



HOUSE OF LORDS

STATISTICS ON BUSINESS AND MEMBERSHIP

Session 2014–15: 4 June 2014 to 26 March 2015

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Dates of sessions:

2014–15	4 June 2014 to 26 March 2015
2013–14	8 May 2013 to 14 May 2014
2012–13	9 May 2012 to 25 April 2013
2010–12	25 May 2010 to 1 May 2012

Times are shown in the form hours:minutes

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

		2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2010-12
	SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE IN THE SESSION				
1.	Number of sitting days (excluding days when the House sat for swearing-in only)	126	149	137	293
2.	Number of weeks during which the House sat	31	39	35	74
3.	Number of hours for which the chamber sat	823:54	1,011:13	903:11	2,106:00
4.	Average length of sittings in the chamber	6:32	6:47	6:36	7:11
5.	Number of sittings continuing beyond 10 pm	34	46	36	119
6.	Number of sittings continuing to midnight and beyond	0	4	1	18
7.	Number of days on which Grand Committees met	80	92	74	110
8.	Number of hours for which Grand Committees sat	240:23	310:19	240:31	339:03
9.	Number of Friday sittings	13	10	9	18
10.	Average daily attendance	483	497	484	475
	DIVISIONS (VOTES) IN THE SESSION				
1.	Number of divisions	60	89	82	241
2.	Average number of members voting per division	347	394	363	373
3.	Government victories in divisions	42 70%	71 80%*	52 63%	188 78%
4.	Government defeats in divisions	11 18%	14 16%*	27 33%	48 20%
5.	Unwhipped divisions	7 12%	10 11%*	3 4%	5 2%
	BUSINESS IN THE SESSION				
1.	Total sitting time in the chamber and in Grand Committees	1,064:17	1,321:32	1,143:42	2,393:27
(a)	Bills	507:02 47.6%	682:12 51.6%	519:45 45.4%	1360:11 56.8%
(b)	Delegated legislation	107:10 10.1%	88:31 6.7%	102:51 9.0%	144:15 6.0%
(c)	Debates	325:17 30.6%	398:05 30.1%	360:17 31.5%	589:48 24.6%
(d)	Other	124:48 11.7%	152:44 11.6%	160:49 14.1%	299:13 12.5%

* These percentages do not add up to 100 per cent because, unusually, the Government took a formal position on unwhipped divisions on the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill 2013.

BUSINESS IN THE CHAMBER

		2014–15	2013–14	2012–13	2010–12
	QUESTIONS — Number of:				
1.	Oral questions (up to four questions totalling 30 minutes are taken each day Monday – Thursday)	444	543	499	1080
2.	Private notice questions (oral questions on urgent matters, up to 10 minutes of questions and answers)	2	9	9	10
3.	Questions for written answer	5,943	7,007	6,816	16,980
	DEBATES — Number of motions in each category:				
1.	General back-bench debates (allocated by party/group)	26	31	26	68
2.	General back-bench debates (allocated by ballot and time-limited to 2, 2½ or 3 hours)	10	12	14	24
3.	Other general back-bench debates (not on the normal debate day)	3	1	1	4
4.	General “take note” debates initiated by the Government	9	10	14	19
5.	Questions for short debate—total	65	73	70	92
i)	Taken in normal time	36	36	44	36
ii)	Taken in a dinner/lunch break	20	30	26	56
iii)	Topical	9	7	0	0
6.	Debates on non-domestic select committee reports—total	21	24	14	31
i)	On European Union Committee reports	10	10	8	19
ii)	On other non-domestic select committee reports	11	14	6	12
7.	Motions to agree a resolution of the House (including agreeing non-domestic select committee reports)	3	9	5	11
8.	Motions to consider domestic select committee reports, including accompanying recommendations and consequential motions	11	15	10	41
9.	Motion for an Address on the Queen’s Speech	1	1	1	1
10.	Motions for an Address not on the Queen’s Speech nor on delegated legislation	0	1	0	2
	STATEMENTS — Number of:				
1.	Ministerial statements made and debated in the House	71	65	75	145
2.	Written statements	962	1,177	1,153	2,349

