

Table 2-13 Senate Elections Won with 60 Percent of Major Party Vote,  
1944 - 2020

Election Period	Number of incumbents running in general election	<b><u>Percentage of incumbents reelected with at least 60 percent of the major party vote<sup>a</sup></u></b>		
		South	North	Total U.S.
1944 - 1948	61	100.0	22.9	39.3
1950 - 1954	76	100.0	18.3	35.5
1956 - 1960	84	95.5	24.2	42.9
1962 - 1966	86	70.0	36.4	44.2
1968 - 1972	74	71.4	38.3	44.6
1974 - 1978	70	57.1	37.5	41.4
1980 - 1984 <sup>b</sup>	84	63.3	51.9	54.1
1986 - 1990	87	68.2	53.9	57.5
1992 - 1996	72	50.0	32.1	36.6
1998 - 2002	85	51.5	62.3	57.6
2004 - 2008	83	61.5	69	68.5
2010 - 2014	72	40.9	56	51.4
2016 - 2020	88	27.8	49.3	44.3

a. For the purposes of this table, Senators appointed to the Senate are not considered incumbents in the elections just after appointment. Southern senators are from AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, and VA; all other senators are counted under northern.

b. Includes two Democratic incumbents from Louisiana, who by winning more than 50 percent of the vote in that state's all-party primary, avoided a general election contest. In 1980, Russell Long won 59.8 percent of the vote, and in 1984, J. Bennett Johnston won 86 percent of the vote.

Source: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774–1989 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1989); Congressional Quarterly Almanac (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, various years); National Journal, various issues; The Almanac of American Politics (Washington, D.C.: National Journal Group, various years); Federal Election Commission (<http://www.fec.gov>, various years).

Most recent update source: Tabulations of data from MIT Election Data + Science Lab, <https://electionlab.mit.edu/>