Interim Stat Pack for October Term 2019: April 3, 2020

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Term Summary

Signed merits opinions after oral argument	+ 16
Per curiam merits opinions after oral argument	+ 1
Summary reversals	+ 3
Total merits opinions released	20
Petitions granted for argument	+ 70
Summary reversals	+ 3
Cases dismissed before oral argument	- 1
Cases dismissed after oral argument	- 1
Cases restored but not scheduled for argument	- 1
Total merits opinions expected	70

Cases set for argument during OT2020

* You can find past Stat Packs here: <<u>https://www.scotusblog.com/reference/stat-pack/</u>>. 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 combine 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 argument, summary reversals (cases decided with per curiam opinions without briefing or oral argument, often to reverse a lower court) and cases decided by an equally divided court. Cases that are dismissed as improvidently granted are not included in our tally of merits cases.

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Term Index

This chart includes a summary of the cases for the term including (1) majority opinion author, (2) vote, (3) days between argument and opinion, (4) judgment and (5) court below. For each sitting, the chart provides the number of majority opinions written by each justice and the average number of days between argument and opinion for that justice's majority opinions.

October									November									December									
ahler	EK	6-3	168d	Α	ST	JGR			Barton					CA11	JGR			N.Y. Rifle							JGR		
VantKwest	SMS	9-0	65d	Α	CAFC	CT	1	55d	Glover					ST	CT			Public.Resource							CT		
Ramos					ST	RBG			CITGO	SMS	7-2	146d	А	CA3		1	63d	Rodriguez		NMG	9-0	84d	R	CA10	RBG	1	76d
Bostock					CA11	SGB			Allen	EK	9-0	139d	А	CA4	SGB			Atlantic							SGB	2	92d
Tarris					CA6	SAA	1	139d	Maui					CA9	SAA	1	105d	Intel		SAA	9-0	84d	А	CA9	SAA	1	84d
Aurelius					CA1	SMS	1	65d	IBM	PC	9-0	70d	R	CA2	SMS	1	146d	Banister							SMS		
Garcia	SAA	5-4	139d	R	ST	EK	1	168d	Regents					CA9	EK	1	139d	Guerrero-Laspri	il la	SGB	7-2	105d	R	CA5	EK		
Rotkiske	CT	8-1	55d	А	CA3	NMG			Hernandez	SAA	5-4	105d	Α	CA5	NMG	1	131d	Thryv							NMG	1	84d
Malvo					CA4	BMK			Comcast	NMG	9-0	131d	R	CA9	BMK			Maine Communi	ity						BMK	1	76d
						Tot.	4		Ritzen	RBG	9-0	63d	Α	CA6	PC	1	70d	Holguin-Hernan	ıdez	SGB	9-0	78d	R	CA5	Tot.	6	
						Expect	8								Tot.	6		Monasky		RBG	9-0	76d	А	CA6	Expect	12	
						Avg.		107d							Expect	10		McKinney		BMK		76d			Avg.		82d
															Avg.		109d								_		
January									February									March (postpo	ned)								
Lucky						JGR			Cowpasture					CA4	JGR			Briggs						CAAF			
Thole						CT			Opati					CADC	CT			Booking.com						CA4			
Kelly						RBG	1	36d	Sineneng-Smith					CA9	RBG			Google						CAFC	RBG		
Romag						SGB			Lomax					CA10	SGB			Tanzin						CA2	SGB		
Babb						SAA			Nasrallah					CA11	SAA			Carney						CA3			
Shular	RBG	9-0	36d	А	CA11	SMS			Thuraissigiam					CA9	SMS			Open Society						CA2	SMS		
GE Energy						EK			Seila Law					CA9	EK			Torres						CA10	EK		
Espinoza						NMG			Liu					CA9	NMG			Pereida						CA8	NMG		
•						BMK			June Medical					CA5	BMK			Mazars						CADC			
						Tot.	1								Tot.			Vance							Tot.		
						Expect									Expect	9		Guadalupe							Expect	12	
						Avg.	36d	[Avg.										Avg.		
April (postpo	oned)					U			Summary Rever	sal					U			Total							0	-	
Fulton					CA7	JGR			Thompson	PC	9-0	n/a	R	CA9					0			Dismis	sed af	ter argı	ıment	1	
McGirt					ST	CT			Archdiocese	PC		n/a	R	ST				СТ	1						gument		
Texas v. N.M.					Orig.	RBG			Davis	PC		n/a	R	CA5					3						ument		
Consultants					CA4	SGB													2							-	
Ford					ST	SAA													3								
Rutledge					CA8	SMS													2								
Chiafalo					ST	EK													2								
Baca					CA10	NMG													2								
Little Sisters					CA3	BMK												BMK	1								
					5110	Tot.													4								
						Expect	9											Cases disposed	20								
						Avg.	Ũ												20 70								
																			29%								
																		Average Time									

