



Law Society of Ontario 2022 Annual Report

Licensee statistics

In 2022, the Law Society regulated more than 57,577 lawyers and more than 10,633 paralegals. Of those, approximately 42,429 lawyers were practising law and 3,705 paralegals were providing legal services, as of December 31, 2022.

Lawyers by age and gender

| Age range | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Under 30 | 4,109 | 1,651 | 2.87 | 2,458 | 4.27 | 0 | 0.00 |
| 30 – 39 | 16,795 | 7,683 | 13.34 | 9,111 | 15.82 | 1 | 0.00 |
| 40 – 49 | 12,944 | 6,212 | 10.79 | 6,732 | 11.69 | 0 | 0.00 |
| 50 – 65 | 15,538 | 8,818 | 15.32 | 6,720 | 11.67 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Over age 65 | 8,191 | 6,456 | 11.21 | 1,735 | 3.01 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 57,577 | 30,820 | 53.53 | 26,756 | 46.47 | 1 | 0.00 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Percentage is based on total.
- c) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- d) Statistics do not include honorary members, lawyers appointed to judicial office, and lawyers whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.



Paralegals by age and gender

| Age range | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|--------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|------|
| Under 30 | 2,142 | 403 | 3.79 | 1,736 | 16.33 | 3 | 0.03 |
| 30 – 39 | 3,523 | 841 | 7.91 | 2,682 | 25.22 | 0 | 0.00 |
| 40 – 49 | 1,977 | 626 | 5.89 | 1,350 | 12.70 | 1 | 0.01 |
| 50 – 65 | 2,383 | 1,080 | 10.16 | 1,303 | 12.25 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Over age 65 | 608 | 447 | 4.20 | 161 | 1.51 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 10,633 | 3,397 | 31.95 | 7,232 | 68.01 | 4 | 0.04 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Percentage is based on total.
- c) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- d) Statistics do not include paralegals appointed to judicial office and paralegals whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.



Lawyers by type of employment and gender

| Type of employment | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|---------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------------|------|
| Sole owner | 9,636 | 6,320 | 13.04 | 3,316 | 6.84 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Partner | 6,948 | 5,034 | 10.38 | 1,914 | 3.95 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Employee | 1,813 | 959 | 1.98 | 854 | 1.76 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Associate | 10,734 | 5,408 | 11.15 | 5,326 | 10.99 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Education | 656 | 249 | 0.51 | 407 | 0.84 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Government | 7,007 | 2,862 | 5.90 | 4,145 | 8.55 | 0 | 0.00 |
| In-house | 7,005 | 3,267 | 6.74 | 3,738 | 7.71 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Legal clinic | 657 | 191 | 0.39 | 466 | 0.96 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Other | 4,026 | 1,872 | 3.86 | 2,153 | 4.44 | 1 | 0.00 |
| Total | 48,482 | 26,162 | 53.96 | 22,319 | 46.04 | 1 | 0.00 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Percentage is based on total.
- c) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- d) Statistics do not include honorary members, lawyers not working or retired, lawyers appointed to judicial office, and lawyers whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.



Paralegals by type of employment and gender

| Type of employment | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|------|
| Sole owner | 1,680 | 959 | 12.00 | 721 | 9.02 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Partner | 145 | 77 | 0.96 | 68 | 0.85 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Employee | 787 | 234 | 2.93 | 553 | 6.92 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Associate | 249 | 87 | 1.09 | 162 | 2.03 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Education | 90 | 19 | 0.24 | 71 | 0.89 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Government | 1,058 | 247 | 3.09 | 811 | 10.15 | 0 | 0.00 |
| In-house | 420 | 132 | 1.65 | 288 | 3.60 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Legal clinic | 120 | 21 | 0.26 | 99 | 1.24 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Other | 3,442 | 730 | 9.14 | 2,708 | 33.89 | 4 | 0.05 |
| Total | 7,991 | 2,506 | 31.36 | 5,481 | 68.59 | 4 | 0.05 |

Notes:

- Data as of December 31, 2022.
- Percentage is based on total.
- Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- Statistics do not include paralegals not working or retired, paralegals appointed to judicial office, and paralegals whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.

