

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHART BOOK



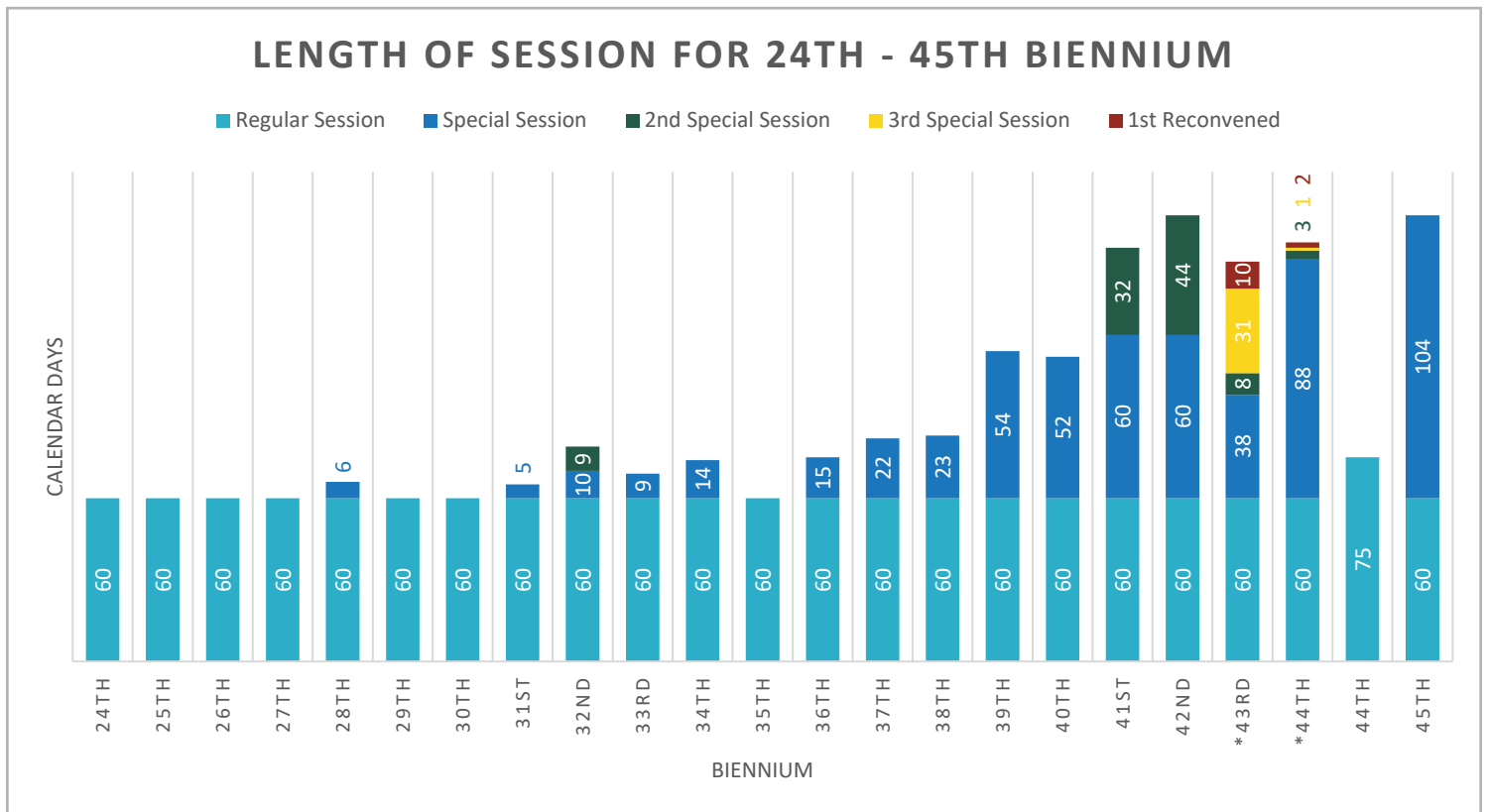
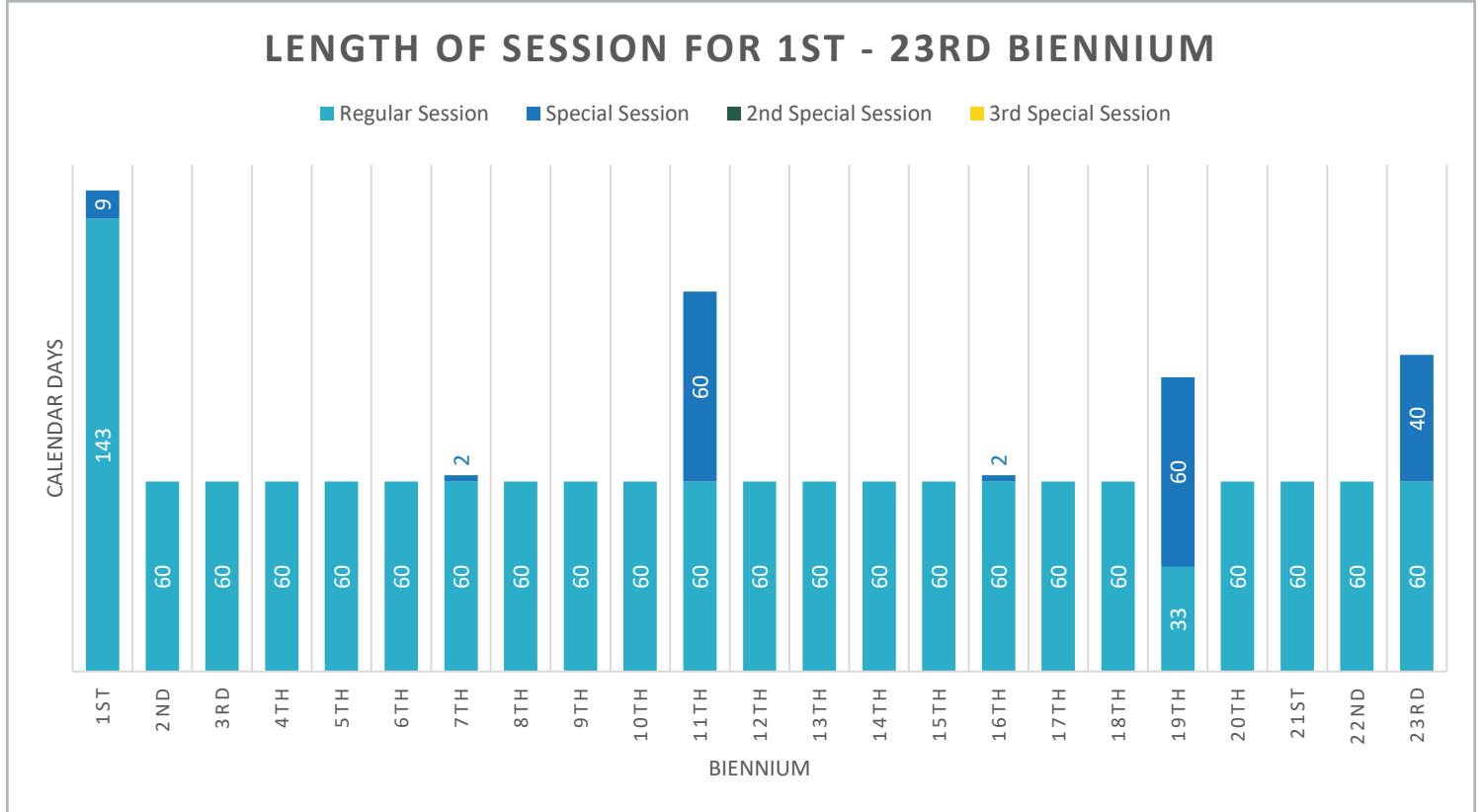
A Selected Graphical History
including Length of Session,
Gubernatorial Appointments,
Political Division, and
Women in Legislature.

