



HOUSE OF LORDS

INFORMATION

STATISTICS ON BUSINESS AND MEMBERSHIP

Session 2010–12: 25 May 2010 to 1 May 2012

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

(Excluding Grand Committees – see page 7)

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE IN THE SESSION					
1.	Number of sitting days (excluding days when the House sat for swearing-in days)	293	68	134	164
2.	Number of weeks during which the House sat	74	18	32	40
3.	Number of hours for which the House sat*	2106:00	445:12	907:22	1110:09
4.	Average length of sitting*	7:11	6:32	6:46	6:46
5.	Number of sittings continuing beyond 10pm	119	16	37	53
6.	Number of sittings continuing to midnight and beyond	18	1	1	4
7.	Number of Friday sittings	18	4	11	12
8.	Average daily attendance	475	388	400	413
DIVISIONS (VOTES) IN THE SESSION					
1.	Number of divisions	241	43	89	125
2.	Average number of Members voting per division	373	206	194	234
3.	Government victories in divisions	188 78%	28 65%	61 69%	93 75%
4.	Government defeats in divisions	48 20%	14 33%	25 28%	29 23%
5.	Unwhipped divisions (in which the Government in the Lords has not taken a formal position)	5 2%	1 2%	3 3%	3 2%

NOTES

Dates of Sessions:

2010-12	25 May 2010 to 1 May 2012
2009-10	18 November 2009 to 8 April 2010
2008-09	3 December 2008 to 12 November 2009
2007-08	6 November 2007 to 26 November 2008

* Time is shown in the form hours:minutes. Time shown includes adjournments during pleasure (breaks during a sitting). See page 4 for details.

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
	QUESTIONS — Number of:				
1.	Oral Questions (up to four questions totalling 30 minutes are taken each day Monday - Thursday)	1080	248	484	595
2.	Questions to Secretaries of State	-	18	-	-
3.	Private Notice Questions (oral questions on urgent matters, up to 10 minutes of questions and answers)	10	5	7	3
4.	Questions for Written Answer	16980	3240	6339	6535
	DEBATES — Number of motions in each category:				
1.	General back-bench debates (allocated by party/group)	78	15	27	36
2.	General back-bench debates (allocated by ballot and time-limited to 2½ hours)	20	8	12	13
3.	Other general back-bench debates (not on the normal debate day)	1	0	0	1
4.	General 'take note' debates initiated by the Government	15	3	2	5
5.	Debates on Select Committee reports - total	28	7	14	16
i)	On European Union Committee reports	16	4	6	8
ii)	On other investigative Select Committee reports	12	3	8	8
6.	Questions for Short Debate - total	92	6	38	45
i)	Taken in normal time	36	3	11	15
ii)	Taken in the dinner/lunch break	56	3	27	30
7.	Motions to agree a resolution of the House	10	4	2	1
8.	Motions to agree domestic Select Committee reports (administration and procedure)	8	4	2	6
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 or on delegated legislation	2	0	0	0
	STATEMENTS — Number of:				
1.	Ministerial Statements made and debated in the House	145	23	66	63
2.	Written Statements	2349	703	1112	1242
	DELEGATED LEGISLATION — Number of:				
1.	Motions to approve affirmative instruments	258	147	187	185
2.	Motions to annul negative instruments	8	2	3	17
3.	Other proceedings on delegated legislation	21	9	9	6

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
THE TIME OF THE HOUSE was spent approximately as follows (with percentages of total sitting time):					
1.	Prayers (six minutes at the start of each sitting day)	31:07 1.5%	7:03 1.6%	12:15 1.4%	14:00 1.3%
2.	Introductions of new Members	11:25 0.5%	0:31 0.1%	1:28 0.2%	1:41 0.2%
3.	Oral Questions (up to four questions totalling 30 minutes are taken each day Monday - Thursday)	139:15 6.6%	31:18 7.0%	61:31 6.8%	75:54 6.8%
4.	Questions to Secretaries of State	-	1:34 0.4%	-	-
5.	Private Notice Questions (oral questions on urgent matters, up to 10 minutes of questions and answers)	1:45 0.1%	0:43 0.2%	1:19 0.1%	0:31 <0.1%
6.	General back-bench debates (allocated by party/group)	199:08 9.5%	35:42 8.0%	70:03 7.7%	90:39 8.2%
7.	General back-bench debates (allocated by ballot and time-limited to 2½ hours)	45:12 2.1%	17:48 4.0%	25:06 2.8%	26:54 2.4%
8.	Other general back-bench debates (not on the normal debate day)	4:29 0.2%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	4:14 0.4%
9.	General 'take note' debates initiated by the Government	79:27 3.8%	9:46 2.2%	10:08 1.1%	18:51 1.7%
10.	Debates on Select Committee reports - total	60:42 2.9%	15:06 3.4%	26:10 2.9%	34:06 3.1%
i)	On European Union Committee reports	23:57 1.1%	7:15 1.6%	10:29 1.1%	14:46 1.3%
ii)	On Science and Technology Committee reports	4:44 0.2%	2:06 0.5%	1:57 0.2%	4:30 0.4%
iii)	On Economic Affairs Committee reports	1:16 0.1%	0:00 0%	2:25 0.3%	5:49 0.5%
iv)	On Joint Committee on Human Rights reports	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	1:00 0.1%
v)	On Constitution Committee reports	6:01 0.3%	0:00 0%	3:59 0.4%	1:49 0.2%
vi)	On Communications Committee reports	6:36 0.3%	2:38 0.6%	3:48 0.4%	4:26 0.4%
vii)	On Merits of Statutory Instruments Committee reports	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	1:49 0.2%	0:00 0%
viii)	On Reports of ad hoc committees	18:08 0.9%	3:07 0.7%	1:43 0.2%	1:46 0.2%
11.	Questions for Short Debate - total	97:01 4.6%	6:09 1.4%	37:29 4.1%	45:22 4.1%
i)	Taken in normal time	43:37 2.1%	3:13 0.7%	11:29 1.3%	17:43 1.6%
ii)	Taken in the dinner/lunch break	53:24 2.5%	2:56 0.7%	26:00 2.8%	27:39 2.5%
12.	Motions to agree a resolution of the House	9:09 0.4%	12:11 2.7%	3:37 0.4%	1:26 0.1%

