

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
Scalia	22.0
Sotomayor	19.0
Breyer	17.5
Roberts	13.8
Kagan	12.7
Ginsburg	11.1
Kennedy	10.1
Alito	9.4
Thomas	0.0

**Frequency as the Top Questioner
or as a Top 3 Questioner**

	Freq. Top 1	Freq. Top 3
Scalia	43%	62%
Sotomayor	26%	51%
Breyer	23%	42%
Ginsburg	4%	18%
Kagan	4%	13%
Roberts	3%	10%
Kennedy	3%	6%
Alito	1%	12%
Thomas	0%	0%

Most Active Arguments

	Argument	Number of Questions (% of all Questions)
Roberts	Michigan v. EPA	36 (18%)
Scalia	Michigan v. EPA	51 (25%)
Kennedy	Los Angeles v. Patel	32 (16%)
Thomas	N/A	N/A
Ginsburg	Gelboim v. BoA	34 (17%)
Breyer	Bullard v. Blue Hills	41 (20%)
Alito	Obergefell v. Hodges	42 (21%)
Sotomayor	Obergefell v. Hodges	58 (29%)
Kagan	Obergefell v. Hodges	41 (20%)

Frequency as the First Questioner

	Frequency	
Ginsburg	20 /68	29%
Sotomayor	14 /68	21%
Scalia	12 /68	18%
Kennedy	11 /68	16%
Roberts	5 /68	7%
Kagan	4 /68	6%
Alito	2 /68	3%
Thomas	0 /68	0%
Breyer	0 /66	0%