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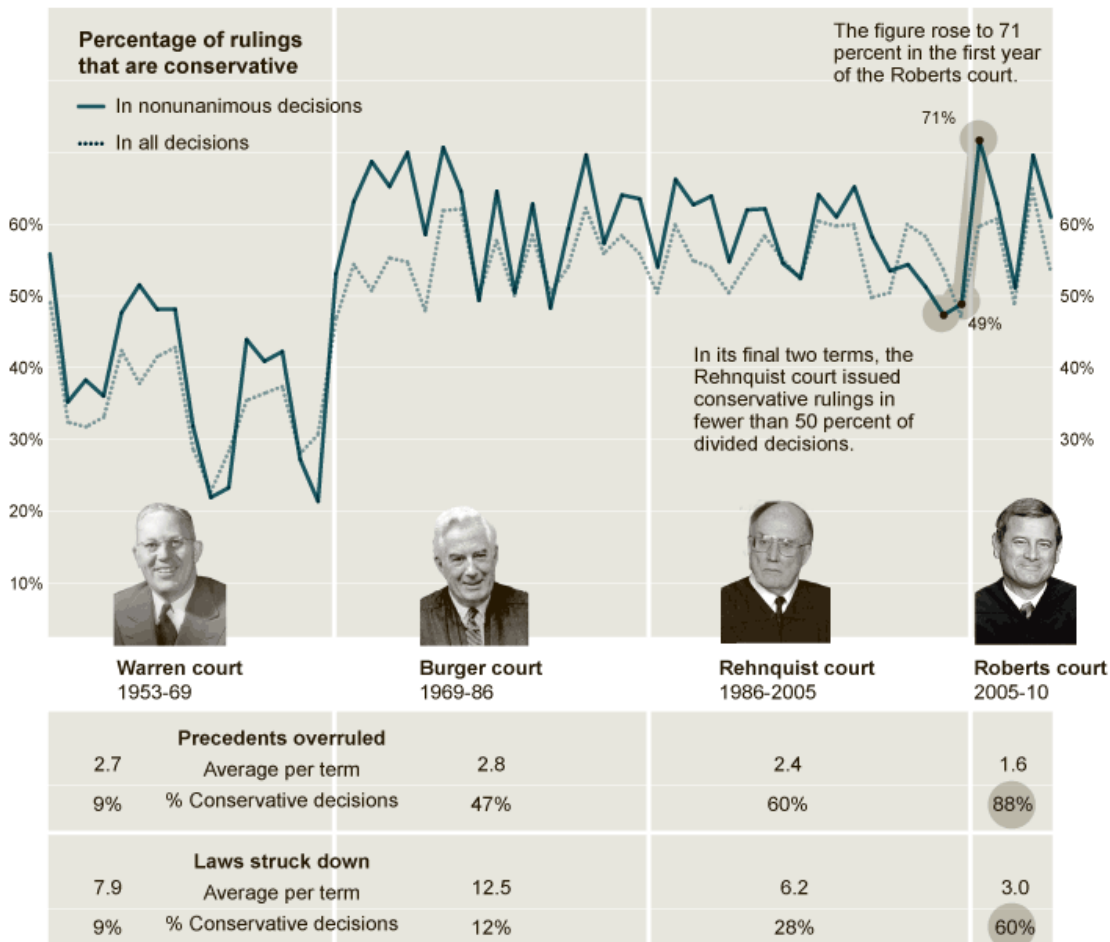
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## Measuring the Conservatism of the Roberts Court

Under Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., the Supreme Court has moved to the right. Below, some ways to measure the shift.

