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Senate Committee Party Ratios: 98th-116th Congresses

Updated September 5, 2019

Congressional Research Service
https://crsreports.congress.gov
RL34752

CRS REPORT
Prepared for Members and
Committees of Congress

Summary

The party ratio in the Senate standing committees is the proportional number of members of each party caucus assigned to each committee. Determining committee sizes, ratios, and assignments are among the first actions taken after a general election and at the beginning of a Congress.

The standing rules of the Senate are silent on the subject of committee party ratios. The apportionment of committee seats results from discussions between majority and minority party leadership. In general, it has been the practice of the Senate to apportion committee seats to the majority and minority parties in a manner that corresponds closely to the party strength in the full chamber. Findings from this study indicate that the majority party ratios on committees roughly approximate the majority party strength in the Senate chamber, regardless of which party has been in control.

This report shows Senate committee party ratios for 19 Congresses, covering the period of the 98th Congress (1983-1985) through March 2019, the first part of the 116th Congress (2019-2021).

Table 1 shows a comparison of majority party strength in the Senate chamber with total majority committee seats for the 98th Congress through the beginning of the 116th Congress. Unfilled seats on committees (if so noted in the Secretary of the Senate's lists or the *Congressional Directory*) are counted in individual and overall committee totals for consistency.

Tables 2-20 show the following for each of the 19 Congresses examined, by majority, minority, and Independents (where present):

- Senate party breakdown and majority margin;
- total committee seats, majority and minority committee seats, and majority margin;
- the standing and select committees (with legislative jurisdiction) as established and named in each Congress;
- committee seats allocated to the majority and minority parties, including Independents (where present), for each committee; and
- majority-minority seat margin for each committee.

The committee ratios data for the 99th through 116th Congresses are taken from the official committee lists for each Congress issued by the Secretary of the Senate; the *Congressional Directory* is the source for the 98th Congress. The earliest editions of these primary documents are generally the sources for the data, although anomalies in some Congresses, such as a delay in seating a Senator due to a contested election, sometimes necessitated using later versions of the publications. Party strength in each Congress reflects numbers found in the Secretary's lists and the *Congressional Directory*. Different versions of the Secretary's list and the *Congressional Directory,* or the use of alternate sources or methodologies, could yield different results.

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Introduction

The party ratio in the Senate standing committees is the proportional number of members of each party caucus assigned to each committee. Determining sizes, ratios, and committee assignments are among the first actions taken after a general election and at the beginning of a Congress.

The standing rules of the Senate are silent on the subject of committee party ratios; the apportionment of committee seats results from discussions beginning in the early organization period between majority and minority party leadership.[1] In general, the result of these discussions has been to apportion total committee seats to the majority and minority parties in a manner that corresponds to the party strength in the full chamber. A finding of this report indicates that the majority party ratios on committees roughly approximate the majority party strength in the Senate chamber, regardless of which party has been in control.

This report shows Senate committee party ratios for 19 Congresses, covering the period of the 98th Congress (1983-1985) through the beginning of the 116th Congress (2019-2021). In addition to the standing committees, data on permanent select committees with legislative jurisdiction are also included. An additional table (**Table 1**) provides a comparison of majority party strength in the Senate chamber and total committee seats.

Sources and Method

The data presented in this report are drawn from the official committee assignment lists issued by the Secretary of the Senate, after assignments were made in each Congress.[2] Data for the 107th Congress reflect committee ratios established after the Senate reorganization in June 2001 as a result of the end of a power-sharing agreement.[3] For the 99th through 116th Congresses, data on overall party strength in the Senate for each Congress were taken from the same lists.[4] Overall party strength data for the 98th Congress were taken from the *Congressional Directory*. The data in this report are from the earliest available complete information of each Congress contained in these two primary documents.[5]

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[1] Committee sizes appear in Senate Rule 25, but party leaders regularly negotiate other committee sizes as well as party ratios.

[2] Data are generally taken from the first official list prepared as a Senate publication, excluding lists marked "interim" or "preliminary," which may be incomplete, under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate. There were some anomalies during the period examined in this report. For example, most of the lists were issued in the spring of the first session of each Congress. In the 99th Congress, all the Secretary's lists were marked preliminary for the entire Congress. The dates of the publications are footnoted for each table. As will be noted, the 107th Congress was an exception due to the unusual circumstances of the equally divided Senate (see footnote 3). The 111th Congress was also an exception due to a contested election, which resulted in delaying for months the seating of one Senator.