Geographical distribution of lawyers by gender

| Geographic area | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------------|------|
| City of Toronto | 28,559 | 15,133 | 26.28 | 13,425 | 23.32 | 1 | 0.00 |
| Ontario (excl. Toronto) | 23,858 | 13,060 | 22.68 | 10,798 | 18.75 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Canada (excl. Ontario) | 3,061 | 1,555 | 2.70 | 1,506 | 2.62 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Outside Canada | 2,099 | 1,072 | 1.86 | 1,027 | 1.78 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 57,577 | 30,820 | 53.53 | 26,756 | 46.47 | 1 | 0.00 |

Notes:

- Data as of December 31, 2022.
- Percentage is based on total.
- Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- Statistics do not include honorary members, lawyers appointed to judicial office, and lawyers whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.



Geographical distribution of paralegals by gender

| Geographic area | Total | Men | % M | Women | % W | Non-Binary | % X |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|------|
| City of Toronto | 3,918 | 1,207 | 11.35 | 2,707 | 25.46 | 4 | 0.04 |
| Ontario (excl. Toronto) | 6,468 | 2,112 | 19.86 | 4,356 | 40.97 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Canada (excl. Ontario) | 207 | 61 | 0.57 | 146 | 1.37 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Outside Canada | 40 | 17 | 0.16 | 23 | 0.22 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 10,633 | 3,397 | 31.95 | 7,232 | 68.01 | 4 | 0.04 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Percentage is based on total.
- c) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
- d) Statistics do not include honorary members, paralegals appointed to judicial office, and paralegals whose licences were suspended as of December 31, 2022.

Number of law firms by size

| Firm size | # of firms | % |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| 1 lawyer | 8,849 | 74.16 |
| 2 – 5 lawyers/paralegals | 2,443 | 20.47 |
| 6 – 10 lawyers/paralegals | 338 | 2.83 |
| 11 – 25 lawyers/paralegals | 203 | 1.70 |
| 26 – 50 lawyers/paralegals | 57 | 0.48 |
| 51+ lawyers/paralegals | 42 | 0.35 |
| Total | 11,932 | 100.00 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Statistics based on law firms reported as primary business.
- c) Firm size based on number of lawyers and paralegals in private practice at the firm.
- d) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



Number of paralegal firms by size

| Firm size | # of firms | % |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 paralegal | 1,524 | 88.19 |
| 2 – 5 paralegals/lawyers | 187 | 10.82 |
| 6 – 10 paralegals/lawyers | 11 | 0.64 |
| 11 – 25 paralegals/lawyers | 4 | 0.23 |
| 26 – 50 paralegals/lawyers | 2 | 0.12 |
| 51+ paralegals/lawyers | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 1,728 | 100.00 |

Notes:

- a) Data as of December 31, 2022.
- b) Statistics based on paralegal firms reported as primary business.
- c) Firm size based on number of paralegals and lawyers in private practice at the firm.
- d) Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



Number of lawyers and paralegals working in law firms by size

| Firm size | # of lawyers and paralegals | % |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1 lawyer | 8,849 | 30.40 |
| 2 – 5 lawyers/paralegals | 6,063 | 20.83 |
| 6 – 10 lawyers/paralegals | 2,444 | 8.40 |
| 11 – 25 lawyers/paralegals | 3,009 | 10.34 |
| 26 – 50 lawyers/paralegals | 1,988 | 6.83 |
| 51+ lawyers/paralegals | 6,751 | 23.20 |
| Total | 29,104 | 100.00 |

Notes:

- Data as of December 31, 2022.
- Statistics based on lawyers and paralegals in a private practice status with a law firm as their primary business.
- Firm size based on number of lawyers and paralegals in private practice at the firm.
- Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Number of paralegals and lawyers working in paralegal firms by size

| Firm size | # of paralegals and lawyers | % |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1 paralegal | 1,524 | 73.02 |
| 2 – 5 paralegals/lawyers | 400 | 19.17 |
| 6 – 10 paralegals/lawyers | 74 | 3.55 |
| 11 – 25 paralegals/lawyers | 43 | 2.06 |
| 26 – 50 paralegals/lawyers | 46 | 2.20 |
| 51+ paralegals/lawyers | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total | 2,087 | 100.00 |

Notes:

- Data as of December 31, 2022.
- Statistics based on paralegals and lawyers in a private practice status with a paralegal firm as their primary business.
- Firm size based on number of paralegals and lawyers in private practice status at the firm.
- Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.