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Current Party Numbers: 111th Congress, 2nd Session		
	House	Senate
Democrats	253	57
Independents	0	2
Republicans	178	41
Vacancies	4	0

Sources: [CQ.com](#); [Members](#); [Fact Files](#); [Party Ratios](#); and [Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives](#).

See also "[Membership of the 111th Congress: A Profile](#)," by Mildred Amer and Jennifer Manning, CRS Report for Congress R40086, December 31, 2008 (10-page pdf)

For a table showing party control of the 80th through the 109th Congresses, see the [Congressional Deskbook](#), Section 7.41.

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Congress by the Numbers															
		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
Days in Session	Senate	191	184	190	138	159	133	167	149	173	141	162	143	153	132
	House	159	118	164	101	140	110	133	123	142	135	137	119	132	122
Time in Session (hours)	Senate	1421	989	1376	1028	1222	1032	1454	1043	1236	1018	1184	1095	1093	1037
	House	1247	890	1478	850	1067	879	1015	772	922	1054	1125	999	1004	919
Average Length Daily Session (hours)	Senate	7.4	5.4	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.8	8.7	7	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.7	7.1	7.9
	House	7.8	7.5	9.0	8.4	7.6	8.0	7.6	6.3	6.5	7.8	8.2	8.4	7.6	7.5
Bills/Resolutions Introduced	Senate	3380	1590	3033	2302	2616	1318	2398	1558	2212	1546	2352	1321	1840	860
	House	5691	3225	6194	2451	5703	2338	4616	2711	4318	2701	4241	2254	3728	1899
	TOTAL	9071	4815	9227	4753	8321	3656	7014	4269	6530	4247	6593	3575	5568	2759
Public Laws Enacted	Number	119	278	138	248	169	300	198	241	136	410	170	241	153	245
	% of total Introduced	1.3	5.8	1.5	5.2	2.03	8.21	2.82	5.65	2.08	9.65	2.58	6.74	2.75	8.88
Recorded Votes	Senate	397	215	442	279	366	216	459	253	380	298	374	314	298	306
	House ¹	991	690	1186	541	671	544	677	484	512	603	611	547	640	455
	TOTAL	1388	905	1628	820	1037	760	1136	739	892	901	985	861	938	761
Vetoes		0	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	7 ²	5	5	3 ³	6
	Overridden		3	1	0						1	0	2		

¹ Includes quorum calls

² Includes pocket vetoes

³ Does not include line-item vetoes

Source: CQ Weekly, [Resume of Congressional Activity](#), January 2, 2009.

A summary of the Resumes of Congressional Activity from 1995 - 2004 appeared in Appendix 8 of the [Congressional Deskbook](#) 2005-2007, and is [available here as an Excel spreadsheet](#).

Differences between the House and the Senate At-a-Glance	
House	Senate
Larger - 435 members	Smaller - 100 members
Shorter term - 2 years	Longer term - 6 years
Four calendars (Union, House, Private, and Discharge)	Two calendars (Legislative and Executive)
Less procedural flexibility / more restraints	More procedural flexibility / fewer restraints

Stronger Leadership - power less evenly distributed	Weaker Leadership - power more evenly distributed
Role of Rules Committee and special rules to govern floor consideration	Unanimous consent and complex unanimous consent time agreements to govern floor consideration
Scheduling by Speaker and majority-party leadership, with limited consultation among members	Scheduling by majority-party leadership, with broad consultation among all members
Germaneness of amendments generally required	Germaneness of amendments rarely required
Presiding officer has considerable discretion in recognition; rulings rarely challenged	Presiding officer has little discretion in recognition; rulings frequently challenged
Debate always restricted	Debate rarely restricted
Debate-ending motions by majority vote (218 representatives)	Cloture invoked by three-fifths vote (60 senators)
Quorum calls permitted in connection with record votes	Quorum calls permitted almost any time and used for constructive delay
Narrower constituency - House District	Larger constituency - entire state
Elections generally less competitive	Elections generally more competitive
Specialists	Generalists
Less reliant on staff	More reliant on staff
Less media coverage	More media coverage
More partisan	Less partisan
Adjourns at end of day	Recesses at end of most days
<u>Salary</u> : 2009 and 2010: \$174,000 2008: \$169,300 2006 and 2007: \$165,200 (2005: \$162,100) For more information, see Pay and Perquisites of Members of Congress	<u>Salary</u> : 2009 and 2010: \$174,000 2008: \$169,300 2006 and 2007: \$165,200 (2005: \$162,100) For more information, see Pay and Perquisites of Members of Congress

Source: [Congressional Deskbook](#), §§ 8.150-8.151; [Executive Order 13525](#): "Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay," Federal Register, Vol. 74 No. 249, page 69231, December 23, 2009 (12-page pdf [↗](#)); [Executive Order 13454](#): "Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay," Federal Register, Vol. 73 No. 5, page 1486, January 8, 2008 (14-page pdf [↗](#))

This page is available [as a pdf](#) [↗](#) and is online at www.CongressNumbers.com

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