

# WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHART BOOK



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

2024



# Table of Contents


<b>Guide</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>Total Bills Passed by Year</b> <i>continued</i> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Length of Session</b> .....	<b>2</b>	House Vetoes vs. Partial Vetoes, Even Years .....	14
Length of Session for 1st - 23rd Biennium.....	2	House Vetoes vs. Partial Vetoes, Odd Years .....	14
Length of Session for 24th - 45th Biennium.....	2	Senate Vetoes vs. Partial Vetoes, Even Years.....	15
Length of Session for 46th - 56th Biennium .....	3	Senate Vetoes vs. Partial Vetoes, Odd Years .....	15
Length of Session for 57th - 68th Biennium.....	3	Total Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes, Even Years .....	16
<b>Bill History</b> .....	<b>4</b>	Total Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes, Odd Years .....	16
Bills Introduced / Passed / Enacted / Partial Vetoed / Vetoed	4	Memorials & Resolutions .....	17
Bills Passed by Legislature.....	5	Initiatives & Referendum.....	17
Bills Passed by Chamber .....	5	<b>Gubernatorial Appointments</b> .....	<b>18</b>
Percentages of Passed / Enacted / Partial / Vetoed .....	6	Gubernatorial Appointments 1980 - 2000 .....	18
<b>Bills Passed by Chamber and Year</b> .....	<b>7</b>	Gubernatorial Appointments 2001 - 2023 .....	18
Bills Passed By Chamber, Even Years.....	7	<b>Political Division Since 1889</b>	
Bills Passed By Chamber, Odd Years .....	7	<b>by Chamber and Year</b> .....	<b>19</b>
Bills Passed by House, Even Years .....	8	Political Division of the Senate, 1889 - 1931.....	19
Bills Passed by House, Odd Years .....	8	Political Division of the Senate, 1933 - 1977 .....	19
Bills Passed by Senate, Even Years .....	9	Political Division of the Senate, 1979 - 2002 .....	20
Bills Passed by Senate, Odd Years .....	9	Political Division of the Senate, 2003 - 2024 .....	20
<b>Total Bills Passed by Year</b> .....	<b>10</b>	Political Division of the House, 1889 - 1931 .....	21
Total Bills Passed, Even Years.....	10	Political Division of the House, 1933 - 1977 .....	21
Total Bills Passed, Odd Years.....	10	Political Division of the House, 1979 - 2002 .....	22
Total Bills Intro vs. Passed, Even Years .....	11	Political Division of the House, 2003 - 2024.....	22
Total Bills Intro vs. Passed, Odd Years .....	11	<b>Women in Legislature</b> .....	<b>23</b>
House Bills Intro vs. Passed, Even Years .....	12	Women Legislators, 1913 - 1951 .....	23
House Bills Intro vs. Passed, Odd Years .....	12	Women Legislators, 1955 - 2000.....	23
Senate Bills Intro vs. Passed, Even Years.....	13	Women Legislators, 2001- 2024.....	24
Senate Bills Intro vs. Passed, Odd Years .....	13		

## Guide

### State of Washington


Use for general legislative purposes discussing both chambers.


 C71 M11 Y17 K0  
#2CAEC9

 C3 M13 Y96 K0  
#FAD51D

### House of Representatives


Use for information regarding House of Representatives.


 C100 M0 Y86 K3  
#00A160, PMS 347U

 C0 M4 Y79 K0  
#FFEA53, PMS 107U

### Senate


Use for information regarding the Senate.


 C100 M85 Y19 K5  
#1E4383

 C25 M32 Y92 K1  
#C2A23C

### Political Divisions

These are the current caucus logos used to pull the color for political division indicators.

Democrat  
 C85 M50 Y0 K0  
#1C76BC

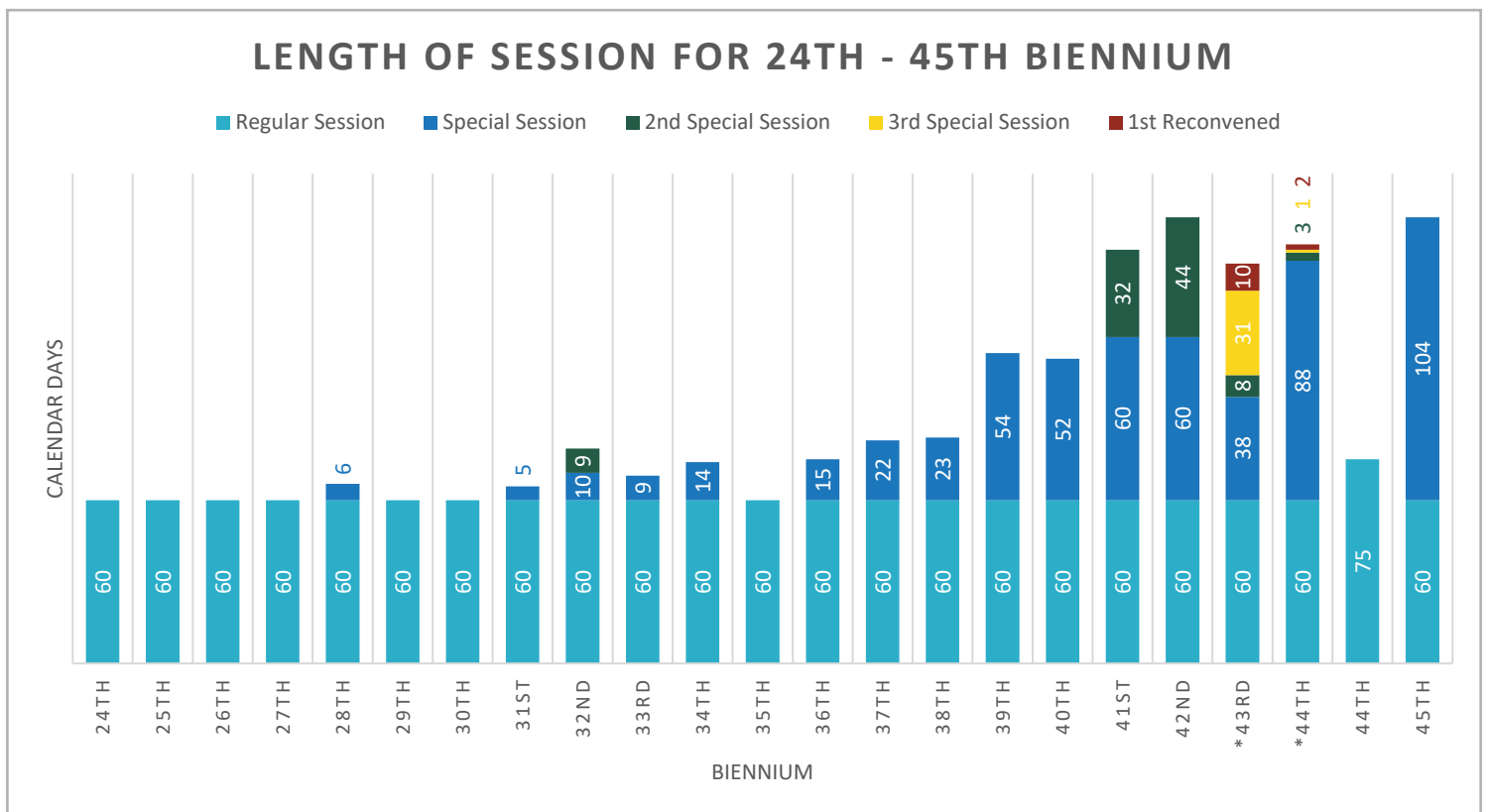
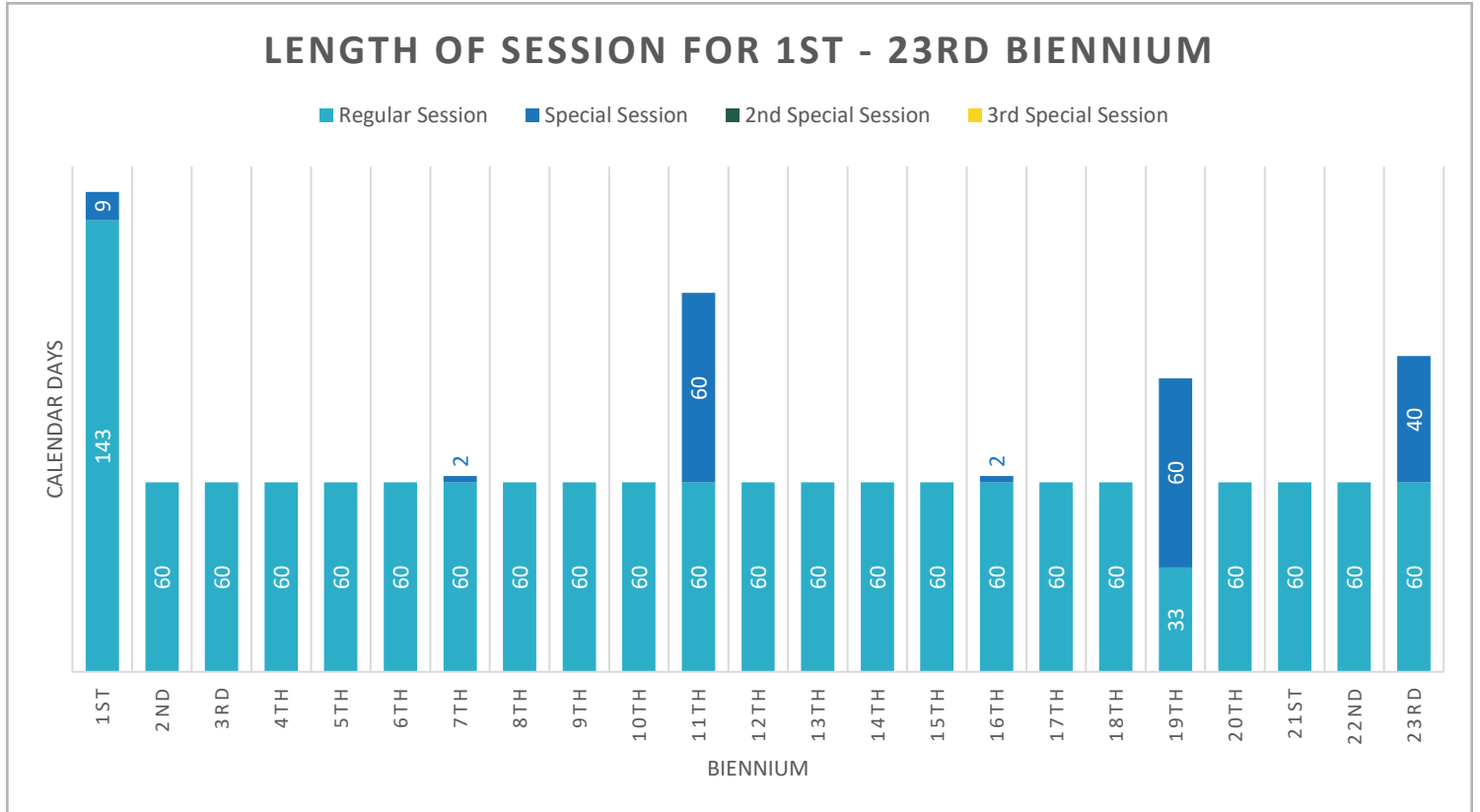
Republican  
 C25 M95 Y95 K25  
#962C21



# Length of Session

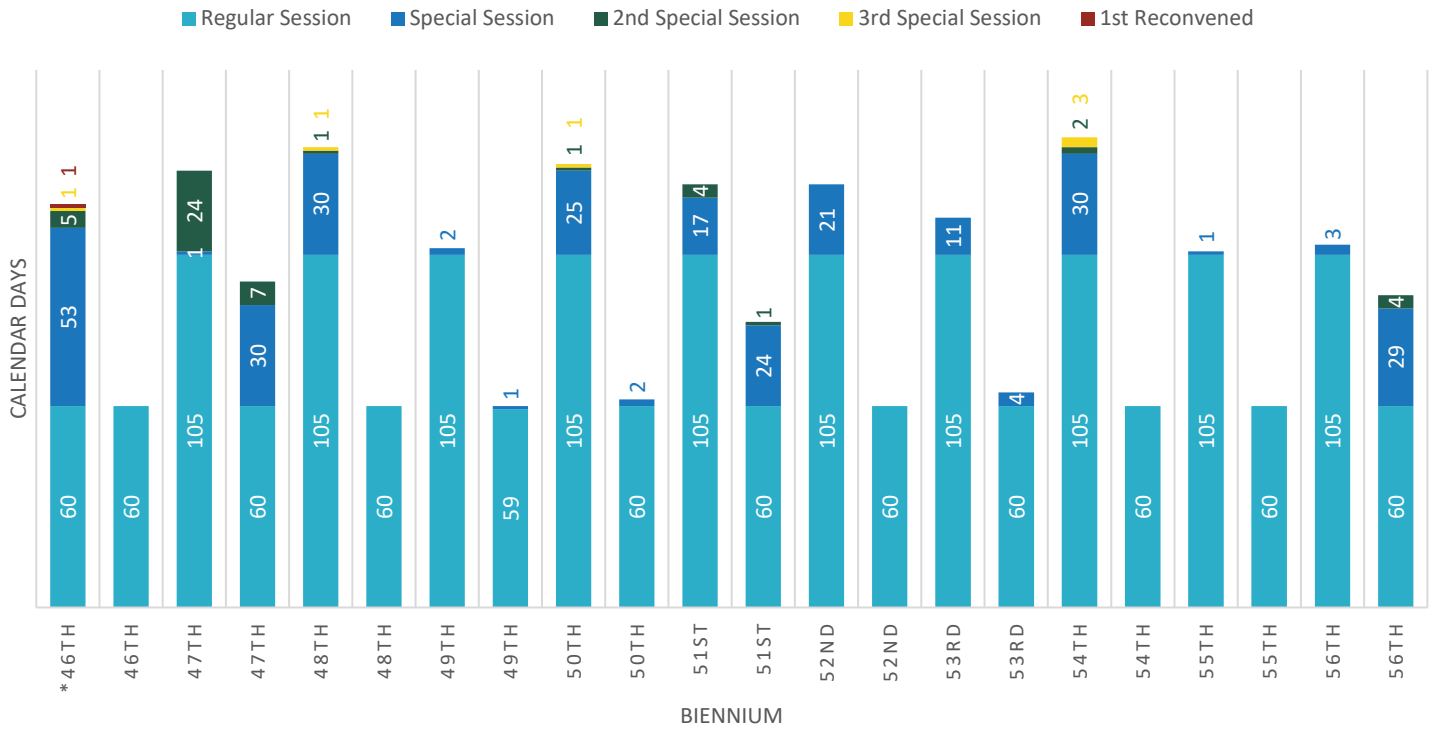
For the purposes of this table, a session's "length in days" is defined as the total number of calendar days from the convening date to the adjournment date, inclusive. It does not mean the actual number of days that the Legislature convened during that session.

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.

