

Evidence

Jobs on Upswing

Where our graduates go.
BY SEAN DOOLITTLE '24

With the COVID-19 pandemic comfortably in the rear-view, Boston College Law School graduates are back at work in record numbers. The Class of 2022 figures—the most recent available from the American Bar Association and used in next year’s US News & World Report rankings—are the strongest in decades, with 95.3 percent overall employed. Employment in full-time, long-term, bar-passage-required/JD advantage positions reached an impressive 92.6 percent.

The *National Law Journal* ranks BC Law 16th among its “go to” schools for big firm hiring. Defined as firms that have more than 500 attorneys, Big Law is the destination of the majority of BC Law graduates, though a healthy number head for smaller firms and jobs in government and public interest sectors.

Looking forward, members of the Class of 2023, which started out with remote classes and asynchronous learning, have already made great strides in lining up jobs in advance of taking the Bar Exam. Their chances of success are buttressed by the Law School’s longstanding reputation as one of the country’s top law schools, which rose to 29th in this year’s US News rankings.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics; *National Jurist*; Lexis Nexis; National Association for Law Placement; Robert Half; *National Law Journal*; Thomson Reuters Institute.

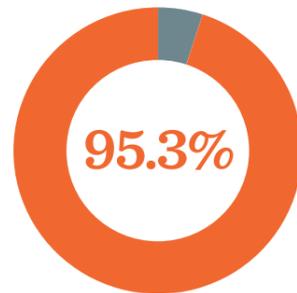


CLASS OF 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

BC Law Career Outcomes

258
Number of graduates

246
Total number employed



Of graduates are employed with **92.6% in full-time, long-term, bar-passage-required/JD advantage positions**



National Career Outcomes

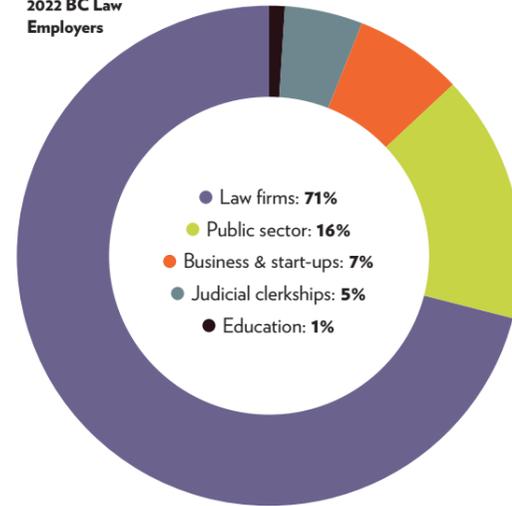
36,078
Number of graduates

86.8%
Of graduates are employed with **84.6% in full-time, long-term, bar-passage-required/JD advantage positions**

52% / Graduates employed by law firms

THE LEGAL LANDSCAPE

2022 BC Law Employers



16th
BC Law rank nationally for Big Law placement

203
Graduates receiving job offers before graduation

Salaries

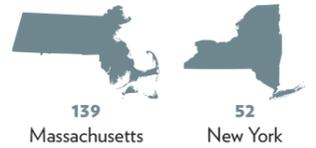
\$202,500
Median salary, private sector only, 2022 BC Law graduates

\$191,200
Median salary, all jobs, 2022 BC Law graduates

Geography

In the last five years, BC Law graduates have been hired by **550 employers in 39 US states and territories and eight other countries.**

Class of 2022 members accepted positions in 24 states/territories and 1 foreign country. About 44% of the class started their jobs out of state. **The largest number are employed in two areas of the Northeast:**



NATIONAL JOB MARKETPLACE

Projections

10%
Projected job growth in legal occupations, 2021-2031

131,000
Projected jobs created in legal occupations, 2021-2031

\$200,000
Median first-year associate salary, law firms of all sizes, nationwide 2022

\$215,000
Most frequently reported salary for first-year associates (42%)

FIVE The top paying states/districts for lawyers: **Washington, DC; California; Massachusetts; New York; and Connecticut**

Law Firm Hiring Trends



Return to Office Appeal (RTO)

- 85% Employees motivated to RTO by desire to rebuild team bonds
- 84% Employees motivated to RTO for social aspect of working in office
- 44% Employees who would leave job for greater ability to work remotely

Top Practice Areas

**PRIVACY
DATA SECURITY
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
COMMERCIAL
LAW**

Hottest, most in-demand practice areas in 2023, according to recruitment firm Robert Half

The Gen-Z Factor

National survey of GEN-Z attorneys conducted by Major, Lindsey & Africa search firm showed:

- Desire to join Big Law firm down 20 percentage points since 2020
- 53% Preferred in-house, government, or nonprofit work in the long run, compared to 23% who preferred law firm partner
- Continue to place extremely high value on work-life balance and flexible work arrangements