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
13.	Motions to agree domestic Select Committee reports (administration and procedure)	7:34 0.4%	3:46 0.8%	1:51 0.2%	3:11 0.3%
14.	Motion for an Address on the Queen's Speech	28:56 1.4%	33:48 7.6%	33:22 3.7%	32:02 2.9%
15.	Motions for an Address not on the Queen's Speech or on delegated legislation	0:41 <0.1%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%
16.	Ministerial Statements made and debated in the House	103:54 4.9%	15:22 3.4%	51:36 5.7%	50:24 4.5%
17.	Church of England Measures	0:40 <0.1%	0:27 0.1%	0:33 0.1%	0:19 <0.1%
18.	Public bills (details on pages 5-6)	1178:34 56%	209:38 47.1%	510:20 56.3%	623:52 56.2%
19.	Private bills	3:27 0.2%	0:30 0.1%	2:01 0.2%	2:35 0.2%
20.	Approval of affirmative instruments	38:07 1.8%	27:41 6.2%	27:44 3.0%	40:14 3.6%
21.	Motions to annul negative instruments	9:26 0.4%	2:40 0.6%	5:41 0.6%	9:16 0.8%
22.	Other proceedings on delegated legislation	15:49 0.8%	6:44 1.5%	6:29 0.7%	5:06 0.5%
23.	Formal business	9:39 0.5%	3:23 0.8%	3:54 0.4%	3:21 0.3%
24.	Adjournments during pleasure (breaks during a sitting)	28:36 1.3%	3:03 0.7%	14:00 1.5%	25:58 2.3%
25.	Other (tributes, unusual events and procedures)	1:57 0.1%	0:09 <0.1%	0:39 0.1%	0:13 <0.1%

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
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	1178:34 56%	209:38 47.1%	510:20 56.3%	623:52 56.2%
2.	Public bills according to House the bill was introduced into:				
i)	Bills which started in the Lords	221:03 10.5%	78:53 17.7%	225:28 24.9%	203:50 18.4%
ii)	Bills which started in the Commons	957:31 45.5%	130:45 29.4%	284:52 31.4%	419:54 37.8%
3.	Public bills according to type:				
i)	Government bills	1131:02 53.7%	188:49 42.4%	478:57 52.8%	595:15 53.6%
ii)	Private members' bills	47:32 2.3%	20:49 4.7%	31:23 3.5%	28:29 2.6%
4.	Time spent on each stage of bill proceedings (notification of Royal Assent not included):				
i)	First reading – total	0:45 <0.1%	0:41 0.2%	0:24 <0.1%	0:32 <0.1%
ii)	Second reading – total	209:09 9.9%	72:13 16.2%	95:15 10.5%	121:04 10.9%
	Second reading according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	35:30 1.7%	9:58 2.2%	26:05 2.9%	27:30 2.5%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	137:20 6.5%	46:15 10.4%	41:42 4.6%	72:25 6.5%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	33:25 1.6%	12:31 2.8%	23:28 2.6%	19:14 1.7%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	2:54 0.1%	3:29 0.8%	4:04 0.4%	1:55 0.2%
iii)	Committee stage – total excluding time in Grand Committee	555:44 26.4%	95:06 21.4%	251:21 27.7%	258:36 23.3%
	Committee stage according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	74:29 3.5%	29:06 6.6%	97:00 10.7%	60:12 5.4%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	472:19 22.4%	62:18 14.0%	150:38 16.6%	191:41 17.3%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	8:12 0.4%	3:40 0.8%	3:39 0.4%	6:38 0.6%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0:44 0.1%	0:02 <0.1%	0:04 <0.1%	0:05 <0.1%

