

2020 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 OSBA leaders so that we may better 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, as well as how OSBA membership contributes to and compares with the profession as a whole. The data here is compiled from many different sources, including the Ohio Supreme Court, OSBA membership data, the American Bar Association and the Ohio Access to Justice Foundation, as well as various studies commissioned by the OSBA to survey attorneys in Ohio.

The legal profession and association membership are 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.

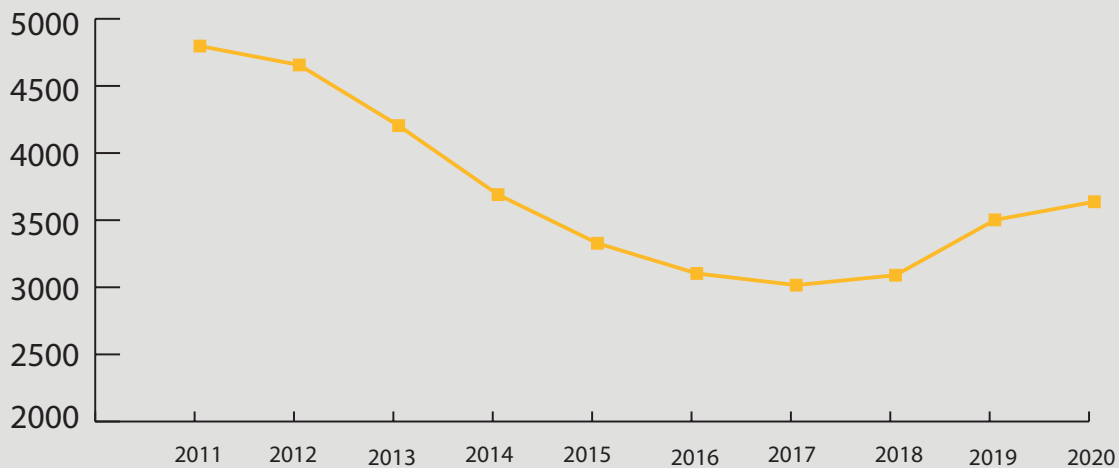
LEGAL EDUCATION

Ohio law school enrollment began a steady decline in 2011. In 2017, law schools began to see their first uptick in enrollment numbers and 2020 maintained an upward trend of new law students.

Nationwide, women have outnumbered men in law schools for the fourth year in a row in 2020, according to the American Bar Association. Meanwhile, in Ohio, law school enrollment hovers near gender parity but women 1L students do outnumber men, with the gap increasing in 2020.



OHIO LAW SCHOOL TOTAL ENROLLMENT



American Bar Association 2020 law school enrollment data

OHIO LAW SCHOOL 1L ENROLLMENT, FALL 2020



2020-21
Class Total
1,226



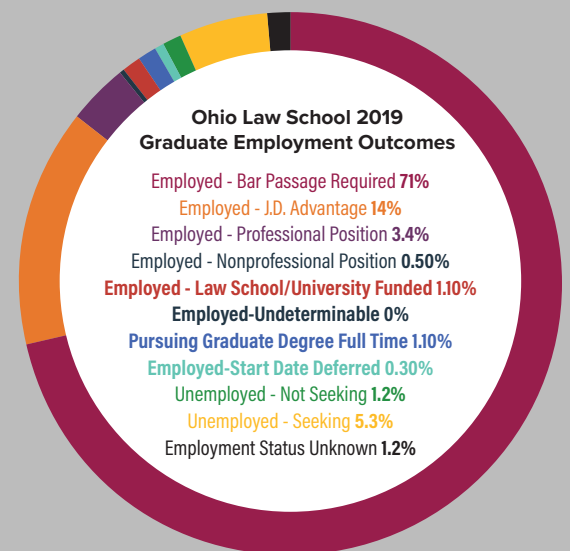
Men
588



Women
634

Other
4

School	2020-21 Class Total	Men	Women	Other
University of Akron	144	73	71	0
Capital University	166	85	81	0
Case Western Reserve University	112	59	53	0
University of Cincinnati	133	63	69	1
Cleveland-Marshall College	140	71	69	0
University of Dayton	167	77	87	3
Ohio Northern University	59	36	23	0
Ohio State University	181	72	109	0
University of Toledo	124	52	72	0