as of 2024

Length of Session

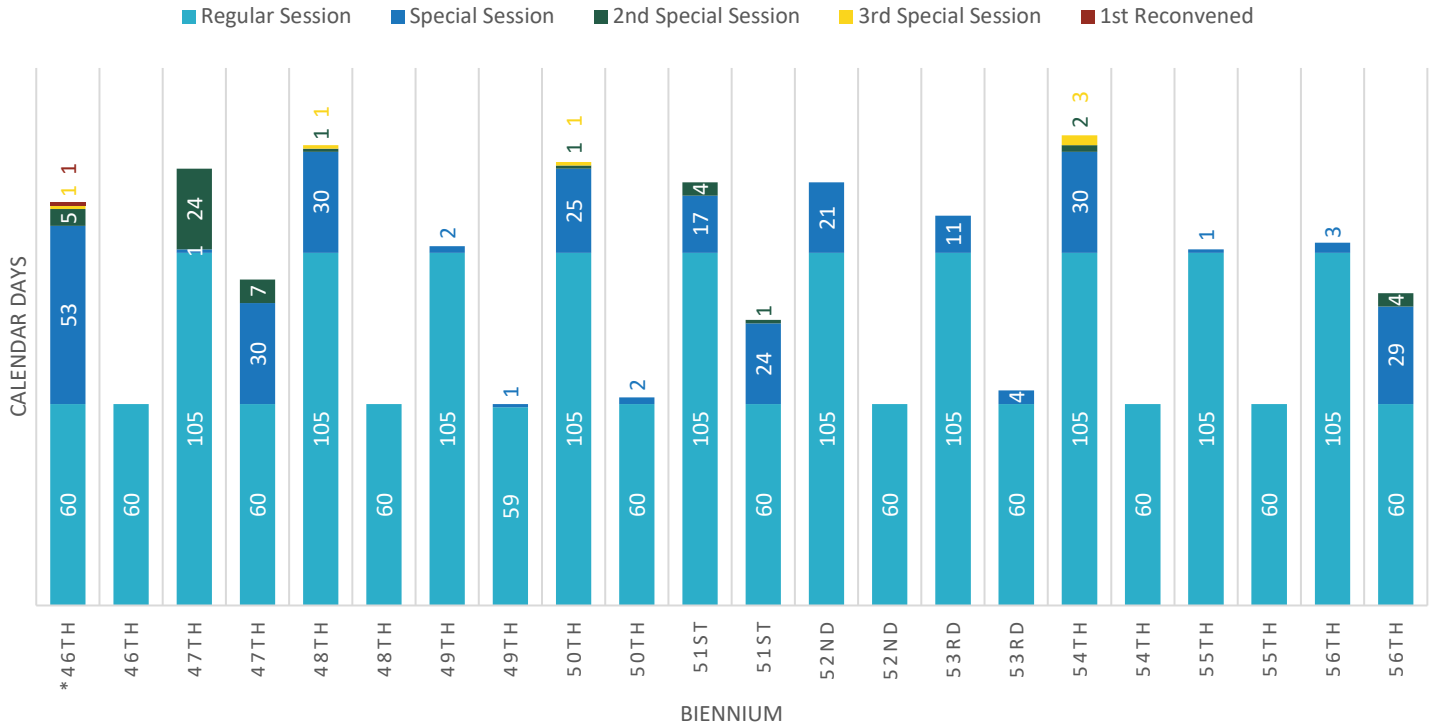
For the purposes of this table, a session's "length in days" is defined as the total number of calendar days from the convening date to the adjournment date, inclusive. It does not mean the actual number of days that the Legislature convened during that session.

Approved by the voters November 6, 1979, annual sessions convened pursuant to SHB 1126 and SSJR 110; 105 days in odd number years; 60 in even number years.

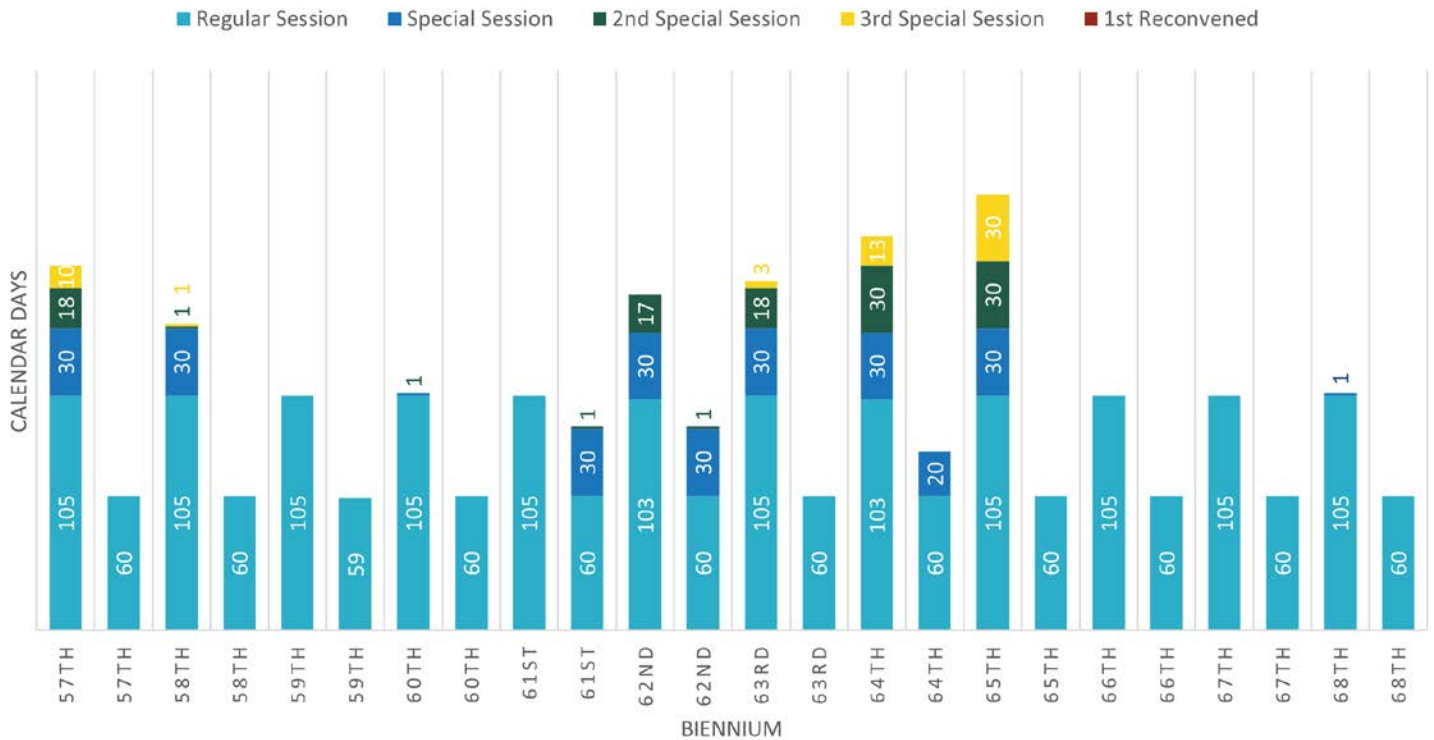


Length of Session *continued*

LENGTH OF SESSION FOR 46TH - 56TH BIENNIUM



LENGTH OF SESSION FOR 57TH - 68TH BIENNIUM



* Pursuant to Article 2, section 11 of the state constitution, neither house may adjourn for more than three days without the consent of the other. Accordingly, both chambers regularly convene "pro forma" session to conform to this constitutional restriction. Administrative and ceremonial business is conducted during a pro forma session. Action requiring a vote of the membership is not taken and few members are generally in attendance.

