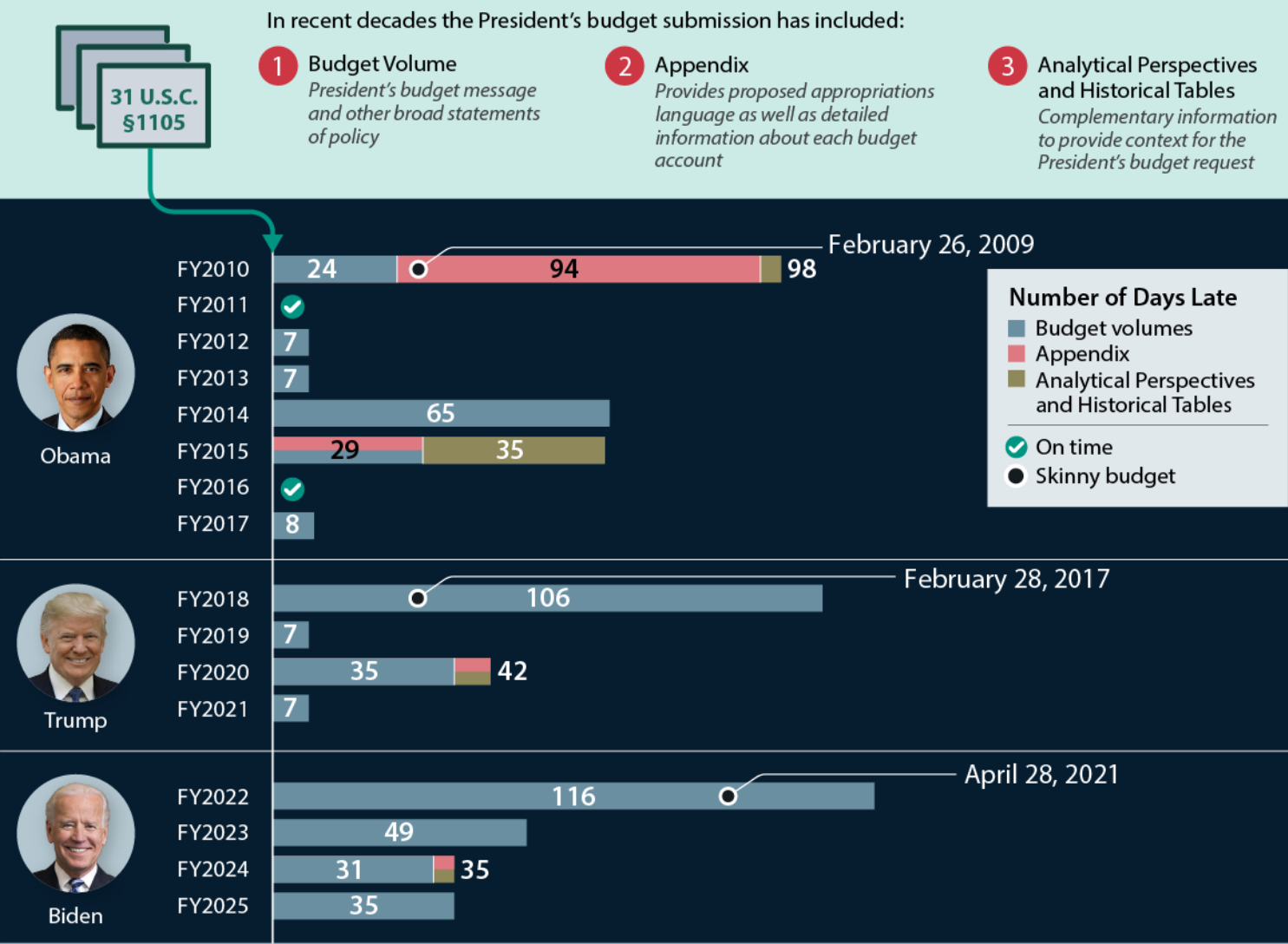


# TIMING of the President's Budget Submission to Congress: FY2010-FY2025

The President's budget is a statement of the President's policy priorities and a unified plan for the allocation of federal budgetary resources. Under [Title 31, Section 1105](#), of the *U.S. Code*, the President must develop and submit a consolidated budget to Congress no later than the first Monday in February prior to the start of the upcoming fiscal year. In practice, the President has delegated to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) certain budgetary tasks and authorities necessary for developing the budget and submitting it to Congress.

The President sometimes fails to meet the statutory submission deadline, particularly during presidential transition years. There is no statutorily established consequence for missing this submission deadline; however, a late submission could delay other aspects of the budget process.

## Composition of the Budget Submission



Number of Days Late

Budget volumes

Appendix

Analytical Perspectives and Historical Tables

On time

Skinny budget

## Presidential Transition Year Budgets

The transition from one presidential Administration to another raises special issues regarding the annual budget submission.

► An outgoing President was obligated to submit a budget because the submission deadline was earlier in the year\*

*Example: The budget for FY1990 was submitted by outgoing President Ronald Reagan instead of the incoming President George H. W. Bush*

Budget Enforcement Act of 1990

FEB

Changed the submission deadline to no later than the first Monday in February prior to the start of the upcoming fiscal year

► Outgoing President has the option to leave the annual budget submission to his or her successor

► All outgoing Presidents since 1990 have taken the option of leaving the budget submission to the incoming President

*Example: The budget for FY2022 was submitted by the incoming President Joe Biden instead of the outgoing President Donald Trump*

Pre-1990

1990

Post-1990

## "Skinny Budgets"

In advance of submitting a full budget to Congress, recent Presidents have opted, in the first year of their Administrations, to present preliminary, shorter budgets, sometimes called "skinny budgets."

In an Administration's first year, the full budget submission can be delayed due to the time needed to:

establish the new Administration's priorities, and

have key nominees confirmed.

In the meantime, these shorter documents typically contain:

preliminary budget requests, and

basic economic projections.

In the past, preliminary budget materials such as these have functioned as a preview of the complete President's budget to be submitted to Congress at a later date.

Sources: Pete Souza, *Official portrait of President-elect Barack Obama*, photograph, 2009, [www.loc.gov/item/2010647151](#). Shealah Craighead, *Official portrait of President Donald J. Trump*, photograph, October 6, 2017, [www.loc.gov/item/2017656484](#). David Lienemann, *Official portrait of Vice President Joe Biden in his West Wing office at the White House*, photograph, 2013, [www.loc.gov/item/2017645542](#).  
Information as of June 11, 2024. Prepared by Taylor N. Riccard, Analyst in Government Organization and Management; Mari Lee, Visual Information Specialist.  
\*For more information see CRS Report RS20752, *Submission of the President's Budget in Transition Years*; and CRS Report R47019, *The Executive Budget Process: An Overview*.

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