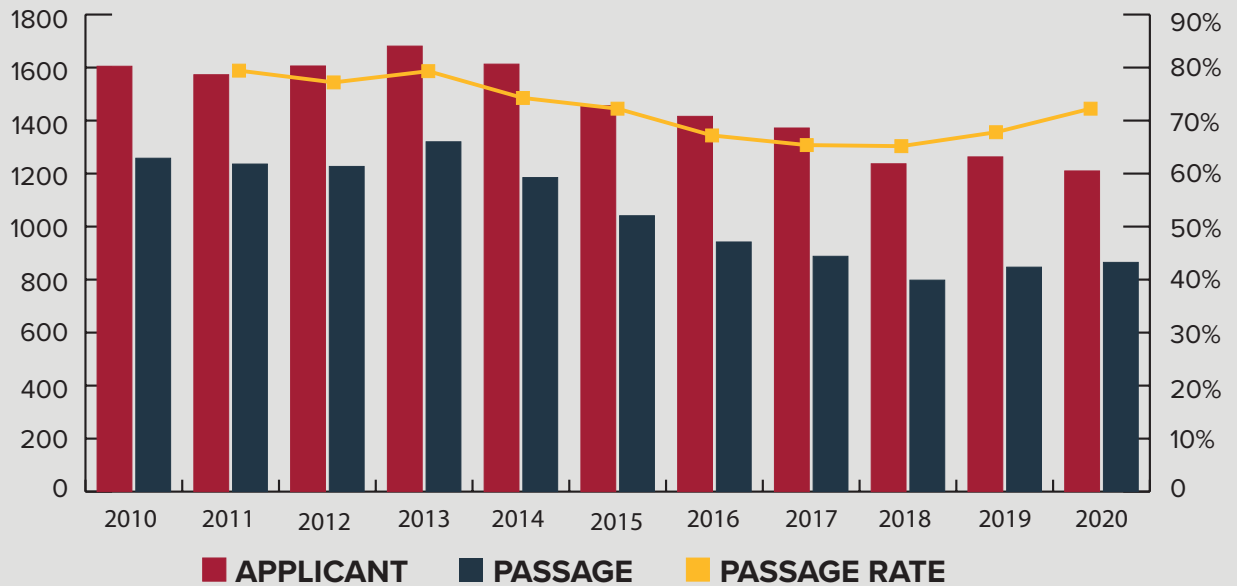


American Bar Association 2020 law school enrollment data

American Bar Association Section of Legal Education Employment Summary Reports. Required disclosures were reported in spring of 2020 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. In 2020, the upward trend continued.



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.

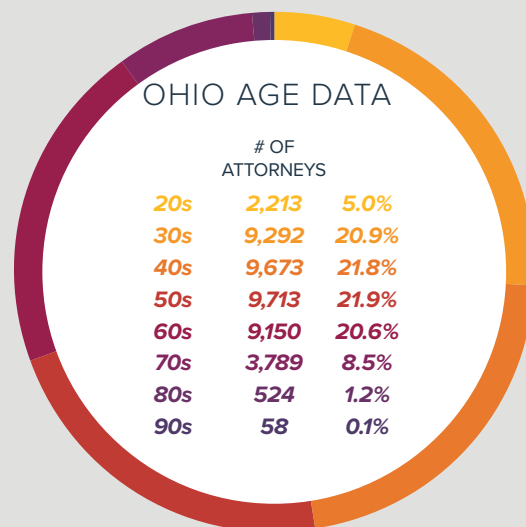
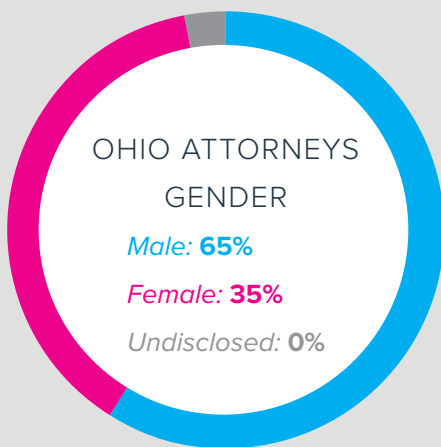
However, the legal profession is also one of the most giving industries, with attorneys being several times more likely to serve on the board of a nonprofit than other professions. Close to three quarters of attorneys in Ohio provide legal services at no cost to those in need and the value of pro bono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



DEMOGRAPHICS

2020 REGISTERED ATTORNEYS
WITH OHIO SUPREME COURT
AND OHIO BUSINESS ADDRESS*

38,605

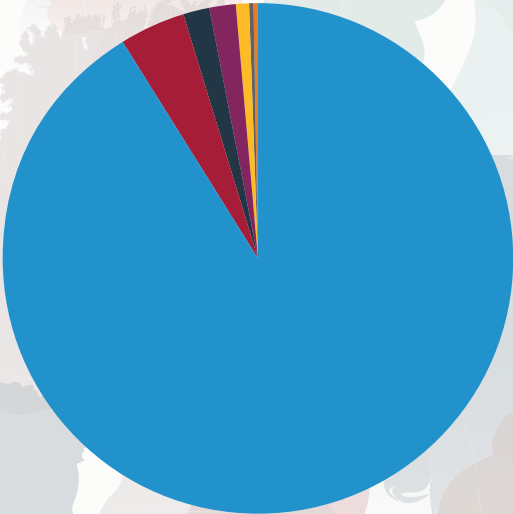


Total registered attorneys with the Ohio Supreme Court in 2020: 44,418

Gender and age demographics based on 2020 Supreme Court data compiled at a single point in time and may change throughout the year.

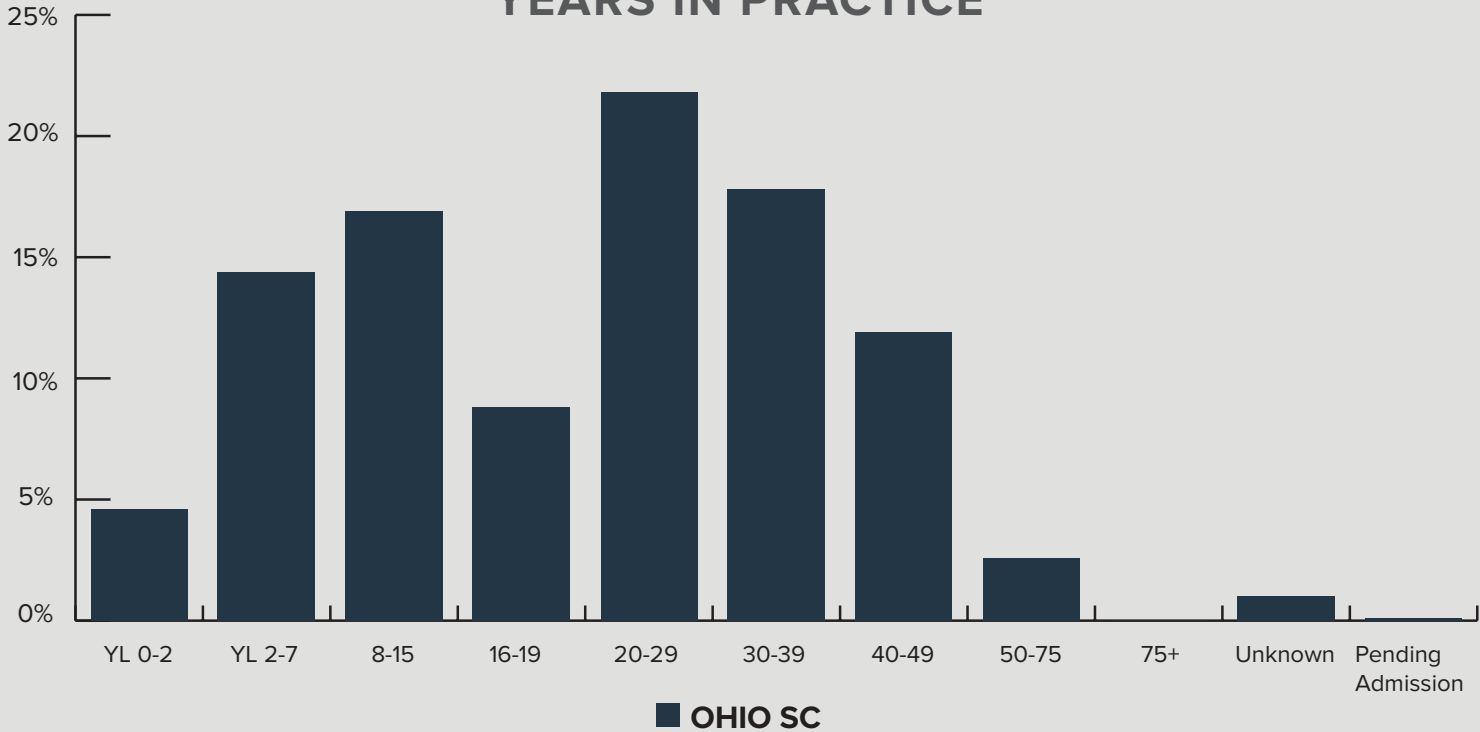
*At the time of publication, this data is being verified with the Ohio Supreme Court.

RACE/ETHNICITY



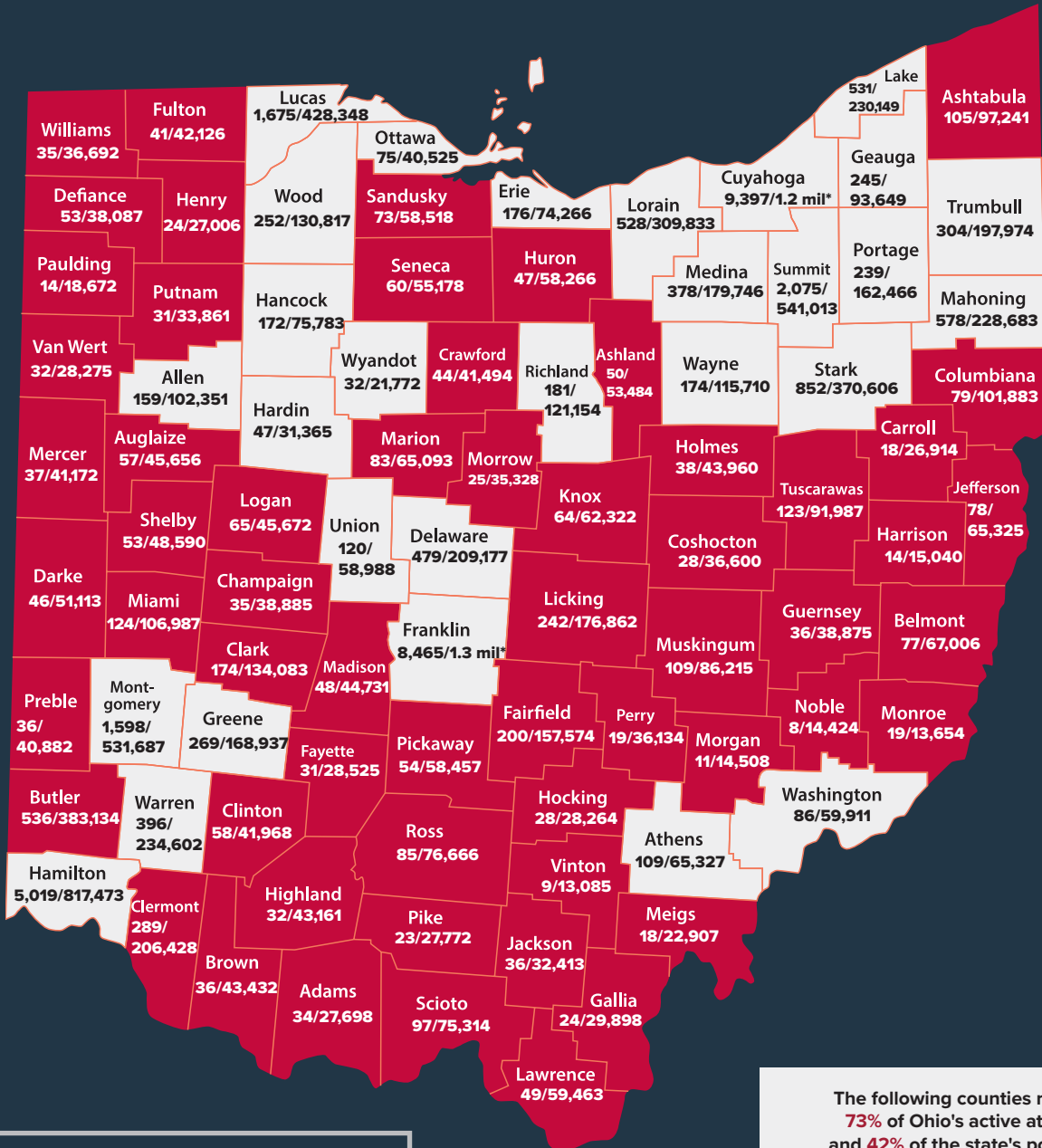
- Ohio SC**
- 0% Other
- 0.1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific
- 0.4% Not Provided
- 0.7% Am. Indian/Alaskan
- 1.6% Hispanic
- 1.9% Asian
- 4.0% Black/African American
- 91.3% White

YEARS IN PRACTICE



Ohio Supreme Court 2020 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 by County



Ohio contains 59 counties with more than 700 residents per attorney.

- Counties contain a population to attorney ratio of more than 700 people per attorney
- Remaining counties with fewer than 700 people per active attorney

The following counties represent **73%** of Ohio's active attorneys and **42%** of the state's population.

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

28,229/4,870,349

Data compiled from Ohio Supreme Court and U.S. Census Bureau (Ohio County Population Estimates as of 7/1/2019).

Data compiled at a single point in time and may change throughout the year.

*Rounded for space

Ohio Attorney/Population Ratio

Adams	1/815	Licking	1/731
Allen	1/644	Logan	1/703
Ashland	1/1,070	Lorain	1/587
Ashtabula	1/926	Lucas	1/256
Athens	1/599	Madison	1/932
Auglaize	1/801	Mahoning	1/396
Belmont	1/870	Marion	1/784
Brown	1/1,206	Medina	1/476
Butler	1/715	Meigs	1/1,273
Carroll	1/1,495	Mercer	1/1,113
Champaign	1/1,111	Miami	1/863
Clark	1/771	Monroe	1/719
Clermont	1/714	Montgomery	1/333
Clinton	1/724	Morgan	1/1,319
Columbiana	1/1,290	Morrow	1/1,413
Coshocton	1/1,307	Muskingum	1/791
Crawford	1/943	Noble	1/1,803
Cuyahoga	1/131	Ottawa	1/540
Darke	1/1,111	Paulding	1/1,334
Defiance	1/719	Perry	1/1,902
Delaware	1/437	Pickaway	1/1,083
Erie	1/422	Pike	1/1,207
Fairfield	1/788	Portage	1/680
Fayette	1/920	Preble	1/1,136
Franklin	1/156	Putnam	1/1,092
Fulton	1/1,027	Richland	1/669
Gallia	1/1,246	Ross	1/902
Geauga	1/382	Sandusky	1/802
Greene	1/628	Scioto	1/776
Guernsey	1/1,080	Seneca	1/920
Hamilton	1/163	Shelby	1/917
Hancock	1/441	Stark	1/435
Hardin	1/667	Summit	1/261
Harrison	1/1,074	Trumbull	1/651
Henry	1/1,125	Tuscarawas	1/748
Highland	1/1,349	Union	1/492
Hocking	1/1,009	Van Wert	1/884
Holmes	1/1,157	Vinton	1/1,454
Huron	1/1,240	Warren	1/592
Jackson	1/900	Washington	1/697
Jefferson	1/838	Wayne	1/665
Knox	1/974	Williams	1/1,048
Lake	1/433	Wood	1/519
Lawrence	1/1,214	Wyandot	1/680

Calculations are based upon data compiled at a single point in time from the Ohio Supreme Court and the U.S. Census Bureau (Ohio County Population Estimates as of 7/1/2019) 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



IN-HOUSE SALARY

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



HOURLY RATE

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



PRIVATE PRACTICE SALARY

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

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

● = Male ● = Female

IOLTA 20,337

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.

This data was compiled Jan. 2020 and may change throughout the year.

PRO BONO

105,547

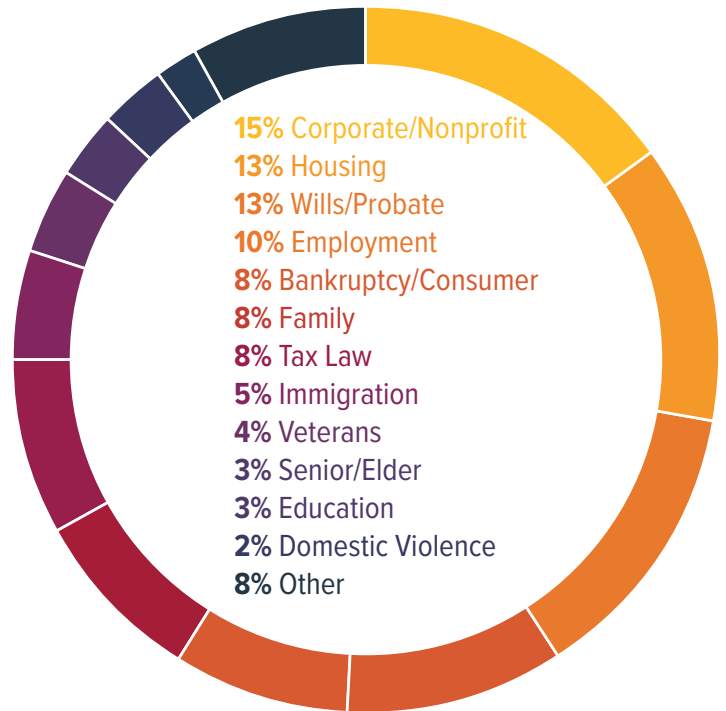
PRO BONO HOURS REPORTED
10% DECREASE FROM 2018

