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Past Government Shutdowns: Key Resources

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Summary

When federal government agencies and programs lack budget authority after the expiration of either full-year or interim appropriations, they experience a “funding gap,” also known as a lapse in appropriations. In many cases, under the Antideficiency Act (31 U.S.C. §§1341 et seq.), agencies and programs affected by a funding gap must cease operations—except in certain circumstances when continued activities are authorized by law.

In the past, there have occasionally been funding gaps that led to government shutdowns. The most recent, and longest funding gap and shutdown to date, started in FY2026 on October 1, 2025, and lasted for a total of 42 full days. A subsequent funding lapse related to six unfinished FY2026 appropriations bills began on February 1, 2026. Full-year funding for five of those bills (Defense, Financial Services and General Government [FSGG], Labor, Health and Human Services, Education [LHHSED], National Security-State, and Transportation-HUD) was signed by the President on February 3, 2026, along with continuing appropriations through February 13, 2026, to fund Homeland Security. A funding lapse for Homeland Security funding began on February 14, 2026.

The relevant laws that govern shutdowns have remained relatively constant in recent decades. However, agencies and officials may exercise some discretion in how they interpret the laws, and circumstances that confront agencies and officials may differ over time. Consequently, it is difficult to predict what might happen in the event of a future shutdown. Still, information about past events may offer some insight into possible outcomes and help inform future deliberations.

This CRS report provides an annotated list of historical documents and other resources related to several past government shutdowns. In general, the report focuses on shutdowns broadly and so includes resources that address circumstances relating to multiple agencies and programs. Congressional hearings—even when focused on a single agency or programmatic area—will at times take a broader look at shutdown impacts, so this report does include references to selected hearings. When possible, the report includes links to full-text documents.

For frequently asked questions relating to shutdowns, see CRS Report R47693, *Government Shutdowns and Executive Branch Operations: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)*, coordinated by Taylor N. Riccard. For more in-depth discussion of processes related to shutdowns, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass. For more information about funding gaps, see CRS Report RS20348, *Federal Funding Gaps: A Brief Overview*, by James V. Saturno. For information on federal employee furloughs, see CRS In Focus IF11703, *Federal Employee Furloughs: Types and Implications*, by Taylor N. Riccard.

This report will be updated as additional resources are identified.

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Introduction

When federal government agencies and programs lack budget authority after the expiration of either full-year or interim appropriations, they experience a “funding gap,” also known as a lapse in appropriations. In many cases, under the Antideficiency Act (31 U.S.C. §§1341 et seq.), agencies and programs affected by a funding gap must cease operations—except in certain circumstances when continued activities are authorized by law. When there is a funding gap that affects many federal entities, the situation is often referred to as a government shutdown.¹

In the past, there have occasionally been funding gaps that led to government shutdowns, one of which from FY1996 lasted 21 full days, from December 16, 1995, to January 6, 1996. A shutdown occurred at the beginning of FY2014 (October 1, 2013) and lasted for a total of 16 full days. Subsequently, two comparatively brief shutdowns occurred during FY2018, in January and February 2018, respectively.² The second-to-longest shutdown occurred in FY2019—beginning at the end of the day on December 21, 2018, and lasting 34 full days. The most recent, and longest shutdown to date, started in FY2026 on October 1, 2025, and lasted for a total of 42 full days. A subsequent funding lapse related to six unresolved FY2026 appropriations bills began on January 30, 2026. Full-year funding for five of those bills—Defense, Financial Services and General Government (FSGG), Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (LHHSED), National Security-State, and Transportation-HUD—was signed by the President on February 3, 2026, along with Homeland Security continuing appropriations through February 13, 2026. A funding lapse for Homeland Security funding began on February 14, 2026.

This report provides historical documents and other resources related to past government shutdowns, along with brief annotations that describe the contents of the documents. In general, the report focuses on shutdowns broadly and so includes resources that address circumstances relating to multiple agencies and programs. The report does not generally include resources that relate to any single specific agency or program. However, congressional hearings—even when focused on a single agency or programmatic area—will at times take a broader look at the impact of shutdowns, so this CRS report includes selected hearings. The report includes links to full-text documents when available. While there is limited information and guidance related to shutdowns, and it is difficult to predict what might happen in the event of one, information about past events may help inform future deliberations.

¹ As explained in other CRS reports, although a shutdown may be the result of a funding gap, the two events are distinguishable. This is because a funding gap may result in a shutdown of all affected projects or activities in some instances but not in others. For example, when a funding gap is of a short duration, such as just a few hours, agencies may not have enough time to complete a shutdown of affected projects and activities before funding is restored. In addition, the Office of Management and Budget has previously indicated that a shutdown of agency operations within the first day of a funding gap may be postponed or avoided if it appears that funding through a continuing resolution or regular appropriations act is likely to be enacted that same day. If funding resumes on the first day after previous funding expires, then funding was technically available that day, and no funding gap is said to occur. Alternatively, if decisionmakers in the executive branch are uncertain that funding will resume at some point on that day, they may not prevent a shutdown during that day. Consequently, an agency function might shut down for a day even if funding technically resumes sometime during that day (i.e., activities may be shut down in the absence of a funding gap). CRS is able to authoritatively count full days of a funding gap but not necessarily what counts as a “shutdown” in some circumstances. For discussion of distinguishing shutdowns from funding gaps, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass. For discussion of funding gaps from FY1977 to present and their duration in full days, see CRS Report RS20348, *Federal Funding Gaps: A Brief Overview*, by James V. Saturno.

² Information about historical context in this section was provided by Clinton Brass. For more information on government shutdowns, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass.

The following annotated resources are meant to guide readers to relevant materials from governmental and selected nongovernmental sources.

Congressional Research Service Products

The following CRS products include information related to past government shutdowns.

