



2023-24 NATIONAL LAWYER POPULATION SURVEY

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ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

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The American Bar Association has been counting the number of resident lawyers in the U.S. since 1878. The data is collected from state licensing bodies (mandatory bars and non-bar licensing entities) who are asked to respond to a series of questions on lawyer count, demographics and licensing fees. When licensing bodies do not respond, researchers attempt to pull the data from other publicly available reports. When no data is collected, the survey carries over last year's data to maintain a consistent total count for longitudinal trends tracking.

To try and avoid counting multijurisdictional licensed lawyers more than once, the ABA requests a single count of *active* and *resident* lawyers only. This is imperfect due to no uniform definition of resident and active.

- States may define 'resident' based on either residence or business address. Or, in some cases it could be either.
- There is no precise universal definition of 'inactive' across states, although for most states this captures non-practicing lawyers.

Between 1951 and 2005, the American Bar Foundation collected data on the U.S. lawyer population using statistics provided by LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell. *The American Bar Foundation Lawyer Statistical Report* weighted data to try and correct for multiple listings of the same individual due to multidisciplinary practices.

Gender and Race/Ethnicity

The National Lawyer Population Survey collects data on gender and race/ethnicity. However, not all states collect and report demographics. The NLPS results should be considered a convenience sample.

For gender, a majority of states have reported Male/Female lawyers for many years now and the sample is more robust than race/ethnicity. In the last three years of NLPS data collection, over 70% of the total percentage of lawyers have reported gender statistics. However, the total number of responses for each state may not equal the total number of active resident lawyers because reporting in some states may be optional or voluntary.

In 2016, NLPS began offering 'Other' in the gender demographics question. In 2020, the NLPS began collecting data on attorneys who identify as LGBTQ+ and on attorneys who report a disability. However, the number of responses continues to be insufficient to report.

As for race and ethnicity, there has been a steady increase in licensing entities collecting and reporting data. In 2014, NLPS collected race ethnicity data for 21% of lawyers; 10 years later it has more than doubled to 43%.

In 2016, the NLPS began offering 'Multiracial' as a category. However, this complicates data collection and segmentation. Further, there is no uniform categorization of race/ethnicity adopted across all licensing authorities.

Overall, while the year-on-year changes should be treated with caution, the long-term trends are helpful indicators of the changing demographics of the profession. And the comprehensiveness of the data continues to improve each year.

Please direct questions to Rachel Ellett, associate director, ABA Center for Bar Leadership, at rachel.ellestt@americanbar.org