Memorials & Resolutions

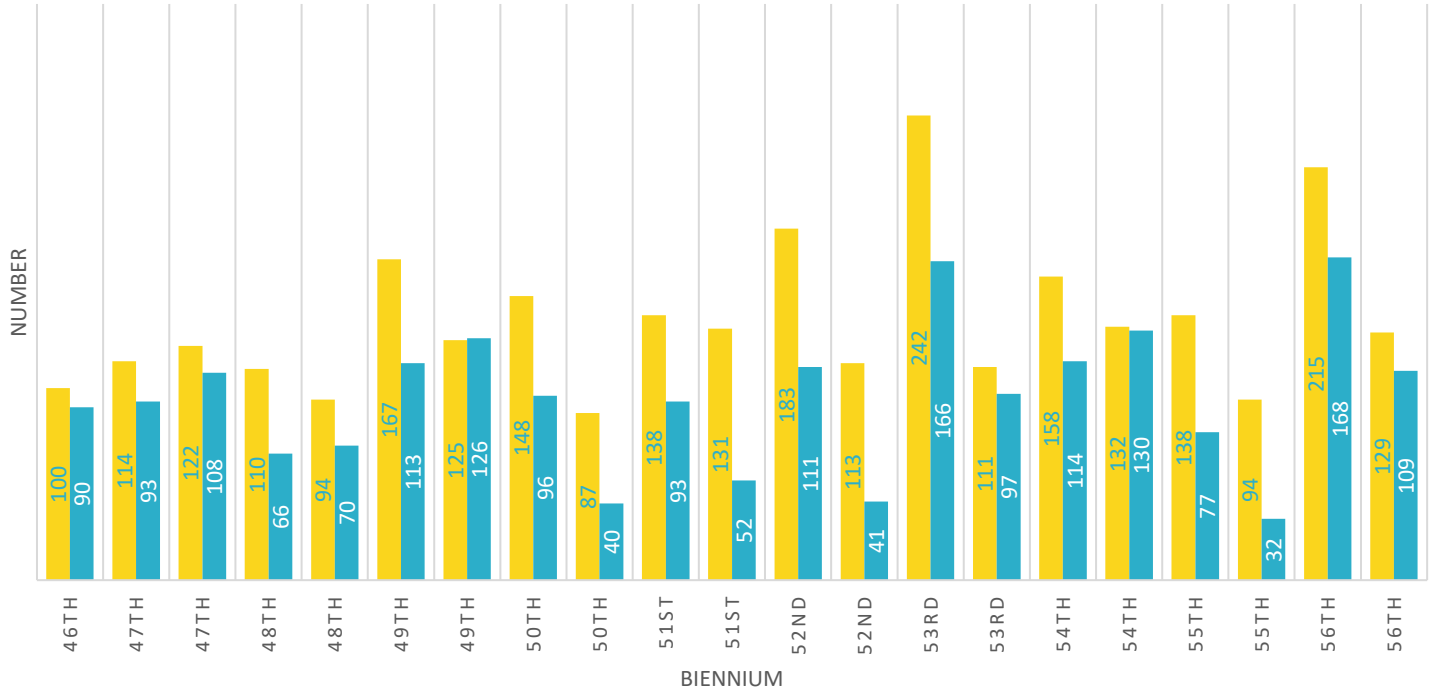
Initiatives

Year	SENATE		HOUSE		TOTAL		Year	TOTAL	
	Introduced	Filed	Introduced	Filed	Introduced	Filed		Introduced	Filed
1980 - 89 Ave.	54	16	57	19	111	34	1980 - 89 Ave.	1	1
1990	38	15	19	7	57	22	1990	0	0
1991	67	7	70	12	137	19	1991	0	0
1992	20	5	34	1	54	6	1992	1	1
1993	52	5	52	13	104	18	1993	0	2
1994	27	8	25	1	52	9	1994	0	2
1995	45	9	57	4	102	13	1995	2	3
1996	19	6	17	5	36	11	1996	2	0
1997	38	7	50	5	88	12	1997	0	1
1998	29	2	29	4	58	6	1998	1	0
1999	34	4	36	10	70	14	1999	3	3
2000	38	9	36	3	74	12	2000	2	1
2001	49	5	47	4	96	9	2001	6	4
2002	25	5	22	5	47	10	2002	3	3
2003	54	7	46	4	100	11	2003	2	2
2004	46	5	34	6	80	11	2004	1	1
2005	54	6	46	3	100	9	2005	2	2
2006	36	6	44	9	80	15	2006	3	2
2007	56	10	55	9	111	19	2007	3	1
2008	21	5	19	5	40	10	2008	1	1
2009	44	10	39	6	83	16	2009	3	2
2010	26	8	29	7	55	15	2010	3	2
2011	37	12	43	8	80	20	2011	7	2
2012	26	9	19	8	45	17	2012	3	2
2013	29	10	29	13	58	23	2013	5	3
2014	16	6	11	2	27	8	2014	7	3
2015	28	7	37	12	65	19	2015	5	4
2016	21	4	17	7	38	11	2016	6	4
2017	32	6	35	7	67	13	2017	9	5
2018	12	3	15	6	27	9	2018	4	1
2019	38	9	25	3	63	12	2019	7	4
2020	27	5	19	2	46	7	2020		2
2021	19	2	14	4	33	6	2021	0	0
2022	9	3	13	3	22	6	2022	0	0
2023	27	8	16	4	43	12	2023	0	0
2024	14	7	15	3	29	10	2024	6	3
Ave.	38	9	37	9	75	17	Ave.	2	2

Gubernatorial Appointments

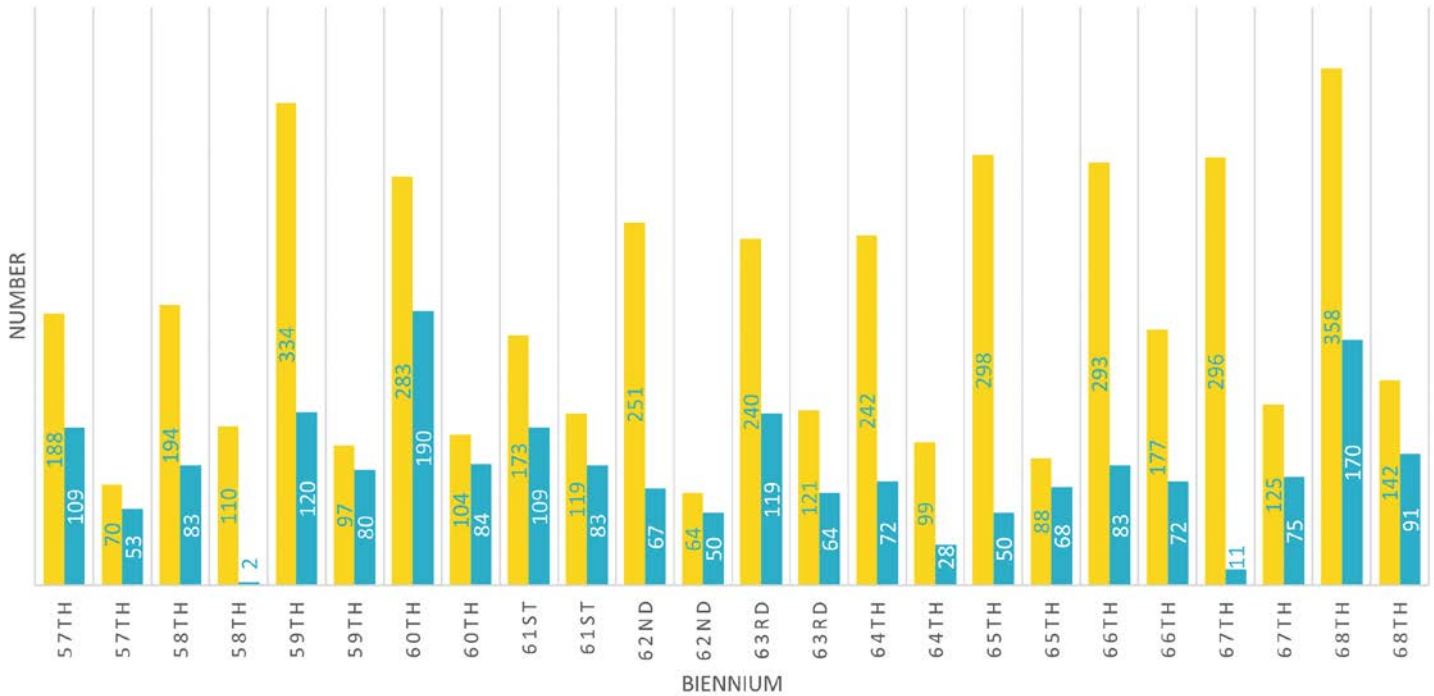
GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS 1980 - 2000

