 .....  |  |   |
|          | 2       | Jan. 20, 2004 ..... | Dec. 8, 2004 ..... | 324                         | Feb. 12–Feb. 23, 2004 ..... | Feb. 11–Feb. 24, 2004 ..... | .....do.   |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Mar. 12–Mar. 22, 2004 ..... | Apr. 2–Apr. 20, 2004 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Apr. 8–Apr. 19, 2004 .....  | May 20–June 1, 2004 .....   |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | May 21–June 1, 2004 .....   | June 9–June 14, 2004 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | June 9–June 14, 2004 .....  | June 25–July 6, 2004 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | June 25–July 6, 2004 .....  | July 22–Sept. 7, 2004 ..... |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | July 22–Sept. 7, 2004 ..... | Oct. 9–Nov. 16, 2004 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Oct. 11–Nov. 16, 2004 ..... | Nov. 24–Dec. 6, 2004 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Nov. 24–Dec. 7, 2004 .....  | Jan. 6–Jan. 20, 2005 .....  | .....do.   | Do.                                     |
| 109th... | 1       | Jan. 4, 2005 .....  | Dec. 22, 2005 ...  | 353                         | Jan. 26–Jan. 31, 2005 ..... | Jan. 20–Jan. 25, 2005 ..... |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Feb. 18–Feb. 28, 2005 ..... | Jan. 26–Feb. 1, 2005 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Mar. 20–Apr. 4, 2005 .....  | Feb. 2–Feb. 8, 2005 .....   |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Apr. 29–May 9, 2005 .....   | Feb. 17–Mar. 1, 2005 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | May 26–June 6, 2005 .....   | Mar. 21–Apr. 5, 2005 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | July 1–July 11, 2005 .....  | May 26–June 7, 2005 .....   |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | July 29–Sept. 1, 2005 ..... | July 1–July 11, 2005 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Sept. 1–Sept. 6, 2005 ..... | July 29–Sept. 2, 2005 ..... |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Oct. 7–Oct. 17, 2005 .....  | Oct. 7–Oct. 17, 2005 .....  |  |   |
|          |         |                     |                    |                             | Nov. 18–Dec. 12, 2005 ..... | Nov. 18–Dec. 6, 2005 .....  |  |   |

|          |   |              |               |       |   |  |                 |  |                              |
|----------|---|--------------|---------------|-------|---|--|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| 110th... | 2 | Jan. 3, 2006 | Dec. 9, 2006  | 341   | <p>Jan. 3–Jan. 18, 2006</p> <p>Feb. 1–Feb. 27, 2006</p> <p>Mar. 16–Mar. 27, 2006</p> <p>Apr. 7–Apr. 24, 2006</p> <p>May 26–June 5, 2006</p> <p>June 29–July 10, 2006</p> <p>Aug. 4–Sept. 5, 2006</p> <p>Sept. 30–Nov. 9, 2006</p> <p>Nov. 16–Dec. 4, 2006</p> | <p>Jan. 3–Jan. 31, 2006</p> <p>Feb. 1–Feb. 7, 2006</p> <p>Feb. 8–Feb. 14, 2006</p> <p>Mar. 16–Mar. 28, 2006</p> <p>Apr. 6–Apr. 25, 2006</p> <p>May 25–June 6, 2006</p> <p>June 29–July 10, 2006</p> <p>Aug. 2–Sept. 6, 2006</p> <p>Sept. 30–Nov. 9, 2006</p> <p>Nov. 15–Dec. 5, 2006</p> <p>Feb. 16–Feb. 27, 2007</p> <p>Mar. 30–Apr. 16, 2007</p> <p>May 24–June 5, 2007</p> <p>June 28–July 10, 2007</p> <p>Aug. 4–Sept. 4, 2007</p> <p>Nov. 15–Dec. 4, 2007</p> | <p>.....do.</p> | Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia ..... | Nancy Pelosi, of California. |
|          | 1 | Jan. 4, 2007 | Dec. 31, 2007 | 362   | <p>Feb. 17–Feb. 26, 2007</p> <p>Mar. 29–Apr. 10, 2007</p> <p>May 25–June 4, 2007</p> <p>June 29–July 9, 2007</p> <p>Aug. 3–Sept. 4, 2007</p> <p>Oct. 5–Oct. 15, 2007</p> <p>Nov. 16–Dec. 3, 2007</p> <p>Dec. 19–Jan. 3, 2008</p>                              | <p>Jan. 3–Jan. 15, 2008</p> <p>Mar. 14–Mar. 31, 2008</p> <p>May 22–June 3, 2008</p> <p>June 26–July 8, 2008</p> <p>Aug. 1–Sept. 8, 2008</p> <p>Oct. 3–Nov. 19, 2008</p> <p>Nov. 20–Dec. 9, 2008</p> <p>Dec. 10–Jan. 3, 2009</p>  | <p>.....do.</p> |  |                              |
|          | 2 | Jan. 3, 2008 | Jan. 3, 2009  | 367   | <p>Jan. 3–Jan. 22, 2008</p> <p>Feb. 14–Feb. 26, 2008</p> <p>Mar. 13–Mar. 31, 2008</p> <p>May 22–June 2, 2008</p> <p>June 27–July 7, 2008</p> <p>Aug. 1–Sept. 8, 2008</p> <p>Oct. 2–Nov. 17, 2008</p> <p>Nov. 20–Dec. 8, 2008</p> <p>Dec. 11–Jan. 3, 2009</p>  | <p>Jan. 3–Jan. 15, 2008</p> <p>Mar. 14–Mar. 31, 2008</p> <p>May 22–June 3, 2008</p> <p>June 26–July 8, 2008</p> <p>Aug. 1–Sept. 8, 2008</p> <p>Oct. 3–Nov. 19, 2008</p> <p>Nov. 20–Dec. 9, 2008</p> <p>Dec. 10–Jan. 3, 2009</p>  | <p>.....do.</p> |  |                              |
| 111th... | 1 | Jan. 6, 2009 | .....         | ..... | <p>Feb. 13–Feb. 23, 2009</p> <p>Apr. 2–Apr. 21, 2009</p> <p>May 21–June 2, 2009</p> <p>June 26–July 7, 2009</p> <p>July 31–Sept. 8, 2009</p>  | <p>.....do.</p>  | Do.             |  |                              |

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this table, a "recess" is defined as any period of three or more complete days, when either the House of Representatives or the Senate is not in session; however, 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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 Presidency 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.

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

<sup>5</sup> 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.

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



<sup>7</sup> Speaker Schwuyler 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> William P. Frye resigned as President pro tempore on Apr. 27, 1911.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

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

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

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> 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 which was agreed to on July 16, 1787.

-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.