

Year to Date American Bar Association

2023 Applicant and Application Counts

The following tables are breakdowns of ABA 2023 applicants and applications by region and the percent change from last year. These figures are based on enrollment year 2023 data received through 2/5/2023 and enrollment year 2022 data received through 2/5/2022.

As compared to one year ago, current year applicants are down 3.5%. As compared to two years ago, current year applicants are down 11.0%.

Applicants

Region	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Far West	5,734	5,279	-7.9%
Great Lakes	4,807	4,610	-4.1%
Midsouth	4,686	4,397	-6.2%
Midwest	1,293	1,235	-4.5%
Mountain West	2,103	1,893	-10.0%
New England	1,990	1,810	-9.0%
Northeast	6,246	5,766	-7.7%
Northwest	1,066	956	-10.3%
Other	3,469	4,155	19.8%
South Central	4,391	4,345	-1.0%
Southeast	5,256	5,147	-2.1%
Total	41,041	39,593	-3.5%

As compared to one year ago, current year applications are down 3.6%. As compared to two years ago, current year applications are down 8.4%.

Applications

Region	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Far West	44,523	41,123	-7.6%
Great Lakes	38,414	38,181	-0.6%
Midsouth	54,966	54,363	-1.1%
Midwest	8,276	8,456	2.2%
Mountain West	10,995	9,735	-11.5%
New England	30,911	30,608	-1.0%
Northeast	55,659	51,976	-6.6%
Northwest	5,714	5,020	-12.1%
South Central	22,049	21,722	-1.5%
Southeast	24,703	24,375	-1.3%
Total	296,210	285,559	-3.6%

* The "Other" category includes applicants whose permanent residence is either unknown or outside of the United States.

Law School Count by Volume Change	#
Increase 100% or more:	1
Increase 50% to 99%:	0
Increase 40% to 49%:	0
Increase 30% to 39%:	2
Increase 20% to 29%:	9
Increase 10% to 19%:	19
Increase 1% to 9%:	41
No Change:	8
Decrease of 1% to 9%:	71
Decrease of 10% to 19%:	40
Decrease of 20% to 29%:	4
Decrease of 30% to 39%:	1
Decrease of 40% to 49%:	0
Decrease of 50% or greater:	2
Total	198

Currently there are 72 schools with an application volume increase, while 118 show a volume decrease, and 8 schools show no change in application volumes.

Last year at this time, we had 65% of the final applicant count and 69% of the final application count.

Date Range

9/30/2022

2/5/2023

US Ethnicity, School Type, and Gender Identity

The following table is a breakdown of 2023 ABA applicants by racial/ethnic groups and the percent change from last year. The table shows the maximum number of races/ethnicities selected by each applicant. For example, an applicant who selected Asian and Caucasian/White is counted twice, once as Asian and once as Caucasian/White.

Applicants

Race/Ethnicity	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian	*	*	*
American Indian or Alaska Native	755	727	-3.7%
Asian	5,618	5,483	-2.4%
Black or African American	4,769	4,698	-1.5%
Canadian Aboriginal/Indigenous	27	49	81.5%
Caucasian/White	25,564	24,312	-4.9%
Hispanic/Latino	5,771	5,606	-2.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	213	204	-4.2%
Not Indicated	2,381	2,487	4.5%
Puerto Rican	1,018	927	-8.9%

Applications

Law School Type	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Private	194,658	188,013	-3.4%
Public	101,552	97,546	-3.9%
Total	296,210	285,559	-3.6%

The following table is a breakdown of 2023 ABA law school applicants grouped by gender identity.

Gender Identity

Gender Identity	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Man	17,098	16,138	-5.6%
Woman	22,942	22,435	-2.2%
Gender Diverse	510	536	5.1%
Not Indicated	491	484	-1.4%
Total	41,041	39,593	-3.5%

US LSAT Scores

The table below shows the grouped high LSAT scores of 2023 ABA applicants with the percent change from last year.

