Lawyer Demographics

Year 2015

Number of Licensed Lawyers

1,300,705

Source: American Bar Association, 2015 National Lawyer Population Survey

Gender

	2000	2005	2010	2015
Male	72%	71%	69%	65%
Female	28%	29%	31%	35%

Sources: National Lawyer Population Survey, American Bar Association, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 editions

Age

	1980	1991	2000	2005
29 yrs. or less	15%	10%	7%	4%
30-34	21%	16%	12%	9%
35-39	15%	18%	14%	13%
40-44	9%	18%	15%	13%
45-54	16%	18%	28%	28%
55-64	12%	10%	13%	21%
65+	13%	10%	12%	13%
Median age	39	41	45	49

Sources: *The Lawyer Statistical Report*, American Bar Foundation, 1985, 1994, 2004, 2012 editions

Race / Ethnicity

	2000*	2010*
White, not Hispanic	89%	88%
Black, not Hispanic	4%	5%
Hispanic	3%	4%
Asian Pacific American, not Hispanic	2%	3%
American Indian, not Hispanic	<1%	-
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, not Hispanic	<1%	-

*Source: 2000, 2010 U.S. Census, Bureau of the Census
NOTE: U.S. Census considers Hispanic an ethnicity, not a race. Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

Law Students

Academic Year	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Total JD enrollment	146,268	139,120	128,695
Gender			
Male	53.3%	53.0%	52.2%
Female	46.7%	47.0%	47.8%
Minority enrollment	26.2%	27.4%	28.5%

Source: ABA Section of Legal Education & Admissions to the Bar
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/statistics.html

Note: Numbers may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Compiled by the American Bar Association.

Practice Setting

% of lawyers in…	1980	1991	2000	2005
Private Practice	68%	73%	74%	75%
Government	9%	8%	8%	8%
Private Industry	10%	9%	8%	8%
Retired/Inactive	5%	5%	5%	4%
Judiciary	4%	3%	3%	3%
Education	1%	1%	1%	1%
Legal Aid/Public Defender	2%	1%	1%	1%
Private Association	1%	1%	1%	1%

Sources: *The Lawyer Statistical Report*, American Bar Foundation, 1985, 1994, 2004, 2012 editions

Private Practitioners

% of private practitioners…	1980	1991	2000	2005
Solo	49%	45%	48%	49%
2 – 5 lawyers	22%	15%	15%	14%
6 – 10 lawyers	9%	7%	7%	6%
11 – 20 lawyers	7%	7%	6%	6%
21 – 50 lawyers	6%	8%	6%	6%
51 – 100 lawyers	7%	5%	4%	4%
101 + lawyers	*	13%	14%	16%

Sources: *The Lawyer Statistical Report*, American Bar Foundation, 1985, 1994, 2004, 2012 editions
* Largest firm size for 1980 data was 51+ lawyers.

Law Firm Size

% of law firms with…	1980	1991	2000	2005
2 – 5 lawyers	81%	75%	76%	76%
6 – 10 lawyers	12%	13%	13%	13%
11 – 20 lawyers	4%	7%	6%	6%
21 – 50 lawyers	2%	3%	3%	3%
51 – 100 lawyers	1%	1%	1%	1%
101 + lawyers	*	1%	1%	1%
Total # firms	38,482	42,513	47,563	47,562

Sources: *The Lawyer Statistical Report*, American Bar Foundation, 1985, 1994, 2004, 2012 editions
* Largest firm size for 1980 data was 51+ lawyers.

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