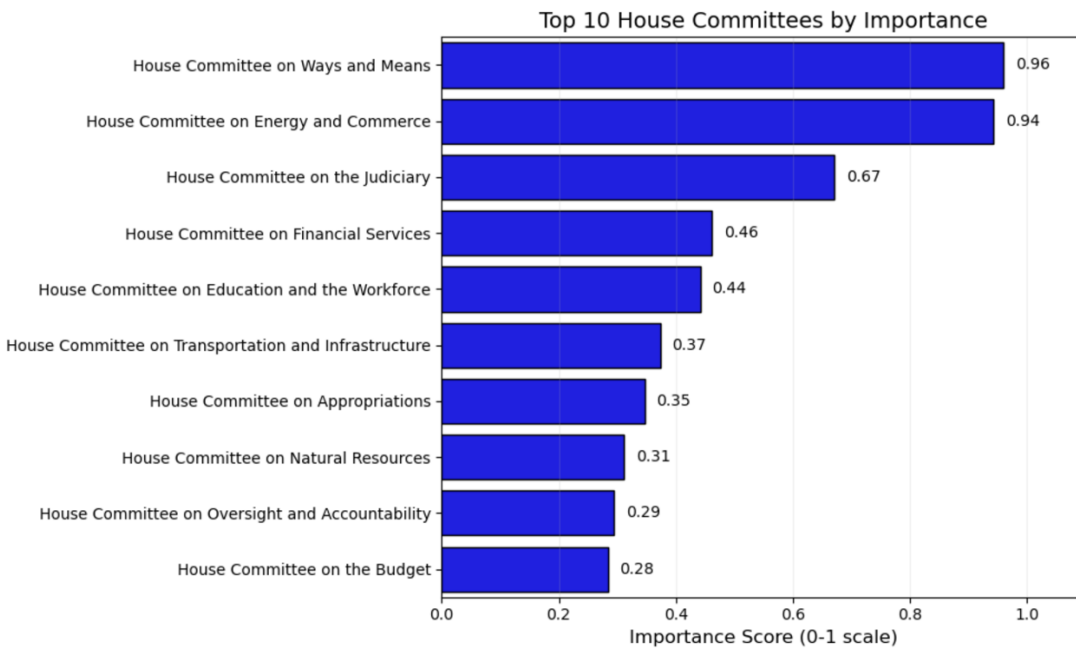
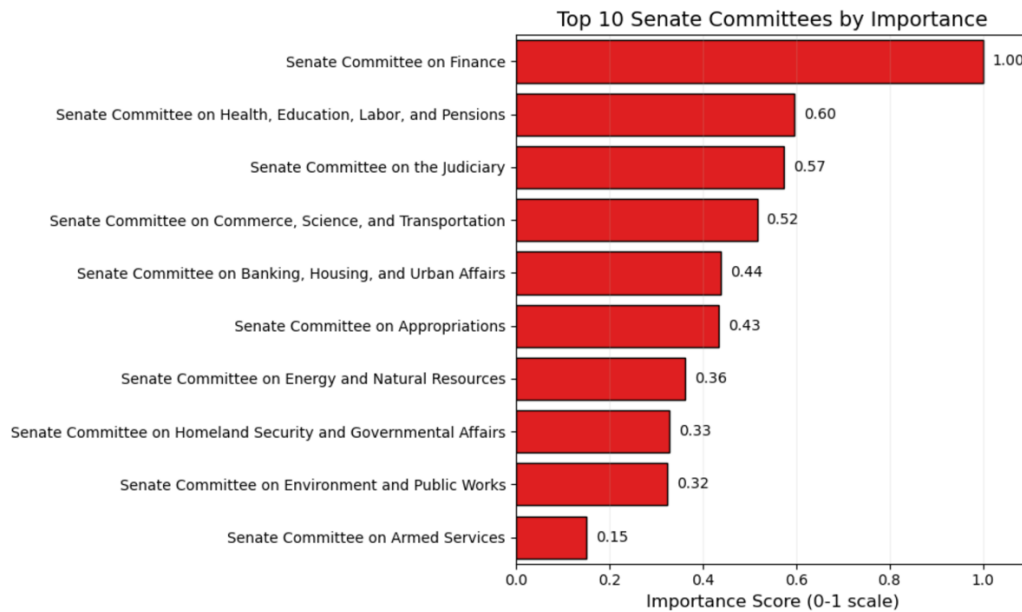
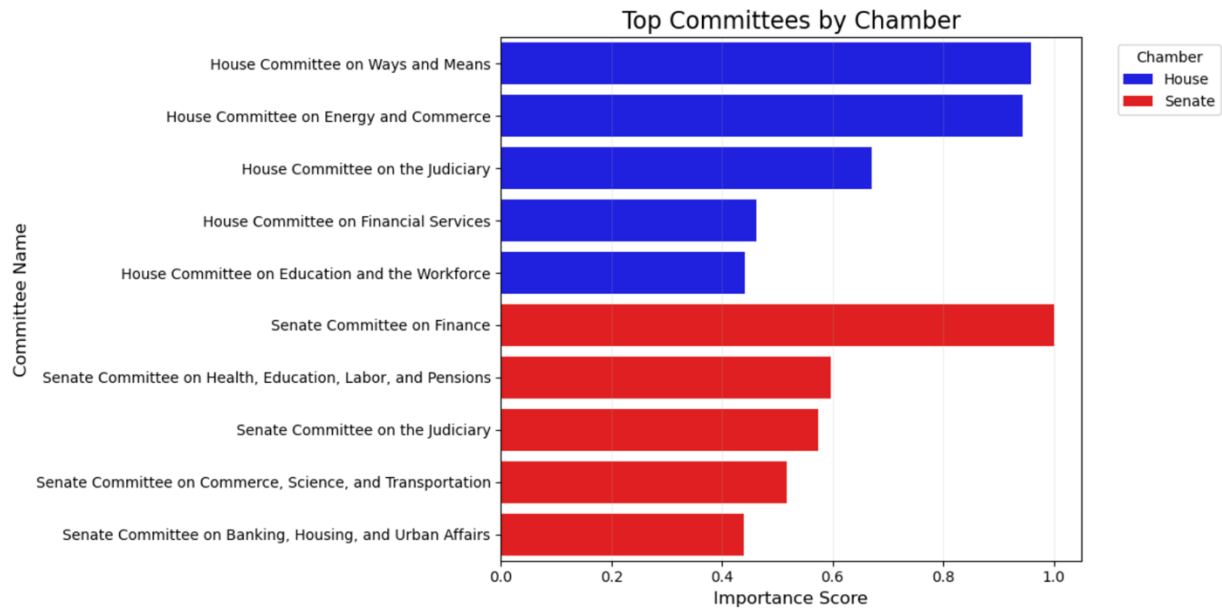
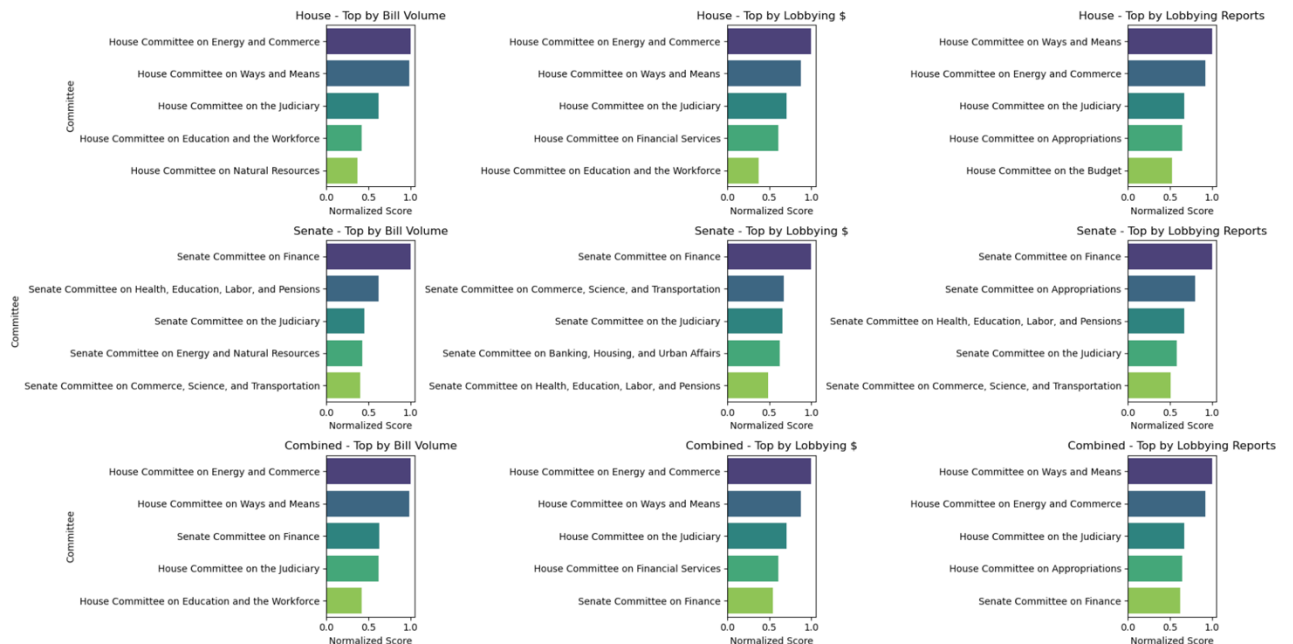


1. Committee importance can be measured as a composite of three factors: the number of bills referred to each committee (Bill Volume), the total lobbying dollars spent on bills within each committee (Lobbying Attention), and the number of unique lobbying reports filed per committee (Lobbying Engagement).
2. For house committees, the most important one is House Committee on Ways and Means. For senate committees, it is Senate Committee on Finance.





- For alternative definition, I think we could focus on each aspect respectively: (1) Lobbying dollars (financial influence, e.g., Appropriations), (2) Bill volume (legislative activity, e.g., Judiciary), and (3) Lobbying reports (interest-group attention, e.g., Energy & Commerce). I believe each metric reveals different power dynamics—money, policy impact, or stakeholder engagement—and shifts rankings accordingly.
- Based on the resulting visualizations, we can see that these different metrics did not affect the top ranking a lot. Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Finance still be the top in the list.



5. I believe that incorporating the percentage of referred bills that become law would significantly enhance this analysis because it can distinguish committees that process many bills from those that successfully advance legislation. This would reveal whether the current "important" committees actually drive legislative outcomes, or merely attract attention.