



NOVA SCOTIA
BARRISTERS' SOCIETY

Statistical Snapshot

2024

Membership (Updated August 2024)		
	Total	% of total
Practising	2,251	62.6%
Practising – More than 50 years	21	0.6%
Non–Practising, including retired	1,099	30.6%
Life	135	3.8%
Articling clerks - NS	89	2.5%
Totals	3,543	100.0%

Practising Lawyers – Geographical Distribution (From 2024 Annual Lawyer Report)		
	# by district	% by district
Halifax Regional Municipality	1,546	70.2%
Southwestern NS	194	8.8%
Central NS	172	7.8%
Cape Breton NS	144	6.5%
Outside NS	146	6.6%
Totals	2,202	100.0%

Practising Lawyers – Diversity (from 2024 Annual Lawyer Report)							
Members of Equity Deserving Communities, by years since call. (All responses, some identifying in multiple groups)							
	African N.S.	African Descent	Mi'kmaq	Indigenous	Racialized	2SLGBTQ+	Person with a disability
0 - 7 years	26	32	18	17	39	67	38
8 - 16 years	18	11	11	8	16	26	16
17 - 26 years	7	6	9	7	11	19	20
27 + years	3	2	7	0	0	7	15
Total	54	51	45	32	66	119	89

Unique respondents for various combinations							
	African N.S.	African Descent	Mi'kmaq	Indigenous	Racialized	2SLGBTQ+	Person with a disability
All responses	54	51	45	32	66	119	89
	90 individuals (15 in both)		61 individuals (16 in both)				
	148 individuals						
	211 individuals						
	381 individuals identified in at least one of these communities.						



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Area of Law (percentage of time - 2024 Annual Lawyer Report)	Overall % of all lawyers' time
Aboriginal	1.5%
Administrative	5.6%
Bankruptcy and Insolvency	0.7%
Civil Litigation - Corporate & Commercial	4.8%
Civil Litigation - Personal Injury - Plaintiff	4.9%
Civil Litigation - Personal Injury - Defence	4.1%
Civil Litigation - Real Estate / Residential Tenancy	0.9%
Constitutional / Human Resources	1.2%
Corporate / Commercial / Banking	11.0%
Criminal - Defence	5.9%
Criminal - Prosecution	6.8%
Elder	0.2%
Employment / Labour - Employee	1.4%
Employment / Labour - Employer	3.8%
Environmental / Natural Resource / Energy	1.2%
Family - Child Protection	2.9%
Family - Other	7.3%
Government / Crown / Legislative	4.7%
Health	1.0%
Immigration and Refugee	1.7%
Indigenous	0.3%
Intellectual Property / Franchises / Patents	0.5%
Marine / Shipping / Fisheries	0.7%
Military / Aviation	0.5%
Mediation & Arbitration / Alternative Dispute Resolution	0.8%
Municipal	1.1%
Real Estate	9.2%
Privacy	0.7%
Securities	1.1%
Tax	2.4%
Wills, Estates & Trusts	6.0%
Other	5.0%



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Type of Practice or Employment (2024 Annual Lawyer Report)		
	# of Lawyers	%
Private practice - partner	553	25.1%
Private practice - associate/other	538	24.4%
Federal government	143	6.5%
Provincial government/legal aid	402	18.3%
Sole practitioner	248	11.3%
Employed lawyer	258	11.7%
All other	60	2.7%
Totals	2,202	100.0%

Breakdown of practicing lawyers by years since Call (2024 Annual Lawyer Report). Compared to baseline quartiles established in 2007				
	2007 (base year for quartiles)		2024	
0-7 Years	432	25%	754	34.2%
8-16 Years	451	25%	487	22.1%
17-26 Years	448	25%	422	19.2%
27+ Years	432	25%	539	24.5%
Totals	1,763	100.0%	2,202	100.0%

Gender Distribution by years since Call (2023 Annual Lawyer Report)								
	Male/Man		Female/Woman		Outside M/F binary		Choose Not to Answer	Total
0-7 Years	267	41.0%	379	58.1%	6	0.9%	102	754
8-16 Years	189	47.1%	211	52.6%	1	0.2%	86	487
17-26 Years	167	45.1%	202	54.6%	1	0.3%	52	422
27+ Years	313	70.5%	131	29.5%	0	0.0%	95	539
Totals	936	50.1%	923	49.4%	8	0.4%	335	2,202