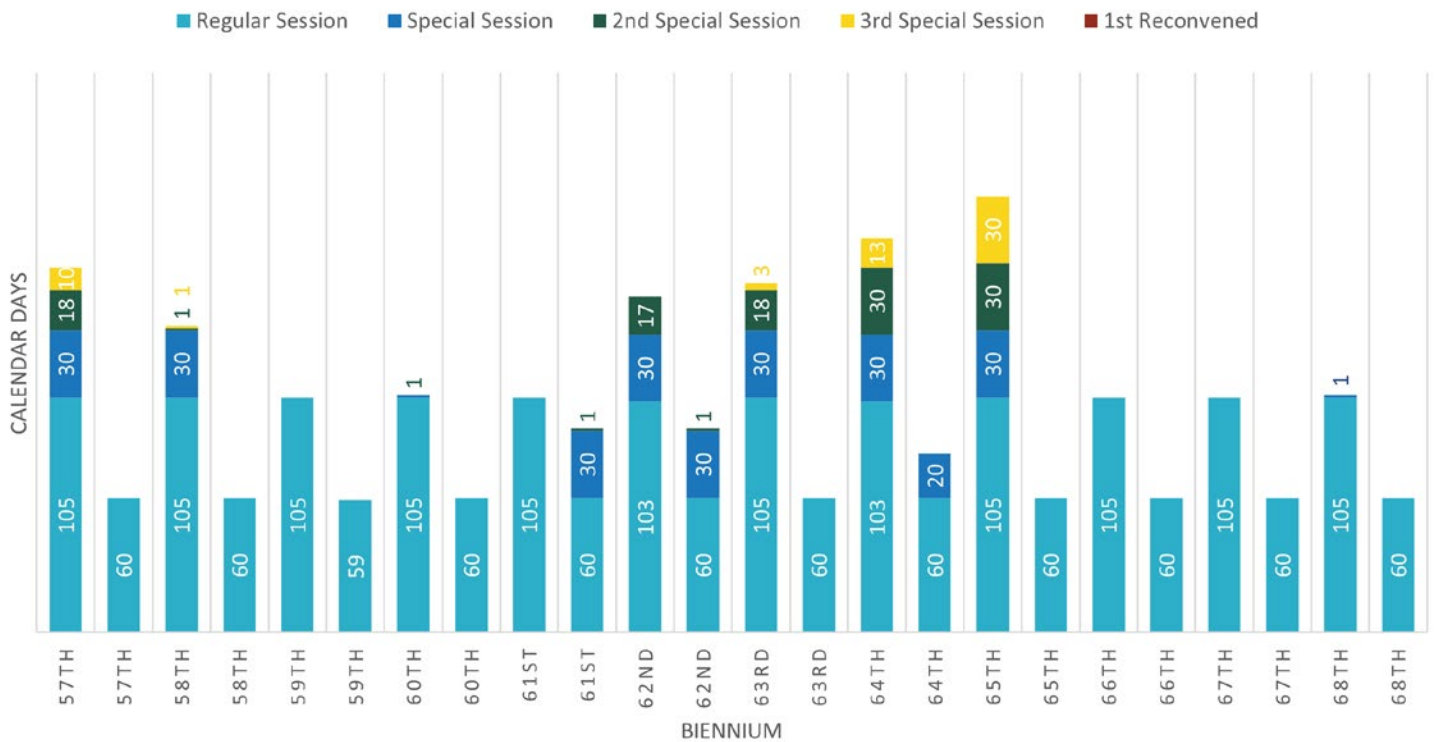


# Length of Session *continued*

## LENGTH OF SESSION FOR 46TH - 56TH BIENNIUM



## LENGTH OF SESSION FOR 57TH - 68TH BIENNIUM

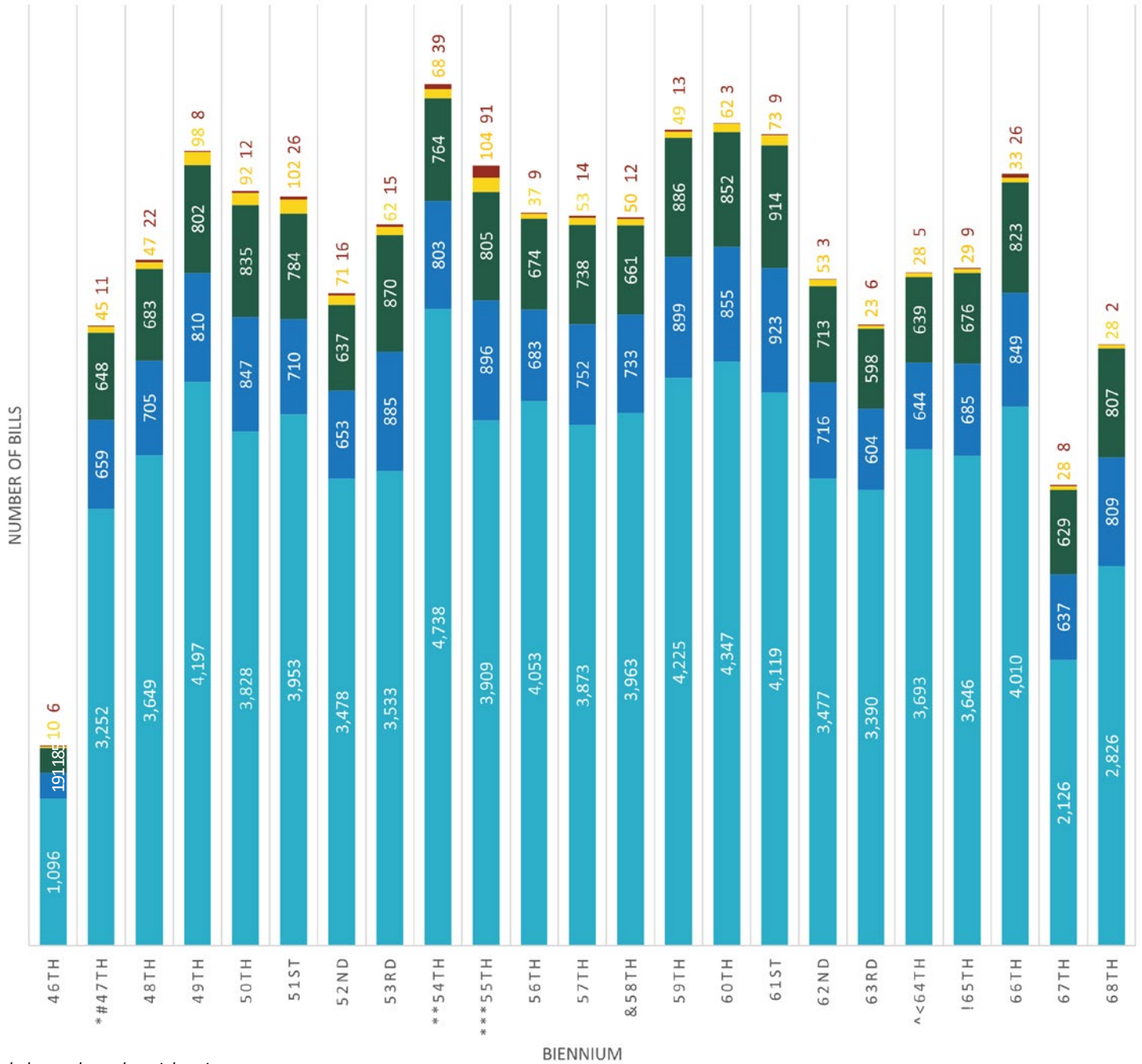


\* Pursuant to Article 2, section 11 of the state constitution, neither house may adjourn for more than three days without the consent of the other. Accordingly, both chambers regularly convene "pro forma" session to conform to this constitutional restriction. Administrative and ceremonial business is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

# Bill History

## BILLS INTRODUCED/PASSED/ENACTED/PARTIAL/VETOED

■ Total Introduced ■ Total Passed ■ Total Enacted ■ Total Partially Vetoed ■ Total Vetoed

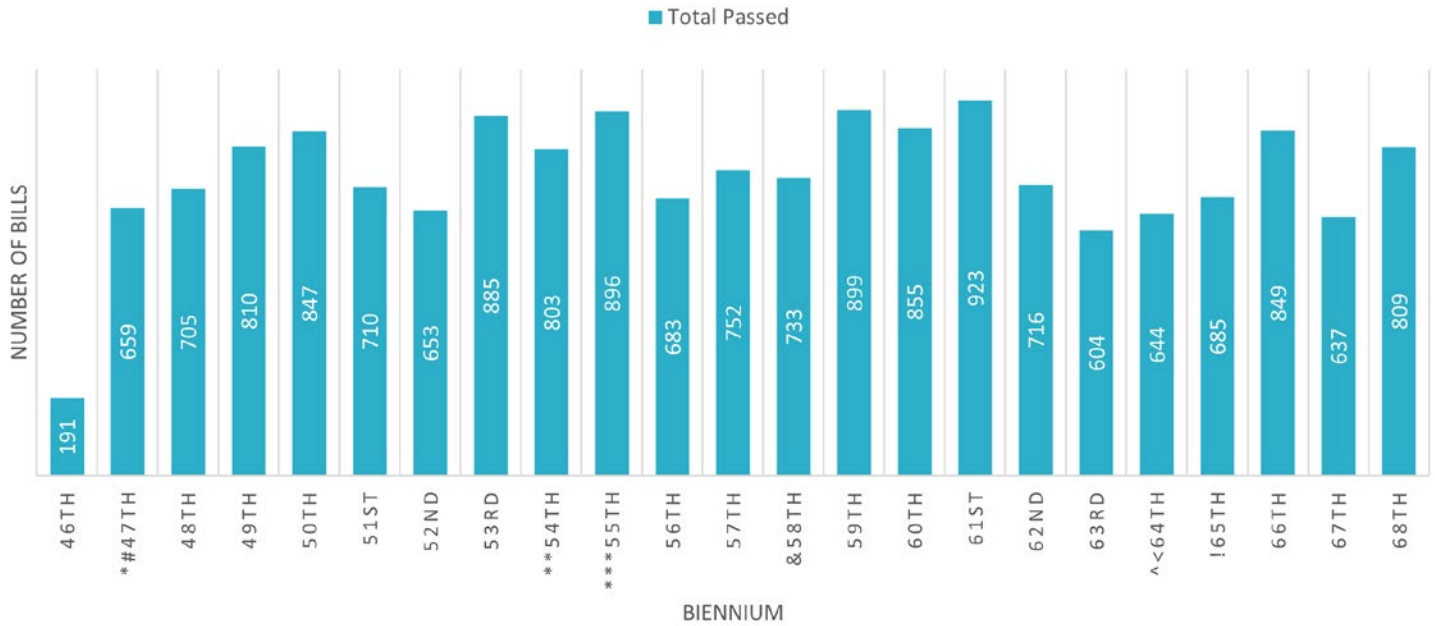


Includes regular and special sessions.

- \* 1981 (Passed) - Includes five bills enacted in the First Special Session, April 28, 1981. (Enacted) - Includes SBH 711 and SB 3359, which were allowed to become law without the Governor's signature. (House Introduced) - Includes 365 bills originally introduced as House Proposed Measure. 336 other House Proposed Measures were not introduced as bill, memorials or resolutions. (House Passed) - Includes HB 1610 from 1980, enacted through legislative override of a gubernatorial veto.
- # 1981 2nd SS (Passed) - Includes seven bills introduced in 1981 Regular Session. Includes 42 bills originally introduced as House Proposed Measures. Five other House Proposed Measures were not introduced as bills, memorials or resolutions. (Enacted) - Includes one bill introduced in 1981 Regular Session.
- \*\* Includes override of SB 6117.
- \*\*\* Includes override of HB1130.
- ^ Includes Senate/House veto override of Senate Bills: 5145, 5265, 5458, 5549, 5767, 6148, 6162, 6170, 6177, 6196, 6206, 6220, 6281, 6284, 6290, 6326, 6341, 6342, 6354, 6398, 6401, 6466, 6491, 6498, 6569, 6606, 6633. Also includes 6194, which became law without the Governor's signature [Art. 3, Sec. 12, WA State Const.].
- < Does not include 27 vetoes (listed above) that were overridden by the Legislature.
- & Includes Senate override of SSB 5240.
- ! Advisory Votes 16 (ESHB 1597), 17 (EHB 2163), 18 (EHB 2242)

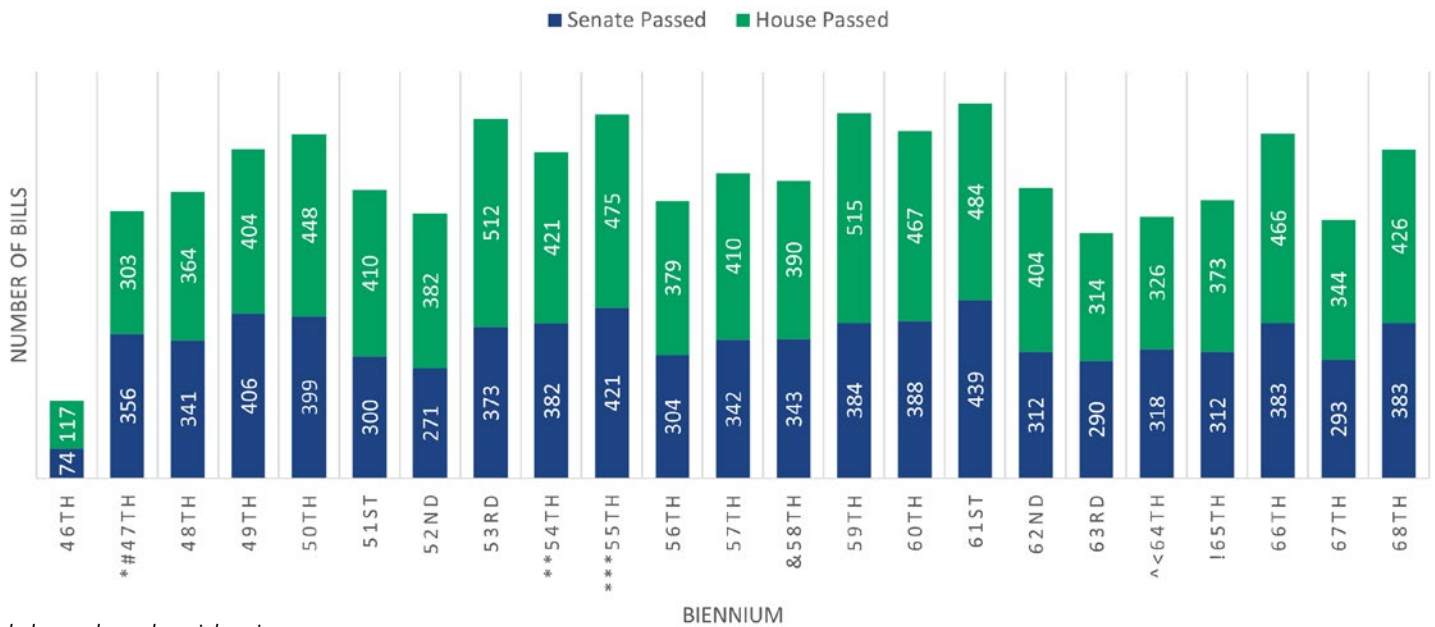
# Bill History *continued*

## BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE, 46TH - 68TH BIENNIUM



Includes regular and special sessions.

## BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, 46TH - 68TH BIENNIUM



Includes regular and special sessions.

\* 1981 (Passed) - Includes five bills enacted in the First Special Session, April 28, 1981. (Enacted) - Includes SBH 711 and SB 3359, which were allowed to become law without the Governor's signature. (House Introduced) - Includes 365 bills originally introduced as House Proposed Measure. 336 other House Proposed Measures were not introduced as bill, memorials or resolutions. (House Passed) - Includes HB 1610 from 1980, enacted through legislative override of a gubernatorial veto.

# 1981 2nd SS (Passed) - Includes seven bills introduced in 1981 Regular Session. Includes 42 bills originally introduced as House Proposed Measures. Five other House Proposed Measures were not introduced as bills, memorials or resolutions. (Enacted) - Includes one bill introduced in 1981 Regular Session.

\*\* Includes override of SB 6117.

\*\*\* Includes override of HB1130.

^ Includes Senate/House veto override of Senate Bills: 5145, 5265, 5458, 5549, 5767, 6148, 6162, 6170, 6177, 6196, 6206, 6220, 6281, 6284, 6290, 6326, 6341, 6342, 6354, 6398, 6401, 6466, 6491, 6498, 6569, 6606, 6633. Also includes 6194, which became law without the Governor's signature [Art. 3, Sec. 12, WA State Const.].

< Does not include 27 vetoes (listed above) that were overridden by the Legislature.

& Includes Senate override of SSB 5240.

! Advisory Votes 16 (ESHB 1597), 17 (EHB 2163), 18 (EHB 2242)

# Percentages of Passed / Partial Veto / Veto / Enacted

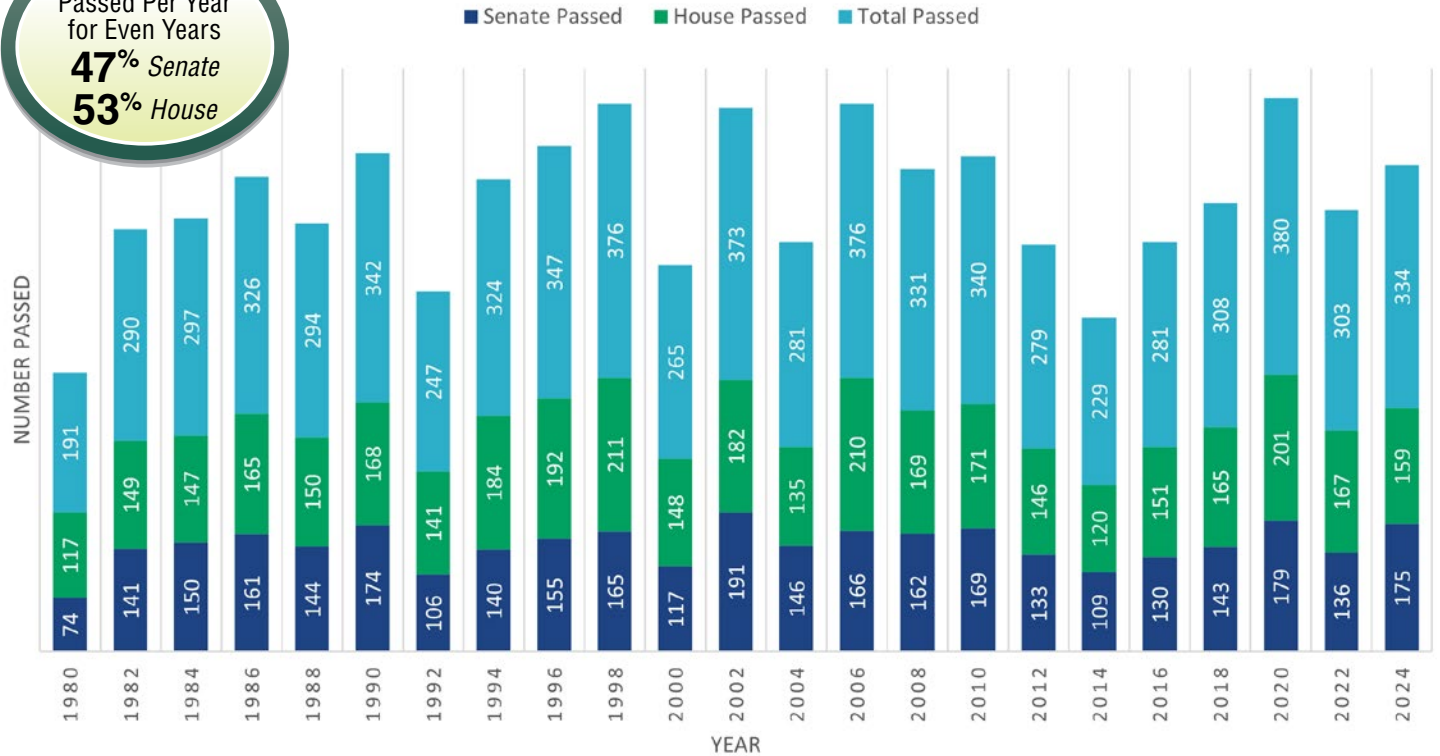
Year	SENATE				HOUSE				TOTAL			
	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted
1980	14.63%	8.11%	1.35%	14.63%	19.60%	3.42%	8.55%	18.76%	17.43%	5.24%	3.14%	16.88%
1981	14.73%	4.19%	1.40%	14.52%	18.58%	11.69%	2.60%	17.97%	16.12%	7.32%	2.17%	15.77%
1982	25.68%	4.96%	1.42%	25.32%	35.99%	7.38%	2.01%	35.75%	30.11%	6.21%	1.03%	29.80%
1983	14.95%	6.28%	2.09%	14.63%	19.73%	4.61%	0.00%	18.82%	17.16%	5.39%	3.43%	16.57%
1984	25.30%	7.33%	2.67%	24.62%	21.68%	9.52%	2.72%	21.09%	23.37%	8.42%	2.69%	22.74%
1985	17.00%	10.20%	1.63%	16.72%	17.97%	11.30%	0.00%	17.74%	17.47%	10.74%	1.45%	17.21%
1986	25.68%	16.15%	0.62%	25.52%	20.65%	12.12%	6.06%	20.65%	22.86%	14.11%	0.31%	22.79%
1987	23.37%	10.59%	1.96%	22.91%	23.34%	12.88%	1.69%	23.26%	23.68%	11.75%	1.63%	23.30%
1988	21.27%	6.94%	2.08%	20.83%	18.84%	11.33%	1.33%	18.84%	19.96%	9.18%	1.02%	19.76%
1989	19.43%	10.62%	3.54%	18.74%	19.34%	16.94%	1.65%	18.55%	19.39%	13.89%	3.85%	18.64%
1990	9.85%	21.62%	4.05%	22.77%	21.32%	12.50%	3.57%	20.69%	15.72%	15.29%	3.31%	21.70%
1991	16.34%	10.91%	4.24%	15.64%	19.87%	11.20%	1.24%	19.70%	18.26%	11.08%	2.22%	17.86%
1992	21.20%	9.43%	2.83%	20.60%	18.68%	11.35%	7.09%	18.15%	19.68%	10.53%	2.83%	19.12%
1993	23.49%	6.87%	0.86%	23.29%	28.82%	5.79%	3.05%	28.30%	26.34%	6.24%	1.43%	25.96%
1994	22.62%	9.29%	2.86%	21.97%	23.47%	7.61%	15.76%	23.09%	23.09%	8.33%	2.16%	22.59%
1995	20.92%	9.25%	3.08%	20.28%	10.83%	8.73%	7.42%	10.35%	14.25%	8.99%	3.73%	13.72%
1996	22.21%	7.10%	7.74%	20.49%	22.86%	8.33%	2.08%	21.67%	22.56%	7.78%	6.34%	21.13%
1997	22.96%	11.72%	13.28%	19.91%	20.40%	12.50%	0.76%	18.16%	21.59%	12.12%	12.12%	18.97%
1998	25.31%	12.73%	6.67%	23.62%	24.88%	9.48%	3.79%	22.88%	25.07%	10.90%	7.45%	23.20%
1999	16.77%	5.88%	1.07%	16.59%	17.65%	5.19%	1.73%	17.34%	17.24%	5.50%	1.44%	17.00%
2000	15.33%	5.98%	0.85%	15.20%	17.09%	4.73%	3.38%	16.86%	16.27%	5.28%	1.13%	16.08%
2001	12.28%	7.28%	0.66%	12.20%	17.77%	7.02%	0.44%	17.15%	15.08%	7.12%	2.37%	14.72%
2002	31.11%	6.28%	0.52%	30.94%	24.40%	7.69%	1.65%	23.86%	27.43%	6.97%	1.34%	27.06%
2003	17.93%	7.11%	1.52%	12.19%	19.66%	7.06%	0.39%	19.28%	18.86%	7.08%	1.77%	16.03%
2004	22.50%	6.16%	2.05%	22.03%	14.71%	6.67%	0.00%	14.60%	17.93%	6.41%	1.42%	17.68%
2005	19.27%	5.05%	1.83%	18.92%	22.95%	6.89%	0.66%	22.72%	21.26%	6.12%	1.34%	20.98%
2006	21.50%	3.61%	3.01%	20.85%	21.15%	5.24%	0.95%	21.05%	21.30%	4.52%	1.60%	20.96%
2007	19.15%	7.08%	0.00%	19.15%	20.99%	7.05%	0.67%	20.99%	20.15%	7.09%	0.00%	20.15%
2008	20.82%	7.41%	0.62%	20.69%	17.44%	7.69%	0.00%	17.23%	18.95%	7.55%	0.91%	18.78%
2009	22.69%	8.89%	1.11%	22.44%	22.55%	5.75%	0.64%	22.41%	22.61%	7.20%	0.86%	22.42%
2010	24.01%	8.28%	1.18%	23.72%	20.43%	9.94%	1.17%	20.19%	22.06%	9.12%	1.18%	21.80%
2011	17.92%	7.82%	0.56%	17.82%	21.90%	8.91%	0.78%	21.90%	20.07%	8.47%	0.23%	20.03%
2012	20.72%	5.26%	0.00%	20.72%	22.19%	6.16%	0.00%	21.88%	21.46%	5.73%	0.72%	21.31%
2013	18.97%	3.31%	0.00%	18.97%	17.78%	2.06%	0.52%	17.60%	18.34%	2.67%	0.53%	18.24%
2014	17.27%	6.42%	1.83%	16.96%	16.81%	5.00%	4.17%	16.53%	17.03%	5.68%	1.75%	16.73%
2015	16.40%	4.26%	0.53%	16.32%	13.58%	4.00%	0.57%	13.58%	14.91%	4.13%	0.28%	14.87%
2016	24.16%	4.62%	2.31%	23.61%	20.97%	4.64%	0.66%	20.83%	22.34%	4.63%	1.42%	22.02%
2017	17.16%	5.33%	1.18%	16.95%	16.63%	2.88%	7.69%	16.23%	16.86%	3.98%	1.86%	16.55%
2018	22.10%	4.20%	0.70%	21.95%	21.63%	4.85%	1.21%	21.49%	21.84%	4.55%	0.65%	21.70%
2019	19.88%	4.41%	0.49%	19.79%	22.36%	3.77%	1.51%	22.28%	21.21%	4.05%	0.43%	21.12%
2020	22.40%	3.91%	4.47%	21.40%	20.10%	3.48%	0.00%	18.50%	21.12%	3.68%	6.32%	19.79%
2021	32.24%	7.64%	0.00%	32.24%	30.10%	2.26%	0.00%	29.76%	31.07%	4.79%	0.60%	30.88%
2022	27.20%	3.68%	1.47%	26.80%	30.31%	4.19%	0.00%	29.58%	28.83%	3.96%	1.98%	28.26%
2023	26.91%	4.81	0.00%	26.91%	31.01%	4.12%	0.75%	30.78%	29.07%	4.63%	0.42%	28.95%
2024	31.82%	1.14%	0.00%	31.82%	24.77%	2.52%	0.00%	24.77%	28.02%	1.80%	0.00%	28.02%
Ave.	21.01%	7.34%	2.05%	20.76%	21.19%	7.30%	2.16%	20.75%	21.01%	7.25%	2.11%	20.66%



