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Senate Committee Party Ratios: 98th-108th 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 11 Congresses (98th through 108th). Also included are data on select committees with legislative jurisdiction. For each Congress, a table shows the total number of seats on each committee, the number of seats assigned to the majority and minority parties and, where present, the number of seats assigned to independents. The tables also provide the number of majority and minority seats on each committee as percentages of the total, and majority-minority seat margins in the chamber, in the total number of committee seats, and on each individual committee. The percentage of committee seats held by the majority is compared with its full chamber strength.

During the 11 Congresses, 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, with a very slight over-representation on overall total committee seats. The data also suggest that the narrower the majority-minority party margin in the chamber, the tighter the control the majority exerts in committee assignments. This report will be updated as events warrant.

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Senate Committee Party Ratios: 98th-108th Congresses

The standing rules of the Senate are silent regarding committee party ratios. The majority and minority leaders, in consultation, determine the apportionment of the committee seats to each party. They implement this agreement through resolutions electing Senators to committees. This report provides an overview and data on Senate standing committee party ratios the 98th through 108th Congresses (1983-2005). In addition to the standing committees, data on permanent select committees with legislative jurisdiction are also included.

Sources and Method

Assignment data for each Senate committee for the 98th through the 108th 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 are taken from the same lists issued by the Secretary of the Senate.

The tables at the end of the report provide data for each Senate standing committee and permanent select committees with legislative jurisdictions. A table for each of the 11 Congresses covered in this report reflects the committees as

¹Each list is the first official list 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.

²At 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 powersharing 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, 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: The Powersharing Agreement And Recent Developments*, by Paul S. Rundquist.

established and titled in that Congress. The tables indicate the total number of seats on each committee, as well as the number assigned to the majority and minority parties and, where present, to independents. The majority and minority seats on each committee are also shown as percentages of the total (which do not add to 100 when independents are present). Also included are (1) the chamber's majority-minority distribution; (2) the total number of committee seats controlled by each party; and (3) party strength on each individual committee. The majority percentage of total committee seats is compared to the majority percentage of the full Senate.³ 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

The data shows that the majority party has generally over-represented itself slightly in making committee assignments in most Congresses (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). In nine of the 11 Congresses, the majority had a slight over-representation, as calculated in percentage points. From the 98th to the 108th Congresses, the majority ratio in committee, compared to its strength in the Senate chamber, ranged from an under-representation of -0.37 percentage points in the 102nd Congress to an over-representation of 1.70 percentage points in the 108th Congresses.

During five Congresses of this period, the majority party had a substantial numerical advantage. In two Congresses (102nd and 103rd), the majority was under-represented on committees, compared with its overall strength in the Senate. In the 102nd Congress, the majority was under-represented on committees by -0.37 percentage points. In the 103rd Congress, the majority was under-represented on committees in which it was under-represented by -0.09 percentage points. These two Congresses constitute two of the widest majority-minority seat margins in the period examined: 12 seats in the 102nd Congress and 14 seats in the 103rd. In three other Congresses (101st, 105th, and 106th) when the majority-minority seat margin was 10 in each Congress, the majority over-representation on committees was 0.05, 0.19, and 0.16, respectively. By comparison, in the other six Congresses where the Senate party strengths have been closer, majority party over-representation in committees has been greater.

³All percentages are calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

⁴It 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.

108th Congress and 107th Congresses

With 51 Senate seats in the 108th Congress, the majority holds 52.70% of the committee seats, compared to the minority's 48 Senate seats and 46.22% of the committee seats. The majority was over-represented on committees in the 108th Congress by 1.70 percentage points. With 50 Senate seats in the 107th Congress (after June 2001), the majority held 51.34% of the committee seats compared to the minority's 49 Senate seats and 47.58% of the committee seats. The majority was over-represented on committees in the 107th Congress by 1.34 percentage points.

From the 107th Congress to the 108th Congress, the total number of committee seats dropped from 372 to 370 seats; at the same time the majority gained two additional seats.

Committee Sizes

The size of committees during the 11 Congresses covered by this report ranged from six (Ethics) to 29 (Appropriations). The size of a committee is a factor in calculating ratios by percentage. The smaller the size of the committee, the greater percentage point difference a change of one seat makes. For example, mathematically speaking, in the current 51 to 49 majority-minority margin, a one-seat advantage for the majority at eight seats to the minority's seven on a committee of 15 Members (as on the Committee of Indian Affairs in the 108th Congress) translates into a majority over-representation of 2.33 percentage points. In contrast, on the Committee on Appropriations (the largest committee in the 108th Congress), the majority's one-seat advantage over the minority (15 to 14) resulted in an over-representation of 0.72 percentage points.

