The Centrists

These are the members **at the ideological center** of the Senate and the House, according to *National Journal*'s 2006 vote ratings. They have composite liberal scores between 35 and 65. The members with scores closest to 50 are at the exact center.

Most conservative Democrat

RICHARD A. BLOOM

Most liberal Republican

REUTERS/BRIAN SNYDER

At the center of the Senate

LIZ LYNCH

SENATE

	COMPOSITE SCORE Liberal	Conservative
Thad Cochran, R-Miss.	35.7	64.3
Richard Shelby, R-Ala.	35.7	64.3
Robert Bennett, R-Utah	36.0	64.0
Ted Stevens, R-Alaska	36.0	64.0
Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska	38.8	61.2
George Voinovich, R-Ohio	41.0	59.0
John McCain, R-Ariz.	43.3	56.7
John Warner, R-Va.	44.7	55.3
Ben Nelson, D-Neb.	45.3	54.7
Richard Lugar, R-Ind.	45.7	54.3
Gordon Smith, R-Ore.	46.0	54.0
Norm Coleman, R-Minn.	46.2	53.8
CENTER Mike DeWine, R-Ohio*	51.0	49.0
Arlen Specter, R-Pa.	52.5	47.5
Susan Collins, R-Maine	52.8	47.2
Olympia Snowe, R-Maine	55.5	44.5
Mary Landrieu, D-La.	57.5	42.5
Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I.*	59.0	41.0
Mark Pryor, D-Ark.	59.5	40.5
Bill Nelson, D-Fla.	60.3	39.7
Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark.	62.3	37.7
Kent Conrad, D-N.D.	65.3	34.7
	Liberal	Conservative COMPOSITE SCORE