CRS Products

- CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass
The report discusses the causes, processes, and effects of federal government shutdowns, including potential issues for Congress.
- CRS Report R47693, *Government Shutdowns and Executive Branch Operations: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)*, coordinated by Taylor N. Riccard
The report addresses frequently asked questions that relate to operations of executive branch agencies and programs.
- CRS Insight IN12259, *Government Shutdowns and Legislative Branch Operations: Frequently Asked Questions*, by Ida A. Brudnick
The Insight addresses frequently asked questions that relate to operations of the legislative branch.
- CRS Report RS20348, *Federal Funding Gaps: A Brief Overview*, by James V. Saturno
The report provides a discussion of funding gaps in recent decades and a more detailed chronology of legislative actions and funding gaps that led to the two shutdowns of FY1996 and the single shutdown of FY2014.
- CRS Legal Sidebar LSB10243, *How a Government Shutdown Affects Government Contracts*, by David H. Carpenter
The Legal Sidebar briefly covers potential effects of a shutdown on new and existing contracts.
- CRS In Focus IF11703, *Federal Employee Furloughs: Types and Implications*, by Taylor N. Riccard
The In Focus includes brief descriptions of federal employee furlough types and procedures.
- CRS Report R41723, *Funding Gaps and Government Shutdowns: CRS Experts*, coordinated by Dominick A. Fiorentino and Clinton T. Brass
The report provides names and contact information for CRS staff who are available to address questions relating to policy, procedural, and legal aspects of funding gaps and government shutdowns.

- CRS Insight IN12248, *Economic Effects of Government Shutdowns*, by Lida R. Weinstock and Marc Labonte.³

The Insight discusses the economic effects of shutdowns, including effects on output, employment, and government spending.
- CRS Report R48832, *The 2025 (FY2026) Government Shutdown: Economic Effects*, by Lida R. Weinstock and Marc Labonte

The report discusses the effects of the 2025 shutdown on economic output. The report also reviews third-party estimates of the effects of the shutdown on the economy.
- CRS Insight IN11011, *Economic Effects of the FY2019 Government Shutdown*, by Marc Labonte

The Insight briefly covers the FY2019 shutdown and its effects on economic activity and employment.⁴
- CRS Report R43292, *The FY2014 Government Shutdown: Economic Effects*, by Marc Labonte

The report discusses the effects of the FY2014 government shutdown on the economy and financial markets. It also reviews third-party estimates of the effects of the shutdown on the economy.
- CRS Report R43250, *CRS Resources on the FY2014 Funding Gap, Shutdown, and Status of Appropriations*, by Justin Murray

The brief report includes short annotations and links to CRS products related to the October 2013 government shutdown.⁵

Government Accountability Office

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)⁶ has published reports and other resources on past and potential future shutdowns. GAO also maintains a website with resources related to “Shutdowns/Lapses in Appropriations” at <https://www.gao.gov/legal/appropriations-law/lapses-in-appropriations>. In addition to providing links to specific GAO legal decisions on shutdowns, this site also provides brief context on lapses in appropriations and links to selected GAO testimony on shutdowns.

- U.S. General Accounting Office, *Funding Gaps Jeopardize Federal Government Operations*, PAD-81-31, March 3, 1981, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/PAD-81-31>.⁷

³ This product is currently listed as archived by CRS. An archived CRS product is no longer being updated but is available on CRS.gov.

⁴ This product is currently listed as archived by CRS. An archived CRS product is no longer being updated but is available on CRS.gov.

⁵ This product is currently listed as archived by CRS. An archived CRS product is no longer being updated but is available on CRS.gov.

⁶ Until 2004, GAO was called the General Accounting Office.

⁷ Information about historical context in this section was provided by Clinton Brass. For more information on government shutdowns, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass.

According to this GAO report, as of March 1981, “interruptions in federal agency funding at the beginning of the fiscal year (FY) and operations on continuing resolutions [had] become the norm rather than the exception.” For years, many federal agencies continued to operate during a funding gap, while “minimizing all nonessential operations and obligations, believing that Congress did not intend that agencies close down” while waiting for the enactment of annual appropriations acts or continuing resolutions.

During the FY1981 appropriations process, the President requested opinions on the Antideficiency Act from the then-U.S. Attorney General, Benjamin Civiletti.⁸ In two memoranda issued in 1980 and 1981, the Attorney General stated that the act required agencies to terminate all operations when their current appropriations expired. According to GAO, agencies were uncertain how to respond to the Attorney General’s opinion and what activities they would be able to continue if appropriations expired.

The GAO report outlines some of the problems surrounding late appropriations and funding gaps. It also includes Attorney General Civiletti’s opinions within Appendices IV and VIII.⁹

- U.S. General Accounting Office, *Cost of the Recent Partial Shutdown of Government Offices*, PAD-82-24, December 10, 1981, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/PAD-82-24>.

According to GAO, this report was completed “in response to congressional requests,” for which “GAO contacted 13 cabinet departments and 12 selected agencies and offices to obtain information about the costs of a 1981 partial shutdown of government offices.” It includes cost estimates, background information about the costs, and GAO recommendations to Congress concerning agency operations in the event of a government shutdown.

- U.S. General Accounting Office, *Government Shutdown: Permanent Funding Lapse Legislation Needed*, GGD-91-76, June 6, 1991, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/GGD-91-76>.

In 1990, GAO issued a questionnaire to government agencies in an attempt to measure the effects of a partial shutdown which occurred on Columbus Day weekend. The report also includes estimates on the effects of a hypothetical three-day shutdown during a nonholiday workweek.

- U.S. General Accounting Office, *Government Shutdown: Funding Lapse Furlough Information*, GGD-96-52R, December 1, 1995, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/GGD-96-52R>.

GAO was asked to provide available information on the numbers of federal employees who might have been subject to furlough in the event of a second shutdown in 1995. GAO provided numbers that were based on plans provided by OMB to GAO in October 1995. The numbers included within the document do not represent actual furloughs. The

⁸ Benjamin Civiletti was U.S. Attorney General from 1979 to 1981.