■ Referred ■ Confirmed



GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS 2001 - 2024

■ Referred ■ Confirmed



Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year

These charts show the political division of the Senate and House going all the way back to 1889, when Washington was still a territory.

A few highlights are:

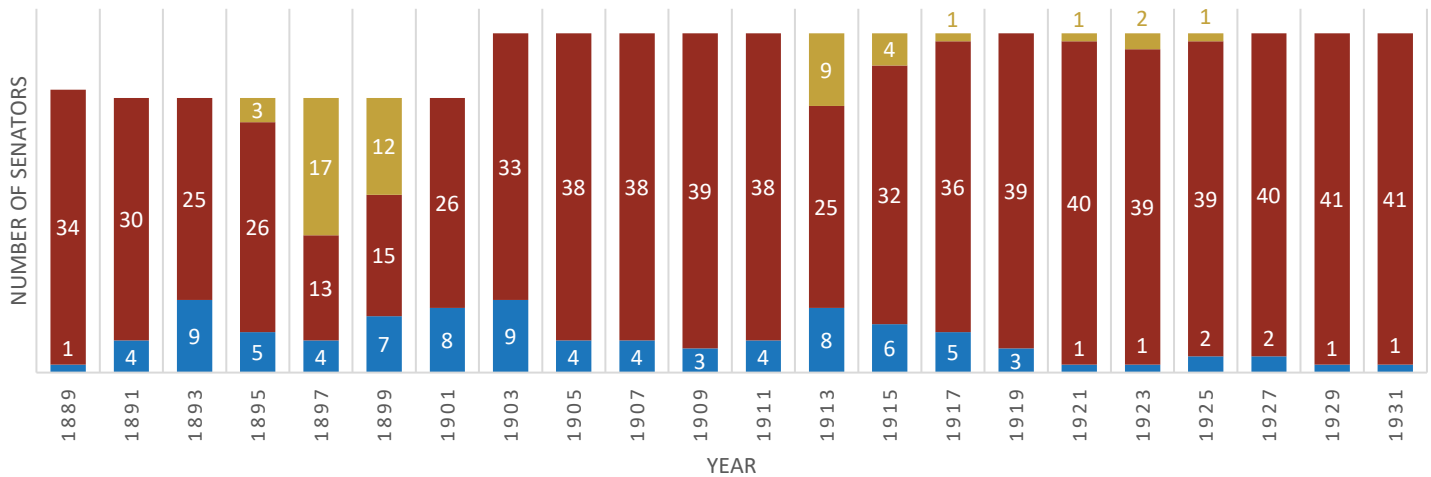
- The Enabling Act of 1889 changed three territories into four states: Washington, Montana, N. & S. Dakota.
- In 1896, J.R. Rogers became Washington's only populist governor.
- The drop in the total number of seats in the House for the years 1905 and 1911 is surprising. Expected would be for the number of seats to steadily increase toward the constitutional maximum for the House of 99 seats.

The charts suggest the influence of redistricting. For example, for the state Senate, from 1967 on (following the Supreme Court's decisions, Carr v. Baker in 1962 and Reynolds v. Sims in '64) there is less variability in the political division, and by 1981 political majority swings are even less, staying within a maximum of three seats.

Note the dominant Republican majority in both chambers after WWI, followed by the significant switch to the Democrats during the Great Depression and the New Deal.

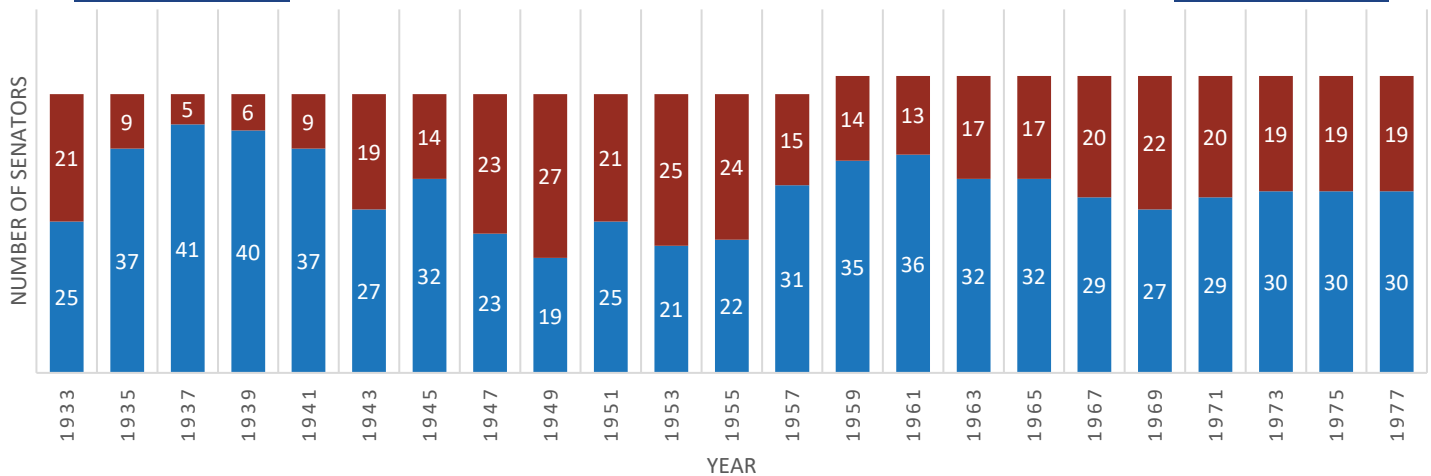
POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1889 - 1931

1889 = 35 | 1891-1901 = 34 ■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Other 1903-1931 = 42



