

Stat Pack for October Term 2012

Unless otherwise noted, the following charts cover October Term 2012, which began on Monday, October 1, 2012, and ends on Sunday, October 6, 2013.

Index

Opinions by Sitting	2
Circuit Scorecard	3
Merits Cases by Vote Split	5
Make-Up of the Merits Docket	6
Term Index	7
Total Opinion Authorship	8–9
Merits Opinions	10–11
Majority Opinion Authorship	12
Frequency in the Majority	13
Strength of the Majority	14
5-to-4 Cases	15–16
5-to-4 Case Majorities.....	17–18
Justice Agreement - All Cases	19
Justice Agreement - Non-Unanimous Cases	20
Justice Agreement - 5-4 Cases	21
Justice Agreement - Highs and Lows	22
Time Between Cert. Grant and Oral Argument	23
Time Between Oral Argument and Opinion	24
Pace of Grants	25
Pace of Opinions	26
Oral Argument - Justices	27
Oral Argument - Advocates	28
OT12 Case List	29–42
Voting Alignment - All Cases	42–51
Voting Alignment - 5-4 Cases	52–54

Summary of the Term

Total Merits Opinions Released	78
.....Signed opinions after oral argument	73
.....Summary reversals	5
Total Merits Opinions Expected	78
.....Petitions granted and set for argument	75
.....Summary reversals	5
.....(Cases consolidated for decision)*	(1)
.....(Cases dismissed)**	(1)
Cases Set for Argument During OT13	40

* *Tibbals v. Carter* was argued separately from *Ryan v. Gonzales*, but the two cases were decided with only one opinion, which was captioned with *Gonzales*. Therefore, throughout this Stat Pack the two cases are generally treated as consolidated. The Pace of Grants chart, however, treats them as separate grants.

** *Boyer v. Louisiana* was dismissed as improvidently granted on April 29, 2013.

*** You can find past Stat Packs here: <http://www.scotusblog.com/reference/stat-pack/>. A few matters regarding our methodology are worth mentioning at the outset. First, SCOTUSblog treats consolidated cases as a single case, as determined by the case with the lowest docket number (prior to the release of an opinion) or the case that is captioned with an opinion. To the extent that two cases are argued separately but later decided with only one opinion, we will remove one of the cases from this Stat Pack, except to include it in the Pace of Grants chart to maintain cross-conference comparisons. The most unusual way we manage these later-consolidated cases is to merge the oral argument data for the two cases. We sum the questions asked by each Justice in the separate oral argument proceedings into one “consolidated” session. Second, this Stat Pack frequently uses the term “merits opinions,” “merits docket,” or “merits cases.” Those three terms are used interchangeably, and signify the set of cases decided “on the merits.” Those cases include signed opinions after oral argument (the bulk of all merits cases), most *per curiam* opinions released after oral arguments, summary reversals (cases decided with *per curiam* opinions after the certiorari stage), and cases decided by an equally divided (4-4) Court. Cases that are dismissed as improvidently granted are not included in our tally of merits cases.

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