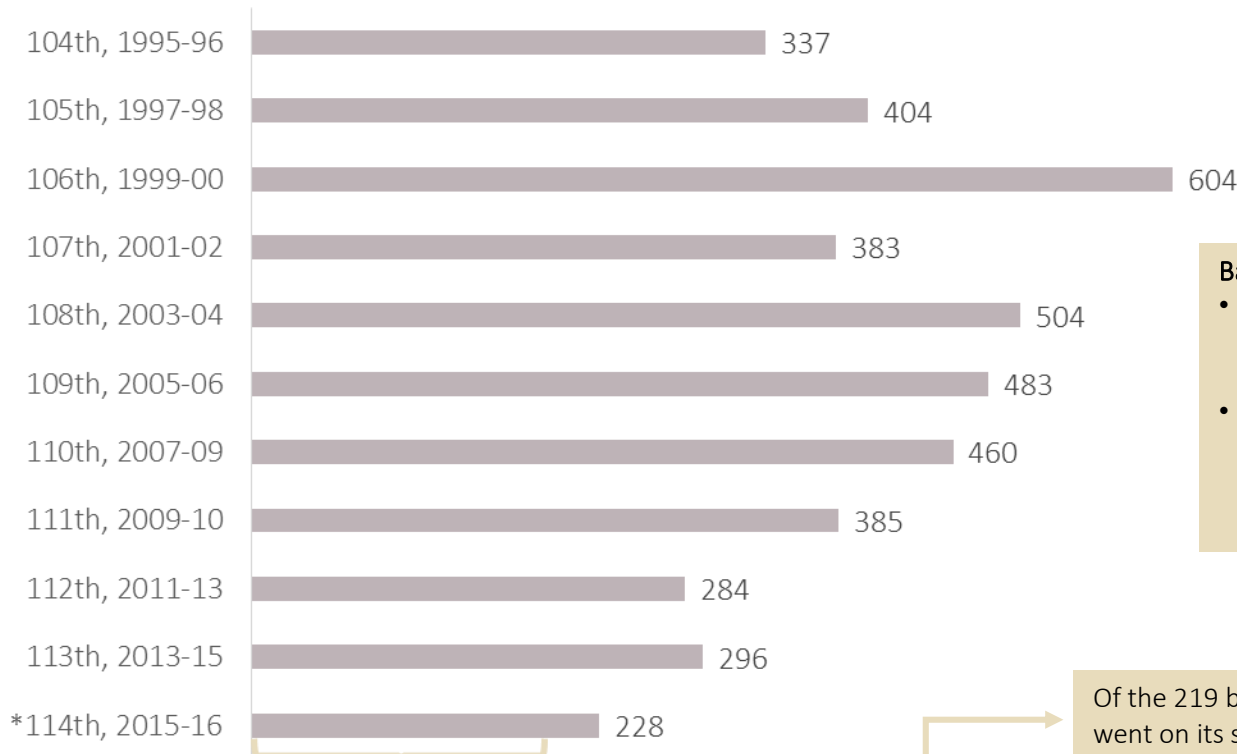


Congress broke for campaign recess after one of its least productive sessions in years

Total laws enacted in each Congressional term



Background

- Congress did not address immigration, stagnant wages, a tax overhaul, or Garland’s Supreme Court nomination
- Criminal justice reform, which had bipartisan support a set of changes in the Senate Judiciary Committee was also left unaddressed

Of the 219 bills Congress passed before it went on its summer recess, 195 were ceremonial, such as the naming of post offices

*As of Oct. 4, there are 20 days remaining in the lame duck session

Sources: “Bills by final status,” Govtrack.us, 2016; Alexander Bolton, “Reid sums up 114th Congress as a flop,” The Hill, September 29th, 2016.