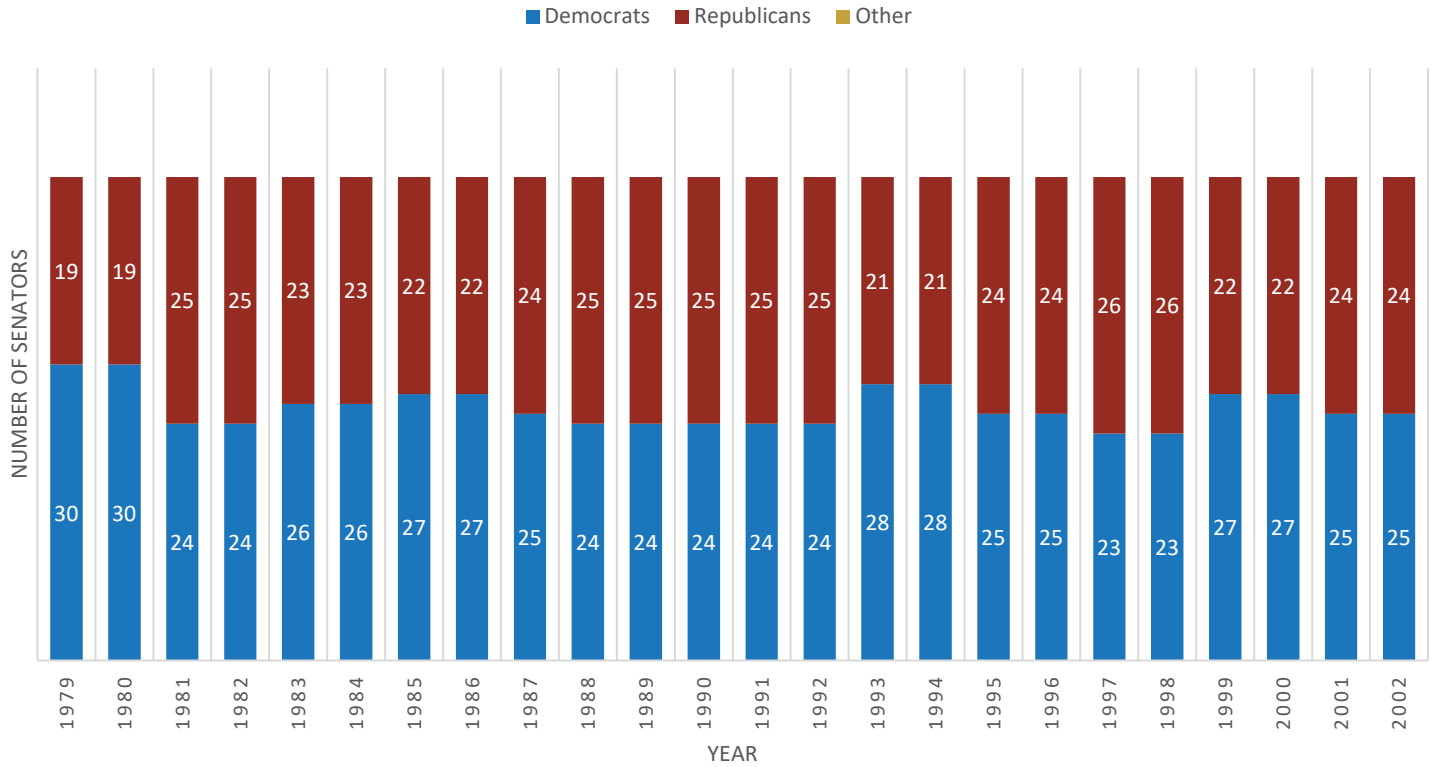
POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1933 - 1977

1933-1957 = 46 ■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Other 1959-now = 49