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iv)	Report stage – total	325:35 15.5%	33:33 7.5%	133:38 14.7%	189:50 17.1%
	Report stage according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	51:14 2.4%	17:21 3.9%	63:19 7.0%	66:19 6.0%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	273:04 13%	16:10 3.6%	70:19 7.7%	123:25 11.1%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	1:17 0.1%	0:02 <0.1%	0:00 0%	0:06 <0.1%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%
v)	Third reading and passing – total	44:50 2.1%	5:33 1.3%	15:32 1.7%	35:03 3.1%
	Third reading and passing according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	8:37 0.4%	3:38 0.8%	4:49 0.5%	11:22 1.0%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	35:35 1.7%	1:21 0.3%	10:43 1.2%	23:18 2.0%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	0:35 <0.1%	0:34 0.2%	0:00 0%	0:11 <0.1%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0:03 <0.1%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:12 <0.1%
vi)	Consideration of bills returned from the House of Commons – total	42:31 2.1%	2:32 0.6%	14:10 1.6%	18:47 1.7%
	Consideration of bills returned from the House of Commons according to type:				
	a) Government bills which started in the Lords	7:15 0.4%	1:53 0.4%	6:51 0.8%	12:02 1.1%
	b) Government bills which started in the Commons	35:09 1.7%	0:39 0.2%	7:19 0.8%	6:25 0.6%
	c) Private members' bills which started in the Lords	0:07 <0.1%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%
	d) Private members' bills which started in the Commons	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%	0:00 0%

GRAND COMMITTEES

The Grand Committee, which meets in the Moses Room, operates as a “second chamber” for the consideration of various types of business, including: committee stages of bills; consideration of delegated legislation instruments; Questions for Short Debate; debates on Select Committee and other reports and on national policy statements; and second reading debates on Law Commission bills. All peers may participate in Grand Committees, and proceedings mirror those in the Chamber on comparable business, with the exception that no divisions may take place.

		2010-12	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
	Number of days on which Grand Committees met	110	36	62	75
	Number of hours for which Grand Committees sat	339:03	109:52	198:31	256:57
1.	Number of public bill committee stages taken in Grand Committee	11	6	6	14
	Time spent	176:16 52%	37:32 34.1%	120:44 61.0%	182:27 71.0%
2.	Number of Law Commission bill second reading debates taken in Grand Committee	2	0	1	0
	Time spent	1:54 0.6%	0:00 0%	1:19 0.6%	0:00 0%
3.	Number of delegated legislation instruments considered in Grand Committee	205	92	124	103
	Time spent	80:53 23.8%	38:23 35%	41:39 21.0%	36:23 14.2%
4.	Number of general debates taken in Grand Committee	48	19	25	27
	Time spent	57:29 17%	28:25 25.9%	26:08 13%	26:22 10.2%
i)	Number of Questions for Short Debate taken in Grand Committee	30	12	18	25
	Time spent	28:21 8.4%	10:52 10.0%	15:59 8.0%	23:31 9.1%
ii)	Number of debates on Select Committee and other reports taken in Grand Committee	18	7	7	2
	Time spent	29:08 8.6	17:33 15.9%	10:09 5.0%	2:51 1.1%
5.	Other	22:31 6.6%	5:32 5.0%	8:41 4.4%	11:45 4.6%
i)	Formal business	0:56 0.3%	0:19 0.3%	0:21 0.2%	0:01 <0.1%
ii)	Adjournments (breaks during a sitting)*	21:35 6.3%	5:13 4.7%	8:20 4.2%	11:44 4.6%

*Adjournments in the Grand Committee are typically for divisions in the Chamber.

COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSE AT THE END OF SESSION 2010–12 (1 May 2012)

By Party/Group

Party/Group	Life Peers	Excepted Hereditary Peers*	Bishops	Total
Conservative	166	48	0	214
Labour	231	4	0	235
Liberal Democrat	86	4	0	90
Crossbench	154	32	0	186
Archbishops and Bishops	0	0	25	25
Other parties	16	1	0	17
Non-affiliated (current Member)	14	1	0	15
TOTAL	667	90	25	782

NB The table excludes 21 peers on leave of absence, 12 disqualified as senior members of the judiciary, 1 disqualified as an MEP and 2 suspended from the service of the House.

*This includes 74 peers elected by parties and groups, 15 peers elected by the whole House and 1 royal office-holder.

By Type

	Men	Women	Total
Archbishops and bishops	25	0	25
Life Peers under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act 1876	22	1	23
Life Peers under the Life Peerages Act 1958	501	177	678
Excepted hereditary Peers under the House of Lords Act 1999	90	2	92
TOTAL	638	180	818