2024

National

Lawyer

Population

Survey



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| State | 2023 | 2024 | % Change from 2023 |
| Alabama | 12,195 | 12,414 | 1.8% |
| Alaska | 2,268 | 2,294 | 1.1% |
| American Samoa | 55 | 55 | 0.0% |
| Arizona | 15,506 | 15,885 | 2.4% |
| Arkansas | 6,808 | 6,808 | 0.0% |
| California | 170,959 | 175,883 | 2.8% |
| Colorado | 22,802 | 23,249 | 1.9% |
| Connecticut | 21,036 | 18,028 | -16.7% |
| Delaware | 3,058 | 3,058 | 0.0% |
| Dist. of Columbia | 34,734 | 33,129 | -4.8% |
| Florida | 84,594 | 80,080 | -5.6% |
| Georgia | 33,890 | 34,307 | 1.2% |
| Guam | 262 | 262 | 0.0% |
| Hawaii | 4,122 | 4,139 | 0.4% |
| Idaho | 4,098 | 4,076 | -0.5% |
| Illinois | 62,201 | 62,093 | -0.2% |
| Indiana | 15,485 | 15,485 | 0.0% |
| Iowa | 7,258 | 7,190 | -0.9% |
| Kansas | 7,858 | 7,845 | -0.2% |
| Kentucky | 13,600 | 13,632 | 0.2% |
| Louisiana | 19,566 | 19,524 | -0.2% |
| Maine | 4,002 | 3,693 | -8.4% |
| Maryland | 26,020 | 26,020 | 0.0% |
| Massachusetts | 42,635 | 40,075 | -6.4% |
| Michigan | 34,577 | 34,366 | -0.6% |
| Minnesota | 26,065 | 26,065 | 0.0% |
| Mississippi | 6,736 | 6,699 | -0.6% |
| Missouri | 24,613 | 24,679 | 0.3% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| State | 2023 | 2024 | % Change from 2023 |
| Montana | 3,201 | 3,603 | 11.2% |
| Nebraska | 5,689 | 5,839 | 2.6% |
| Nevada | 7,498 | 7,563 | 0.9% |
| New Hampshire | 3,451 | 3,461 | 0.3% |
| New Jersey | 40,078 | 39,311 | -2.0% |
| New Mexico | 5,411 | 5,404 | -0.1% |
| New York | 188,341 | 187,656 | -0.4% |
| North Carolina | 26,274 | 26,515 | 0.9% |
| North Dakota | 1,694 | 1,663 | -1.9% |
| North Mariana Islands | 134 | 134 | 0.0% |
| Ohio | 37,717 | 36,488 | -3.4% |
| Oklahoma | 13,415 | 12,245 | -9.6% |
| Oregon | 12,196 | 12,233 | 0.3% |
| Palau | 40 | 43 | 7.0% |
| Pennsylvania | 48,174 | 47,519 | -1.4% |
| Puerto Rico | 14,240 | 13,864 | -2.7% |
| Rhode Island | 4,081 | 3,815 | -7.0% |
| South Carolina | 11,090 | 11,090 | 0.0% |
| South Dakota | 2,027 | 2,042 | 0.7% |
| Tennessee | 19,583 | 19,458 | -0.6% |
| Texas | 96,827 | 98,345 | 1.5% |
| Utah | 8,581 | 8,537 | -0.5% |
| Vermont | 2,198 | 2,198 | 0.0% |
| Virgin Islands | 654 | 654 | 0.0% |
| Virginia | 23,855 | 24,120 | 1.1% |
| Washington | 26,300 | 26,318 | 0.1% |
| West Virginia | 4,673 | 4,600 | -1.6% |
| Wisconsin | 15,192 | 15,172 | -0.1% |
| Wyoming | 1,673 | 1,726 | 3.1% |
| TOTAL | 1,331,290 | 1,322,649 | -0.7% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| State | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | % Change from 2014 |
| Alabama | 14,531 | 14,630 | 14,666 | 14,717 | 14,822 | 14,821 | 14,897 | 14,897 | 12,054 | 12,195 | 12,414 | -14.6% |
| Alaska | 2,469 | 2,456 | 2,439 | 2,402 | 2,311 | 2,324 | 2,324 | 2,340 | 2,118 | 2,268 | 2,294 | -7.1% |
| American Samoa | 102 | 102 | 98 | 59 | 59 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 | -46.1% |
| Arizona | 15,993 | 16,155 | 15,926 | 14,960 | 15,601 | 15,081 | 15,081 | 15,688 | 15,805 | 15,506 | 15,885 | -0.7% |
| Arkansas | 5,970 | 5,970 | 7,320 | 6,851 | 7,080 | 6,693 | 6,299 | 6,808 | 6,808 | 6,808 | 6,808 | 14.0% |
| California | 163,327 | 165,952 | 167,690 | 168,746 | 170,044 | 170,117 | 168,569 | 167,709 | 170,306 | 170,959 | 175,883 | 7.7% |
| Colorado | 21,545 | 21,761 | 21,781 | 22,164 | 21,099 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 23,249 | 7.9% |
| Connecticut | 18,655 | 18,655 | 21,517 | 21,341 | 21,111 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 18,028 | -3.4% |
| Delaware | 2,881 | 2,921 | 2,952 | 2,978 | 2,978 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 6.1% |
| Dist. of Columbia | 51,928 | 52,089 | 52,711 | 54,692 | 53,778 | 56,135 | 27,743 | 28,011 | 27,552 | 34,734 | 33,129 | -36.2% |
| Florida | 68,464 | 74,258 | 75,697 | 77,008 | 78,244 | 78,448 | 79,328 | 77,223 | 77,223 | 84,594 | 80,080 | 17.0% |
| Georgia | 30,463 | 31,340 | 31,499 | 31,672 | 32,802 | 32,409 | 32,584 | 33,158 | 33,729 | 33,890 | 34,307 | 12.6% |
| Guam | 313 | 313 | 266 | 266 | 270 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | -16.3% |
| Hawaii | 4,260 | 4,193 | 4,224 | 4,236 | 4,261 | 4,270 | 4,270 | 4,184 | 4,184 | 4,122 | 4,139 | -2.8% |
| Idaho | 3,705 | 3,736 | 3,714 | 3,836 | 3,882 | 3,911 | 3,967 | 4,029 | 4,047 | 4,098 | 4,076 | 10.0% |
| Illinois | 61,871 | 63,211 | 63,060 | 62,782 | 63,422 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,201 | 62,093 | 0.4% |
| Indiana | 15,883 | 15,883 | 15,854 | 15,826 | 15,826 | 15,845 | 15,761 | 15,802 | 15,794 | 15,485 | 15,485 | -2.5% |
| Iowa | 7,183 | 7,526 | 7,560 | 7,523 | 7,454 | 7,306 | 7,306 | 7,452 | 7,405 | 7,258 | 7,190 | 0.1% |
| Kansas | 8,261 | 8,266 | 8,234 | 8,218 | 8,131 | 8,045 | 8,045 | 7,932 | 7,918 | 7,858 | 7,845 | -5.0% |
| Kentucky | 13,328 | 13,448 | 13,451 | 13,509 | 13,540 | 13,570 | 13,570 | 13,570 | 13,672 | 13,600 | 13,632 | 2.3% |
| Louisiana | 18,532 | 18,775 | 19,099 | 19,307 | 18,918 | 20,568 | 20,568 | 21,414 | 19,714 | 19,566 | 19,524 | 5.4% |
| Maine | 3,863 | 3,944 | 3,931 | 3,940 | 3,988 | 3,995 | 3,995 | 3,985 | 3,669 | 4,002 | 3,693 | -4.4% |
| Maryland | 23,508 | 23,902 | 24,142 | 38,800 | 40,309 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 26,020 | 26,020 | 10.7% |
| Massachusetts | 44,257 | 43,974 | 43,221 | 43,442 | 42,926 | 42,788 | 42,908 | 42,720 | 42,635 | 42,635 | 40,075 | -9.4% |
| Michigan | 34,739 | 34,739 | 35,087 | 35,236 | 35,362 | 35,453 | 35,453 | 35,453 | 35,139 | 34,577 | 34,366 | -1.1% |
| Minnesota | 25,272 | 24,522 | 24,952 | 25,483 | 25,252 | 25,823 | 25,823 | 26,065 | 26,065 | 26,065 | 26,065 | 3.1% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| State | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | % Change from 2014 |
| Mississippi | 6,955 | 7,059 | 7,094 | 7,067 | 7,007 | 6,886 | 6,886 | 6,845 | 6,814 | 6,736 | 6,699 | -3.7% |
| Missouri | 25,337 | 25,337 | 24,922 | 24,787 | 24,754 | 24,369 | 24,369 | 24,369 | 24,674 | 24,613 | 24,679 | -2.6% |
| Montana | 3,084 | 3,126 | 3,140 | 3,159 | 3,179 | 3,184 | 3,167 | 3,183 | 3,191 | 3,201 | 3,603 | 16.8% |
| Nebraska | 5,028 | 5,361 | 5,506 | 5,545 | 5,565 | 5,555 | 5,546 | 5,546 | 5,689 | 5,689 | 5,839 | 16.1% |
| Nevada | 7,080 | 6,858 | 7,219 | 7,281 | 7,333 | 7,030 | 7,509 | 7,482 | 7,484 | 7,498 | 7,563 | 6.8% |
| New Hampshire | 3,515 | 3,521 | 3,506 | 3,507 | 3,523 | 3,523 | 3,495 | 3,495 | 3,495 | 3,451 | 3,461 | -1.5% |
| New Jersey | 41,250 | 41,569 | 41,569 | 41,168 | 41,021 | 41,152 | 41,152 | 40,137 | 40,078 | 40,078 | 39,311 | -4.7% |
| New Mexico | 5,468 | 5,547 | 5,581 | 5,524 | 5,428 | 5,612 | 5,612 | 5,612 | 5,634 | 5,411 | 5,404 | -1.2% |
| New York | 169,756 | 172,630 | 175,195 | 177,035 | 179,600 | 182,296 | 184,662 | 185,076 | 187,246 | 188,341 | 187,656 | 10.5% |
| North Carolina | 23,136 | 23,136 | 23,325 | 23,694 | 24,087 | 24,253 | 24,253 | 24,253 | 25,735 | 26,274 | 26,515 | 14.6% |
| North Dakota | 1,599 | 1,665 | 1,669 | 1,698 | 1,694 | 1,687 | 1,697 | 1,696 | 1,685 | 1,694 | 1,663 | 4.0% |
| North Mariana Isls. | 210 | 210 | 126 | 123 | 128 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | -36.2% |
| Ohio | 38,234 | 38,849 | 38,237 | 38,623 | 37,873 | 38,189 | 38,189 | 38,189 | 34,692 | 37,717 | 36,488 | -4.6% |
| Oklahoma | 13,465 | 13,465 | 13,431 | 13,470 | 11,695 | 11,768 | 13,549 | 13,713 | 13,415 | 13,415 | 12,245 | -9.1% |
| Oregon | 12,276 | 12,464 | 12,475 | 12,227 | 12,427 | 12,274 | 12,196 | 12,158 | 12,285 | 12,196 | 12,233 | -0.4% |
| Palau | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 44 | 50 | 50 | 44 | 42 | 40 | 43 | |
| Pennsylvania | 50,072 | 48,992 | 49,644 | 49,406 | 50,112 | 50,039 | 49,249 | 49,087 | 49,412 | 48,174 | 47,519 | -5.1% |
| Puerto Rico | 14,193 | 15,318 | 13,673 | 14,293 | 14,008 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 14,240 | 13,864 | -2.3% |
| Rhode Island | 4,179 | 4,224 | 4,219 | 4,167 | 4,154 | 4,071 | 4,071 | 4,071 | 4,081 | 4,081 | 3,815 | -8.7% |
| South Carolina | 9,874 | 10,031 | 10,208 | 10,316 | 10,445 | 10,568 | 10,798 | 10,853 | 11,003 | 11,090 | 11,090 | 12.3% |
| South Dakota | 1,934 | 1,939 | 1,960 | 1,933 | 1,995 | 1,995 | 1,907 | 1,985 | 2,026 | 2,027 | 2,042 | 5.6% |
| Tennessee | 17,203 | 17,965 | 18,288 | 18,461 | 18,695 | 18,702 | 18,818 | 18,818 | 18,818 | 19,583 | 19,458 | 13.1% |
| Texas | 84,800 | 86,494 | 87,957 | 89,361 | 90,485 | 91,244 | 92,833 | 93,821 | 95,196 | 96,827 | 98,345 | 16.0% |
| Utah | 7,840 | 8,413 | 8,468 | 8,204 | 8,285 | 8,362 | 8,473 | 8,581 | 8,581 | 8,581 | 8,537 | 8.9% |
| Vermont | 2,300 | 2,272 | 2,326 | 2,326 | 2,227 | 3,612 | 3,612 | 2,198 | 2,198 | 2,198 | 2,198 | -4.4% |
| Virgin Islands | 456 | 456 | 561 | 372 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 654 | 654 | 43.4% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| State | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | % Change from 2014 |
| Virginia | 24,064 | 24,062 | 24,193 | 24,249 | 24,208 | 24,230 | 24,230 | 24,020 | 23,923 | 23,855 | 24,120 | 0.2% |
| Washington | 24,620 | 24,844 | 25,577 | 25,786 | 26,057 | 26,182 | 26,316 | 26,701 | 26,428 | 26,300 | 26,318 | 6.9% |
| West Virginia | 4,942 | 4,918 | 4,922 | 4,862 | 4,849 | 4,770 | 4,770 | 4,770 | 4,673 | 4,673 | 4,600 | -6.9% |
| Wisconsin | 15,481 | 15,481 | 15,072 | 15,549 | 15,539 | 15,512 | 15,482 | 15,488 | 15,384 | 15,192 | 15,172 | -2.0% |
| Wyoming | 1,778 | 1,778 | 1,715 | 1,776 | 1,716 | 1,773 | 1,773 | 1,692 | 1,704 | 1,673 | 1,726 | -2.9% |
| TOTAL | 1,281,432 | 1,300,705 | 1,312,869 | 1,335,963 | 1,342,379 | 1,352,077 | 1,328,742 | 1,327,910 | 1,327,010 | 1,331,290 | 1,322,649 | 3.2% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2024

