



**ABA National Lawyer Population Survey**  
**10-Year Trend in Lawyer Population by State**  
Year 2016

Resident Active Attorney Count												
State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change from 2006
Alabama (1)	12,625	12,936	13,231	13,443	13,655	13,876	14,135	14,303	14,531	14,630	14,666	16.2%
Alaska	2,318	2,303	2,385	2,362	2,418	2,451	2,418	2,442	2,469	2,456	2,439	5.2%
American Samoa (5)	N/A	57	58	45	44	47	44	64	102	102	98	71.9%
Arizona (8)	12,172	12,501	12,793	13,028	13,384	14,471	14,471	16,208	15,993	16,155	15,926	30.8%
Arkansas (11,15)	5,500	5,600	5,700	5,700	5,789	5,545	5,928	5,953	5,970	5,970	7,320	33.1%
California	141,030	145,355	148,399	149,982	153,155	157,388	159,824	163,163	163,327	165,952	167,690	18.9%
Colorado	18,449	18,376	18,894	19,340	19,737	20,211	20,768	21,094	21,545	21,761	21,781	18.1%
Connecticut (11,15)	18,578	18,823	19,013	19,427	20,309	20,585	20,842	21,150	18,655	18,655	21,517	15.8%
Delaware	2,391	2,478	2,526	2,592	2,706	2,820	2,853	2,888	2,881	2,921	2,952	23.5%
Dist. of Columbia (10)	43,445	45,231	46,689	48,456	49,207	50,440	51,271	51,928	51,928	52,089	52,711	21.3%
Florida (10)	46,475	59,912	59,953	61,426	62,875	64,715	66,556	68,464	68,464	74,258	75,697	62.9%
Georgia	25,632	26,459	27,227	27,457	27,398	28,871	28,520	28,974	30,463	31,340	31,499	22.9%
Guam (5,6,8,9)	N/A	295	270	243	256	256	256	256	313	313	266	-9.8%
Hawaii	4,016	4,138	4,126	4,100	4,077	4,054	4,107	4,132	4,260	4,193	4,224	5.2%
Idaho	3,166	3,220	3,330	3,221	3,299	3,553	3,627	3,725	3,705	3,736	3,714	17.3%
Illinois (6,8)	61,130	60,805	61,259	58,457	60,069	60,069	60,069	62,496	61,871	63,211	63,060	3.2%
Indiana (7,11,15)	13,069	12,546	13,564	14,379	13,850	14,016	15,512	15,646	15,883	15,883	18,546	41.9%
Iowa	6,896	6,957	6,959	7,036	7,080	7,200	7,308	7,383	7,183	7,526	7,560	9.6%
Kansas (11)	7,666	7,777	7,855	7,951	8,009	8,129	8,156	8,199	8,261	8,266	8,234	7.4%
Kentucky	11,336	11,607	11,876	12,088	12,334	12,579	12,891	13,061	13,328	13,448	13,451	18.7%
Louisiana (11)	16,955	16,930	17,279	17,688	17,974	18,327	18,528	18,532	18,532	18,775	19,099	12.6%
Maine (10)	3,512	3,570	3,594	3,647	3,663	3,718	3,865	3,863	3,863	3,944	3,931	11.9%
Maryland	20,510	20,999	20,996	21,554	22,149	22,172	22,477	23,068	23,508	23,902	24,142	17.7%
Massachusetts	49,837	39,616	42,501	43,198	44,121	41,920	42,483	43,008	44,257	43,974	43,221	-13.3%
Michigan (11)	31,432	31,918	32,131	32,321	32,731	33,370	33,692	33,995	34,739	34,739	35,087	11.6%
Minnesota (2,11)	20,177	21,426	21,944	22,448	22,585	23,363	23,774	24,091	25,272	24,522	24,952	23.7%
Mississippi (10)	6,641	7,312	6,723	6,748	6,786	6,886	6,955	6,955	6,955	7,059	7,094	6.8%
Missouri (11)	21,688	22,238	22,602	23,362	23,728	23,933	24,276	24,423	25,337	25,337	24,922	14.9%
Montana	2,706	2,728	2,844	2,885	2,921	2,980	3,008	3,046	3,084	3,126	3,140	16.0%
Nebraska (10)	5,037	5,069	5,117	5,215	5,149	5,238	4,983	5,028	5,028	5,361	5,506	9.3%
Nevada (10)	5,580	5,909	6,105	6,395	6,523	6,732	6,850	7,080	7,080	6,858	7,219	29.4%
New Hampshire	3,245	3,307	3,309	3,397	3,396	3,423	3,449	3,507	3,515	3,521	3,506	8.0%
New Jersey (14)	38,466	39,019	39,384	40,060	40,286	40,754	40,997	40,993	41,250	41,569	41,569	8.1%
New Mexico (10)	5,091	5,167	5,267	5,542	5,269	5,318	5,513	5,468	5,468	5,547	5,581	9.6%
New York	144,599	147,096	150,542	153,552	157,778	161,031	163,798	166,317	169,756	172,630	175,195	21.2%
North Carolina (11)	17,717	18,339	18,966	19,637	20,226	20,706	21,280	21,855	23,136	23,136	23,325	31.7%
North Dakota	1,368	1,328	1,345	1,381	1,397	1,448	1,546	1,560	1,599	1,665	1,669	22.0%
North Mariana Islands (3)	156	128	127	128	129	130	135	135	210	210	126	-19.2%
Ohio (4)	34,421	36,892	36,644	37,467	37,335	38,118	37,745	38,541	38,234	38,849	38,237	11.1%
Oklahoma (13)	12,002	12,146	12,357	11,511	11,711	11,704	12,978	11,970	13,465	13,465	13,431	11.9%
Oregon (9,10)	10,887	11,140	11,344	11,532	11,766	12,065	12,276	12,276	12,276	12,464	12,475	14.6%
Pennsylvania (5)	45,415	45,968	46,065	46,276	47,453	48,492	48,947	49,697	50,072	48,992	49,644	9.3%
Puerto Rico (6,8,10,15)	11,767	12,142	12,545	13,071	13,282	13,282	13,282	14,193	14,193	15,318	13,673	16.2%
Rhode Island (2,11)	3,951	4,351	4,055	4,044	4,098	4,114	4,060	4,173	4,179	4,224	4,219	6.8%
South Carolina	8,823	8,411	8,961	9,059	9,264	9,384	9,537	9,587	9,874	10,031	10,208	15.7%
South Dakota	1,715	1,743	1,761	1,794	1,839	1,880	1,865	1,905	1,934	1,939	1,960	14.3%
Tennessee (10)	14,470	14,867	15,199	15,855	16,365	16,630	16,947	17,203	17,203	17,965	18,288	26.4%
Texas	69,762	70,842	73,505	75,087	77,049	78,844	80,657	82,607	84,800	86,494	87,957	26.1%
Utah (10)	6,041	6,984	6,215	6,568	6,778	6,552	7,309	7,840	7,840	8,413	8,468	40.2%
Vermont (10)	2,229	2,280	2,183	2,185	2,166	2,263	2,270	2,300	2,300	2,272	2,326	4.4%
Virgin Islands (8,9,12)	480	600	750	700	700	650	650	650	456	456	561	16.9%
Virginia (11)	21,391	21,722	21,183	21,682	22,472	23,936	24,091	24,468	24,064	24,062	24,193	13.1%
Washington	22,678	23,151	22,276	22,973	23,204	23,503	23,741	24,032	24,620	24,844	25,577	12.8%
West Virginia (11)	4,497	4,572	4,618	4,672	4,725	4,753	4,854	4,901	4,942	4,918	4,922	9.5%
Wisconsin (11)	14,354	14,561	14,448	14,906	15,078	15,252	15,364	15,538	15,481	15,481	15,072	5.0%
Wyoming (11)	1,473	1,511	1,537	1,522	1,636	1,658	1,668	1,681	1,778	1,778	1,715	16.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,116,967</b>	<b>1,143,358</b>	<b>1,162,124</b>	<b>1,180,386</b>	<b>1,203,097</b>	<b>1,225,452</b>	<b>1,245,205</b>	<b>1,268,011</b>	<b>1,281,432</b>	<b>1,300,705</b>	<b>1,315,561</b>	<b>17.8%</b>

