

CRS Report for Congress

Senate Committee Party Ratios: 94th - 110th Congresses

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Summary

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. This report provides an overview of Senate standing committee sizes and ratios for the 94th through 110th Congresses. Also included are data on permanent select committees with legislative jurisdiction. A table for each Congress shows the party division in the Senate, total number of seats on each committee, number of seats assigned to the majority and minority parties, and, where present, number of seats assigned to independents. The tables also provide the number of majority-minority caucus seat margins in the chamber and for each committee. A comparison of the Senate majority caucus seats in the chamber and in committees is provided in a separate table.

During the 17 Congresses referenced in this report, the sizes of committees have generally increased as have the number of committee assignments a Senator typically receives. Data 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 is in control. This report will be updated as events warrant.

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Senate Committee Party Ratios: 94th-110th Congresses

The standing rules of the Senate are silent on the subject of committee party ratios. The majority and minority leaders, through consultation and negotiation, determine the apportionment of the committee seats to each party. The leaders implement this agreement through resolutions electing Senators to committees. This report provides an overview and data on Senate standing committee party ratios for the 94th through 110th Congresses (1975-2009). In addition to the standing committees, data on permanent select committees with legislative jurisdiction are also included. A comparison of the Senate majority caucus seats in the chamber and in committees is provided in a separate table.

Sources and Method

Assignment data for each Senate committee for the 94th through the 110th Congresses were taken from the official committee assignment lists issued by the Secretary of the Senate, after assignments were made in each Congress.¹ Data for the 107th Congress reflect committee ratios established after the Senate reorganization in June 2001 as a result of the switch in party control.² The numbers on overall party strength in the Senate for each Congress were taken from the same lists issued by the Secretary of the Senate for the 99th through 110th Congresses. Data for the 94th through 98th Congresses were from the *Congressional Directory*.

¹ The first official list is prepared, excluding preliminary lists, under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate as a Senate publication. Most of the lists were issued in the spring of the first session of each Congress. In the 99th Congress, the list used as a source was marked preliminary, as were all the lists published during the first session of that Congress. The dates of the publications are footnoted at the end of each table. As noted, the 107th Congress is an exception due to the unusual circumstances of the equally divided Senate.

² 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. An historic power sharing agreement, S.Res. 8, was presented by party leaders and agreed to on Jan. 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*, by Elizabeth Rybicki.

The tables at the end of the report provide data for each Senate standing committee and permanent select committee with legislative jurisdictions. A table for each of the 17 Congresses covered in this report reflects the committees as established and titled in that Congress. For each Congress, a table shows the party division in the Senate, total number of seats on each committee, number of seats assigned to the majority and minority parties and, where present, number of seats assigned to independents or other party.³ Data for majority-minority caucus seat margins in the chamber and for each committee are also presented. Vacancies on committees (as noted in the Secretary's lists) are counted in individual and overall committee totals for consistency.

The following statistical information and selected analyses are based on the tables to illustrate trends over time and to highlight variations from traditional practices.⁴

Comparative Analysis of Ratios

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. The data for the 94th through the 110th Congresses appear to indicate that the practice has been fairly consistent with the historical trend, with slight majority over-representation in certain instances (with the exception of the Committee on Ethics, on which equal party strength is required, and the Select Committee on Intelligence, which by rule has a one-seat majority edge) regardless of which party has majority status (see **Table 1**).

During the 17 Congresses, the widest majority-minority party division was in the 95th Congress. In this Congress, there were 61 majority (Democrat) seats, 38 minority (Republican) seats, and one Independent who caucused with the majority. Factoring in the Independent, the majority increased its strength to 62 seats with a majority-minority caucus seat margin of 24 seats.

Congresses with the three narrowest party divisions in the Senate were the 107th, 108th, and 110th Congresses. In the 107th Congress, an Independent played a pivotal role by caucusing with the majority (Democrat) party which resulted in 51 caucus seats for the majority (Democrat) and 49 for the minority (Republican).⁵ In the 110th Congress, one Independent and one Independent-Democrat both caucused with the

³ A Conservative-Republican, Senator James L. Buckley (who caucused with the Republicans), was elected to the 94th Congress.

⁴ It is to be noted that these are not the only sources and methodologies available and that the use of alternate sources or methodologies will yield different data and findings. 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. The data in this report are from the earliest available information of each Congress contained in primary documents.

