

Table 8-1 Presidential Victories on Votes in Congress, 1953-2016

President and year	House and Senate (%)	House (%)	No. of Votes	Senate (%)	No. of Votes
Eisenhower					
1953	89.2	91.2	34	87.8	49
1954	78.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1955	75.3	63.4	41	84.6	52
1956	69.7	73.5	34	67.7	65
1957	68.4	58.3	60	78.9	57
1958	75.7	74.0	50	76.5	98
1959	52.0	55.5	54	50.4	121
1960	65.1	65.0	43	65.1	86
Average	71.7				
Kennedy					
1961	81.4	83.1	65	80.6	124
1962	85.4	85.0	60	85.6	125
1963	87.1	83.1	71	89.6	115
Average	84.6				
Johnson					
1964	87.9	88.5	52	87.6	97
1965	93.1	93.8	112	92.6	162
1966	78.9	91.3	103	68.8	125
1967	78.8	75.6	127	81.2	165
1968	74.5	83.5	103	68.9	164
Average	82.6				
Nixon					
1969	73.9	72.3	47	76.4	72
1970	76.9	84.6	65	71.4	91
1971	74.8	82.5	57	69.5	82
1972	66.3	81.1	37	54.3	46
1973	50.6	48.0	125	52.4	185
1974	59.6	67.9	53	54.2	83
Average	67.0				
Ford					
1974	58.2	59.3	54	57.4	68
1975	61.0	50.6	89	71.0	93
1976	53.8	43.1	51	64.2	53
Average	57.7				
Carter					
1977	75.4	74.7	79	76.1	88
1978	78.3	69.6	112	84.8	151
1979	76.8	71.7	145	81.4	161
1980	75.1	76.9	117	73.3	116
Average	76.4				
Reagan					
1981	82.4	72.4	76	88.3	128
1982	72.4	55.8	77	83.2	119
1983	67.1	47.6	82	85.9	85
1984	65.8	52.2	113	85.7	77
1985	59.9	45.0	80	71.6	102
1986	56.1	33.3	90	80.7	83
1987	43.5	33.3	99	56.4	78
1988	47.4	32.7	104	64.8	88
Average	61.8				
Bush					
1989	62.6	50.0	86	73.3	101
1990	46.8	32.4	108	63.4	93
1991	54.2	43.0	111	69.0	81
1992	43.0	37.0	105	53.0	60
Average	51.7				
Clinton					
1993	86.4	87.2	102	85.4	89
1994	86.4	87.2	78	85.5	62
1995	36.2	26.3	133	49.0	102
1996	55.1	53.2	79	57.6	59
1997	53.6	38.7	75	71.4	63
1998	50.6	36.6	82	67.0	72
1999	37.8	35.4	82	42.2	45
2000	55.0	49.3	69	65.0	40
Average	57.6				
Bush					
2001	86.7	83.7	43	88.3	77
2002	87.8	82.5	40	91.4	58
2003	78.7	87.3	55	74.8	119
2004	72.6	70.6	34	74.0	50
2005	78.0	78.3	46	77.8	45
2006	80.9	85.0	40	78.6	70
2007	38.3	15.4	117	66.0	97
2008	47.8	33.8	80	68.5	54
Average	71.4				
Obama					
2009	96.7	94.4	72	98.7	79
2010	85.8	88.1	42	84.4	64
2011	57.1	31.6	95	84.3	89
2012	53.6	19.7	61	79.7	79
2013	56.7	20.9	86	85.2	108
2014	68.7	15.2	66	93.1	145
2015	45.7	14.6	89	82.7	75
2016	39.3	13.0	54	86.7	30
Average	63.0				

n.a. = not available

Note: Percentages indicate the number of congressional votes supporting the president divided by the total number of votes on which the president had taken a clear position. The percentages are normalized to eliminate the effects of absences as follows: support = (support)/(support + opposition).

Some data from earlier years/previous versions of Vital Statistics have been updated. See errata for more detail.

Source: Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, various issues.

Most Recent Update Source: Presidential Support Tables, CQ Almanac, various years