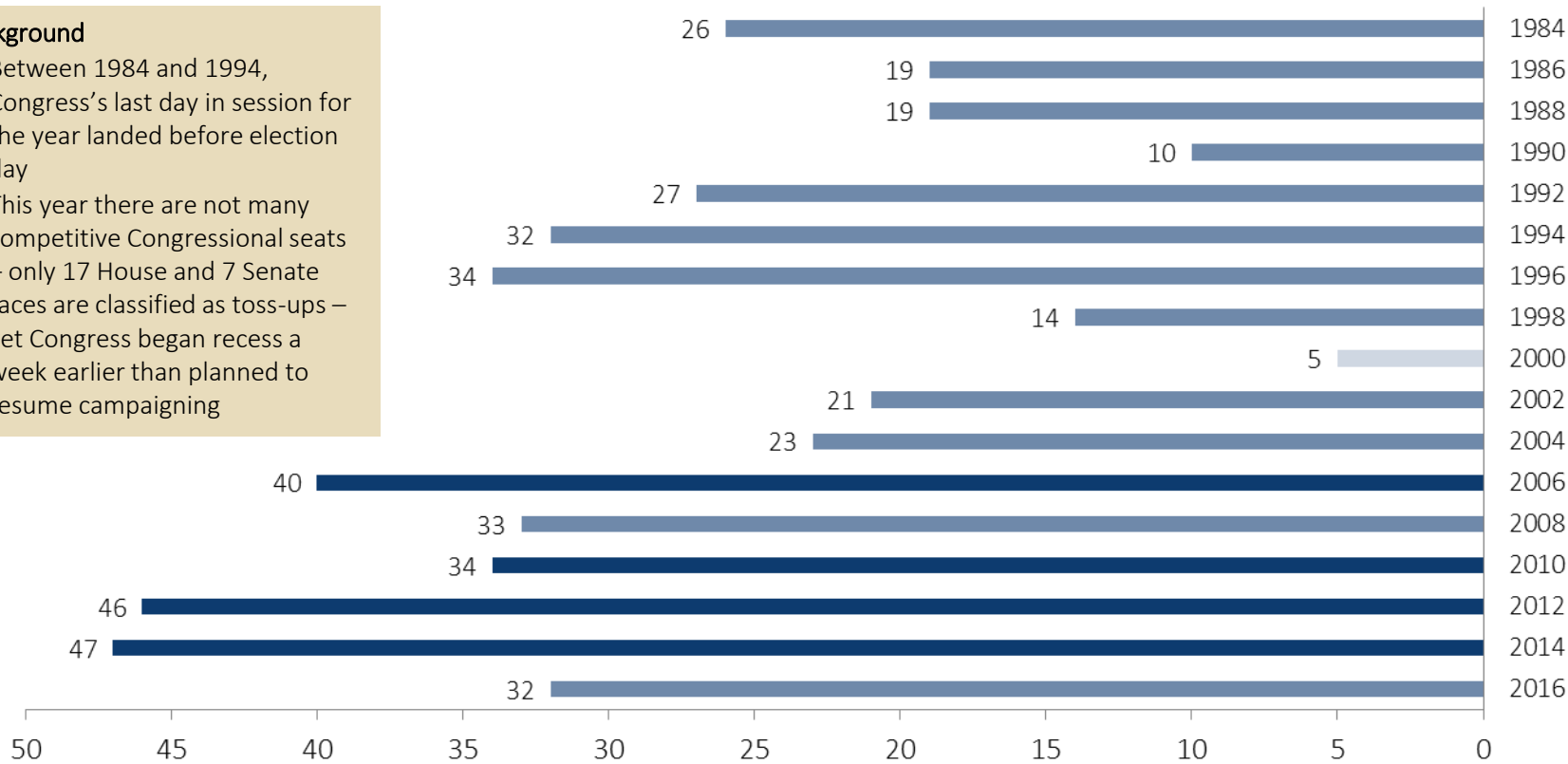
Congressional campaign recess has grown progressively longer over past 30 years

Length of campaign recess leading to election day

■ Recess started in September ■ Recess started in October ■ Recess started in November

Background

- Between 1984 and 1994, Congress's last day in session for the year landed before election day
- This year there are not many competitive Congressional seats – only 17 House and 7 Senate races are classified as toss-ups – yet Congress began recess a week earlier than planned to resume campaigning

