

The U.S. Supreme Court

← more liberal

more conservative →



Stephen Breyer	Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Sonia Sotomayor	Elena Kagan	Anthony Kennedy	Samuel Alito	John Roberts*	Antonin Scalia	Clarence Thomas
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Birthplace	San Francisco	Brooklyn	Bronx	New York	Sacramento	Trenton	Buffalo	Trenton	Pin Point, GA
J.D. institution	Harvard	Columbia	Yale	Harvard	Harvard	Yale	Harvard	Harvard	Yale
Martin-Quinn Score	0.024	0.328	0.495	0.574	2.071	2.563	3.118	4.134	5.689
% Conserv. Votes	37.2%	31.2%	n.l.	n.l.	64.7%	74.0%	75.3%	75.7%	82.2%
Years on the Court	17	18	2	1	24	6	6	25	20
Appointed By	W. Clinton	W. Clinton	B. Obama	B. Obama	R. Reagan	G.W. Bush	G. W. Bush	R. Reagan	G.H.W. Bush
Senate Conf. Vote	87-9	96-3	68-31	63-37	97-0	58-42	78-22	98-0	52-48
Current Age	73	79	58	52	75	62	57	76	64
Beliefs	Jewish	Jewish	Roman Catholic	Jewish	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic	Roman Catholic

*John Roberts is the Chief Justice. Pictures and most biographical information are from <http://www.supremecourt.gov/about/biographies.aspx>. The Martin-Quinn score is a measure of a person's ideology, with more negative scores being more liberal and more positive scores being more conservative (Andrew D. Martin and Kevin M. Quinn. 2002. "Dynamic Ideal Point Estimation via Markov Chain Monte Carlo for the U.S. Supreme Court, 1953-1999." Political Analysis. 10:134-153). The current scores are from the 2010 term, as listed at <http://mqscores.wustl.edu/measures.php>. The percent conservative (% Conserv.) votes is the percentage of each justice's conservative votes in non-unanimous cases through 2006, as calculated by William M. Landes and Richard A. Posner. 2009. "Rational Judicial Behavior: A Statistical Study." The Journal of Legal Analysis. 1:775-831. Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor had not yet been appointed when this study was released. "Senate Conf. Vote" is the Senate confirmation vote on their appointment.