



The long and the short of it: some statistics on the Legislative Assembly for the ACT

As at 31 December 2024 (as amended)

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Contents

Legislative Assembly firsts	2
Speakers	2
Chief Ministers	3
Deputy Chief Ministers	4
Ministers	4
Leaders of the Opposition	8
Members	10
Women in Parliament	13
Legislation	14
Committees	14
Elections	15
Sittings	16
Petitions	17

Legislative Assembly firsts

First Speaker

David Prowse elected 11 May 1989

First Chief Minister

Rosemary Follett elected 11 May 1989

First Leader of the Opposition

Trevor Kaine elected 11 May 1989

First Indigenous member

Chris Bourke declared elected 1 June 2011

First Indigenous minister

Chris Bourke appointed 23 November 2011

First member suspended

Michael Moore¹ 7 December 1989

First Australian parliament with majority women members

Ninth Assembly 31 October 2016²

Remonstrance motions moved

Remonstrance—*Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988* [17 June 2009](#)

Remonstrance—Democratic rights of citizens of the ACT [16 August 2018](#)

Ngunnawal language Acknowledgement to Country

Speaker—First Acknowledgement of Country spoken in Ngunnawal language 30 July 2020

Speakers

Longest serving Speakers

Member	Term
Joy Burch	8 years, 7 days ³
Wayne Berry	6 years, 11 months, 25 days ⁴

¹ For failing to signify his vote (standing order 160)

² First sitting day of the Ninth Assembly, 13 women members sworn in out of 25 members (52%). The number of women members increased to 14 out of 25 (56%) after the death Steve Doszpot on 25 November 2017 who was replaced by Candice Burch. The number of women returned to 13 out of 25 (52%) with the resignation of Meegan Fitzharris who was replaced by Deepak Raj Gupta on 23 July 2019.

³ 31 October 2016 to 6 November 2024

⁴ 12 November 2001 to 5 November 2008

Member	Term
Greg Cornwell	6 years, 8 months, 4 days ⁵

Shortest serving Speakers

David Prowse	2 years, 10 months, 17 days ⁶
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Speaker who has named most members

Wayne Berry⁷

Chief Ministers

Oldest member to be elected Chief Minister

Trevor Kaine	61 years, 9 months, 19 days
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Oldest serving Chief Minister

Trevor Kaine	63 years, 3 months, 21 days
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Youngest members to be elected Chief Minister

Member	Age
Kate Carnell	39 years, 9 months, 10 days
Rosemary Follett	41 years, 1 month, 15 days
Katy Gallagher	41 years, 1 month, 29 days

Longest serving Chief Ministers

Member	Term
Andrew Barr	10 years, 21 days ^{8,9}
Jon Stanhope	9 years, 6 months, 1 day ¹⁰
Kate Carnell	5 years, 7 months, 9 days ¹¹

Shortest serving Chief Minister

Gary Humphries	1 year, 26 days ¹²
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⁵ 9 March 1995 to 12 November 2001

⁶ 11 May 1989 to 27 March 1992

⁷ During his period as Speaker, Wayne Berry named members 12 times

⁸ From 11 December 2014

⁹ As at 31 December 2024

¹⁰ 12 November 2001 to 12 May 2011

¹¹ 9 March 1995 to 17 October 2000

¹² 18 October 2000 to 12 November 2011

Chief Minister that served separate terms

Rosemary Follett:

First Term	6 months, 25 days ¹³
Second Term	3 years, 9 months, 4 days ¹⁴

Chief Minister that lost seat at election

Nil

Chief Ministers suspended

Jon Stanhope¹⁵ 20 August 2008

Deputy Chief Ministers

Longest serving Deputy Chief Minister

Yvette Berry 8 years, 2 months^{16,17}

Shortest serving Deputy Chief Minister

Trevor Kaine 18 days¹⁸

Ministers

Youngest members to become a minister

Male Member	Age
Simon Corbell	30 years, 11 months, 24 days
Gary Humphries	31 years, 5 months, 8 days
Chris Steel	32 years, 3 months, 12 days
Female Member	Age
Katy Gallagher	32 years, 9 months, 6 days
Tara Cheyne	33 years, 10 months, 6 days
Suzanne Orr	37 years, 6 months, 21 days