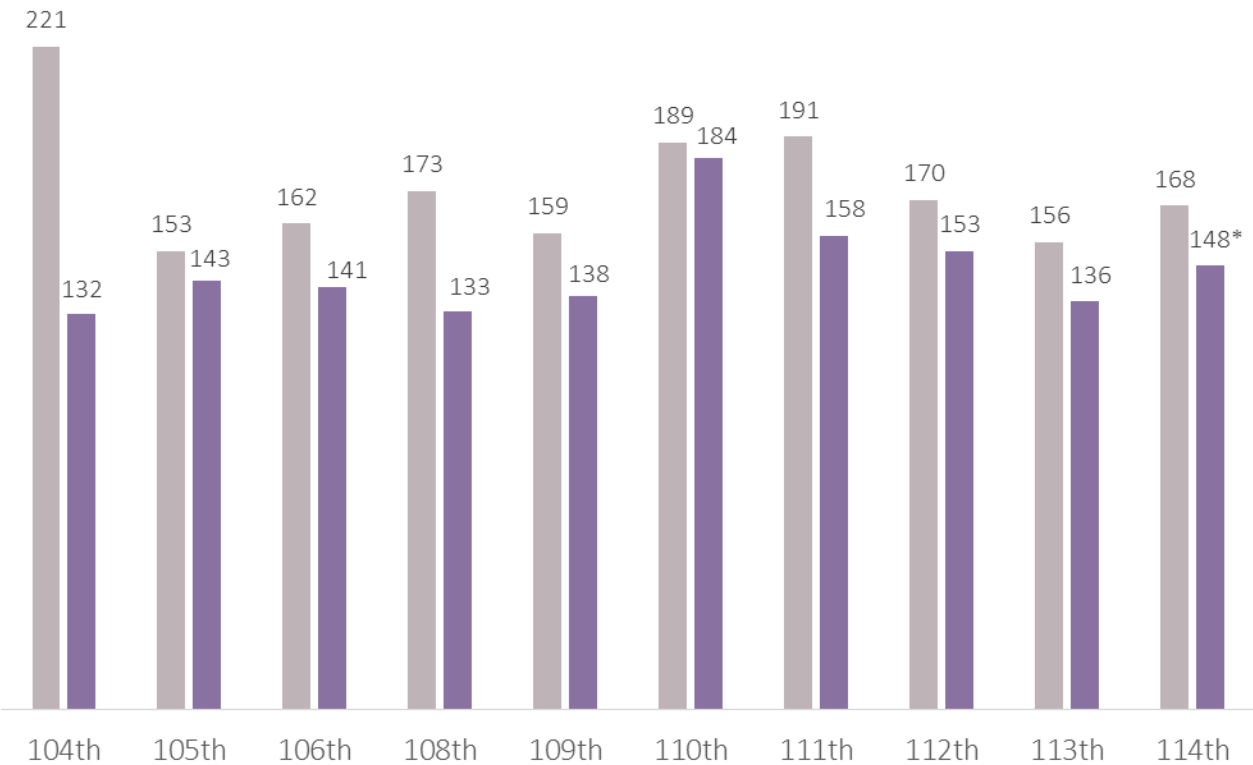


Sources: David Hawkings, "What to expect from the final days of the 114th Congress," Roll Call, September 6, 2016; National Journal Research, 2016.

Reid claims the Senate is on track to work the fewest days in 60 years, but they are only slightly below average

Senate days in session over 20 years

■ 1st session ■ 2nd session



*This number accounts for the extra 20 days the Senate is scheduled to be in session after October's campaign recess

Background

- Over the last 20 years, the Senate has spent an average of 162 days a year in session
- The 114th Congress is on track to average 158 days in session per year
- In 2014, Sen. McConnell promised he would keep the Senate in session on Fridays and work longer hours to get bills moving; however, the Senate now tends to hold its last votes after lunch on Thursday and rarely works on Friday
- On October 3rd, the Senate was technically in session; it convened a pro forma session for 30 seconds before adjourning

Sources: "Past days in session of the U.S. Congress," Congress.gov, 2016; "Reid sums up 114th Congress as a flop," The Hill, September 29th, 2016 .