

2019 Profile of the Legal Profession in Ohio



OHIO STATE BAR
ASSOCIATION
Connect. Advance. Succeed.

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INTRODUCTION

The Ohio State Bar Association (OSBA) compiled this report in order to provide a more complete picture of the legal profession in Ohio.* The report is a reference for anyone who wants to understand the practice of law in the state, from its impact on the economy to its makeup in terms of gender, ethnicity, geography and area of practice. The data here is compiled from many different sources, including the Ohio Supreme Court, the Ohio Access to Justice Foundation and the American Bar Association, as well as various studies commissioned by the OSBA to survey attorneys in Ohio.

The legal profession is in a state of rapid change and our hope is that we can provide a clear vision of where we are now, so that we can better prepare for where we are heading in the future.

*This data was compiled prior to the impact of the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.

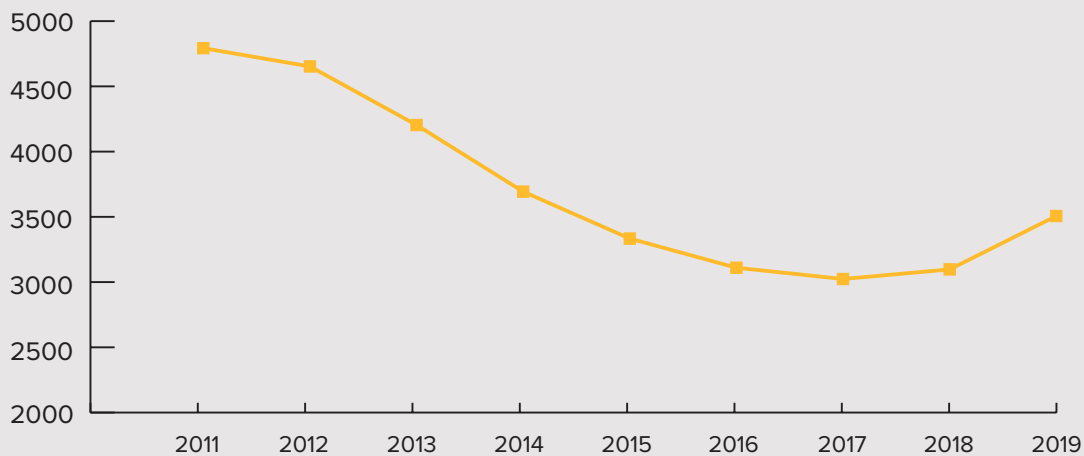
LEGAL EDUCATION

Ohio law school enrollment began a steady decline in 2011. In 2017, law schools began to see their first uptick in enrollment numbers and 2019 saw a sharp increase in new law students.

Nationwide, women have outnumbered men in law schools for the third year in a row in 2019, according to the American Bar Association. Meanwhile, in Ohio, law school enrollment hovers near gender parity but women 1L students do outnumber men.



OHIO LAW SCHOOL TOTAL ENROLLMENT



American Bar Association 2019 law school enrollment data

OHIO LAW SCHOOL 1L ENROLLMENT, FALL 2019



2019-20
Class Total
1,140



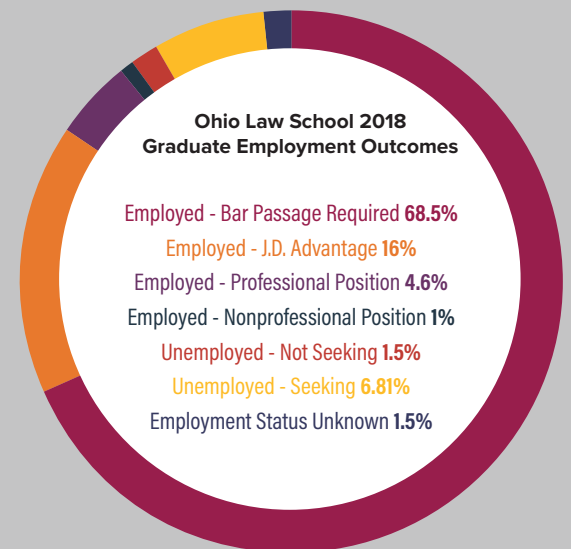
Men
542



Women
596

Other
2

School	2019-20 Class Total	Men	Women	Other
University of Akron	111	67	44	0
Capital University	164	86	78	0
Case Western Reserve University	119	44	75	0
University of Cincinnati	135	54	81	0
Cleveland-Marshall College	144	72	72	0
University of Dayton	120	54	65	1
Ohio Northern University	50	24	26	0
Ohio State University	193	94	98	1
University of Toledo	104	47	57	0