# Bills Passed by Chamber and Year

## BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, EVEN YEARS

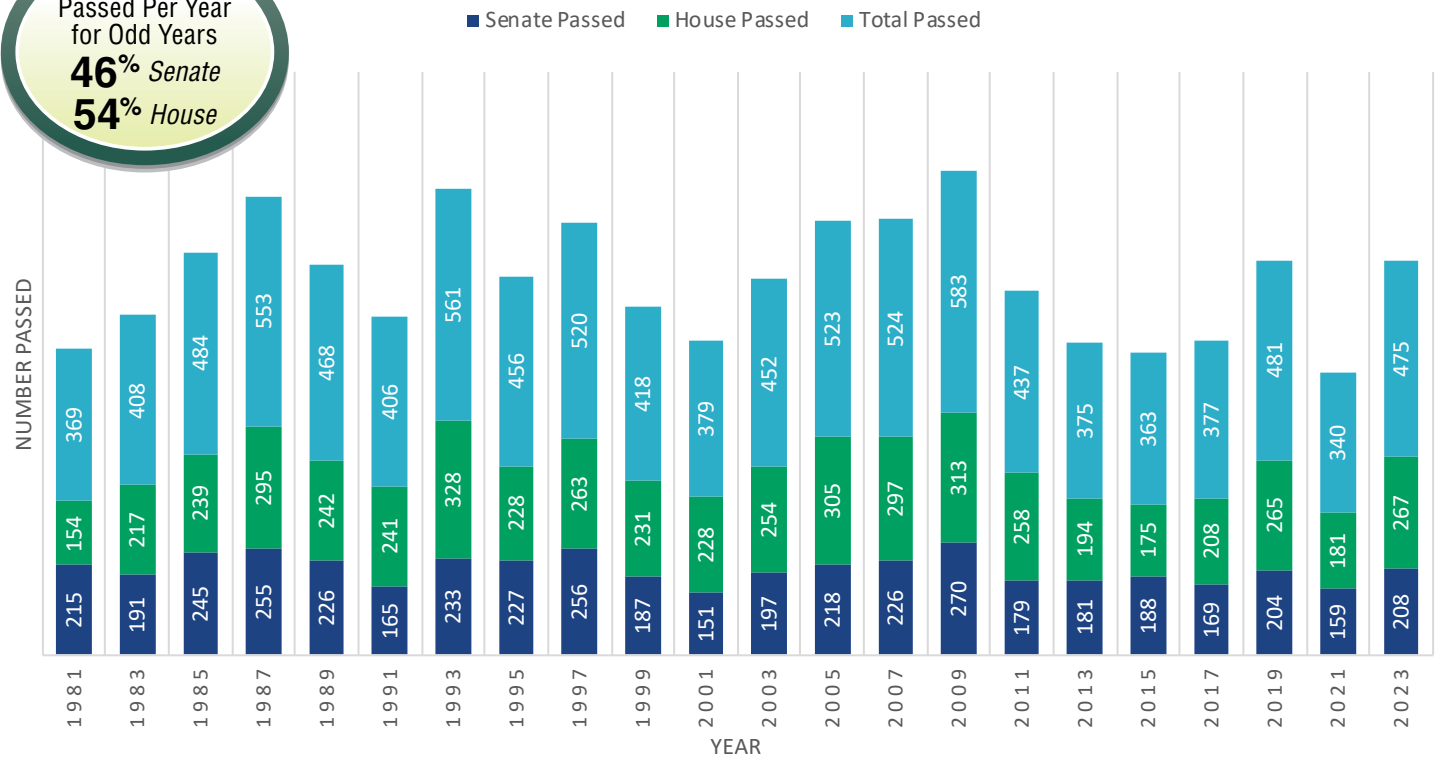
Average Passed Per Year for Even Years  
**47% Senate**  
**53% House**



Includes regular and special sessions.

## BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, ODD YEARS

Average Passed Per Year for Odd Years  
**46% Senate**  
**54% House**

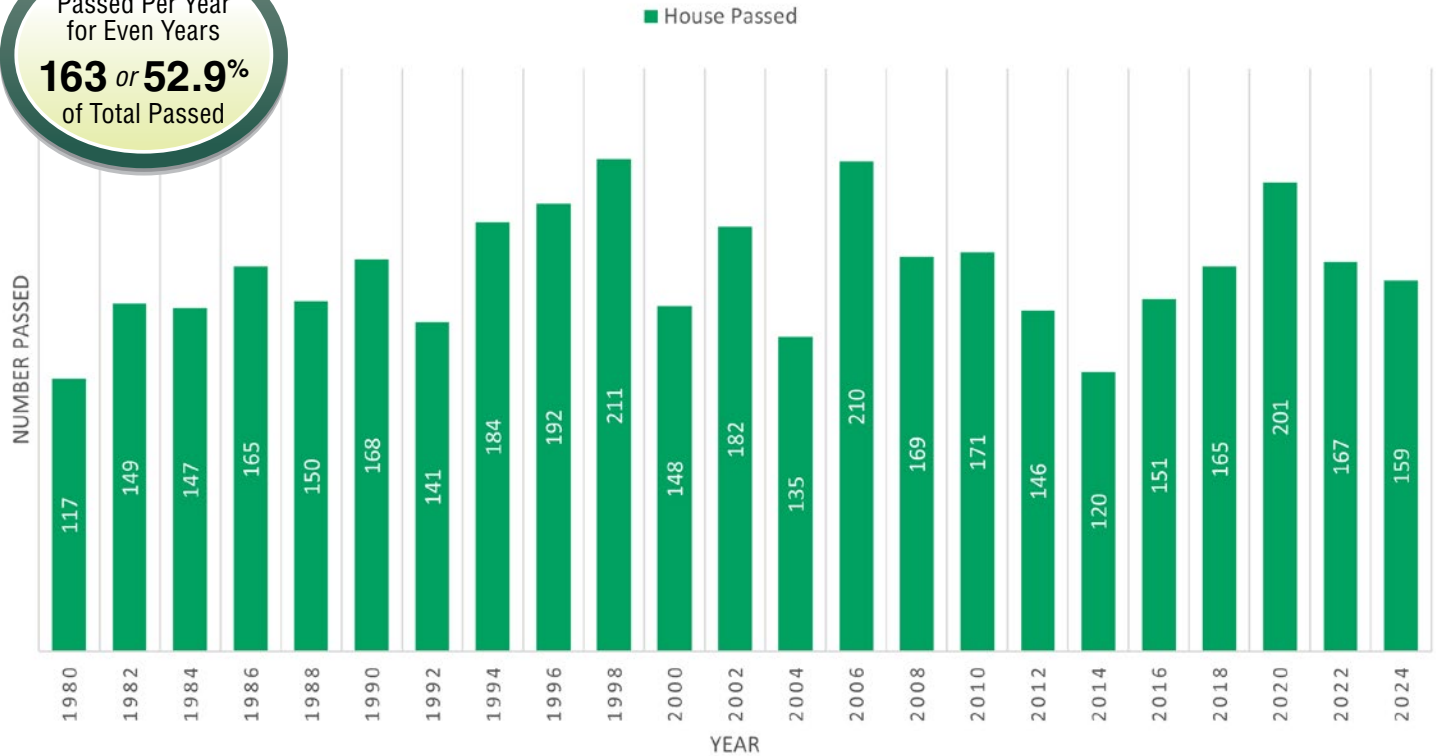


Includes regular and special sessions.

# Bills Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*

## BILLS PASSED BY HOUSE, EVEN YEARS

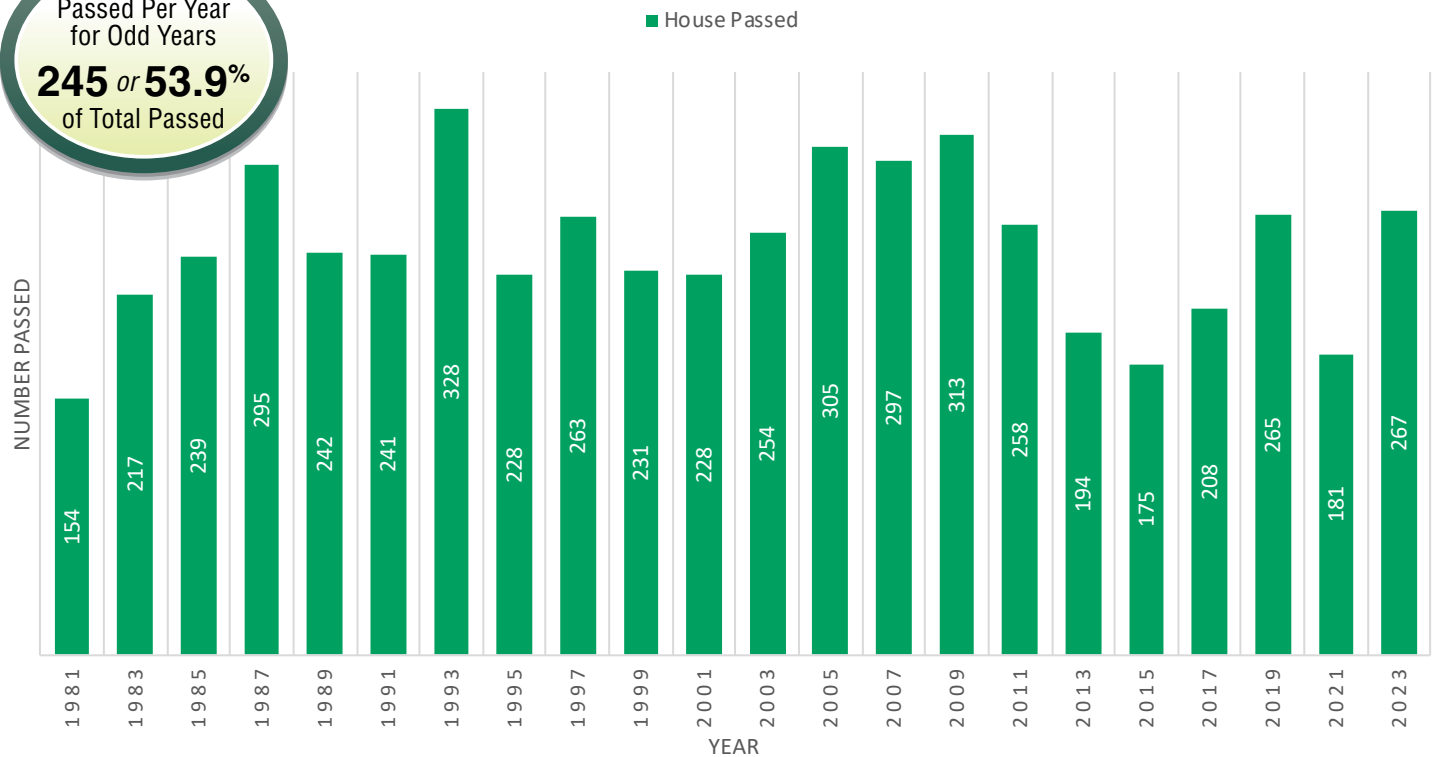
Average  
Passed Per Year  
for Even Years  
**163 or 52.9%**  
of Total Passed



Includes regular and special sessions.

## BILLS PASSED BY HOUSE, ODD YEARS

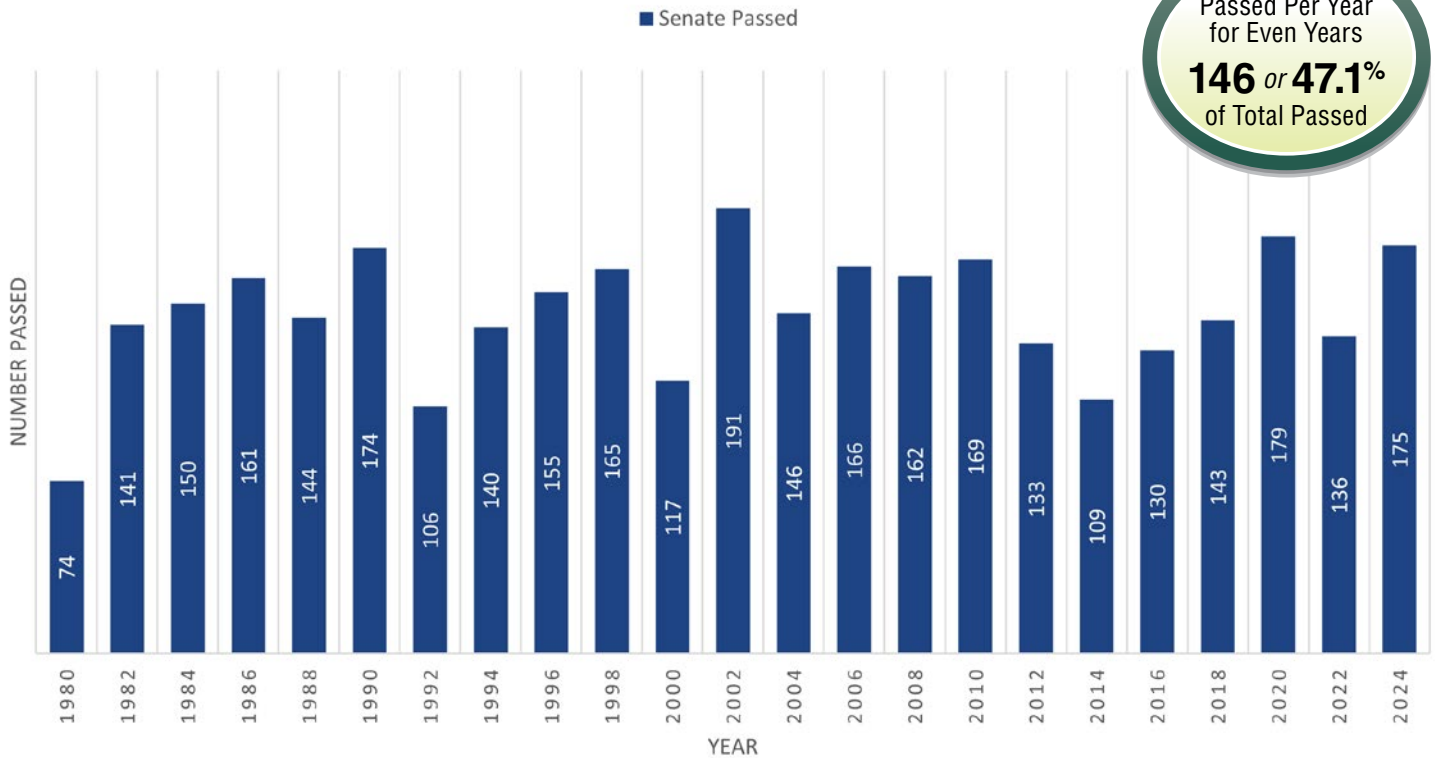
Average  
Passed Per Year  
for Odd Years  
**245 or 53.9%**  
of Total Passed



Includes regular and special sessions.