⁹ The opinions stated that, with some exceptions, the head of an agency could avoid violating the Antideficiency Act only by suspending the agency’s operations until the enactment of an appropriation. In the absence of appropriations, exceptions would be allowed only when there is “some reasonable and articulable connection between the function to be performed and the safety of human life or the protection of property.” For discussion of exemptions, see U.S. GAO, *Principles of Federal Appropriations Law*, 3rd ed., vol., GAO-06-382SP, February 2006, ch. 6, pp. 6-146–6-159, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-06-382SP>.

numbers represent planned furloughs in advance of the two shutdowns, which occurred later in November and December-January.

- U.S. Government Accountability Office, *2013 Government Shutdown: Three Departments Reporting Varying Degrees of Impacts on Operations, Grants, and Contracts*, GAO-15-86, November 14, 2014, available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-86>.

GAO reviewed how the 2013 shutdown affected some operations and services at three departments: the Departments of Energy, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Transportation (DOT). GAO selected these three departments for review based on the value of grants and contracts, the percentage of employees expected to be furloughed, and the potential for longer-term effects.

GAO recommended that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) instruct agencies to document lessons learned in planning for and implementing a shutdown, as well as for resuming activities following a shutdown should a funding gap longer than five days occur in the future. OMB staff did not state whether they agreed or disagreed with the recommendation.

- U.S. Government Accountability Office, *FY2019 Government Shutdown: Selected Agencies Could Improve Contingency Planning for Potential Shutdown Scenarios and Strengthen Some Internal Controls*, GAO-20-377, June 1, 2020, available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-20-377>.

GAO examined four agencies' contingency plans and operations during the FY2019 shutdown and reported recommendations for future potential shutdowns.

House and Senate Committee Prints and Hearings

Committee Prints

The following committee print includes historical information on a past government shutdown.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, *Cost of Shutting Down Federal Government on November 23, 1981*, committee print, 97th Congress, 2nd session, March 25, 1982 (Washington: GPO, 1982), available at <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/pur1.32754077662413>.

The committee print assessed the cost of the November 23, 1981, shutdown of federal offices resulting from a presidential veto of a continuing resolution for FY1982. It includes individual federal departments' and agencies' shutdown impact assessments that were collected by GAO (pp. 73-212).¹⁰ It also includes cost estimates, an OMB memorandum, and a presidential veto statement.

Hearings

The following are congressional hearings that include historical information on past shutdowns. Some of these hearings include items for the record such as OMB memoranda.

¹⁰ U.S. General Accounting Office, *Cost of the Recent Partial Shutdown of Government Offices*, PAD-82-24, December 10, 1981, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/PAD-82-24>.

- U.S. Congress, House and Senate Committees on the Budget, *Effects of Potential Government Shutdown*, hearing, 104th Congress, 1st session, September 19, 1995 (Washington: GPO, 1995), available at <http://www.archive.org/stream/effectsofpotenti00unit>.

The hearing took place before the November 1995 shutdown, and it examined potential scenarios if a shutdown were to occur. The hearing includes testimony from Walter Dellinger, Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, and Alice M. Rivlin, Director, OMB. The hearing includes additional materials such as articles, letters from the Federal Reserve System, and a memo¹¹ from Walter Dellinger to Alice Rivlin.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Civil Service, *Government Shutdown I: What's Essential?* hearings, 104th Congress, 1st session, December 6, and 14, 1995 (Washington: GPO 1997), available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-104hhr23275/pdf/CHRG-104hhr23275.pdf>.

These hearings were held in December 1995 and generally covered the November 1995 shutdown.¹² Because the hearings were not published until 1997, some additional information related to the December 1995-January 1996 government shutdown is included.¹³

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Resources, *State Service Donations in Budgetary Shutdowns*, hearing, 104th Congress, 1st session, December 5, 1995 (Washington: GPO 1996), available at <http://www.archive.org/stream/stateservicedona00unit>.

The hearing was held to consider legislation¹⁴ that would have directed the Department of the Interior to accept donations of assistance from state governments' employee services for operating national parks and wildlife refuges during federal government shutdowns.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, *As Difficult As Possible: The National Park Service's Implementation of the Government Shutdown*, hearing, 113th Congress, 1st session, October 16, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113hhr88621/pdf/CHRG-113hhr88621.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown and looked at the National Park Service's implementation of the government shutdown.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, *Effect of Government Shutdown on VA Benefits and Services to Veterans*, hearing, 113th Congress, 1st

¹¹ U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel, *Government Operation in the Event of a Lapse in Appropriations*, memorandum from Walter Dellinger, Assistant Attorney General, for Alice Rivlin, Director, Office of Management and Budget, August 16, 1995. Reprinted in the hearing print at pp. 77-85.

¹² The hearing print includes inserted material from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) *Shutdown Plan, September 1995*, pp. 80-90; VA, *Agency Shutdown Guidance*, August 14, 1995, pp. 119-131; VA, *Lapse of Appropriation Furlough Guidance*, September 19, 1995, pp. 132-151; and VA, *Updated Plans for Implementing a Government Shutdown*, December 14, 1995, pp. 354-374.

¹³ The hearing includes an OMB letter with information about the effects of the shutdowns and counts of employees who were excepted and not excepted from furlough; see pp. 266-270 and 272-274.

¹⁴ Includes the text of H.R. 2677 and H.R. 2706, 104th Cong.

session, October 9, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113hhr85863/pdf/CHRG-113hhr85863.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown and focused on the impact of the shutdown on benefits payments and services for veterans.

- U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, *Impacts of the Government Shutdown on Our Economic Security*, hearing, 113th Congress, 1st session, October 11, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113shrg93946/pdf/CHRG-113shrg93946.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown and focused on the possible and emerging economic and other impacts related to the shutdown.

- U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, *Small Businesses Speak: Surviving the Government Shutdown?* hearing, 113th Congress, 1st session, October 15, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113shrg87989/pdf/CHRG-113shrg87989.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown and it examined the impacts the shutdown was having on small businesses.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Readiness, *The Interpretation of H.R. 3210: 'Pay Our Military Act'*, hearing, 113th Congress, 1st session, October 10, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113hhr85325/pdf/CHRG-113hhr85325.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown, and it examined interpretations of H.R. 3210, the Pay Our Military Act, which ultimately was enacted as P.L. 113-39.

