

NYPIRG: Total Number Of Bills Passed In Legislature Increases; But Number Historically Low

Posted on Jun 28, Posted by [David Howard King](#) Category [State](#)

The New York Public Interest Group reports that the total number of bills passed by both houses increased this year from 571 to 650.

However, Bill Mahoney of NYPIRG reports, "The total of 650 bills is remarkably low by historical standards."

The report shows that the three lowest years for two house bills since 1915 are 2009, 2012 and 2013. "It seems that a smaller quantity of two-house bills is a new reality in New York," writes Mahoney. Mahoney speculates the trend could be due to the growing importance of the state budget, which is jam-packed with legislative items and the small majority in the Senate.

Also noteworthy is the fact that 2013 featured the fewest messages of necessity issued by a governor since at least 1995. Only three bills were passed with a message of necessity this year, while five were passed in 2012 and 29 in 2011.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has drastically reduced his use of the messages as good government groups criticize the process for subverting debate. Cuomo's use of the measures is tiny compared to his recent predecessors.

[NYPIRG 2013 Session Analysis](#) by [davidhowardking4427](#)

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