

Starting Salaries of Recent Law Graduates

*Salaries and further benefits reported tend to stem from larger law firms. Smaller firms have lower reporting rate; this affects many statistics on law firms.

Statistics regarding starting salaries for newly graduated law student and the best paying cities for starting salaries.

2021 REPORTED NATIONWIDE STARTING SALARIES

In 2021, about half of newly graduated law students received a salary between \$45,000-\$80,000. Most of the collected salaries report from large firm salaries (deeper into right side of table) rather than smaller firm salaries. The adjusted mean makes up for the difference in reported salaries for large and small firms.

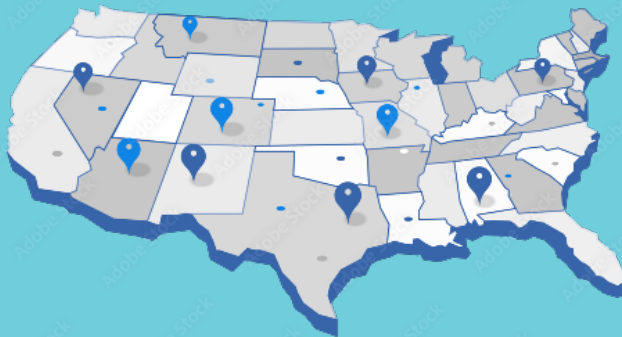


Salary Distribution Curves.
National Association for Law Placement.
<https://www.nalp.org/salarydistrib>

BEST PAYING CITIES FOR RECENT LAW GRADUATES

As of 2022, the following cities pay some of the highest average salaries for lawyers. Half of the cities reside in California, for the state pays the highest lawyer salary.

- San Jose, CA - \$207,130
- San Francisco, CA - \$168,990
- Washington, D.C. - \$164,200
- Los Angeles, CA - \$161,390
- New York City, NY - \$155,020
- Oxnard, CA - \$150,540
- Boston, MA - \$149,660
- Santa Cruz, CA - \$137,390
- Denver, CO - \$136,580
- Miami, FL - \$128,280



*Statistics based solely on salary reports, disregarding all other external factors (city's cost of living, demand for lawyers, etc).