¹³ 11 May 1989 to 5 December 1989

¹⁴ 6 June 1991 to 9 March 1995

¹⁵ For persistently and wilfully disregarding the authority of the Chair

¹⁶ From 1 November 2016

¹⁷ As at 31 December 2024

¹⁸ 31 January 1997 to 17 February 1997

Oldest members to become a minister

Member	Age
Trevor Kaine	61 years, 9 months and 29 days
Ted Quinlan	59 years, 2 months, 7 days
Mick Gentleman	58 years, 11 months, 7 days

Longest serving ministers

Member	Term
Andrew Barr	18 years, 8 months, 26 days ^{19,20}
Simon Corbell	14 years, 11 months, 19 days ²¹
Shane Rattenbury	12 years ²²
Yvette Berry	9 years, 11 months, 11 days ^{23,24}

Shortest serving ministers

Member	Term
Ellnor Grassby	6 months, 20 days ²⁵
Paul Whalan	6 months, 20 days ²⁶
David Lamont	10 months, 25 days ²⁷

Portfolios

Longest serving Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs²⁸

Rachel Stephen-Smith	8 years, 2 months ^{29,30}
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Shortest serving Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Joy Burch	6 months, 8 days ³¹
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¹⁹ From 6 April 2006

²⁰ As at 31 December 2024

²¹ 13 November 2001 to 31 October 2016

²² 7 November 2012 to 6 November 2024

²³ From 21 January 2015

²⁴ As at 31 December 2024

²⁵ 16 May 1989 to 5 December 1989

²⁶ 16 May 1989 to 5 December 1989

²⁷ 13 April 1994 to 9 March 1995

²⁸ There were several periods from 1989 to 2004 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

²⁹ From 1 November 2016

³⁰ As at 31 December 2024

³¹ 6 May 2011 to 23 November 2011

Longest serving Minister for the Arts³²

Bill Wood 6 years, 8 months, 13 days³³

Shortest serving Minister for the Arts

Rosemary Follett 12 days³⁴

Longest serving Attorney-General

Simon Corbell 10 years, 6 months, 3 days³⁵

Shortest serving Attorney-General

Trevor Kaine 18 days³⁶

Longest serving Minister for Community Services³⁷

Rachel Stephen-Smith 4 years, 11 months, 3 days³⁸

Shortest serving Minister for Community Services

Member	Term
Trevor Kaine	9 days ³⁹
Craig Duby	9 days ⁴⁰

Longest serving Minister for Disability⁴¹

Joy Burch 4 years, 8 months, 29 days⁴²

Shortest serving Minister for Disability

Chris Bourke 9 months, 10 days⁴³

³² There were several periods in 1989 and from 1998 to 2000 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

³³ Two periods 18 June 1991 to 9 March 1995 (3 years, 8 months, 20 days) and 13 November 2001 to 4 November 2004 (2 years, 11 months, 23 days)

³⁴ 7 June 1991 to 18 June 1991

³⁵ 20 April 2006 to 31 October 2016

³⁶ Two periods 5 December 1989 to 13 December 1989 (9 days) and 29 May 1991 to 6 June 1991 (9 days)

³⁷ There were several periods from 1995 to 2000 and 2001 to 2002 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

³⁸ Two periods, 1 November 2016 to 26 August 2018 (1 year, 9 months, 26 days) and 4 November 2020 to 11 December 2023 (3 years, 1 month, 8 days)

³⁹ 5 December 1989 to 13 December 1989

⁴⁰ 29 May 1991 to 6 June 1991

⁴¹ There were several periods from 1989 to 2002, in 2011 and 2012 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

⁴² Two periods, 1 November 2009 to 15 May 2011 (1 year, 6 months, 15 days) and 9 November 2012 to 22 January 2016 (3 years, 2 months, 14 days)

