

# SCOTUSblog

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## Interim Relief Docket Stat Pack for the 2024-25 term

*Compiled by Taraleigh Davis (Ph.D.)*



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# INTRODUCTION

## **What we include in the Interim Relief Docket**

The 2024-25 term ran from October 7, 2024, through October 5, 2025. (We refer to it as the 2024 term throughout this Stat Pack.)

The Interim Relief Docket consists of cases during that term in which the Supreme Court granted or denied an application for emergency relief that was initially presented to an individual justice and then referred to the full court for final decision.

We excluded applications that converted to the merits docket without a ruling on emergency relief, such as [TikTok, Inc. v. Garland](#), where the court deferred the application pending oral argument. We also excluded routine procedural matters, such as requests for extensions to file briefs. (Please note that these cases are included in the Term Index for transparency.)

## **How the Interim Relief Docket Differs from the Merits Docket**

Justices are not required to disclose their votes on emergency applications publicly. Therefore, unlike in merits cases, we do not know the vote breakdown (6-3, 7-2, etc.) unless four justices publicly disclose their disagreement.

Dissents fall into two categories: disagreement statements and formal dissents. Disagreement statements reveal a justice's voting preference ("Justice Gorsuch would have denied the application"), dissents indicate a justice's formal opposition ("Justice Kagan dissents"). To maintain consistency with the Supreme Court's tracking, we combine these two categories.

Justices can also file a formal concurrence or issue a statement respecting either the denial or grant of the requested relief.

*Thanks to Jake Truscott and Adam Feldman for their guidance and generosity in sharing the framework that makes the merits docket stat pack such a valuable resource. This project is modeled on their work.*

# INTRODUCTION

## Interim Relief Application Categories

**There are three kinds of applications on the interim relief docket:**

**Capital cases** are requests to stay or vacate stays of execution. They have traditionally dominated the docket, although their share has declined from over 78% in 2005 to 36% in 2024. During the 2024-25 term, there were 49 such requests, and none were granted. Only 3 of those cases had any public disagreement.

**Refiled applications** occur when an applicant, after being denied by one justice in chambers, refiles with another; these are almost always denied, and only one refiled application has been granted since 2000.

**Substantive applications** now represent much of the core work of emergency relief – these are typically requests for stays, injunctions, or other intervention in non-capital matters. These have grown from just 5% of the interim relief docket in 2005 to 40% in 2024.

# INTRODUCTION

## Key Findings in the Stat Pack for the 2024-25 Term

**Rising Volume, Rising Grants.** The court received 136 emergency applications this term – 55 substantive applications after excluding 49 capital cases and 32 refilings. Of the 55 substantive applications, six were deferred for oral argument, leaving 49 substantive cases for statistical analysis. The court granted relief in 49% of substantive applications, nearly double the 23% grant rate from the previous term.

**Public Disagreement at Historic Highs.** Justices publicly disagreed in 74% of substantive applications – far exceeding the pre-2014 average of 13.5% and more than double the 2022 and 2023 terms (at 25%). The liberal bloc (Sotomayor, Kagan, Jackson) frequently disagreed together, while conservative justices more often disagreed individually.

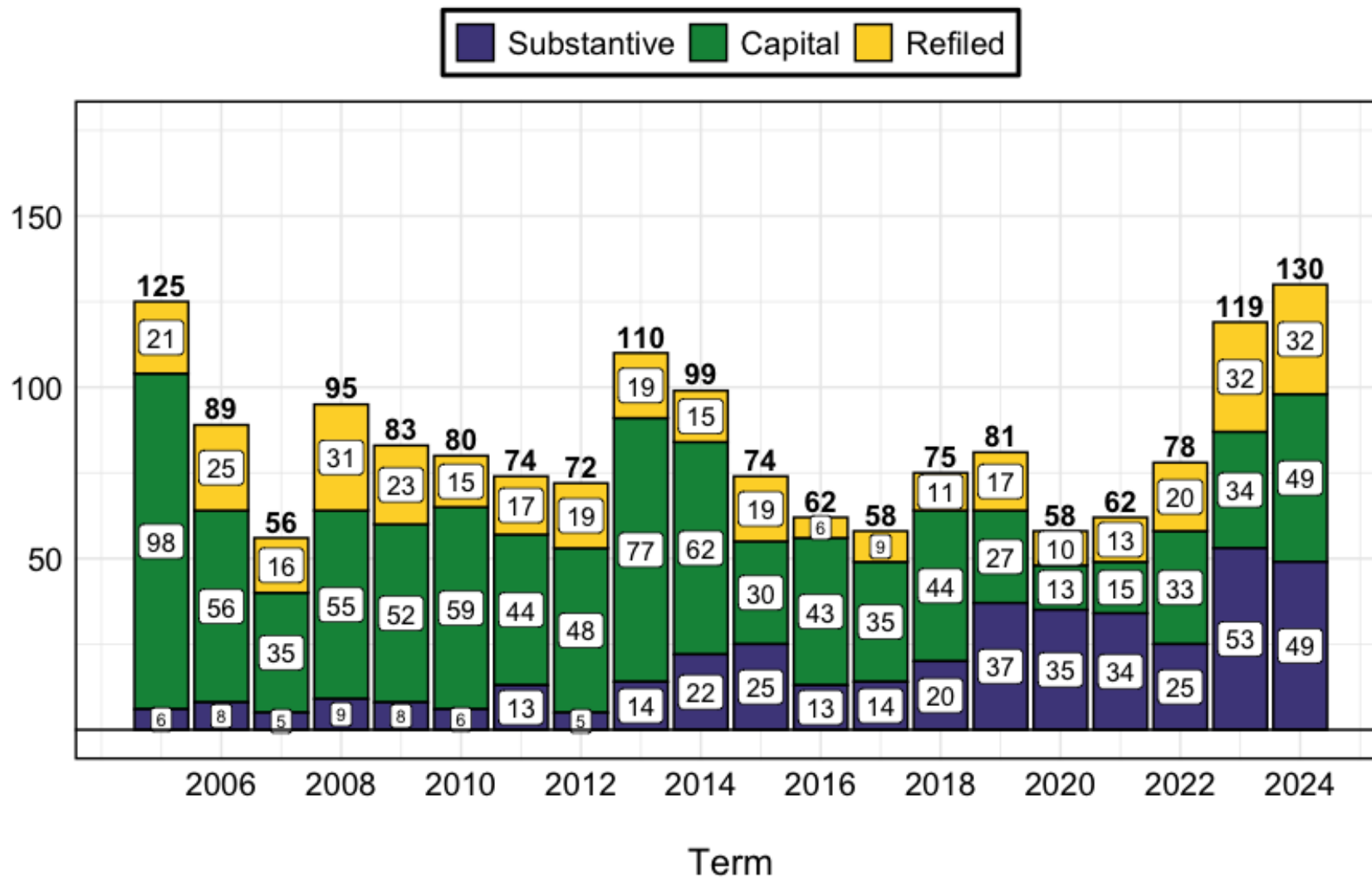
**Jackson Leads in Public Statements.** Justice Jackson led all justices with 22 total public statements (15 dissents, 7 disagreements), followed by Justice Sotomayor with 18. Among conservatives, Justice Thomas led with 15 statements – although 13 of these were disagreements rather than formal dissents. Justice Kavanaugh led in concurrences with 4.

**The "Shadow" Continues to Lift.** Written opinions accompanied 31% of substantive applications, continuing the dramatic increase from near-zero during 2015-17 and 23% in 2023.

**Speed Varies Dramatically.** Average time from filing to decision for substantive cases was 36 days, with a median of 22 days. The fastest decision came in just 1 day ([Trump v. New York](#)), while 33% of applications were resolved within 1-2 weeks.