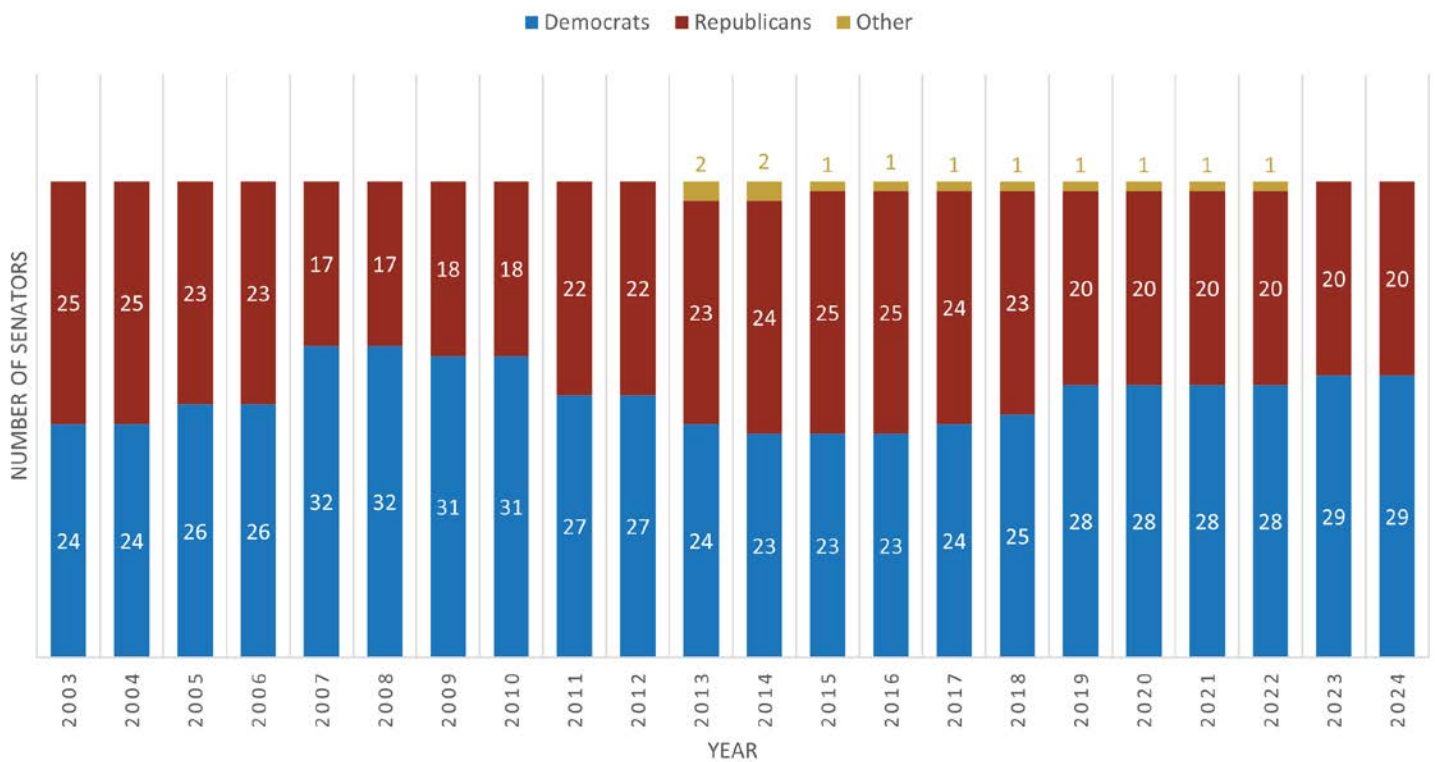


Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1979 - 2002



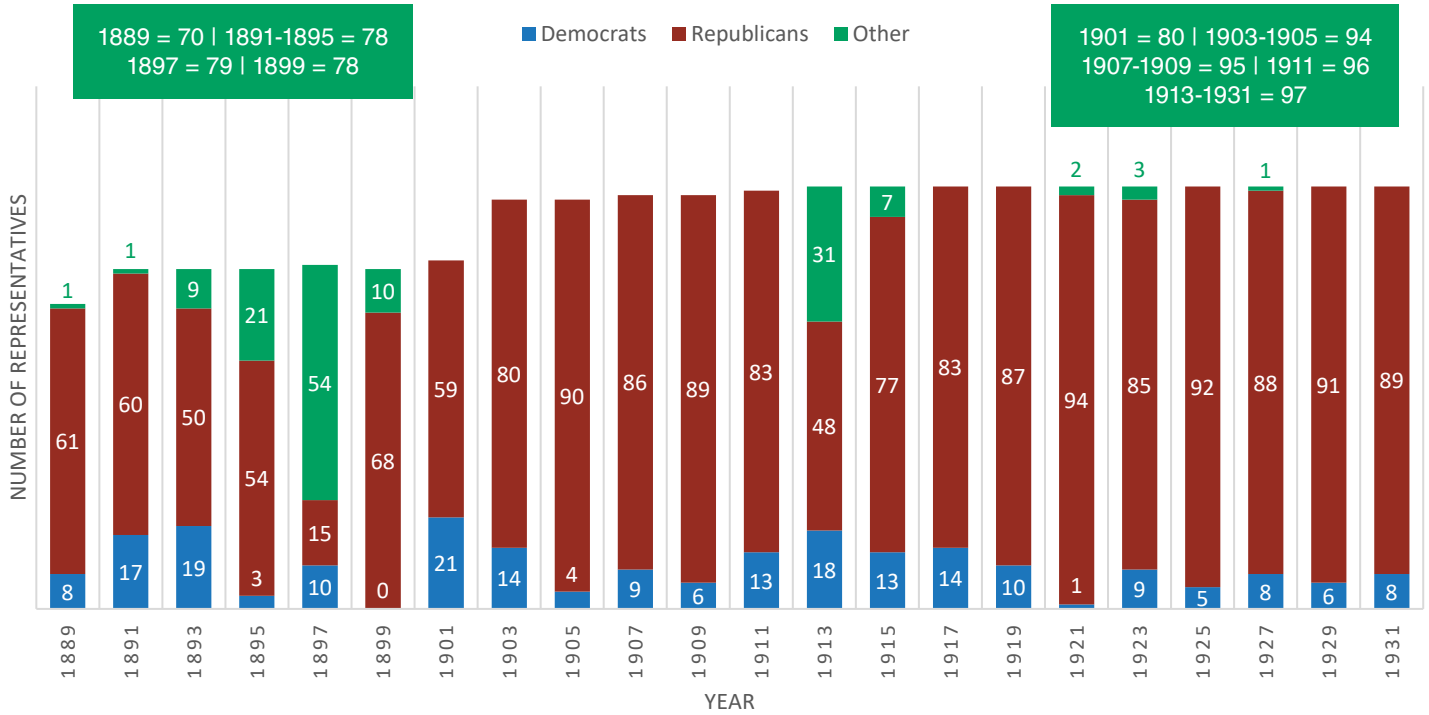
POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 2003 - 2024



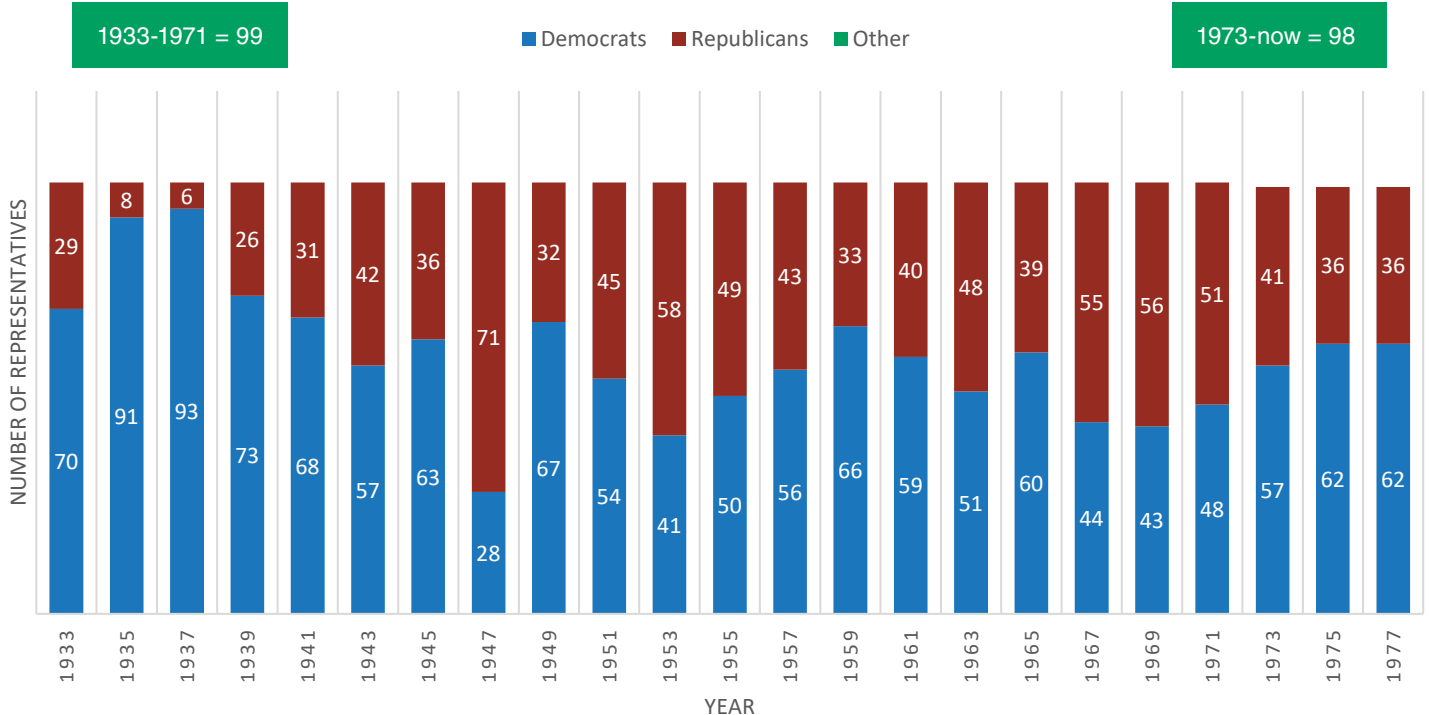
* 2013 - 2022: Other = Ds Caucused with Rs

Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1889 - 1931

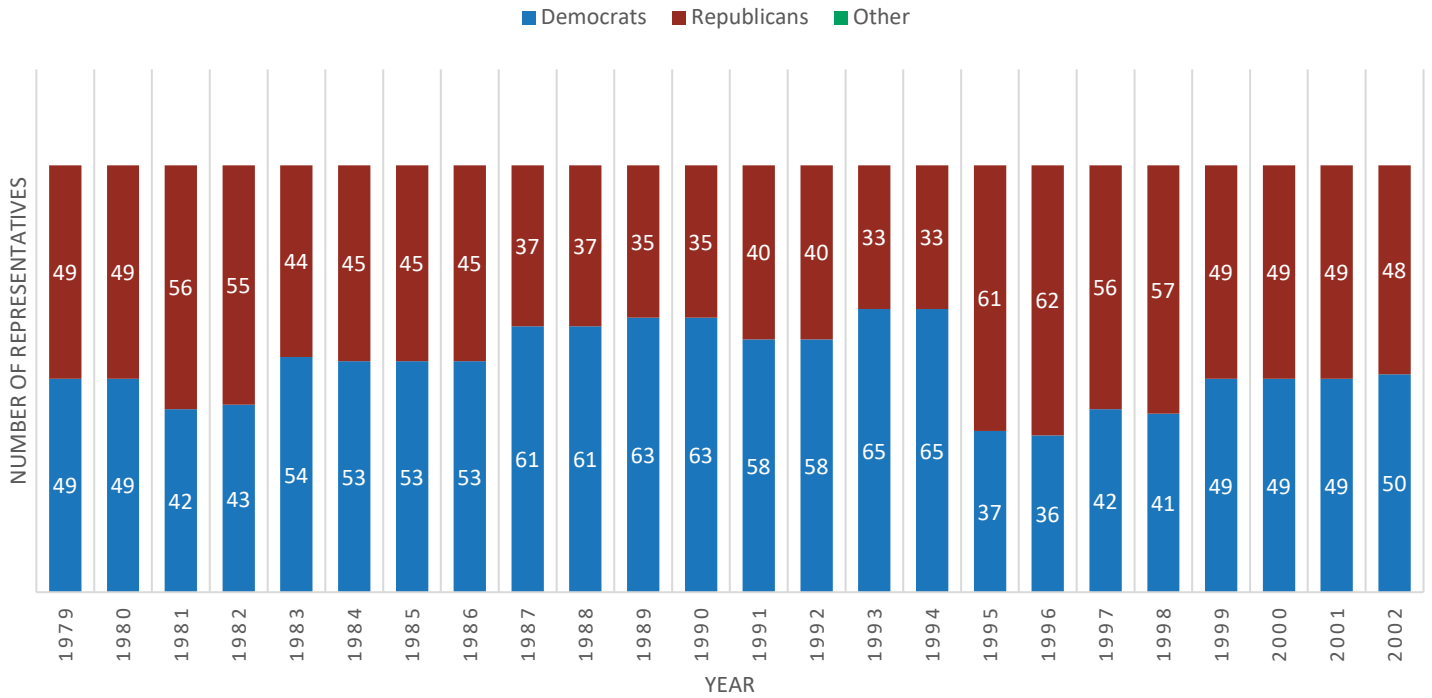


POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1933 - 1977

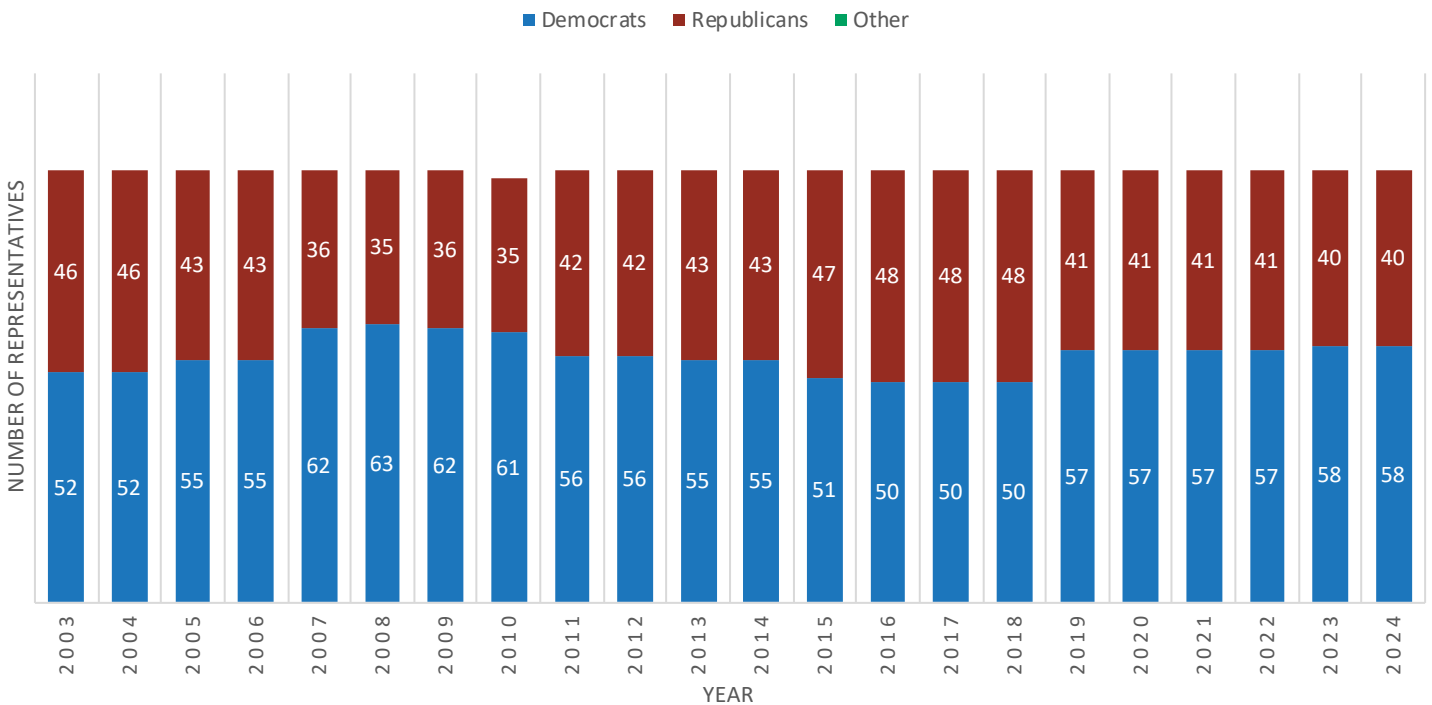


Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1979 - 2002



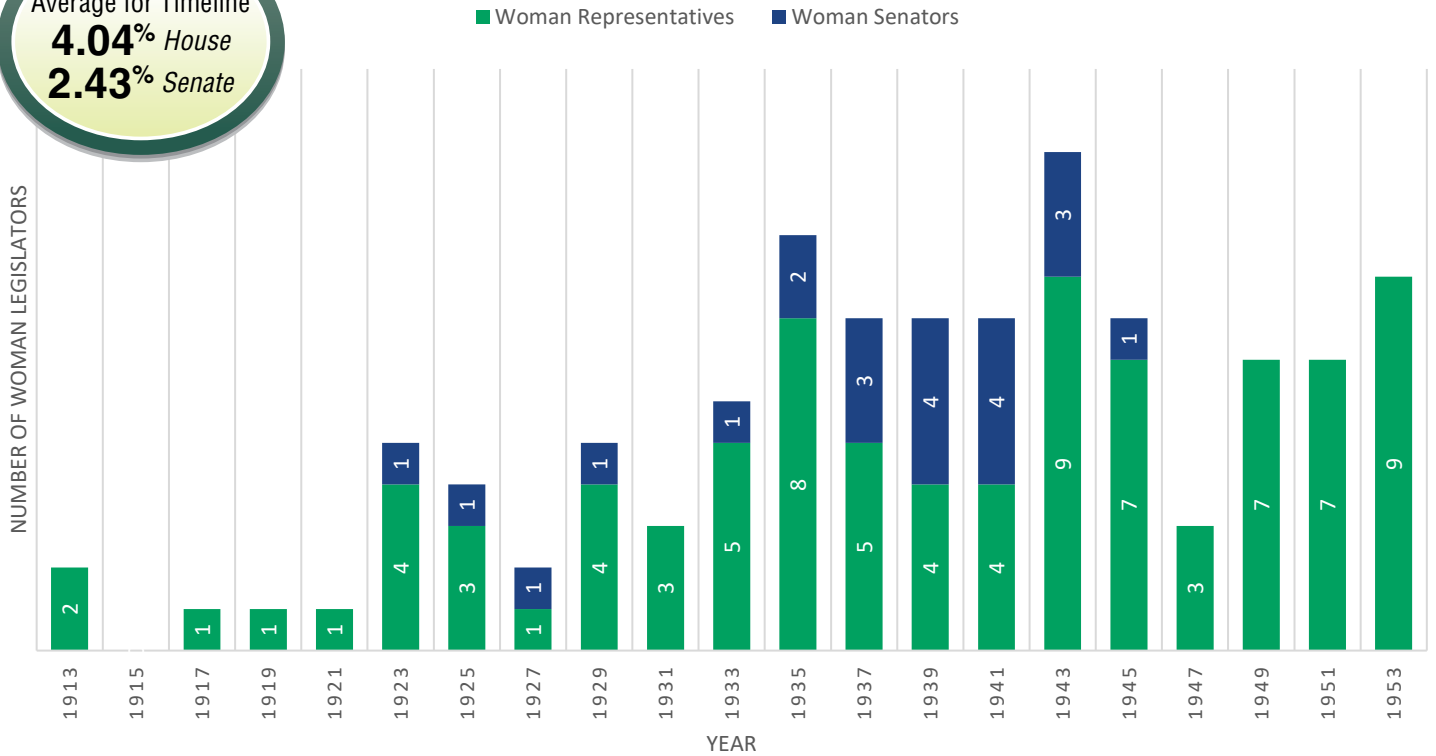
POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 2003 - 2024