[3] At the beginning of the 107th Congress, the Senate was divided equally between Republicans and Democrats. As a result, Democrats chaired all committees for the first 17 days of the session, and Republicans assumed the committee chairmanships following the inauguration of Vice President Richard Cheney. A power-sharing agreement, S.Res. 8, was presented by party leaders and agreed to on January 5, 2001. In June 2001, after one Republican announced his intention to become an Independent, and switch party caucuses, the Republicans were reduced to 49 seats and the Democrats, with 50 seats, gained control of the Senate. A provision of S.Res. 120, agreed to on June 29, 2001, gave the majority a one-seat advantage on each Senate committee (except for the Ethics Committee). The resolution further provided that no Senator would lose a committee seat by virtue of the resolution. For more details, see CRS Report RL30881, *Senate Organization in the 107th Congress: Agreements Reached in a Closely Divided Senate*.

[4] Party division data cited in the Secretary's committees list may differ with party data published immediately following the November elections.

[5] Anomalies and caveats are appropriately noted in table footnotes. Use of other versions of the primary documents,

Table 1 shows a comparison of majority party strength in the Senate chamber with total majority committee seats for the 98th Congress (1983-1985) through the 116th Congress (2019-2021). Unfilled seats on committees (if so noted in the Secretaries' lists or the *Congressional Directory*) are counted in individual and overall committee totals for consistency.

Tables 2-20 show the following for each of the 19 Congresses examined, by majority, minority, and Independents (where present):

- Senate party breakdown and majority margin;
- total committee seats, majority and minority committee seats, and majority margin;
- the standing and select committees (with legislative jurisdiction) as established and named in each Congress;
- committee seats allocated to the majority and minority parties, including Independents (where present), for each committee; and
- majority-minority seat margin for each committee.

and the use of alternate sources or methodologies, may yield different results. For example, data from other sources or time frames reflecting the number of Senators representing a particular party may change during a Congress, due to the death or resignation of a Senator, or as a consequence of a Senator changing party affiliation, and could yield another result.

Table 1. Comparison of Senate Majority Conference Members in Chamber and Committees: 98th-116th Congresses (1983-2021)

Congress	Majority Party	Majority Conference % of Senate Chamber	Majority Conference % Total Committee Seats	% Difference of Majority Conference Between Senate Chamber and Total Committee Seats
116th	Republican	53.0%	53.2%	0.2%
115th	Republican	52.0%	52.6%	0.6%
114th	Republican	54.0%	54.3%	0.3%
113th	Democrat	54.0%	53.5%	-0.5%
112th	Democrat	53.0%	53.7%	0.7%
111th	Democrat	60.0%	58.3%	-1.7%
110th	Democrat	51.0%	52.4%	1.4%
109th	Republican	55.0%	55.0%	0.0%
108th	Republican	51.0%	52.4%	1.4%
107th	Democrat	51.0%	52.4%	1.4%
106th	Republican	55.0%	55.2%	0.2%
105th	Republican	55.0%	55.2%	0.2%
104th	Republican	53.0%	54.4%	1.4%
103rd	Democrat	56.0%	55.8%	-0.2%
102nd	Democrat	57.0%	56.6%	-0.4%
101st	Democrat	55.0%	55.0%	0.0%
100th	Democrat	54.0%	54.8%	0.8%
99th	Republican	53.0%	53.8%	0.8%
98th	Republican	54.0%	54.7%	0.7%

Source: Data presented in this table are taken from **Table 2** through **Table 20**; sources are cited for each table. Percentages are rounded. Data in this table include Independents who caucused with the majority or minority party, as noted in the tables corresponding with each Congress. The second-to-last column presents the percentage of total committee seats for the majority conference.