| Year | Notes |
|------|--|
| 2014 | <i>Dist. of Columbia, Florida, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Utah, and Vermont</i> did not provide current data so the data from the most recent submission were used. Due to timing of the survey in 2014, the following states submitted data from Fall 2014 rather than as of December 31, 2013: Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Virginia, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Prior to the 2014 survey, the Virgin Islands did not report on active/inactive status; the decrease in 2014 is a more accurate representation of Resident Active lawyers. Prior to the 2014 survey, Oklahoma excluded lawyers categorized as "Over 70" from their Resident Active submission. The 2014 results include this group. |
| 2015 | <i>Arkansas, Connecticut, Guam, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Virgin Islands, Wisconsin, and Wyoming</i> did not provide current data for 2015, so the data from the most recent submission were used. |
| 2016 | <i>New Jersey</i> did not provide current data for 2016, so the data from the most recent submission were used. In 2016, four agencies had changes in the availability of Active/Inactive status data. Arkansas, Connecticut, and Indiana were not able to provide a breakout of Active/Inactive status for Resident attorneys as they had in prior years. Puerto Rico had not provided Active/Inactive status details in prior years, but was able to provide it for the 2016 survey. |
| 2017 | <i>Guam and Vermont</i> did not provide current data for 2017, so the data from the most recent submission were used. The source of the Maryland data changed from the voluntary Maryland State Bar to the Maryland Supreme Court. The Maryland Supreme Court does not track residency status, leading to larger results than prior years. Three agencies had changes in the availability of Active/Inactive status data. Indiana was not able to provide a breakout of Active/Inactive status for Resident attorneys in 2016, but was able to for 2017. American Samoa had not provided Residency or Active status details in recent years, but was able to provide it for the 2017 survey. Virgin Islands changed its classifications for the Active/Inactive status for the 2017 survey. |
| 2018 | <i>American Samoa, Delaware, and Indiana</i> did not provide current data for 2018, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Virgin Islands was not able to provide residency in 2018 due to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Oklahoma removed senior members from the Resident Active count (they can still practice but are over the age of 70). |
| 2019 | <i>New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data for 2019, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Maryland, Nevada, and New York provided corrected 2018 lawyer counts; this report reflects the corrected 2018 total attorney count. Four agencies had changes in the availability of residency data. Arkansas adopted a new software system and cleaned up data; the decrease in 2019 is a more accurate representation of Resident Active Lawyers. Louisiana changed how it reports residency status, causing an increase in the reported lawyer count. Minnesota and Vermont no longer track resident/non-resident status; the counts now reflect all active lawyers. |
| 2020 | <i>Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Mariana Islands, Ohio, Palau, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming</i> did not provide current data for 2020, so the data from the most recent submission were used. 2020, the District of Columbia changed how it reports residency status to report DC addresses only and not the DC metro area. Oklahoma returned senior members to the Resident Active count after excluding them in 2018 and 2019. |
| 2021 | <i>Alabama, American Samoa, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Mariana Islands, Ohio, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia</i> did not provide current data for 2021, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Vermont returned to tracking resident/non-resident status; the count now reflects resident active attorneys. |
| 2022 | <i>American Samoa, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, and Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data for 2022, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Alabama began distinguishing resident active and resident inactive numbers. |
| 2023 | <i>American Samoa, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, and West Virginia</i> did not provide current data for 2023, so the data from the most recent submission were used. |
| 2024 | <i>American Samoa, Arkansas, Delaware, Guam, Maryland, Minnesota, North Mariana Islands, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data for 2024, so the data from the most recent submission were used. |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Historical Trend in Total National Lawyer Population | 2024