- U.S. Congress, Senate Joint Economic Committee, *The Way Forward: Long-Term Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth*, hearing, 113th Congress, 1st session, October 11, 2013, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-113jhr85408/pdf/CHRG-113jhr85408.pdf>.

The hearing was held during the October 2013 shutdown. The hearing examined policy options for ending the shutdown and addressing the debt ceiling, and it also reviewed potential solutions to promote fiscal sustainability and economic growth.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, *The Power of the Purse: A Review of Agency Spending Restrictions During a Shutdown*, hearing, 116th Congress, 1st session, February 6, 2019. Select testimony and video footage available at <https://democrats-appropriations.house.gov/legislation/hearings/the-power-of-the-purse-a-review-of-agency-spending-restrictions-during-a>.

The hearing examined the FY2019 shutdown and agency restrictions.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, *Shutdown Lessons: SBA Capital Access Programs*, hearing 116th Congress, 1st session, February 26, 2019, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-116hhr34741/pdf/CHRG-116hhr34741.pdf>.

The hearing examined the FY2019 partial government shutdown and impacts on the Small Business Administration (SBA) and small business access to capital.

- U.S. Congress, House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Governmental Operations, *Government Shutdowns: Contract Killers*, hearing, 116th Congress, 1st session, May 6, 2019, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-116hhrg36438/pdf/CHRG-116hhrg36438.pdf>.

The field hearing examined the impact on federal contractors from the FY2019 partial shutdown.

- U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, Business Meeting on S. Res. 526, *A Resolution Withholding the Pay of Senators If a Government Shutdown Occurs*, hearing 119th Congress, 1st session, December 11, 2025. Video of the hearing is available from the Senate Rules Committee website at <https://www.rules.senate.gov/hearings/business-meeting-12-11-2025>.¹⁵

Office of Management and Budget

Guidance Documents for Agencies

OMB documents and guidance regarding potential or actual funding gaps and shutdowns may provide insights into current and future practices. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has provided links to copies of previous OMB bulletins and memoranda for reference.¹⁶ The website, entitled *Pay & Leave Furlough Guidance: Shutdown Furlough*, is available at <http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/furlough-guidance/#url=Shutdown-Furlough>.¹⁷

Some of the OMB documents include the following:

- OMB Bulletin No. 80-14, *Shutdown of Agency Operations Upon Failure by the Congress to Enact Appropriations*, August 28, 1980 (citing the 1980 Civiletti opinion¹⁸ and requiring agencies to develop shutdown plans);
- OMB Memorandum, *Agency Operations in the Absence of Appropriations*, November 17, 1981 (referencing OMB Bulletin No. 80-14; stating the 1981

¹⁵ This hearing was held on December 11, 2025, and is currently not yet available from the GPO.

¹⁶ Some of these documents have been reproduced within legislative branch documents mentioned within this report. See U.S. Congress, House and Senate Committees on the Budget, *Effects of Potential Government Shutdown*, hearing 104th Cong., 1st sess., September 19, 1995, pp. 77-85; U.S. General Accounting Office, *Funding Gaps Jeopardize Federal Government Operations*, Appendices V, VI, and VII; and U.S. Congress, House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Civil Service, *Government Shutdown I: What's Essential?*, hearings, 104th Cong., 1st sess., December 6, and 14, 1995, pp. 99-112, 121-131, and 428-430.

¹⁷ OMB Circular No. A-11 provides guidance to agencies on preparing the upcoming fiscal year budget and instructions on budget execution. The entire Circular A-11 is available as follows: OMB, *Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*, Circular A-11, August 2025, §124, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/a11.pdf>. For information about OMB, see CRS Report RS21665, *Office of Management and Budget (OMB): An Overview*, coordinated by Taylor N. Riccard.

¹⁸ For the 1980 Civiletti opinion, see U.S. General Accounting Office, *Funding Gaps Jeopardize Federal Government Operations*, PAD-81-31, March 3, 1981, pp. 63-69, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/PAD-81-31>.

- Civiletti opinion¹⁹ remains in effect; and providing examples of “excepted activities” that may be continued under a funding gap);
- OMB Bulletin No. 80-14, Supplement No. 1, *Agency Operations in the Absence of Appropriations*, August 20, 1982 (“updating” OMB Bulletin No. 80-14 and newly requiring agencies to submit contingency plans for review by OMB);
 - OMB Memorandum M-91-02, *Agency Operations in the Absence of Appropriations*, October 5, 1990 (referencing OMB Bulletin No. 80-14; stating that OMB Bulletin No. 80-14 was “amended” by the OMB Memorandum of November 17, 1981; stating the 1981 Civiletti opinion remains in effect; and directing agencies how to respond to an anticipated funding gap that would begin during the weekend);
 - OMB Memorandum M-95-18, *Agency Plans for Operations During Funding Hiatus*, August 22, 1995 (referencing OMB Bulletin No. 80-14, as amended; citing the 1981 Civiletti opinion; transmitting to agencies a 1995 Office of Legal Counsel opinion as an “update” to the 1981 Civiletti opinion;²⁰ and directing agencies to send updated contingency plans to OMB);
 - OMB Memorandum M-13-22, *Planning for Agency Operations during a Potential Lapse in Appropriations*, September 17, 2013 (citing Section 124 of Circular A-11 and providing guidance and coordinating efforts to facilitate contingency planning in accordance with the Antideficiency Act); and
 - OMB Memorandum M-18-05, *Planning for Agency Operations during a Potential Lapse in Appropriations*, January 19, 2018 (citing Section 124 of Circular A-11 and providing guidance and coordinating efforts to facilitate contingency planning in accordance with the Antideficiency Act).

OMB also provides agencies with annual instructions in *Circular No. A-11* on how to prepare for and operate during a funding gap.

- U.S. Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget, *Circular No. A-11: Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*, August 2025, Section 124, available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/a11.pdf>.

