

Poll of Polls: How the main parties have fared since the last election



June 11: Margaret Thatcher returned to power.
Oct 19: 'Black Monday'—shares crash

Mar 15: Lawson slashes taxes in budget
June: Bank rate rises to 9.5%. Alliance parties unite, Labour introduces new policies



July: Labour reaches 45% in the polls with the Tories dropping to 35%, and the Liberal Democrats drop to 5%. Over the next nine months Labour opens up a record gap of 53% with the Tories on 30%



Mar 31: Poll Tax riots
Nov 22: Thatcher resigns
Nov 28: John Major becomes Prime Minister



Jan 16–Feb 28: The Gulf War temporarily boosts Tory popularity.
 Recession deepens, jobless total tops 2.5m



Jan–Mar Parties neck and neck in run-up to General Election