| Year | Resident Active Attorney Total | % Change from Prior Year |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2024 | 1,322,649 | -0.2% |
| 2023 | 1,331,290 | 0.3% |
| 2022 | 1,327,010 | -0.1% |
| 2021 | 1,327,910 | -0.1% |
| 2020 | 1,328,742 | -1.7% |
| 2019 | 1,352,077 | 0.7% |
| 2018 | 1,342,379 | 0.5% |
| 2017 | 1,335,963 | 1.8% |
| 2016 | 1,312,869 | 0.9% |
| 2015 | 1,300,705 | 1.5% |
| 2014 | 1,281,432 | 1.1% |
| 2013 | 1,268,011 | 1.8% |
| 2012 | 1,245,205 | 1.6% |
| 2011 | 1,225,452 | 1.9% |
| 2010 | 1,203,097 | 1.9% |
| 2009 | 1,180,386 | 1.6% |
| 2008 | 1,162,124 | 1.6% |
| 2007 | 1,143,358 | 2.4% |
| 2006 | 1,116,967 | 1.1% |
| 2005 | 1,104,766 | 1.9% |
| 2004 | 1,084,504 | 2.4% |
| 2003 | 1,058,662 | 0.8% |
| 2002 | 1,049,751 | 0.1% |
| 2001 | 1,048,903 | 2.6% |
| 2000 | 1,022,462 | 2.2% |
| 1999 | 1,000,440 | 1.5% |
| 1998 | 985,921 | 3.4% |
| 1997 | 953,260 | 0.7% |
| 1996 | 946,499 | 5.6% |
| 1995 | 896,140 | 3.5% |
| 1994 | 865,614 | 2.3% |
| 1993 | 846,036 | 5.8% |
| 1992 | 799,760 | 2.9% |
| 1991 | 777,119 | 2.8% |
| 1990 | 755,694 | 4.2% |

| Year | Resident Active Attorney Total | % Change from Prior Year |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1981 | 612,593 | 6.6% |
| 1980 | 574,810 | 15.4% |
| 1979 | 498,249 | 7.2% |
| 1978 | 464,851 | 7.6% |
| 1977 | 431,918 | 1.6% |
| 1976 | 424,980 | 5.0% |
| 1975 | 404,772 | 5.0% |
| 1974 | 385,515 | 5.4% |
| 1973 | 365,875 | 2.1% |
| 1972 | 358,520 | 4.5% |
| 1971 | 342,980 | 4.9% |
| 1970 | 326,842 | 1.7% |
| 1969 | 321,473 | 1.7% |
| 1968 | 316,104 | 1.7% |
| 1967 | 310,736 | 1.8% |
| 1966 | 305,368 | 1.8% |
| 1965 | 300,000 | 0.9% |
| 1964 | 297,186 | 1.0% |
| 1963 | 294,372 | 1.0% |
| 1962 | 291,559 | 1.0% |
| 1961 | 288,746 | 1.0% |
| 1960 | 285,933 | 2.6% |
| 1959 | 278,746 | 2.6% |
| 1958 | 271,560 | 2.7% |
| 1957 | 264,373 | 2.8% |
| 1956 | 257,186 | 2.9% |
| 1955 | 250,000 | 12.8% |
| 1950 | 221,605 | 10.8% |
| 1945 | 200,000 | 10.4% |
| 1940 | 181,220 | 13.3% |
| 1935 | 160,000 | 15.1% |
| 1930 | 139,059 | 6.2% |
| 1925 | 131,000 | 6.9% |
| 1920 | 122,519 | 0.4% |
| 1915 | 122,000 | -0.1% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Historical Trend in Total National Lawyer Population | 2024

| Year | Resident Active Attorney Total | % Change from Prior Year |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1989 | 725,579 | 1.7% |
| 1988 | 713,456 | 2.7% |
| 1987 | 695,020 | 2.7% |
| 1986 | 676,584 | 3.5% |
| 1985 | 653,686 | 0.9% |
| 1984 | 647,575 | 4.0% |
| 1983 | 622,625 | 0.9% |
| 1982 | 617,320 | 0.8% |

| Year | Resident Active Attorney Total | % Change from Prior Year |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1910 | 122,149 | 3.5% |
| 1905 | 118,000 | 3.1% |
| 1900 | 114,460 | 27.7% |
| 1890 | 89,630 | 39.7% |
| 1880 | 64,137 | 0.0% |
| 1878 | 64,137 | N/A |
| | | |
| | | |

Data Source: 1998 forward - American Bar Association's National Lawyer Population Survey, prior to 1998 - ABA Archives, specific source unknown.