The circular, published at least annually, articulates “policies” regarding the absence of appropriations. The circular also directs agency heads to develop and maintain shutdown plans according to a schedule specified in the circular. Although the circular’s contents may change from year to year, in the past, the circular has usually called for agency heads to use the Civiletti opinions, a 1995 Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel opinion, and the circular to “decide what agency activities are excepted or otherwise legally authorized to continue during a lapse in appropriations.”²¹

¹⁹ For the 1981 Civiletti opinion, see U.S. General Accounting Office, *Funding Gaps Jeopardize Federal Government Operations*, PAD-81-31, March 3, 1981, pp. 77-92, available at <http://www.gao.gov/products/PAD-81-31>.

²⁰ U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel, *Government Operation in the Event of a Lapse in Appropriations*, memorandum from Walter Dellinger, Assistant Attorney General, for Alice Rivlin, Director, Office of Management and Budget, August 16, 1995, reprinted in U.S. Congress, House and Senate Committees on the Budget, *Effects of Potential Government Shutdown*, hearing, 104th Cong., 1st sess., September 19, 1995 (Washington: GPO, 1995), pp. 77-85, available at <http://www.archive.org/details/effectsofpotenti00unit>.

²¹ U.S. Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *Circular No. A-11*, Section 124.1, August 2025. For the Department of Justice, Office of Legal Counsel document, see U.S. Congress, House and Senate (continued...)

Agency Contingency Plans

In recent years, OMB hosted a website with links to agency shutdown contingency plans arranged by agency. As of the last update of this CRS report, the OMB website no longer provides links to agency contingency plans.²²

OMB currently provides access to a “Frequently Asked Questions During a Lapse in Appropriations” document that is available on the OMB “Miscellaneous” web page at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/information-resources/guidance/miscellaneous/>. See Section IV of the document on “Orderly Shutdowns” and Question 20, which refers to the use of agency contingency plans and OMB Circular A-11, Section 124.²³

A link to the contingency plan for the Executive Office of the President is also currently available on the OMB “Miscellaneous” site; however, individual agency department and agency contingency plans are posted on individual department and agency websites.²⁴

Impacts and Costs of Shutdowns

FY1996

The hearing entitled *Government Shutdown I: What’s Essential?* (cited earlier in this report) includes some estimates related to the December 1995–January 1996 shutdowns. It includes an OMB letter with information about the effects of the shutdowns and counts of employees who were excepted and not excepted from furlough; see pp. 266-270 and 272-274. The hearing is available at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CHRG-104hhrg23275/pdf/CHRG-104hhrg23275.pdf>.

FY2014

OMB released a report on November 7, 2013, with some estimates on the cost of the October 2013 shutdown. The report includes information on federal employee furloughs, economic effects

Committees on the Budget, *Effects of Potential Government Shutdown*, hearing, 104th Cong., 1st sess., September 19, 1995 (Washington: GPO, 1995), pp. 77-85, available at <http://www.archive.org/details/effectsofpotenti00unit>. For more information on federal government shutdown causes, processes, and effects, including some of the history of how guidance within the executive branch has evolved, see CRS Report RL34680, *Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects*, coordinated by Clinton T. Brass.

²² For past versions of this web page from previous administrations, see OMB, “Agency Contingency Plans,” <https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/information-for-agencies/agency-contingency-plans/>, and “Agency Contingency Plans,” <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/information-for-agencies/agency-contingency-plans/>, both archived at U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, “Archived Presidential White House Websites,” <https://www.archives.gov/presidential-records/research/archived-white-house-websites>. As of the date of this report, OMB’s public website does not provide links to agency shutdown plans. Some organizations and press outlets also may engage in continuous reporting on topics relating to shutdown plans. An illustrative example of these types of resources includes “Here’s a look at Federal Agencies’ Shutdown Contingency Plans,” *Federal News Network*, September 30, 2025, available at <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/government-shutdown/2025/09/heres-a-look-at-federal-agencies-contingency-plans-as-shutdown-looms/>.

²³ See OMB, *Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*, Circular A-11, August 2025, Section 124, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/a11.pdf>. For information about OMB, see CRS Report RS21665, *Office of Management and Budget (OMB): An Overview*, coordinated by Taylor N. Riccard.

²⁴ For examples, see “Department of Commerce, Plan for an Orderly Shutdown Due to Lapse of Congressional Appropriations, September 29, 2025,” available at <https://www.commerce.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/DOC-Lapse-Plan-2025.pdf>.

of the shutdown, and some impact estimates related to select programs.²⁵ The report is available at <http://web.archive.org/web/20140701035515/http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/reports/impacts-and-costs-of-october-2013-federal-government-shutdown-report.pdf>.

FY2019

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a report on January 28, 2019, with some estimates of effects of the December 2018–January 2019 partial government shutdown. The report includes estimates related to the shutdown’s effect on discretionary spending, economic activity, and GDP. The report is available at <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/54937>.

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs released a bipartisan historical retrospective report examining the costs and effects of FY2014 and FY2019 shutdowns. See U.S. Congress, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, *The True Cost of Government Shutdowns*, staff report (“majority and minority”), September 17, 2019 at https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/investigations/library/files/majority-and-minority-staff-report_-the-true-cost-of-government-shutdowns/.

FY2026

During the FY2026 Shutdown, CBO released two reports in October 2025 on the estimated economic effects of the shutdown as follows:

- On October 17, 2025, CBO released a letter in response to a request from the House Budget Committee Chairman to provide a “Qualitative Analysis of the Effects of the Government Shutdown on the Economy (as of October 17, 2025).” The report is available at <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/61822>.
- On October 29, 2025, CBO released a letter also in response to a request from the Chairman of the House Budget Committee to provide a “Quantitative Analysis of the Effects of the Government Shutdown on the Economy Under Three Scenarios (as of October 29, 2025).” The report presented estimates of the effects under three scenarios: a four-week shutdown (ending October 29, 2025), a six-week shutdown (ending November 12, 2025), and an eight-week shutdown (ending November 26, 2025). The report is available at <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/61823>.

Office of Personnel Management

OPM has some information publicly available on the internet related to government shutdowns and furloughs.