⁴³ 22 January 2016 to 31 October 2016

Longest serving Minister for Education

Yvette Berry 8 years, 2 months^{44,45}

Shortest serving Minister for Education

Trevor Kaine 9 days⁴⁶

Longest serving Minister for the Environment⁴⁷

Simon Corbell 7 years, 11 months, 17 days⁴⁸

Shortest serving Minister for the Environment

Gary Humphries 3 years, 17 days⁴⁹

Longest serving Minister for Health

Katy Gallagher 8 years, 7 months, 16 days⁵⁰

Shortest serving Minister for Health

Trevor Kaine 9 days⁵¹

Longest serving Minister for Multicultural Affairs⁵²

Joy Burch 5 years, 2 months, 15 days⁵³

Shortest serving Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Yvette Berry 1 year, 9 months, 11 days⁵⁴

Longest serving Minister for Transport and City Services⁵⁵

Chris Steel 6 years, 4 months, 5 days^{56,57}

Shortest serving Minister for Transport and City Services

Simon Corbell 6 months, 8 days⁵⁸

⁴⁴ 1 November 2016 to 31 December 2024

⁴⁵ As at 31 December 2024

⁴⁶ 5 December 1989 to 13 December 1989

⁴⁷ There were several periods from 1989 to 1991, 1998 to 2002 and 2006 to 2007 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

⁴⁸ 10 November 2008 to 31 October 2016

⁴⁹ 15 March 1995 to 31 March 1998

⁵⁰ 20 April 2006 to 10 December 2014

⁵¹ 5 December 1989 to 13 December 1989

⁵² There were several periods from 1989 to 1994 and 1995 to 2006 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

⁵³ 1 November 2009 to 20 January 2015

⁵⁴ 21 January 2015 to 31 October 2016

⁵⁵ This portfolio title has changed several times since 1989

⁵⁶ 27 August 2018 to 31 December 2024

⁵⁷ As at 31 December 2024

⁵⁸ 16 May 2011 to 23 November 2011

Longest serving Minister for Planning

Mick Gentleman 9 years, 5 months⁵⁹

Shortest serving Minister for Planning

Gary Humphries 3 years, 17 days⁶⁰

Longest serving Minister for Police⁶¹

Simon Corbell 10 years, 6 months, 2 days⁶²

Shortest serving Minister for Police

Brendan Smyth 10 months, 29 days⁶³

Longest serving Minister for Sport⁶⁴

Andrew Barr 8 years, 2 months, 13 days⁶⁵

Shortest serving Minister for Sport

David Lamont 10 months, 25 days⁶⁶

Longest serving Treasurer

Andrew Barr 13 years, 4 months, 7 days⁶⁷

Shortest serving Treasurer

Trevor Kaine 1 year, 6 months, 2 days⁶⁸

Leaders of the Opposition

Longest serving Leader of the Opposition

Zed Seselja 5 years, 28 days⁶⁹

⁵⁹ Two periods 7 July 2014 to 10 December 2014 (5 months, 4 days) and 15 December 2014 to 11 December 2023 (8 years, 11 months, 27 days)

⁶⁰ 15 March 1995 to 31 March 1998

⁶¹ There were several periods from 1989 to 1995 and 1998 to 2000 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

⁶² 20 April 2006 to 31 October 2016

⁶³ 15 December 2000 to 12 November 2001

⁶⁴ There were several periods from 1989 to 1991, 1998 to 2001, in 2004 and 2005 when there was no ministerial title for this portfolio area

⁶⁵ 20 April 2006 to 6 July 2014

⁶⁶ 13 April 1994 to 9 March 1995

⁶⁷ 1 July 2011 to 7 November 2024

⁶⁸ 5 December 1989 to 6 June 1991

⁶⁹ Three periods as Leader of the Opposition, 13 December 2007 to 18 October 2008 (10 months, 6 days), 5 November 2008 to 20 October 2012 (3 years, 11 months, 16 days), 6 November 2012 to 11 February 2013 (3 months, 6 days)