For data from 1998 forward, individual state bar associations or licensing agencies are asked to provide the number of resident and active attorneys as of December 31st of the prior year, e.g. 2023 data is as of 12/31/2022. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to the ABA from the respective associations or agencies.



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Demographics | 2024

| Resident Active Attorney Demographics: Gender | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Change from 2014 |
| Gender | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 64% | 65% | 64% | 65% | 64% | 64% | 63% | 63% | 62% | 61% | 58% | -6.0 pp |
| Female | 36% | 35% | 36% | 35% | 36% | 36% | 37% | 37% | 38% | 39% | 41% | 5.0 pp |
| Other | N/A | N/A | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0.0 pp |
| Count of States Reporting Statistic | 43 | 43 | 45 | 46 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 45 | 44 | 45 | 41 | -2 |
| % of Lawyers with Reported Statistic | 61% | 63% | 66% | 61% | 63% | 61% | 60% | 62% | 73% | 74% | 71% | 10.0 pp |

| Resident Active Attorney Demographics: Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Change from 2014 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| African-American | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 0.0 pp |
| Asian | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 5% | 6% | 7% | 5.0 pp |
| Caucasian/White | 88% | 86% | 85% | 85% | 85% | 85% | 86% | 85% | 81% | 79% | 78% | -8.0 pp |
| Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | -1.0 pp |
| Hispanic | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 1.0 pp |
| Multiracial | 0% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4.0 pp |
| Native American | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0.0 pp |
| Count of States Reporting Statistic | 17 | 18 | 19 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 26 | 26 | 21 | 24 | 6 |
| % of Lawyers with Reported Statistic | 21% | 25% | 30% | 29% | 28% | 35% | 31% | 36% | 45% | 42% | 43% | 22.0 pp |

Data Source: American Bar Association's National Lawyer Population Survey

Individual state bar associations or licensing agencies are asked to provide demographics data for resident and active attorneys as of December 31st of the prior year. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to the ABA from the respective associations or agencies.

Notes:

- In 2018, Indiana corrected the resident active figures for 2016; this report has been updated to reflect the new total attorney count for 2016 than was previously reported. In 2019, Maryland, Nevada, and New York provided corrected 2018 lawyer counts; this report reflects the corrected 2018 total attorney count.
- Beginning with the 2016 survey, choices included "Multiracial" as an option for race/ethnicity and "Other" as an option for gender. To date, we do not include "Other" in our percentage calculations due to insufficient response.
- Race/ethnicity percentages may total to more than 100% as many states allow responders to choose more than one option for race/ethnicity.
- Beginning with the 2020 survey, two new questions about attorneys who identify as LGBTQ+ and as persons with a disability were asked. Results are not included in the 2022 report due to insufficient response.

2023

National

Lawyer

Population

Survey



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Lawyer Population by State | 2023

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| State | Last Year | This Year | % Change from Prior Year |
| Alabama | 12,054 | 12,195 | 1.2% |
| Alaska | 2,118 | 2,268 | 6.6% |
| American Samoa | 55 | 55 | 0.0% |
| Arizona | 15,805 | 15,506 | -1.9% |
| Arkansas | 6,808 | 6,808 | 0.0% |
| California | 170,306 | 170,959 | 0.4% |
| Colorado | 22,802 | 22,802 | 0.0% |
| Connecticut | 21,036 | 21,036 | 0.0% |
| Delaware | 3,058 | 3,058 | 0.0% |
| Dist. of Columbia | 27,552 | 34,734 | 20.7% |
| Florida | 77,223 | 84,594 | 8.7% |
| Georgia | 33,729 | 33,890 | 0.5% |
| Guam | 262 | 262 | 0.0% |
| Hawaii | 4,184 | 4,122 | -1.5% |
| Idaho | 4,047 | 4,098 | 1.2% |
| Illinois | 62,720 | 62,201 | -0.8% |
| Indiana | 15,794 | 15,485 | -2.0% |
| Iowa | 7,405 | 7,258 | -2.0% |
| Kansas | 7,918 | 7,858 | -0.8% |
| Kentucky | 13,672 | 13,600 | -0.5% |
| Louisiana | 19,714 | 19,566 | -0.8% |
| Maine | 3,669 | 4,002 | 8.3% |
| Maryland | 40,800 | 26,020 | -56.8% |
| Massachusetts | 42,635 | 42,635 | 0.0% |
| Michigan | 35,139 | 34,577 | -1.6% |
| Minnesota | 26,065 | 26,065 | 0.0% |
| Mississippi | 6,814 | 6,736 | -1.2% |
| Missouri | 24,674 | 24,613 | -0.2% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