- U.S. Office of Personnel Management, *Pay & Leave Furlough Guidance*, available at <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/furlough-guidance/#url=Shutdown-Furlough>.

²⁵ An accompanying OMB blog post entitled *Impacts and Costs of the Government Shutdown* is available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2013/11/07/impacts-and-costs-government-shutdown>.

The website includes links to guidance related to administrative and shutdown furloughs. The shutdown portion of the website includes the following additional references to historical guidance:

- U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Memorandum to Agencies on Retroactive Pay and Other Matters, October 17, 2013;
- U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Information on Paychecks for September 22 through October 5, 2013 Pay Period;
- U.S. Office of Personnel Management, *Guidance for Shutdown Furloughs*, September 2015;
- U.S. Chief Human Capital Council, Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies. Fact Sheet: Pay and Benefits Information for Employees Affected by the Lapse in Appropriations, January 23, 2019;
- U.S. Chief Human Capital Council, Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies. Government Fair Treatment Act of 2019, January 23, 2019;
- U.S. Chief Human Capital Council, Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies. Telework and other Workplace Flexibilities for Excepted Employees during a Lapse in Appropriations, January 23, 2019;
- U.S. Chief Human Capital Council, Memorandum for U.S. Chief Human Capital Officers, CPM 2025-14, Employee Pay, Leave, Benefits, and Other Human Resources Programs Affected by the Lapse in Appropriations, November 12, 2025, available at <https://www.opm.gov/chcoc/latest-memos/employee-pay-leave-benefits-and-other-human-resources-programs-affected-by-the-lapse-in-appropriations/>; and
- U.S. Chief Human Capital Council, Memorandum for Chief Human Capital Officers Reduction in Force Actions Affected by Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026, November 13, 2025, available at <https://www.opm.gov/chcoc/published-memos/reduction-in-force-actions-affected-by-continuing-appropriations-act-2026/>.

Presidential Materials

The following documents are from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), current Administration websites, and the Government Publishing Office (GPO).²⁶ These documents cover illustrative statements made by Presidents and Administration officials during government shutdowns and are arranged by date.

²⁶ See the GPO Gov Info “Compilation of Presidential Documents” website at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/cpd/2025>.

Presidential Statements Related to FY1996 Shutdowns

The November 1995 Shutdown

Historical Context.²⁷ The November 1995 shutdown began on November 14, 1995, and ended on November 19, 1995. An estimated 800,000 federal employees were furloughed during the five full days of the shutdown.²⁸ The furlough action was due to the expiration of a continuing resolution (P.L. 104-31), which funded the government through November 13, 1995. On November 13, President William Clinton vetoed a second continuing resolution (H.J.Res. 115) and a debt limit extension bill (H.R. 2586) and instructed agencies to begin shutdown operations. The following presidential statements occurred during this time period.

- U.S. President (Clinton), November 13, 1995, *President's Message to Congress on Continuing Resolution Veto*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/11/1995-11-13-president-message-to-congress-on-continuing-res-veto.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), November 14, 1995, *Statement by the President on Government Shutdown*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/11/1995-11-14-for-the-record-president-on-government-shutdown.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), November 17, 1995, *Transmittal to Congress of Presidential C.R.*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/11/1995-11-17-transmittal-to-congress-of-presidential-cr.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), November 18, 1995, *Radio Address by the President to the Nation*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/11/1995-11-18-radio-address-by-the-president-to-the-nation.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), November 19, 1995, *Statement by the President on Budget Agreement*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/11/1995-11-19-statement-by-the-president-on-budget-agreement.html>.

The December 1995-January 1996 Shutdown

Historical Context.²⁹ The December 1995-January 1996 shutdown began on December 16, 1995, and ended on January 6, 1996. The shutdown was triggered by the expiration of a continuing funding resolution enacted on November 20, 1995 (P.L. 104-56), which funded the government through December 15, 1995. The shutdown officially ended on January 6, with the passage of three continuing resolutions (CRs) (P.L. 104-91, P.L. 104-92, and P.L. 104-94). There were five additional short-term continuing resolutions needed to prevent further funding gaps from occurring through April 26, 1996, when the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134) was enacted to fund any agencies or programs not yet funded through FY1996. The following presidential statements occurred during the time period of December 15, 1995, through January 6, 1996.

- U.S. President (Clinton), December 15, 1995, *Statement by the President on Budget Negotiations*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/12/1995-12-15-president-statement-on-budget-negotiations.html>.

²⁷ Jessica Tollestrup, CRS Specialist in Social Policy, provided information about the historical context in this section.

²⁸ See U.S. Congress, House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Civil Service, *Government Shutdown I: What's Essential?* hearings, 104th Cong., 1st sess., December 6, and 14, 1995, p. 4.

²⁹ Jessica Tollestrup, CRS Specialist in Social Policy, provided information about the historical context in this section.

- U.S. President (Clinton), December 16, 1995, *Radio Address by the President to the Nation*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/12/1995-12-16-radio-address-by-the-president-to-the-nation.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), December 18, 1995, *Statement by the President on the Budget*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/12/1995-12-18-statement-by-the-president-on-the-budget.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), December 22, 1995, *Statement by the President on Signing House Joint Res. 136*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/12/1995-12-22-president-statement-on-signing-house-joint-res.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), December 23, 1995, *Radio Address by the President to the Nation*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1995/12/1995-12-23-radio-address-by-the-president-to-the-nation.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), January 4, 1996, *Statement by the President on House Joint Resolution 153*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1996/01/1996-01-04-president-statement-on-house-joint-resolution.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), January 6, 1996, *Statement by the President on Balanced Budget Proposal*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1996/01/1996-01-06-president-remarks-on-balanced-budget-proposal.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), January 6, 1996, *Statement by the President in Signing H.R. 1358*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1996/01/1996-01-06-president-statement-in-signing-hr.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), January 6, 1996, *Statement by the President in Signing H.R. 1643*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1996/01/1996-01-06-president-statement-in-signing-hr-a.html>.
- U.S. President (Clinton), January 6, 1996, *Radio Address by the President to the Nation*, available at <https://clintonwhitehouse6.archives.gov/1996/01/1996-01-06-radio-address-by-the-president-to-the-nation.html>.