		2014–15	2013–14	2012–13	2010–12
DELEGATED LEGISLATION — Number of:					
1.	Motions to approve affirmative instruments	315	181	121	258
2.	Motions to annul negative instruments	1	2	1	8
3.	Other proceedings on delegated legislation	8	9	10	21
THE TIME OF THE HOUSE was spent approximately as follows (with percentages of total sitting time):					
1.	Prayers (around six minutes at the start of each sitting day)	14:03 1.7%	16:42 1.7%	14:23 1.6%	31:07 1.5%
2.	Introductions of new members	2:44 0.3%	3:33 0.3%	0:51 0.1%	11:25 0.5%
3.	Oral questions (up to four questions totalling 30 minutes are taken each day Monday – Thursday)	56:26 6.9%	69:22 6.9%	63:41 7.1%	139:15 6.6%
4.	Private notice questions (oral questions on urgent matters, up to 10 minutes of questions and answers)	0:27 0.1%	1:33 0.2%	1:37 0.2%	1:45 0.1%
5.	General back-bench debates (allocated by party/group)	67:00 8.1%	75:24 7.5%	61:07 6.8%	167:06 7.9%
6.	General back-bench debates (allocated by ballot)	23:00 2.8%	25:54 2.6%	32:11 3.6%	54:24 2.6%
7.	Other general back-bench debates (not on the normal debate day)	12:51 1.6%	0:29 <0.1%	4:40 0.5%	18:28 0.9%
8.	General “take note” debates initiated by the Government	38:18 4.6%	46:36 4.6%	44:59 5.0%	94:33 4.5%
9.	Questions for short debate—total	64:52 7.9%	76:32 7.6%	78:46 8.7%	97:01 4.6%
i)	Taken in normal time	38:01 4.6%	41:39 4.1%	53:40 5.9%	43:37 2.1%
ii)	Taken in the dinner/lunch break	18:33 2.3%	27:55 2.77%	25:06 2.8%	53:24 2.5%
iii)	Topical	8:18 1%	6:58 0.7%	-	-
10.	Debates on non-domestic select committee reports—total	47:42 5.8%	46:11 4.6%	28:35 3.2%	62:37 3.0%
i)	On European Union Committee reports	19:47 2.4%	17:13 1.7%	15:52 1.8%	27:14 1.3%
ii)	On Science and Technology Committee reports	1:32 0.2%	1:28 0.2%	2:46 0.3%	4:44 0.2%
iii)	On Economic Affairs Committee reports	3:59 0.5%	6:36 0.7%	3:51 0.4%	2:38 0.2%
iv)	On Constitution Committee reports	6:08 0.7%	4:14 0.4%	2:19 0.3%	6:01 0.3%

		2014–15	2013–14	2012–13	2010–12
v)	On Communications Committee reports	2:26 0.3%	1:17 0.1%	1:38 0.2%	6:36 0.3%
vi)	On reports of ad hoc committees	13:50 1.7%	15:23 1.5%	0	13:23 0.6%
vii)	On Merits of Statutory Instruments Committee or Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee reports	0	0	2:09 0.2%	0
11.	Motions to agree a resolution of the House (including agreeing non-domestic select committee reports)	7:06 0.9%	11:31 1.14%	5:40 0.6%	10:58 0.5%
12.	Motions to agree domestic select committee reports, including accompanying recommendations	1:02 0.1%	1:33 0.2%	6:22 0.7%	12:07 0.6%
13.	Motion for an Address on the Queen's Speech	28:44 3.5%	31:04 3.1%	34:07 3.8%	28:56 1.4%
14.	Motions for an Address not on the Queen's Speech nor on delegated legislation	0	0:10 <0.1%	0	0:41 <0.1%
15.	Ministerial statements made and debated in the House	34:43 4.2%	36:28 3.6%	48:26 5.4%	103:54 4.9%
16.	Church of England Measures	1:55 0.2%	0:15 <0.1%	0:31 0.1%	0:40 <0.1%
17.	Public bills (details on pages 5–6)	406:23 49.3%	532:22 52.6%	420:46 46.6%	1,178:34 56.0%
18.	Private bills	0	0:10 <0.1%	0:59 0.1%	3:27 0.2%
19.	Approval of affirmative instruments	22:01 2.7%	17:06 1.7%	22:46 2.5%	38:07 1.8%
20.	Motions to annul negative instruments	0:22 <0.1%	2:14 0.2%	2:28 0.3%	9:26 0.4%
21.	Other proceedings on delegated legislation	5:12 0.6%	12:14 1.2%	10:22 1.1%	15:49 0.8%
22.	Formal business (including tributes and excluding prayers and introductions)	2:10 0.3%	3:36 0.4%	5:43 0.6%	9:39 0.6%
23.	Adjournments during pleasure (breaks during a sitting)	3:20 0.4%	7:47 0.8%	12:56 1.4%	28:36 1.3%