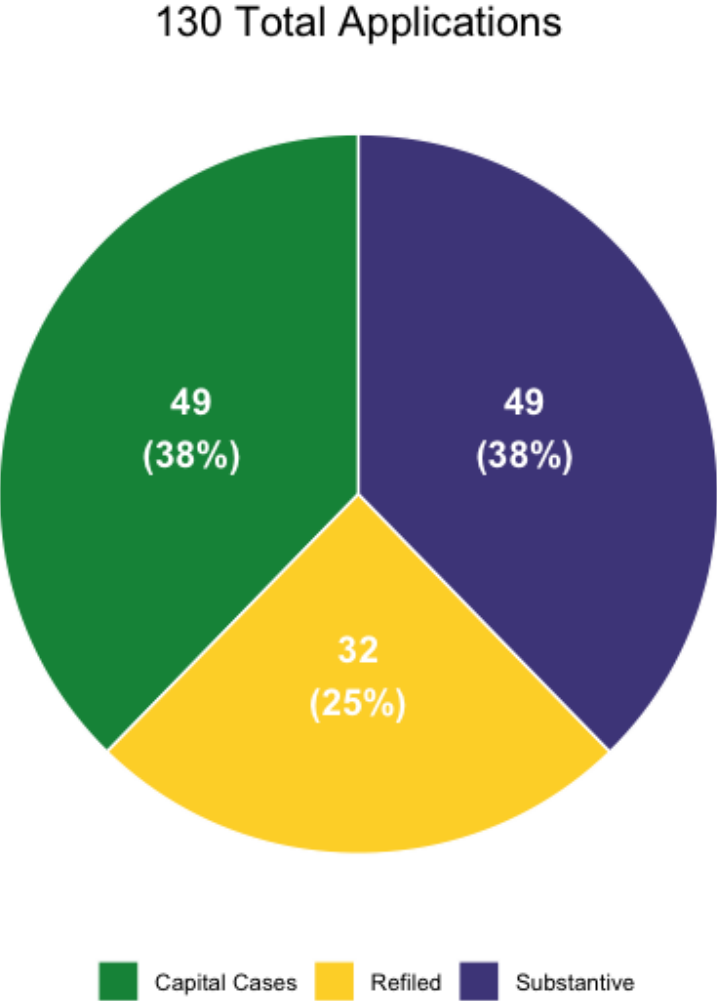
**Trump Administration Dominates the Docket.** The Trump administration filed 27 of the 55 substantive applications (49%), far outpacing private parties (19) and states (9). The court granted relief in 19 of 21 cases with clear outcomes (90%), compared to just 2 denials. Only 2 of the 23 Trump cases were decided unanimously (9%), with justices publicly disagreeing in 91%. These cases were resolved nearly twice as fast as others, averaging 21 days compared to 36 days for all other substantive applications. (No Biden administration analysis was conducted because there were no such cases brought by the Biden administration between the October 2024 term start and January 20, 2025.)

# TOTAL OPINIONS OVER TIME



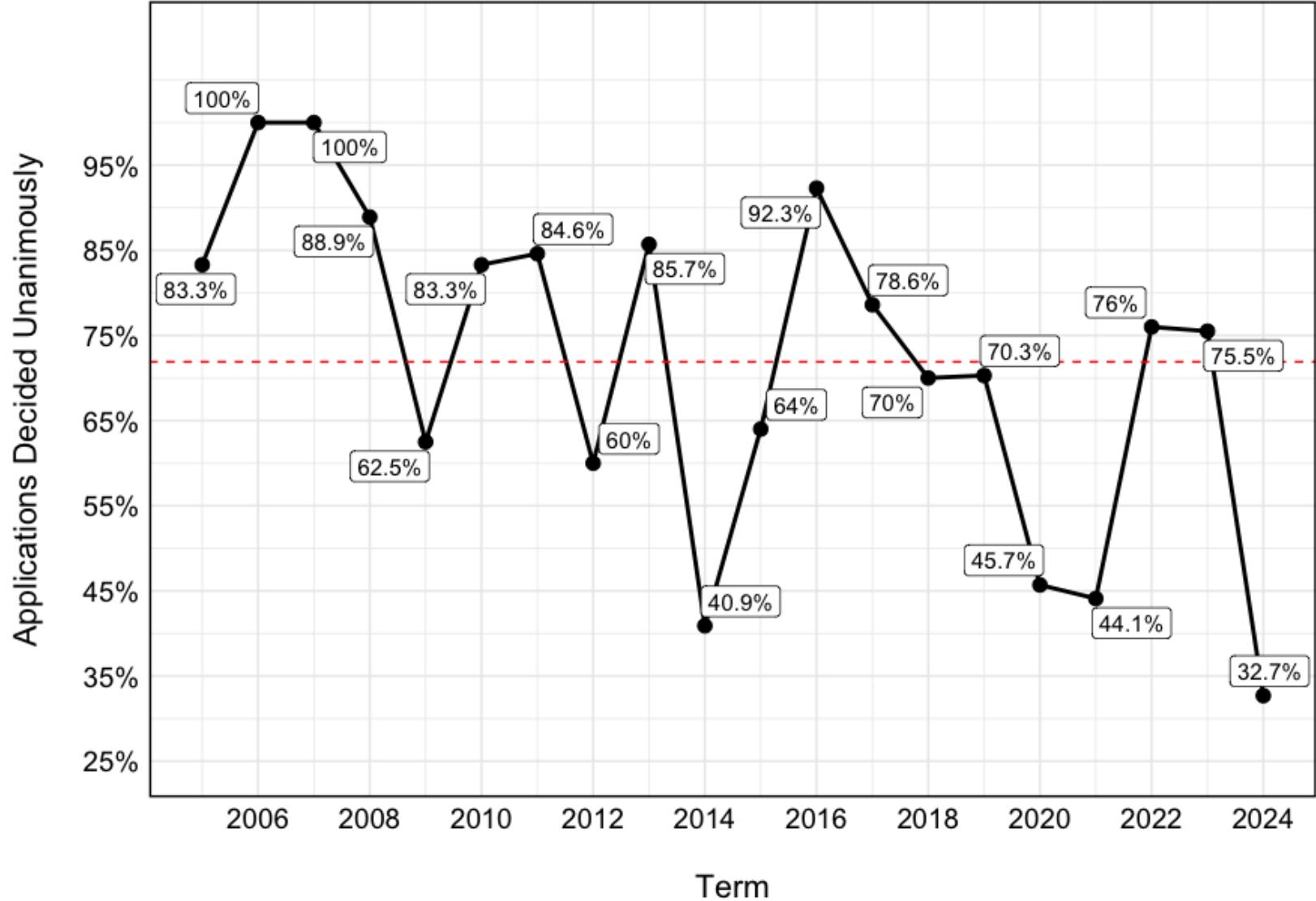
This figure shows the volume and proportion of emergency applications by category (substantive, capital, and refiled) between the 2005 and 2024 terms.

# 2024 Interim Relief Docket: By the Numbers



This figure shows the distribution of 130 emergency applications by category: substantive applications (49), capital cases (49), and refiled applications (32). As noted earlier, six applications deferred pending oral argument are excluded from the statistical analysis but included in the Term Index.