In the 100th Congress, when the majority had 54 seats compared to the minority's 46 in the full chamber, the aggregate majority committee seat percentage exceeded its strength in the chamber by 0.77 percentage point. On the six-member Ethics Committee, which has equal representation, the majority's ratio was calculated at 4.00 percentage points *less* than its strength in the Senate. In this same Congress, the majority was over-represented by 8.50 percentage points on the Committee on Indian Affairs (then known as the Special Committee on Indian Affairs). The committee had a total of eight seats with a five-to-three majority-minority allocation. This committee almost doubled in size to a total of 15 seats in the 108th Congress while the majority over-representation decreased to 2.33 percentage points. These examples illustrate the importance of taking into consideration the size of the committee and its impact on the percentage point calculations.

Committee Totals

Since the 98th Congress, the sizes of Senate committees have generally increased as has the number of committee assignments a Senator typically receives. Total committee seats in the 11 Congresses covered ranged from 312 (99th Congress) to 372 (107th Congress). Senate Rule XXV, paragraph 4, generally limits to three the number of standing committee assignments an individual Senator may have. The growth in overall committee assignments during the period covered shows 60

additional seats added to Senate committees. The result is that Senators now serve, on average, on nearly four standing committees each. Generally, 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 Seat Margins

Over this period, during these 11 Congresses, the majority-minority party advantage in the full Senate ranged from one seat (the second half of the First Session of the 107th Congress) to 14 (102nd Congress). The data appear to indicate that the closer the majority-minority seat margin in the Senate, the greater the likelihood of majority over-representation on committees, and the higher the percentage point difference between total committee and chamber ratios.

In the 108th Congress, with a majority-minority margin of three seats (51 Republicans, 48 Democrats, and 1 Independent), the majority committee party ratio, when compared with its strength in the chamber, has an over-representation of 1.70 percentage points. This was the majority party's highest percentage point over-representation during this period (98th -108th Congresses). In the closely divided 107th Congress (50 Democrats, 49 Republicans, 1 Independent, after June 2001 reorganization), the majority over-representation was 1.34 percentage points.

Conversely, the greater advantage of the majority in the full Senate, the more likely it is to be under-represented in committee strength. For example, in the 102nd Congress, the majority-minority seat margin in the Senate was 14. The aggregate majority committee party ratio was *less* than its strength in the Senate by -0.37 percentage points. The majority was also under-represented slightly at -0.09 percentage points in the 103rd Congress, when the majority-minority seat margin in the chamber was 12. During these two Congresses, the majority was slightly under-represented on nearly half of individual committees.

During the period surveyed, the majority-minority margins on individual committees (with the exception of the Ethics and Intelligence Committees, and the unusual circumstances of the 107th Congress) ranged from one to three seats. A two-seat margin on most committees, regardless of the margin in the Senate, was more common in the Congresses prior to the 107th Congress, when there were no Independent Members. In the 107th and 108th Congresses, most committees had a one-seat majority-minority margin that reflected the very close margin in the party strength in the Senate chamber.

Prospects for the Future

An examination of the committee ratios surveyed shows a trend: the majority party ratios on committees roughly approximate majority party strength in the Senate chamber, regardless of which party is in control, with a very slight over-representation on overall total committee seats. The data further suggest that the narrower the majority-minority party margin in the chamber, the tighter the control

the majority exerts in committee assignments. Barring any drastic departure from Senate practice and custom, the data appear to suggest that this historical trend may well continue in future Congresses.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	Independent		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	51	48	1	3	51.00	48.00	
Total Committee Seats	370	195	171	4	24	52.70	46.22	1.70
Committees								
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10		1	52.38	47.62	1.38
Appropriations	29	15	14		1	51.72	48.28	0.72
Armed Services	25	13	12		1	52.00	48.00	1.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	11	10		1	52.38	47.62	1.38
Budget	23	12	11		1	52.17	47.83	1.17
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	23	12	11		1	52.17	47.83	1.17
Energy and Natural Resources	21	12	9		3	57.14	42.86	6.14
Environment and Public Works	19	10	8	1	2	52.63	42.11	1.63
Finance	21	11	9	1	2	52.38	42.86	1.38
Foreign Relations	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	1.63
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1	52.94	47.06	1.94
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	21	11	9	1	2	52.38	42.86	1.38
Indian Affairs	15	8	7		1	53.33	46.67	2.33
Judiciary	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	1.63
Rules and Administration	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	1.63
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	1.63
Veterans' Affairs	15	8	6	1	2	53.33	40.00	2.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0	50.00	50.00	-1.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8		1	52.94	47.06	1.94

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).