		2014–15	2013–14	2012–13	2010–12
PUBLIC BILLS (excludes time spent in Grand Committee—see page 7)					
The time spent on bills (with percentages of total sitting time) was as follows:					
1.	Public bills—total	406:23 49.3%	532:22 52.6%	420:46 46.6%	1178:34 56.0%
2.	Public bills according to House the bill was introduced into:				
i)	Bills which started in the Lords	99:07 12%	130:34 12.9%	136:23 15.1%	221:03 10.5%
ii)	Bills which started in the Commons	307:16 37.3%	401:48 39.7%	284:23 31.5%	957:31 45.5%
3.	Public bills according to type:				
i)	Government bills	341:30 41.4%	489:13 48.4%	398:04 44.1%	1,131:02 53.7%
ii)	Private members' bills	64:53 7.9%	43:09 4.3%	22:42 2.5%	47:32 2.3%
4.	Time spent on each stage of bill proceedings (formal motions and notification of Royal Assent not included):				
i)	First reading—total	0:35 <0.1%	0:29 <0.1%	0:34 0.1%	0:45 <0.1%
ii)	Second reading—total	94:44 11.5%	114:21 11.3%	93:49 10.4%	209:09 9.9%
	Second reading according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	13:01 1.6%	17:57 1.8%	20:39 2.3%	35:30 1.7%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	53:46 6.5%	68:51 6.8%	53:20 5.9%	137:20 6.5%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	19:00 2.3%	15:46 1.6%	11:19 1.3%	33:25 1.6%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	8:57 1.1%	11:47 1.2%	8:31 0.9%	2:54 0.1%
iii)	Committee of the whole House stage—total excluding time in Grand Committee	145:49 17.7%	201:18 19.9%	163:25 18.1%	555:44 26.4%
	Committee stage according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	14:07 1.7%	44:21 4.4%	55:43 6.2%	74:29 3.5%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	104:29 12.7%	141:49 14.0%	105:22 11.7%	472:19 22.4%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	18:07 2.2%	1:55 0.2%	0:07 <0.1%	8:12 0.4%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	9:20 1.1%	13:13 1.3%	2:13 0.2%	0:44 0.1%

		2014–15	2013–14	2012–13	2010–12
iv)	Report stage—total	133:32 16.2%	174:58 17.3%	123:30 13.7%	325:35 15.5%
	Report stage according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	21:29 2.6%	37:17 3.7%	31:31 3.5%	51:14 2.4%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	104:14 12.7%	137:41 13.6%	91:58 10.2%	273:04 13%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	3:22 0.4%	0	0	1:17 0.1%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	4:27 0.5%	0	0:01 <0.1%	0
v)	Third reading and passing—total	16:16 2%	24:53 2.5%	15:09 1.7%	44:50 2.1%
	Third reading and passing according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	2:46 0.3%	5:14 0.5%	4:25 0.5%	8:37 0.4%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	12:11 1.5%	19:31 1.9%	10:33 1.2%	35:35 1.7%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	1:06 0.1%	0:04 <0.1%	0:04 <0.1%	0:35 <0.1%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0:13 <0.1%	0:04 <0.1%	0:07 <0.1%	0:03 <0.1%
vi)	Consideration of bills returned from the House of Commons—total	15:09 1.8%	15:55 1.6%	24:08 2.7%	42:31 2.1%
	Consideration of bills returned from the House of Commons according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	5:46 0.7%	7:35 0.7%	12:12 1.4%	7:15 0.4%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	9:23 1.1%	8:20 0.8%	11:56 1.3%	35:09 1.7%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	0	0	0	0:07 <0.1%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0	0	0	0