# UNANIMOUS DECISIONS

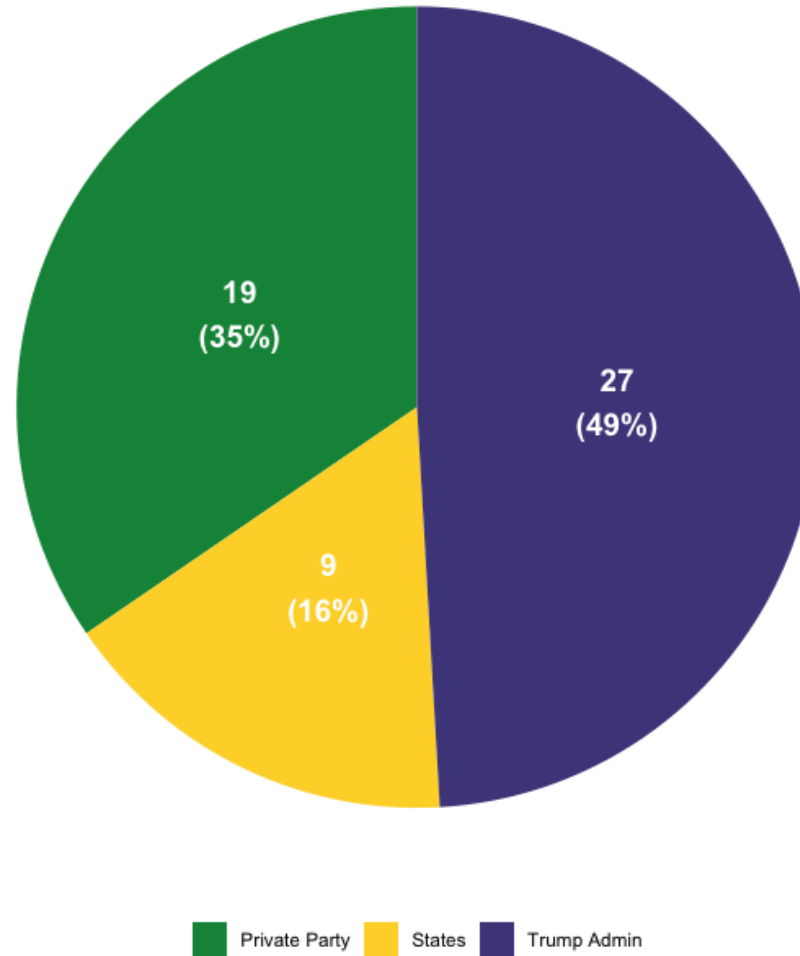


This figure shows the percentage of unanimous decisions (i.e., cases decided without any full dissents or disagreements) between 2005 and 2024. The dashed red line represents the longitudinal average.



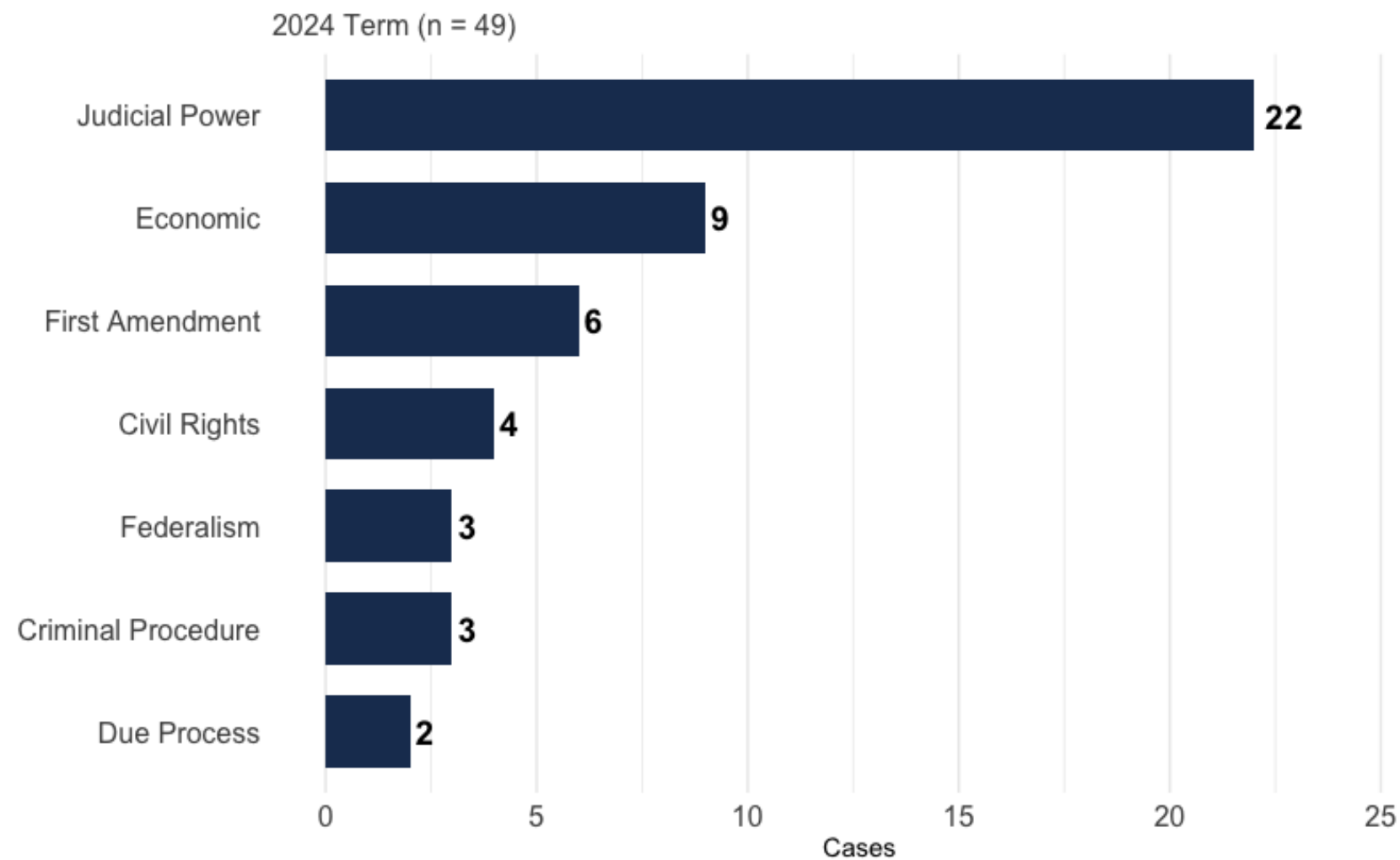
# Who is Bringing Applications?

55 Substantive Applications



This figure shows who filed the 55 substantive applications: the Trump administration (27), private parties (19), or state governments (9).

# Substantive Applications by Issue Area



This figure shows the distribution of 49 substantive applications by issue area, classified using [Supreme Court Database](#) methodology.