Shortest serving Leader of the Opposition

Craig Duby 1 day⁷⁰

Leaders of the Opposition that served separate terms

Trevor Kaine:

First Term 6 months, 25 days⁷¹

Second Term 16 days⁷²

Third Term 6 months, 25 days⁷³

Fourth Term 1 year, 26 days⁷⁴

Rosemary Follett:

First Term 1 year, 6 months, 2 days⁷⁵

Second Term 11 months, 26 days⁷⁶

Gary Humphries:

First Term 1 month, 2 days⁷⁷

Second Term 1 year, 14 days⁷⁸

Leaders of the Opposition suspended

Member	Date
Trevor Kaine	19 August 1992 ⁷⁹
Wayne Berry	3 December 1997 ⁸⁰
Bill Stefaniak	30 May 2007 ⁸¹
Elizabeth Lee	1 June 2022 ⁸²

⁷⁰ 21 June 1991

⁷¹ 11 May 1989 to 5 December 1989

⁷² 6 June 1991 to 21 June 1991

⁷³ 22 July 1991 to 15 February 1992

⁷⁴ 27 March 1992 to 21 April 1993

⁷⁵ 5 December 1989 to 6 June 1991

⁷⁶ 9 March 1995 to 5 March 1996

⁷⁷ 21 June 1991 to 22 July 1991

⁷⁸ 12 November 2001 to 25 November 2002

⁷⁹ For refusing to withdraw offensive words

⁸⁰ For disorderly conduct

⁸¹ For persistently and wilfully disregarding the authority of the chair

⁸² For persistently and wilfully disregarding the authority of the chair

Members

Youngest people elected

Female Member	Age
Roslyn Dundas	22 years, 11 months, 9 days
Laura Nuttall	24 years, 27 days
Candice Burch	29 years, 2 months, 17 days
Male Member	Age
Alistair Coe	24 years, 9 months, 21 days
Michael Pettersson	25 years, 5 months, 24 days
Simon Corbell	26 years, 1 month, 20 days

Oldest people elected

Female Member	Age
Mary Porter	62 years, 2 months, 23 days
Caroline Le Couteur	56 years, 6 months, 16 days
Deb Foskey	54 years, 11 months, 18 days
Male Member	Age
Val Jeffrey	81 years, 7 months, 24 days
Lou Westende	66 years, 3 months, 22 days
Peter Cain	65 years, 11 months, 19 days

Members serving the longest term

Member	Term
Simon Corbell	19 years, 9 months, 7 days
Wayne Berry	19 years, 5 months, 11 days
Vicki Dunne	18 years, 11 months, 13 days
Andrew Barr	18 years, 8 months, 27 days ⁸³

Member serving the shortest term

Val Jeffrey	2 months, 16 days
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Average length of a term for members

7 years

⁸³ As at 31 December 2024

Members suspended the most

Member	No of times suspended
Wayne Berry	5 times
Vicki Dunne	4 times
Jeremy Hanson	4 times
Dennis Stevenson	3 times

Member who has crossed the floor

Wayne Berry⁸⁴

Member who had the longest total periods of leave granted

Member	Combined periods of leave
Giulia Jones	75 days ⁸⁵
Mary Porter	45 days ⁸⁶
Simon Corbell	30 days ⁸⁷

Member who had the longest period of sittings without leave

Member	Total sitting days
Wayne Berry	812 days
Andrew Barr	435 days
Kerrie Tucker	376 days

Members who have become federal members or senators

Annette Ellis

Gary Humphries

Katy Gallagher

Zed Seselja

⁸⁴ During debate on the Gaming Machine Amendment Bill 2004 debated on 3 March 2004 (after midnight on sitting day of 2 March 2004). Wayne Berry crossed the floor on a vote for an amendment to a clause of the bill that was moved by Bill Stefaniak.