Lawyer Population by State | 2023

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| State | Last Year | This Year | % Change from Prior Year |
| Montana | 3,191 | 3,201 | 0.3% |
| Nebraska | 5,689 | 5,689 | 0.0% |
| Nevada | 7,484 | 7,498 | 0.2% |
| New Hampshire | 3,495 | 3,451 | -1.3% |
| New Jersey | 40,078 | 40,078 | 0.0% |
| New Mexico | 5,634 | 5,411 | -4.1% |
| New York | 187,246 | 188,341 | 0.6% |
| North Carolina | 25,735 | 26,274 | 2.1% |
| North Dakota | 1,685 | 1,694 | 0.5% |
| North Mariana Islands | 134 | 134 | 0.0% |
| Ohio | 34,692 | 37,717 | 8.0% |
| Oklahoma | 13,415 | 13,415 | 0.0% |
| Oregon | 12,285 | 12,196 | -0.7% |
| Palau | 42 | 40 | -5.0% |
| Pennsylvania | 49,412 | 48,174 | -2.6% |
| Puerto Rico | 13,944 | 14,240 | 2.1% |
| Rhode Island | 4,081 | 4,081 | 0.0% |
| South Carolina | 11,003 | 11,090 | 0.8% |
| South Dakota | 2,026 | 2,027 | 0.0% |
| Tennessee | 18,818 | 19,583 | 3.9% |
| Texas | 95,196 | 96,827 | 1.7% |
| Utah | 8,581 | 8,581 | 0.0% |
| Vermont | 2,198 | 2,198 | 0.0% |
| Virgin Islands | 776 | 654 | -18.7% |
| Virginia | 23,923 | 23,855 | -0.3% |
| Washington | 26,428 | 26,300 | -0.5% |
| West Virginia | 4,673 | 4,673 | 0.0% |
| Wisconsin | 15,384 | 15,192 | -1.3% |
| Wyoming | 1,704 | 1,673 | -1.9% |
| TOTAL | 1,327,010 | 1,331,290 | 0.3% |

Individual state bar associations or licensing agencies are asked to provide the number of resident and active attorneys as of December 31st of the prior year, e.g. 2023 data is as of 12/31/2022. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to the ABA from the respective associations or agencies.



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2023

Resident Active Attorney Count

| State | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | % Change from 2012 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Alabama | 14,303 | 14,531 | 14,630 | 14,666 | 14,717 | 14,822 | 14,821 | 14,897 | 14,897 | 12,054 | 12,195 | -14.7% |
| Alaska | 2,442 | 2,469 | 2,456 | 2,439 | 2,402 | 2,311 | 2,324 | 2,324 | 2,340 | 2,118 | 2,268 | -7.1% |
| American Samoa | 64 | 102 | 102 | 98 | 59 | 59 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 | -14.1% |
| Arizona | 16,208 | 15,993 | 16,155 | 15,926 | 14,960 | 15,601 | 15,081 | 15,081 | 15,688 | 15,805 | 15,506 | -4.3% |
| Arkansas | 5,953 | 5,970 | 5,970 | 7,320 | 6,851 | 7,080 | 6,693 | 6,299 | 6,808 | 6,808 | 6,808 | 14.4% |
| California | 163,163 | 163,327 | 165,952 | 167,690 | 168,746 | 170,044 | 170,117 | 168,569 | 167,709 | 170,306 | 170,959 | 4.8% |
| Colorado | 21,094 | 21,545 | 21,761 | 21,781 | 22,164 | 21,099 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 22,802 | 8.1% |
| Connecticut | 21,150 | 18,655 | 18,655 | 21,517 | 21,341 | 21,111 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | 21,036 | -0.5% |
| Delaware | 2,888 | 2,881 | 2,921 | 2,952 | 2,978 | 2,978 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 3,058 | 5.9% |
| Dist. of Columbia | 51,928 | 51,928 | 52,089 | 52,711 | 54,692 | 53,778 | 56,135 | 27,743 | 28,011 | 27,552 | 34,734 | -33.1% |
| Florida | 68,464 | 68,464 | 74,258 | 75,697 | 77,008 | 78,244 | 78,448 | 79,328 | 77,223 | 77,223 | 84,594 | 23.6% |
| Georgia | 28,974 | 30,463 | 31,340 | 31,499 | 31,672 | 32,802 | 32,409 | 32,584 | 33,158 | 33,729 | 33,890 | 17.0% |
| Guam | 256 | 313 | 313 | 266 | 266 | 270 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 2.3% |
| Hawaii | 4,132 | 4,260 | 4,193 | 4,224 | 4,236 | 4,261 | 4,270 | 4,270 | 4,184 | 4,184 | 4,122 | -0.2% |
| Idaho | 3,725 | 3,705 | 3,736 | 3,714 | 3,836 | 3,882 | 3,911 | 3,967 | 4,029 | 4,047 | 4,098 | 10.0% |
| Illinois | 62,496 | 61,871 | 63,211 | 63,060 | 62,782 | 63,422 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,720 | 62,201 | -0.5% |
| Indiana | 15,646 | 15,883 | 15,883 | 15,854 | 15,826 | 15,826 | 15,845 | 15,761 | 15,802 | 15,794 | 15,485 | -1.0% |
| Iowa | 7,383 | 7,183 | 7,526 | 7,560 | 7,523 | 7,454 | 7,306 | 7,306 | 7,452 | 7,405 | 7,258 | -1.7% |
| Kansas | 8,199 | 8,261 | 8,266 | 8,234 | 8,218 | 8,131 | 8,045 | 8,045 | 7,932 | 7,918 | 7,858 | -4.2% |
| Kentucky | 13,061 | 13,328 | 13,448 | 13,451 | 13,509 | 13,540 | 13,570 | 13,570 | 13,570 | 13,672 | 13,600 | 4.1% |
| Louisiana | 18,528 | 18,532 | 18,775 | 19,099 | 19,307 | 18,918 | 20,568 | 20,568 | 21,414 | 19,714 | 19,566 | 5.6% |
| Maine | 3,863 | 3,863 | 3,944 | 3,931 | 3,940 | 3,988 | 3,995 | 3,995 | 3,985 | 3,669 | 4,002 | 3.6% |
| Maryland | 23,068 | 23,508 | 23,902 | 24,142 | 38,800 | 40,309 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 40,800 | 26,020 | 12.8% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2023