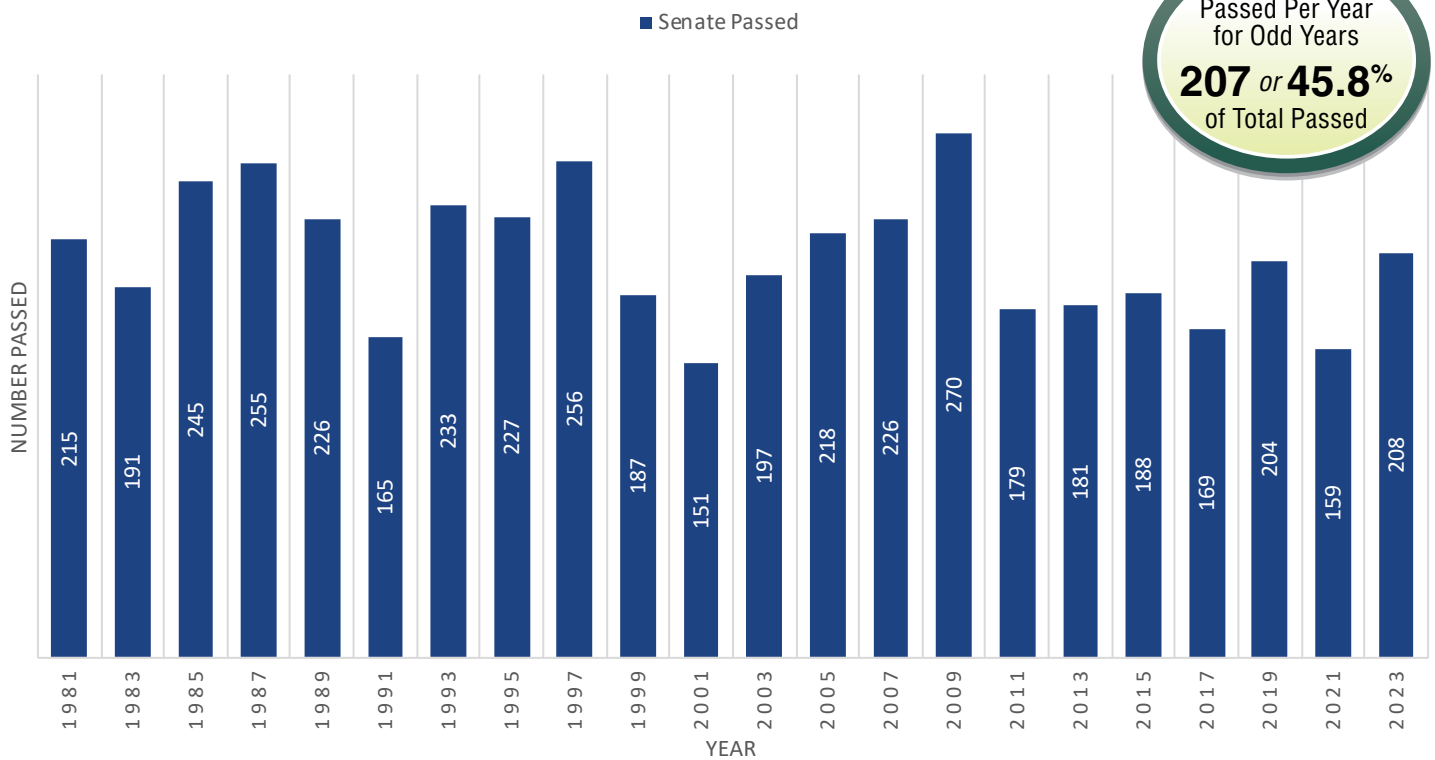
# Bills Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*

## BILLS PASSED BY SENATE, EVEN YEARS



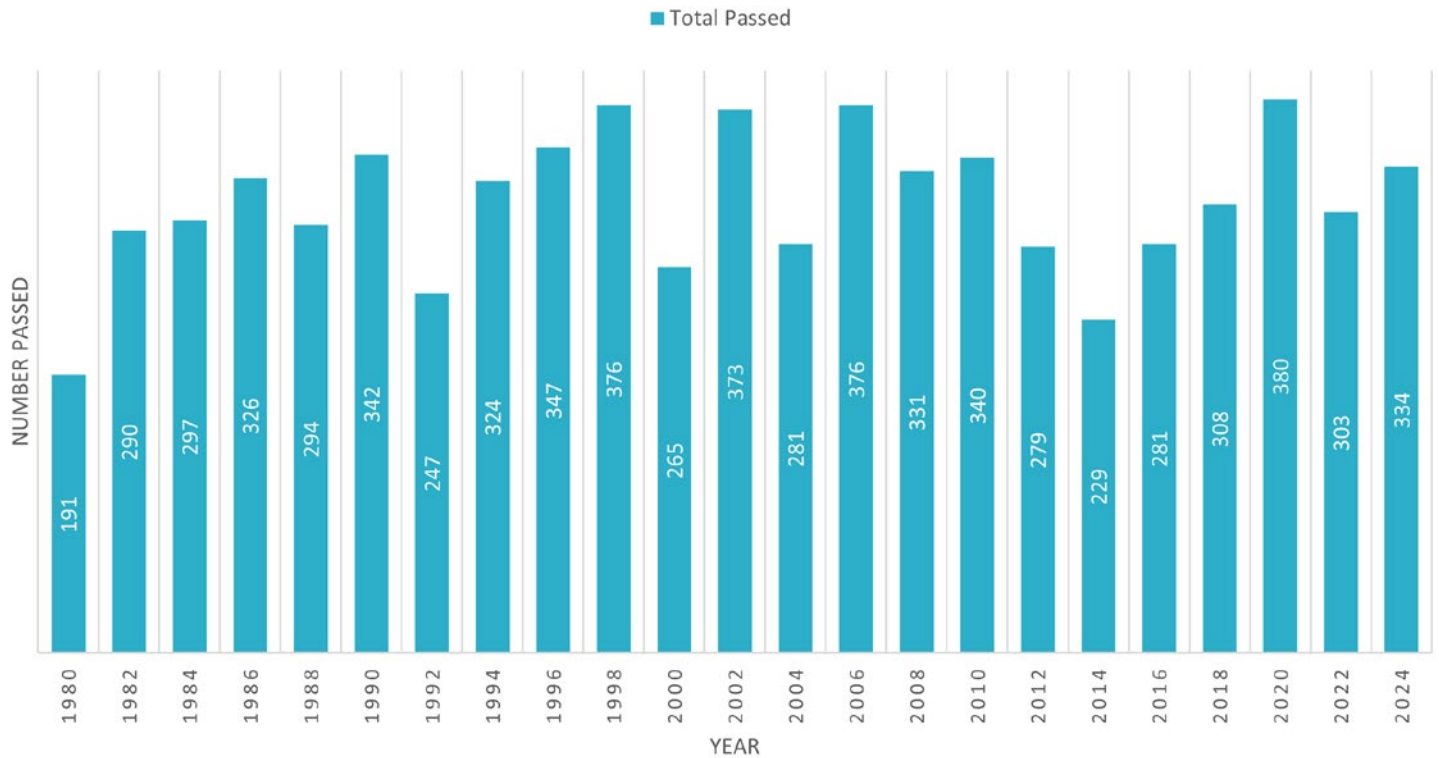
Includes regular and special sessions.

## BILLS PASSED BY SENATE, ODD YEARS



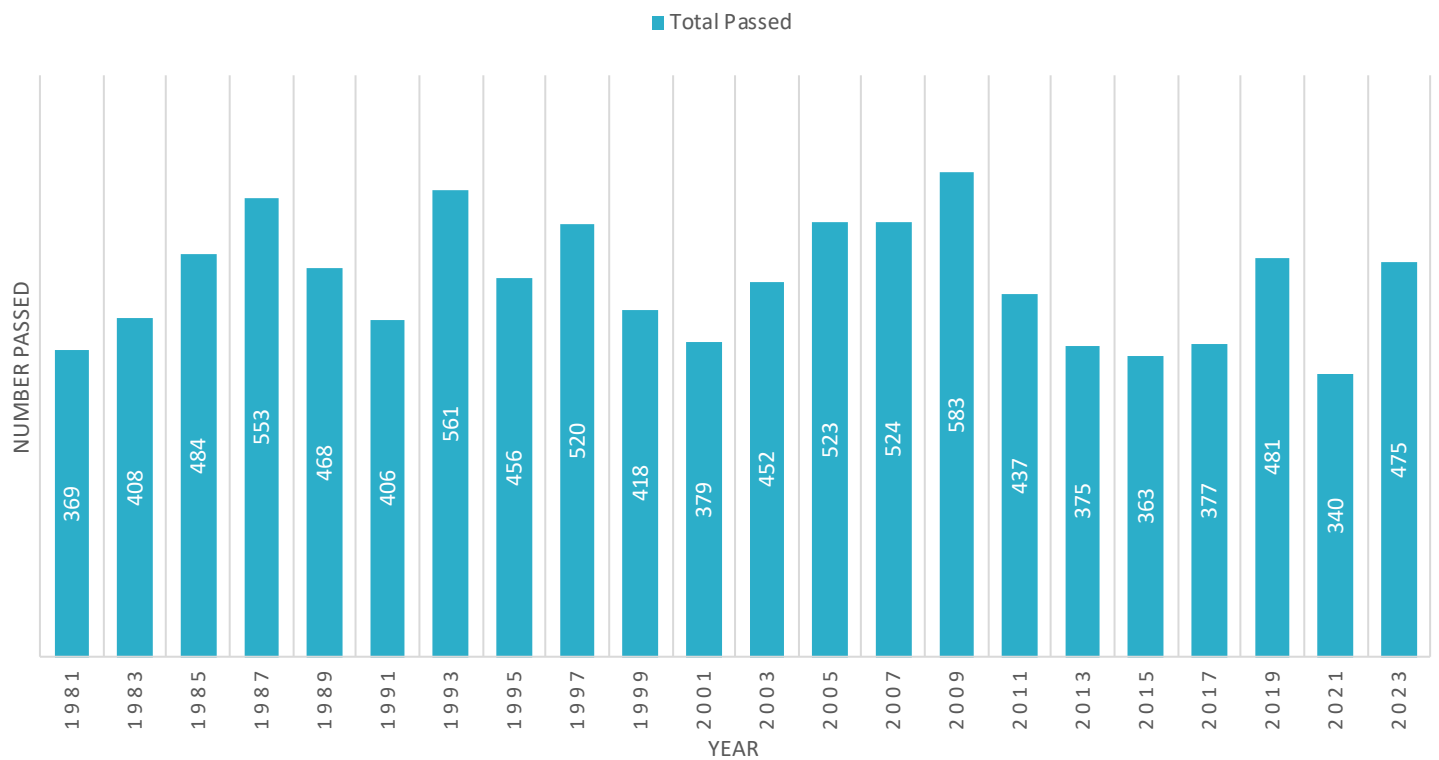
# Total Bills Passed by Year

## TOTAL BILLS PASSED, EVEN YEARS



*Includes regular and special sessions.*

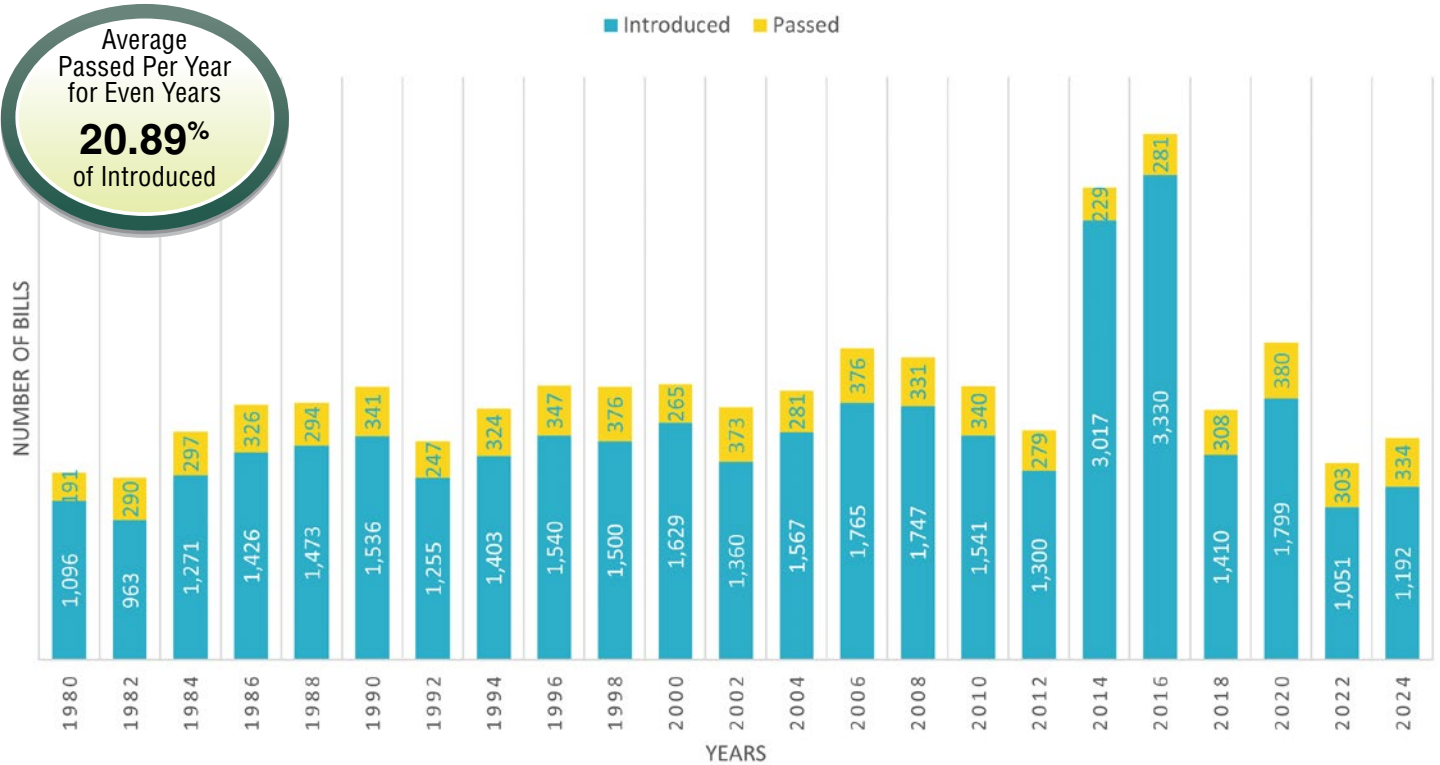
## TOTAL BILLS PASSED, ODD YEARS



*Includes regular and special sessions.*

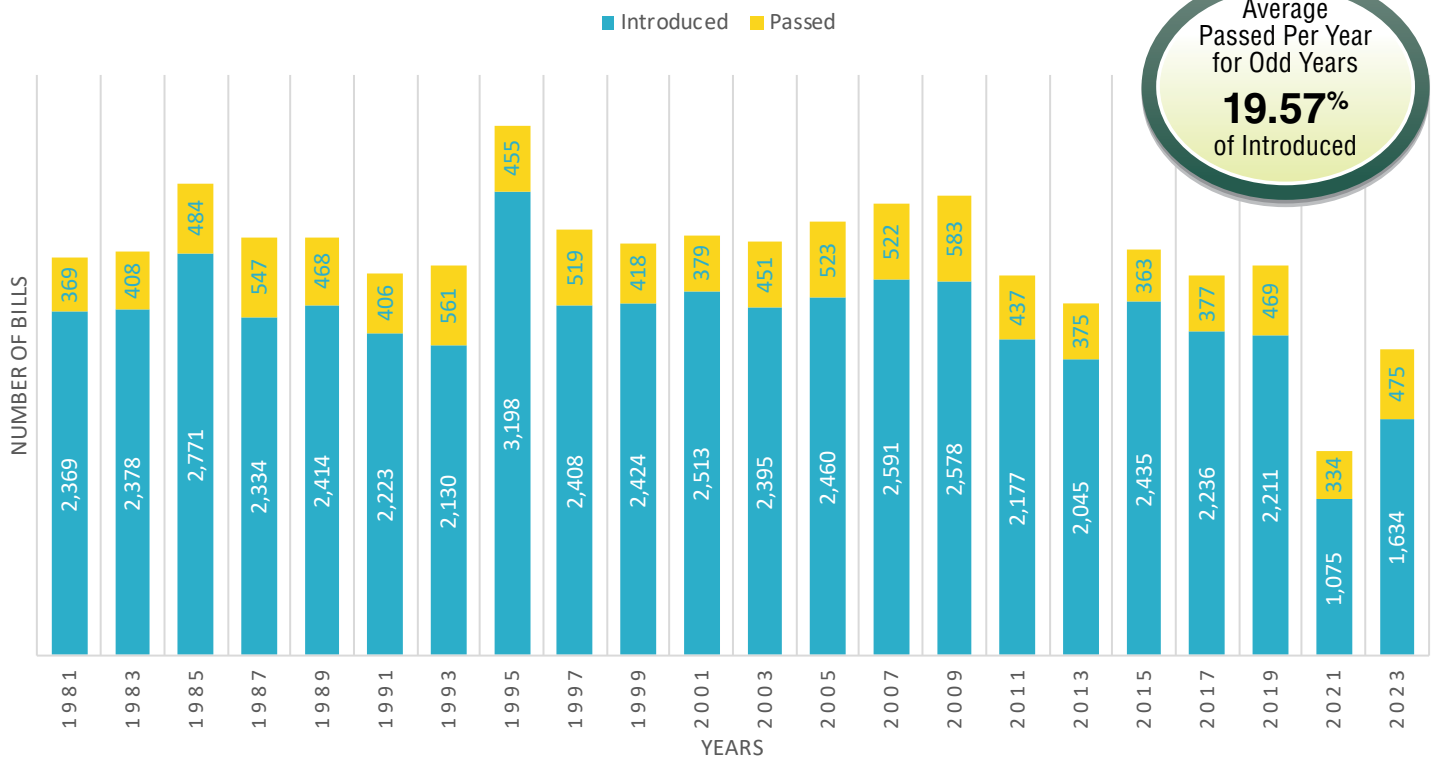
# Total Bills Intro vs. Passed by Year

## TOTAL BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

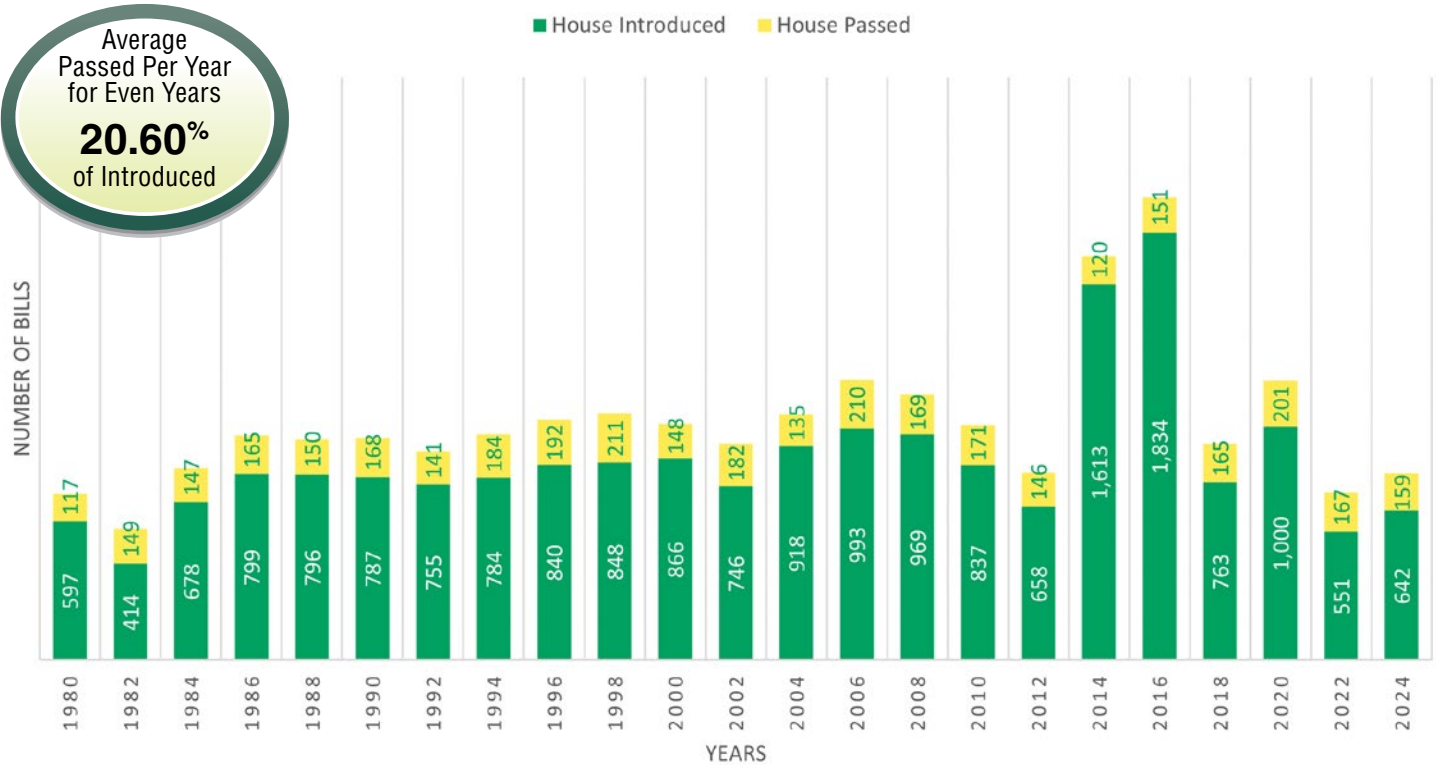
## TOTAL BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