⁸⁵ 19 sitting days (Eighth Assembly), 37 sitting days (Ninth Assembly), 19 sitting days (Tenth Assembly)

⁸⁶ 9 sitting days (Sixth Assembly), 20 sitting days (Seventh Assembly), 16 sitting days (Eighth Assembly)

⁸⁷ 1 day (Fourth Assembly), 9 days (Fifth Assembly), 9 days (Sixth Assembly), 3 days (Seventh Assembly), 8 days (Eighth Assembly)

Member who has been member of another Australian Parliament prior to becoming an MLA

Brendan Smyth⁸⁸

Bill Wood⁸⁹

Member who has died in office

Steve Doszpot

Members who have died since leaving office

Terry Connolly

Helen Cross

Deb Foskey

Jayson Hinder

Val Jeffrey

Trevor Kaine

Hector Kinloch

Lou Westende

Bill Wood

Number of crossbench members elected⁹⁰

Assembly	Number
First Assembly	8
Second Assembly	3
Third Assembly	4
Fourth Assembly	4
Fifth Assembly	2
Sixth Assembly	1
Seventh Assembly	4
Eighth Assembly	1
Ninth Assembly	2
Tenth Assembly	6
Eleventh Assembly	6

⁸⁸ Member for Canberra—Commonwealth House of Representatives (1995-96)

⁸⁹ Member for Cook—Queensland (1969-72), Member for Barron River—Queensland (1972-74)

⁹⁰ Crossbench members at the declaration of polls after each election, changes during an Assembly term are not included.

Women in Parliament

First woman to be elected Speaker

Roberta McRae OAM declared elected 27 March 1992

First woman to be elected Deputy Speaker

Roberta McRae OAM elected 9 March 1995

First woman to be elected Chief Minister

Rosemary Follett elected 11 May 1989

First women elected

Rosemary Follett

Ellnor Grassby

Carmel Maher

Robyn Nolan

Percentage of women elected

Assembly	Number	Percentage
First Assembly	4/17	23.5%
Second Assembly	6/17	35%
Third Assembly	5/17	29% ⁹¹
Fourth Assembly	2/17	12%
Fifth Assembly	7/17	41%
Sixth Assembly	6/17	35%
Seventh Assembly	7/17	41%
Eighth Assembly	6/17	35%
Ninth Assembly	13/25	52% ^{92,93}
Tenth Assembly	14/25	56% ⁹⁴
Eleventh Assembly	13/25	52%

Number of female Speakers

3/7 43%

⁹¹ This became 7/17 (41%) following the filling of a number of casual vacancies during the Third Assembly

⁹² This became 14/25 (56%) following the filling of a casual vacancy during the Ninth Assembly

⁹³ Returned to 13/25 (52%) following the filling of a second casual vacancy during the Ninth Assembly

⁹⁴ This became 13/25 (52%) following the filling of a casual vacancy during the Tenth Assembly

Number of female Chief Ministers

3/7 43%

Most female ministers in Cabinet

Assembly	Number	Percentage
Eleventh Assembly—Barr Ministry	5/8	62%
Tenth Assembly—Barr Ministry	5/9	56%
First Assembly—Follett Ministry	2/4	50%

Legislation

First government bill agreed to

Supply Bill 1989-90⁹⁵

First private members' bill agreed to

Police Offences (Amendment) Bill 1989 [No 2]⁹⁶

Most bills passed in one year

127 1997

Smallest number of bills passed in one year

26 2022

Most bills presented on one day (by one Member)

Mr Connolly 17 bills⁹⁷

Committees

Most committee chairs from the Crossbench in an Assembly

11⁹⁸ 1st Assembly

Most committee chairs from the Opposition in an Assembly

11⁹⁹ 1st and 3rd Assembly

⁹⁵ Introduced by Rosemary Follett on 1 June 1989 and passed on 27 June 1989

⁹⁶ Introduced by Bill Stefaniak on 22 August 1989 and passed on 24 August 1989

⁹⁷ 12 September 1991

⁹⁸ This total includes chairs of committees which had more than one chair from different parties throughout the duration of the committee