Table 2. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 116th Congress (2019-2021)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	**Majority (R)**	**Minority (D)**	**Independent (I)**	**Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin**
Total Senators	100	53	45	2	6
Total Committee Seats	389	207	173	9	25
		Committees			
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	20	11	9	0	2
Appropriations	31	16	15	0	1
Armed Services	27	14	12	1	1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	25	13	12	0	1
Budget	21	11	9	1	1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	26	14	12	0	2
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	7	2	2
Environment and Public Works	21	11	9	1	1
Finance	28	15	13	0	2
Foreign Relations	22	12	10	0	2
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	23	12	10	1	1
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	0	2
Indian Affairs	13	7	6	0	1
Judiciary	22	12	10	0	2
Rules and Administration	19	10	8	1	1
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9	0	1
Veterans' Affairs	17	9	7	1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	6	1	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the Senate, by John J. Merlino, Legislative Clerk, March 18, 2019 (Washington: GPO, 2019), S.Pub. 116-2. It does not reflect any subsequent changes in party ratios.

Notes: Senators who caucused with the minority (Democrats): Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent, and Senator Angus King, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the minority seats.

The Special Committee on Aging is the only other Senate committee to exist in the 116th Congress (exclusive of Senate assignments to joint committees). It has existed as a permanent committee since 1977. In the 116th Congress, it has a total of 15 committee members (8 Republicans and 7 Democrats).

Table 3. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 115th Congress (2017-2019)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Independent (I)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	52	46	2	4
Total Committee Seats	390	205	175	10	20
Committees					
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10		1
Appropriations	31	16	15		1
Armed Services	27	14	12	1	1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	23	12	11		1
Budget	23	12	9	2	1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	27	14	13		1
Energy and Natural Resources	23	12	9	2	1
Environment and Public Works	21	11	9	1	1
Finance	26	14	12		2
Foreign Relations	21	11	10		1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	23	12	10	1	1
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	15	8	7		1
Indian Affairs	15	8	7		1
Judiciary	20	11	9		2
Rules and Administration	19	10	8	1	1
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	8	6	1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	6	1	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the Senate, by John J. Merlino, Legislative Clerk, April 4, 2017 (Washington: GPO, 2017), S.Pub. 115-4. It does not reflect any subsequent changes in party ratios.

Notes: Senators who caucused with the minority (Democrats): Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent, and Senator Angus King, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the minority seats.

The Special Committee on Aging is the only other Senate committee to exist in the 115th Congress (exclusive of Senate assignments to joint committees). It has existed as a permanent committee since 1977. In the 115th Congress, it has a total of 17 committee members (9 Republicans and 8 Democrats).

Table 4. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 114th Congress (2015-2017)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	**Majority (R)**	**Minority (D)**	**Independent (I)**	**Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin**
Total Senators	100	54	44	2	8
Total Committee Seats	376	204	162	10	32
		Committees			
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	20	11	9		2
Appropriations	30	16	14		2
Armed Services	26	14	11	1	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	22	12	10		2
Budget	22	12	8	2	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	24	13	11		2
Energy and Natural Resources	22	12	8	2	2
Environment and Public Works	20	11	8	1	2
Finance	26	14	12		2
Foreign Relations	19	10	9		1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	22	12	9	1	2
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	16	9	7		2
Indian Affairs	14	8	6		2
Judiciary	20	11	9		2
Rules and Administration	18	10	7	1	2
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	8	6	1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	6	1	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the Senate, by John J. Merlino, Legislative Clerk, May 13, 2015 (Washington: GPO, 2015), S.Pub. 114-5.

Notes: Senators who caucused with the minority (Democrats): Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent, and Senator Angus King, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the minority seats.

The Special Committee on Aging is the only other Senate committee to exist in the 114th Congress (exclusive of Senate assignments to joint committees). It has existed as a permanent committee since 1977. In the 114th Congress, it had a total of 20 committee members (11 Republicans and 9 Democrats).

Table 5. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 113th Congress (2013-2015)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Independent (I)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	52	46	2	8
Total Committee Seats	367	192	166	9	35
Committees					
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	20	11	9		2
Appropriations	30	16	14		2
Armed Services	26	13	12	1	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	22	12	10		2
Budget	22	10	10	2	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	24	13	11		2
Energy and Natural Resources	22	11	10	1	2
Environment and Public Works	18	9	8	1	2
Finance	24	13	11		2
Foreign Relations	18	10	8		2
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	22	11	10	1	2
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	16	9	7		2
Indian Affairs	14	8	6		2
Judiciary	18	10	8		2
Rules and Administration	18	9	8	1	2
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	18	10	8		2
Veterans' Affairs	14	7	6	1	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	7	7	1	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate, by Kathleen Alvarez Tritak, Legislative Clerk, January 30, 2014 (Washington: GPO, 2014), S.Pub. 113-14.