LSAT Scores

Highest LSAT ▲	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
< 140	1,119	1,120	0.1%
140-144	1,897	1,902	0.3%
145-149	4,121	3,974	-3.6%
150-154	6,982	6,512	-6.7%
155-159	7,822	7,284	-6.9%
160-164	7,168	6,799	-5.1%
165-169	5,674	5,292	-6.7%
170-174	3,506	3,464	-1.2%
175-180	1,234	1,216	-1.5%
Total	39,523	37,563	-5.0%

The table below shows the ungrouped high LSAT scores of 2023 ABA applicants with the percent change from last year. Please use the percent-change data with caution, as smaller cell counts may affect the reliability of the percentages

Applicants 120-139

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
120	27	23	-14.8%
121	10	12	20.0%
122	8	8	0.0%
123	5	11	120.0%
124	7	11	57.1%
125	6	9	50.0%
126	23	14	-39.1%
127	20	21	5.0%
128	20	27	35.0%
129	31	31	0.0%
130	51	43	-15.7%
131	56	24	-57.1%
132	52	50	-3.8%
133	55	66	20.0%
134	71	71	0.0%
135	93	108	16.1%
136	109	103	-5.5%
137	129	139	7.8%
138	154	164	6.5%
139	192	185	-3.6%

Applicants 140-159

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
140	248	246	-0.8%
141	307	327	6.5%
142	367	375	2.2%
143	460	441	-4.1%
144	515	513	-0.4%
145	597	612	2.5%
146	746	703	-5.8%
147	870	832	-4.4%
148	845	851	0.7%
149	1,063	976	-8.2%
150	1,196	1,218	1.8%
151	1,319	1,203	-8.8%
152	1,385	1,355	-2.2%
153	1,641	1,409	-14.1%
154	1,441	1,327	-7.9%
155	1,531	1,449	-5.4%
156	1,630	1,417	-13.1%
157	1,494	1,548	3.6%
158	1,645	1,427	-13.3%
159	1,522	1,443	-5.2%

Applicants 160-180

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
160	1,601	1,488	-7.1%
161	1,522	1,470	-3.4%
162	1,333	1,373	3.0%
163	1,457	1,225	-15.9%
164	1,255	1,243	-1.0%
165	1,232	1,187	-3.7%
166	1,172	1,092	-6.8%
167	1,172	1,074	-8.4%
168	1,074	1,008	-6.1%
169	1,024	931	-9.1%
170	916	896	-2.2%
171	936	824	-12.0%
172	695	665	-4.3%
173	509	595	16.9%
174	450	484	7.6%
175	362	332	-8.3%
176	264	286	8.3%
177	223	237	6.3%
178	159	154	-3.1%
179	113	92	-18.6%
180	113	115	1.8%

YTD Canadian Law School 2023

Applicant and Application Counts

Date Range

9/30/2022

2/5/2023

The following tables are breakdowns of ABA 2023 applicants and applications by region and the percent change from last year. These figures are based on enrollment year 2023 data received through 2/5/2023 and enrollment year 2022 data received through 2/5/2022.

As compared to one year ago, current year applicants are down 10.2%. As compared to two years ago, current year applicants are down 17.8%.

Applicants

Region	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
East Canada	3,834	3,388	-11.6%
Other	570	647	13.5%
West Canada	2,481	2,149	-13.4%
Total	6,885	6,184	-10.2%

As compared to one year ago, current year applications are down 9.4%. As compared to two years ago, current year applications are up 5.7%.

Applications

Region	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
East Canada	20,376	18,541	-9.0%
West Canada	7,674	6,882	-10.3%
Total	28,050	25,423	-9.4%

- * East Canada - NB, NL, NS, ON, PE, QC
- * West Canada - AB, BC, MB, NT, NU, SK, YT
- * Other includes those applicants whose permanent residence is not available or is outside Canada.

Law School Count by Volume Change	#
Increase 100% or more:	0
Increase 50% to 99%:	0
Increase 40% to 49%:	0
Increase 30% to 39%:	0
Increase 20% to 29%:	0
Increase 10% to 19%:	0
Increase 1% to 9%:	0
No Change:	0
Decrease of 1% to 9%:	5
Decrease of 10% to 19%:	12
Decrease of 20% to 29%:	1
Decrease of 30% to 39%:	0
Decrease of 40% to 49%:	0
Decrease of 50% or greater:	0
Total	18

Currently there are 0 schools with an application volume increase, while 18 show a volume decrease, and 0 schools show no change in application volumes.

Last year at this time, we had 94% of the final applicant count and 95% of the final application count.

Canadian Ethnicity, and Gender Identity

The following table is a breakdown of 2023 Canadian law school applicants by racial/ethnic groups and the percent change from last year. The table shows the maximum number of races/ethnicities selected by each applicant. For example, an applicant who selected Asian and Caucasian/White is counted twice, once as Asian and once as Caucasian/White.

Applicants

Race/Ethnicity	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian	*	*	*
American Indian or Alaska Native	8	9	12.5%
Asian	2,055	2,014	-2.0%
Black or African American	423	414	-2.1%
Canadian Aboriginal/Indigenous	215	231	7.4%
Caucasian/White	3,658	3,161	-13.6%
Hispanic/Latino	206	159	-22.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	14	14	0.0%
Not Indicated	740	629	-15.0%
Puerto Rican	*	*	*

The following table is a breakdown of 2023 Canadian law school applicants grouped by gender identity.