⁵ Data referenced for the 107th Congress in this report were compiled after the June 2001 party switch. See footnote 2 for details.

Democrats and consequently shifted the balance of power in favor of the Democrats which gained majority control in the chamber with 51 caucus seats.⁶

Thirty years ago, the majority (Democrat) had a substantial numerical advantage in the three consecutive Congresses: the 94th, 95th, and 96th Congresses. The 94th Congress witnessed a majority-minority caucus seat margin of 22 in favor of the majority (Democrat) which held 61 caucus seats. In the 95th Congress, the majority (Democrat) increased to 62 caucus seats with a caucus margin of 24 seats. The majority (Democrat) had 59 caucus seats with caucus margin of 18 seats in the 96th Congress.

109th and 110th Congresses

The total number of committee seats increased from 353 in the 109th Congress to 372 in the 110th Congress.

In the 109th Congress, the majority (Republican) held 55 seats compared to 44 for the minority (Democrat) with one Independent who caucused with the minority. The majority-minority caucus seat margin in the chamber was 10, with a caucus seat margin of 35 in total seats in committees.

In the closely divided 110th Congress, 1 Independent-Democrat and 1 Independent who caucused with the Democrats provided the Democrats with majority control which resulted in a majority-minority caucus seat margin of 2 in the chamber, and 18 in total committee seats.

Committee Sizes

During the period examined, there was a total of 22 standing and permanent select committees with legislative jurisdiction in the 94th Congress, 20 in the 95th Congress, and 19 from the 96th through the 110th Congresses.

The size of committees in the Congresses covered by this report ranged from 6 (Ethics) to 29 (Appropriations). In all 17 Congresses, the Appropriations Committee had the distinction of being the largest committee. In the 110th Congress, the committee had a total of 29 seats: 15 majority (Democrat) and 14 minority (Republican) seats.

The data indicate that the sizes of Senate committees have generally increased since the 94th Congress with a corresponding increase in the number of committee assignments a Senator typically receives. Total committee seats in the 17 Congresses ranged from 291 in the 95th Congress to 372 in the 110th Congress — an increase of 61 seats, or 21%. Senate Rule XXV, paragraph 4, generally limits the number of

⁶ In the period examined, Independents were elected to the 94th through 97th Congresses, and the 107th through 110th Congresses. These Independents caucused with Democrats, while one Conservative-Republican caucused with the Republicans in the 94th Congress.

standing committee assignments an individual Senator may have to three.⁷ However, Senators now serve, on average, on nearly four standing committees each. The growth in assignments reflects the interests of Senators in serving on more committees and the need for party leaders to seek waivers of assignment limits to assure working control for the majority on critical committees.

Committee Caucus Seat Margins

During these 17 Congresses, the majority-minority caucus seat advantage in the chamber ranged from two seats in each of the 107th, 108th and 110th Congresses to 24 seats in the 95th Congress. In the 110th Congress, the majority-minority caucus seat margin was two (49 Democrats, 49 Republicans, with one Independent-Democrat and one Independent caucusing with the Democrats) in the chamber. In each committee (except Ethics) there was a majority-minority caucus seat margin of one seat. The same one-seat margin is also evident in each committee (except Ethics) in the 107th Congress in which there were 50 majority (Democrat), 49 (Republican), and one Independent who caucused with the majority.⁸

In both the 105th and 106th Congresses, in which there were 55 majority (Republican) seats and 45 (Democrat) seats, there was a two-seat margin in all committees (except for Ethics and Intelligence). Conversely, in the 101st Congress the other major party was in control with the same party division: 55 majority (Democrat) seats and 45 minority (Republican) seats. The seat margins in committees ranged from one to three seats (except for Ethics), which was close to a two-seat average.

As noted earlier, the 95th Congress had the widest party division with 24 caucus seats, but the majority-minority caucus seat margin in committee varied greatly. Excluding Ethics, the majority-minority caucus seat margins in the committees ranged from one to seven, with about a third of the 20 standing and permanent select committees having a three or four seat margin; only one committee (Appropriations) had a majority-minority caucus seat margin of seven. It would appear that having gained a clear advantage of such a large majority, the party in control did not perceive the need to secure a wide margin on every committee.