Notes: Senators who caucused with the majority (Democrats): Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent, and Senator Angus King, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the majority seats.

The Special Committee on Aging was the only other Senate committee to exist in the 113th Congress (exclusive of Senate assignments to joint committees). It has existed as a permanent committee since 1977. In the 113th Congress, it had a total of 20 committee members (11 Democrats and 9 Republicans).

Table 6. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 112th Congress (2011-2013)

		Distribution of Seats				
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp.-Dem.	Indp.	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	51	47	1	1	6
Total Committee Seats	374	193	173	3	5	28
Committees						
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10			1
Appropriations	30	16	14			2
Armed Services	26	13	12	1		2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	22	12	10			2
Budget	23	11	11		1	1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	25	13	12			1
Energy and Natural Resources	22	11	10		1	2
Environment and Public Works	18	9	8		1	2
Finance	24	13	11			2
Foreign Relations	19	10	9			1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	22	11	10		1	2
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	17	8	8	1		1
Indian Affairs	14	8	6			2
Judiciary	18	10	8			2
Rules and Administration	18	10	8			2
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	9	9	1		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	7	7		1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3			0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7			1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Twelfth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate, by Kathleen Alvarez Tritak, Legislative Clerk, April 8, 2011 (Washington: GPO, 2011), S.Pub. 112-6.

Notes: Senators who caucused with the majority (Democrats): Senator Joseph Lieberman, an Independent-Democrat, and Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the majority seats.

The Special Committee on Aging was the only other Senate committee to exist in the 112th Congress (exclusive of Senate assignments to joint committees). It has existed as a permanent committee since 1977. In the 112th Congress, it had a total of 21 committee members (11 Democrats and 10 Republicans).

Table 7. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 111th Congress (2009-2011)

		Distribution of Seats				
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp.-Dem.	Indp.	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	58	40	1	1	20
Total Committee Seats	379	213	158	3	5	63
Committees						
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	12	9			3
Appropriations	30	18	12			6
Armed Services	26	14	11	1		4
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	23	13	10			3
Budget	23	12	10		1	3
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	25	14	11			3
Energy and Natural Resources	23	12	10		1	3
Environment and Public Works	19	11	7		1	5
Finance	23	13	10			3
Foreign Relations	19	11	8			3
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	23	12	10		1	3
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	17	9	7	1		3
Indian Affairs	15	9	6			3
Judiciary	19	12	7			5
Rules and Administration	19	11	8			3
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	8	1		3
Veterans' Affairs	15	9	5		1	5
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3			0
Select Committee on Intelligence	14	8	6			2

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Eleventh Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate, by Kathleen Alvarez Tritak, Legislative Clerk, October 19, 2009 (Washington: GPO, 2009), S.Pub. 111-13. (An earlier version dated June 3, 2009 (S.Pub. 111-9), listed 99 Senators while the result of the Minnesota election was not yet resolved.)

Notes: Data in this table reflect the results of a contested election. After the June 30, 2009, Minnesota State Supreme Court ruling, Senator Al Franken was sworn into office on July 7, 2009. Senator Arlen Specter changed his party affiliation from Republican to Democrat on April 30, 2009.

Senator Scott Brown was elected to the Senate in a January 19, 2010, special election, and was sworn into office on February 4, 2010. After that election, the party division changed to 57 (Democrats) and 41 (Republicans).

Senators who caucused with the majority (Democrats): Senator Joseph Lieberman, an Independent-Democrat, and Senator Bernard Sanders, an Independent. Margins are calculated by adding these Senators' seats to the majority seats.

Table 8. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 110th Congress (2007-2009)

		Distribution of Seats				
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp.-Dem.	Indp.	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	49	49	1	1	2
Total Committee Seats	372	186	177	4	5	18
Committees						
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10			1
Appropriations	29	15	14			1
Armed Services	25	12	12	1		1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	11	10			1
Budget	23	11	11		1	1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	23	12	11			1
Energy and Natural Resources	23	11	11		1	1
Environment and Public Works	19	8	9	1	1	1
Finance	21	11	10			1
Foreign Relations	21	11	10			1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	21	10	10		1	1
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	17	8	8	1		1
Indian Affairs	15	8	7			1
Judiciary	19	10	9			1
Rules and Administration	19	10	9			1
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	9	9	1		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	7	7		1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3			0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7			1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Tenth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Nancy Erickson, Secretary of the Senate, by David J. Tinsley, Legislative Clerk, April 2, 2007 (Washington: GPO, 2007), S.Pub. 110-5.