Presidential Statements Related to FY2014 Shutdown

Historical Context.³⁰ A shutdown occurred at the beginning of FY2014 (October 1, 2013) and lasted for a total of 16 full days. At the beginning of the fiscal year, none of the 12 regular appropriations bills for FY2014 were enacted. In addition, a continuing resolution to provide temporary funding for the previous year’s projects and activities had also not been enacted. On September 30, however, an automatic continuing resolution was enacted that covered FY2014 pay and allowances for (1) certain members of the Armed Forces, (2) certain Department of Defense (DOD) civilian personnel, and (3) other specified DOD and Department of Homeland Security contractors (P.L. 113-39).³¹

A continuing resolution was signed into law (P.L. 113-46) on October 17, 2013, which ended the shutdown and allowed government departments and agencies to reopen. The following presidential statements occurred during the time period of September 30, 2013, through October 19, 2013, and included discussion of the shutdown.

³⁰ Jessica Tollestrup, CRS Specialist in Social Policy, provided information about the historical context in this section.

³¹ For more information on automatic continuing resolutions, see CRS Report R41948, *Automatic Continuing Resolutions: Background and Overview of Recent Proposals*, by Jessica Tollestrup.

- U.S. President (Obama), September 30, 2013, *Statement by the President*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/09/30/statement-president>.
- U.S. President (Obama), September 30, 2013, *Weekly Address: Averting a Government Shutdown and Expanding Access to Affordable Healthcare*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2013/09/28/weekly-address-averting-government-shutdown-and-expanding-access-affordable-healthca>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 1, 2013, *Remarks by the President on the Affordable Care Act and the Government Shutdown*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/10/01/remarks-president-affordable-care-act-and-government-shutdown>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 3, 2013, *Remarks by the President on the Government Shutdown*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/10/03/remarks-president-government-shutdown>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 5, 2013, *Weekly Address: End This Government Shutdown*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2013/10/05/your-weekly-address-end-government-shutdown>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 7, 2013, *Remarks by the President at FEMA Headquarters*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/10/07/remarks-president-fema-headquarters>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 12, 2013, *Weekly Address: Let's Get Back to the Work of the American People*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2013/10/12/weekly-address-let-s-get-back-work-american-people>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 16, 2013, *Statement by the President of the United States*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/10/16/statement-president-united-states>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 17, 2013, *Remarks by the President on the Reopening of the Government*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/10/17/remarks-president-reopening-government>.
- U.S. President (Obama), October 19, 2013, *Weekly Address: Working Together on Behalf of the American People*, available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2013/10/19/weekly-address-working-together-behalf-american-people>.

Presidential and Administration Statements Related to the FY2018 Shutdown

Historical Context.³² At the beginning of FY2018, none of the 12 regular appropriations bills had been enacted, so the federal government operated under a series of CRs. The first, P.L. 115-56, provided government-wide funding through December 8, 2017. The second, P.L. 115-90,

³² More details on the shutdown can be found in CRS Report RS20348, *Federal Funding Gaps: A Brief Overview*, by James V. Saturno.

extended funding through December 22, and the third, P.L. 115-96, extended it through January 19, 2018.

In the absence of agreement on legislation that would further extend the period of these CRs, a funding gap began with the expiration of P.L. 115-96 at midnight on January 19. A furlough of federal personnel began over the weekend and continued through Monday of the following week, ending with enactment of a fourth CR, P.L. 115-120, on January 22.

The following statements by the President and Administration officials occurred during the time period of January 19, 2018, through January 22, 2018, and included discussion of the shutdown.

- January 19, 2018, *Press Briefing by OMB Director Mick Mulvaney and Legislative Affairs Director Marc Short on the Potential Government Shutdown*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/press-briefing-by-omb-director-mick-mulvaney-and-legislative-affairs-director-marc-short-on-the-potential-government-shutdown01192018/>.
- January 20, 2018, *Press Briefing by OMB Director Mick Mulvaney and Legislative Affairs Director Marc Short on the Government Shutdown*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/press-briefing-omb-director-mick-mulvaney-legislative-affairs-director-marc-short-government-shutdown/>.
- U.S. President (Trump) January 22, 2018, *Statement from President Donald J. Trump*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-donald-j-trump-8/>.
- January 22, 2018, *Press Briefing by Press Secretary Sarah Sanders*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/press-briefing-press-secretary-sarah-sanders-012218/>.

Presidential Statements Related to FY2019 Shutdown

Historical Context. The December 2018-January 2019 government shutdown began on December 22, 2018, and ended on January 25, 2019. Five of the 12 regular appropriations bills for FY2019 had been enacted by the start of the fiscal year (October 1, 2018) in two separate consolidated appropriations acts (P.L. 115-245 and P.L. 115-298).³³ The remaining seven regular appropriations bills were funded from October 1, 2018, through December 21, 2018, under two consecutive CRs. The first CR, P.L. 115-245, provided funding for the remaining seven appropriations bills through December 7, 2018.³⁴ The second CR, P.L. 115-298, extended funding for these seven appropriations bills through December 21, 2018.³⁵ No new appropriations were enacted upon the expiration of P.L. 111-298. As a result, a funding gap affecting these seven regular appropriations bills for FY2019 began at midnight.

The funding gap ended when a CR was signed into law on January 25, 2019, covering the seven unenacted regular appropriations bills for FY2019 (P.L. 116-5). The government shutdown lasted

³³ P.L. 115-245 provided funding for Defense and Labor-HHS-ED, and P.L. 115-244 provided funding for Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Constructions-Veterans Affairs.

³⁴ Agriculture and Related Agencies; Commerce-Justice-Science and Related Agencies; Financial Service and General Government; Homeland Security; Interior; Environment, and Related Agencies; State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs; and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

³⁵ Agriculture and Related Agencies; Commerce-Justice-Science and Related Agencies; Financial Service and General Government; Homeland Security; Interior; Environment, and Related Agencies; State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs; and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

34 full days, making it the longest shutdown at that point in time, since key Department of Justice opinions were issued in 1980 and 1981. The following presidential statements occurred during the time period of December 21, 2018, through January 25, 2019, and included discussion of the shutdown.