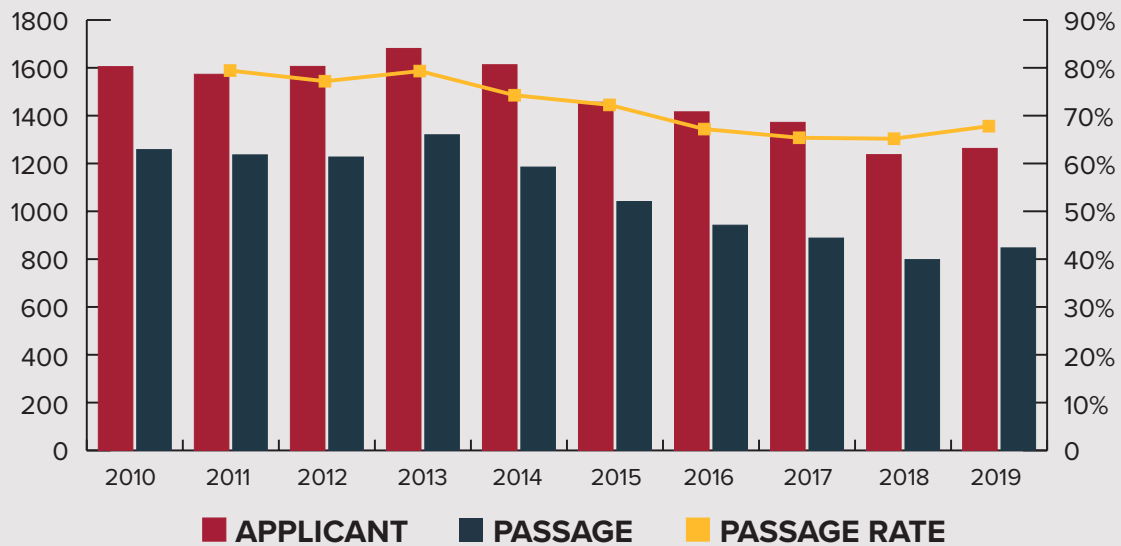
American Bar Association 2019 law school enrollment data

American Bar Association Section of Legal Education Employment Summary Reports. Required disclosures were reported in spring of 2019 and data may change throughout the year.



Bar passage rates in 2019 saw their first tick upward since 2014, when rates began a steady decline.

OHIO BAR EXAM APPLICANT/# OF PASSERS / PASSAGE RATE



Ohio Supreme Court Bar Examination results

STUDENT DEBT



Private Practitioners

Millennials: \$98,801
Gen X: \$71,088
Baby Boomers: \$32,228



Government Attorneys

Millennials: \$113,380
Gen X: \$67,450
Baby Boomers: \$6,738



In-House Counsel

Millennials: \$87,706
Gen X: \$72,000
Baby Boomers: \$41,000

Data based on voluntary responses to OSBA 2019 Economics of Law Practice Survey. Values represent mean data points.

OHIO ATTORNEYS

Though law school enrollment figures paint a promising picture for the future of the legal profession, Ohio attorneys have a ways to go when it comes to achieving gender parity, closing the wage gap and attaining true racial diversity.

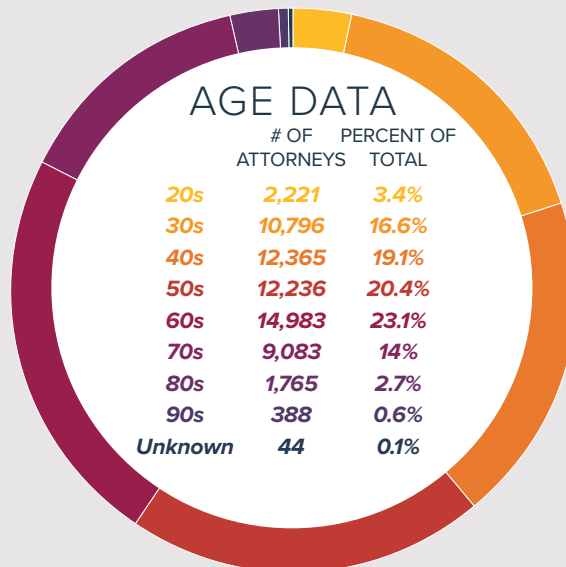
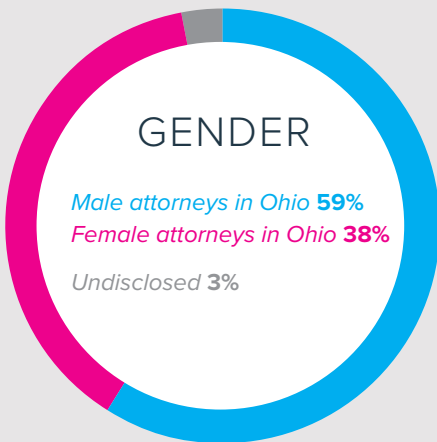
But, the legal profession is also one of the most giving industries, with attorneys being several times more likely to serve on the board of a nonprofit than other professions. Close to three quarters of attorneys in Ohio provide legal services at no cost to those in need and the value of pro bono services provided by Ohio lawyers trends steadily upward.



DEMOGRAPHICS

REGISTERED ATTORNEYS WITH OHIO SUPREME COURT AND OHIO BUSINESS ADDRESS
2019

32,199

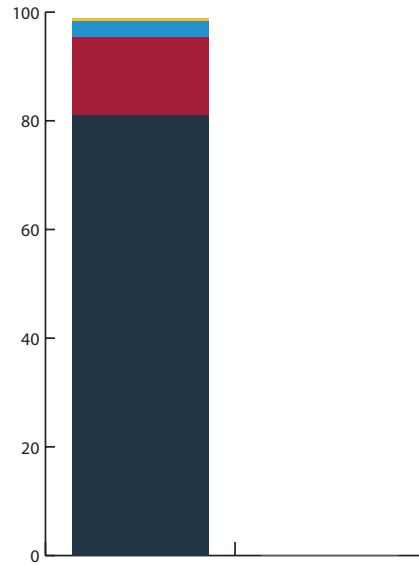


Total registered attorneys with the Ohio Supreme Court in 2019: 43,029

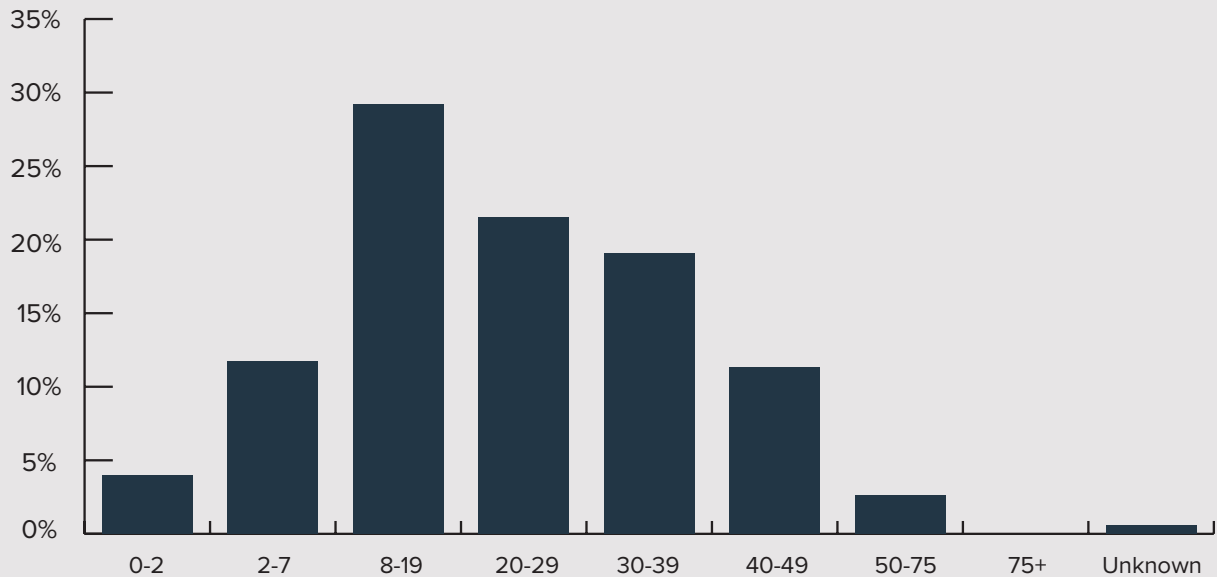
Gender and age demographics based on 2019 Supreme Court data compiled at a single point in time and may change throughout the year.

RACE/ETHNICITY

Ohio Supreme Court
0% Hispanic
0% Native Hawaiian/Pacific
0.1% Am. Indian/Alaskan
0.4% Other
1% Asian
3% Black/African American
14.2% Not Provided
81.1% White



YEARS IN PRACTICE



Ohio Supreme Court 2019 registered attorney data.
Supreme Court race and ethnicity data compiled at a single point in time and may change throughout the year.

Ohio Attorney/Population Ratio



Ohio contains 65 counties with more than 500 residents per attorney.

The following counties represent 70% of Ohio's attorney population

- Cuyahoga
- Franklin
- Hamilton
- Summit
- Lucas
- Montgomery

26,681/38,035

Data compiled from Ohio Supreme Court and U.S. Census Bureau. Data compiled at a single point in time and may change throughout the year.

Private practitioners and government attorneys are more optimistic with current and future economic conditions when compared to 2012 data.

SALARY & HOURLY RATES

3-5
YEARS IN PRACTICE



GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY SALARY

2018 \$51,000 | \$51,000
2012 \$46,000 | \$50,000



IN-HOUSE SALARY

2018 \$90,000 | \$42,000
2012 \$83,000 | \$62,500



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

2018 \$73,500 | \$78,000
2012 \$70,500 | \$57,500



HOURLY RATE

2018 \$200/HR.
2012 \$175/HR.

6-10

YEARS IN PRACTICE



GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY SALARY

2018 \$69,990 | \$84,500
2012 \$70,000 | \$60,000



IN-HOUSE SALARY

2018 \$123,000 | \$118,000
2012 \$117,500 | \$99,500



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

2018 \$90,000 | \$67,500
2012 \$100,000 | \$77,500



HOURLY RATE

2018 \$215/HR.
2012 \$200/HR.

More than 70% of attorneys report using a firm website and networking at their bar association as marketing tools for their practice.



GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY SALARY

2018 \$69,990 | \$84,500
2012 \$65,000 | \$59,500



IN-HOUSE SALARY

2018 \$130,899 | \$100,000
2012 \$150,000 | \$118,000



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

2018 \$120,000 | \$82,000
2012 \$135,000 | \$100,000



HOURLY RATE

2018 \$250/HR.
2012 \$200/HR.

11-15
YEARS IN PRACTICE

Figures represent median values. Values are based on OSBA member responses to the 2019 and 2013 Economics of Law Practice studies.

● = Male ● = Female

16-25

YEARS IN PRACTICE



GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY SALARY

2018 \$100,500 | \$81,500
2012 \$77,000 | \$78,000



IN-HOUSE SALARY

2018 \$181,000 | \$105,000
2012 \$120,000 | \$127,500



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

2018 \$111,000 | \$115,000
2012 \$114,000 | \$105,000



HOURLY RATE

2018 \$250/HR.
2012 \$200/HR.

In 2018, 27% of private practitioners reported using a flat fee as an alternative fee arrangement, and data suggests that those in private practice are driving a trend away from the billable hour.

26-35

YEARS IN PRACTICE



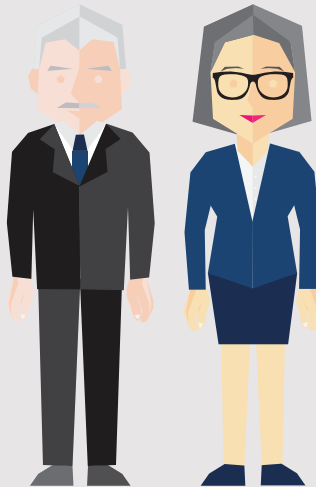
GOVERNMENT ATTORNEY SALARY

2018 \$100,500 | \$81,500
2012 \$102,000 | \$83,500



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

2018 \$150,000 | \$85,000
2012 \$140,000 | \$90,000



IN-HOUSE SALARY

2018 \$300,000 | \$228,000
2012 \$150,000 | \$152,500



HOURLY RATE

2018 \$250/HR.
2012 \$225/HR.

Figures represent median values. Values are based on OSBA member responses to the 2019 and 2013 Economics of Law Practice studies.

● = Male ● = Female

IOLTA 20,450

ACTIVE ATTORNEYS WITH REGISTERED IOTA/IOLTA ACCOUNTS

IOLTA accounts are a good indication of the amount of lawyers in the state who work with clients and maintain client funds. Interest earned on these accounts provide financial support to Ohio's legal aids.

INCLUDES 5 CORPORATE ATTORNEYS

This data was compiled at a point in time and may change throughout the year.