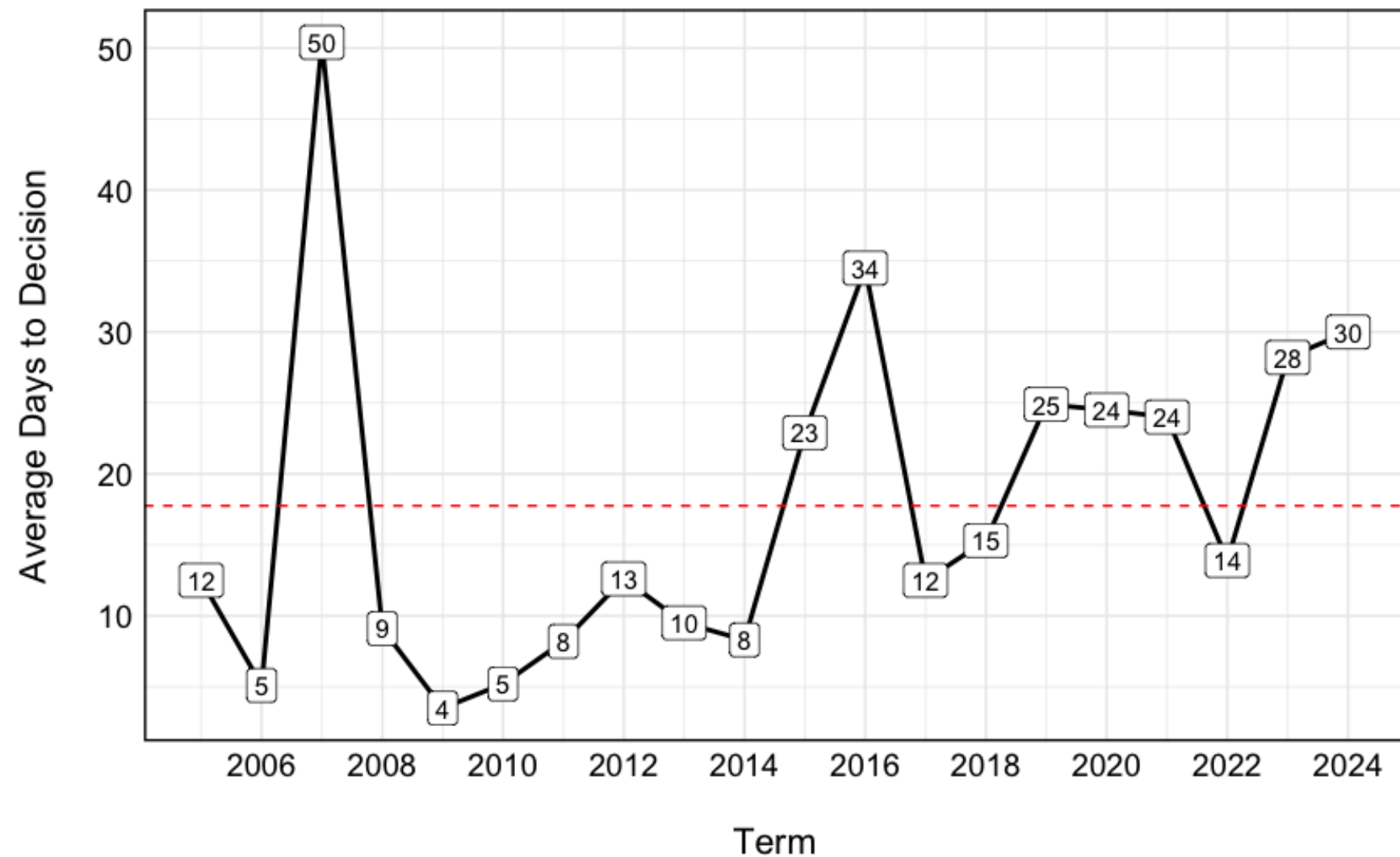
# Justice Activity Scorecard

	Roberts	Thomas	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh	Barrett	Jackson
Dissents	2	15*	8*	17	14	7	4	1	22
Concurrences	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	1	0
Total	2	15	8	18	14	8	8	2	22

*\*Thomas and Alito frequently note 'would have granted/denied' without writing full dissents  
Dissents = Dissents + Disagreements*

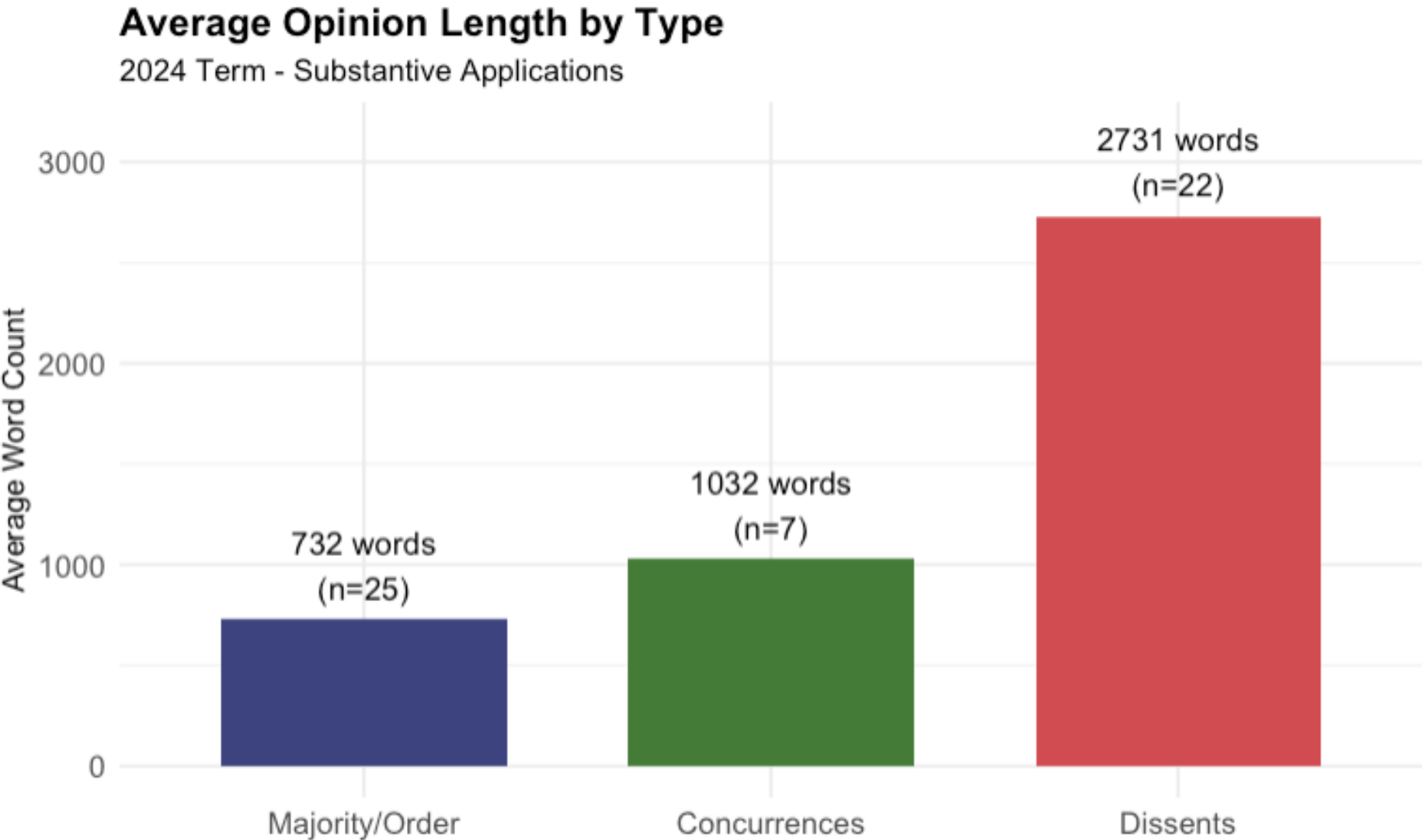
This figure shows the number of public statements (dissents and concurrences) issued by each justice in 49 substantive emergency applications during the 2024 term. Dissents include both formal dissents and disagreement statements.

# Days between applications and orders



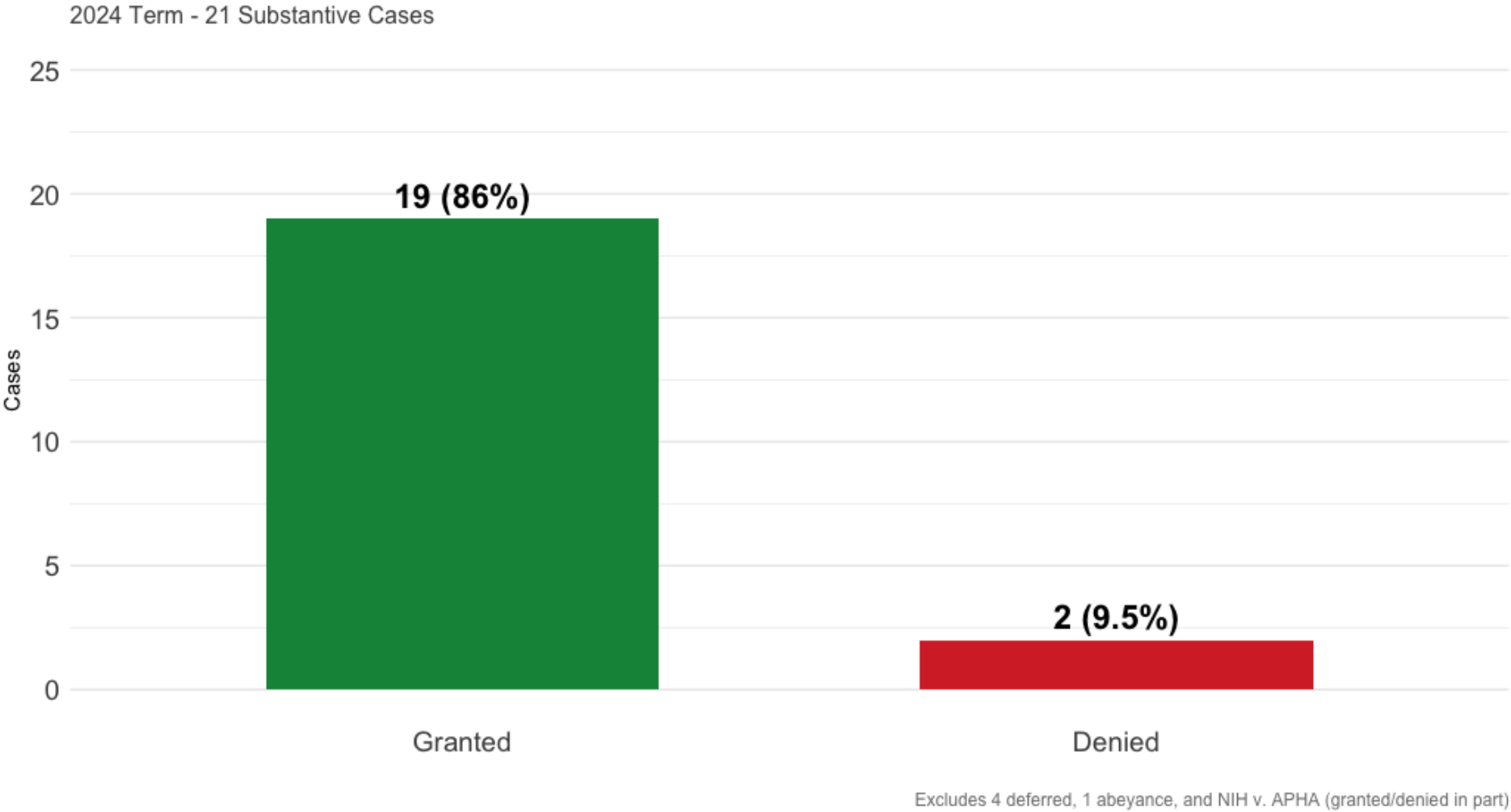
This Figure shows the average number of days from filing to decision for substantive emergency applications by term. The dashed red line represents the longitudinal average.