- U.S. President (Trump), December 27, 2018, *Remarks by President Trump in Christmas Video Teleconference with Members of the Military*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-christmas-video-teleconference-members-military/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), January 4, 2019, *Remarks by President Trump After Meeting with Congressional Leadership on Border Security*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-meeting-congressional-leadership-border-security/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), January 8, 2019, *President Donald J. Trump's Address to the Nation on the Crisis at the Border*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trumps-address-nation-crisis-border/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), January 11, 2019, *Remarks by President Trump During Briefing at the Rio Grande Valley U.S.-Mexico Border*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-briefing-rio-grande-valley-u-s-mexico-border/>.
- U.S. Vice President (Pence) January 11, 2019, *Remarks by Vice President Pence Before Meet-and-Greet with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Employees*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-vice-president-pence-meet-greet-u-s-customs-border-patrol-employees/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), January 25, 2019, *Remarks by President Trump on the Government Shutdown*, available at <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-government-shutdown/>.

Presidential Statements Related to FY2026 Shutdown

Historical Context. None of the 12 FY2026 regular appropriations bills had been enacted by the start of the fiscal year on October 1, 2025. A funding gap affecting all 12 of the regular appropriations bills began on October 1, 2025, after a House-passed CR (H.R. 5371) failed to pass the Senate on two occasions in the days leading up to the end of the fiscal year (once on September 19 and once on September 30).³⁶ The funding gap and resulting government shutdown lasted 42 full days, ending on November 12, 2025, with the enactment of P.L. 119-37, which included three regular appropriations acts for FY2026 and a CR covering the remaining nine regular bills through January 30, 2026.

The FY2026 government shutdown lasted 42 full days, making it the longest shutdown since key Department of Justice opinions were issued in 1980 and 1981. The following selected presidential statements occurred during the time period of September 30, 2025, through November 12, 2025, and included discussion of the shutdown as noted below.

- U.S. President (Trump), September 30, 2025, *President Trump Gaggles with Press Before Departing the White House*, available at

³⁶ See also the entry for H.R. 5371 on the Continuing Resolutions tab of the FY2026 CRS Appropriations Status Table at <https://crs.gov/legislative/appropriations-status-table>.

- <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500969/pdf/DCPD-202500969.pdf>. See the section in the remarks on “Potential Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Illegal Immigration.”
- U.S. President (Trump), October 5, 2025, *Remarks and an Exchange with Reporters Upon Arrival from Norfolk, Virginia*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500981/pdf/DCPD-202500981.pdf>. See the section in remarks on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Federal Workforce Reduction Efforts.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 6, 2025, *Remarks on Signing a Decision Statement on the 2025 Ambler Road Project Appeal and an Exchange With Reporters*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500982/pdf/DCPD-202500982.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Health Insurance Exchanges.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 6, 2025, *Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada and an Exchange With Reports*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500987/pdf/DCPD-202500987.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Backpay for Furloughed Federal Employees.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 8, 2025, *Remarks in a Roundtable Discussion on the “Antifa” Organization and an Exchange With Reporters*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500989/pdf/DCPD-202500989.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Health Insurance Premium Subsidies.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 9, 2025, *Remarks in a Cabinet Meeting and Exchange With Reporters*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500992/pdf/DCPD-202500992.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Health Insurance Reforms.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 10, 2025, *Remarks on Prescription Drug Prices and an Exchange With Reporters*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202500996/pdf/DCPD-202500996.pdf>. See the section on “Federal Workforce Reduction Efforts/Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations.”
 - U.S. President (Trump) October 11, 2025, *Statement on the Lapse in Federal Appropriations*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501002/pdf/DCPD-202501002.pdf>.
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 12, 2025, *Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Aboard Air Force One En Route to Lod, Israel*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501004/pdf/DCPD-202501004.pdf>. See the section on “U.S. Cease-Fire Agreement Between Hamas and Israel/Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations.”
 - U.S. President (Trump), October 14, 2025, *Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure From Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501010/pdf/DCPD-202501010.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Illegal Immigration.”

- U.S. President (Trump), October 15, 2025, *Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2025 National Security Presidential Memorandum on Use of Available Department of War Funds for Military Pay and Allowances During the Lapse in Annual Appropriations*, National Security Presidential Memorandum/NSPM–8, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501017/pdf/DCPD-202501017.pdf>.
- U.S. President (Trump), October 15, 2025, *The President's News Conference*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501015/pdf/DCPD-202501015.pdf>. See section on “Former Department of Justice Special Counsel John L. Smith/Border Security/Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations.”
- U.S. President (Trump), October 16, 2025, *Remarks on Expanding Access to Fertility Care and In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) and an Exchange With Reporters*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501019/pdf/DCPD-202501019.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Insulin Costs.”
- U.S. President (Trump), October 17, 2025, *Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Upon Arrival in West Palm Beach, Florida*, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501027/pdf/DCPD-202501027.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/President Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine/Russia.”
- U.S. President (Trump), October 19, 2025, *Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Aboard Air Force One En Route to Joint Base Andrews, Maryland*, October 19, 2025, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202501029/pdf/DCPD-202501029.pdf>. See the section on “Lapse in Federal Government Appropriations/Illegal Immigration.”
- White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt, November 4, 2025, *Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt Briefs Members of the Media, Nov. 4, 2025*, available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/videos/press-secretary-karoline-leavitt-briefs-members-of-the-media-nov-4-2025/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), November 5, 2025, *President Trump Delivers Remarks at Breakfast with Republican Senators*, available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/videos/president-trump-delivers-remarks-at-breakfast-with-republican-senators/>.
- U.S. President (Trump), November 12, 2025, *President Trump Signs Senate Amendment to H.R. 5371*, available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/videos/president-trump-signs-senate-amendment-to-h-r-5371/>.

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