

Career Services

Employment Data for Recent Graduates

A wide range of employment opportunities awaits NYU Law graduates. Private practice is the most common starting point, though many take public service and government positions. We report J.D. employment data to the American Bar Association (ABA) nine months after each class graduates. Below is an overview of employment information at that time for the last four years. You can view official ABA employment summary reports for the classes of [2012](#), [2011](#), and [2010](#). You may also view the [most recent summary report](#) prepared by the National Association for Law Placement (NALP).

EMPLOYMENT OF NYU LAW GRADUATES 9 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION				
	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
TOTAL GRADUATES	482	466	497	471
Employed	467 (96.9%)	446 (95.7%)	480 (96.6%)	457 (97%)
<i>Bar admission required</i>	440	424	456	437
<i>JD preferred</i>	23	17	22	14
<i>Other Professional</i>	3	4	2	5
<i>Non-Professional</i>	1	0	0	1
Pursuing Graduate Degree	7	4	6	9
Unemployed - not seeking	4	4	9	3
Unemployed - seeking	4	10	2	2
Employment Status Unknown	0	2	0	0

EMPLOYMENT FUNDING				
	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
OF EMPLOYED - LAW SCHOOL/ UNIVERSITY FUNDED POSITIONS (read about these positions below)	62	57	22	n/a

NYU Law's commitment to funding public service employment

Since 1993, the Law School has provided some graduates with launch grants for pursuit of public service employment. Launch grant recipients perform full-time legal work, acquiring valuable training and developing a strong professional network. The grants are typically three to six months in duration, though we have made year-long funding available following the recent economic crisis. In the vast majority of cases, the grants have led to permanent legal employment, in many cases with the same organization at which the launch grant work was performed.

The launch grants further NYU Law's longstanding commitment to public service. They are in addition to [named fellowships](#) (also included in the chart above) that support work with public service organizations—positions that lead to fulltime jobs at the fellowship organization or with other employers. Additionally, we guarantee funding for all first- and second-year students who work during the summer in approved [public service internships](#). During the summer of 2012 that funding encompassed 438 students working in the U.S. and 30 other countries. NYU Law graduates enjoy continued support for public service employment through the Law School's pioneering [Loan Repayment Assistance Program](#), instituted in 1984. J.D. graduates working in public service positions for 10 years and earning under \$80,000 per year may qualify to have all of their eligible federal law school loans forgiven.

EMPLOYMENT TYPES OF EMPLOYED GRADUATES

	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Law Firm	63.81%	53.81%	61.7%	71.6%
<i>Solo Practice</i>	0.0%	0.42%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>2 to 10 attorneys</i>	2.01%	6.67%	2.7%	0.9%
<i>11 to 25 attorneys</i>	1.34%	4.17%	1.7%	0.3%
<i>26 to 50 attorneys</i>	0.0%	3.33%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>51 to 100 attorneys</i>	0.34%	1.67%	0.7%	0.9%
<i>101 to 250 attorneys</i>	7.05%	2.92%	3.7%	3.6%
<i>251 to 500 attorneys</i>	10.74%	10.83%	10.1%	11.0%

<i>501 or more attorneys</i>	78.52%	70%	81.1%	81.5%
<i>Firm size unknown</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%
Business and Industry	5.14%	4.93%	2.9%	2.2%
Government	7.49%	7.85%	6.7%	4.1%
Public Interest	14.78%	18.16%	14.2%	10.3%
<i>Judicial Clerkship*</i>	7.92%	14.35%	13.1%	10.7%
<i>Federal</i>	72.97%	79.37%	79.4%	84.1%
<i>State & Local</i>	27.03%	19.05%	19.0%	15.9%
<i>Other</i>	0.0%	1.59%	1.6%	0.0%
Academia	0.86%	0.22%	0.6%	1.1%
Military	0.0%	0.45%	0.8%	0.0%

* This number reflects only those who take a clerkship immediately following graduation. In keeping with recent hiring preferences of judges, a substantial number of graduates work for one or more years before serving as clerks; approximately 20% of each class ultimately clerks, and some hold more than one clerkship.