Gender Identity

Gender Identity	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
Man	2,545	2,309	-9.3%
Woman	4,157	3,698	-11.0%
Gender Diverse	70	71	1.4%
Not Indicated	113	106	-6.2%
Total	6,885	6,184	-10.2%

Canadian LSAT Scores

The table below shows the grouped high LSAT scores of 2023 ABA applicants with the percent change from last year.

LSAT Scores

Highest LSAT ▲	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
< 140	216	228	5.6%
140-144	333	316	-5.1%
145-149	627	600	-4.3%
150-154	1,122	953	-15.1%
155-159	1,626	1,316	-19.1%
160-164	1,558	1,240	-20.4%
165-169	796	724	-9.0%
170-174	269	237	-11.9%
175-180	62	76	22.6%
Total	6,609	5,690	-13.9%

The table below shows the ungrouped high LSAT scores of 2023 Canadian applicants with the percent change from last year. Please use the percent-change data with caution, as smaller cell counts may affect the reliability of the percentages

Applicants 120-139

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
120	6	*	*
121	*	*	*
122	*	*	*
123	*	*	*
124	*	6	*
125	*	*	*
126	5	*	*
127	6	*	*
128	5	6	20.0%
129	6	8	33.3%
130	*	*	*
131	6	7	16.7%
132	6	10	66.7%
133	9	10	11.1%
134	19	17	-10.5%
135	15	16	6.7%
136	24	18	-25.0%
137	37	30	-18.9%
138	22	34	54.5%
139	36	43	19.4%

Applicants 140-159

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
140	46	43	-6.5%
141	60	50	-16.7%
142	82	69	-15.9%
143	69	76	10.1%
144	76	78	2.6%
145	101	95	-5.9%
146	113	139	23.0%
147	119	110	-7.6%
148	124	131	5.6%
149	170	125	-26.5%
150	181	184	1.7%
151	191	180	-5.8%
152	217	186	-14.3%
153	267	190	-28.8%
154	266	213	-19.9%
155	288	220	-23.6%
156	314	274	-12.7%
157	323	280	-13.3%
158	371	253	-31.8%
159	330	289	-12.4%

Applicants 160-180

High LSAT	Last Year	Current Year	Percent Change
160	351	286	-18.5%
161	361	289	-19.9%
162	280	221	-21.1%
163	299	235	-21.4%
164	267	209	-21.7%
165	213	195	-8.5%
166	179	174	-2.8%
167	149	133	-10.7%
168	148	121	-18.2%
169	107	101	-5.6%
170	87	75	-13.8%
171	74	46	-37.8%
172	47	50	6.4%
173	32	37	15.6%
174	29	29	0.0%
175	17	25	47.1%
176	11	20	81.8%
177	16	9	-43.8%
178	7	10	42.9%
179	5	5	0.0%
180	6	7	16.7%

Notes

- These data are displayed with reference to the academic year for which applicants are applying. For example, 2022 or 2022-2023 would indicate the applications submitted during 2021-2022 for enrollment in the 2022 or 2022-2023 academic year.
- The Current Volume data tables include applicants for all academic terms. Archived Volume reports for enrollment years 2015 and prior include applicants for the fall term only and are not comparable to more recent volume data.
- ABA data reflect applicants and applications for ABA-approved law schools.
- Deferrals are not included in either the ABA or Canadian data. Deferrals are defined as "applicants admitted for a prior term who were granted a postponed enrollment to the current term."
- Please note as defined in this report, an applicant is a candidate who submits one or more applications for any academic term.
- This report is best viewed in Chrome, Edge, Internet Explorer or Safari.
- Additional Gender categories became available June, 2018.

FAQs

- 1. How do I print this report?
Click on the Download PDF link in the upper right corner.
- 2. Why do I see an asterisk instead of data in some places?
In the data grids, an asterisk will be shown when there are fewer than 5 applicants.
- 3. Can I navigate this report without using a mouse?
There are keyboard shortcuts available:

Across the product

Ctrl+F6	Move focus between sections
Enter	Select item in focus
Esc	Close out of current section
Tab	Move focus forward in section
Shift+Tab	Move focus backward in section
?	Show keyboard shortcuts

On visual

Alt+Shift+F10	Move focus to visual menu
Alt+shift+F11	Show data

For information about using a screen reader, please go to:
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-bi/desktop-accessibility#consuming-a-power-bi-desktop-report-with-a-keyboard-or-screen-reader>