# OPINION LENGTHS

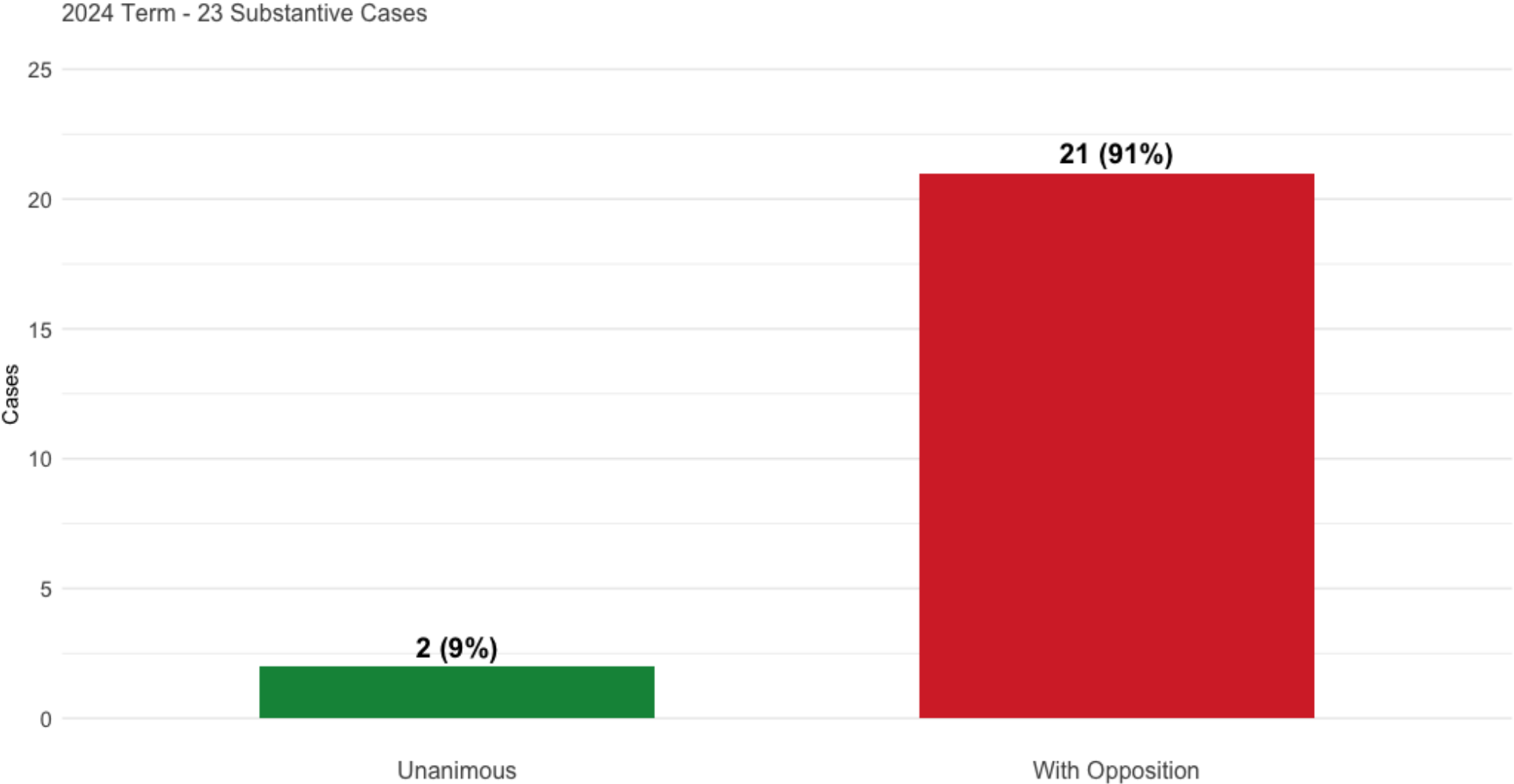


This figure shows the average word count of written opinions in substantive emergency applications during the 2024 term, by opinion type. Majority opinions/orders averaged 732 words (n=25), concurrences averaged 1,032 words (n=7), and dissents averaged 2,731 words (n=22).

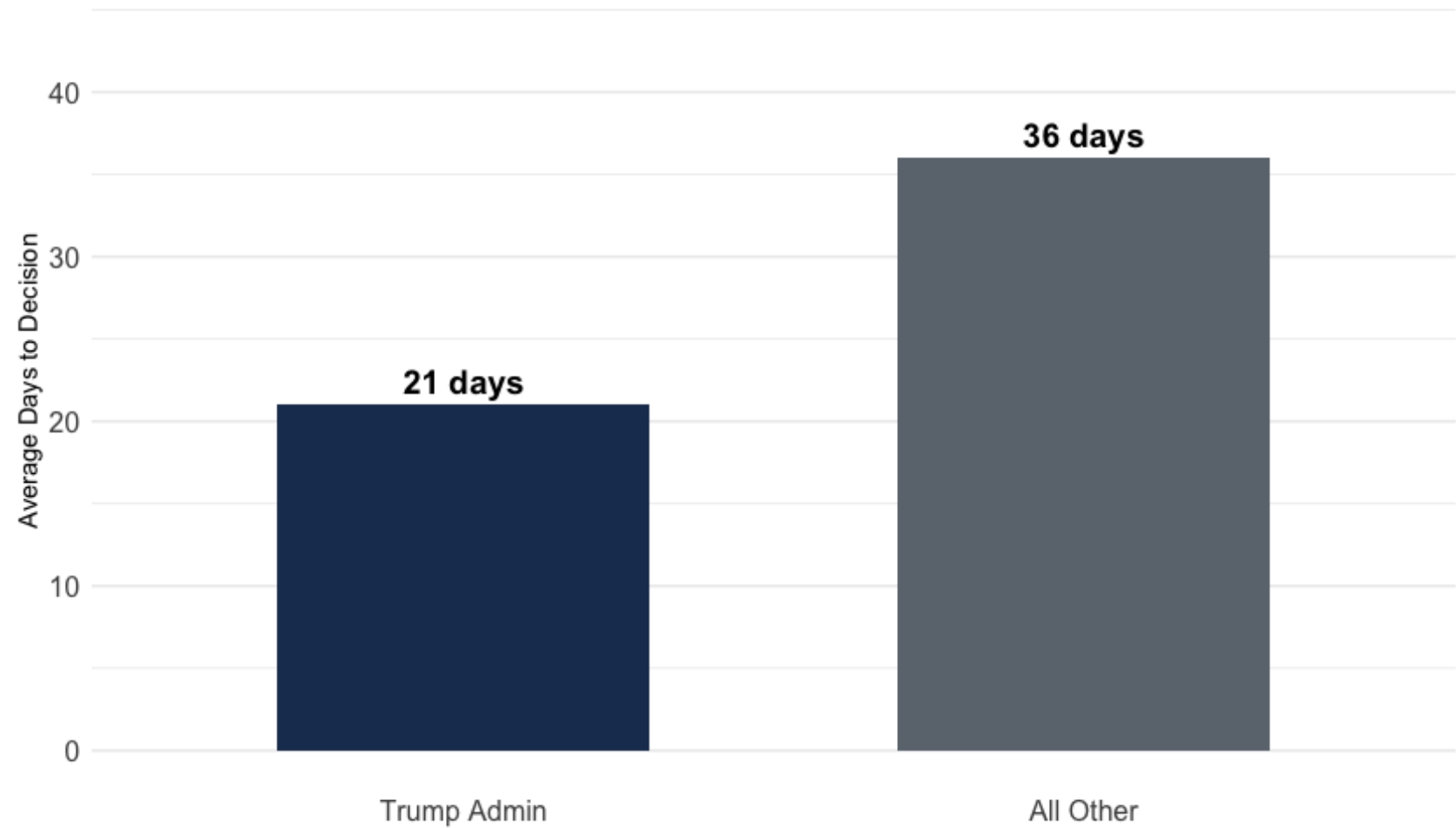
# Trump Administration Emergency Applications