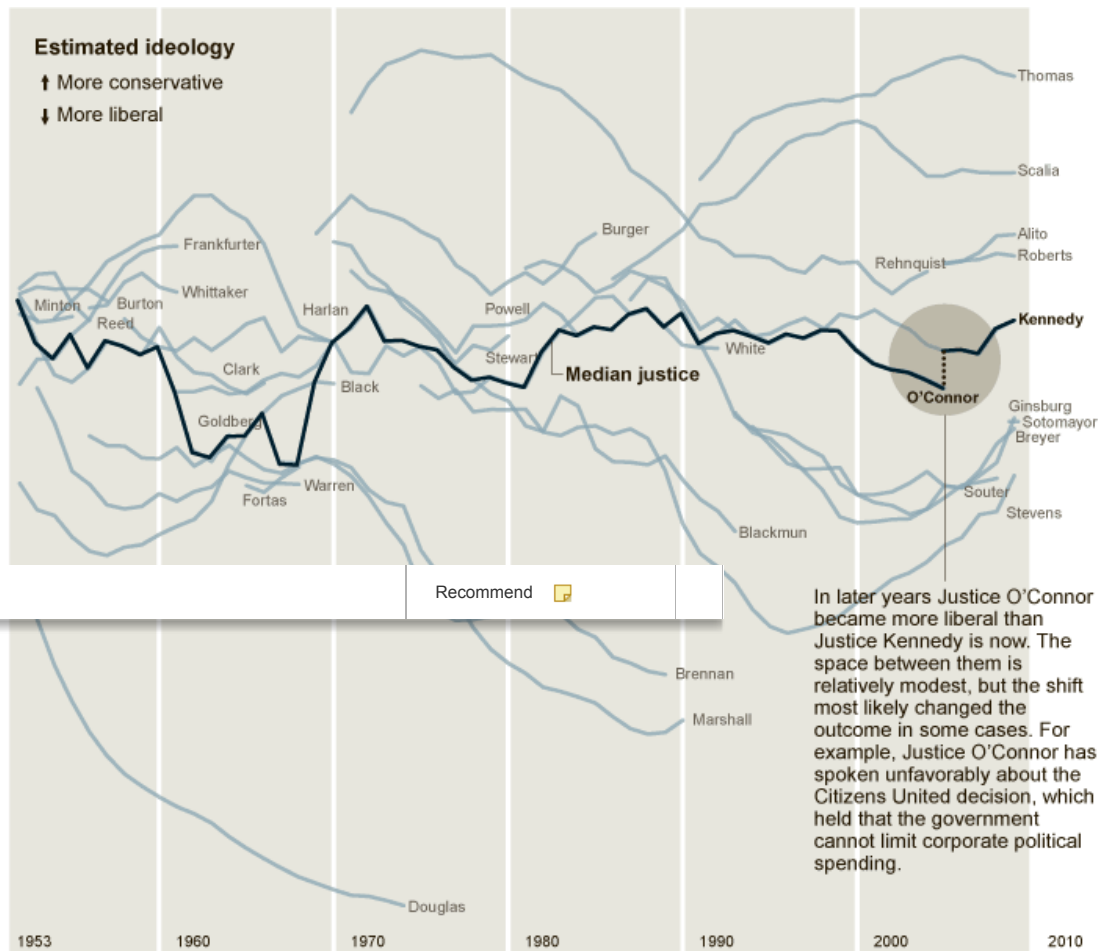
### How Often the Court Reaches Conservative Results

The Roberts Court has issued conservative decisions at a slightly higher rate than the Rehnquist or the Burger Courts. It has overturned precedent or struck down laws — two measures of activism — less often than previous courts, but those decisions have been predominantly conservative.



### The Justice at the Court's Center

The lines at right rate the ideology of each justice's decisions over time, based on a comparison of all of the justices' voting records. The dark line shows the ideology of the median justice, who is often the swing voter in 5-to-4 decisions.



Andrew D. Martin  
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Sources: For conservative voting rates, Lee Epstein (Northwestern University), William M. Landes and Richard A. Posner (University of Chicago Law School) and Harold J. Spaeth (Michigan State University). For justice scores, Andrew D. Martin (Washington University in St. Louis) and Kevin M. Quinn (UC Berkeley School of Law)

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 Generally votes with the court's liberal half.  
 Agreed with you in 3 of 6 cases.

**Justice Anthony M. Kennedy**  
 The court's swing voter.  
 Interactive Feature  
 Agreed with you in 6 of 6 cases.

How Your Views Compare With the Court: Six Questions

Answer six questions to see how your views align with those of the Roberts court and all Americans.