

The Phases of the GPO Access Shut-Down

What happened to GPO Access?

As of March 16, 2012, after 16 years of keeping America informed, GPO Access has shut down. [GPO's Federal Digital System \(FDsys\)](#) is GPO's official system for free online access to information from all three branches of the Federal Government. The information on FDsys is current and updated daily. Learn more about FDsys [here](#).

What were the phases of the GPO Access shut-down, and what did that mean for access to the site?

1. The System of Record Phase, December 2010

In this phase, FDsys assumed the role as GPO's system of record for online information from all three branches of Government. Both GPO Access and FDsys were maintained and updated in parallel. Both sites provided access to updated information. GPO Access began displaying posted messages informing users of the upcoming shut-down.

2. The Archive Phase, November 2011

On November 5, 2011, after the November 4 editions of daily updated content (e.g., Federal Register, Congressional Record) were uploaded, GPO ceased updating GPO Access in terms of both database content and HTML pages. New content from GPO was then exclusively loaded to FDsys. The information on FDsys remained current and updated daily. During this phase, GPO Access remained publicly accessible as a reference archive.

3. The Shut-Down Phase, March 2012

In this final phase, as of March 16, 2012, GPO Access shut down permanently. URL redirects were enabled to send users to the FDsys equivalent of GPO Access resources. In other cases, where one-to-one redirects were not possible due to differences in site layout, users are now redirected to the best available FDsys equivalent or the [FDsys homepage](#).