# Trump Administration Emergency Applications: Unanimity

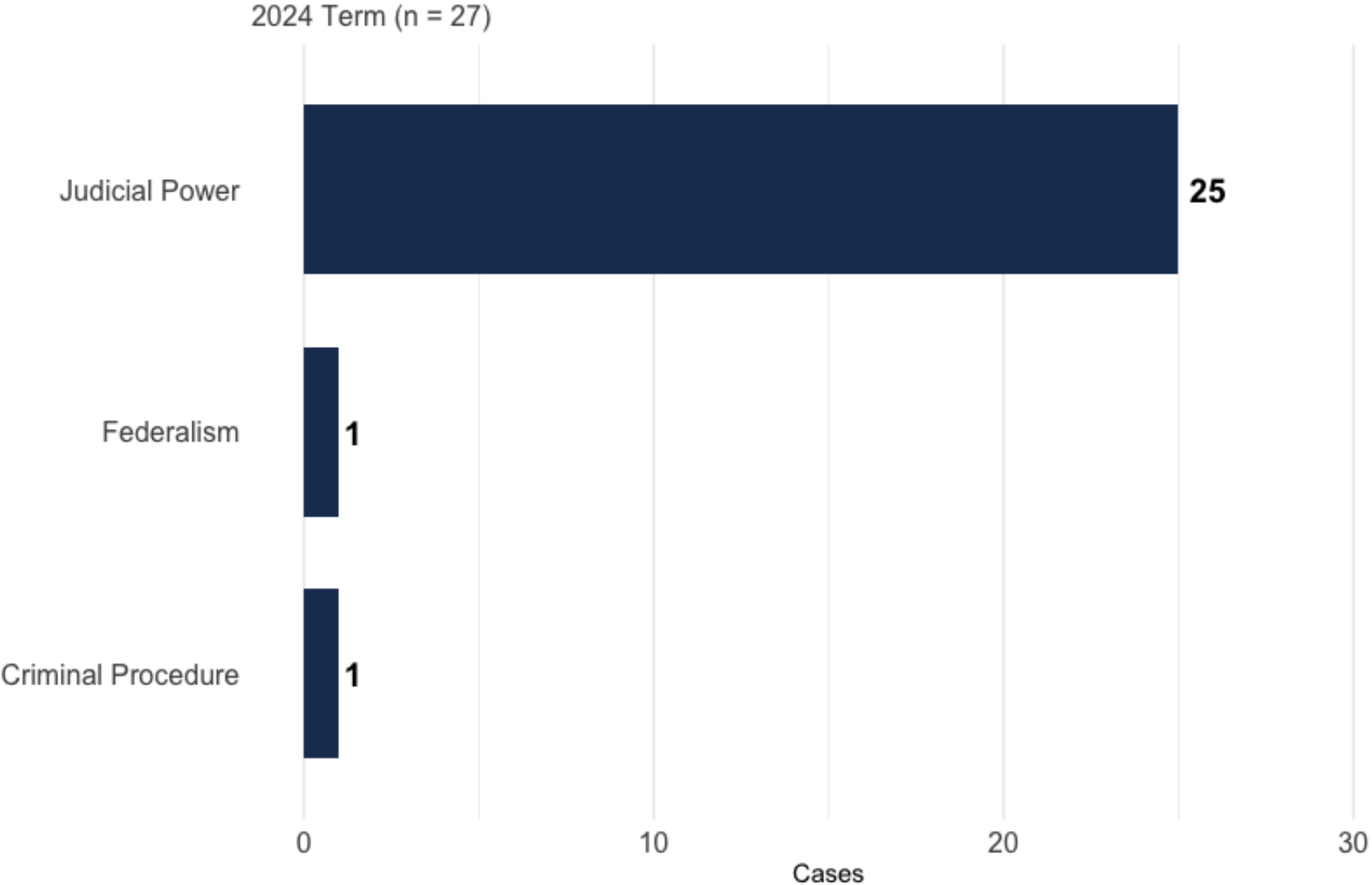


# Trump Administration Emergency Applications: Days to Decision





# Trump Administration Emergency Applications by Issue Area



This figure shows the distribution of Trump administration applications by issue area, classified using [Supreme Court Database](#) Methodology.

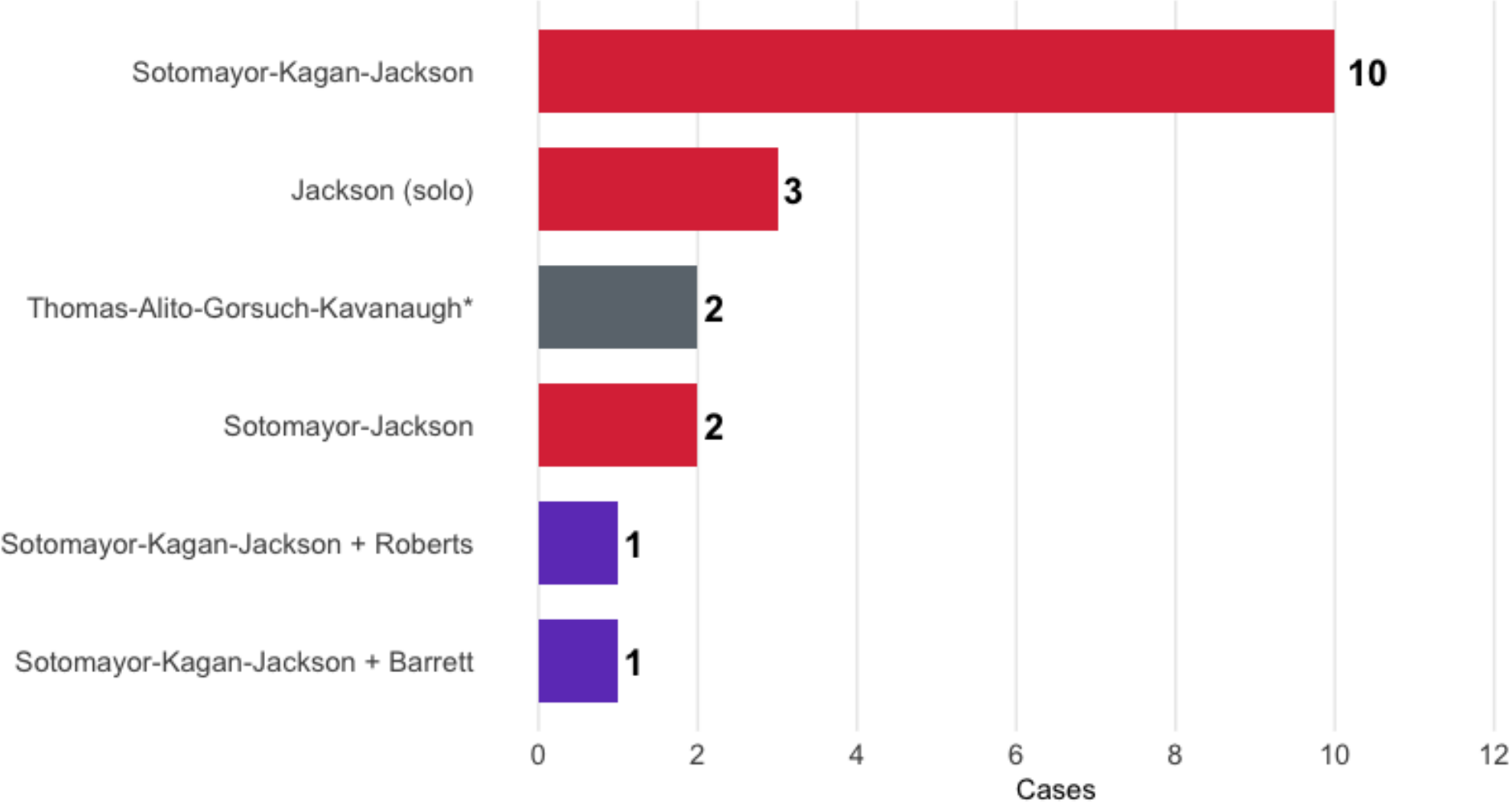
# Justice Activity Scorecard: Trump Administration Cases

