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		Frequency as the Top Questioner or as a Top 3 Questioner			Cases With Most Total Justice Questions	
	Average		Freq. Top 1	Freq. Top 3		Questions
Kavanaugh	16.7	Kavanaugh	24%	50%	Glover	217
Sotomayor	21.2	Sotomayor	15%	70%	Regents	195
Breyer	19.7	Breyer	26%	57%	Comcast	183
Alito	13.8	Alito	6%	30%	Aurelius	176
Ginsburg	9.4	Ginsburg	2%	11%	Russo	154
Gorsuch	14.2	Gorsuch	19%	38%	Thole	153
Roberts	12.6	Roberts	2%	19%	Bostock	153
Kagan	15.4	Kagan	11%	43%	Espinoza	
Thomas	0	Thomas	-	-	Cowpastur	re 145

Most Active Arguments						
	Argument	Number of Questions (% of all questions)				
Kavanaugh	Thole	48 (31%)				
Sotomayor	Atlantic Richfield	50 (40%)				
Breyer	Romag	50 (40%)				
Alito	Kahler	34 (27%)				
Ginsburg	Bostock	36 (24%)				
Gorsuch	Glover	43 (20%)				
Roberts	Glover	39 (18%)				
Kagan	Kelly	30 (23%)				
Thomas	-	-				

Frequency as the First Questioner							
	Frequency						
Ginsburg	21/47	45%					
Roberts	8/47	17%					
Sotomayor	7/47	15%					
Alito	6/47	13%					
Kavanaugh	4/46	9%					
Gorsuch	1/47	2%					
Breyer	0/47						
Kagan	0/47						
Thomas	0/47						

The figures on this page omit the telephonic arguments conducted in May 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.