Table 2-13 1944 - 2022

Percentage of incumbents reelected with at least 60 percent of the major party vote^a

Number of incumbents running in Election general Period election Total U.S. South North 1944 - 1948 61 100.0 22.9 39.3 1950 - 1954 18.3 35.5 76 100.0 1956 - 1960 84 95.5 24.2 42.9 1962 - 1966 70.0 36.4 44.2 86 1968 - 1972 74 38.3 44.6 71.4 1974 - 1978 70 57.1 37.5 41.4 1980 - 1984^b 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 69 68.5 61.5 2010 - 2014 72 40.9 56 51.4 2016 - 2020 88 49.3 44.3 27.8 50.0 2022 28 60.0 47.8

- 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/