Notes: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding. Data on the Select Committee on Homeland Security are excluded because the panel was temporary in the 107th and 108th Congresses.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority-Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	Independent		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	50	49	1	1	50.00	49.00	
Total Committee Seats	372	191	177	4	14	51.34	47.58	1.34
Committees								
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	21	11	10		1	52.38	47.62	2.38
Appropriations	29	15	14		1	51.72	48.28	1.72
Armed Services	25	13	12		1	52.00	48.00	2.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	11	10		1	52.38	47.62	2.38
Budget	23	12	11		1	52.17	47.83	2.17
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	23	12	11		1	52.17	47.83	2.17
Energy and Natural Resources	23	12	11		1	52.17	47.83	2.17
Environment and Public Works	19	9	9	1	0	47.37	47.37	-2.63
Finance	21	10	10	1	0	47.62	47.62	-2.38
Foreign Relations	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	2.63
Governmental Affairs	17	9	8		1	52.94	47.06	2.94
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	21	10	10	1	0	47.62	47.62	-2.38
Indian Affairs	15	8	7		1	53.33	46.67	3.33
Judiciary	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	2.63
Rules and Administration	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	2.63
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	10	9		1	52.63	47.37	2.63
Veterans' Affairs	15	7	7	1	0	46.67	46.67	-3.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3		0	50.00	50.00	0.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8		1	52.94	47.06	2.94

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: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding. 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 switching to become an Independent 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. Data on the Select Committee on Homeland Security are excluded because the panel was temporary in the 107th Congress.

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

	Distribution of Seats Number			Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
	Total	Majority (R)	Minority (D)		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	55	45	10	55.00	45.00	
Total Committee Seats	339	187	152	35	55.16	44.84	0.16
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Appropriations	28	15	13	2	53.57	46.43	-1.43
Armed Services	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Budget	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	-0.45
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Environment and Public Works	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Governmental Affairs	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Indian Affairs	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	2.14
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Small Business	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	3.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-5.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-2.06

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	55	45	10	55.00	45.00	
Total Committee Seats	337	186	151	35	55.19	44.81	0.19
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Appropriations	28	15	13	2	53.57	46.43	-1.43
Armed Services	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Budget	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	-0.45
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Environment and Public Works	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Governmental Affairs	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Labor and Human Resources	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Indian Affairs	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	2.14
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Small Business	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	0.56
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	3.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-5.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-2.37

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	53	47	6	53.00	47.00	
Total Committee Seats	331	180	151	29	54.38	45.62	1.38
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06
Appropriations	28	15	13	2	53.57	46.43	0.57
Armed Services	21	11	10	1	52.38	47.62	-0.62
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	3.25
Budget	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	1.55
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-0.37
Energy and Natural Resources	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	2.56
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	3.25
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	2.00
Foreign Relations	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	2.56
Governmental Affairs	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	0.33
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	3.25
Indian Affairs	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	2.56
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	3.25
Small Business	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-0.37
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	5.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-3.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	56	44	12	56.00	44.00	
Total Committee Seats	347	194	153	41	55.91	44.09	-0.09
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	-0.44
Appropriations	29	16	13	3	55.17	44.83	-0.83
Armed Services	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	-1.45
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	19	11	8	3	57.89	42.11	1.89
Budget	21	12	9	3	57.14	42.86	1.14
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-1.00
Energy and Natural Resources	21	12	9	3	57.14	42.86	1.14
Environment and Public Works	17	10	7	3	58.82	41.18	2.82
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-1.00
Foreign Relations	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-1.00
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	1.14
Labor and Human Resources	17	10	7	3	58.82	41.18	2.82
Indian Affairs	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	-0.44
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	-0.44
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	0.25
Small Business	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	-1.45
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	2.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-6.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-3.06