Note: Independent Members caucused with the majority (Democrats): Senator Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut was reelected in 2006 as an Independent, and became an Independent-Democrat. Senator Bernard Sanders of Vermont was elected as an Independent.

Table 9. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 109th Congress (2005-2007)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Indp.	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	55	44	1	10
Total Committee Seats	353	194	155	4	35
		Committees			
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	20	11	9		2
Appropriations	28	15	13		2
Armed Services	24	13	11		2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	20	11	9		2
Budget	22	12	10		2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	22	12	10		2
Energy and Natural Resources	22	12	10		2
Environment and Public Works	18	10	7	1	2
Finance	20	11	8	1	2
Foreign Relations	18	10	8		2
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	20	11	8	1	2
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	16	9	7		2
Indian Affairs	14	8	6		2
Judiciary	18	10	8		2
Rules and Administration	18	10	8		2
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	18	10	8		2
Veterans' Affairs	14	8	5	1	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7		1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Ninth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Emily J. Reynolds, Secretary of the Senate, by David J. Tinsley, Legislative Clerk, April 25, 2005 (Washington: GPO, 2005), S.Pub. 109-10.

Note: Senator James M. Jeffords, an Independent, caucused with the minority (Democrats).

Table 10. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 108th Congress (2003-2005)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	**Majority (R)**	**Minority (D)**	**Indp.**	**Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin**
Total Senators	100	51	48	1	2
Total Committee Seats	372	195	173	4	18
		Committees			
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10		1
Appropriations	29	15	14		1
Armed Services	25	13	12		1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	11	10		1
Budget	23	12	11		1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	23	12	11		1
Energy and Natural Resources	23	12	11		1
Environment and Public Works	19	10	8	1	1
Finance	21	11	9	1	1
Foreign Relations	19	10	9		1
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	21	11	9	1	1
Indian Affairs	15	8	7		1
Judiciary	19	10	9		1
Rules and Administration	19	10	9		1
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	8	6	1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8		1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Eighth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Emily J. Reynolds, Secretary of the Senate, by David J. Tinsley, Legislative Clerk, March 31, 2003 (Washington: GPO, 2003), S.Pub. 108-5.

Note: Senator James M. Jeffords, an Independent, caucused with the minority (Democrats).

Table 11. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 107th Congress (2001-2003)

		Distribution of Seats			
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp.	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	50	49	1	2
Total Committee Seats	372	191	177	4	18
		Committees			
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10		1
Appropriations	29	15	14		1
Armed Services	25	13	12		1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	11	10		1
Budget	23	12	11		1
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	23	12	11		1
Energy and Natural Resources	23	12	11		1
Environment and Public Works	19	9	9	1	1
Finance	21	10	10	1	1
Foreign Relations	19	10	9		1
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	21	10	10	1	1
Indian Affairs	15	8	7		1
Judiciary	19	10	9		1
Rules and Administration	19	10	9		1
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1
Veterans' Affairs	15	7	7	1	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8		1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Seventh Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Jeri Thomson, Secretary of the Senate, by David J. Tinsley, Legislative Clerk, November 29, 2001 (Washington: GPO, 2001), S.Pub. 107-21.

Notes: This table reflects data compiled after the June 2001 end of power sharing. At the beginning of the 107th Congress, the Senate was divided equally between Republicans and Democrats. As a result, Democrats chaired all committees for the first 17 days of the session, and Republicans assumed the committee chairmanships following the inauguration of Vice President Richard Cheney, whose ability to break tie votes made it possible for Republicans to organize the Senate. S.Res. 8, an historic power-sharing agreement, was presented by party leaders and agreed to on January 5, 2001. As a result of one Republican announcing his intention to become an Independent and switch party caucuses in May 2001, the Republicans were reduced to 49 seats and the Democrats, with 50 seats, gained control of the Senate in June 2001. A provision of S.Res. 120, agreed to on June 29, 2001, gave the majority a one-seat advantage on every committee of the Senate (except for Ethics). The resolution further provided that no Senator would lose a committee seat by virtue of the resolution.

Senator James M. Jeffords changed party affiliation from Republican to Independent and caucused with Democrats effective June 6, 2001.