Opinions By Sitting

Roberts	_		-		_		-		-			-		JGR	0
Thomas	1				-		-		-	-		-		СТ	1
Ginsburg	-		1		1		1		-	-		-		RBG	3
Breyer	-		-		2		-		-	-		-		SGB	2
Alito	1		1		1		-		-			-		SAA	3
Sotomayor	1		1		-		-		-	-		-		SMS	2
Kagan	1		1		-		-		-	-		-		EK	2
Gorsuch Kavanaugh	-		1		1		-		-	-		-		NMG BMK	2
Per Curiam	-		. 1		1		-		-	-		•		Per Cur.	1
i ei ouriani	October	r	Novem	ber	December		Januar	'V	February	March (postpon	ed)	April (postp	oned)	Decided	17
	Argued: 9 De					ded: 6	Argued: 8 D		Argued: 9 Deci	Notyetargued		Notyetargu		Argued	48
	Kahler	EK	Barton		N.Y. Rifle		Lucky		Cowpasture	Briggs		Fulton			
	NantKwest	SMS	Glover		Public.Resource		Thole		Opati	Booking.com		McGirt			
	Ramos		CITGO	SMS	Rodriguez	NMG	Kelly		Sineneng-Smith	Google		Texas v. N.M.			
	Bostock		Allen	EK	Atlantic		Romag		Lomax	Tanzin		Consultants			
	Harris		Maui		Intel	SAA	Babb		Nasrallah	Carney		Ford			
	Aurelius		IBM	PC	Banister		Shular	RBG	Thuraissigiam	Open Society		Rutledge			
	Garcia	SAA	Regents		Guerrero-Lasprilla	SGB	GE Energy		Seila Law	Torres		Chiafalo			
	Rotkiske	CT	Hernandez	SAA	Thryv		Espinoza		Liu	Pereida		Baca			
	Malvo *		Comcast	NMG	Maine Community				June Medical	Mazars		Little Sisters			
			Ritzen	RBG	Holguin-Hernandez	SGB				Vance					
					Monasky	RBG				GuadalupeSchool					
					McKinney	BMK									

*After oral argument in Malvo on October 16, 2019, the Supreme Court dismissed the case pursuant Rule 46 on February 26, 2020.

Merits Cases By Vote Split

9-0 10 (59%)	8-1 1 (6%)			7-2 2 (12				6-3 1 (6%)	5-4 3 (18%)	
Nantkwest	Rotkiske			o-Laspril	la		Kahler		Hernandez	
Ritzen			CITGO						McKinney	
IBM (PC)									Garcia	
Monasky										
Rodriguez										
Shular										
Holguin-Hernandez				Past'	ſerms					
Intel Allen			0.0							
Comcast			9-0	8-1	7-2	6-3	5-4			
comcasi		OT10	46%	12%	15%	5%	20%			
		OT11	45%	11%	8%	17%	20%			
		OT12	49%	5%	9%	8%	29%			
		OT13	66%	3%	10%	8%	14%			
		OT14	41%	7%	12%	15%	26%			
		OT15	48%	11%	20%	11%	5%			
		OT16	59%	9%	17%	4%	10%			
		OT17	39%	8%	15%	10%	26%			
		OT18	39%	7%	11%	15%	28%			
		Avg.	48%	8%	13%	10%	20%			

* We treat cases with eight or fewer votes as if they were decided by the full court. For 8-0, 7-1 and 6-2 decisions, we simply assume that the nonparticipating justice would have joined the majority. In cases that are decided 5-3, we look at each case individually to decide whether it was more likely that the nonparticipating justice would join the majority or the dissent. Our assumption that nine justices voted in each case applies only to figures that treat each case as a whole, like the chart above, and not to figures that focus on the behavior of individual justices, like our Justice Agreement charts.

** For cases that are decided by a 5-4 vote, we provide information about whether the majority was made up of the most common conservative bloc (Roberts, Thomas, Alito, Gorsuch and Kavanaugh), the most liberal bloc (Ginsburg, Breyer, Sotomayor and Kagan) along with any of the more conservative justices, or a more uncommon alignment. A conservative lineup is marked with a red square, a liberal lineup is marked with a blue square and all others are marked with a yellow square.