Disclosed positions in Trump administration emergency cases (n = 27)

	Roberts	Thomas	Alito	Sotomayor	Kagan	Gorsuch	Kavanaugh	Barrett	Jackson
Dissents	1	2	3	15	12	3	2	1	18
Concurrences	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0
Total	1	2	3	16	12	4	4	1	18

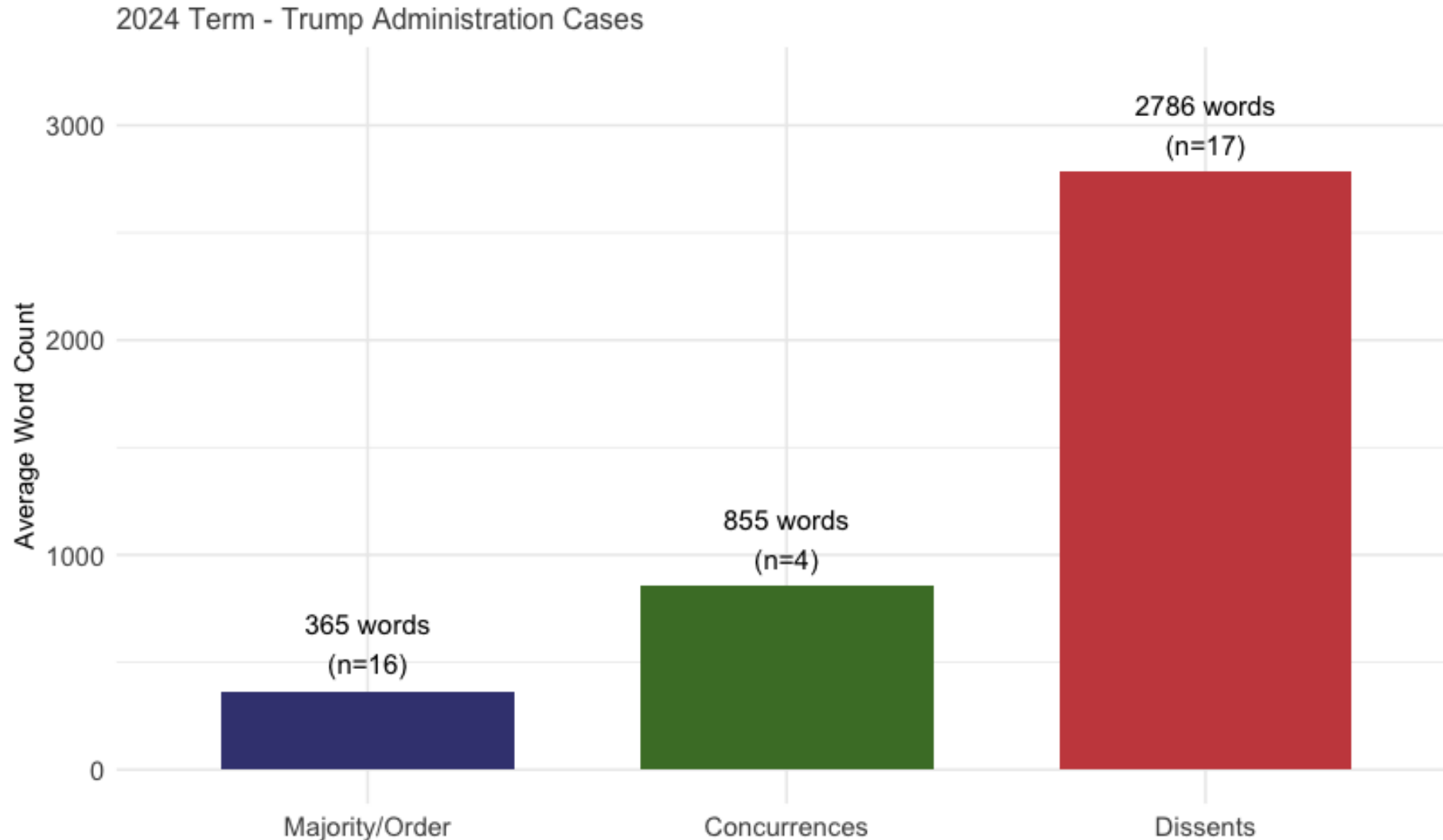
*Dissents = Dissents + Disagreements (e.g., 'would have denied/granted')*

# Dissent Coalition Patterns: Trump Administration Cases



\*Note: The 2 conservative coalition cases were when the Trump administration lost and Thomas, Alito, Gorsuch, and Kavanaugh dissented in support of the administration.

# Trump Administration : Opinion Lengths



# Term Index: Capital Cases

2024 Term • 49 Applications • All Denied • 3 with Noted Dissent

Date	Docket	Case Name	D	Days
10/17/24	24A349	Robert Leslie Roberson		2
10/31/24	24A409	Richard Bernard Moore		3
11/21/24	24A498	Carey Grayson		2
12/2/24	24A391	Christopher Collings		45
12/17/24	24A592	Tahina Corcoran		0
12/19/24	24A590	Kevin Underwood		2
1/30/25	24A723	Marion Bowman		7
2/5/25	24A753	Steven Lawayne Nelson		2
2/12/25	24A771	James D. Ford		4
3/7/25	24A854	Brad Keith Sigmon		2
3/18/25	24A893	Jessie Hoffman	Y	2
3/20/25	24A890	Edward Thomas James		3
3/20/25	24A891	Edward Thomas James		3
3/20/25	24A892	Edward Thomas James		2
4/8/25	24A948	Michael Tanzi		4
4/11/25	24A956	Mikal Mahdi		4
4/23/25	24A1005	Moises Sandoval Mendoz		5
5/1/25	24A1037	Jeffrey Glenn Hutchins		4
5/1/25	24A1043	Jeffrey Glenn Hutchins		3
5/1/25	24A1044	Jeffrey G. Hutchinson		2
5/1/25	24A1054	Jeffrey G. Hutchinson		0
5/1/25	24A1057	Jeffrey Hutchinson		0
5/14/25	24A1087	Glen Edward Rogers		5
5/19/25	24A1077	Benjamin Ritchie		12
5/19/25	24A1109	Benjamin Ritchie	Y	0

Date	Docket	Case Name	D	Days
6/9/25	24A1202	Anthony Floyd Wainwrig		4
6/9/25	24A1204	Anthony Floyd Wainwrig		3
6/10/25	24A1192	Gregory Hunt		7
6/10/25	24A1211	Anthony Wainright		0
6/11/25	24A1219	John Fitzgerald Hanson		0
6/13/25	24A1231	Stephen C. Stanko		1
6/24/25	24A1251	Thomas Lee Gudinas		6
6/25/25	24A1143	Richard Gerald Jordan		35
6/25/25	24A1261	Richard Gerald Jordan		5
6/25/25	24A1279	Richard Jordan		1
7/15/25	25A45	Michael Bell		5
7/15/25	25A57	Michael Bell	Y	1
7/30/25	25A104	Edward J. Zakrzewski		6
8/4/25	25A65	Byron Lewis Black		20
8/4/25	25A118	Byron Lewis Black		7
8/4/25	25A136	Byron Black		3
8/4/25	25A137	Byron Lewis Black		3
8/19/25	25A185	Kayle B. Bates		5
8/19/25	25A174	Kayle Barrington Bates		11
8/19/25	25A191	Kayle Barrington Bates		2
8/24/25	25A216	Curtis Windom		2
9/16/25	25A280	David Joseph Pittman		5
9/25/25	25A335	Blaine Milam		2
9/30/25	25A356	Victor Tony Jones		3