Resident Active Attorney Count

| State | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | % Change from 2012 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Massachusetts | 43,008 | 44,257 | 43,974 | 43,221 | 43,442 | 42,926 | 42,788 | 42,908 | 42,720 | 42,635 | 42,635 | -0.9% |
| Michigan | 33,995 | 34,739 | 34,739 | 35,087 | 35,236 | 35,362 | 35,453 | 35,453 | 35,453 | 35,139 | 34,577 | 1.7% |
| Minnesota | 24,091 | 25,272 | 24,522 | 24,952 | 25,483 | 25,252 | 25,823 | 25,823 | 26,065 | 26,065 | 26,065 | 8.2% |
| Mississippi | 6,955 | 6,955 | 7,059 | 7,094 | 7,067 | 7,007 | 6,886 | 6,886 | 6,845 | 6,814 | 6,736 | -3.1% |
| Missouri | 24,423 | 25,337 | 25,337 | 24,922 | 24,787 | 24,754 | 24,369 | 24,369 | 24,369 | 24,674 | 24,613 | 0.8% |
| Montana | 3,046 | 3,084 | 3,126 | 3,140 | 3,159 | 3,179 | 3,184 | 3,167 | 3,183 | 3,191 | 3,201 | 5.1% |
| Nebraska | 5,028 | 5,028 | 5,361 | 5,506 | 5,545 | 5,565 | 5,555 | 5,546 | 5,546 | 5,689 | 5,689 | 13.1% |
| Nevada | 7,080 | 7,080 | 6,858 | 7,219 | 7,281 | 7,333 | 7,030 | 7,509 | 7,482 | 7,484 | 7,498 | 5.9% |
| New Hampshire | 3,507 | 3,515 | 3,521 | 3,506 | 3,507 | 3,523 | 3,523 | 3,495 | 3,495 | 3,495 | 3,451 | -1.6% |
| New Jersey | 40,993 | 41,250 | 41,569 | 41,569 | 41,168 | 41,021 | 41,152 | 41,152 | 40,137 | 40,078 | 40,078 | -2.2% |
| New Mexico | 5,468 | 5,468 | 5,547 | 5,581 | 5,524 | 5,428 | 5,612 | 5,612 | 5,612 | 5,634 | 5,411 | -1.0% |
| New York | 166,317 | 169,756 | 172,630 | 175,195 | 177,035 | 179,600 | 182,296 | 184,662 | 185,076 | 187,246 | 188,341 | 13.2% |
| North Carolina | 21,855 | 23,136 | 23,136 | 23,325 | 23,694 | 24,087 | 24,253 | 24,253 | 24,253 | 25,735 | 26,274 | 20.2% |
| North Dakota | 1,560 | 1,599 | 1,665 | 1,669 | 1,698 | 1,694 | 1,687 | 1,697 | 1,696 | 1,685 | 1,694 | 8.6% |
| North Mariana Islands | 135 | 210 | 210 | 126 | 123 | 128 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | 134 | -0.7% |
| Ohio | 38,541 | 38,234 | 38,849 | 38,237 | 38,623 | 37,873 | 38,189 | 38,189 | 38,189 | 34,692 | 37,717 | -2.1% |
| Oklahoma | 11,970 | 13,465 | 13,465 | 13,431 | 13,470 | 11,695 | 11,768 | 13,549 | 13,713 | 13,415 | 13,415 | 12.1% |
| Oregon | 12,276 | 12,276 | 12,464 | 12,475 | 12,227 | 12,427 | 12,274 | 12,196 | 12,158 | 12,285 | 12,196 | -0.7% |
| Palau | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 44 | 50 | 50 | 44 | 42 | 40 | -9.1% |
| Pennsylvania | 49,697 | 50,072 | 48,992 | 49,644 | 49,406 | 50,112 | 50,039 | 49,249 | 49,087 | 49,412 | 48,174 | -3.1% |
| Puerto Rico | 14,193 | 14,193 | 15,318 | 13,673 | 14,293 | 14,008 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 13,944 | 14,240 | 0.3% |
| Rhode Island | 4,173 | 4,179 | 4,224 | 4,219 | 4,167 | 4,154 | 4,071 | 4,071 | 4,071 | 4,081 | 4,081 | -2.2% |
| South Carolina | 9,587 | 9,874 | 10,031 | 10,208 | 10,316 | 10,445 | 10,568 | 10,798 | 10,853 | 11,003 | 11,090 | 15.7% |



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2023

| Resident Active Attorney Count | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| State | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | % Change from 2012 |
| South Dakota | 1,905 | 1,934 | 1,939 | 1,960 | 1,933 | 1,995 | 1,995 | 1,907 | 1,985 | 2,026 | 2,027 | 6.4% |
| Tennessee | 17,203 | 17,203 | 17,965 | 18,288 | 18,461 | 18,695 | 18,702 | 18,818 | 18,818 | 18,818 | 19,583 | 13.8% |
| Texas | 82,607 | 84,800 | 86,494 | 87,957 | 89,361 | 90,485 | 91,244 | 92,833 | 93,821 | 95,196 | 96,827 | 17.2% |
| Utah | 7,840 | 7,840 | 8,413 | 8,468 | 8,204 | 8,285 | 8,362 | 8,473 | 8,581 | 8,581 | 8,581 | 9.5% |
| Vermont | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,272 | 2,326 | 2,326 | 2,227 | 3,612 | 3,612 | 2,198 | 2,198 | 2,198 | -4.4% |
| Virgin Islands | 650 | 456 | 456 | 561 | 372 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 776 | 654 | 0.6% |
| Virginia | 24,468 | 24,064 | 24,062 | 24,193 | 24,249 | 24,208 | 24,230 | 24,230 | 24,020 | 23,923 | 23,855 | -2.5% |
| Washington | 24,032 | 24,620 | 24,844 | 25,577 | 25,786 | 26,057 | 26,182 | 26,316 | 26,701 | 26,428 | 26,300 | 9.4% |
| West Virginia | 4,901 | 4,942 | 4,918 | 4,922 | 4,862 | 4,849 | 4,770 | 4,770 | 4,770 | 4,673 | 4,673 | -4.7% |
| Wisconsin | 15,538 | 15,481 | 15,481 | 15,072 | 15,549 | 15,539 | 15,512 | 15,482 | 15,488 | 15,384 | 15,192 | -2.2% |
| Wyoming | 1,681 | 1,778 | 1,778 | 1,715 | 1,776 | 1,716 | 1,773 | 1,773 | 1,692 | 1,704 | 1,673 | -0.5% |
| TOTAL | 1,268,011 | 1,281,432 | 1,300,705 | 1,312,869 | 1,335,963 | 1,342,379 | 1,352,077 | 1,328,742 | 1,327,910 | 1,327,010 | 1,331,290 | 5.0% |

Individual state bar associations or licensing agencies are asked to provide the number of resident and active attorneys as of December 31st of the prior year, e.g. 2023 data is as of 12/31/2022. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to us from the respective associations or agencies; significant exceptions are noted below.