*** For per curiam opinions, we assume that all justices who do not publicly dissent voted with the majority.

Circuit Scorecard

October 1	Ferm 2019							October'	Гerm 20
	Number	Percent	Decided	Aff'd	Rev'd	Aff'd %	Rev'd %		Nun
CA1	1	1%						CA1	
CA2	9	12%	1		1		100%	CA2	
CA3	5	7%	2	2		100%		CA3	
CA4	4	5%	1	1		100%		CA4	
CA5	6	8%	4	1	3	25%	75%	CA5	
CA6	3	4%	2	2		100%		CA6	
CA7	1	1%						CA7	
CA8	3	4%						CA8	
CA9	10	14%	3	1	2	33%	67%	CA9	
CA10	4	5%	1		1		100%	CA10	
CA11	7	9%	1	1		100%		CA11	
CA DC	3	4%						CA DC	
CA Fed	5	7%	1	1		100%		CA Fed	
CA AF	1	1%						CA AF	
State	11	15%	4	2	2	50%	50%	State	
Dist. Court	0							Dist. Court	
Original	1	1%						Original	
	74	100%	20	11	9	55%	45%		

* For the Circuit Scorecards only, we treat certain consolidated cases as separate decisions rather than as one. For consolidated cases that stemmed from different lower court decisions, we counted the cases separately on this table to most accurately reflect the Supreme Court's treatment of the precedents below. For cases that were consolidated in the court below, we count the Supreme Court's decision only once. Throughout the rest of the Stat Pack consolidated cases are uniformly treated as a single case.

** For purposes of the Circuit Scorecards, we include as "affirmances" merits opinions that let stand the lower-court opinion, and as "reversals" opinions that only vacate the lower-court decision and remand for further consideration. *** The circuit scorecard does not include *Walker v. United States*, which was dismissed before argument, *Mathena v. Malvo*, which was dismissed after argument, or *Sharp v. Murphy*, which was restored to the calendar after OT18 but never scheduled

for argument during OT19.

Percent

14%

29%

29%

14%

14%

-

100%

Circuit Scorecard

This chart features affirmance and reversal rates for each circuit and each justice. The first number is the number of times a particular justice voted to affirm a decision of the court below, and the second number is the number of times that justice voted to vacate or reverse the decision below.

	Roberts	Thomas	Ginsburg	Breyer	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh	Total Votes	Overall Decisions
CA1											
CA2	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-9	0-1
CA3	2-0	1-1	1-1	2-0	1-1	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	15-3	2-0
CA4	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	9-0	1-0
CA5	1-3	2-2	0-4	0-4	2-2	0-4	0-4	1-3	1-3	7-29	1-3
CA6	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	18-0	2-0
CA7											
CA8											
CA9	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	9-18	1-2
CA10	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-9	0-1
CA11	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	9-0	1-0
CADC											
CA Fed	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	9-0	1-0
State	2-2	2-2	1-3	1-3	2-2	1-3	1-3	3-1	3-1	16-20	3-1
Dist. Court											
Totals	11-9	11-9	8-12	9-11	11-9	9-11	9-11	12-8	12-8	92-88	12-8

Opinions Authored by Each Justice

		Roberts	Thomas	Ginsburg	Breyer	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh	PC	
	1		Rotkiske	Ritzen	Holguin-Hernandez	Garcia	NantKwest	Kahler	Comcast	McKinney	IBM	
Majority Opinions	2			Monasky	Guerrero-Lasprilla	Hernandez	CITGO	Allen	Rodriguez		Thom pson	
Opinions	3			Shular		Intel					Archdiocese	
	4										Davis	
	5											ļ
	6											
	7											
	8 9											20
	9 10											
	10											
	12											
	13											i
	14	İ										i
	15											ì
	1		Garcia	Comcast	Allen	Holguin-Hernandez	Rotkiske	IBM	IBM	Shular		
Concurring Opinions	2		Hernandez			Monasky						
Opinions	3		Allen			Archdiocese						
	4		Monasky									
	5											
	6											
	7 8											1 19
	9											13
	10											
	11											i
	12	İ										
	13	ĺ										ì
	14											
	15											
	1		Guerrero-Lasprilla	Rotkiske	Garcia							
Dissenting	2		CITGO	Hernandez	Kahler							
Opinions	3			McKinney								
	4											
	5											
	6 7											
	8											7
	9											
	10											i
	11											
	12	ĺ										
	13											
	14											ļ
	15											
Total		0	7	7	5	6	3	3	3	2	4	40

