

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	23.9
Breyer	18.8
Kavanaugh	15.5
Kagan	15.2
Gorsuch	14.6
Roberts	13.6
Alito	13.4
Ginsburg	8.3
Thomas	0.0

Frequency as the Top Questioner or as a Top 3 Questioner		
	Freq. Top 1	Freq. Top 3
Sotomayor	46%	78%
Breyer	17%	54%
Gorsuch	14%	42%
Kavanaugh	13%	35%
Roberts	6%	29%
Kagan	6%	39%
Ginsburg	5%	10%
Alito	6%	35%
Thomas	0%	0%

Cases With Most Total Justice Questions	
	Questions
Rucho	275
Commerce	219
Am. Legion	212
PDR Network	199
Kaestner Tr.	174
Rehaif	166
Manhattan	163
Cougar Den	161
Davis	153
Murphy	153

Most Active Arguments		
	Argument	Number of Questions (% of all questions)
Roberts	Dawson	33 (23%)
Thomas	Flowers	3 (2%)
Ginsburg	Fort Bend	34 (37%)
Breyer	Halleck	50 (31%)
Alito	Rucho	51 (19%)
Sotomayor	Commerce	58 (26%)
Kagan	Am. Legion	38 (18%)
Gorsuch	Rehaif	43 (26%)
Kavanaugh	Rucho	51 (19%)

Frequency as the First Questioner		
	Frequency	
Ginsburg	24/ 58	41%
Sotomayor	27/ 69	39%
Roberts	9/ 69	13%
Alito	5/ 69	7%
Kagan	2/ 69	3%
Breyer	1/ 69	1%
Gorsuch	1/ 69	1%
Thomas	0/ 69	0%
Kavanaugh	0/ 61	0%