

Chart of the Day



The US Debt Ceiling was created by Congress during World War I with the intent of making it easier for the country to manage its finances and issue debt during a time of war. Since 1941, when the Public Debt Act passed to set a single limit on US debt, the US debt ceiling has been raised nearly 90x.

Years the US debt ceiling was raised since 1940

Period	Year	Period	Year	Period	Year	Period	Year
1940 - 1959	Jun 1940	1960 - 1979	Mar 1967	1980 - 1999	May 1983	2000 - 2023	Jun 2002
	Feb 1941		Jun 1967		Nov 1983		May 2003
	Mar 1942		Jun 1968		May 1984		Nov 2004
	Apr 1943		Apr 1969		Jun 1984		Mar 2006
	Jun 1944		Jun 1970		Oct 1984		Sep 2007
	Apr 1945		Mar 1971		Nov 1985		Jun 2008
	Jun 1946		Mar 1972		Dec 1985		Oct 2008
	Aug 1954		Oct 1972		Aug 1986		Feb 2009
	Jul 1956		Jun 1974		Oct 1986		Dec 2009
	Feb 1958		Feb 1975		May 1987		Feb 2010
	Sep 1958		Nov 1975		Sep 1987		Jan 2012
	Jun 1959		Mar 1976		Aug 1987		Feb 2013**
	Jun 1960		Jun 1976		Sep 1987		May 2013
Jun 1961	Sep 1976	Aug 1989	Oct 2013**				
Jul 1962	Apr 1977	Nov 1989	Feb 2014				
Mar 1963	Oct 1977	Aug 1990	Mar 2015				
Jun 1963	Aug 1978	Nov 1990	Oct 2015**				
Jun 1963	Apr 1979	Apr 1993	Mar 2017				
Jun 1963	Sep 1979	Aug 1993	Sep 2017**				
Jun 1963	Jun 1980	Oct 1990	Mar 2019				
Jun 1963	Dec 1980	Nov 1990	Aug 2019**				
Aug 1963	Feb 1981	Apr 1993	Jul 2021				
Nov 1963	Sep 1981	Aug 1993	Oct 2021				
Jun 1964	Jun 1982	Mar 1996	Dec 2021				
Jun 1965	Sep 1982	Aug 1997	Jun 2023?				

Note: **Indicates debt ceiling suspended rather than raised
Source: Congressional Research Service.

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“Macro stability isn’t everything, but without it, you have nothing.”