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	57	43	14	57.00	43.00	
Total Committee Seats	332	188	144	44	56.63	43.37	-0.37
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	-1.44
Appropriations	29	16	13	3	55.17	44.83	-1.83
Armed Services	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-2.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	12	9	3	57.14	42.86	0.14
Budget	21	12	9	3	57.14	42.86	0.14
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-2.00
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	-2.00
Environment and Public Works	17	10	7	3	58.82	41.18	1.82
Finance	19	11	8	3	57.89	42.11	0.89
Foreign Relations	19	11	8	3	57.89	42.11	0.89
Governmental Affairs	13	8	5	3	61.54	38.46	4.54
Labor and Human Resources	17	10	7	3	58.82	41.18	1.82
Judiciary	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	0.14
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	-0.75
Small Business	19	11	8	3	57.89	42.11	0.89
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	1.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-7.00
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	-0.75
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	-3.67

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (D)	Minority (R)		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	55	45	10	55.00	45.00	
Total Committee Seats	327	180	147	33	55.05	44.95	0.05
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-2.37
Appropriations	29	16	13	3	55.17	44.83	0.17
Armed Services	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	21	12	9	3	57.14	42.86	2.14
Budget	23	13	10	3	56.52	43.48	1.52
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Energy and Natural Resources	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-2.37
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	0.00
Foreign Relations	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-2.37
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	2.14
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Judiciary	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	2.14
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	1.25
Small Business	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-2.37
Veterans' Affairs	11	6	5	1	54.55	45.45	-0.45
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-5.00
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	10	6	4	2	60.00	40.00	5.00
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	-1.67

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Subcommittees and Subcommittees ad 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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority-Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority(D)	Minority (R)		Majority (D)	Minority (R)	
Senate Party Strength	100	54	46	8	54.00	46.00	
Total Committee Seats	325	178	147	31	54.77	45.23	0.77
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-1.37
Appropriations	29	16	13	3	55.17	44.83	1.17
Armed Services	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Budget	24	13	11	2	54.17	45.83	0.17
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Energy and Natural Resources	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-1.37
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	2.25
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Foreign Relations	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-1.37
Governmental Affairs	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	3.14
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	2.25
Judiciary	14	8	6	2	57.14	42.86	3.14
Rules and Administration	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	2.25
Small Business	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-1.37
Veterans' Affairs	11	6	5	1	54.55	45.45	0.55
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-4.00
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	8	5	3	2	62.50	37.50	8.50
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	-0.67

Source: *List of Standing Committees and Subcommittees and Subcommittees ad 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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	53	47	6	53.00	47.00	
Total Committee Seats	312	168	144	24	53.85	46.15	0.85
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06
Appropriations	29	15	14	1	51.72	48.28	-1.28
Armed Services	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-0.37
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	0.33
Budget	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	1.55
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06
Energy and Natural Resources	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	2.56
Environment and Public Works	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	0.33
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	2.00
Foreign Relations	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-0.06
Governmental Affairs	13	7	6	1	53.85	46.15	0.85
Labor and Human Resources	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	3.25
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	2.56
Rules and Administration	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	0.33
Small Business	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-0.37
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	5.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-3.00
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	9	5	4	1	55.56	44.44	2.56
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	0.33

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).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.

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

	Total	Distribution of Seats Number		Majority- Minority Seat Margin	Distribution of Seats Percentage		Difference in % Committee Majority Compared to % Senate Majority
		Majority (R)	Minority (D)		Majority (R)	Minority (D)	
Senate Party Strength	100	54	46	8	54.00	46.00	
Total Committee Seats	320	175	145	30	54.69	45.31	0.69
Committees							
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Appropriations	29	15	14	1	51.72	48.28	-2.28
Armed Services	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Budget	22	12	10	2	54.55	45.45	0.55
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-1.06
Energy and Natural Resources	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Environment and Public Works	16	9	7	2	56.25	43.75	2.25
Finance	20	11	9	2	55.00	45.00	1.00
Foreign Relations	17	9	8	1	52.94	47.06	-1.06
Governmental Affairs	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Judiciary	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Labor and Human Resources	18	10	8	2	55.56	44.44	1.56
Rules and Administration	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	4.33
Small Business	19	10	9	1	52.63	47.37	-1.37
Veterans' Affairs	12	7	5	2	58.33	41.67	4.33
Select Committee on Ethics	6	3	3	0	50.00	50.00	-4.00
Select Committee on Indian Affairs	7	4	3	1	57.14	42.86	3.14
Select Committee on Intelligence	15	8	7	1	53.33	46.67	-0.67

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-Eighth Congress*, Prepared Under the Direction of William F. Hildenbrand, Secretary of the Senate, Mar. 14, 1983 (Washington: GPO, 1983).

Note: Percentages were calculated by computer, and reflect rounding.