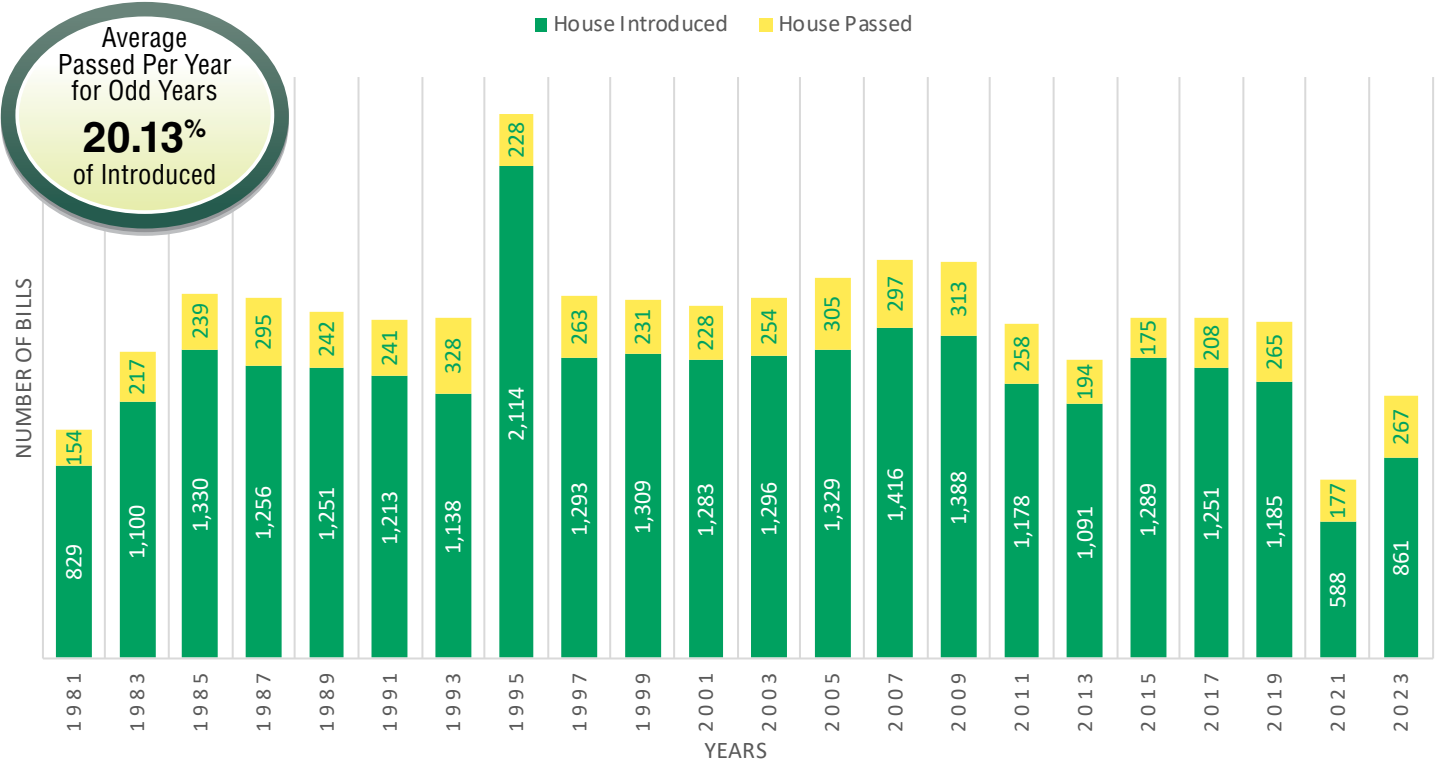
# Bills Intro vs. Passed by Chamber and Year

## BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY HOUSE, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

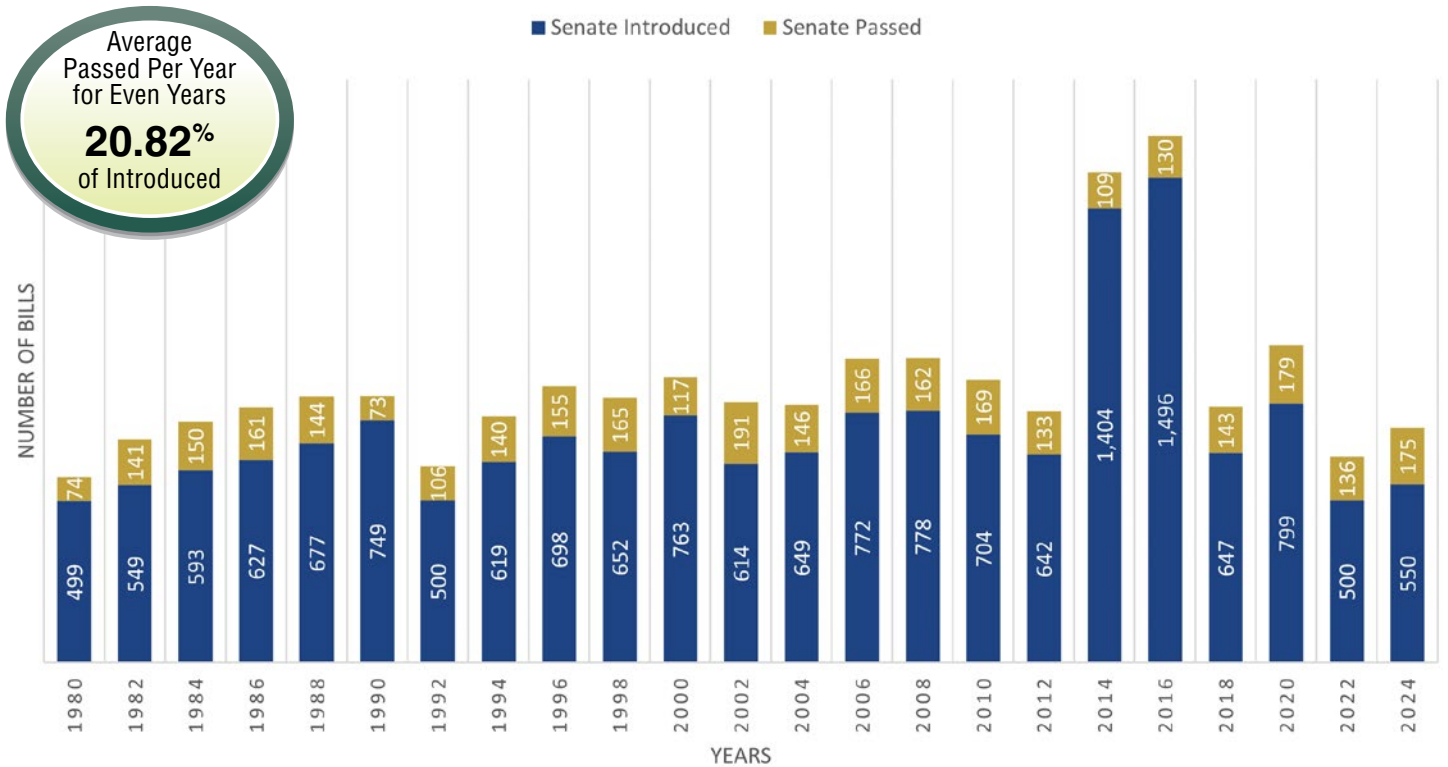
## BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY HOUSE, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

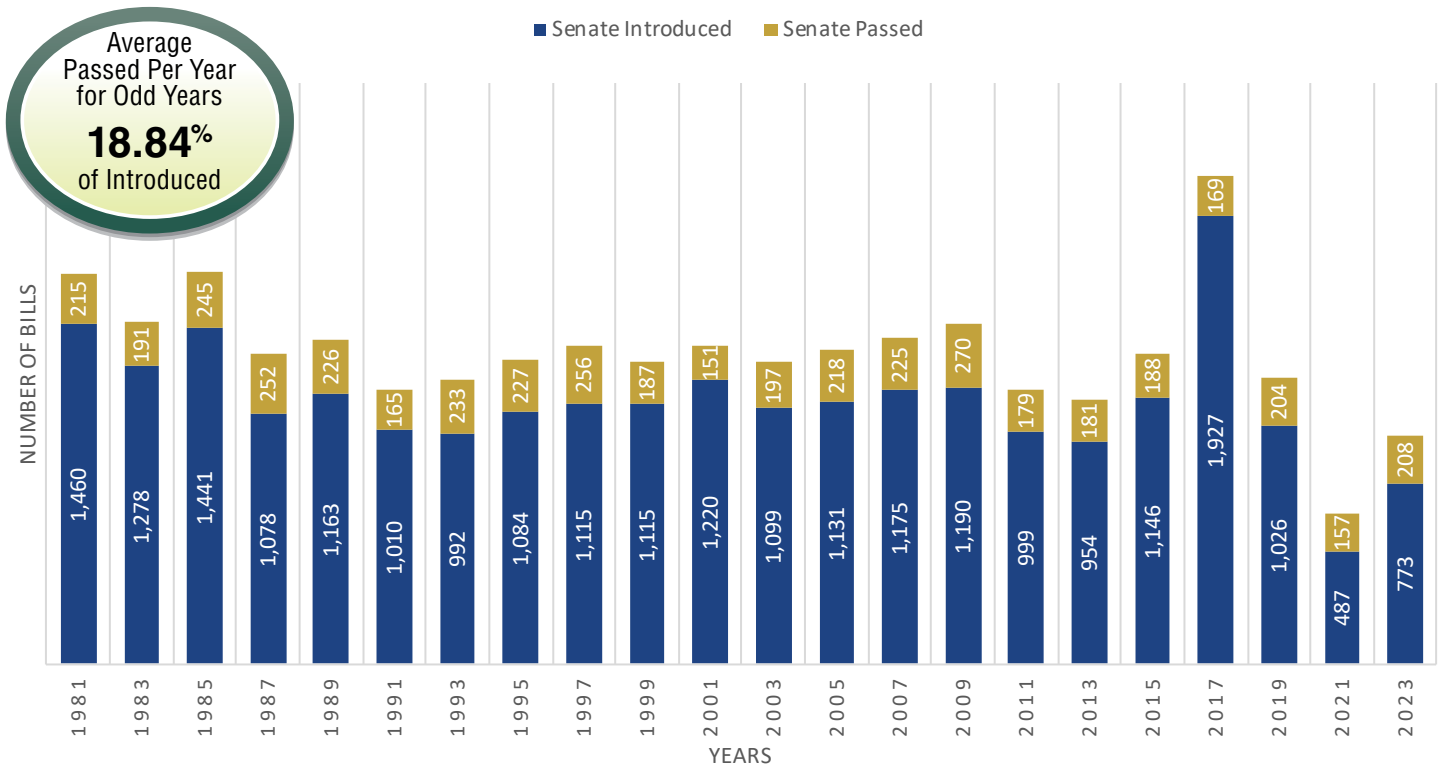
# Bills Intro vs. Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*

## BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY SENATE, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

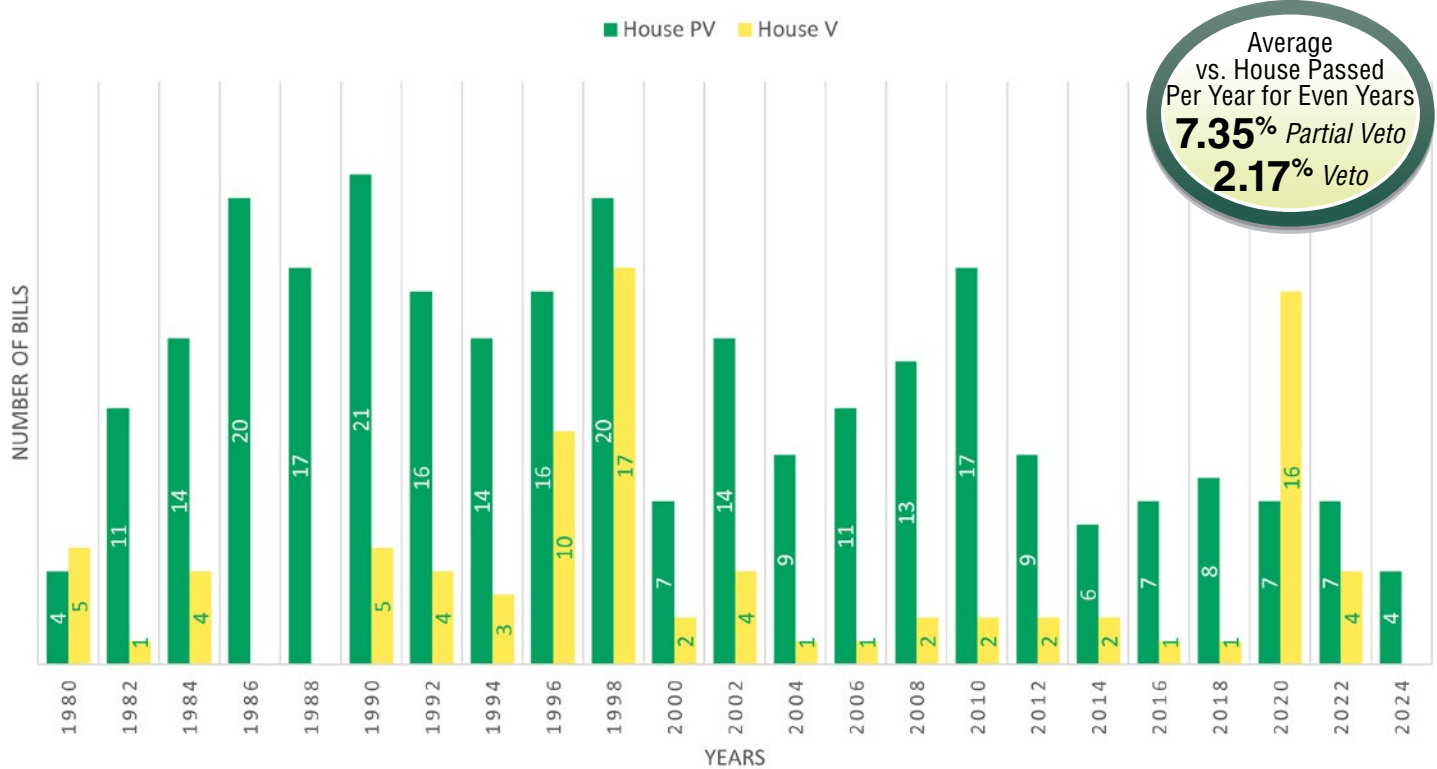
## BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY SENATE, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

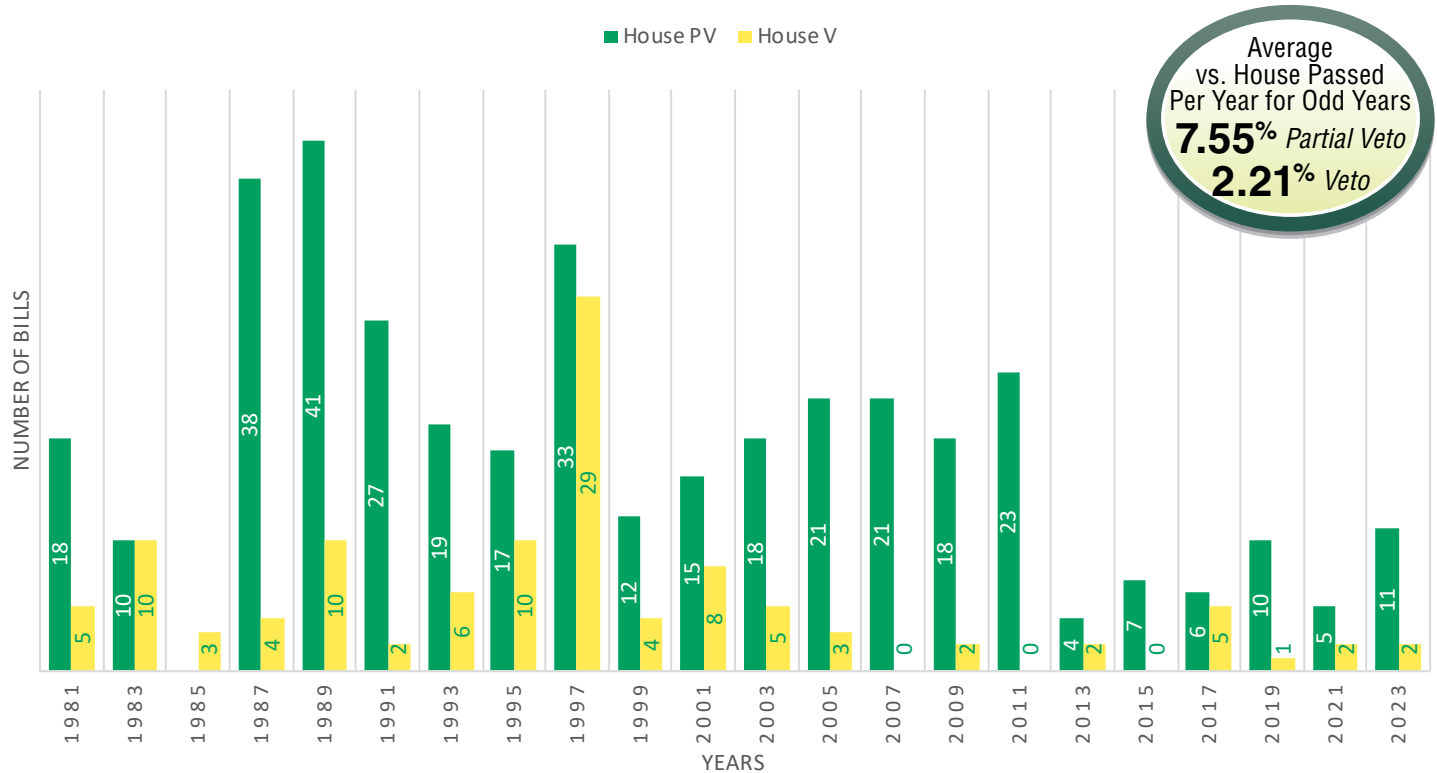
# Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes by Chamber and Year