Prospects for the Future

An examination of committee party ratios in the Senate over the 17 Congresses suggests a trend: the majority party ratios on committees roughly approximate majority party strength in the Senate chamber, regardless of which party is in control.

⁷ The standing rules of the Senate are available at [<http://rules.senate.gov/senaterules>]. For further information on committee structure and reforms in the Senate, see CRS Report RL32112, *Reorganization of the Senate: Modern Reform Efforts*, by Judy Schneider, Betsy Palmer, Christopher M. Davis, and Colton Campbell.

⁸ Data referenced for the 107th Congress in this report were compiled after the June 2001 party switch. See footnote 2 for details.

Each party has experienced changes in political fortunes; each understands that the majority of today could become the minority tomorrow. Including the unusual circumstances of the 107th Congress, majority control of the Senate switched more than six times since the 96th Congress.

The absence of any standing rules, or any apparent initiatives to establish formal rules for committee ratios, may indicate that the Senate might continue its long-standing practice of relying on negotiations between majority and minority party leaders. Barring any drastic departure from past practice, determination of majority-minority committee ratios would likely continue to be based on the Senate principles of custom, consultation, and comity.

Table 1. Comparison of Senate Majority Caucus Seats in Chamber and Committees: 94th -110th Congress

Congress	Majority Party	Senate Chamber Majority Caucus Seats	Total Majority Committee Caucus Seats
110th	Democrat	51.0%	52.4%
109th	Republican	55.0%	55.0%
108th	Republican	51.0%	52.7%
107th	Democrat	51.0%	52.4%
106th	Republican	55.0%	55.2%
105th	Republican	55.0%	55.2%
104th	Republican	53.0%	54.4%
103rd	Democrat	56.0%	55.9%
102nd	Democrat	57.0%	56.6%
101st	Democrat	55.0%	55.0%
100th	Democrat	54.0%	54.8%
99th	Republican	53.0%	53.8%
98th	Republican	54.0%	54.7%
97th	Republican	53.0%	54.2%
96th	Democrat	59.0%	58.6%
95th	Democrat	62.0%	61.2%
94th	Democrat	61.0%	60.9%

Note: Data referenced for the 107th Congress in this report were compiled after the June 2001 party switch. The data in this table include Independents who caucused with the majority party. The last column presents the percentage of total committee caucus seats of the majority compared to the majority caucus seats in the in the chamber.

Table 2. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 110th Congress (2007-2009)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number				Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp-Dem	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	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).

Note: Independent Members caucused with majority (Democrat): 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 3. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 109th Congress (2005-2007)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	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).

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

Table 4. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 108th Congress (2003-2005)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	100	51	48	1	2
Total Committee Seats	370	195	171	4	20
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	21	12	9		3
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		

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, Mar. 31, 2003 (Washington: GPO, 2003).

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

Table 5. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 107th Congress (2001-2003)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	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, Nov. 29, 2001 (Washington: GPO, 2002).

Notes: The data reflect data compiled after the June 2001 party control switch. 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 powersharing 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 the Ethics). The resolution further provided that no Senator would lose a committee seat by virtue of the resolution.

Table 6. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 106th Congress (1999-2001)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	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, Mar. 29, 1999 (Washington: GPO, 1999).

Table 7. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 105th Congress (1997-1999)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	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 Scisco, Secretary of the Senate, by R. Scott Bates, Legislative Clerk, Feb. 14, 1997 (Washington: GPO, 1997).

Table 8. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 104th Congress (1995-1997)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	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, Feb. 27, 1995 (Washington: GPO, 1995).

Table 9. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 103rd Congress (1993-1995)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	56	44	12
Total Committee Seats	347	194	153	41
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	21	12	9	3
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, Nov. 22, 1993 (Washington: GPO, 1993). (This publication is marked interim, as were all four of the lists for the First Session of the 103rd Congress).

Table 10. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 102nd Congress (1991-1993)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority-Minority Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	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, Sept. 23, 1991 (Washington: GPO, 1991).

Table 11. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 101st Congress (1989-1991)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	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).

Table 12. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 100th Congress (1987-1989)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority(D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	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
Special 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, 1989).

Table 13. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 99th Congress (1985-1987)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	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, Aug. 1, 1986 (Washington: GPO, 1986).

