

Congressional Productivity

The number of bills and resolutions introduced in Congress dropped dramatically in the late 1970s — largely because of rules changes that encouraged co-sponsorships and limited “private bills” for the relief of individuals — and continued to trail off through the Republican takeover in January 1995. But since then, the numbers have sloped upward dramatically, and Members of the 110th Congress have introduced more measures than any other Congress since the 96th (1979-80).

Congress	House bills	House resolutions	Senate bills	Senate resolutions	Total measures introduced	Total laws enacted	Percentage of legislation enacted
93rd	17,690	3,405	4,260	867	26,222	772	2.94
94th	15,863	3,508	3,899	1,013	24,283	729	3.00
95th	14,414	3,386	3,631	882	22,313	803	3.60
96th	8,456	1,944	3,266	928	14,594	736	5.04
97th	7,458	1,717	3,124	940	13,239	529	4.00
98th	6,442	1,662	3,692	1,002	12,798	677	5.29
99th	5,743	1,789	2,954	1,126	11,612	688	5.92
100th	5,585	1,684	2,930	1,083	11,282	761	6.75
101st	5,977	1,634	3,271	905	11,787	666	5.65
102nd	6,212	1,559	3,390	855	12,016	610	5.08
103rd	5,310	1,337	2,573	604	9,824	473	4.81
104th	4,344	985	2,199	463	7,991	337	4.22
105th	4,874	1,108	2,655	504	9,141	404	4.42
106th	5,681	1,261	3,287	611	10,840	604	5.57
107th	5,767	1,262	3,181	581	10,791	383	3.55
108th	5,431	1,522	3,035	681	10,669	504	4.72
109th	6,438	1,716	4,122	798	13,074	483	3.69
110th	7,239*	2,063*	3,652*	849*	13,803*	449	3.25

** As of Sept. 30. Sources: Library of Congress, Senate Web site and Congressional Record Annual Resúmenes of Congressional Activity*