PRO BONO

118,146

↑ PRO BONO HOURS REPORTED
35% INCREASE FROM 2017

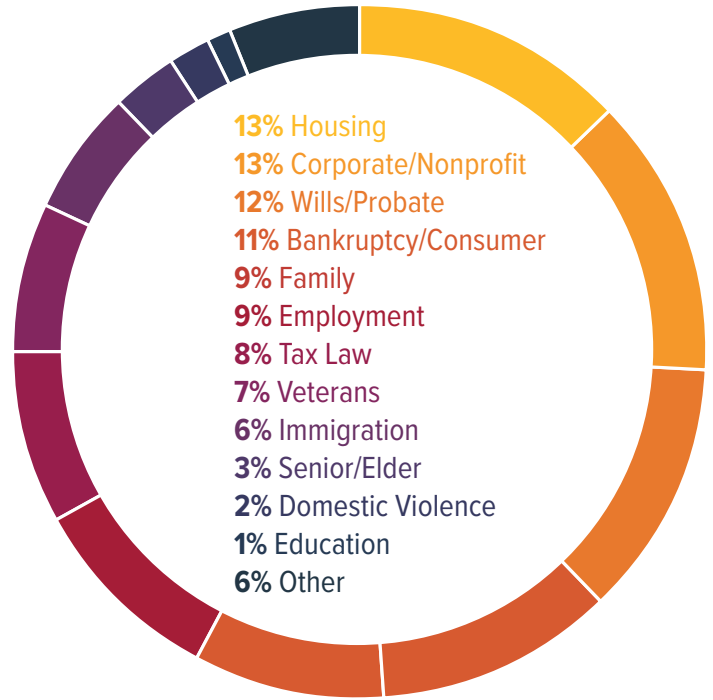
68%

OF ATTORNEYS PROVIDED PRO BONO SERVICES

\$23,629,200

VALUE OF REPORTED PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES

PRACTICE AREAS OF PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES



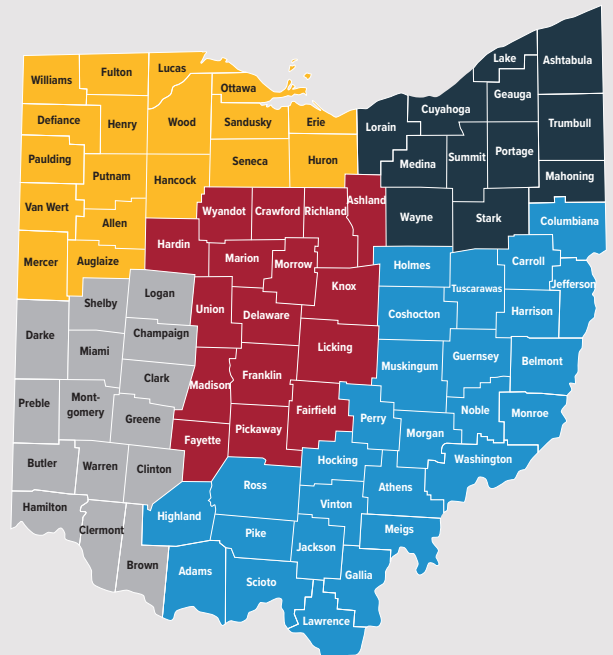
Data from Ohio Access to Justice Foundation 2018 Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

At the state level, an attorney is four to eight times more likely to volunteer to serve as a member of a board of trustees for a nonprofit organization, based on their occupational representation. Canton boasts the most active attorneys with 52.9% of attorneys reporting participation on a nonprofit board.

Nonprofit Board Participation by Region:

- Central Ohio: **39.1%**
- Southwest Ohio: **50.8%**
- Southeast Ohio: **48.5%**
- Northwest Ohio: **48.3%**
- Northeast Ohio: **45.5%**



Data from The 2014 Economic Profile and Impacts of Ohio's Legal Services Industry prepared for the OSBA by the University of Cincinnati Economics Center

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Ohio's legal services industry is a major employer, directly employing 34,242 people and paying more than \$2.2 billion in wages. An additional 46,227 jobs are created due to the profession's indirect employment and \$1.3 billion in indirect wages are generated via direct expenditure on wages.

Overall, the profession has a total economic impact of \$3.5 billion in household earnings and the creation of 80,469 jobs.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PRIVATE OHIO LAW FIRMS

\$2.2 Billion
DIRECT WAGES

34,242
DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

\$1.3 Billion
INDIRECT WAGES

46,227
INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT

\$3.5 BILLION
80,469 JOBS

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Metro Area	Wages Impact	Share of Impact	Employment Impact	Share of Employment Impact
Akron	\$180,511,715	5%	3,917	5%
Canton	\$62,183,397	2%	1,405	2%
Cincinnati	\$546,197,674	16%	12,763	16%
Cleveland	\$1,234,708,159	35%	23,500	29%
Columbus	\$706,534,728	30%	16,163	20%
Dayton	\$174,425,237	5%	3,990	5%
Toledo	\$122,608,099	3%	3,269	4%
Youngstown	\$47,523,379	1%	1,494	2%

Data from The 2014 Economic Profile and Impacts of Ohio's Legal Services Industry prepared for the OSBA by the University of Cincinnati Economics Center