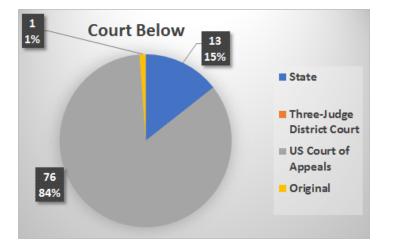
Total Opinion Authorship

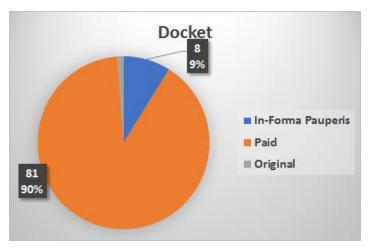
The number of opinions five pages or longer is included in parentheses and represented by the thicker bars in the chart below.

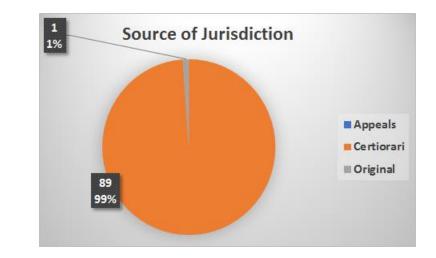
		Total Opin	ions	Majority	Opinions	Concur	ring Opini	ions	DissentingOpinion
Roberts									
Thomas		7(5)		1 (1	L)		4 (2)		2 (2)
Ginsburg		7 (6)		3 (3	3)		1 (0)		3 (3)
Breyer		5 (4)		2 (2	2)		1 (0)		2 (2)
Alito		6 (3)		3 (3			3 (0)		
Sotomayor		3 (2)		2 (2			1 (0)		
Kagan		3 (2)		2 (2			1 (0)		
Gorsuch		3 (2)		2 (2			1 (0)		
Kavanaugh		2 (1)		1 (1			1 (0)		
Per Curiam		4 (2)		4 (2					
		40 (27)		20 (1	18)		13 (2)		7 (7)
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
	-	~			_	ŭ		Ŭ	
Therese							_		
Thomas	1		4		_	2			
Ginshurg		2			2		_		
Ginsburg		3	1		3	_			
			1		3	_			
Ginsburg Alito		3	1	3	3				
			1		3				Majority Opinions
Alito		3	1	3	3				
Alito		3		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer	2	3		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch	2	3		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer	2	3		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch Sotomayor	2	3 1 1 1		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch	2	3		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch Sotomayor Kagan	2	3 1 1 1		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch Sotomayor Kagan	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	3 1 1 1		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch Sotomayor Kagan	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	3 1 1 1 1		3	3				Concurring Opinions
Alito Breyer Gorsuch Sotomayor Kagan	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	3 1 1 1 1		3	3				Concurring Opinions

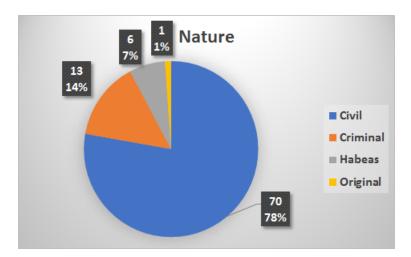
Makeup of the Merits Docket

The following charts depict different characteristics of the cases that were released with merits opinions. These charts include information about cases disposed of with signed opinions, summary reversals or affirmances by an equally divided court.









* Technically, all paid and in forma pauperis cases have been on the same docket since 1971, with paid cases beginning each year with case number 1, and IFP cases beginning at number 5001. Original cases remain on a separate docket and follow a separate numbering convention. For more information on the dockets, see EugeneGressman et al., "Supreme Court Practice" 55–56 (9th ed. 2007).

Frequency in the Majority

The following charts measure how frequently each justice has voted with the majority during October Term 2019. The charts include summary reversals but do not include cases that were dismissed.