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

\*\* 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. 2016 data is as of 12/31/2015. The numbers reflected here are the best available data provided to us from the respective associations or agencies; significant exceptions are noted below.

- (1) The Alabama number reflects all resident attorneys regardless of whether they were active or not.
- (2) In 2006 Rhode Island and Minnesota were able to provide the total number of resident and active attorneys. In earlier years the number reflects all resident attorneys regardless of whether they were active or not, so the 2006 decrease represents greater accuracy in counting.
- (3) The territory of Northern Mariana Islands is new to the survey in 2006.
- (4) In 2006, the Pennsylvania reporting source shifted from the State Bar to the State Licensing Agency who was able to provide more complete statistics including lawyers with addresses that were unlisted or withheld, so the increase represents greater accuracy in counting.
- (5) The territories of American Samoa and Guam were new to the survey in 2007.
- (6) Illinois, Guam, and Puerto Rico did not provide current data for 2011 so prior year's stats were used.
- (7) During 2011, Indiana began using a new system for attorney registration leading to greater accuracy in reporting in 2012.
- (8) Arizona, Illinois, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands did not provide current data for 2012 so prior year's stats were used.
- (9) Oregon, Guam, and the Virgin Islands did not provide current data for 2013 so prior year's stats were used.
- (10) Dist. of Columbia, Florida, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Utah, and Vermont did not provide current data for 2014 so the data from the most recent submission were used.
- (11) 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. All but Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Virginia chose not to submit updated data for the 2015 survey.
- (12) 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.
- (13) Prior to the 2014 survey, Oklahoma excluded lawyers categorized as "Over 70" from their Resident Active submission. The 2014 results include this group.
- (14) In 2016, New Jersey was in the process of a system conversion and was not able to provide information in time to be included in the survey. As a result, the most recent prior submission was used.
- (15) 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.

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