

Oral Argument - Justices

For our purposes, the number of “questions” per argument is simply the number of times a given justice’s name appears in the argument transcript in capital letters. To account for the chief justice’s administrative comments—such as his call for an advocate to begin—his tally for each case has been uniformly reduced by three “questions.”

Average Number of Questions Per Argument

	Average
Sotomayor	24.3
Breyer	21.2
Roberts	16.0
Gorsuch	15.4
Kagan	14.7
Alito	12.7
Ginsburg	10.2
Kennedy	9.0
Thomas	0.0

Frequency as the Top Questioner or as a Top 3 Questioner

	Freq. Top 1	Freq. Top 3
Sotomayor	37%	81%
Breyer	27%	65%
Gorsuch	18%	37%
Kagan	6%	34%
Roberts	5%	43%
Alito	5%	32%
Ginsburg	3%	14%
Kennedy	2%	15%
Thomas	0%	0%

Most Active Arguments

	Argument	Number of Questions (% of all Questions)
Roberts	Masterpiece v. Co. Comm'n	44 (15%)
Kennedy	Masterpiece v. Co. Comm'n	32 (11%)
Thomas	n/a	n/a
Ginsburg	Hall v. Hall	37 (28%)
Breyer	Cyan v. Beaver	80 (36%)
Alito	MN Voter’s Alliance v. Mansky	40 (28%)
Sotomayor	Cyan v. Beaver	56 (25%)
Kagan	Masterpiece v. Co. Comm'n	48 (17%)
Gorsuch	SAS Inst. v. Iancu	48 (31%)

Frequency as the First Questioner

	Frequency	
Ginsburg	34 /63	54%
Sotomayor	11 /63	17%
Kennedy	8 /62	13%
Roberts	6 /63	10%
Kagan	2 /62	3%
Gorsuch	1 /60	2%
Alito	1 /63	2%
Thomas	0 /63	0%
Breyer	0 /63	0%