## HOUSE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

## HOUSE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS

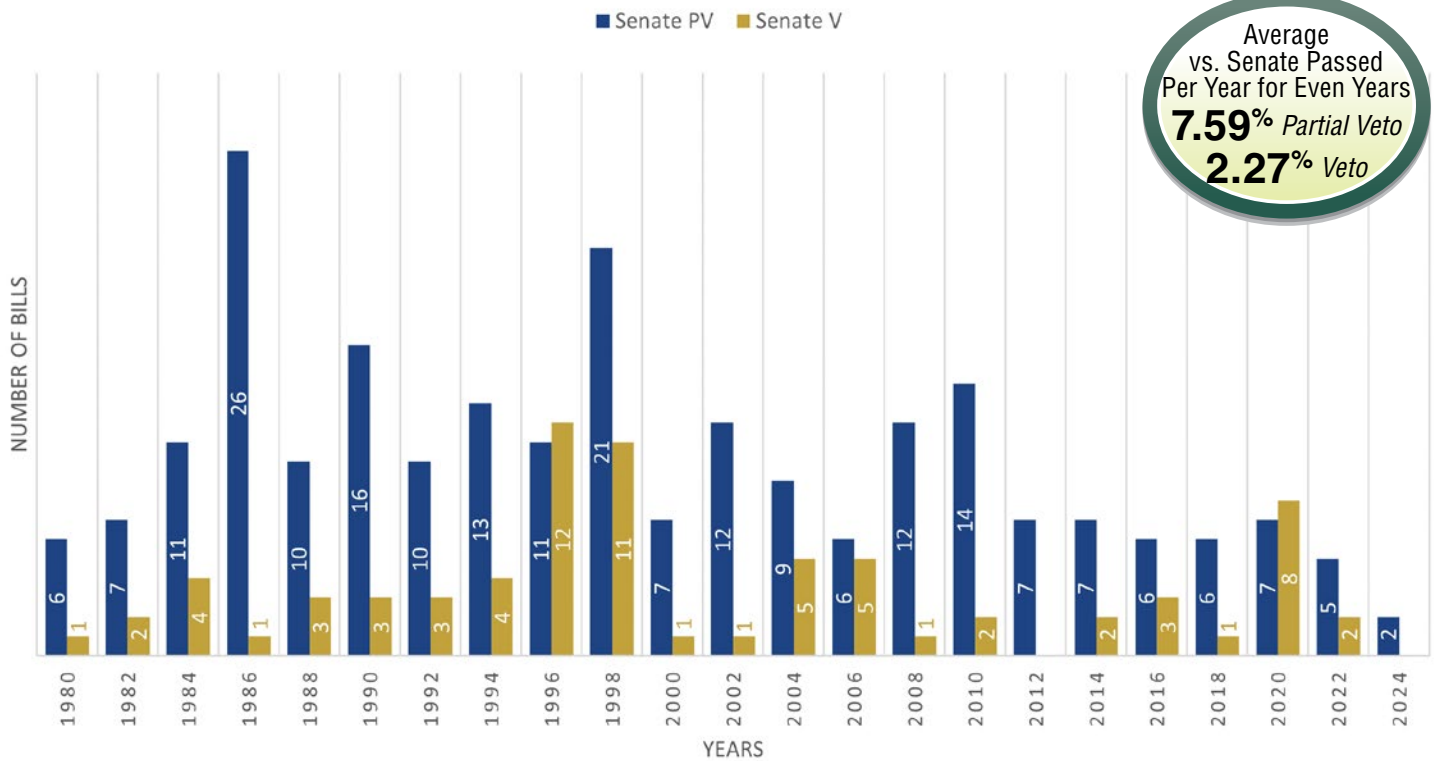


Includes regular and special sessions.



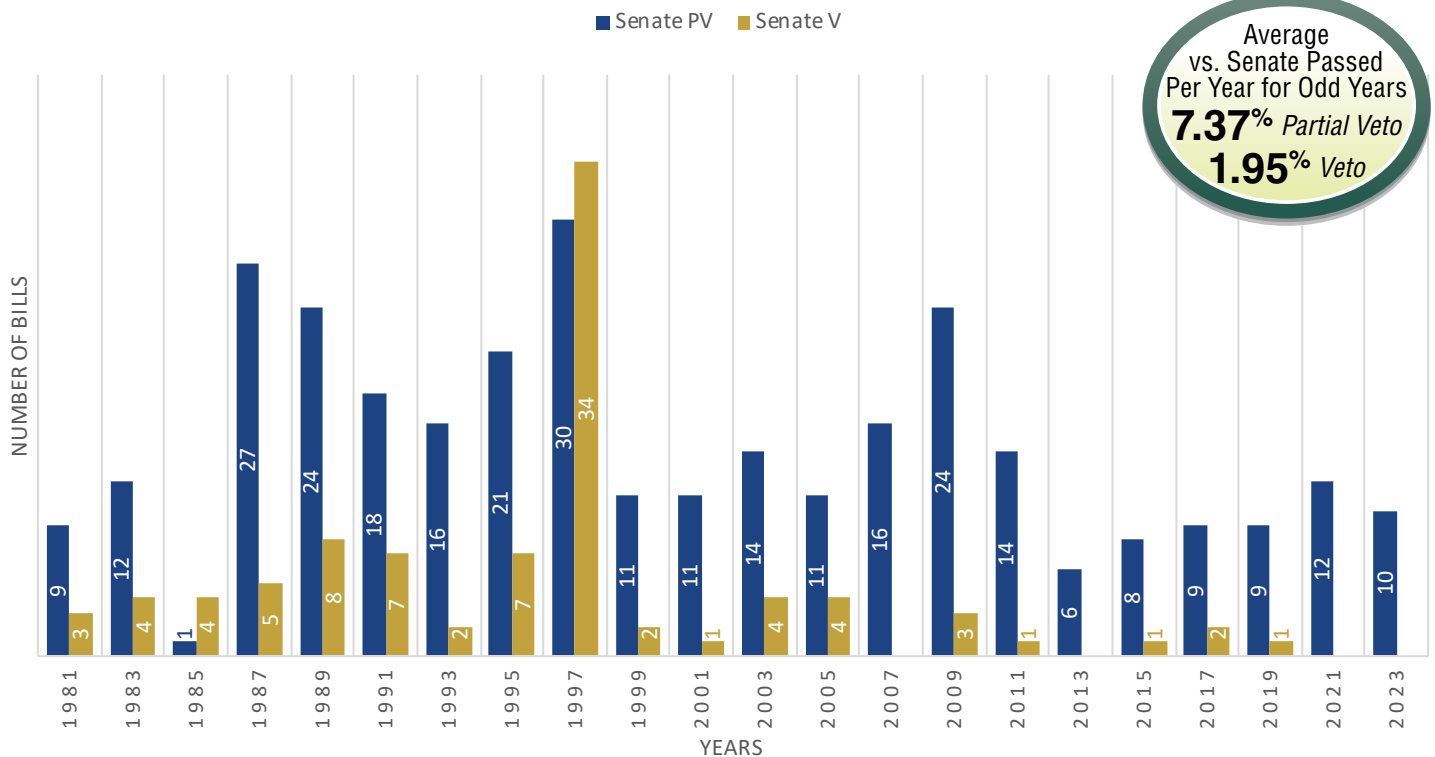
# Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes by Chamber and Year *continued*

## SENATE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



*Includes regular and special sessions.*

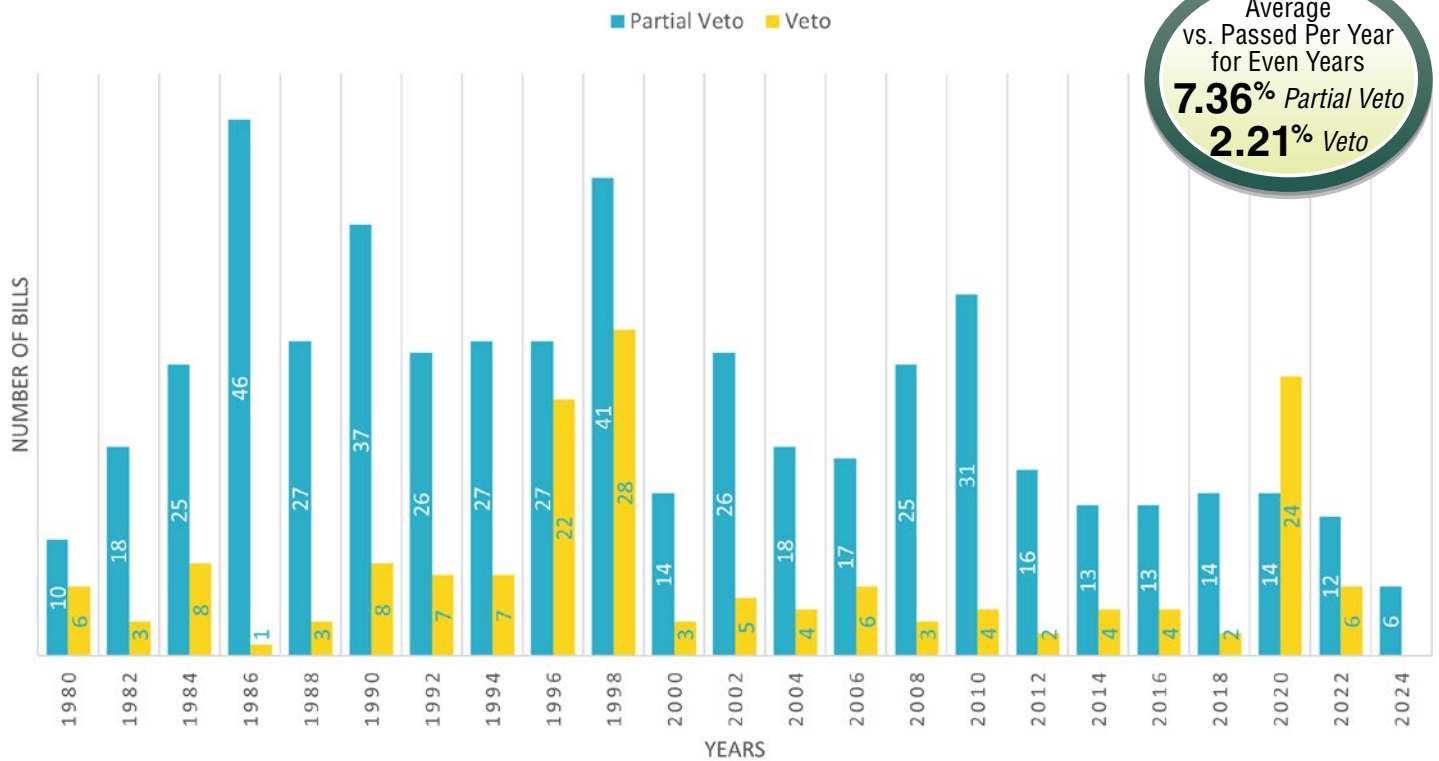
## SENATE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS



*Includes regular and special sessions.*

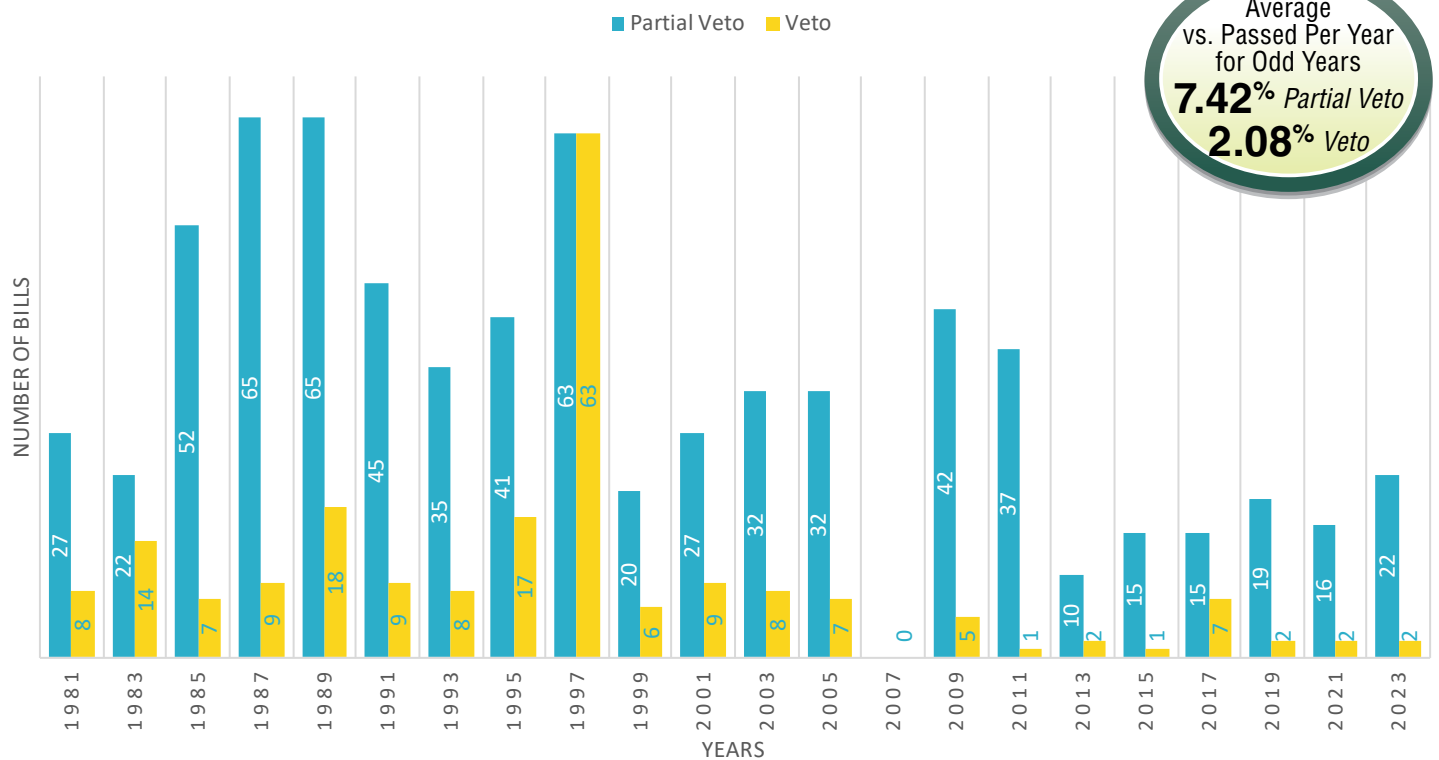
# Total Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes by Year

## TOTAL PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

## TOTAL PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

## Memorials & Resolutions

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

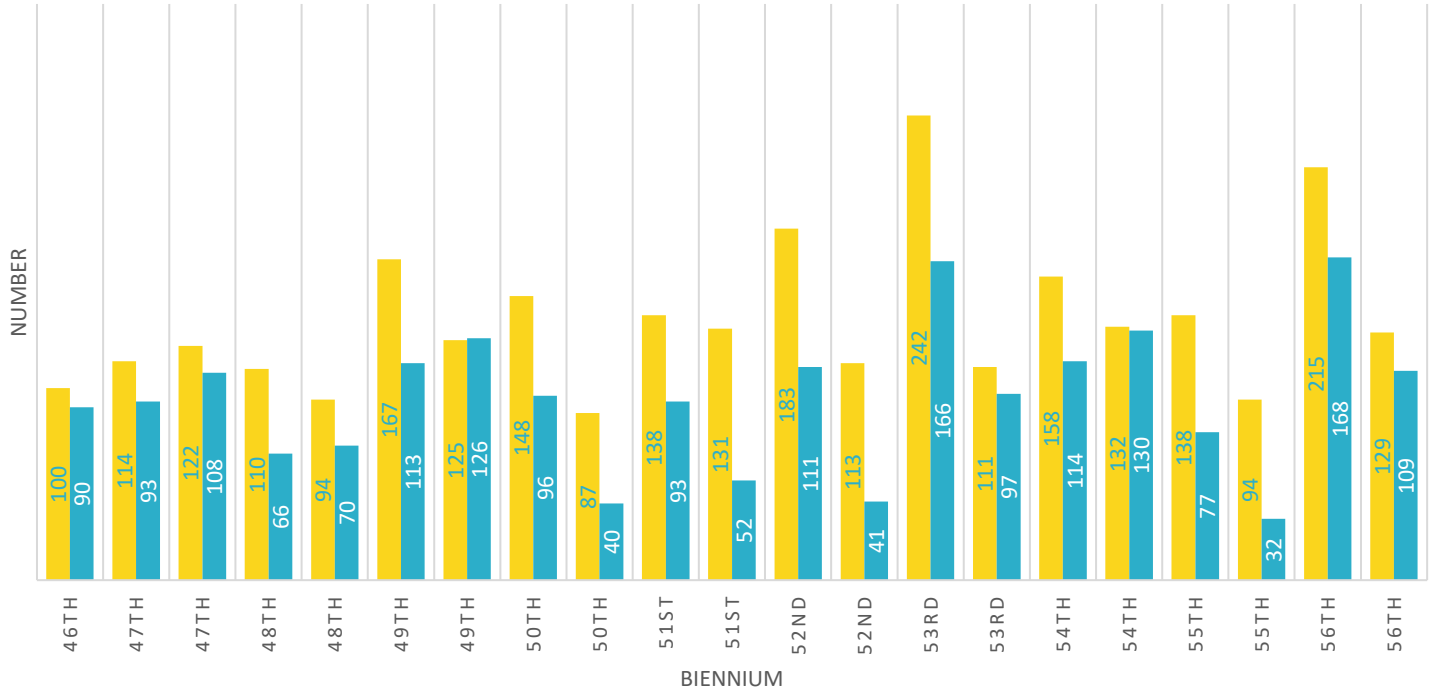
## Initiatives

Year	TOTAL	
	Introduced	Filed
1980 - 89 Ave.	1	1
1990	0	0
1991	0	0
1992	1	1
1993	0	2
1994	0	2
1995	2	3
1996	2	0
1997	0	1
1998	1	0
1999	3	3
2000	2	1
2001	6	4
2002	3	3
2003	2	2
2004	1	1
2005	2	2
2006	3	2
2007	3	1
2008	1	1
2009	3	2
2010	3	2
2011	7	2
2012	3	2
2013	5	3
2014	7	3
2015	5	4
2016	6	4
2017	9	5
2018	4	1
2019	7	4
2020		2
2021	0	0
2022	0	0
2023	0	0
2024	6	3
<b>Ave.</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

# Gubernatorial Appointments

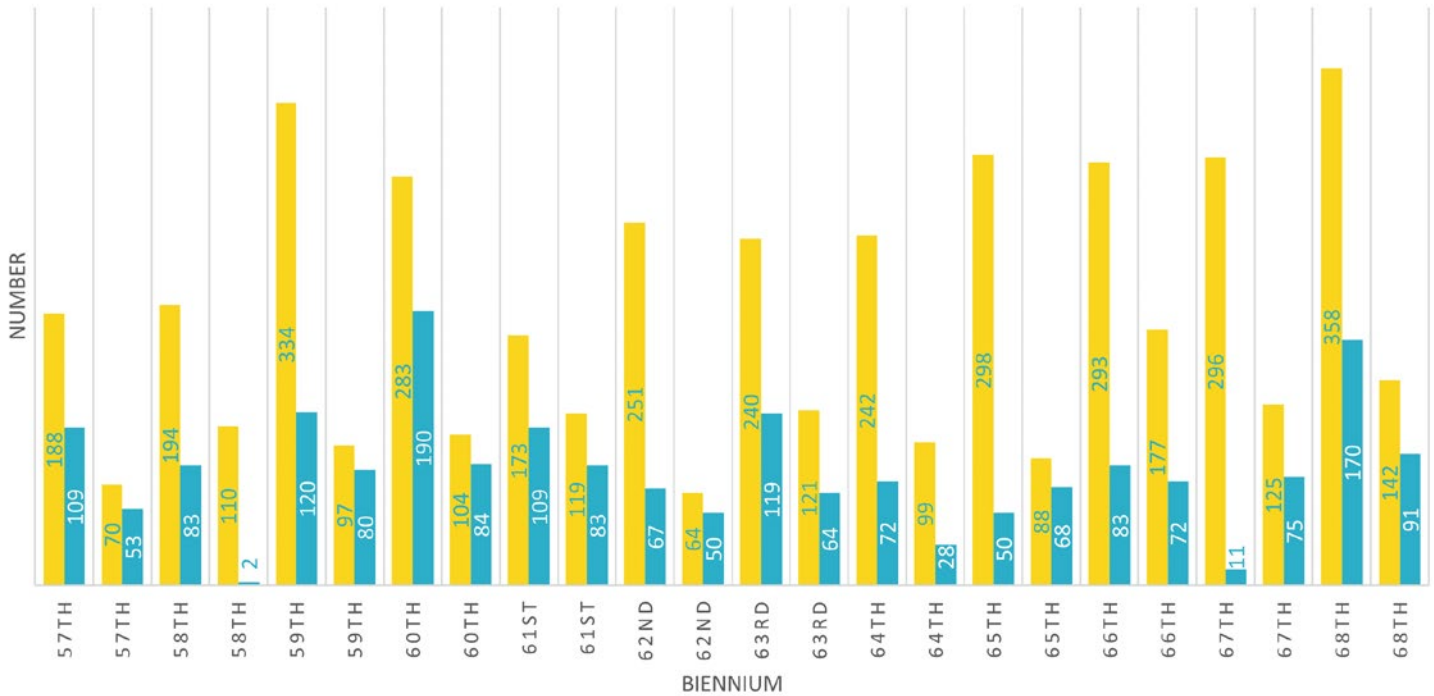
## GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS 1980 - 2000

■ 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:

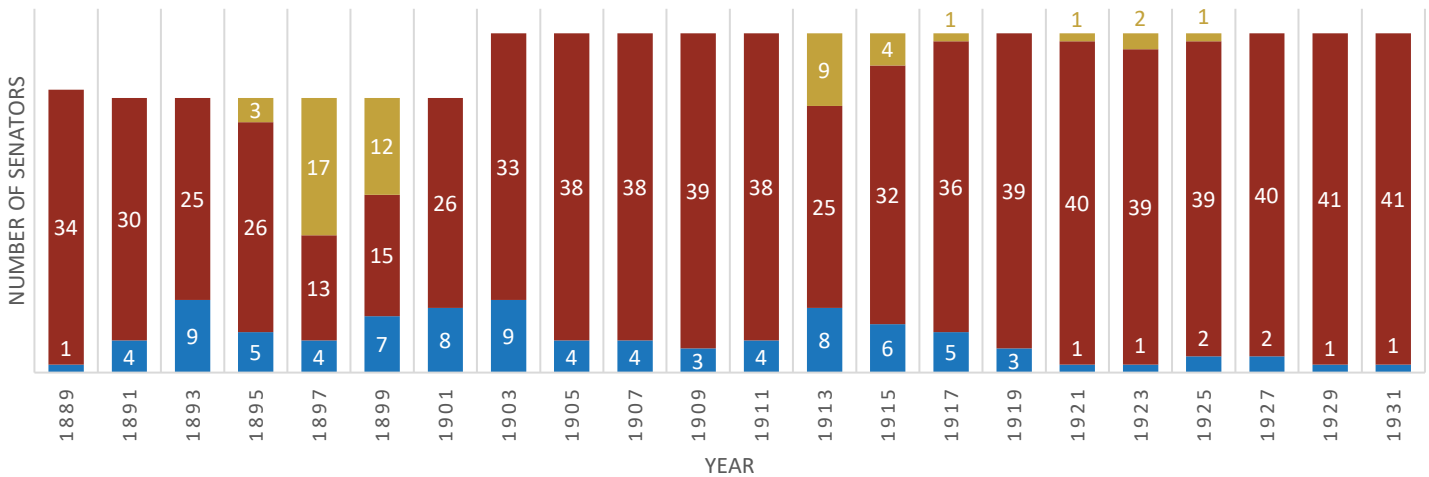
- The Enabling Act of 1889 changed three territories into four states: Washington, Montana, N. & S. Dakota.
- In 1896, J.R. Rogers became Washington's only populist governor.
- The drop in the total number of seats in the House for the years 1905 and 1911 is surprising. Expected would be for the number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

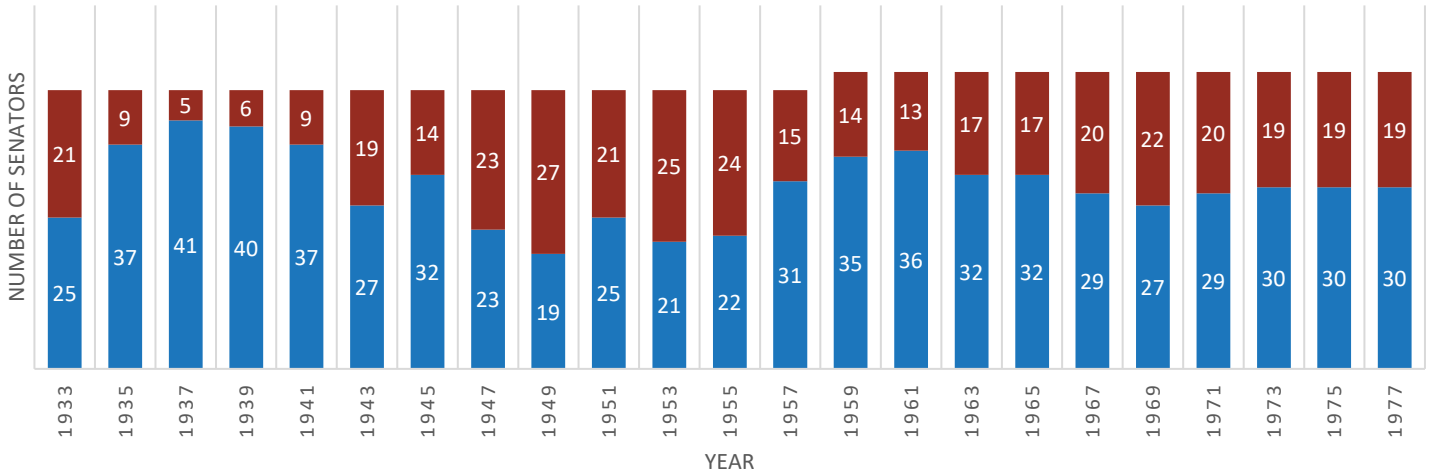
## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1889 - 1931

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



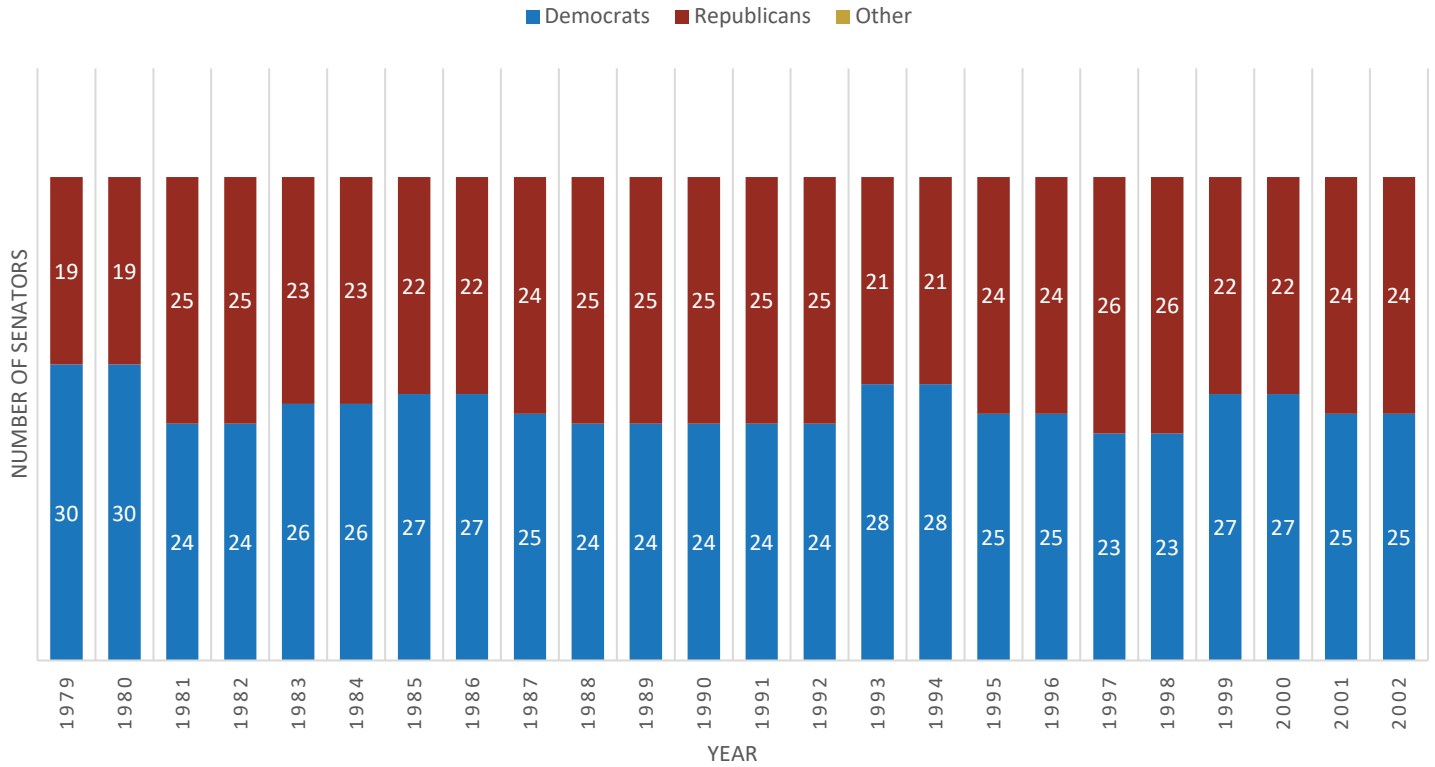
## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1933 - 1977

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

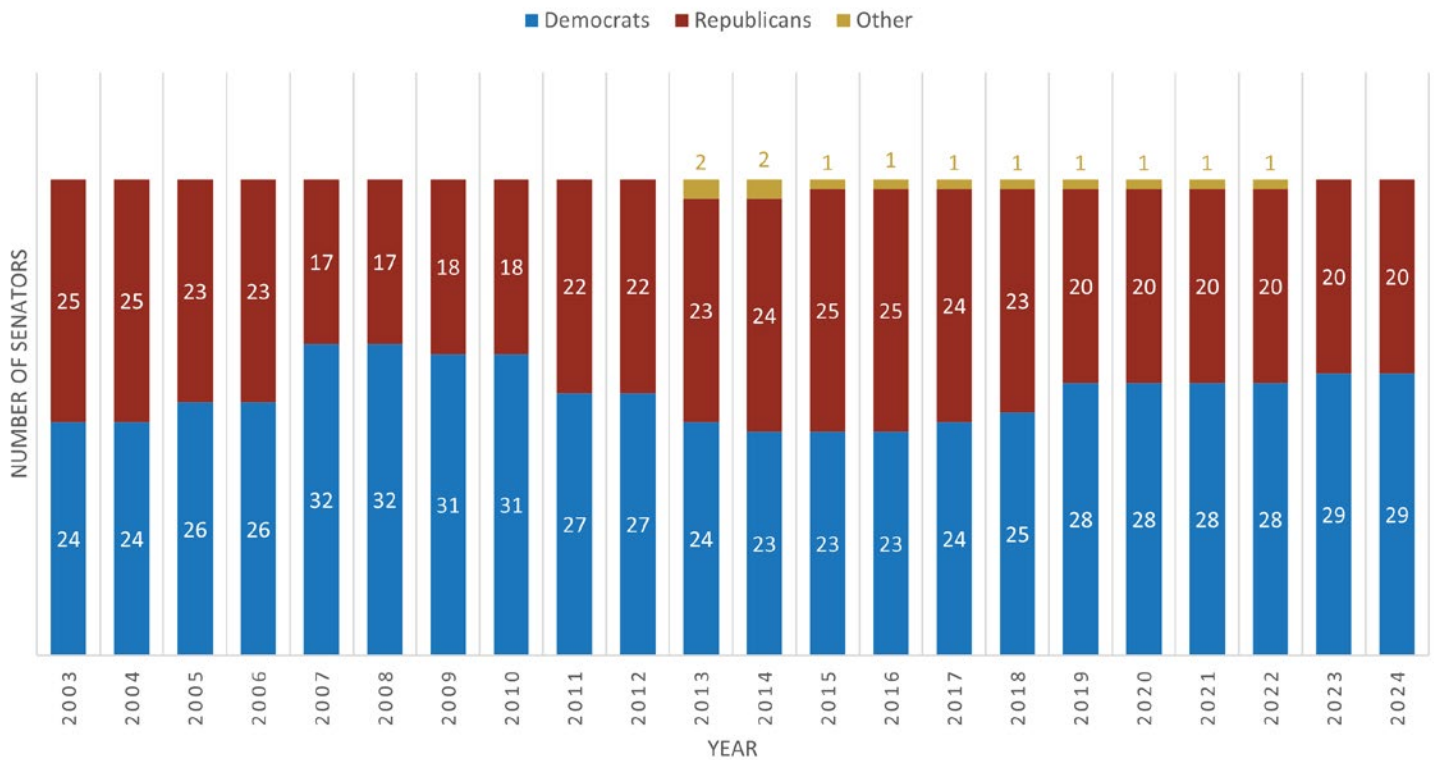


# Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 1979 - 2002



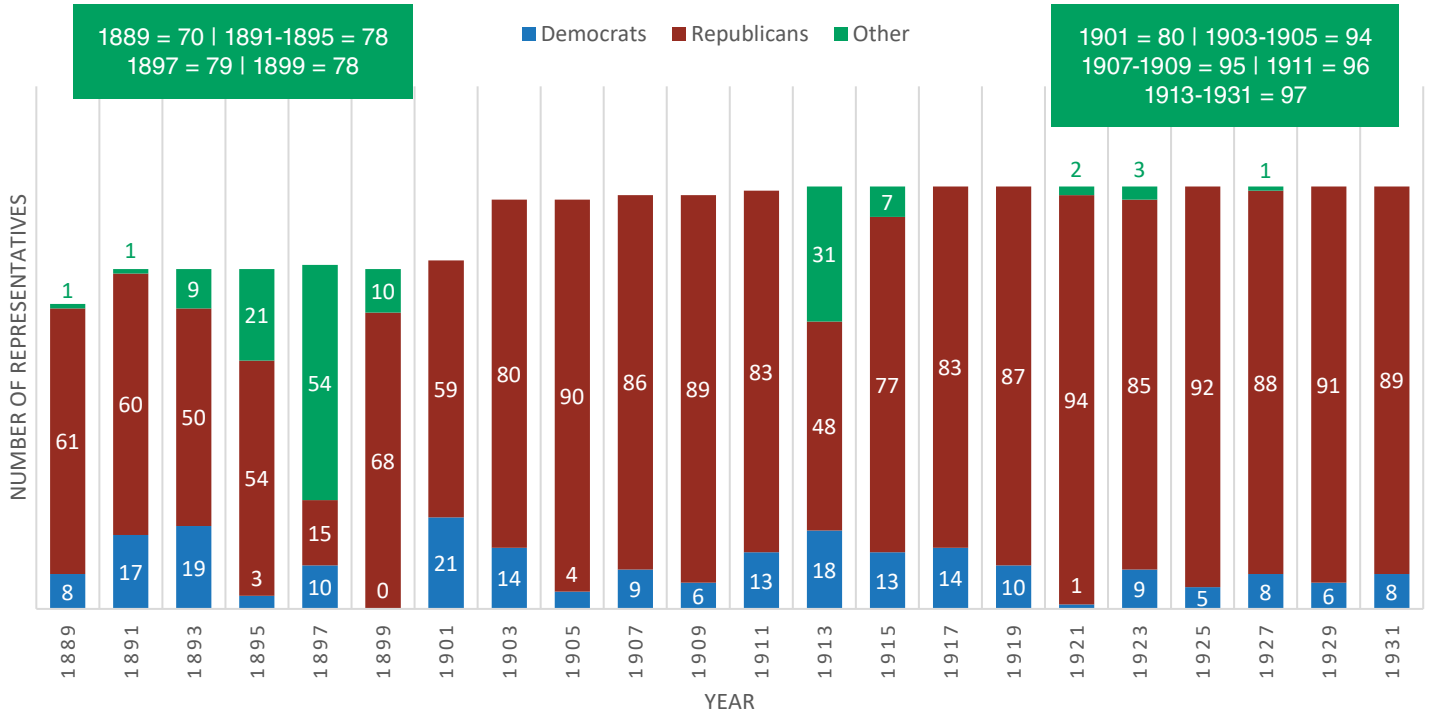
## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE SENATE, 2003 - 2024



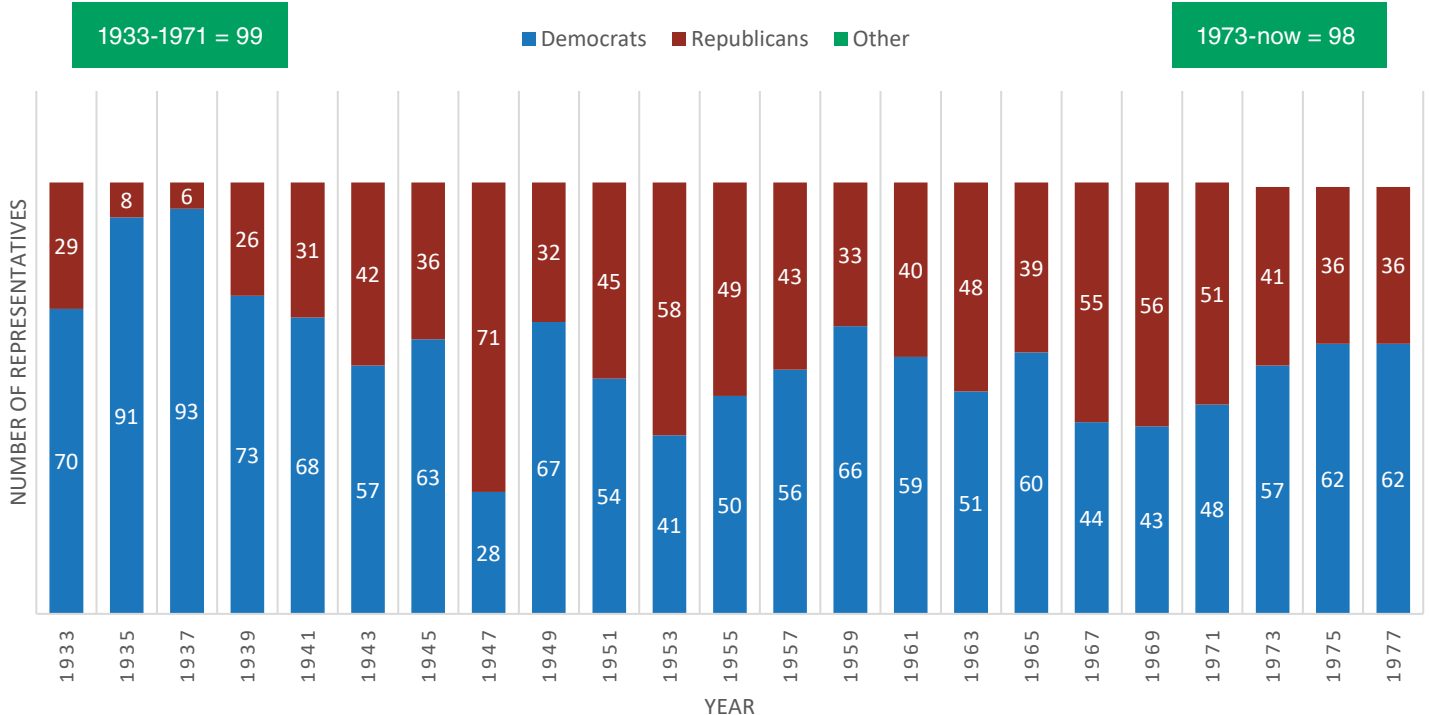
\* 2013 - 2022: Other = Ds Caucused with Rs

# Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1889 - 1931

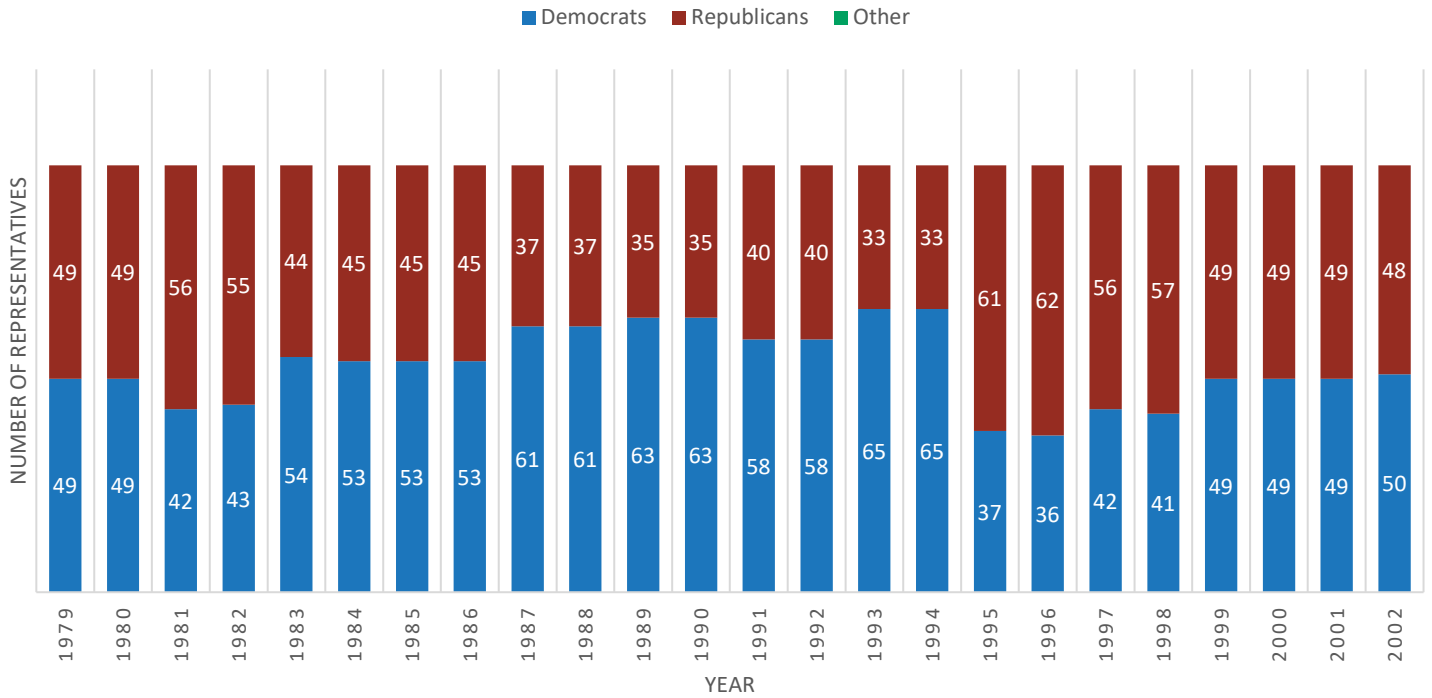


## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1933 - 1977

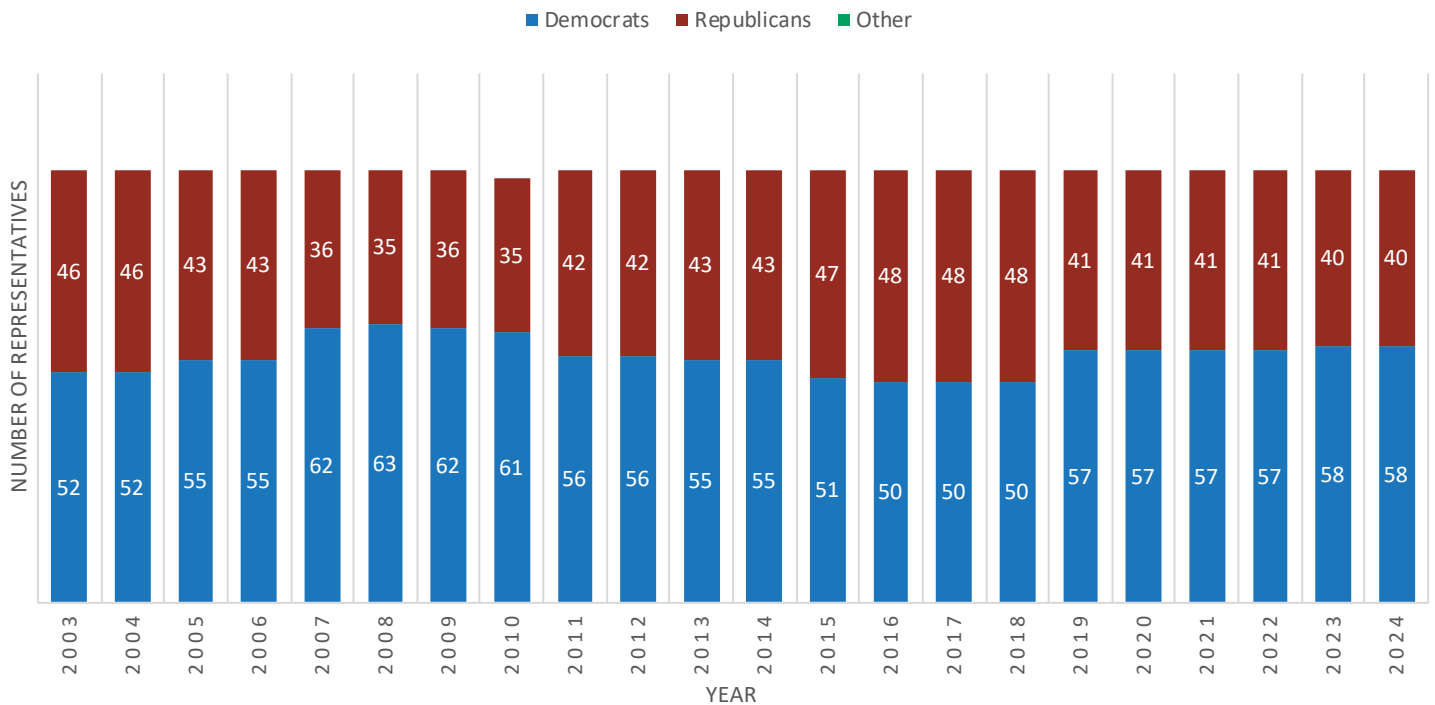


# Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 1979 - 2002



## POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 2003 - 2024

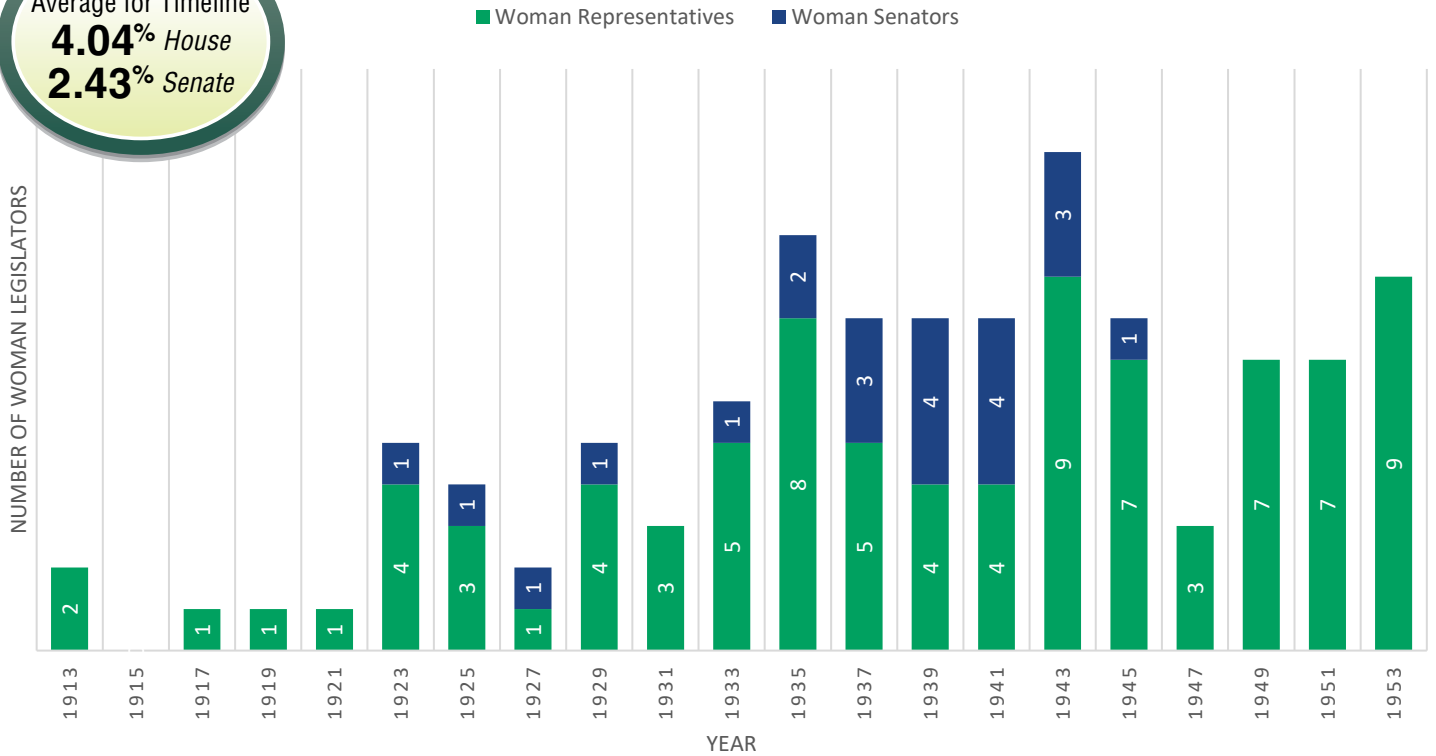




# Women in Legislature

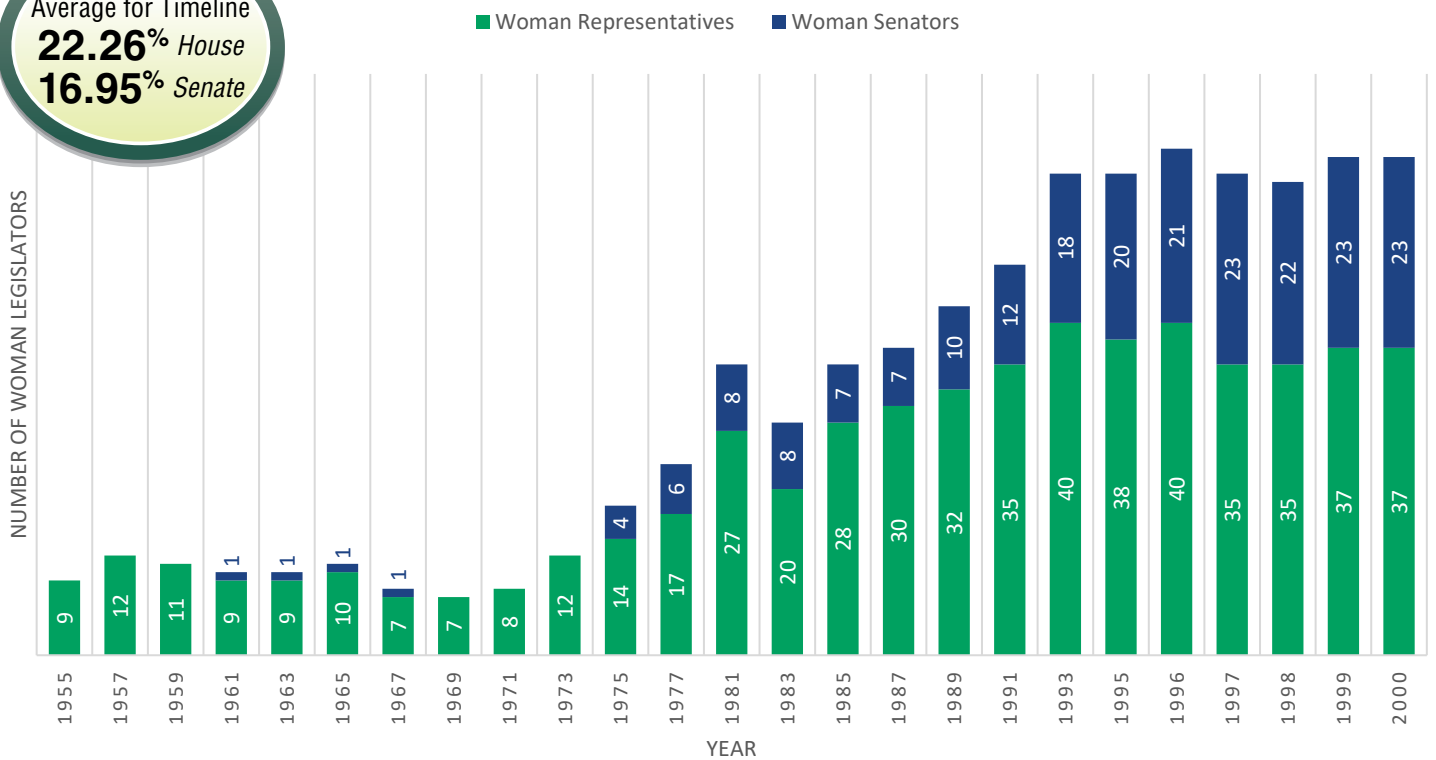
## WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1913 - 1951

Average for Timeline  
**4.04%** House  
**2.43%** Senate



## WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1955 - 2000

Average for Timeline  
**22.26%** House  
**16.95%** Senate

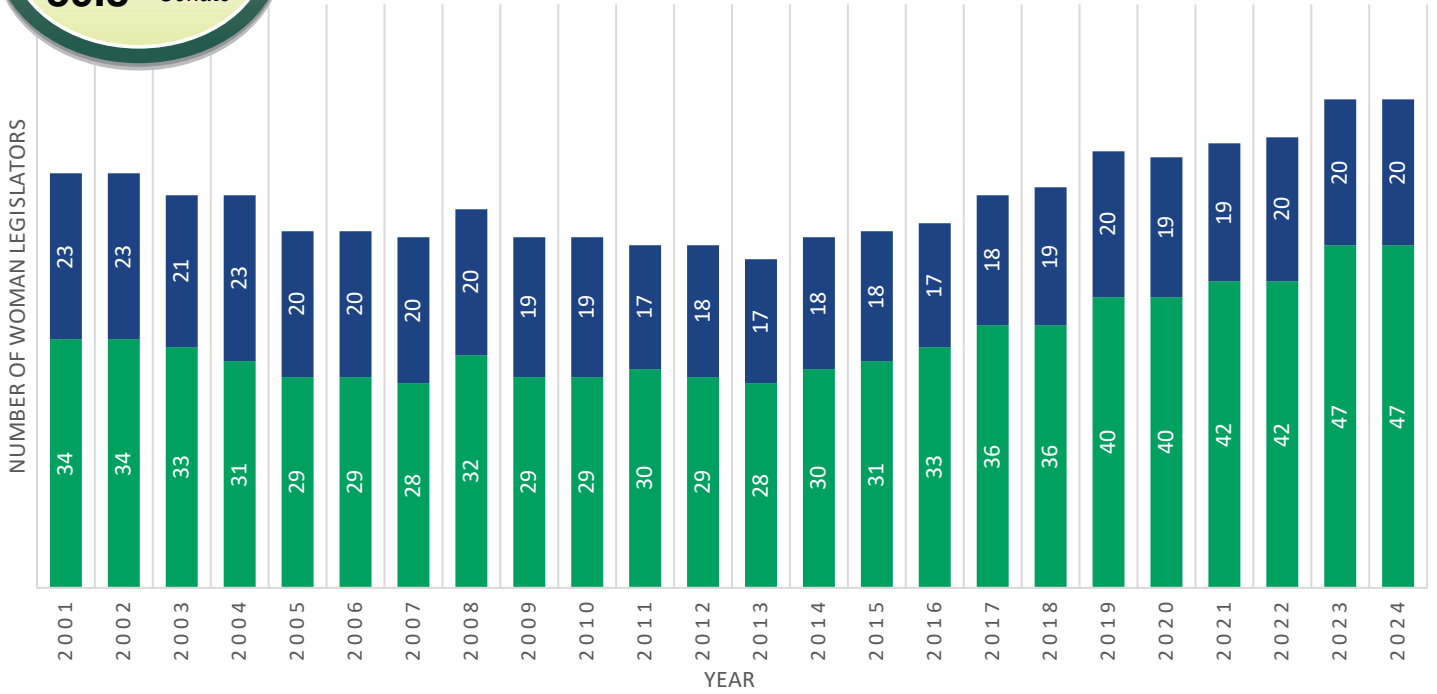


# Women in Legislature *continued*

## WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 2001 - 2024

Average for Timeline  
**34.8%** House  
**39.8%** Senate

■ Woman Representatives ■ Woman Senators







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