	All Cases											
Justice	Votes	Frequency	in Majority	OT18	OT17	OT16	OT15	OT14	OT13	OT12		
Roberts	20	20	100%	85%	93%	93%	92%	80%	92%	86%		
Thomas	20	18	90%	75%	81%	82%	72%	61%	88%	79%		
Ginsburg	20	15	75%	75%	73%	85%	88%	86%	85%	79%		
Breyer	20	16	80%	76%	73%	90%	94%	92%	88%	83%		
Alito	20	18	90%	82%	79%	86%	84%	72%	88%	79%		
Sotomayor	20	16	80%	75%	68%	90%	83%	89%	82%	79%		
Kagan	20	17	85%	82%	74%	93%	95%	85%	92%	81%		
Gorsuch	20	20	100%	75%	85%	82%		-	-	-		
Kavanaugh	20	20	100%	91%	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Divided Cases											
Justice	Votes	Frequency	in Majority	OT18	OT17	OT16	OT15	OT14	OT13	OT12	
Roberts	7	7	100%	75%	89%	83%	84%	66%	76%	73%	
Thomas	7	5	71%	59%	69%	57%	49%	34%	64%	60%	
Ginsburg	7	2	29%	59%	56%	63%	78%	77%	56%	60%	
Breyer	7	3	43%	61%	56%	77%	89%	86%	64%	67%	
Alito	7	5	71%	70%	67%	67%	70%	52%	63%	59%	
Sotomayor	7	3	43%	59%	49%	76%	68%	82%	46%	59%	
Kagan	7	4	57%	70%	59%	83%	91%	75%	75%	63%	
Gorsuch	7	7	100%	59%	75%	63%	-	-	-	-	
Kavanaugh	7	7	100%	85%	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Justice Agreement

Roberts

	Thomas	Ginsburg	Breyer	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh	Total
	13 65%	12 60%	15 75%	15 75%	15 75%	16 80%	17 80%	19 95%	
rts	18 90%	14 70%	15 75%	18 90%	16 80%	17 85%	20 100%	20 100%	
	18 90%	15 75%	16 80%	18 90%	16 80%	17 85%	20 100%	20 100%	20
	2 10%	5 25%	4 20%	2 10%	4 20%	3 15%	0 0%	0 0%	
		8 40%	11 55%	14 70%	10 50%	11 55%	13 65%	12 60%	
	Thomas	12 60%	13 65%	20 100%	14 70%	15 75%	18 90%	18 90%	
		13 65%	14 70%	20 100%	14 70%	15 75%	18 90%	18 90%	20
		7 35%	6 30%	0 0%	6 30%	5 25%	2 10%	2 10%	
			17 85%	7 35%	16 80%	16 80%	11 55%	11 55%	
		Ginsburg	19 95%	12 60%	18 90%	17 85%	14 70%	14 70%	
			19 95%	13 65%	19 95%	18 90%	15 75%	15 75%	20
			1 5%	7 35%	1 5%	2 10%	5 25%	5 25%	
				10 50%	18 90%	17 85%	13 65%	14 70%	
			Breyer	13 65%	19 95%	18 90%	15 75%	15 75%	
				14 70%	20 100%	19 95%	16 80%	16 80%	20
				6 30%	0 0%	1 5%	4 20%	4 20%	
					10 50%	11 55%	13 65%	14 70%	
				Alito	14 70%	15 75%	18 90%	18 90%	20
					14 70%	15 75%	18 90%	18 90%	
					6 30%	5 25%	2 10%	2 10%	
						17 85%	13 65%	14 70%	
	Key				Sotomayor	19 95%	16 80%	16 80%	
	Fully Agree					19 95%	16 80%	16 80%	20
	Agree in Full or Pa	rt				1 5%	4 20%	4 20%	
Agree i	n Full, Part, or Judg	ment Only					15 75%	15 75%	
	Disagree in Judgme	ent				Kagan	17 85%	17 85%	
							17 85%	17 85%	20
							3 15%	3 15%	
								15 75%	
							Gorsuch	20 100%	
								20 100%	20

