

## National Security Infographic

# A CRITICAL HANDOVER

While presidential transitions are a hallmark of American democracy, they are a period of great vulnerability for our nation.

—1993—  
WORLD  
TRADE  
CENTER  
BOMBING

February 26, 1993

9/11

September 11, 2001

— THE —  
UNDERWEAR  
BOMBER

December 25, 2009



On average, over a third of top national security appointments were vacant during these three first-year crises.

Average time to fill top national security positions:

**CLINTON**  
173 Days

**BUSH**  
135 Days

**OBAMA**  
140 Days

This is the most important takeover of any organization in history. The incoming administration needs to be ready to govern on day one.

[presidentialtransition.org](http://presidentialtransition.org)



PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE  
CENTER *for* PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION