WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

Legislative tabular history

Visual dynamics including; Length of Session, Bill History, Gubernatorial Appointments, Political Division, and Women in Legislature.

2026

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Branding Guide

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE

The Legislature went through a rebrand in 2024. New colors were used beginning 2025.

State of Washington

Use for general legislative purposes discussing both chambers.

C89 M56 Y69 K66
#012E2A

C57 M36 Y53 K9
#738577

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.

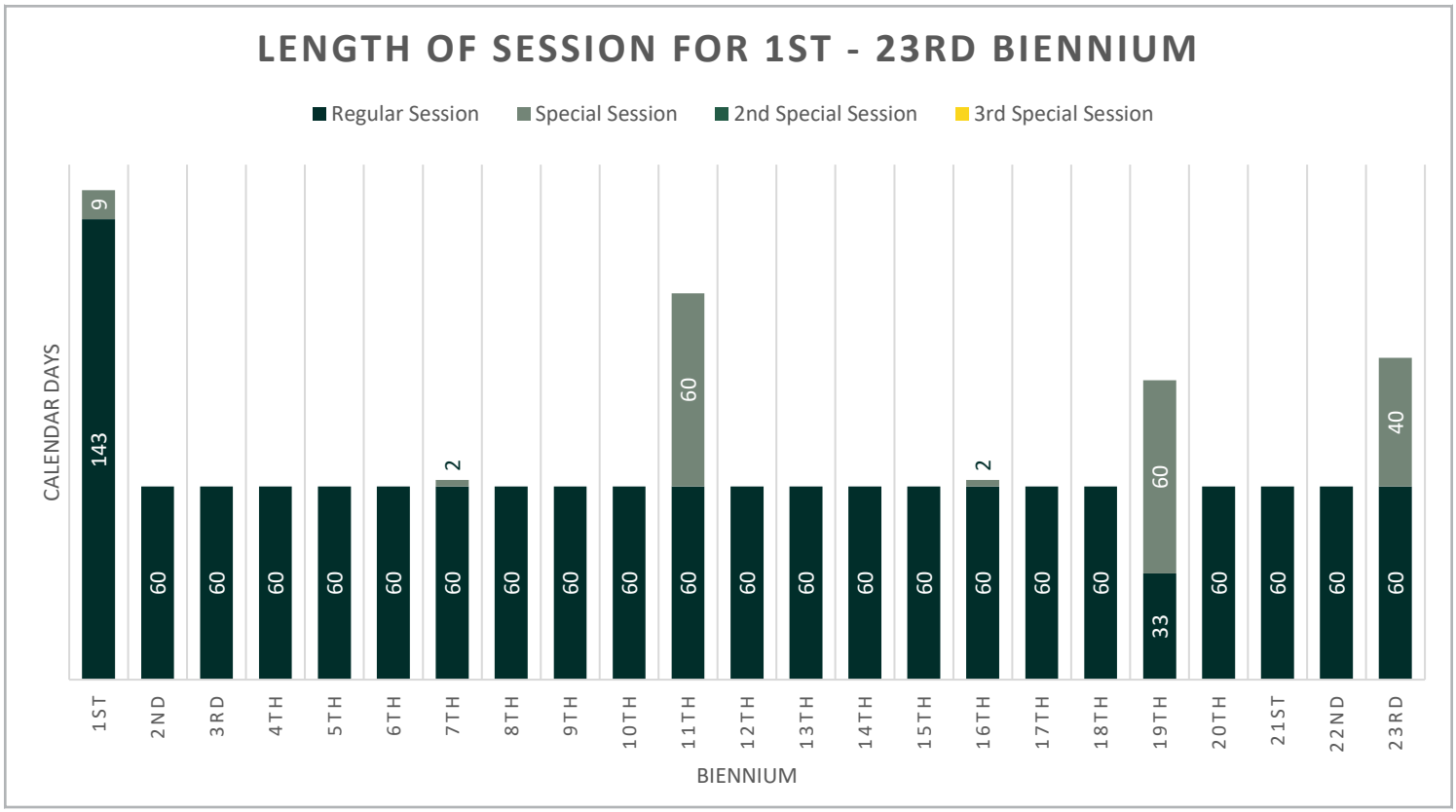
Democrat
C85 M50 Y0 K0
#1C76BC

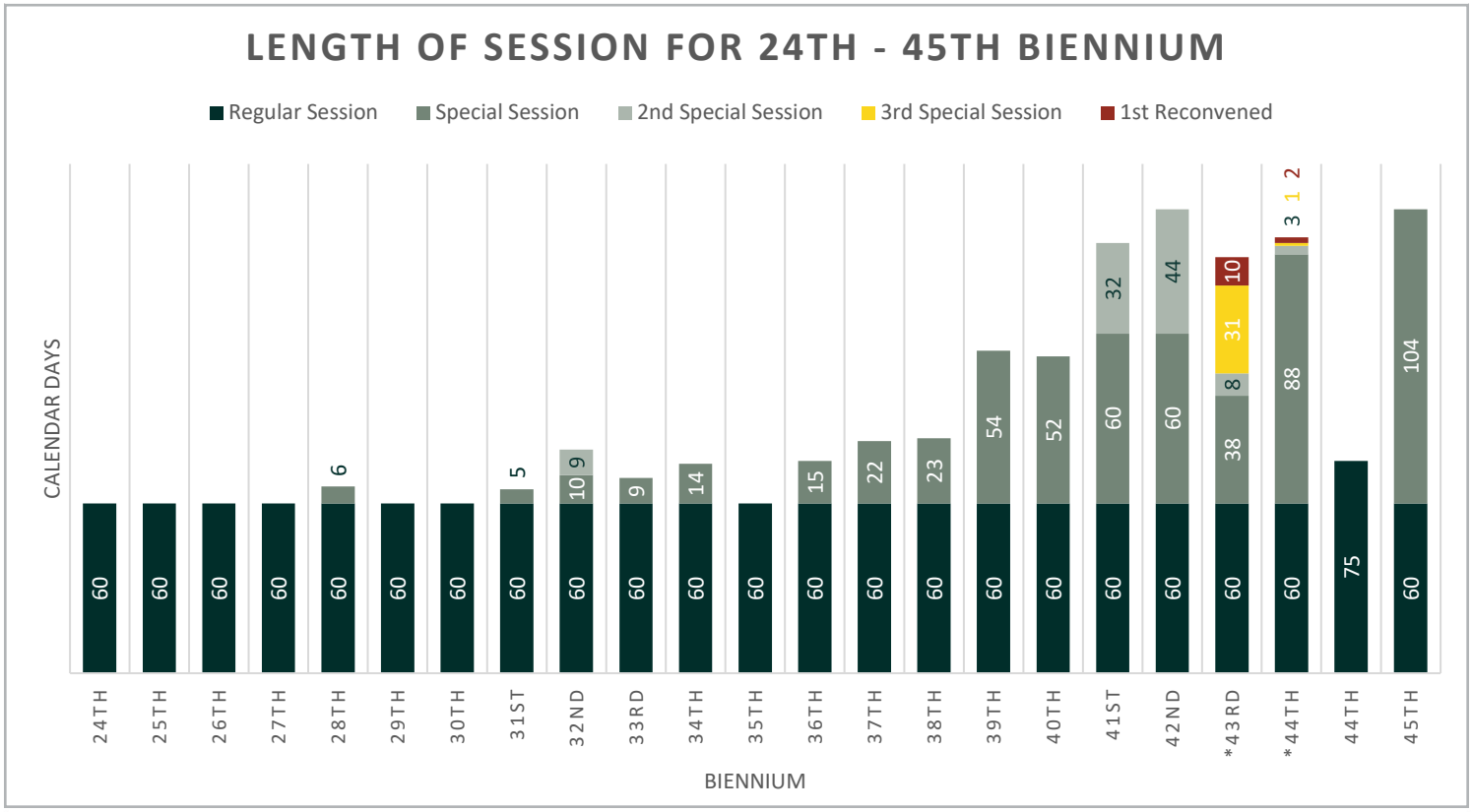
Republican
C25 M95 Y95 K25
#962C21

Length of Session

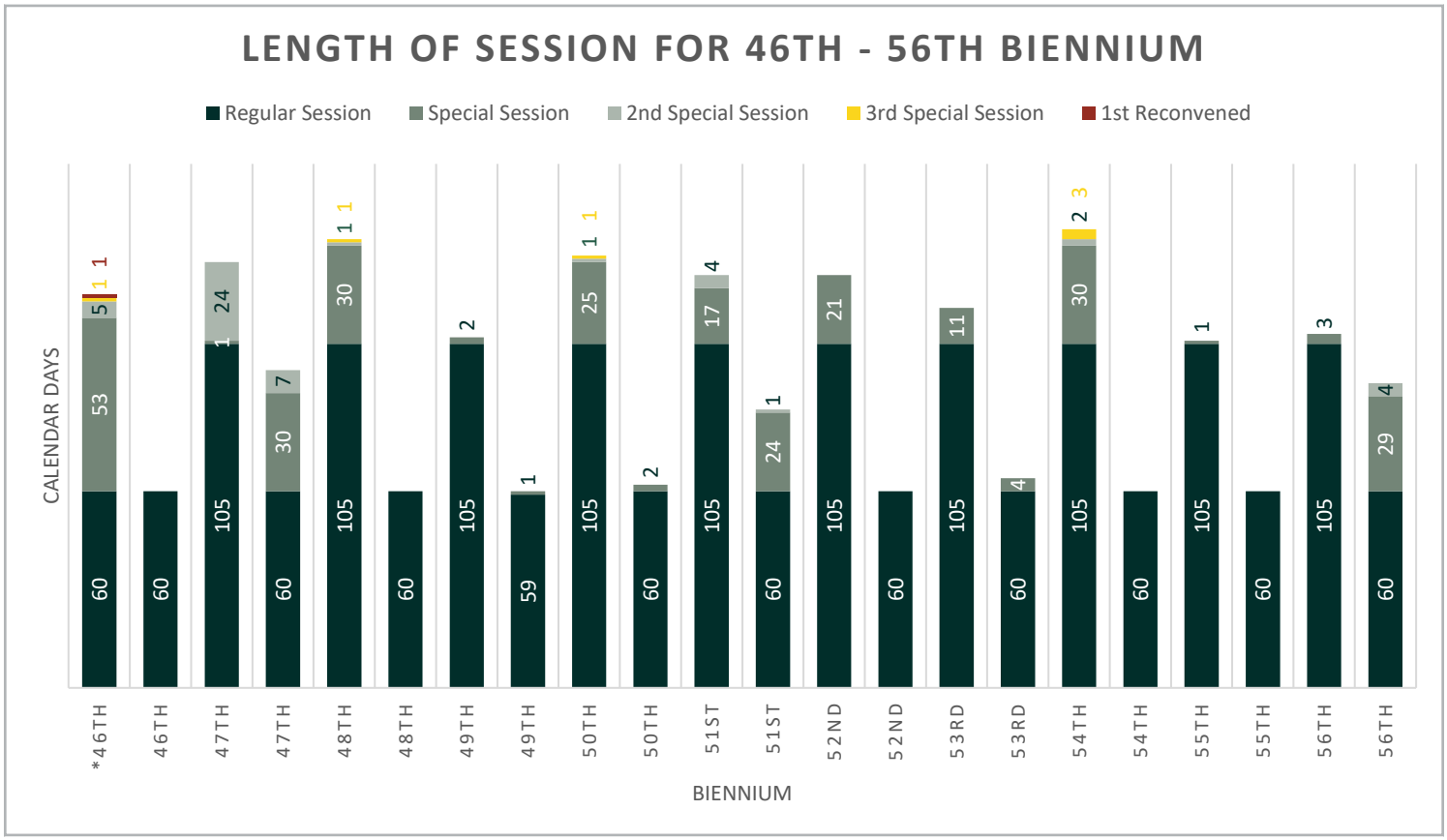
In this graph, a session's "length in days" is defined as the total number of calendar days from the convening date to the adjournment date, inclusive. It does not mean the actual number of days that the Legislature convened during that session.

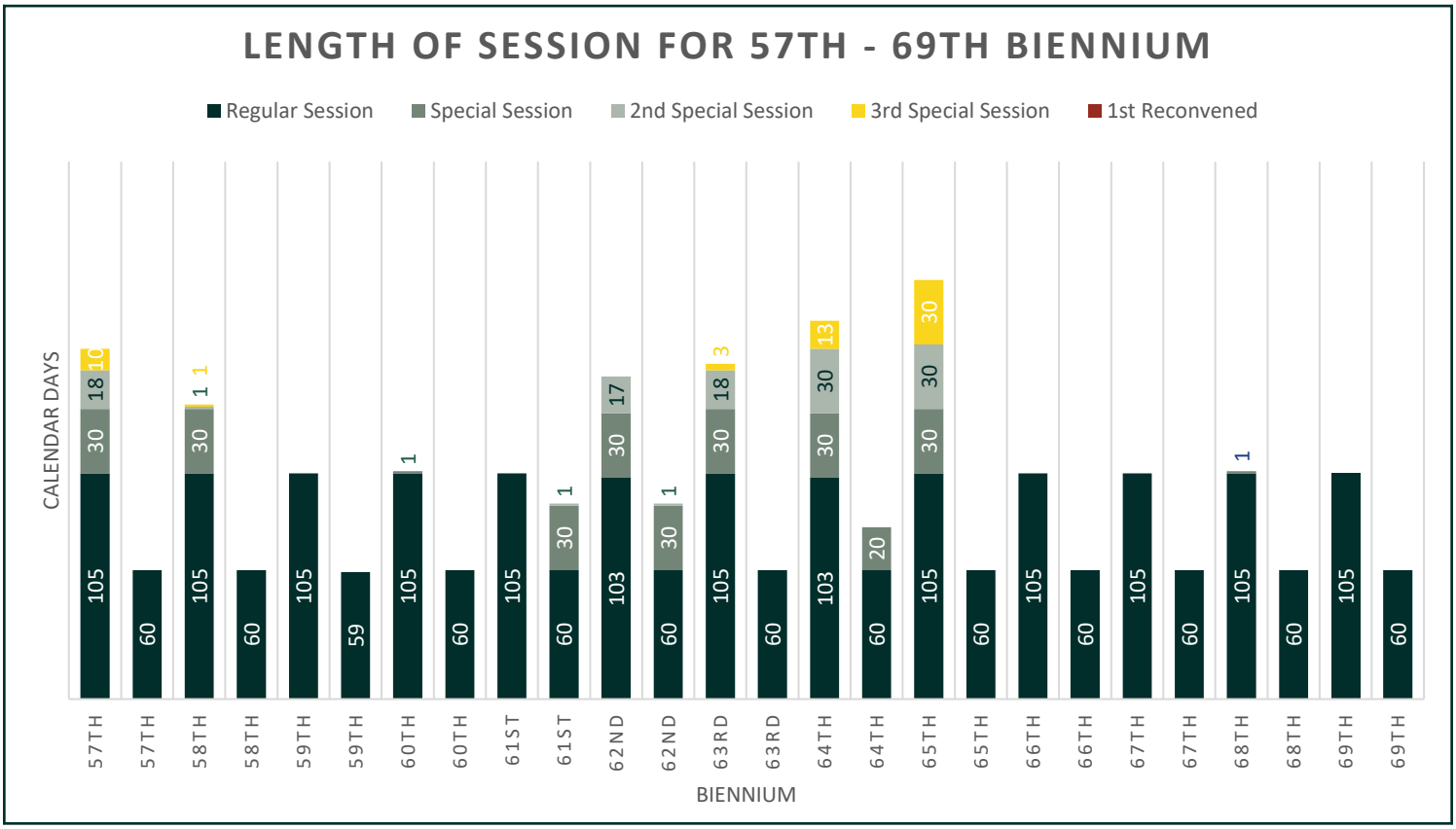
Approved by the voters November 6, 1979, annual sessions convened pursuant to SHB 1126 and SSJR 110; 105 days in odd number years; 60 in even number years.





Length of Session *continued*

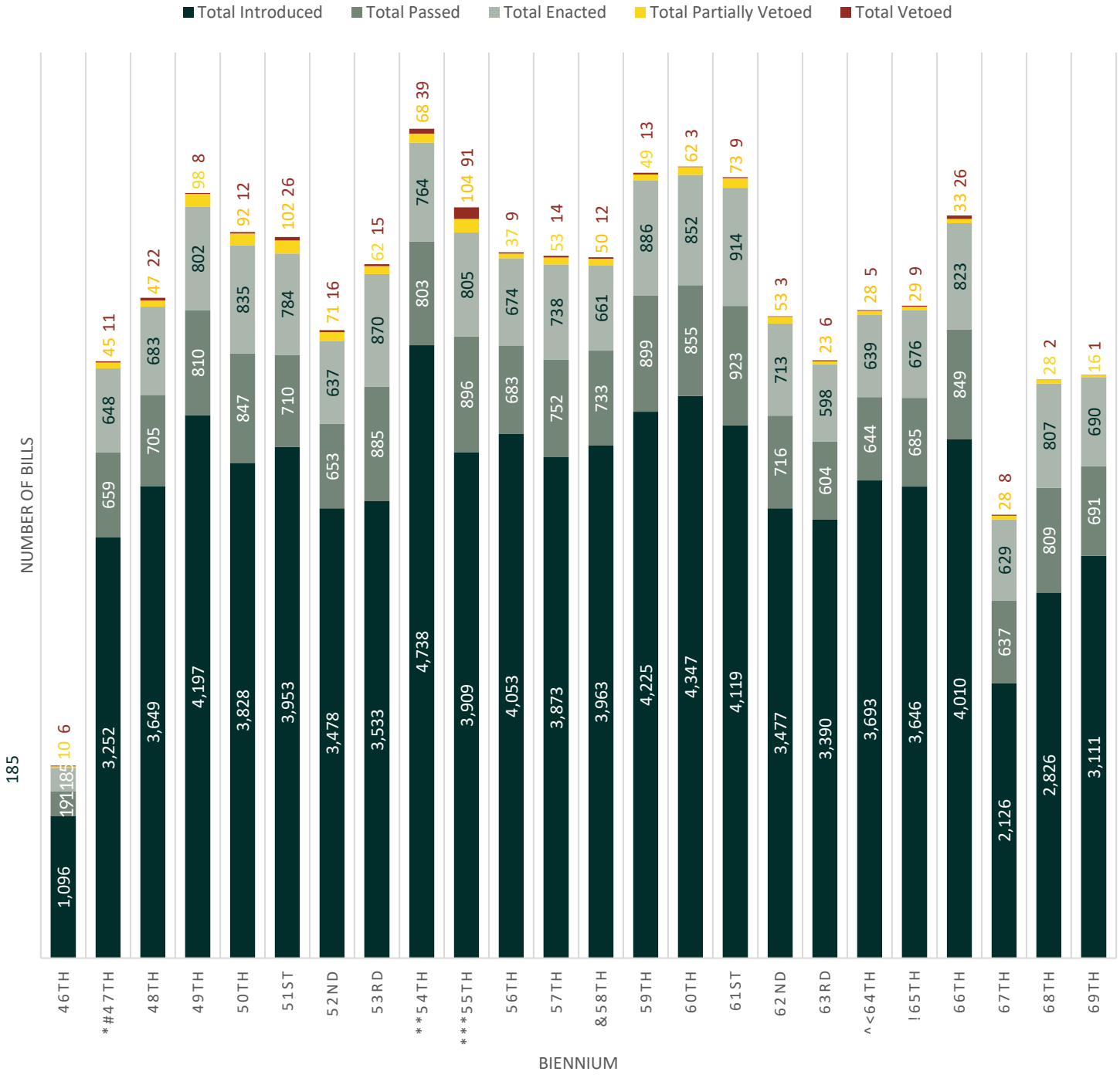




* *Pursuant to Article 2, section 11 of the state constitution, neither house may adjourn for more than three days without the consent of the other. Accordingly, both chambers regularly convene "pro forma" session to conform to this constitutional restriction. Administrative and ceremonial business is 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



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.*

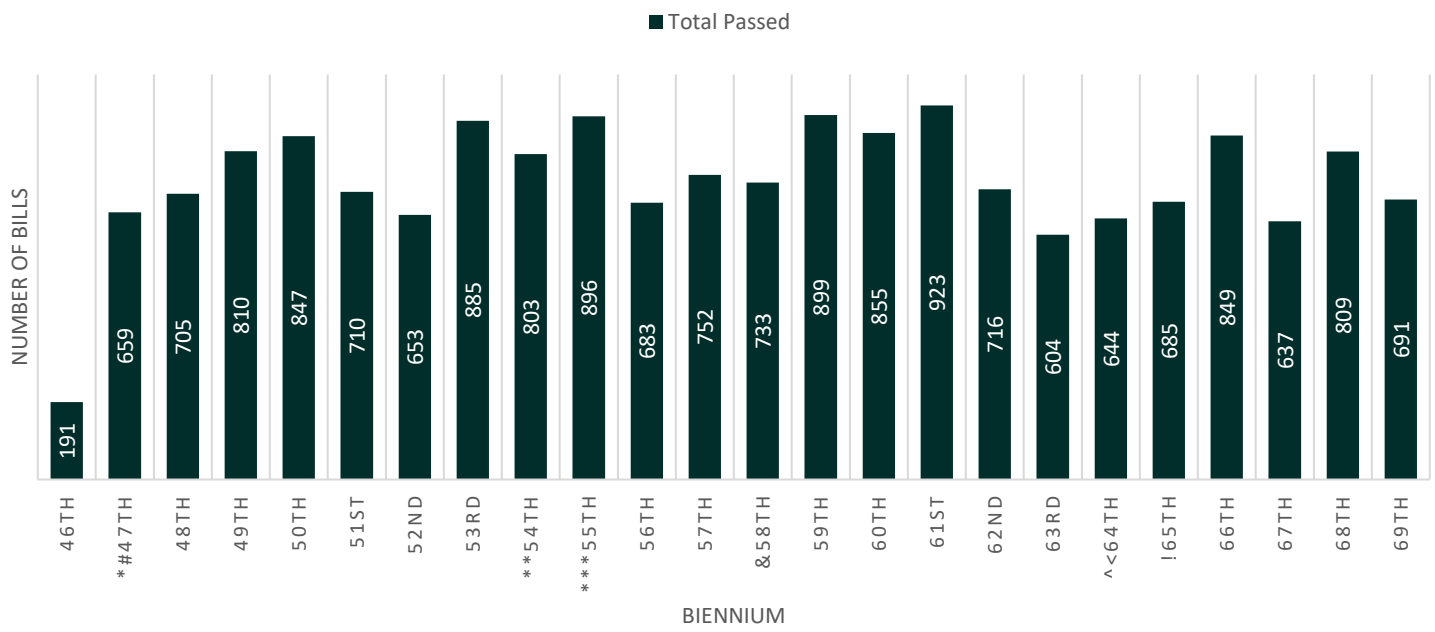
^ *Includes Senate/House veto override of Senate Bills: 5145, 5265, 5458, 5549, 5767, 6148, 6162, 6170, 6177, 6196, 6206, 6220, 6281, 6284, 6290, 6326, 6341, 6342, 6354, 6398, 6401, 6466, 6491, 6498, 6569, 6606, 6633. Also includes 6194, which became law without the Governor's signature [Art. 3, Sec.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

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

& *Includes Senate override of SSB 5240.*

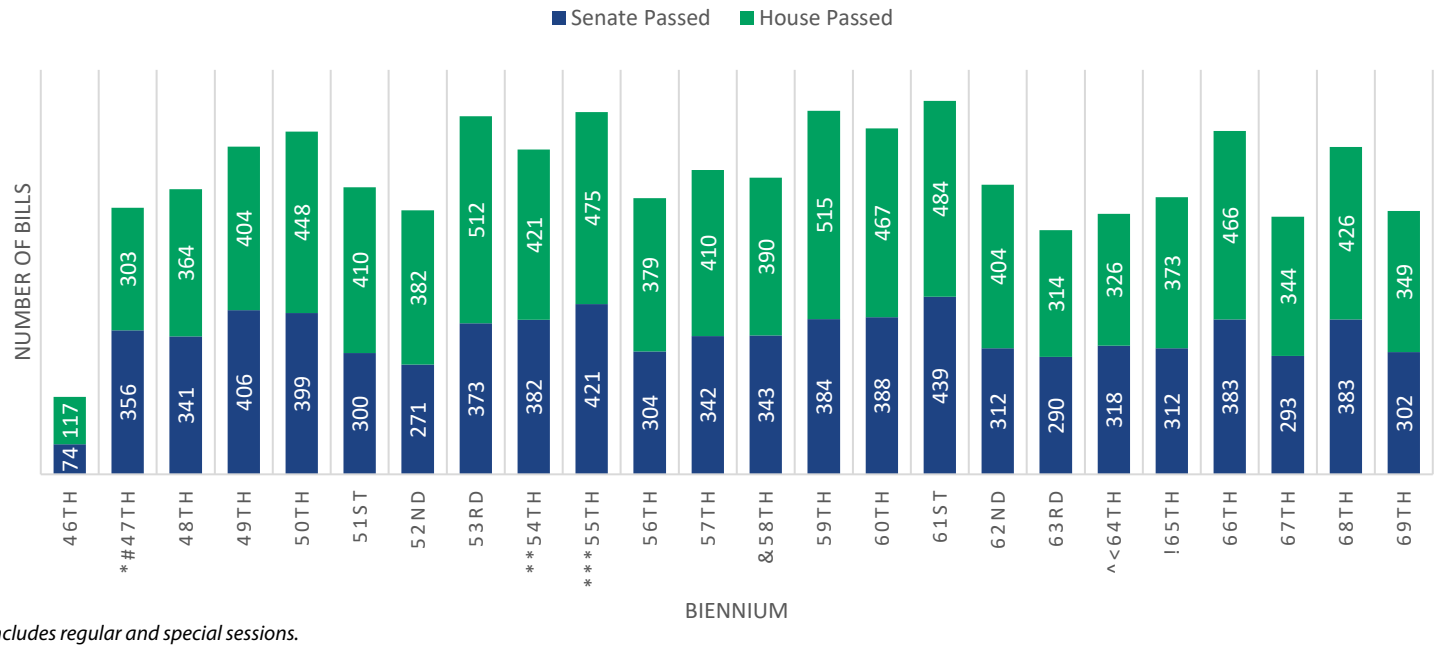
! *Advisory Votes 16 (ESHB 1597), 17 (EHB 2163), 18 (EHB 2242)*

BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE, 46TH - 69TH BIENNIUM



Includes regular and special sessions.

BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, 46TH - 69TH BIENNIUM



Includes regular and special sessions.

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

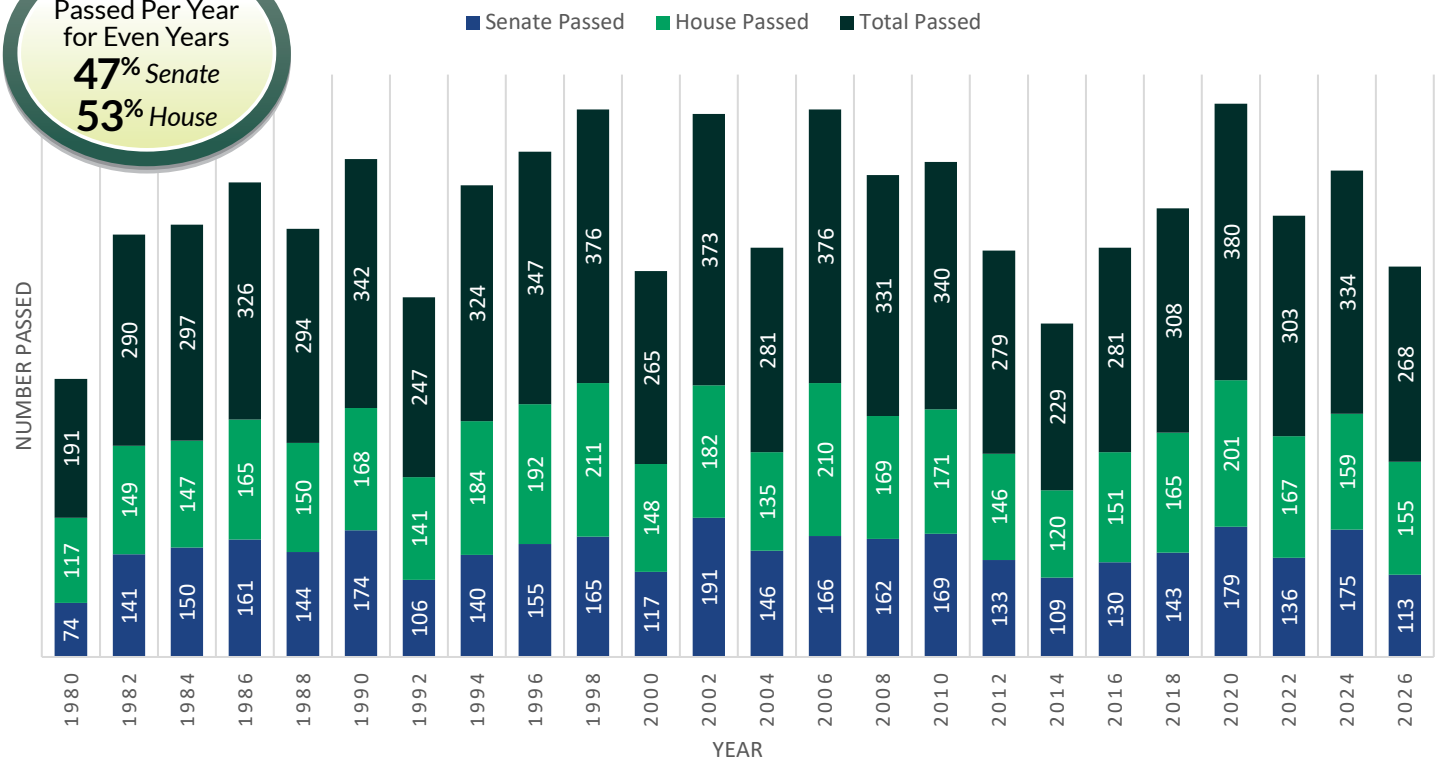
Percentages of Passed / Partial Veto / Veto / Enacted

	SENATE				HOUSE				TOTAL			
Year	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted	Passed	PR Veto	Veto	Enacted
1980 - 2000 Ave.	20.0%	9.3%	3.2%	19.9%	21.0%	9.5%	3.1%	20.4%	20.4%	9.3%	3.1%	20.0%
2001	12.3%	7.3%	0.7%	12.2%	17.8%	7.0%	0.4%	17.2%	15.1%	7.1%	2.4%	14.7%
2002	31.1%	6.3%	0.5%	30.9%	24.4%	7.7%	1.7%	23.9%	27.4%	7.0%	1.3%	27.1%
2003	17.9%	7.1%	1.5%	12.2%	19.7%	7.1%	0.4%	19.3%	18.9%	7.1%	1.8%	16.0%
2004	22.5%	6.2%	2.1%	22.0%	14.7%	6.7%	0.0%	14.6%	17.9%	6.4%	1.4%	17.7%
2005	19.3%	5.1%	1.8%	18.9%	23.0%	6.9%	0.7%	22.7%	21.3%	6.1%	1.3%	21.0%
2006	21.5%	3.6%	3.0%	20.9%	21.2%	5.2%	1.0%	21.1%	21.3%	4.5%	1.6%	21.0%
2007	19.2%	7.1%	0.0%	19.2%	21.0%	7.1%	0.7%	21.0%	20.2%	7.1%	0.0%	20.2%
2008	20.8%	7.4%	0.6%	20.7%	17.4%	7.7%	0.0%	17.2%	19.0%	7.6%	0.9%	18.8%
2009	22.7%	8.9%	1.1%	22.4%	22.6%	5.8%	0.6%	22.4%	22.6%	7.2%	0.9%	22.4%
2010	24.0%	8.3%	1.2%	23.7%	20.4%	9.9%	1.2%	20.2%	22.1%	9.1%	1.2%	21.8%
2011	17.9%	7.8%	0.6%	17.8%	21.9%	8.9%	0.8%	21.9%	20.1%	8.5%	0.2%	20.0%
2012	20.7%	5.3%	0.0%	20.7%	22.2%	6.2%	0.0%	21.9%	21.5%	5.7%	0.7%	21.3%
2013	19.0%	3.3%	0.0%	19.0%	17.8%	2.1%	0.5%	17.6%	18.3%	2.7%	0.5%	18.2%
2014	17.3%	6.4%	1.8%	17.0%	16.8%	5.0%	4.2%	16.5%	17.0%	5.7%	1.8%	16.7%
2015	16.4%	4.3%	0.5%	16.3%	13.6%	4.0%	0.6%	13.6%	14.9%	4.1%	0.3%	14.9%
2016	24.2%	4.6%	2.3%	23.6%	21.0%	4.6%	0.7%	20.8%	22.3%	4.6%	1.4%	22.0%
2017	17.2%	5.3%	1.2%	17.0%	16.6%	2.9%	7.7%	16.2%	16.9%	4.0%	1.9%	16.6%
2018	22.1%	4.2%	0.7%	22.0%	21.6%	4.9%	1.2%	21.5%	21.8%	4.6%	0.7%	21.7%
2019	19.9%	4.4%	0.5%	19.8%	22.4%	3.8%	1.5%	22.3%	21.2%	4.1%	0.4%	21.1%
2020	22.4%	3.9%	4.5%	21.4%	20.1%	3.5%	0.0%	18.5%	21.1%	3.7%	6.3%	19.8%
2021	32.2%	7.6%	0.0%	32.2%	30.1%	2.3%	0.0%	29.8%	31.1%	4.8%	0.6%	30.9%
2022	27.2%	3.7%	1.5%	26.8%	30.3%	4.2%	0.0%	29.6%	28.8%	4.0%	2.0%	28.3%
2023	26.9%	4.8%	0.0%	26.9%	31.0%	4.1%	0.8%	30.8%	29.1%	4.6%	0.4%	29.0%
2024	31.8%	1.1%	0.0%	31.8%	24.8%	2.5%	0.0%	24.8%	28.0%	1.8%	0.0%	28.0%
2025	23.1%	4.2%	0.0%	23.1%	21.6%	0.4%	0.4%	21.5%	22.2%	2.1%	0.2%	22.2%
2026	20.8%	4.4%	0.0%	20.8%	23.4%	1.3%	0.0%	23.4%	22.2%	2.6%	0.0%	22.2%
Ave.	21.1%	7.2%	2.0%	20.8%	21.3%	7.0%	2.1%	20.8%	21.1%	7.0%	2.0%	20.7%

Bills Passed by Chamber and Year

BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, EVEN YEARS

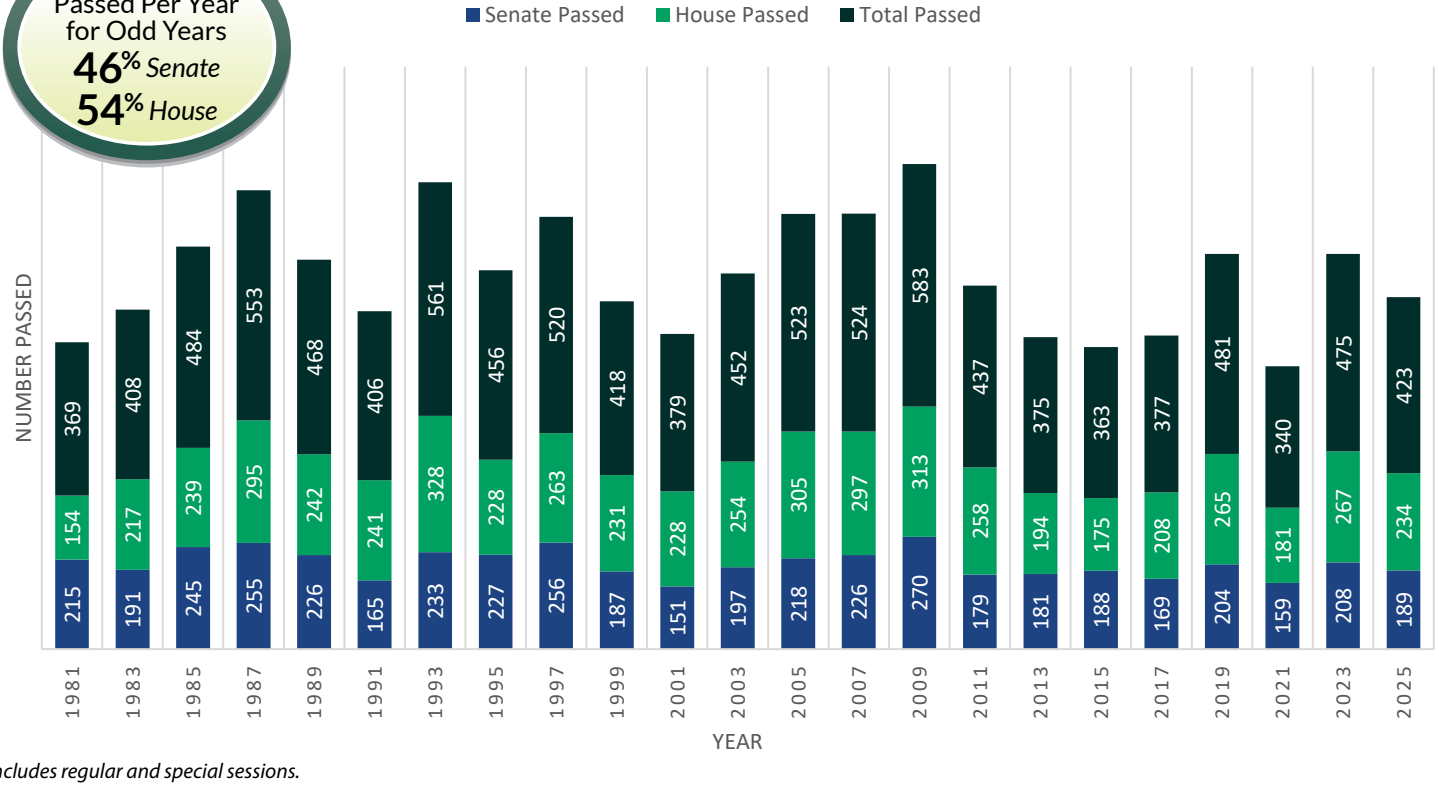
Average Passed Per Year for Even Years
47% *Senate*
53% *House*



Includes regular and special sessions.

BILLS PASSED BY CHAMBER, ODD YEARS

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

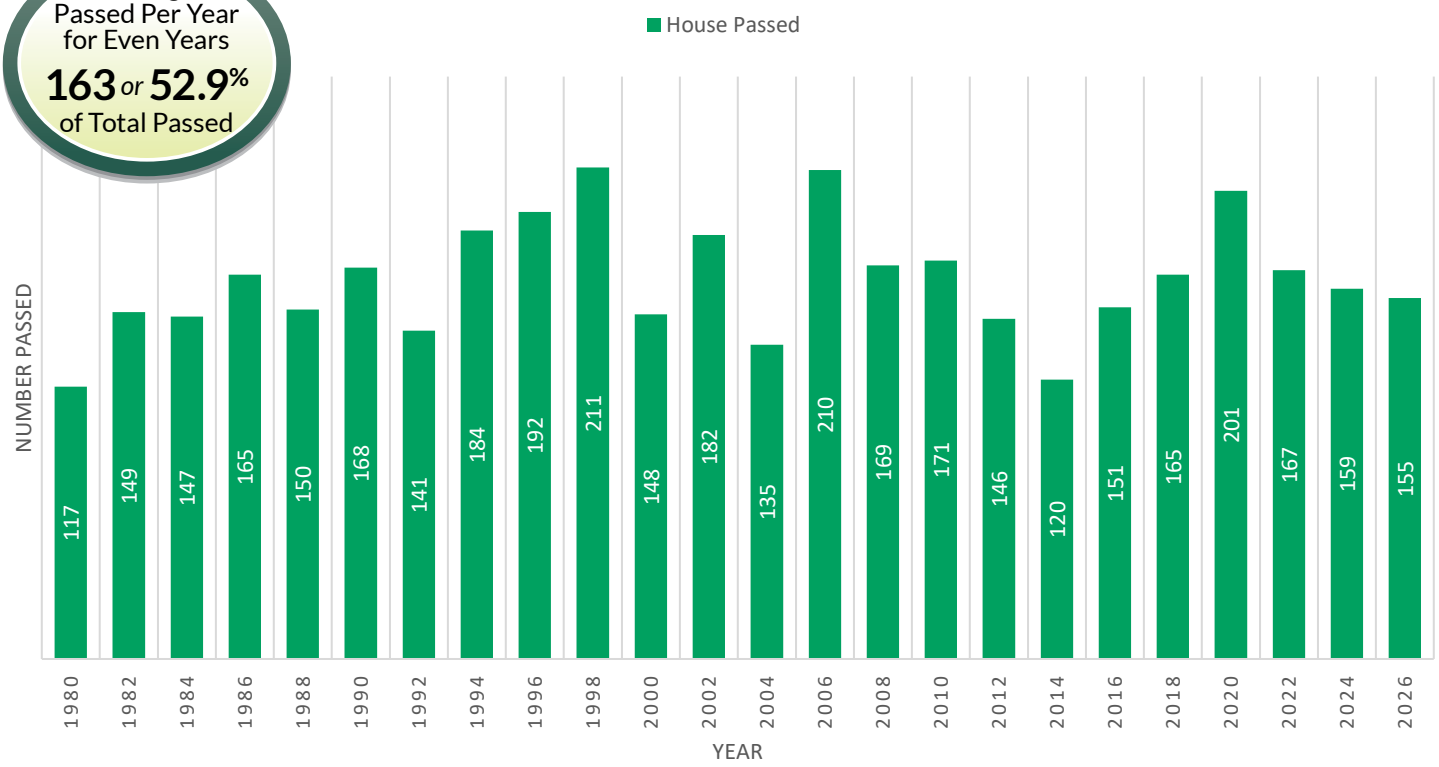


Includes regular and special sessions.

Bills Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*

BILLS PASSED BY HOUSE, EVEN YEARS

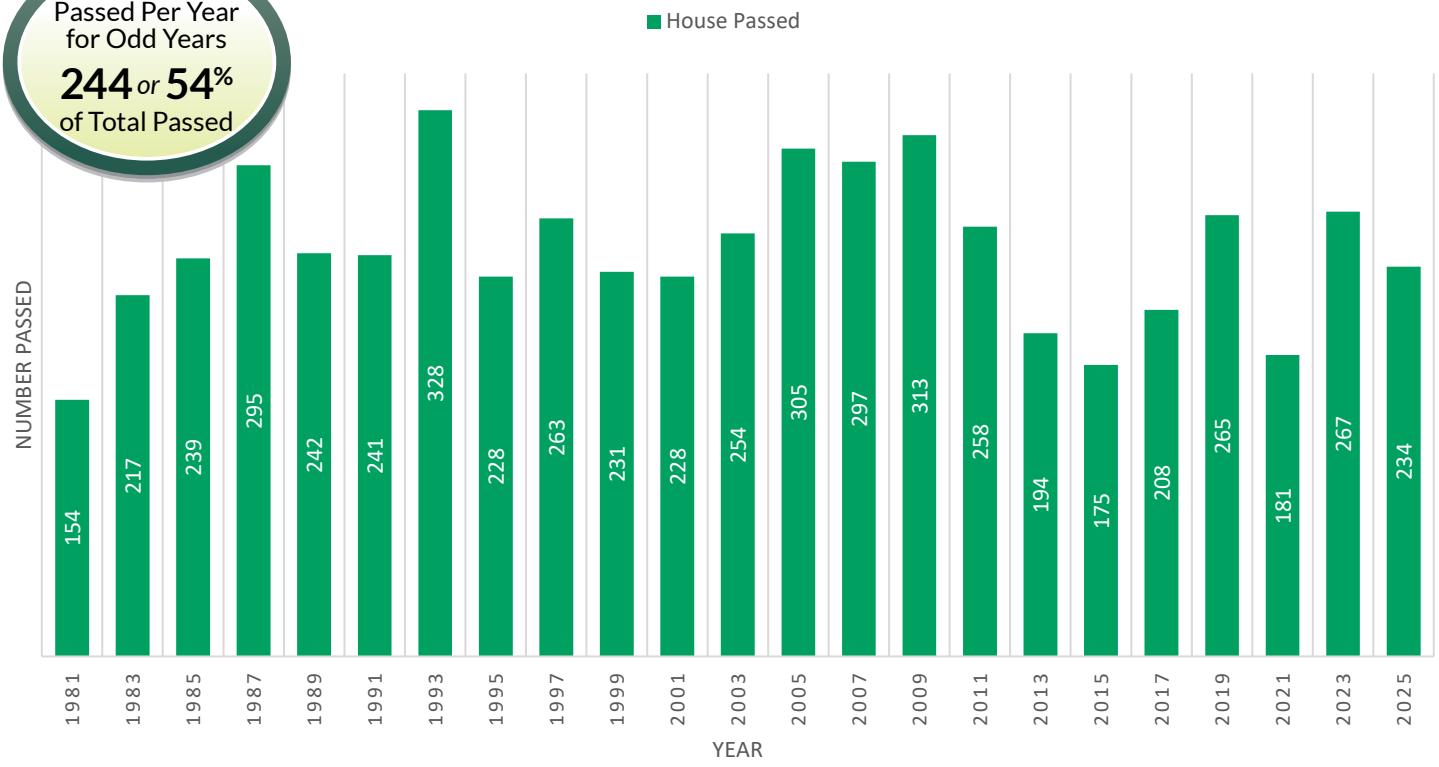
Average Passed Per Year for Even Years
163 *or* **52.9%** of Total Passed



Includes regular and special sessions.

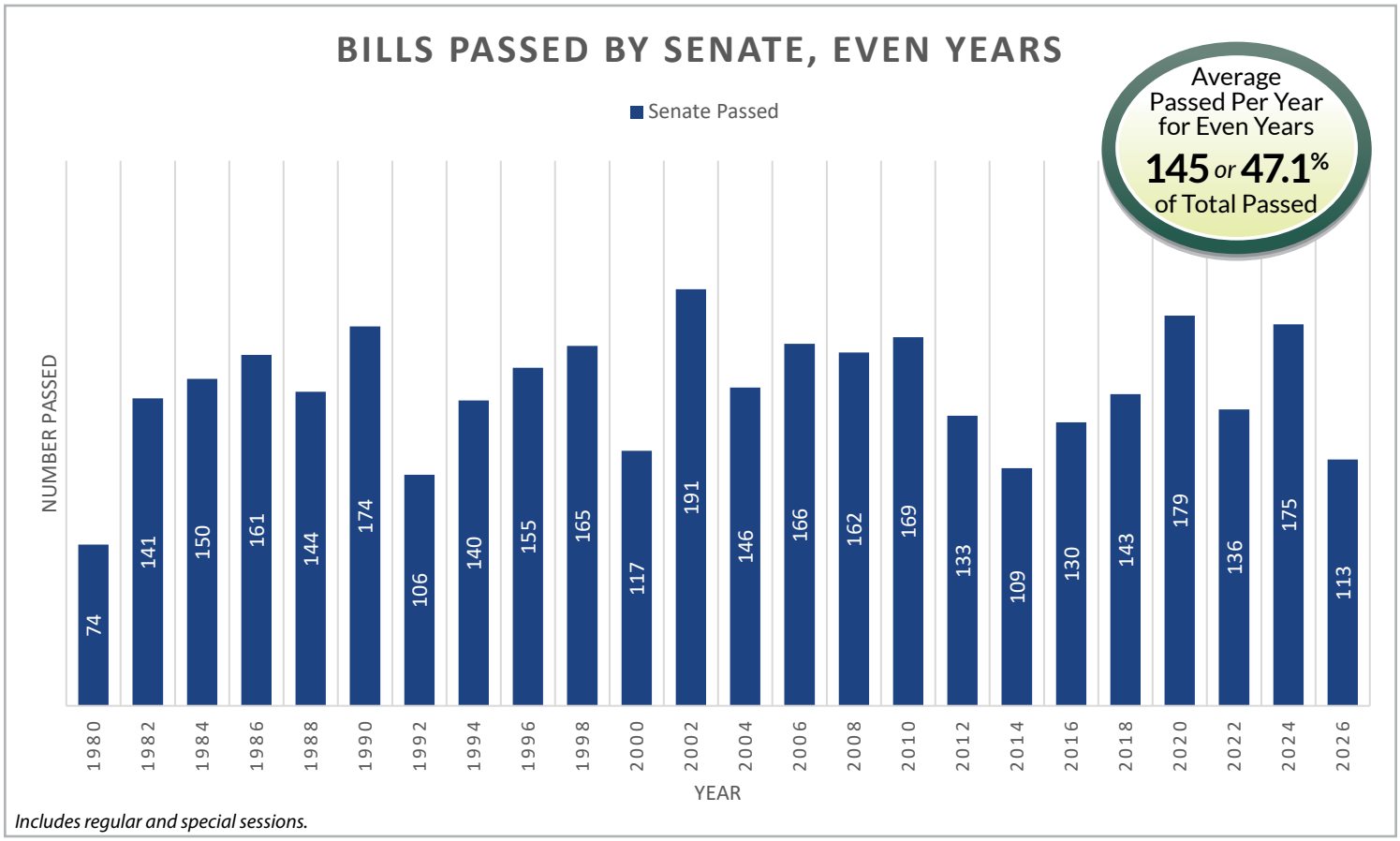
BILLS PASSED BY HOUSE, ODD YEARS

Average Passed Per Year for Odd Years
244 *or* **54%** of Total Passed



Includes regular and special sessions.

Bills Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*



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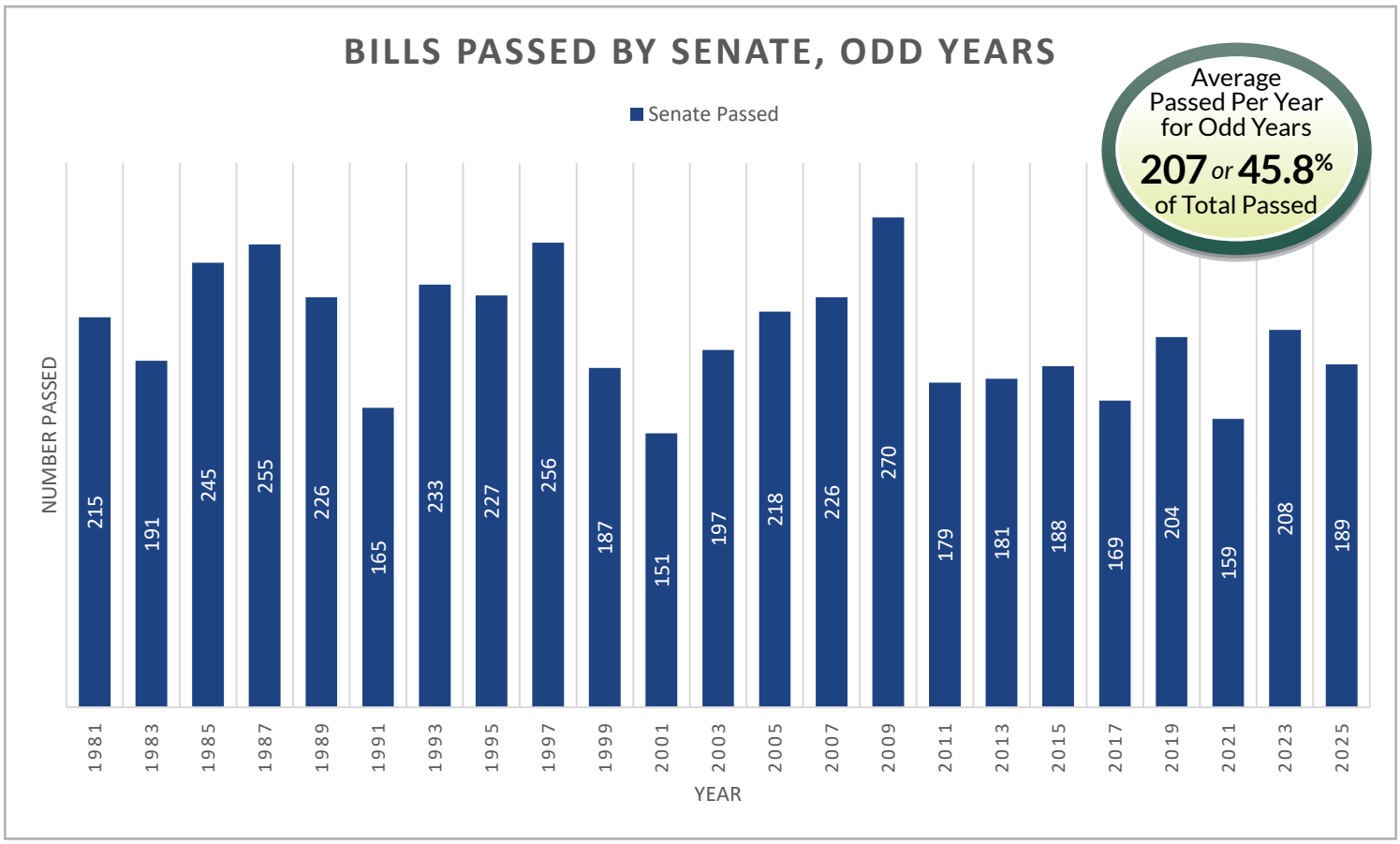
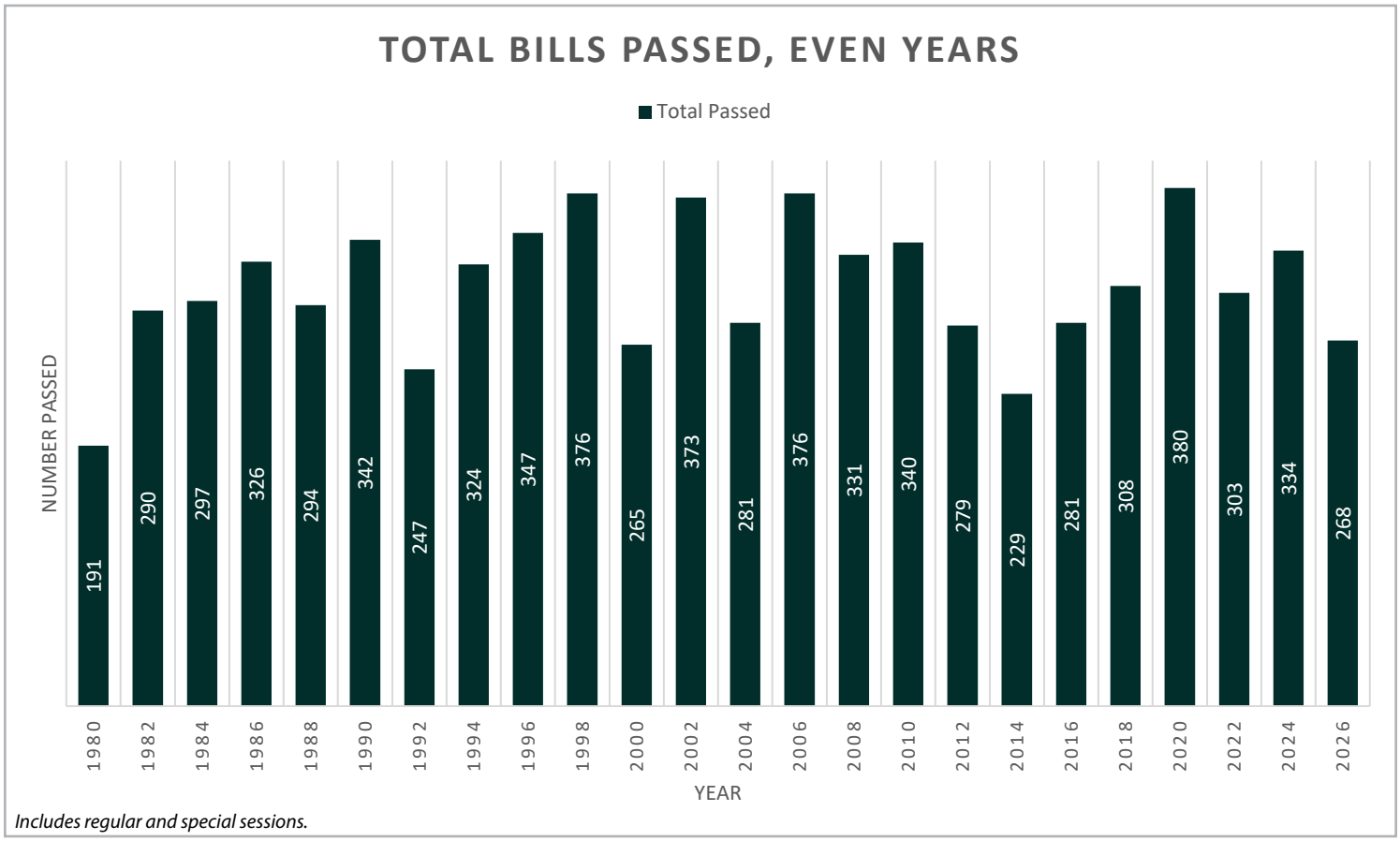
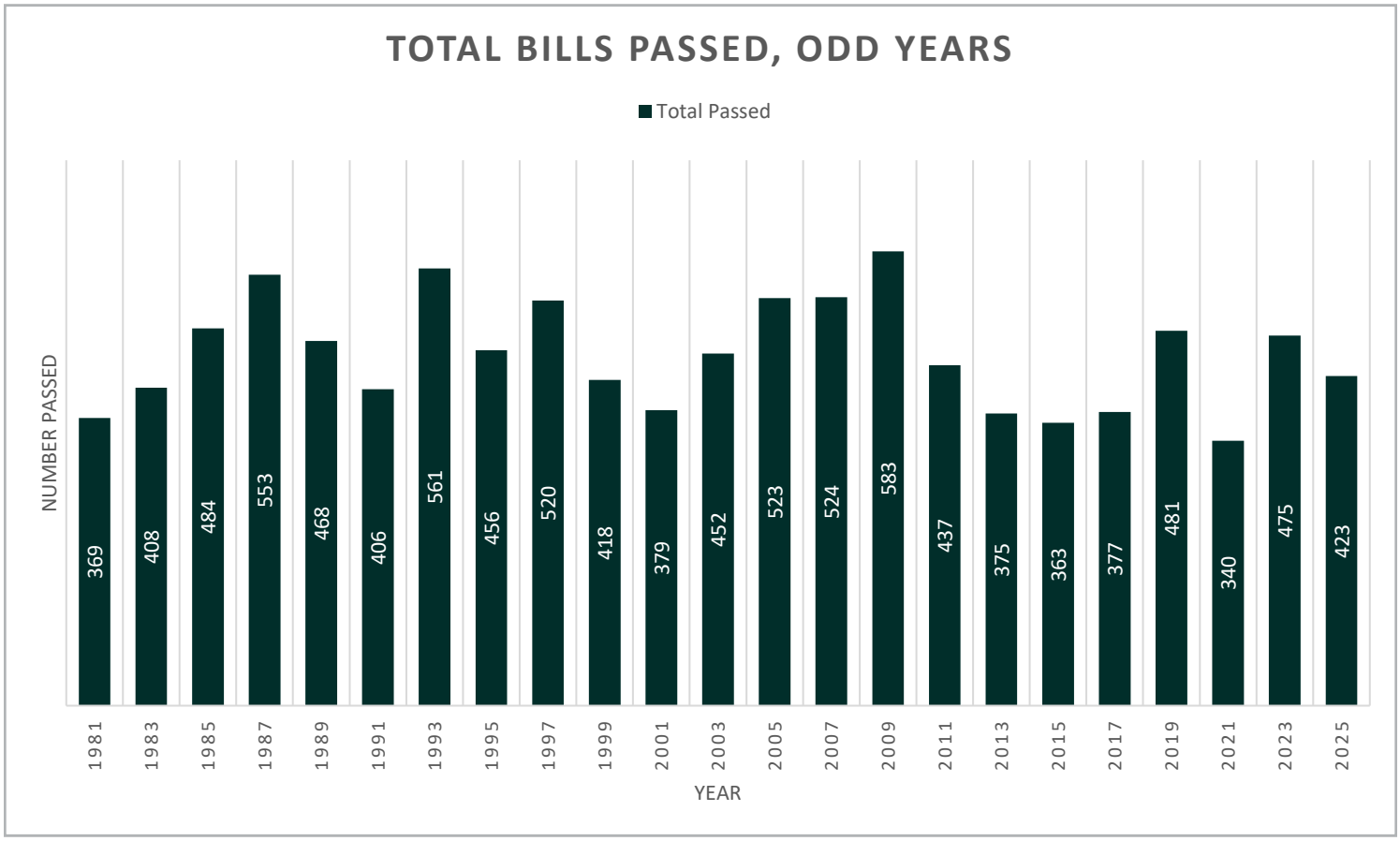


Total Bills Passed by Year

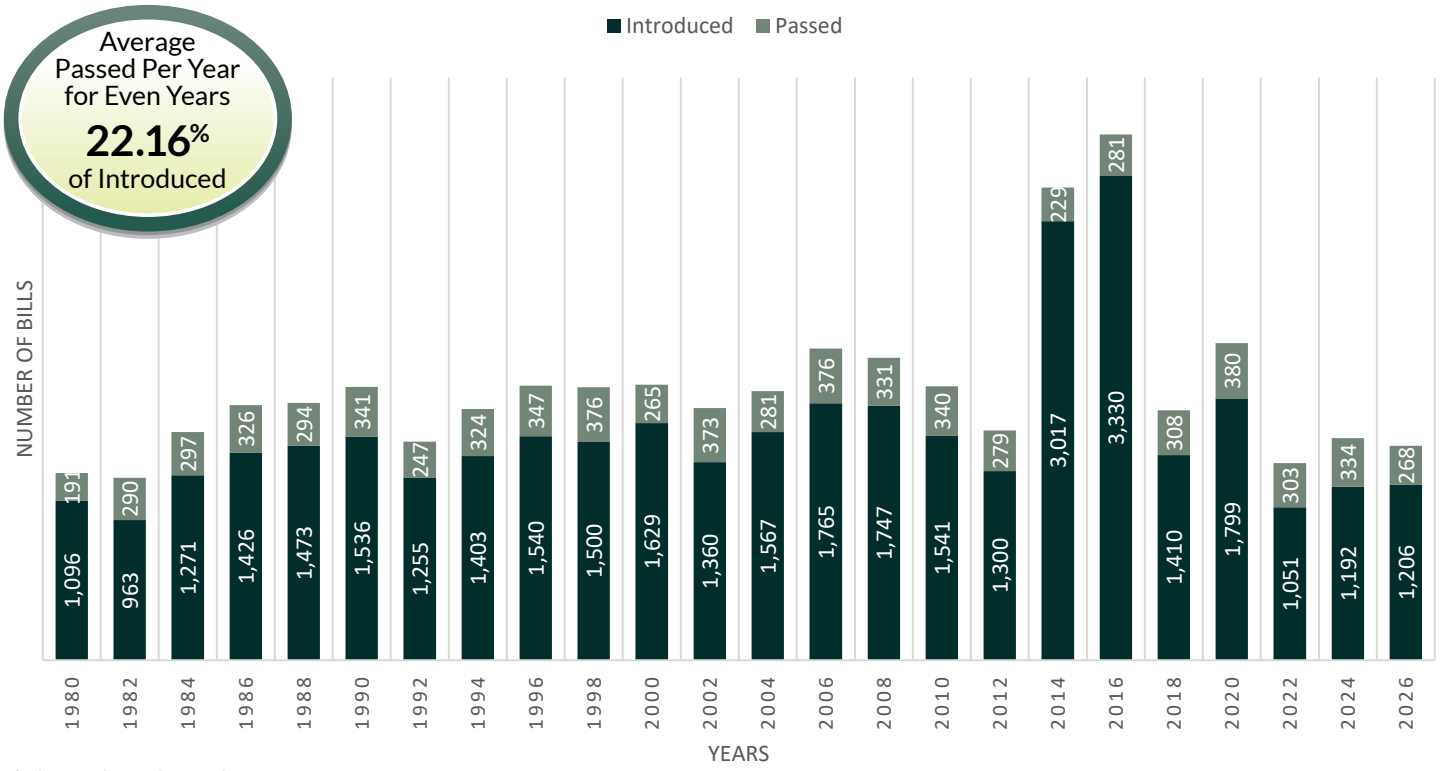


Includes regular and special sessions.



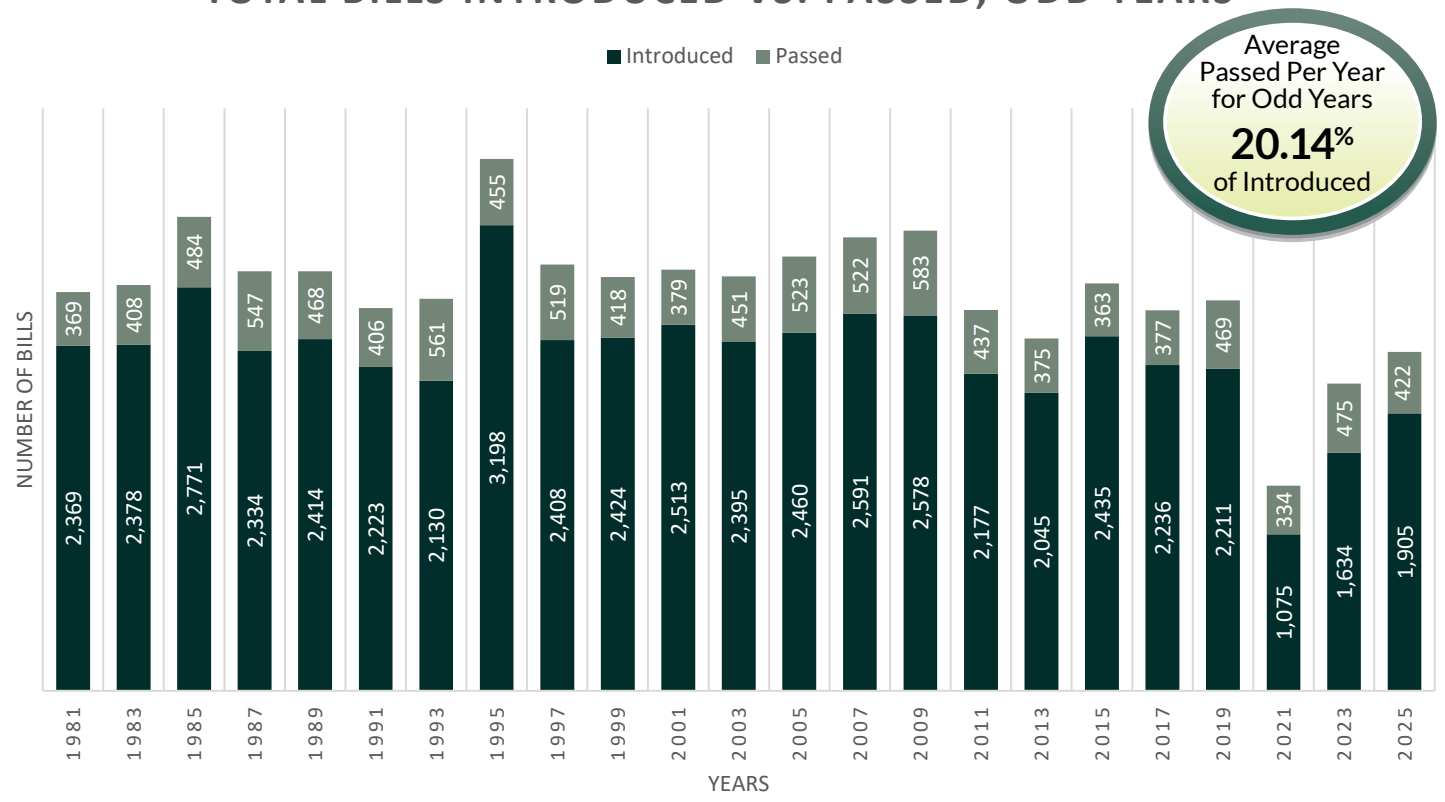
Total Bills Intro vs. Passed by Year

TOTAL BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

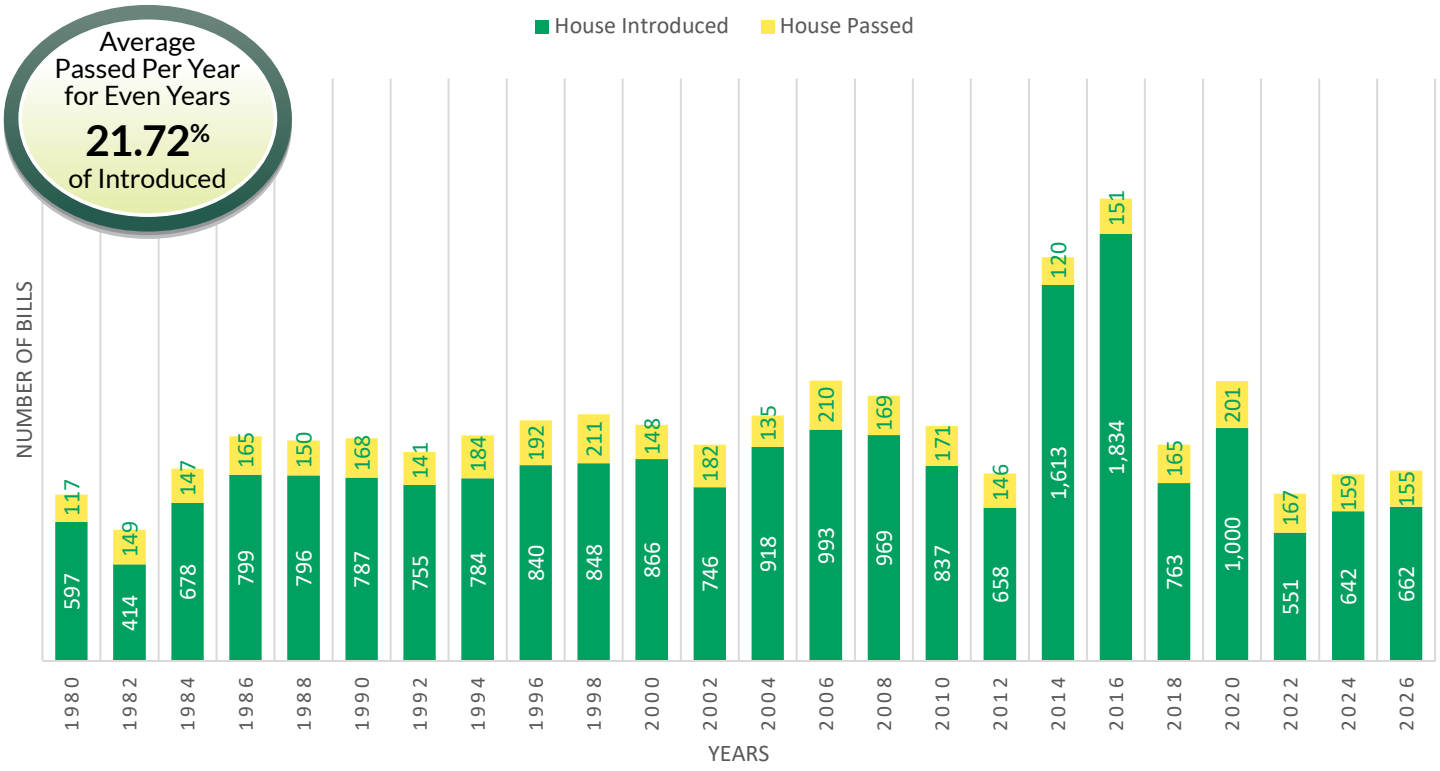
TOTAL BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

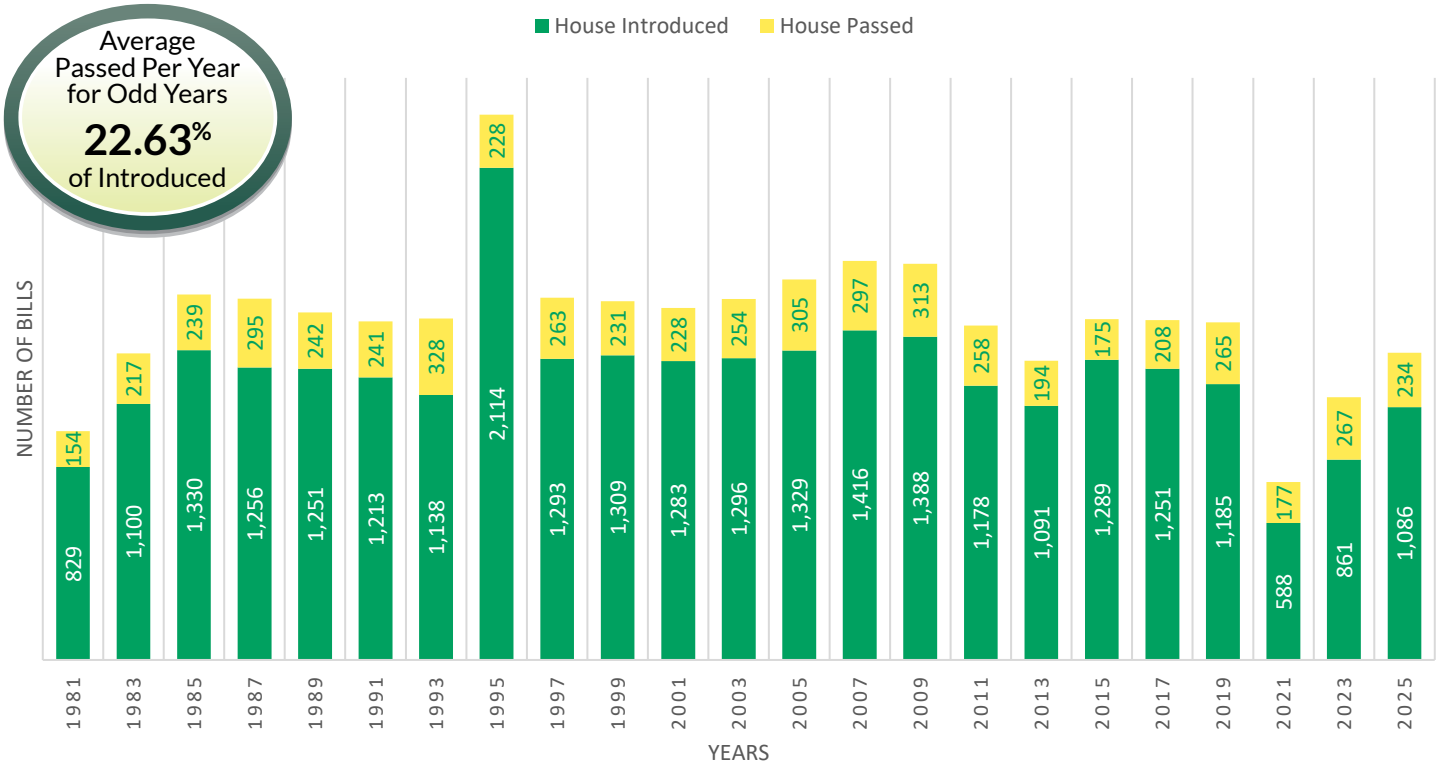
Bills Intro vs. Passed by Chamber and Year

BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY HOUSE, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

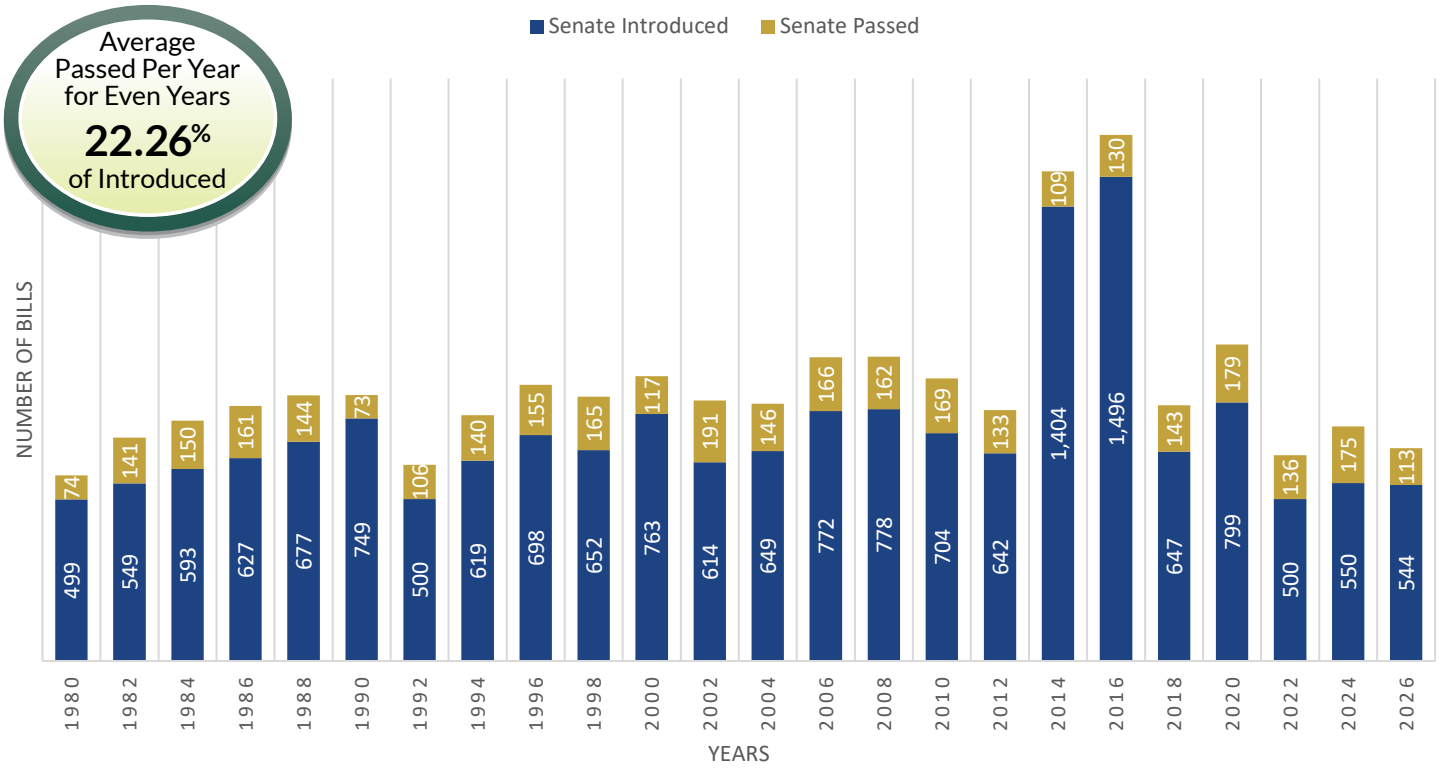
BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY HOUSE, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

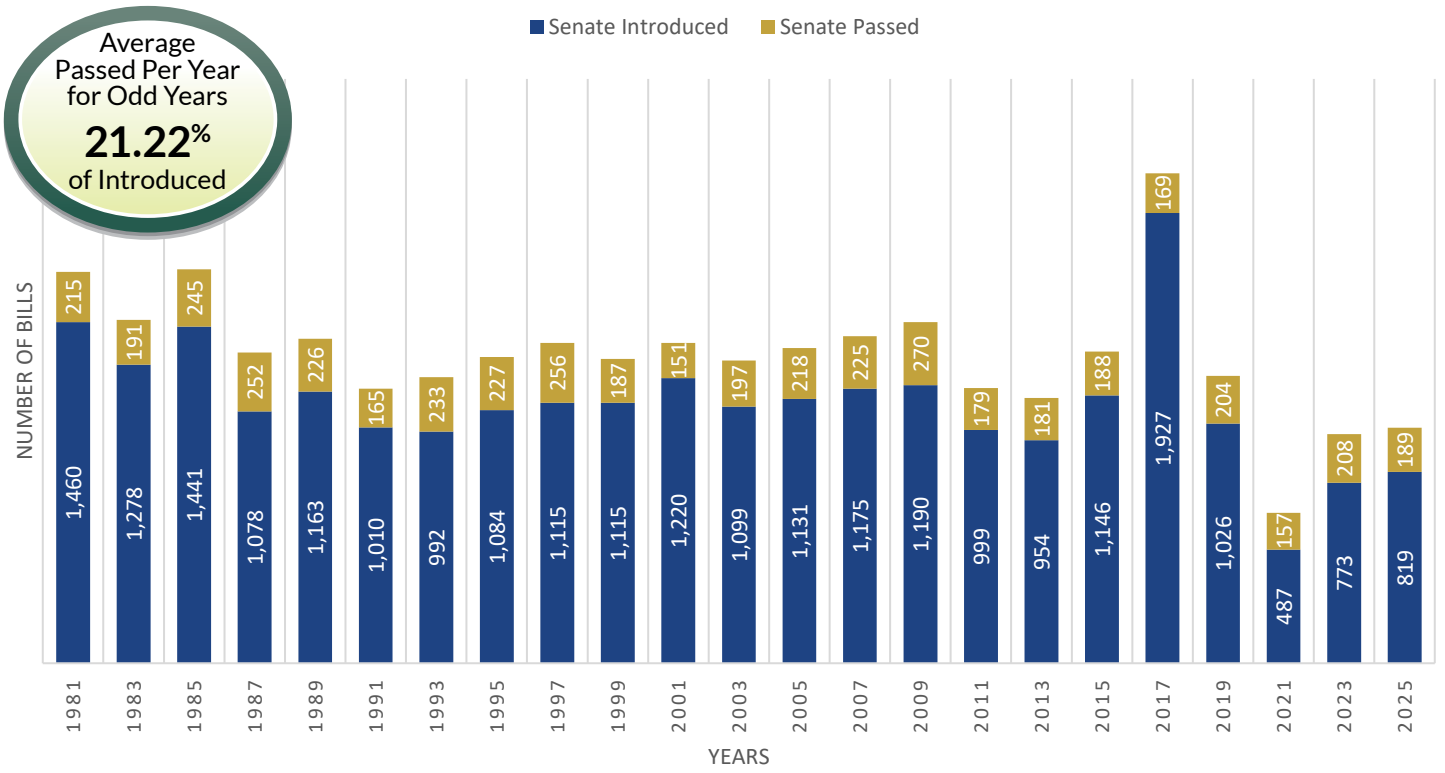
Bills Intro vs. Passed by Chamber and Year *continued*

BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY SENATE, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

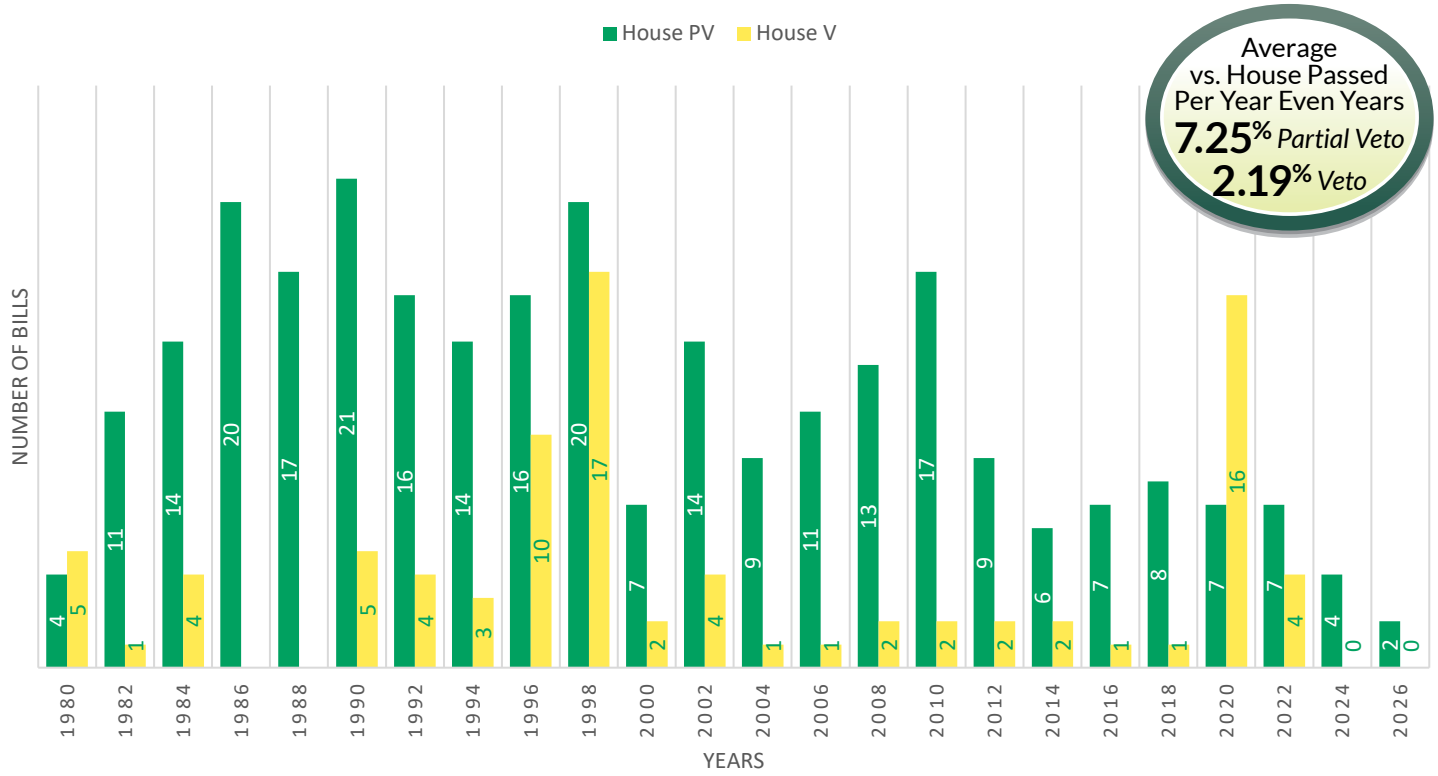
BILLS INTRODUCED VS. PASSED BY SENATE, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

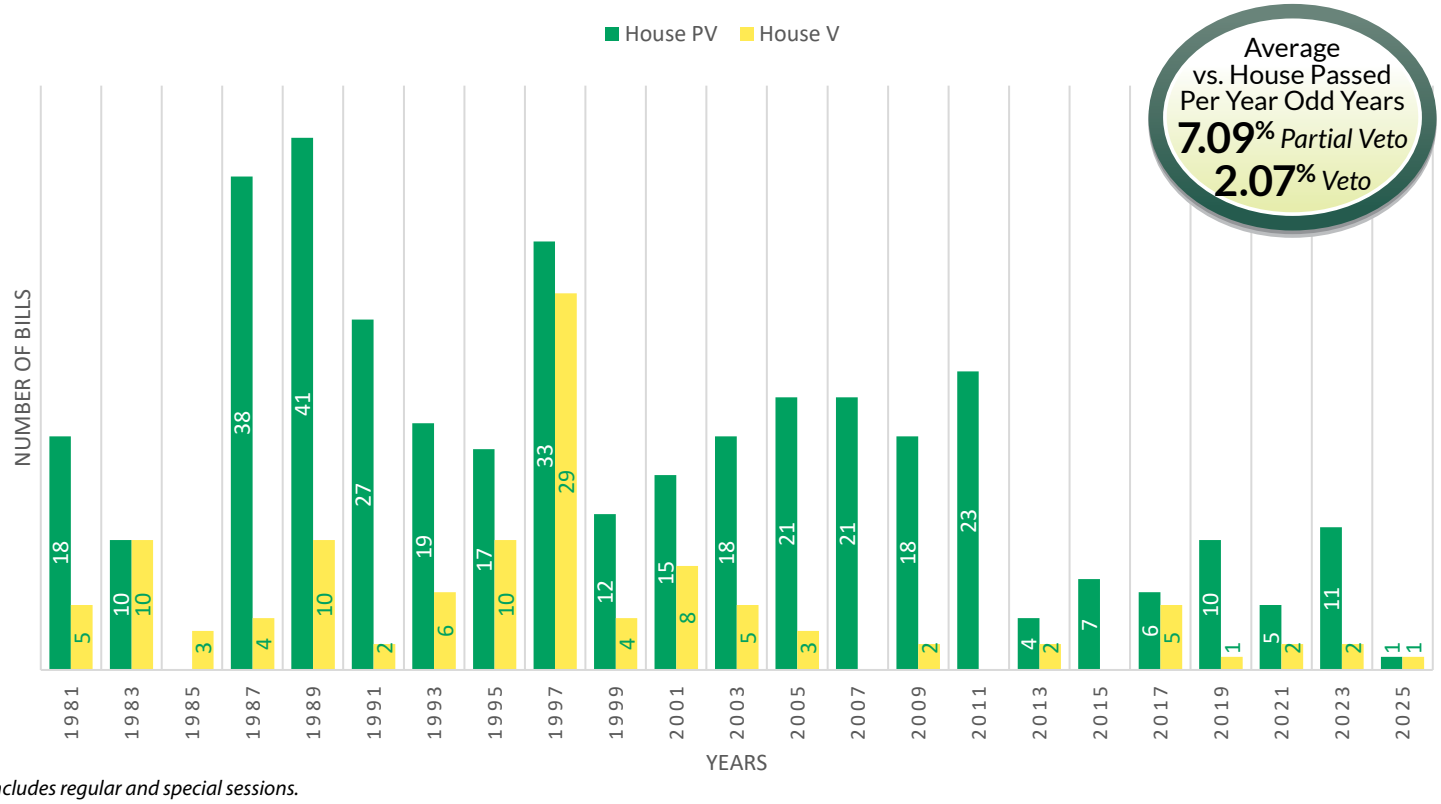
Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes by Chamber and Year

HOUSE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

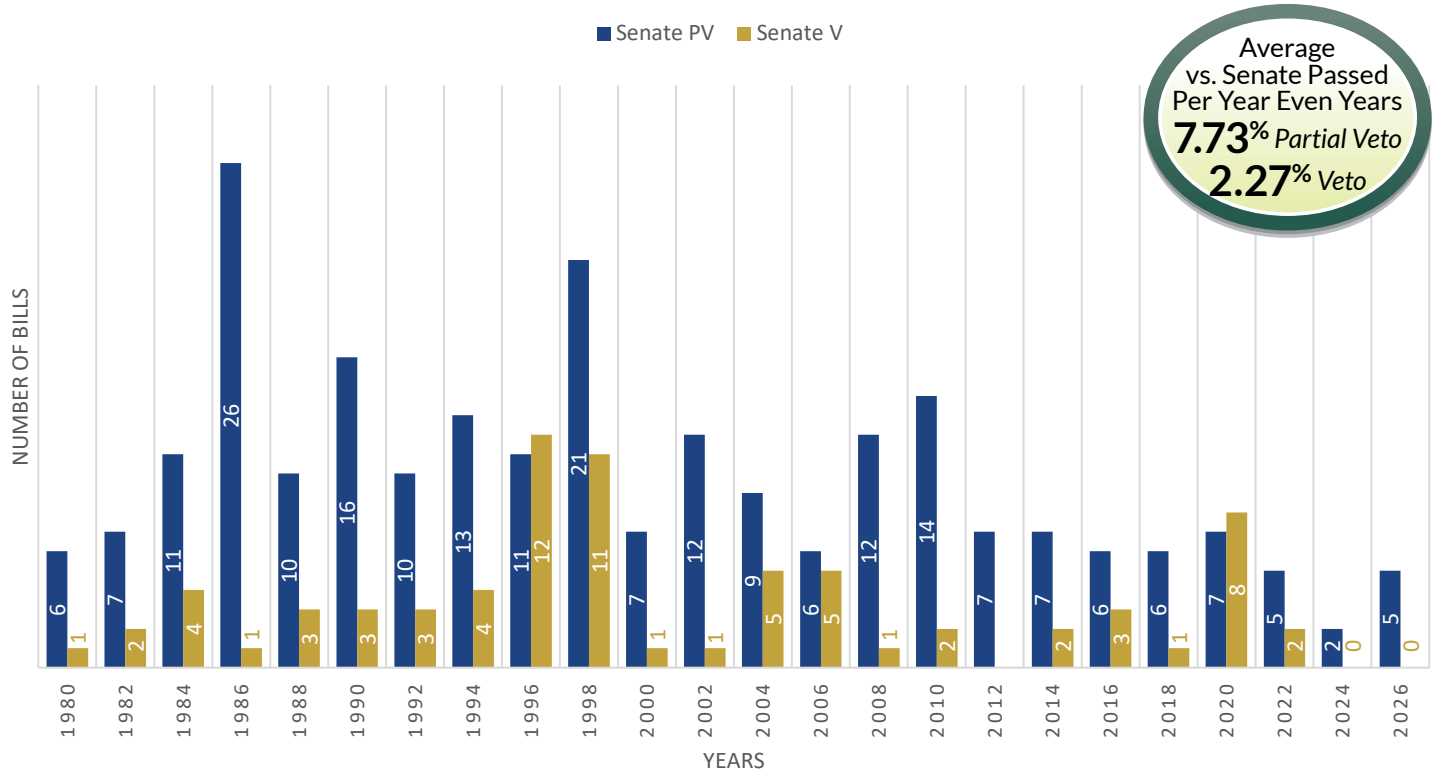
HOUSE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS



Includes regular and special sessions.

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

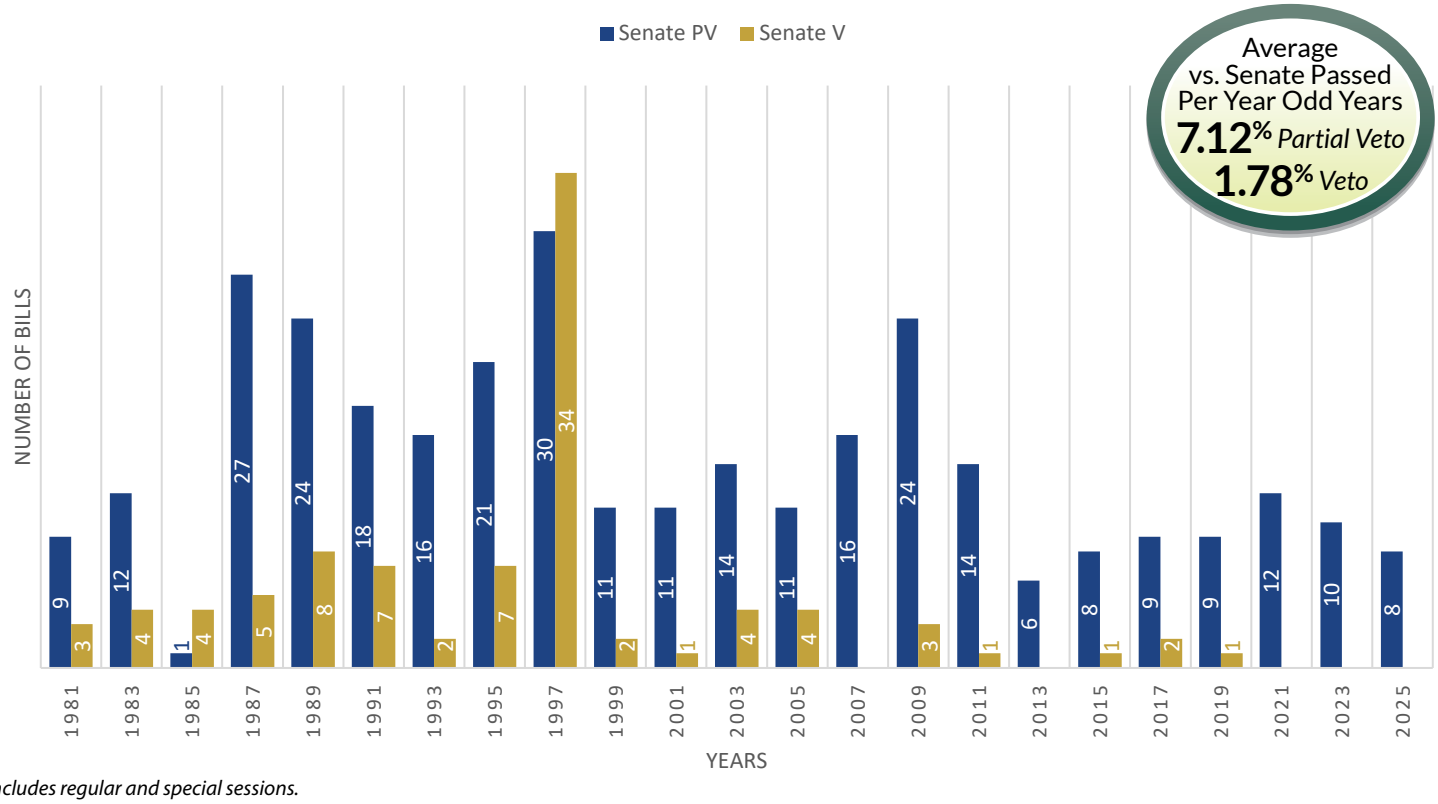
SENATE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



Average vs. Senate Passed Per Year Even Years
7.73% *Partial Veto*
2.27% *Veto*

Includes regular and special sessions.

SENATE PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS

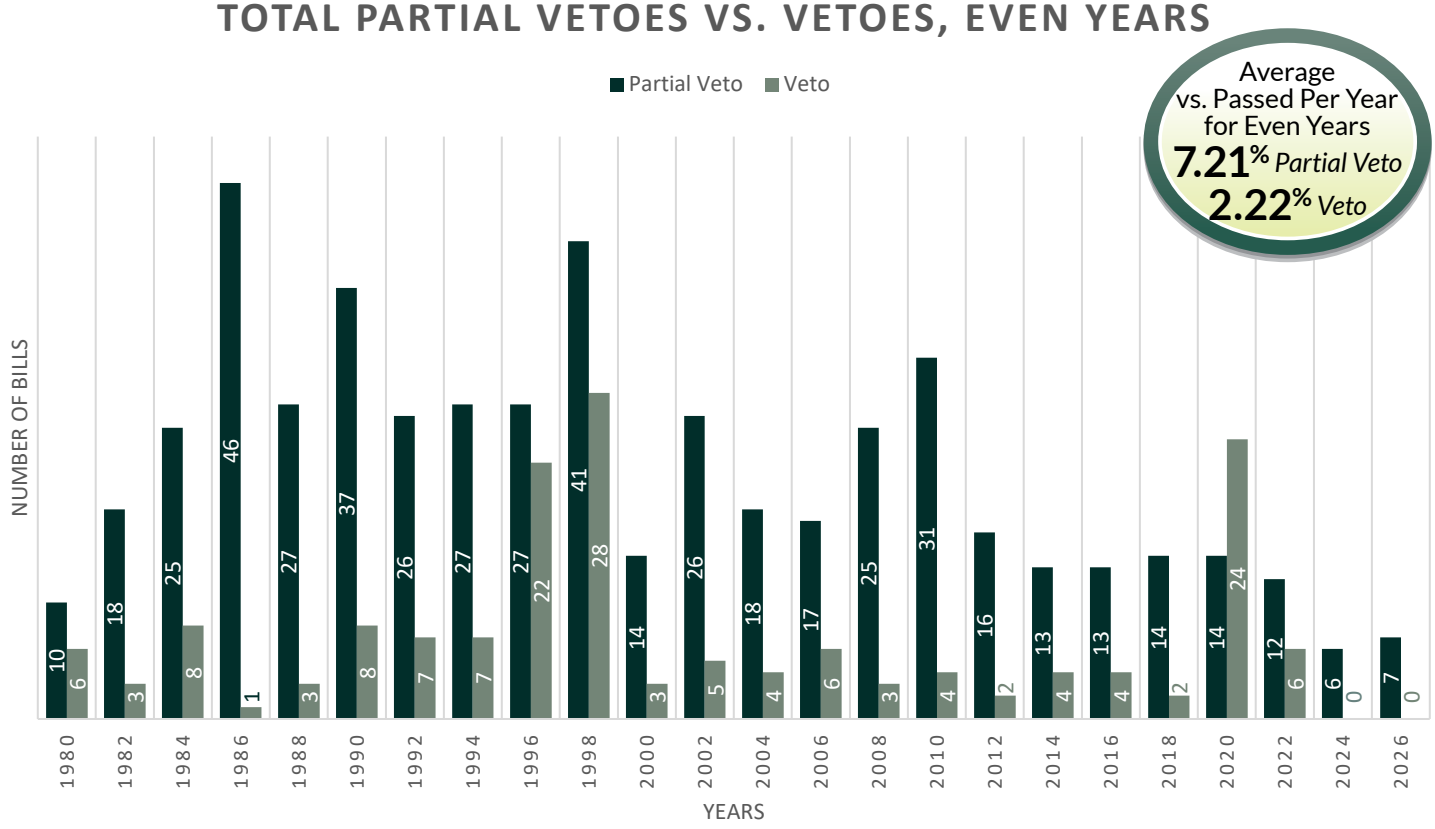


Average vs. Senate Passed Per Year Odd Years
7.12% *Partial Veto*
1.78% *Veto*

Includes regular and special sessions.

Total Partial Vetoes vs. Vetoes by Year

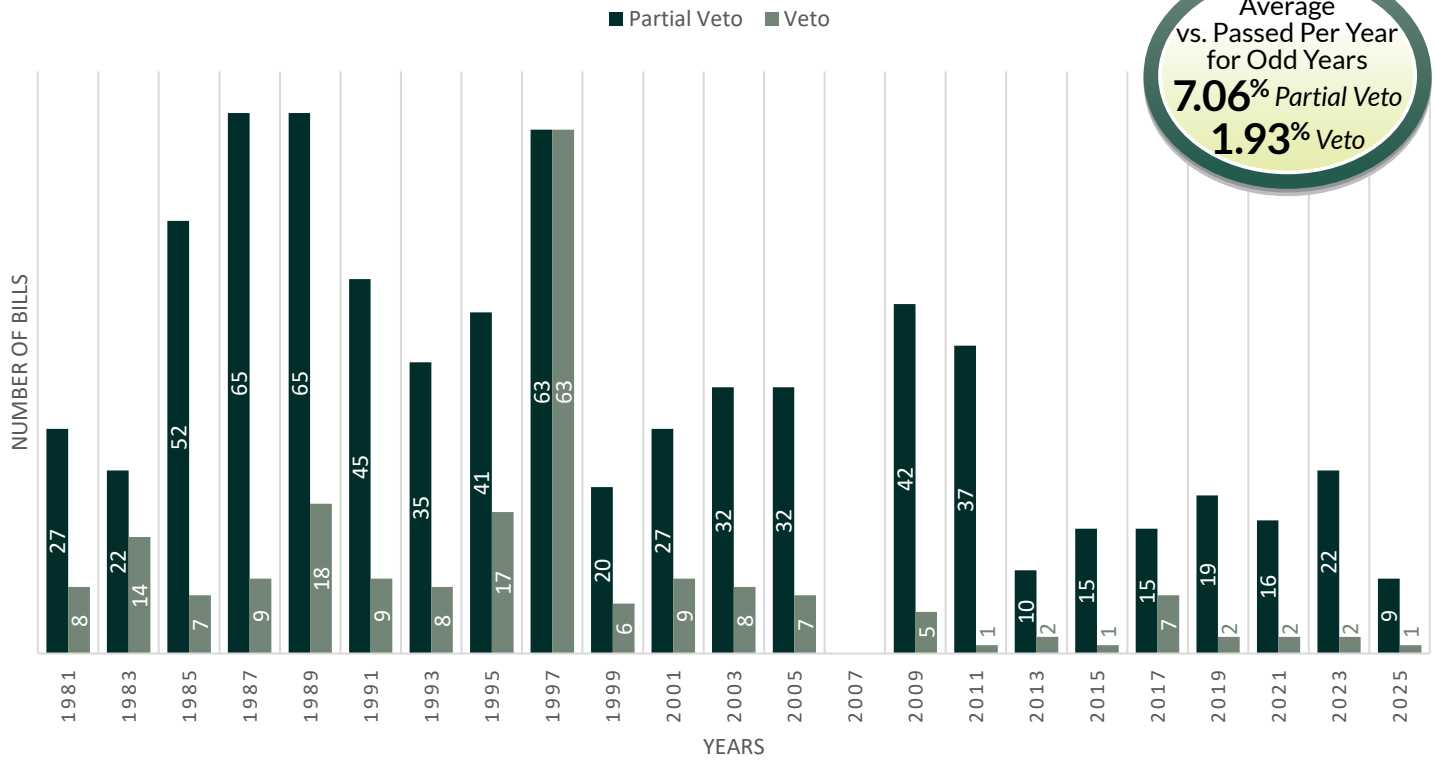
TOTAL PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, EVEN YEARS



Average vs. Passed Per Year for Even Years
7.21% *Partial Veto*
2.22% *Veto*

Includes regular and special sessions.

TOTAL PARTIAL VETOES VS. VETOES, ODD YEARS



Average vs. Passed Per Year for Odd Years
7.06% *Partial Veto*
1.93% *Veto*

Includes regular and special sessions.

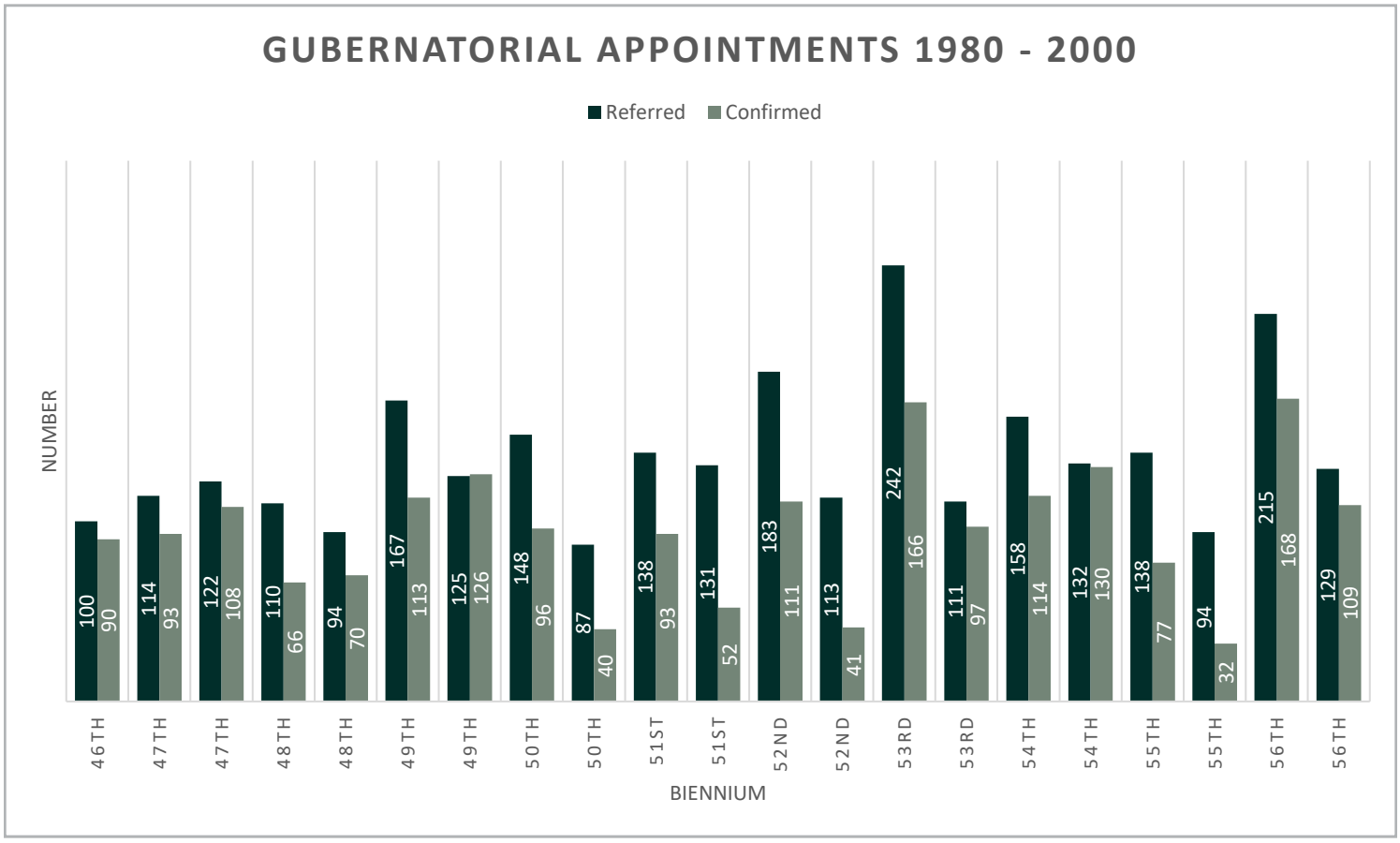
Memorials & Resolutions

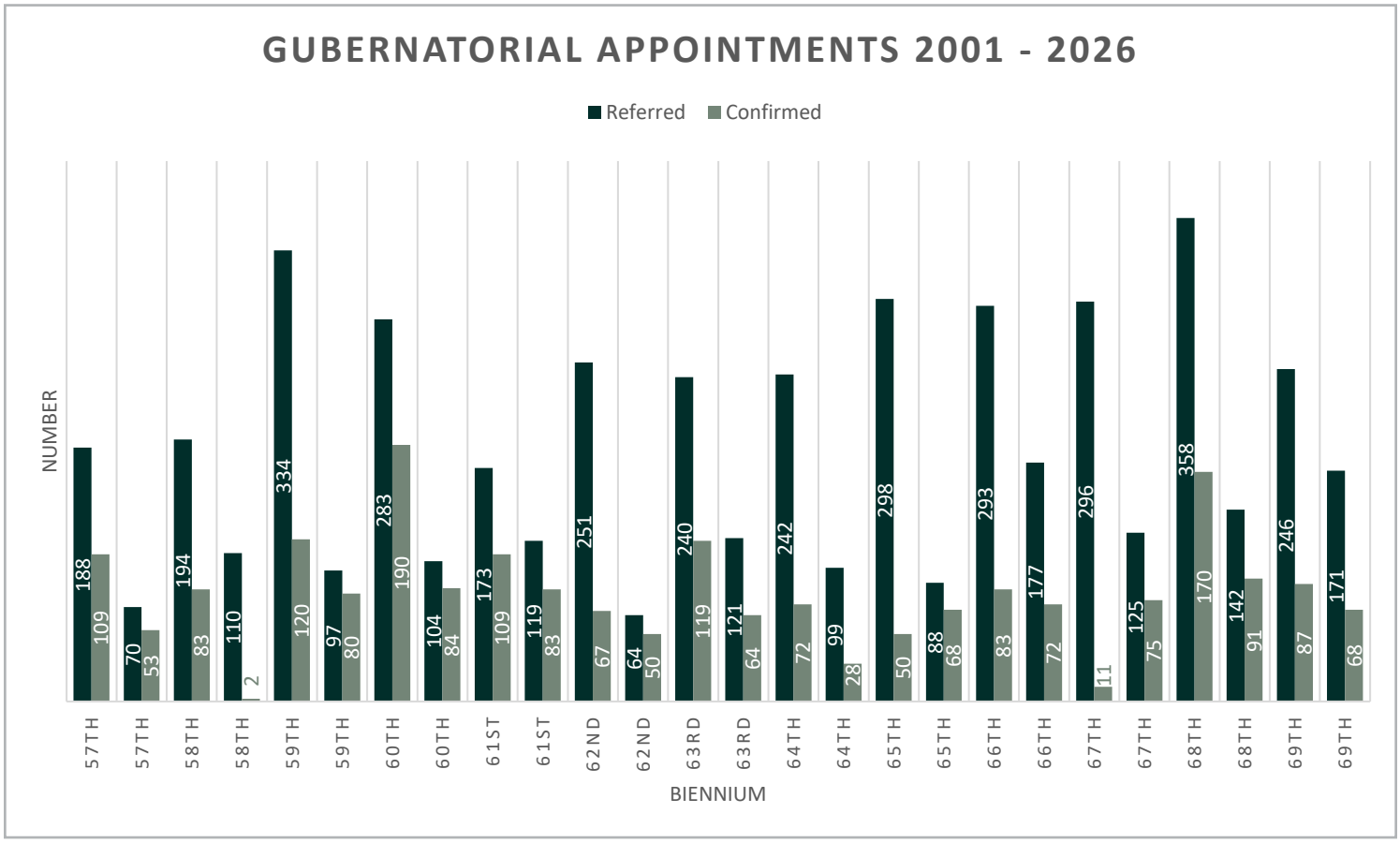
	SENATE		HOUSE		TOTAL	
Year	Introduced	Filed	Introduced	Filed	Introduced	Filed
1980 - 2000 Ave.	45	11	21.0%	9.5%	93	23
2001	49	5	17.8%	7.0%	96	9
2002	25	5	24.4%	7.7%	47	10
2003	54	7	19.7%	7.1%	100	11
2004	46	5	14.7%	6.7%	80	11
2005	54	6	23.0%	6.9%	100	9
2006	36	6	21.2%	5.2%	80	15
2007	56	10	21.0%	7.1%	111	19
2008	21	5	17.4%	7.7%	40	10
2009	44	10	22.6%	5.8%	83	16
2010	26	8	20.4%	9.9%	55	15
2011	37	12	21.9%	8.9%	80	20
2012	26	9	22.2%	6.2%	45	17
2013	29	10	17.8%	2.1%	58	23
2014	16	6	16.8%	5.0%	27	8
2015	28	7	13.6%	4.0%	65	19
2016	21	4	21.0%	4.6%	38	11
2017	32	6	16.6%	2.9%	67	13
2018	12	3	21.6%	4.9%	27	9
2019	38	9	22.4%	3.8%	63	12
2020	27	5	20.1%	3.5%	46	7
2021	19	2	30.1%	2.3%	33	6
2022	9	3	30.3%	4.2%	22	6
2023	27	8	31.0%	4.1%	43	12
2024	14	7	24.8%	2.5%	29	10
2025	25	7	21.6%	0.4%	48	11
2026	23	4	23.4%	1.3%	48	11
Ave.	37	9	21.3%	7.0%	74	19

Initiatives

	TOTAL	
Year	Introduced	Filed
1980 - 2000 Ave.	1	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	0	2
2021	0	0
2022	0	0
2023	0	0
2024	6	3
2025	0	0
2026	2	0
Ave.	2	2

Gubernatorial Appointments





Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year

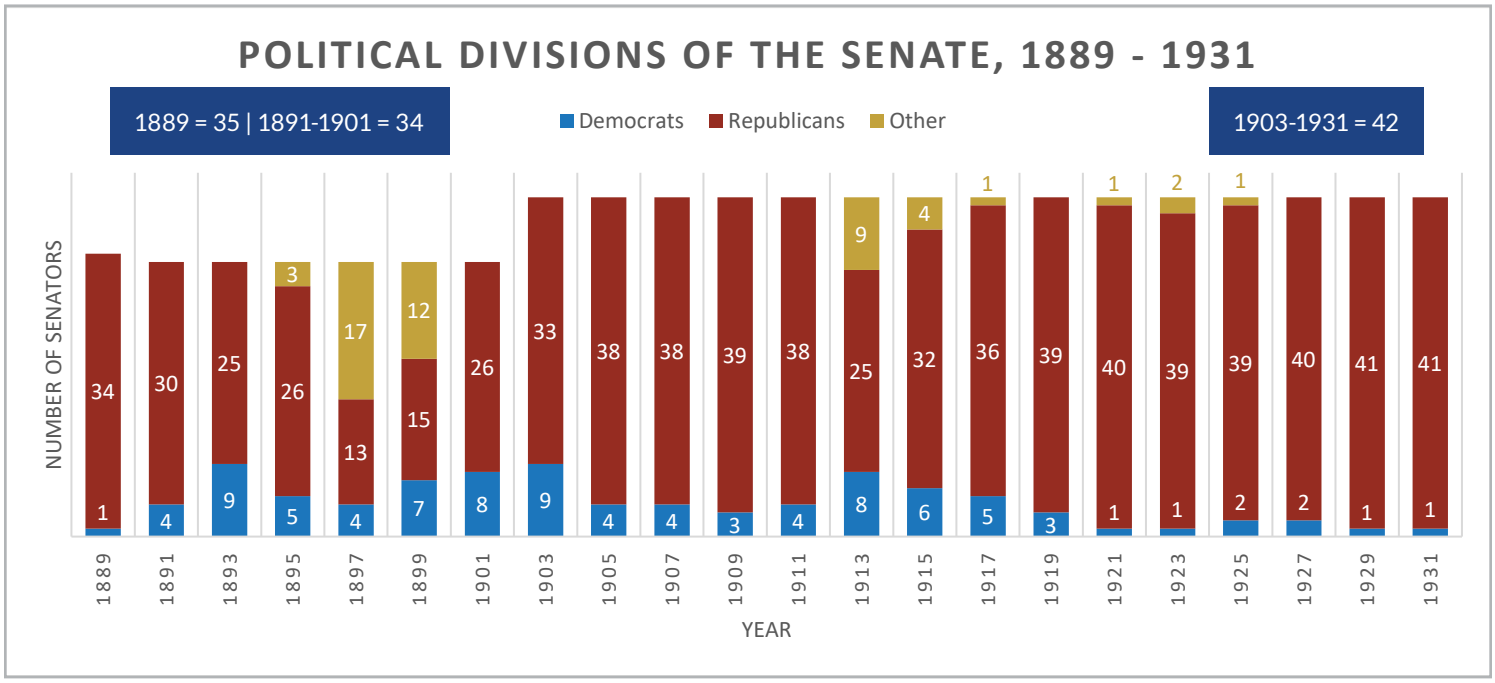
These charts show the political division of the Senate and House going all the way back to 1889, when Washington was still a territory.

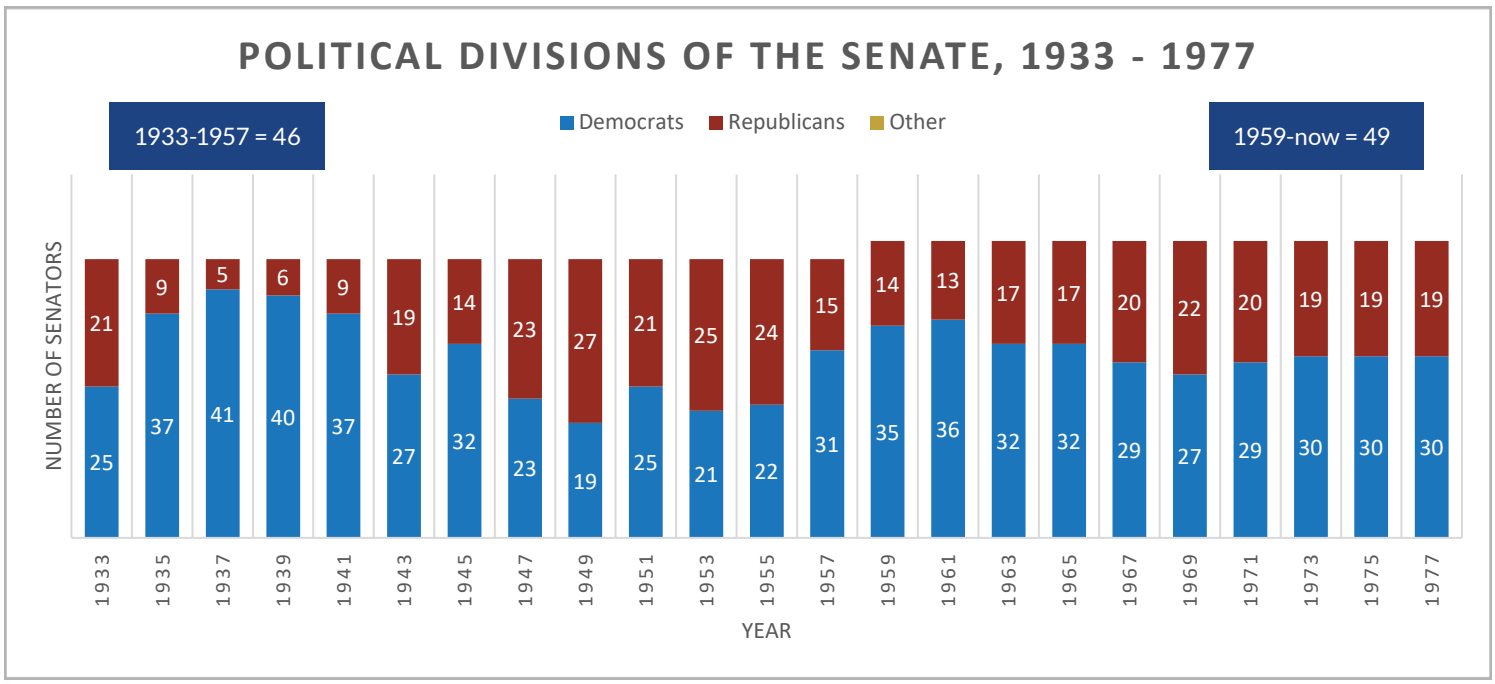
A few highlights are:

- 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.

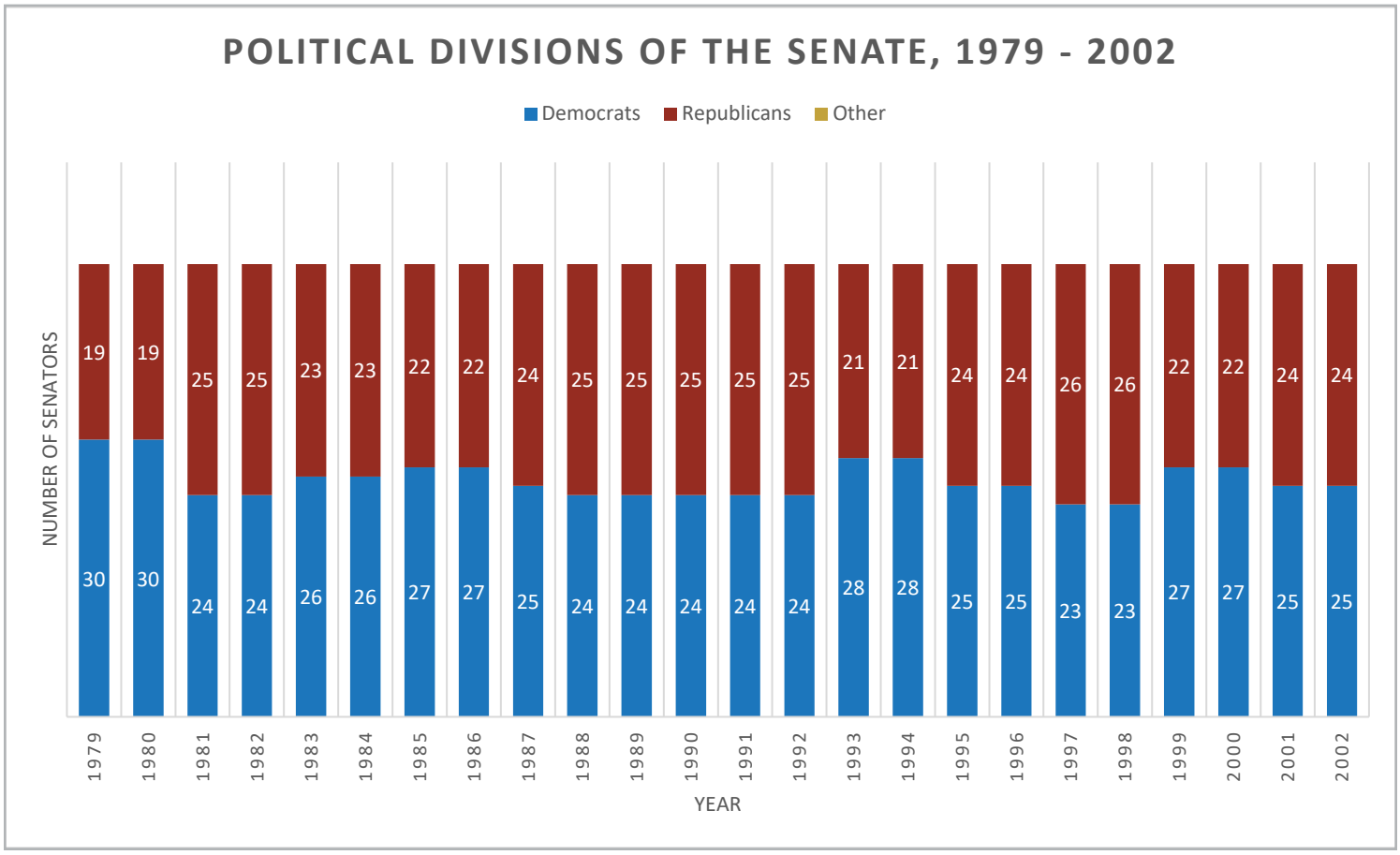
The charts suggest the influence of redistricting. For example, for the state Senate, from 1967 on (following the Supreme Court's decisions, Carr v. Baker in 1962 and Reynolds v. Sims in '64) there is less variability in the political division, and by 1981 political majority swings are even less, staying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

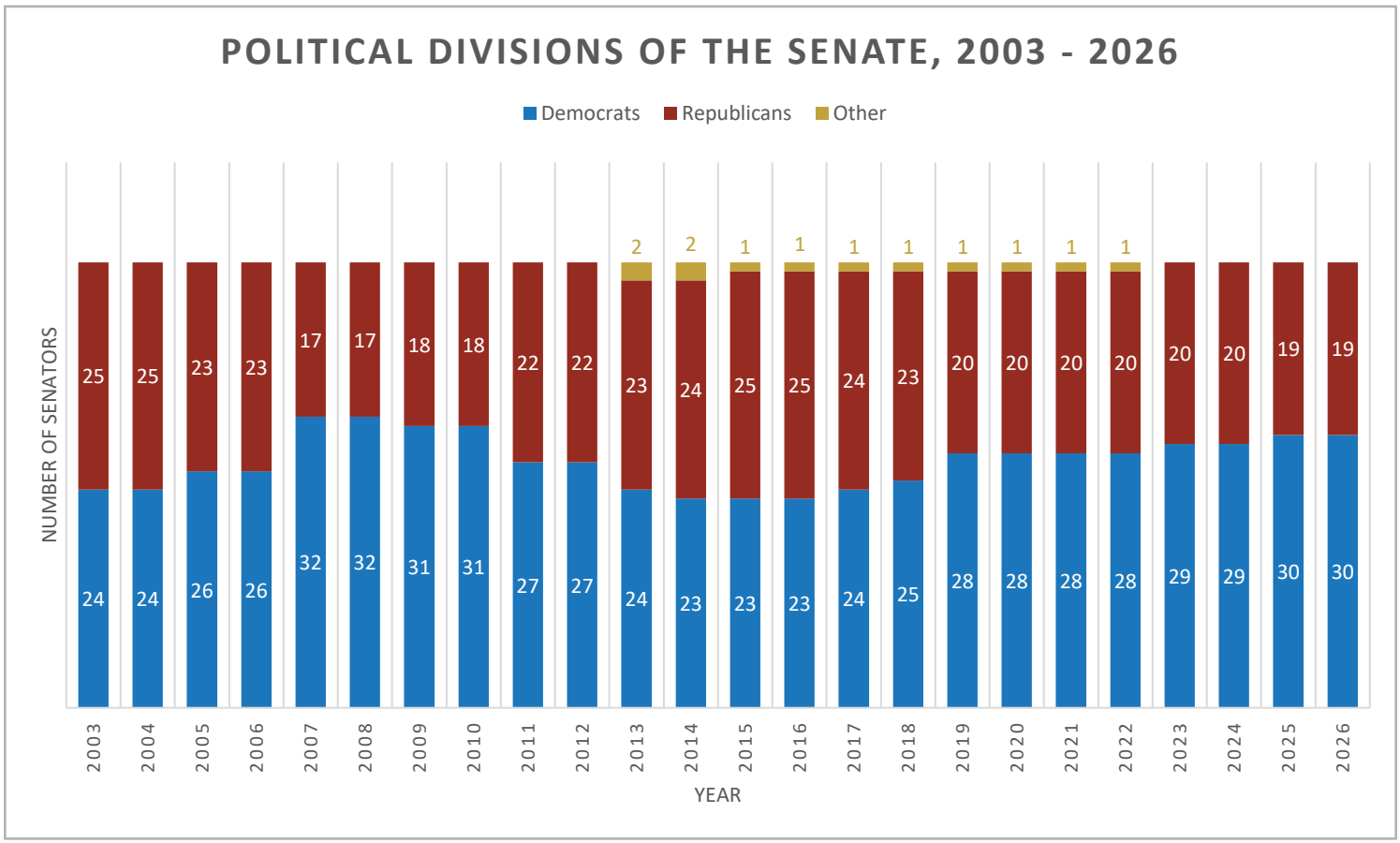
Note the dominant Republican majority in both chambers after WWI, followed by the significant switch to the Democrats during the Great Depression and the New Deal.





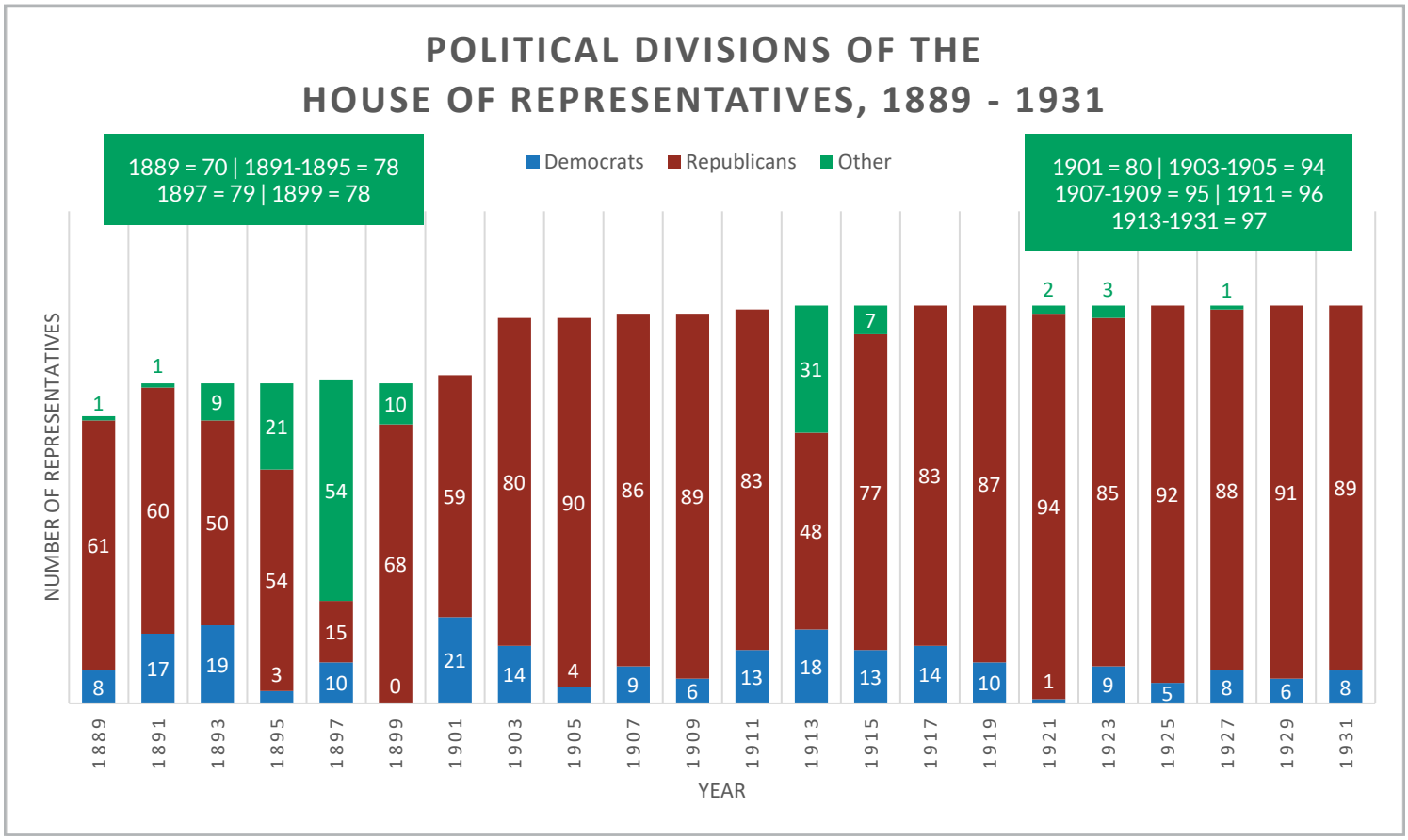
Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

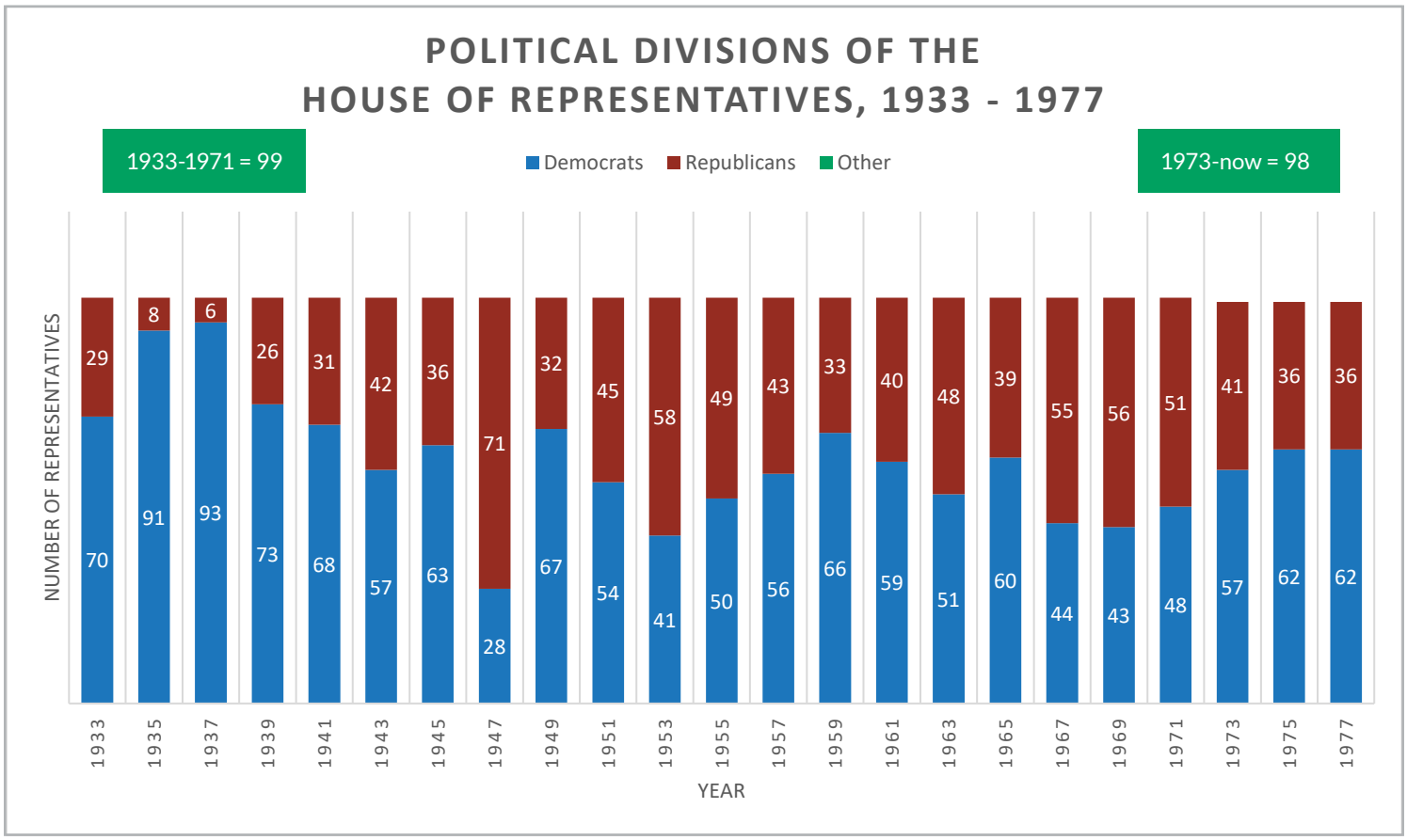




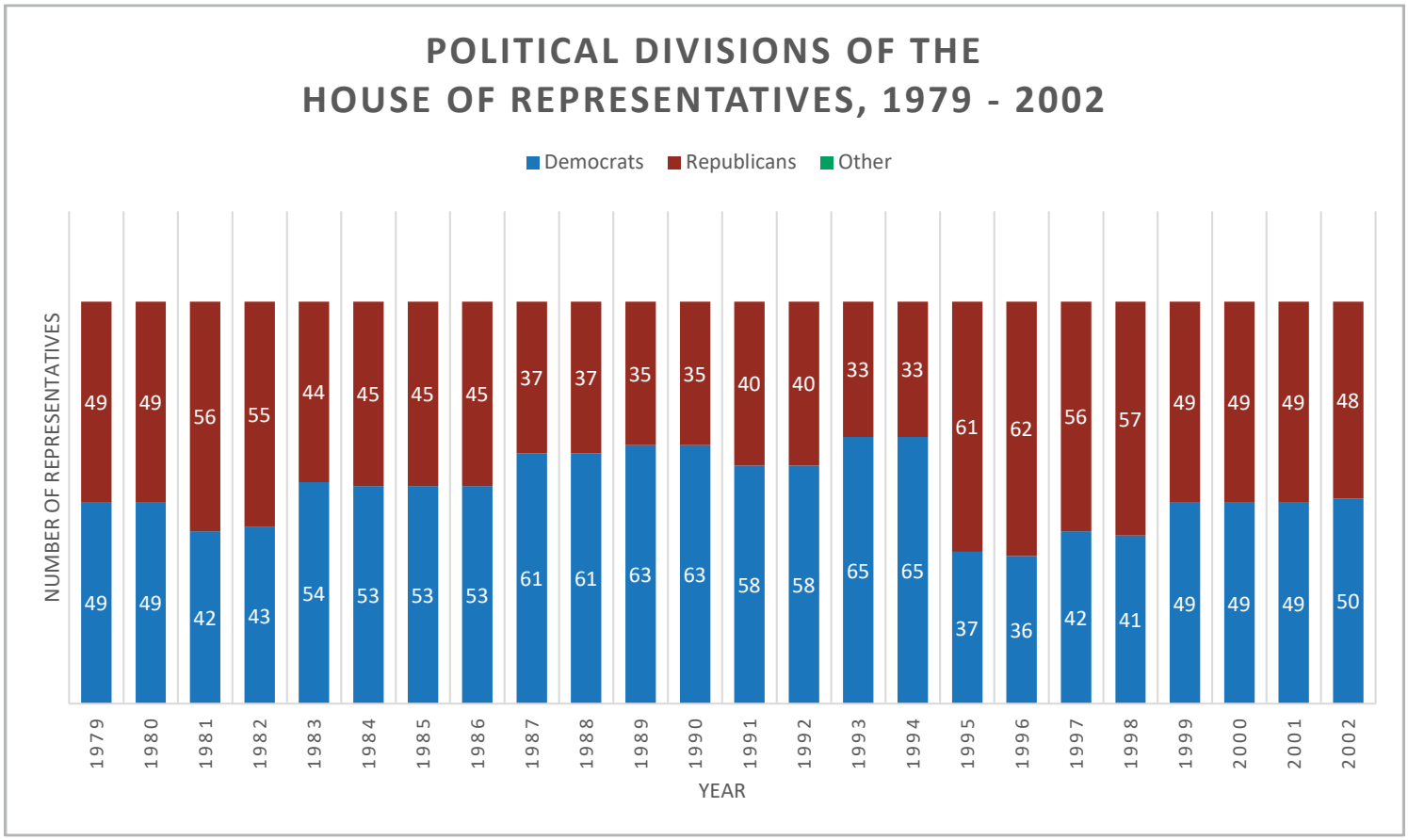
** 2013 - 2022: Other = Ds Caucused with Rs*

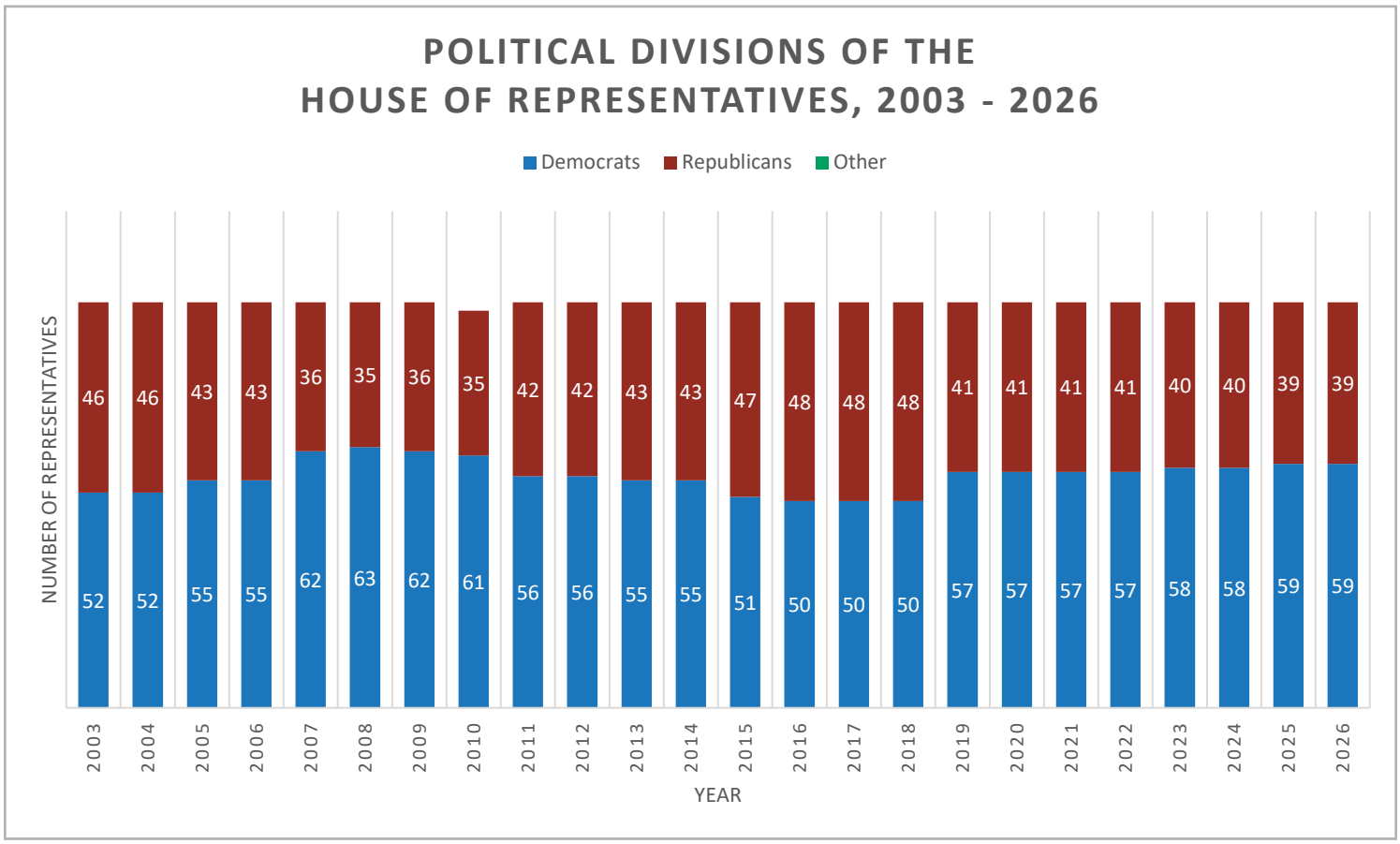
Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*





Political Division Since 1889 by Chamber and Year *continued*

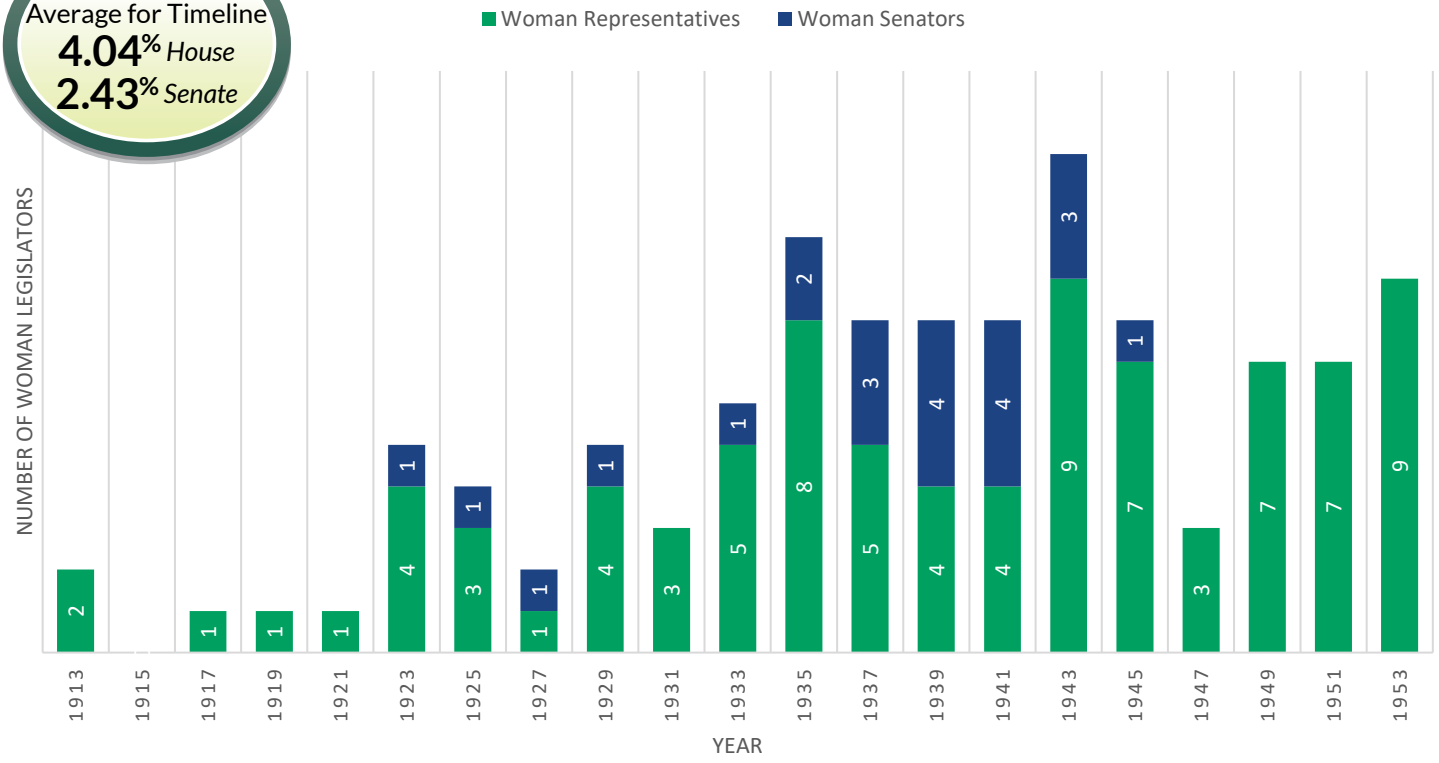




Women in Legislature

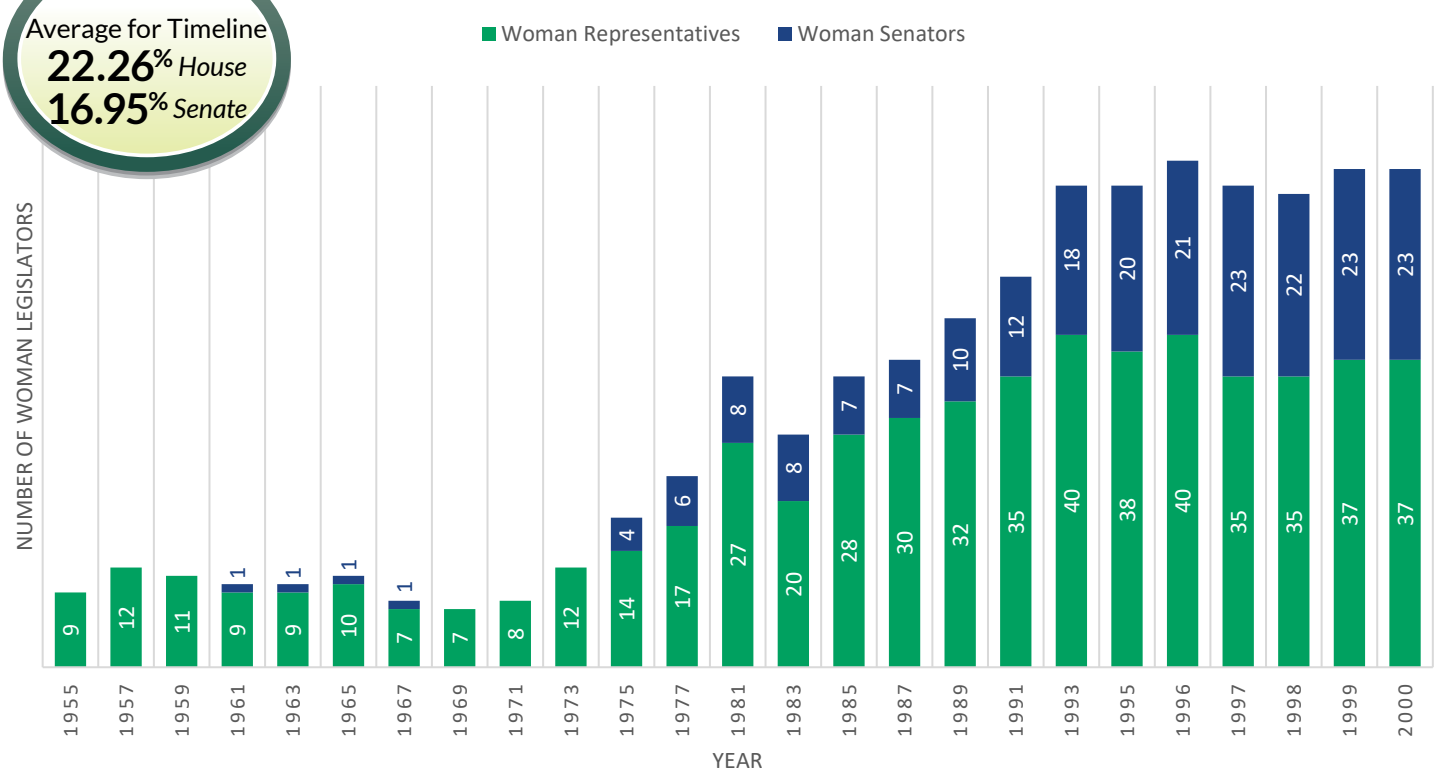
WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1913 - 1951

Average for Timeline
4.04% House
2.43% Senate

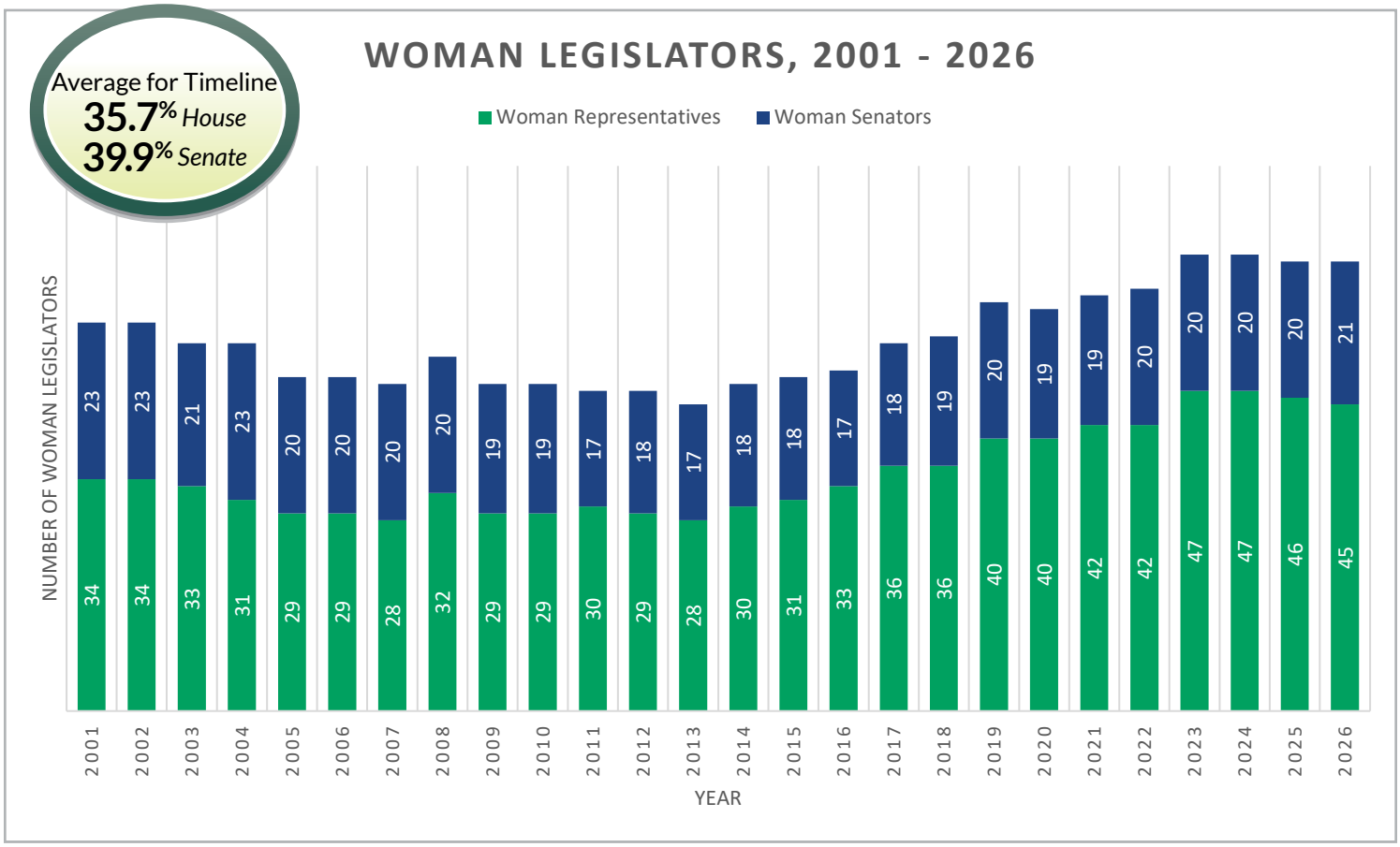


WOMAN LEGISLATORS, 1955 - 2000

Average for Timeline
22.26% House
16.95% Senate



Women in Legislature *continued*



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