Table 12. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 106th Congress (1999-2001)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	55	45	10
Total Committee Seats	339	187	152	35
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2
Appropriations	28	15	13	2
Armed Services	20	11	9	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	20	11	9	2
Budget	22	12	10	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2
Environment and Public Works	18	10	8	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2
Governmental Affairs	16	9	7	2
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	18	10	8	2
Indian Affairs	14	8	6	2
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	18	10	8	2
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Sixth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Gary Sisco, Secretary of the Senate, by David J. Tinsley, Legislative Clerk, March 29, 1999 (Washington: GPO, 1999), S.Pub. 106-3.

Table 13. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 105th Congress (1997-1999)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	55	45	10
Total Committee Seats	337	186	151	35
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2
Appropriations	28	15	13	2
Armed Services	18	10	8	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	18	10	8	2
Budget	22	12	10	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2
Environment and Public Works	18	10	8	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2
Governmental Affairs	16	9	7	2
Labor and Human Resources	18	10	8	2
Indian Affairs	14	8	6	2
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	18	10	8	2
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Intelligence	19	10	9	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Fifth Congress,* Prepared Under the Direction of Gary Sisco, Secretary of the Senate, by R. Scott Bates, Legislative Clerk, February 14, 1997 (Washington: GPO, 1997), S.Pub. 105-6. (An interim list was published dated January 9, 1997, S.Pub. 3.)

Table 14. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 104th Congress (1995-1997)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	53	47	6
Total Committee Seats	331	180	151	29
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	17	9	8	1
Appropriations	28	15	13	2
Armed Services	21	11	10	1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	16	9	7	2
Budget	22	12	10	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	19	10	9	1
Energy and Natural Resources	18	10	8	2
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2
Governmental Affairs	15	8	7	1
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2
Indian Affairs	17	9	8	1
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	19	10	9	1
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committee and Subcommittee Assignments for the One Hundred Fourth Congress,* Prepared Under the Direction of Sheila P. Burke, Secretary of the Senate, by R. Scott Bates, Legislative Clerk, February 27, 1995 (Washington: GPO, 1995), S.Pub. 104-6. (An incomplete interim list was published on January 25, 1995, S.Pub. 104-3.)

Note: Data reflect Senator Richard Shelby's party affiliation change from Democrat to Republican, a few days after the 1994 election, on November 9, 1994. Data do not reflect Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell's party affiliation change from Democrat to Republican on March 3, 1995, because it occurred after the February 27, 1995, publication was issued.

Table 15. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 103rd Congress (1993-1995)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	56	44	12
Total Committee Seats	346	193	153	40
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2
Appropriations	29	16	13	3
Armed Services	22	12	10	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	19	11	8	3
Budget	21	12	9	3
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2
Environment and Public Works	17	10	7	3
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	20	11	9	2
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2
Labor and Human Resources	17	10	7	3
Indian Affairs	18	10	8	2
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	22	12	10	2
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1

Source: *The Senate of the United States Committees and Subcommittees Assignments for the One Hundred Third Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Walter J. Stewart, Secretary of the Senate, by R. Scott Bates, Legislative Clerk, November 22, 1993 (Washington: GPO, 1993), S.Pub. 103-10. (Prior to this list, there were three interim committee lists: S.Pub. 103-1 (February 19, 1993), S.Pub. 103-3 (March 24, 1993), and S.Pub. 103-7 (July 20, 1993).)

Note: In 1984, the Select Committee on Indian Affairs became a permanent committee (S.Res. 127). Later, in 1993, the Select Committee on Indian Affairs was redesignated as the Committee on Indian Affairs (S.Res. 71).

Table 16. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 102nd Congress (1991-1993)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	57	43	14
Total Committee Seats	332	188	144	44
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2
Appropriations	29	16	13	3
Armed Services	20	11	9	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	12	9	3
Budget	21	12	9	3
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2
Environment and Public Works	17	10	7	3
Finance	19	11	8	3
Foreign Relations	19	11	8	3
Governmental Affairs	13	8	5	3
Labor and Human Resources	17	10	7	3
Judiciary	14	8	6	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	19	11	8	3
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	16	9	7	2
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Subcommittees and Select and Special Committees and Committee Assignments and list of Senators by State of the Senate of the United States Together with Certain Joint Committees of the Congress for the One Hundred Second Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Walter J. Stewart, Secretary of the Senate, by Barry J. Wolk, Director of Senate Printing Services, September 23, 1991 (Washington: GPO, 1991), S.Pub. 102-9. (Two interim lists were issued: S.Pub. 102-3 (March 25, 1991) and S.Pub. 102-7 (June 21, 1991).)

