

# Majority Opinion Distribution

For each case decided with a merits opinion, the author of the majority opinion is selected by the most senior justice who votes with the majority. For example, in *Herrera v. Wyoming*, a 5-4 decision in which Justices Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor, Kagan and Gorsuch voted in the majority, Justice Ginsburg (the most senior justice in the majority) assigned authorship duties to Justice Sotomayor (the author of the majority opinion). The tables below demonstrate how the five most senior justices on the court assigned majority opinions during OT18 when they had the chance. For unanimous cases we have showed only statistics for Chief Justice Roberts because he is always the most senior justice in the majority for unanimous opinions.

Unanimous Cases									
	Roberts	Thomas	Ginsburg	Breyer	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh
Roberts (25)	1	4	4	5	0	3	3	2	3

5-4 Cases									
	Roberts	Thomas	Ginsburg	Breyer	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh
Roberts (11)	4	2	0	0	2		1	1	1
	Thomas (3)	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Ginsburg (6)	0	1	0	1	1	2	1
			Breyer (0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
				Alito (0)	0	0	0	0	0