D = Noted Dissent • Days = Days between application and order • All applications denied

# Term Index: Refiled Cases

2024 Term • 32 Applications • All Denied • No Noted Dissents

Date	Docket	Case Name	1st	2nd	Days
10/7/24	24A61	Judy A. Brannberg	Gorsuch	Thomas	84
10/7/24	24A107	Jordan Powell	Roberts	Thomas	73
10/7/24	24A136	Dependency of M. R	Kagan	Alito	66
10/7/24	24A189	Sherry Ann McGann	Gorsuch	Barrett	53
10/15/24	23A1101	Richard Rynn	Kagan	Alito	130
10/15/24	24A222	Oscar Stilley	Kavanaugh	Sotomayor	50
11/4/24	24A244	Richard Rynn	Kagan	Alito	65
11/4/24	24A273	Martin Akerman	Barrett	Roberts	51
11/12/24	24A332	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Kagan	43
12/9/24	24A328	Good Lawgic	Sotomayor	Alito	69
12/9/24	24A430	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Kagan	41
12/16/24	24A369	Steven Walker	Kagan	Thomas	66
12/16/24	24A372	Joseph Nierman	Sotomayor	Thomas	69
1/13/25	24A415	Richard Rynn	Kagan	Alito	84
1/13/25	24A440	John Stockton	Kagan	Thomas	74
1/21/25	24A507	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Kavanaugh	64

Date	Docket	Case Name	1st	2nd	Days
1/27/25	24A516	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Thomas	65
1/27/25	24A531	Zachary Thomas Hor	Kagan	Thomas	70
2/21/25	24A532	Mahfooz Ahmad	Sotomayor	Roberts	95
3/3/25	24A658	Martin Akerman	Kagan	Roberts	70
3/24/25	24A730	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Thomas	87
3/24/25	24A731	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Thomas	79
3/31/25	24A796	Tony Barksdale	Thomas	Jackson	46
4/7/25	24A852	Tahawwur Rana	Kagan	Roberts	38
5/5/25	24A862	Jason Krumback	Kavanaugh	Roberts	77
5/5/25	24A864	Kelsey Schier	Kagan	Gorsuch	60
5/5/25	24A902	Michael Prete	Jackson	Alito	48
5/19/25	24A245	Richard Rynn	Kagan	Alito	261
6/6/25	24A969	Judy A. Brannberg	Gorsuch	Thomas	85
9/5/25	24A1166	Ray Leonerdirt Dia	Jackson	Alito	101
9/5/25	25A26	Martin Akerman	Roberts	Kagan	81
9/5/25	25A111	Judy A. Brannberg	Gorsuch	Thomas	41

1st = First Justice (denied in chambers) • 2nd = Second Justice (referred to Court) • Days = Days to final order • All denied

# Term Index: Substantive Cases

2024 Term • 55 Applications • 26 Granted • 22 Denied • 6 Deferred • 1 Abeyance • 37 with Noted Dissent

Date	Docket	Case Name	Out	D	Days
10/16/24	24A98	Nacco Natural Resources v. EPA	D	Y	84
10/16/24	24A95	West Virginia v. EPA	D	Y	85
10/16/24	24A96	National Rural Electric Coop v. EPA	D	Y	84
10/16/24	24A97	National Mining Association v. EPA	D	Y	84
10/16/24	24A105	Midwest Ozone Group v. EPA	D	Y	82
10/16/24	24A106	Electric Generabrs v. EPA	D	Y	82
10/16/24	24A116	Edison Electric Institute v. EPA	D	Y	79
10/16/24	24A117	Ohio V. IPA	D	Y	79
10/28/24	24A287	Horseracing Integrity v. National Horsemen's Association	G	Y	39
10/29/24	24A399	Robert F. Kennedy v. Wi. Election Commission	D		8
10/29/24	24A405	Robert Kennedy v. Jocelyn Benson	D	Y	4
10/30/24	24A407	Susan Beals v. Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights	G	Y	2
11/1/24	24A408	Republican National Committee v. Faith Genser	D		4
11/22/24	24A419	Cynthia Davis v. David M. Smith	D		29
12/11/24	24A463	East Kentucky Power v. EPA	D		26
12/17/24	24A553	Annette Chambers-Smith v. Kayla Jean Ayers	D		15
12/18/24	24A587	TikTok Inc. v. Merrick Garland	Def		2
12/18/24	24A588	Brian Firebaugh v. Merrick Garland	Def		2
1/9/25	24A666	Donald J. Trump v. New York	D	Y	1
1/23/25	24A653	James R. McHenry v. Texas Top Cop Shop	G	Y	23
2/21/25	24A790	Scott Bessent v. Hampton Dellinger	Ab	Y	5
3/5/25	24A831	Department of State v. AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition	D	Y	7
4/4/25	24A910	Department of Education v. California	G	Y	9
4/7/25	24A931	Donald J. Trump v. J.G.G.	G	Y	10
4/8/25	24A904	Office of Personnel Management v. AFGE	G	Y	15
4/10/25	24A949	Kristi Noem v. Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia	G		3
4/17/25	24A884	Donald J. Trump v. Casa	Def		35
4/17/25	24A885	Donald J. Trump v. Washington	Def		35

Date	Docket	Case Name	Out	D	Days
4/17/25	24A886	Donald J. Trump v. New Jersey	Def		35
4/22/25	24A970	David Yost v. Cynthia Brown	D	Y	12
5/6/25	24A1030	United States v. Commander Emily Shilling	G	Y	12
5/16/25	24A1007	A.A.R.P. v. Donald Trump	G	Y	28
5/19/25	24A1059	Kristi Noem v. National TPS Alliance	G	Y	18
5/20/25	24A1051	Laurel D. Libby v. Ryan M. Fecteau	G	Y	22
5/22/25	24A966	Donald J. Trump v. Wilcox	G	Y	43
5/23/25	24A1099	Richard Graham v. Jeremiah Sweeney	D		9
5/30/25	24A1079	Kristi Noem v. Doe	G	Y	22
6/4/25	24A1107	Ikome v. Bondi	Mod		21
6/6/25	24A1122	U.S. Doge Service v. CREW	G	Y	16
6/6/25	24A1063	Social Security Administration v. AFSCME	G	Y	35
6/23/25	24A1153	Department of Homeland Security v. D.V.D.	G	Y	29
6/24/25	24A982	John Doe v. Seattle Police Department	D		75
7/8/25	24A1174	Donald J. Trump v. AFGE	G	Y	36
7/9/25	24A1269	James Uthmeier v. Florida Immigrant Coalition	D		22
7/14/25	24A1203	Linda McMahon v. New York	G	Y	38
7/23/25	25A11	Donald J. Trump v. Boyle	G		21
7/24/25	25A62	Turtle Mountain Band v. Howe	G	Y	9
8/14/25	25A97	NetChoice v. Fitch	D		24
8/21/25	25A103	NIH v. APHA	G	Y	28
9/8/25	25A169	Kristi Noem v. Perdomo	G	Y	32
9/10/25	25A234	South Carolina v. Doe	D	Y	15
9/19/25	25A287	New Jersey Transit v. Colt	G		8
9/22/25	25A264	Donald J. Trump v. Slaughter	G	Y	18
9/26/25	25A269	Department of State v. AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition	G	Y	18
10/1/25	25A312	Donald J. Trump v. Cook	Def		13
10/3/25	25A326	Kristi Noem v. National TPS Alliance	G	Y	14

Out: G = Granted, D = Denied, Def = Deferred, Ab = Abeyance • D = Noted Dissent • Days = Days to decision