⁹⁹ This total includes chairs of committees which had more than one chair from different parties throughout the duration of the committee

Most committee reports presented in a year69¹⁰⁰

1994

Lowest number of committee reports presented in a year

10

1989

Shortest amount of time select committee was established21 days¹⁰¹**Longest amount of time select committee was established**2 years, 5 months, 12 days¹⁰²**Elections****Smallest vote margin to win a seat**Ted Quinlan (ALP) defeating Marion Reilly (ALP) by 23 votes¹⁰³**Government with the largest majority**

Government	Number of seats
First Assembly—Kaine Government	10 of 17 ¹⁰⁴
Sixth Assembly—Stanhope Government	9 of 17 ¹⁰⁵

Government with the smallest majority

First Assembly—Follett Government 5 of 17 seats

Party which has been in government the greatest amount of timeAustralian Labor Party—23 years, 1 month, 20 days^{106,107}**Turnover of members at election**

Assembly	Number ¹⁰⁸	Percentage
Second Assembly	7/17	41%
Third Assembly	5/17	29%

¹⁰⁰ There are 21 reports presented by the Scrutiny of Bills and Subordinate Legislation Committee included in this total

¹⁰¹ Select Committee on Police Offences (Amendment) Bill 1989 (First Assembly)

¹⁰² Select Committee on Working Families in the Australian Capital Territory (Sixth Assembly)

¹⁰³ 1998

¹⁰⁴ Majority of seven Members

¹⁰⁵ Majority of one over the Liberal Party and one Green

¹⁰⁶ From 12 November 2001

¹⁰⁷ As at 31 December 2024

¹⁰⁸ This represents the number of members not re-elected or members who didn't contest the election

Assembly	Number¹⁰⁸	Percentage
Fourth Assembly	5/17	29%
Fifth Assembly	6/17	35%
Sixth Assembly	5/17	29%
Seventh Assembly	8/17	47%
Eighth Assembly	4/17	24%
Ninth Assembly	12/25	48%
Tenth Assembly	8/25	32%
Eleventh Assembly	6/25	24%

Sittings

Most sitting days in a year

54 days 1991

Smallest number of sitting days in a year

28 days 2016¹⁰⁹

Longest sitting

15 hours¹¹⁰ 2006

Shortest sitting

3 minutes 10 October 2000

Most divisions in a year

156 2011

Least number of divisions in a year

40 2020

Latest time of rising

5 am 25 August 2006

Most sittings after midnight in a year

7 2004

¹⁰⁹ Election year

¹¹⁰ Sitting began at 10.30 am on 24 August 2006 and adjourned at 5 am on 25 August 2006

Percentage of times a Greens member has voted with the Opposition

Assembly	Opposition Party	Percentage
Third Assembly	Australian Labor Party	50%
Fourth Assembly	Australian Labor Party	79%
Fifth Assembly	Liberal Party	29%
Sixth Assembly	Liberal Party	51%
Seventh Assembly	Liberal Party	16%
Eighth Assembly	Liberal Party	2%
Ninth Assembly	Liberal Party	3%
Tenth Assembly	Liberal Party	1%

Petitions

First petition presented

23 May 1989¹¹¹

First electronic petition presented

26 November 2013¹¹²

Petition with the most signatures

39,874 presented 27 June 1996¹¹³

Petition with the smallest number of signatures

1¹¹⁴

Most signatures on petitions relating to one issue

62,981¹¹⁵

¹¹¹ Relating to a request to repeal the *Australian Capital Territory Casino Control Ordinance 1988* (3,000 signatures)

¹¹² Relating to proposed safety measures on McBryde Crescent, Wanniasa near Trinity Christian School

¹¹³ Relating to proposed legislation on restricted shopping hours

¹¹⁴ Presented on 13 April 1994, relating to security of tender for the venue of Belconnen Trash 'n' Treasure. Since that time other single signature petitions have been presented

¹¹⁵ Nine petitions relating to the closure of the Royal Canberra Hospital