Table 14. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 98th Congress (1983-1985)

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	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 Congress (Washington: GPO, 1983)

Table 15. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 97th Congress (1981-1983)

	Total	Distribution of Seats		Indp	Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)		
Senate Party Strength	100	53	46	1	6
Total Committee Seats	310	168	140	2	26
Committees					
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	17	9	8		1
Appropriations	29	15	14		1
Armed Services	17	9	7	1	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	20	11	9		2
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7		2
Finance	20	11	8	1	2
Foreign Relations	17	9	8		1
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1
Judiciary	18	10	8		2
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7		2
Rules and Administration	12	7	5		2
Small Business	17	9	8		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*, 97th Congress, 1st sess. (Washington: GPO, 1981).

Note: Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., an Independent, caucused with minority.

Table 16. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 96th Congress (1979-1981)

	Total	Distribution of Seats		Indp	Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)		
Senate Party Strength	100	58	41	1	18
Total Committee Seats	292	169	121	2	50
Committees					
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8		2
Appropriations	28	17	11		6
Armed Services	17	9	7	1	3
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	15	9	6		3
Budget	20	12	8		4
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	17	10	7		3
Energy and Natural Resources	18	11	7		4
Environment and Public Works	14	8	6		2
Finance	20	11	8	1	4
Foreign Relations	15	9	6		3
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1
Judiciary	17	10	7		3
Labor and Human Resources	15	9	6		3
Rules and Administration	10	6	4		2
Veterans' Affairs	10	6	4		2
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	5	3	2		1
Select Committee on Intelligence	13	7	6		1
Select Committee on Small Business	17	10	7		3

Source: *Congressional Directory*, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (Washington: GPO, 1979).

Note: Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., an Independent, caucused with majority.

Table 17. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 95th Congress (1977-1979)

	Total	Distribution of Seats			Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	100	61	38	1	24
Total Committee Seats	291	176	113	2	65
Committees					
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	11	7		4
Appropriations	25	16	9		7
Armed Services	18	10	7	1	4
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	15	9	6		3
Budget	16	10	6		4
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	18	11	7		4
Energy and Natural Resources	18	11	7		4
Environment and Public Works	15	9	6		3
Finance	18	10	7	1	4
Foreign Relations	16	10	6		4
Governmental Affairs	17	10	7		3
Human Resources	15	9	6		3
Judiciary	17	11	6		5
Rules and Administration	9	6	3		3
Veterans' Affairs	9	6	3		3
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	5	3	2		1
Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs	8	5	3		2
Select Committee on Small Business	9	6	3		3
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0
Select Committee on Intelligence	19	10	9		1

Source: *Congressional Directory*, 95th Congress, 1st sess. (Washington: GPO, 1977).

Note: Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., an Independent, caucused with majority.

Table 18. Senate Committee Party Ratios: 94th Congress (1975-1977)

	Total	Distribution of Seats				Majority-Minority Caucus Seat Margin
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Consrv-Rep	Indp	
Senate Party Strength	100	60	38	1	1	22
Total Committee Seats	302	181	116	2	3	66
Committees						
Aeronautical and Space Sciences	10	6	4			2
Agriculture and Forestry	14	9	5			4
Appropriations	26	16	10			6
Armed Services	16	9	6		1	4
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	13	8	5			3
Budget	16	10	5	1		4
Commerce	19	12	6	1		5
District of Columbia	7	4	3			1
Finance	18	10	7		1	4
Foreign Relations	17	10	7			3
Governmental Operations	14	9	5			4
Interior and Insular Affairs	14	9	5			4
Judiciary	15	9	6			3
Labor and Public Welfare	15	9	6			3
Post Office and Civil Service	9	5	4			
Public Works	14	9	4		1	6
Rules and Administration	8	5	3			2
Veterans' Affairs	9	5	4			1
Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs	14	8	6			2
Select Committee on Small Business	17	10	7			3
Select Committee on Standards and Conduct	6	3	3			0
Select Committee To Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities	11	6	5			1

Source: *Congressional Directory*, 94th Congress, 1st sess. (Washington: GPO, 1975).

Note: Other parties in this Congress: one Independent and one Conservative. Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., an Independent, caucused with majority. Senator James L. Buckley, a Conservative-Republican, caucused with the minority.