72% OF ATTORNEYS WHO REPORTED PROVIDED PRO BONO SERVICES

\$26,386,763

VALUE OF REPORTED PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES

PRACTICE AREAS OF PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES



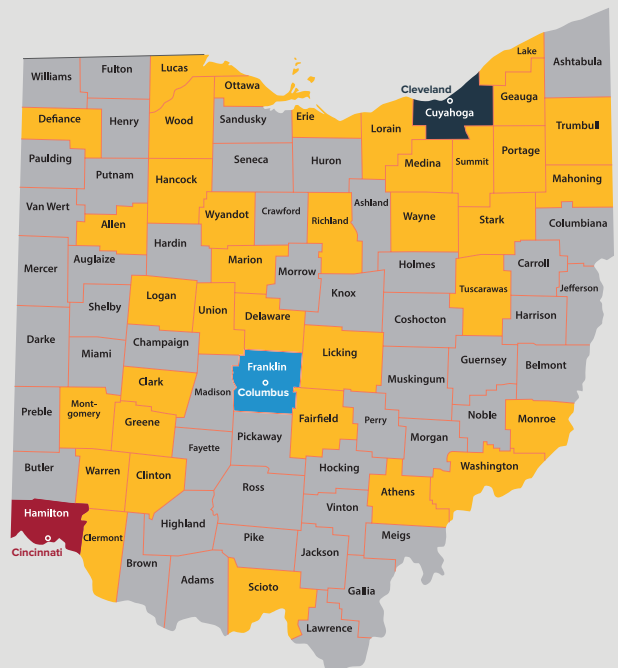
Data from Ohio Access to Justice Foundation 2019 Voluntary Pro Bono Reporting

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

At the state level, an attorney is 11 times more likely to serve as a board member for a nonprofit as would be expected based on their occupational representation. This is an increase from 2012, when lawyers were four to eight times more likely to serve as a board member for a nonprofit.

Nonprofit Board Participation by Region:

- Cincinnati: **39.7%**
- Cleveland: **37.6%**
- Columbus: **37.1%**
- Other Urban Areas: **48.5%**
- Rural Areas: **47.1%**



Data from The 2020 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 44,427 people and paying more than \$3.6 billion in wages. An additional 58,394 jobs are created due to the profession’s indirect employment and \$2.7 billion in indirect wages are generated via direct expenditure on wages.

Overall, the profession has a total economic impact of \$6.3 billion in household earnings and the creation of 102,821 jobs.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PRIVATE OHIO LAW FIRMS

\$3.6 Billion
DIRECT WAGES

44,427
DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

\$2.7 Billion
INDIRECT WAGES

58,394
INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT

\$6.3 BILLION
102,821 JOBS

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Region	Total Earnings Impact	Share of State Impact	Total Employment Impact	Share of State Impact
Akron	\$343,980,422	5.4%	5,321	5.2%
Canton	\$119,757,30	1.9%	2,061	2.0%
Cincinnati	\$934,049,094	14.8%	13,898	13.5%
Cleveland	\$2,081,887,567	32.9%	30,207	29.4%
Columbus	\$1,283,589,742	20.3%	19,721	19.2%
Dayton	\$302,398,904	4.8%	4,793	4.7%
Toledo	\$216,648,978	3.4%	3,813	3.7%
Youngstown	\$93,667,928	1.5%	1,822	1.8%
Appalachia Region	\$251,135,289	4.0%	4,914	4.8%
State of Ohio	\$6,326,140,448	100.0%	102,821	100.0%

Data from The 2020 Economic Profile and Impacts of Ohio’s Legal Services Industry prepared for the OSBA by the University of Cincinnati Economics Center

Earnings and employment impacts include 2019 payrolled employees, self-employed individuals, and extended proprietors. The total earnings and employment impacts of the regions do not sum to the total for the State of Ohio. The nine regions analyzed do not encompass all counties in the State of Ohio, and the Appalachian region encompasses seven counties included in other metropolitan areas analyzed.