Kavanaugh

0 0%

11

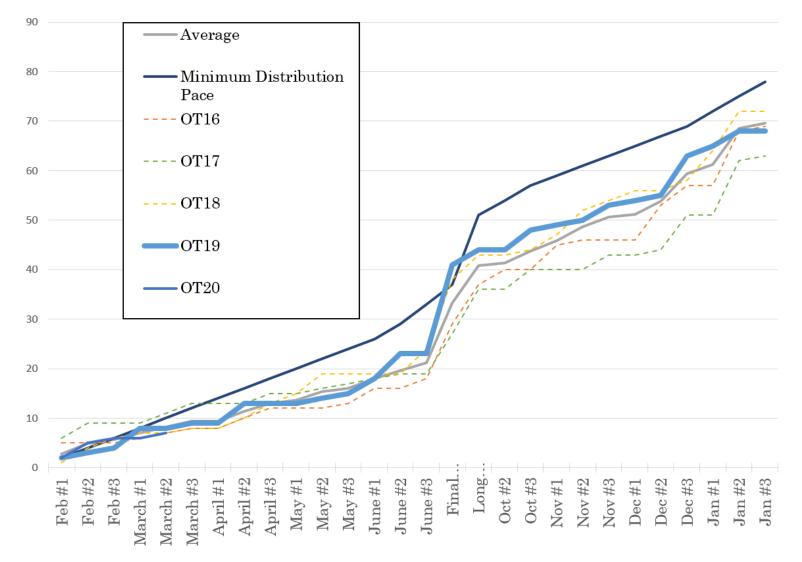
20

Oral Argument - Advocates

Advocates Who Have Argued Two or More Cases During OT19							
	Appearances						
Name	ОТ19	All Time	Position	Law School	Supreme Court Clerkship	U.S. Solicitor General Experience	Gender
Paul Clement	5	101	Kirkland & Ellis	Harvard	Antonin Scalia	Yes	Male
Noel Francisco	5	17	Solicitor General	Chicago	Antonin Scalia	Yes	Male
Jeffrey Wall	4	25	Principal Deputy Solicitor General	Chicago	Clarence Thomas	Yes	Male
Jonathan Ellis	3	6	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Pennsylvania	John Roberts	Yes	Male
Eric Feigin	3	24	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Stanford	Stephen Breyer	Yes	Male
Paul Hughes	3	8	McDermott Will & Emery	Yale	None	None	Male
Malcolm Stewart	3	86	Deputy Solicitor General	Yale	Harry Blackmun	Yes	Male
Lisa Blatt	2	39	Williams & Connolly	Texas	None	Yes	Female
Jonathan Bond	2	6	Assistant to the Solicitor General	George Washington	Antonin Scalia	Yes	Male
Brian Burgess	2	2	Goodwin Procter	NYU	Sonia Sotomayor	Yes	Male
Toby Crouse	2	2	Kansas Solicitor General	Kansas	None	None	Male
Shay Dvoretzky	2	12	Jones Day	Yale	Antonin Scalia	None	Male
Matthew Guarnieri	2	3	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Columbia	None	Yes	Male
Michael Huston	2	5	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Michigan	John G. Roberts	Yes	Male
Sopan Joshi	2	3	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Northwestern	Antonin Scalia, Samuel Alito	Yes	Male
Neal Katyal	2	41	Hogan Lovells	Yale	Stephen Breyer	Yes	Male
Edwin Kneedler	2	144	Deputy Solicitor General	Virginia	None	Yes	Male
Frederick Liu	2	6	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Yale	John G. Roberts	Yes	Male
Christopher Michel	2	5	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Yale	John G. Roberts	Yes	Male
Elizabeth Murrill	2	3	Louisiana Solicitor General	Louisiana State	None	None	Female
Theodore Olson	2	64	Gibson Dunn	Berkeley	None	Yes	Male
Joseph Palmore	2	12	Morrison & Foerster	Virginia	Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Yes	Male
Morgan Ratner	2	5	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Harvard	John G. Roberts	Yes	Female
Erica Ross	2	5	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Stanford	Elena Kagan	Yes	Female
Adam Unikowsky	2	9	Jenner & Block	Harvard	Antonin Scalia	None	Male
Donald B. Verrilli, Jr.	2	52	Munger, Tolles & Olson	Columbia	William Brennan	Yes	Male
Anthony Yang	2	31	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Yale	None	Yes	Male

Pace of Grants

The following chart plots the pace at which the court fills its merits docket for a given term. Each date marker represents the conference within a given sitting. For instance, Feb #1 is the first February conference, which, during OT19, took place on February 21, 2020. Categorizing grants by their conference within a given sitting ensures more accurate cross-term comparisons.



* The Minimum Distribution Pace presented in this chart reflects the number of petitions that must be granted to fill the court's docket for oral argument while giving the litigants in each case a complete or near-complete briefing schedule. The pace also reflects the number of petitions raised at each conference and other factors affecting the certiorari process.

Pace of Opinions

The following chart plots the pace at which the court releases merits opinions throughout the term, beginning in October and ending in June. This chart includes both opinions released after full briefing and summary reversals. Here, as in the Pace of Grants chart, cases are categorized by their week of release within a given sitting, rather than by calendar month. For example, the opinions for Feb #1 of OT19 were actually released between February 24-26, 2020.