GEOGRAPHIC DESTINATIONS OF EMPLOYED GRADUATES

	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Northeast (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)	2.57%	2.02%	2.5%	3.3%
Mid-Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA)	66.60%	67.87%	69.1%	66.5%
East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI)	2.57%	1.12%	2.5%	1.5%
West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, SD, ND)	0.21%	0.67%	0.0%	0.2%
South Atlantic (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)	11.53%	7.87%	9.4%	13.6%

East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN)	0.43%	2.47%	0.8%	0.9%
West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX)	2.78%	2.25%	1.7%	2.2%
Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY)	0.43%	0.90%	1.0%	0.7%
Pacific (AK, CA, WA, HI, OR)	11.35%	11.91%	10.6%	8.7%
International	1.71%	2.92%	2.3%	2.4%

MOST POPULAR EMPLOYMENT DESTINATIONS

	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
New York	63.38%	62.56%	64.0%	63.7%
California	10.70%	9.87%	9.0%	8.3%
District of Columbia	7.92%	4.26%	5.8%	12.7%

FULL-TIME SALARIES OF EMPLOYED GRADUATES

	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Total Employed Graduates	467	446	480	457
Salaries Reported	460 (98.50%)	387 (86.77%)	403 (83.96%)	421 (92.12%)
25th Percentile	\$60,000	\$55,000	\$67,963	\$145,000
Median	\$160,000	\$145,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
75th Percentile	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Mean	\$120,354	\$108,003	\$129,500	\$136,169
Law Firm	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	297 (99.66%)	218 (90.83%)	291 (96.68%)	325 (99.39%)
25th Percentile	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Median	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000

75th Percentile	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Mean	\$155,985	\$153,119	\$156,062	\$158,006
Judicial Clerk	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	37 (100%)	64 (100%)	62 (98.41%)	44 (89.80%)
25th Percentile	\$56,000	\$57,000	\$56,656	\$55,000
Median	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
75th Percentile	\$63,865	\$64,729	\$64,387	\$63,000
Mean	\$59,494	\$59,025	\$59,541	\$57,979
Business & Industry	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	18 (75.00%)	11 (50.00%)	4 (28.57%)	6 (60.00%)
25th Percentile	\$77,500	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Median	\$100,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
75th Percentile	\$124,413	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
Mean	\$133,425	\$153,119	\$156,062	\$158,006
Government	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	35 (100%)	28 (75.57%)	19 (59.38%)	10 (52.63%)
25th Percentile	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$60,000	\$57,000
Median	\$60,000	\$33,000	\$62,000	\$61,500
75th Percentile	\$62,467	\$62,500	\$65,000	\$69,000
Mean	\$47,028	\$45,488	\$63,208	\$62,900
Public Interest	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	69 (100%)	65 (80.25%)	23 (33.82%)	30 (63.83%)
25th Percentile	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Median	\$40,000	\$43,000	\$48,000	\$46,750
75th Percentile	\$53,000	\$52,390	\$54,000	\$51,250
Mean	\$38,525	\$38,519	\$49,093	\$44,783
Academia	Class of 2012	Class of 2011	Class of 2010	Class of 2009
Salaries Reported	4 (100%)	1 (100%)	1 (33.33%)	2 (40.00%)
25th Percentile	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Median	\$32,000	n/a	n/a	\$43,500
75th Percentile	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mean	\$32,000	\$54,000	\$60,000	\$43,500

FIRST NON-CLERKSHIP EMPLOYMENT OF ALL GRADUATES

	Class of 2010	Class of 2009	Class of 2008	Class of 2007
Law Firm	69.9%	79.0%	79.4%	82.5%
Public Interest	16.7%	12.4%	13.1%	11.9%
Government	9.7%	5.0%	4.0%	3.1%
Business and Industry	3.0%	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%
Academia	0.7%	1.4%	1.1%	0.6%

<http://www.law.nyu.edu//careerservices/employmentstatistics/index.htm>

© 2013 New York University School of Law, [40 Washington Sq. South, NY, NY 10012](#)
[212.998.6100](#)