HOUSE

	COMPOSITE SCORE Liberal	Conservative
Connie Mack, R-Fla.	35.2	64.8
Thaddeus McCotter, R-Mich.	36.7	63.3
Vito Fossella, R-N.Y.	36.8	63.2
Kenny Hulshof, R-Mo.	36.8	63.2
Bob Ney, R-Ohio*	37.5	62.5
Jo Ann Emerson, R-Mo.	37.7	62.3
Rick Renzi, R-Ariz.	38.3	61.7
Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-N.J.	38.5	61.5
John McHugh, R-N.Y.	39.2	60.8
Mary Bono, R-Calif.	39.5	60.5
Jon Porter, R-Nev.	39.5	60.5
Frank Wolf, R-Va.	39.5	60.5
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla.	40.0	60.0
Mark Green, R-Wis.*	40.3	59.7
Tom Davis, R-Va.	40.5	59.5
Ray LaHood, R-Ill.	40.8	59.2
Phil English, R-Pa.	41.5	58.5
John Duncan, R-Tenn.	41.8	58.2
Butch Otter, R-Idaho*	41.8	58.2
Bob Inglis, R-S.C.	42.0	58.0
Joe Schwarz, R-Mich.*	42.0	58.0
Scott Garrett, R-N.J.	42.8	57.2
Tom Petri, R-Wis.	43.0	57.0
Jim Sensenbrenner, R-Wis.	43.7	56.3
James Walsh, R-N.Y.	43.7	56.3
Judy Biggert, R-Ill.	44.2	55.8
John Sweeney, R-N.Y.*	44.2	55.8
Jeb Bradley, R-N.H.*	44.5	55.5
Mark Foley, R-Fla.*	45.3	54.7
Todd Platts, R-Pa.	45.3	54.7
Curt Weldon, R-Pa.*	45.3	54.7
Sue Kelly, R-N.Y.*	45.5	54.5
Jerry Moran, R-Kan.	45.7	54.3
Tim Johnson, R-Ill.	45.8	54.2
Charlie Dent, R-Pa.	46.7	53.3
Fred Upton, R-Mich.	46.7	53.3
Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y.*	46.8	53.2
Michael Ferguson, R-N.J.	47.2	52.8
Steven LaTourette, R-Ohio	47.2	52.8
Frank LoBiondo, R-N.J.	47.3	52.7
Dave Reichert, R-Wash.	47.3	52.7
Roscoe Bartlett, R-Md.	47.5	52.5
Charles Bass, R-N.H.*	48.2	51.8
Heather Wilson, R-N.M.	48.3	51.7
Mark Kirk, R-Ill.	48.7	51.3
Jeff Flake, R-Ariz.	48.8	51.2
Jim Gerlach, R-Pa.	48.8	51.2
Michael Castle, R-Del.	49.0	51.0
Dan Boren, D-Okla.	49.2	50.8
Nancy Johnson, R-Conn.*	49.5	50.5
Vernon Ehlers, R-Mich.	50.0	50.0
Jim Marshall, D-Ga.	50.0	50.0
Gene Taylor, D-Miss.	50.0	50.0
Chris Smith, R-N.J.	50.8	49.2
Henry Cuellar, D-Texas	51.0	49.0
Collin Peterson, D-Minn.	51.0	49.0
Bud Cramer, D-Ala.	51.7	48.3
Mike Fitzpatrick, R-Pa.*	51.7	48.3
John Barrow, D-Ga.	51.8	48.2
Charlie Melancon, D-La.	52.2	47.8
Jim Ramstad, R-Minn.	52.3	47.7
Lincoln Davis, D-Tenn.	52.8	47.2
Wayne Gilchrest, R-Md.	53.0	47.0
Rob Simmons, R-Conn.*	53.2	46.8
Jim Matheson, D-Utah	53.3	46.7
Walter Jones, R-N.C.	53.5	46.5
Chet Edwards, D-Texas	54.3	45.7
Sanford Bishop, D-Ga.	54.8	45.2
Christopher Shays, R-Conn.	55.7	44.3
Allen Boyd, D-Fla.	56.3	43.7
Ike Skelton, D-Mo.	56.3	43.7
John Tanner, D-Tenn.	56.7	43.3
Mike McIntyre, D-N.C.	57.2	42.8
Melissa Bean, D-Ill.	57.8	42.2
Mike Ross, D-Ark.	57.8	42.2
John Salazar, D-Colo.	59.0	41.0
Jim Costa, D-Calif.	59.2	40.8
Stephanie Herseth, D-S.D.	59.2	40.8
Ben Chandler, D-Ky.	59.3	40.7
Bart Gordon, D-Tenn.	59.3	40.7
Solomon Ortiz, D-Texas	59.3	40.7
Tim Holden, D-Pa.	59.5	40.5
Dennis Cardoza, D-Calif.	59.7	40.3
Ed Case, D-Hawaii*	59.8	40.2
Leonard Boswell, D-Iowa	60.0	40.0
Artur Davis, D-Ala.	60.0	40.0
John Murtha, D-Pa.	60.0	40.0
Alan Mollohan, D-W.Va.	60.2	39.8
Marion Berry, D-Ark.	60.3	39.7
Bob Etheridge, D-N.C.	61.0	39.0
Ron Paul, R-Texas	61.0	39.0
Jim Leach, R-Iowa*	61.5	38.5
John Spratt, D-S.C.	61.7	38.3
Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas	62.2	37.8
Nick Rahall, D-W.Va.	62.8	37.2
Rick Boucher, D-Va.	63.0	37.0
Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D.	63.0	37.0
Gene Green, D-Texas	63.2	36.8
David Scott, D-Ga.	63.2	36.8
Paul Kanjorski, D-Pa.	63.5	36.5
Jim Cooper, D-Tenn.	63.7	36.3
Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Md.	63.8	36.2
Daniel Lipinski, D-Ill.	64.0	36.0
Dennis Moore, D-Kan.	64.8	35.2
Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas	65.0	35.0
	Liberal	Conservative COMPOSITE SCORE

Most conservative Democrat

LIZ LYNCH

CENTER

GETTY/CHIP SOMODEVILLA

GETTY/ALEX WONG

GETTY/CHIP SOMODEVILLA

At the center of the House

REUTERS/LEE JAE-WON

Most liberal Republican

*No longer a member.