Table 17. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 101st Congress (1989-1991)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	55	45	10
Total Committee Seats	327	180	147	33
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	19	10	9	1
Appropriations	29	16	13	3
Armed Services	20	11	9	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	12	9	3
Budget	23	13	10	3
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	19	10	9	1
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	19	10	9	1
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2
Judiciary	14	8	6	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	19	10	9	1
Veterans' Affairs	11	6	5	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	10	6	4	2
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Subcommittees and Subcommittees and Select and Special Committees and Committee Assignments and List of Senators by State of the Senate of the United States Together with Certain Joint Committees of the One Hundred First Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Walter J. Stewart, Secretary of the Senate, by Barry J. Wolk, Director of Senate Printing Services, May 19, 1989 (Washington: GPO, 1989), S.Pub. 101-1. (An interim list was issued, S.Pub. 101-1 (March 15, 1989).)

Table 18. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 100th Congress (1987-1989)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	54	46	8
Total Committee Seats	325	178	147	31
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	19	10	9	1
Appropriations	29	16	13	3
Armed Services	20	11	9	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	20	11	9	2
Budget	24	13	11	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2
Energy and Natural Resources	19	10	9	1
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	19	10	9	1
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2
Judiciary	14	8	6	2
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2
Small Business	19	10	9	1
Veterans' Affairs	11	6	5	1
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	8	5	3	2
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Subcommittees and Subcommittees and Select and Special Committees and Committee Assignments and List of Senators by State of the Senate of the United States Together with Certain Joint Committees of the One Hundredth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of Walter J. Stewart, Secretary of the Senate, by Barry J. Wolk, Director of Senate Printing Services, July 1, 1987 (Washington: GPO, 1987), S.Pub. 100-1.

Table 19. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 99th Congress (1985-1987)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	53	47	6
Total Committee Seats	312	168	144	24
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	17	9	8	1
Appropriations	29	15	14	1
Armed Services	19	10	9	1
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	15	8	7	1
Budget	22	12	10	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	17	9	8	1
Energy and Natural Resources	18	10	8	2
Environment and Public Works	15	8	7	1
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	17	9	8	1
Governmental Affairs	13	7	6	1
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	15	8	7	1
Small Business	19	10	9	1
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	9	5	4	1
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Select and Special Committees and Committee Assignments and List of Senators by State of the Senate of the United States Together with Certain Joint Committees of the Congress for the Ninety-Ninth Congress* (Preliminary), Prepared Under the Direction of Jo-Anne L. Coe, Secretary of the Senate, by Barry J. Wolk, Director of Senate Printing Services, April 1, 1985 (Washington: GPO, 1985), S.Pub. 99-2. (All the Secretary of the Senate committee lists in this Congress were marked preliminary. Later preliminary versions were S.Pub. 99-6 (May 1, 1985), S.Pub. 99-9 (October 1, 1985), and S.Pub. 99-15 (August 1, 1986).)

Table 20. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 98th Congress (1983-1985)

		Distribution of Seats		
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Majority-Minority Conference Seat Margin
Total Senators	100	54	46	8
Total Committee Seats	320	175	145	30
		Committees		
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2
Appropriations	29	15	14	1
Armed Services	18	10	8	2
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	18	10	8	2
Budget	22	12	10	2
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	17	9	8	1
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2
Finance	20	11	9	2
Foreign Relations	17	9	8	1
Governmental Affairs	18	10	8	2
Judiciary	18	10	8	2
Labor and Human Resources	18	10	8	2
Rules and Administration	12	7	5	2
Small Business	19	10	9	1
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	7	4	3	1
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1

Source: *Congressional Directory*, 98th Cong., 1st sess. (Washington: GPO, 1983). Data are based on closing date for compiling *Directory* material, March 31, 1983.

Note: In 1984, the Select Committee on Indian Affairs was made a permanent committee of the Senate (S. Res. 127).

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Acknowledgments

Lorraine Tong and Matthew Glassman authored previous versions of this report.

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