

TABLE 4-3    **Reelection Rates in the House and Senate, by Decade, 1950s–2000s, plus 2012**

Decade	House					Senate				
	Sought reelection	Faced no opponent	Lost primary	General election	Percent reelected	Sought reelection	Faced no opponent	Lost primary	General election	Percent reelected
1950s	402	85	6	25	93.2%	30	4	1	6	77.3%
1960s	404	52	8	26	91.5	32	1	2	4	80.8
1970s	389	57	2	23	92.3	27	1	2	6	67.7
1980s	403	67	13	15	95.7	29	1	0	3	88.0
1990s	385	36	8	18	93.6	26	0	0	3	87.4
2000s	395	40	3	24	93.2	28	1	1	4	87.9
2012	393	10	13	26	90.0	23	0	1	1	91.0

*Sources:* *CQ Weekly Report*, April 5, 1980, 908; November 8, 1980, 3302, 3320–3321; July 31, 1982, 1870; November 6, 1982, 2781; November 10, 1984, 2897, 2901; November 12, 1988, 3264, 3270; November 10, 1990, 3796–3805; November 7, 1992, 3557–3564, 3570–3576; November 12, 1994, 329ff; February 15, 1997, 447–455; November 7, 1998, 3027–3035; November 11, 2000, 2694–2706; December 14, 2002, 3289–3297; November 6, 2004, 2653–2660; November 13, 2006, 3068–3075; November 10, 2008, 3043–3052; November 8, 2010, 2618–1627; November 12, 2012, 2284–2293.

*Note:* Statistics for each decade are election-year averages for the five elections conducted under that decade’s apportionment of House districts. For example, the 1950s include the five elections 1952 through 1960. “Percent reelected” takes into account both primary and general election defeats. “Faced no opponent” means no major-party opponent. Figures for 2000–2008 are derived from the 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008 elections.