Women in Legislature

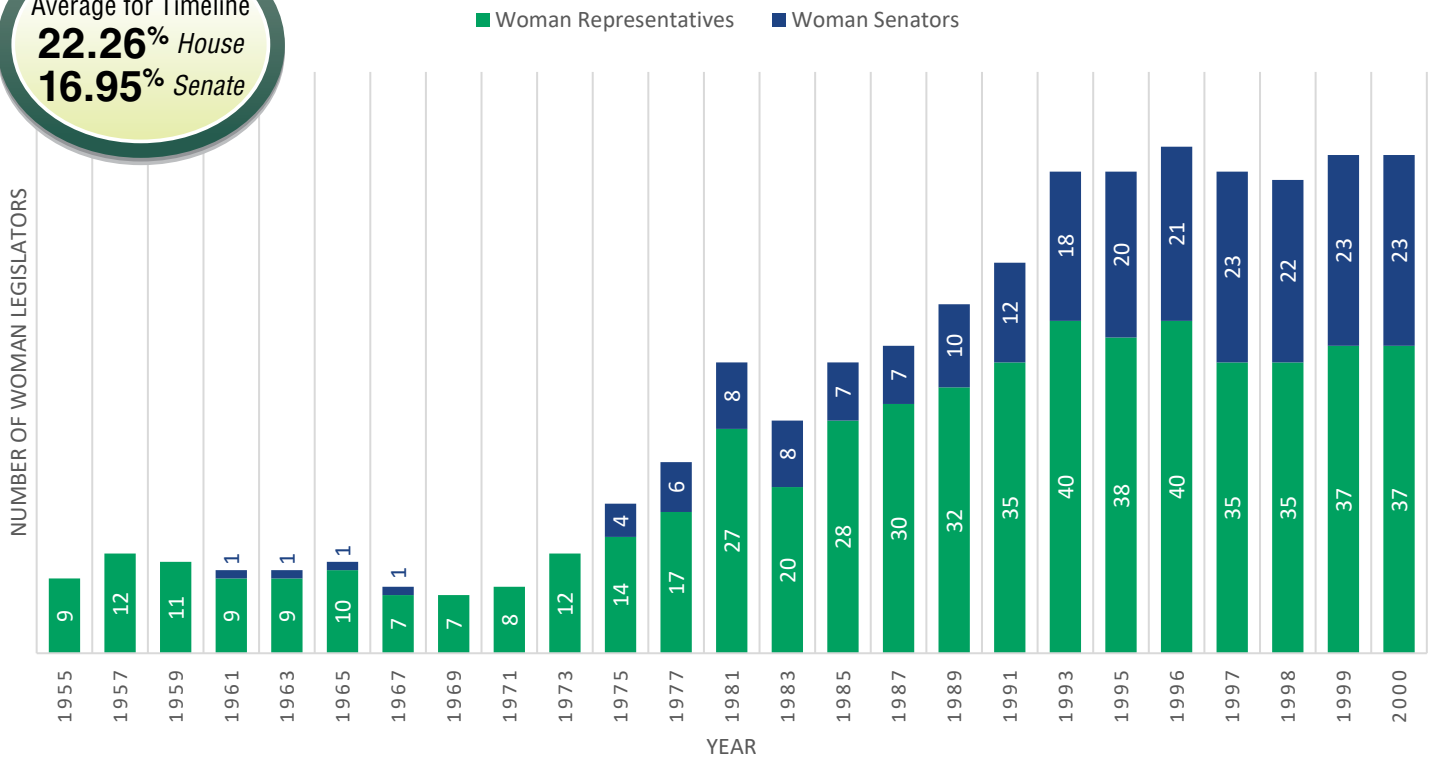
WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1913 - 1951

Average for Timeline
4.04% House
2.43% Senate



WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1955 - 2000

Average for Timeline
22.26% House
16.95% Senate

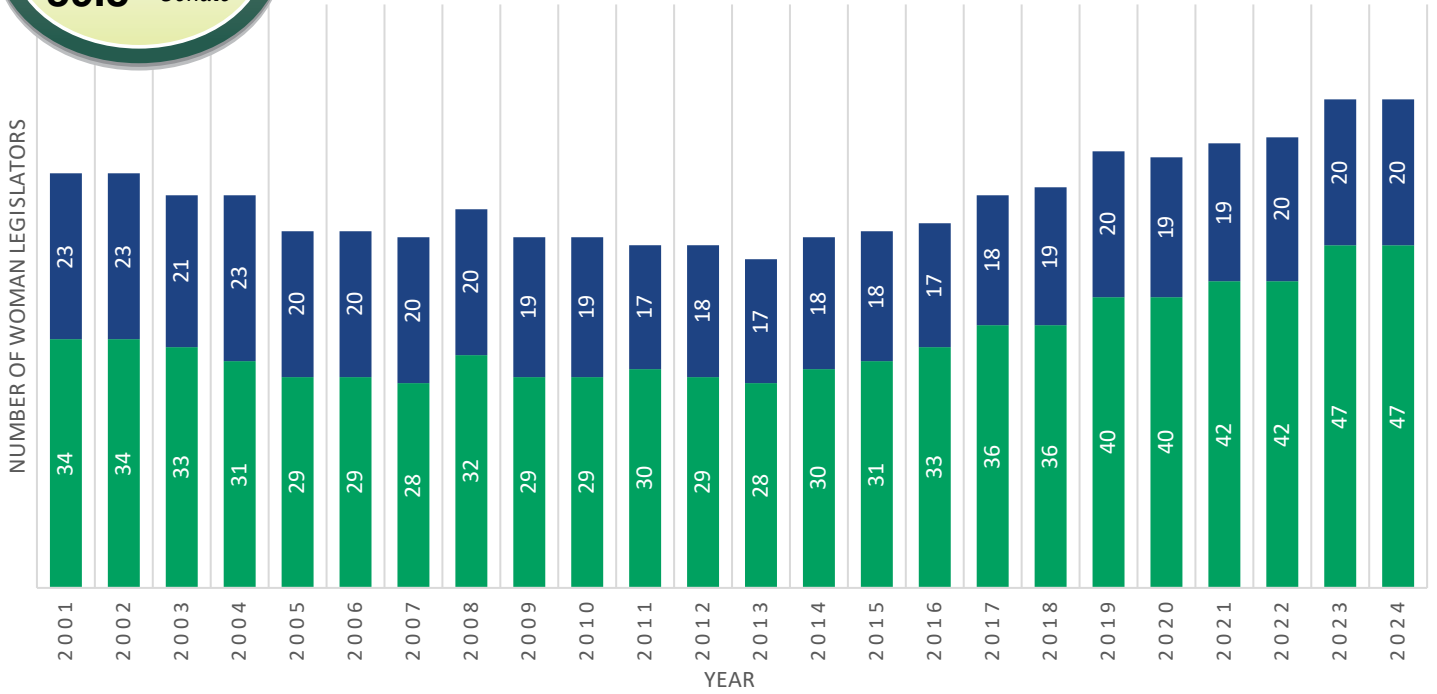


Women in Legislature *continued*

WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 2001 - 2024

Average for Timeline
34.8% House
39.8% Senate

■ Woman Representatives ■ Woman Senators





LEGISLATIVE
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