BUSINESS IN GRAND COMMITTEES

Grand Committees, which meet in the Moses Room, operate for the consideration of various types of business, including: committee stages of bills; consideration of delegated legislation; questions for short debate; debates on select committee and other reports and on national policy statements; general motions for debate; and second reading debates on Law Commission bills. All Lords may participate in Grand Committees and proceedings mirror those in the chamber on comparable business, save that no divisions may take place.

		2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2010-12
	Number of days on which Grand Committees met	80	92	74	110
	Number of hours for which Grand Committees sat	240:23	310:19	240:31	339:03
	Average length of Grand Committee sittings	3:00	3:22	3:15	3:05
1.	Number of public bill committee stages taken in Grand Committee	5	9	7	11
	Time spent	100:07 41.6%	148:01 47.7%	96:45 40.2%	176:16 52%
2.	Number of Law Commission bill second reading debates taken in Grand Committee	1	1	1	2
	Time spent	0:32 0.2%	1:39 0.5%	1:15 0.5%	1:54 0.6%
3.	Number of delegated legislation instruments considered in Grand Committee	286	174	161	205
	Time spent	79:35 33.1%	56:57 18.4%	67:16 28%	80:53 23.8%
4.	Number of debates taken in Grand Committee	57	92	53	48
	Time spent	51:17 21.3%	90:12 29.1%	69:13 28.8%	57:29 17%
i)	Number of questions for short debate taken in Grand Committee	54	84	34	30
	Time spent	46:04 19.1%	76:41 24.7%	33:19 13.9%	28:21 8.4%
ii)	Number of debates on select committee reports taken in Grand Committee	2	8	16	8
	Time spent	4:18 1.8%	12:25 4%	29:13 12.1%	14:48 4.4%
iii)	Number of other debates	1	2	3	10
	Time spent	0:55 0.4%	3:03 1%	6:41 2.8%	14:20 4.2%
5.	Other	485 3.4%	13:30 4.35%	6:02 2.5%	22:31 6.6%
i)	Formal business	0:02 <0.1%	0:02 <0.1%	0:10 0.1%	0:56 0.3%
ii)	Adjournments (breaks during a sitting)*	8:50 3.7%	13:28 4.33%	5:52 2.4%	21:35 6.3%

*Adjournments in Grand Committees are usually for divisions in the chamber.

COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSE AT THE END OF SESSION 2014–15 (26 March 2015)

By Party/Group

Party/Group	Life peers	Excepted hereditary peers*	Bishops	Total
Conservative	177	49	0	226
Labour	212	4	0	216
Liberal Democrat	99	4	0	103
Crossbench	152	30	0	182
Archbishops and bishops	0	0	26	26
Other parties	14	1	0	15
Non-affiliated (current member)	21	0	0	21
TOTAL	675	88	26	789

NB The table excludes 45 peers on leave of absence, 8 disqualified as senior members of the judiciary and 1 suspended from the service of the House.

*This includes 75 peers elected by parties and groups and 15 peers elected by the whole House.

By Type

	Men	Women	Total
Archbishops and bishops	26	0	26
Life peers under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act 1876	21	1	22
Life peers under the Life Peerages Act 1958	505	198	703
Excepted hereditary peers under the House of Lords Act 1999	91	1	92
TOTAL	643	200	843