ABA National Lawyer Population Survey

10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State | 2023

| Year | Notes |
|------|--|
| 2013 | <i>Oregon, Guam, and the Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data so the data from the most recent submission were used. |
| 2014 | <i>Dist. of Columbia, Florida, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Utah, and Vermont</i> did not provide current data so the data from the most recent submission were used. Due to timing of the survey in 2014, the following states submitted data from Fall 2014 rather than as of December 31, 2013: Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Virginia, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Prior to the 2014 survey, the Virgin Islands did not report on active/inactive status; the decrease in 2014 is a more accurate representation of Resident Active lawyers. Prior to the 2014 survey, Oklahoma excluded lawyers categorized as "Over 70" from their Resident Active submission. The 2014 results include this group. |
| 2015 | <i>Arkansas, Connecticut, Guam, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, North Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Virgin Islands, Wisconsin, and Wyoming</i> did not provide current data for 2015, so the data from the most recent submission were used. |
| 2016 | <i>New Jersey</i> did not provide current data for 2016, so the data from the most recent submission were used. In 2016, four agencies had changes in the availability of Active/Inactive status data. Arkansas, Connecticut, and Indiana were not able to provide a breakout of Active/Inactive status for Resident attorneys as they had in prior years. Puerto Rico had not provided Active/Inactive status details in prior years, but was able to provide it for the 2016 survey. |
| 2017 | <i>Guam and Vermont</i> did not provide current data for 2017, so the data from the most recent submission were used. The source of the Maryland data changed from the voluntary Maryland State Bar to the Maryland Supreme Court. The Maryland Supreme Court does not track residency status, leading to larger results than prior years. Three agencies had changes in the availability of Active/Inactive status data. Indiana was not able to provide a breakout of Active/Inactive status for Resident attorneys in 2016, but was able to for 2017. American Samoa had not provided Residency or Active status details in recent years, but was able to provide it for the 2017 survey. Virgin Islands changed its classifications for the Active/Inactive status for the 2017 survey. |
| 2018 | <i>American Samoa, Delaware, and Indiana</i> did not provide current data for 2018, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Virgin Islands was not able to provide residency in 2018 due to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Oklahoma removed senior members from the Resident Active count (they can still practice but are over the age of 70). |
| 2019 | <i>New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data for 2019, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Maryland, Nevada, and New York provided corrected 2018 lawyer counts; this report reflects the corrected 2018 total attorney count. Four agencies had changes in the availability of residency data. Arkansas adopted a new software system and cleaned up data; the decrease in 2019 is a more accurate representation of Resident Active Lawyers. Louisiana changed how it reports residency status, causing an increase in the reported lawyer count. Minnesota and Vermont no longer track resident/non-resident status; the counts now reflect all active lawyers. |
| 2020 | <i>Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Mariana Islands, Ohio, Palau, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming</i> did not provide current data for 2020, so the data from the most recent submission were used. 2020, the District of Columbia changed how it reports residency status to report DC addresses only and not the DC metro area. Oklahoma returned senior members to the Resident Active count after excluding them in 2018 and 2019. |
| 2021 | <i>Alabama, American Samoa, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Mariana Islands, Ohio, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia</i> did not provide current data for 2021, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Vermont returned to tracking resident/non-resident status; the count now reflects resident active attorneys. |
| 2022 | <i>American Samoa, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, and Virgin Islands</i> did not provide current data for 2022, so the data from the most recent submission were used. Alabama began distinguishing resident active and resident inactive numbers. |
| 2023 | <i>American Samoa, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Guam, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, and West Virginia</i> did not provide current data for 2023, so the data from the most recent submission were used. |

| Resident Active Attorney Demographics: Gender | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Change from 2012 |
| Gender | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 66% | 64% | 65% | 64% | 65% | 64% | 64% | 63% | 63% | 62% | 61% | -5.5 pp |
| Female | 34% | 36% | 35% | 36% | 35% | 36% | 36% | 37% | 37% | 38% | 39% | 5.5 pp |
| Other | N/A | N/A | N/A | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0.1 pp |
| Count of States Reporting Statistic | 43 | 43 | 43 | 45 | 46 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 45 | 44 | 45 | 2 |
| % of Lawyers with Reported Statistic | 59% | 61% | 63% | 66% | 61% | 63% | 61% | 60% | 62% | 73% | 74% | 14.8 pp |

| Resident Active Attorney Demographics: Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Change from 2012 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| African-American | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 0.2 pp |
| Asian | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 5% | 6% | 4.3 pp |
| Caucasian/White | 89% | 88% | 86% | 85% | 85% | 85% | 85% | 86% | 85% | 81% | 79% | -10.1 pp |
| Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0.1 pp |
| Hispanic | 4% | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 6% | 6% | 2.5 pp |
| Multiracial | N/A | 0% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3.3 pp |
| Native American | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | -0.3 pp |
| Count of States Reporting Statistic | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 26 | 26 | 21 | 5 |
| % of Lawyers with Reported Statistic | 21% | 21% | 25% | 30% | 29% | 28% | 35% | 31% | 36% | 45% | 42% | 21.8 pp |

Individual state bar associations or licensing agencies are asked to provide demographics data for resident and active attorneys as of December 31st of the prior year, e.g. 2023 data is as of 12/31/2022. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to the ABA from the respective associations or agencies.

Notes:

- In 2018, Indiana corrected the resident active figures for 2016; this report has been updated to reflect the new total attorney count for 2016 than was previously reported. In 2019, Maryland, Nevada, and New York provided corrected 2018 lawyer counts; this report reflects the corrected 2018 total attorney count.
- Beginning with the 2016 survey, choices included "Multiracial" as an option for race/ethnicity and "Other" as an option for gender.
- Race/ethnicity percentages may total to more than 100% as many states allow responders to choose more than one option for race/ethnicity.
- Beginning with the 2020 survey, two new questions about attorneys who identify as LGBTQ+ and as persons with a disability were asked. Results are not included in the 2021 report due to insufficient response.