



2021 Real Rate Report®

The Industry's
Leading Analysis
of Law Firm Rates,
Trends, and Practices



Wolters Kluwer

When you have to be right

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Section I: High-Level Data Cuts

Cities

By Matter Type

2021 - Real Rates

Trend Analysis - Mean

City	Matter Type	Role	n	First Quartile	Median	Third Quartile	2021	2020	2019
Albany NY	Litigation	Partner	12	\$319	\$333	\$506	\$447	\$379	\$379
		Associate	15	\$225	\$235	\$241	\$238	\$228	\$241
	Non-Litigation	Partner	22	\$284	\$290	\$309	\$301	\$362	\$308
Atlanta GA	Litigation	Partner	119	\$300	\$475	\$625	\$504	\$558	\$528
		Associate	127	\$248	\$340	\$405	\$349	\$366	\$350
	Non-Litigation	Partner	237	\$460	\$635	\$803	\$660	\$655	\$603
		Associate	196	\$342	\$425	\$589	\$475	\$444	\$410
Austin TX	Litigation	Partner	26	\$452	\$560	\$899	\$671	\$607	\$559
		Associate	21	\$295	\$405	\$667	\$482	\$504	\$421
	Non-Litigation	Partner	75	\$404	\$485	\$622	\$516	\$517	\$484
		Associate	47	\$248	\$343	\$445	\$370	\$387	\$344
Baltimore MD	Litigation	Partner	75	\$425	\$611	\$756	\$605	\$570	\$589
		Associate	99	\$300	\$445	\$567	\$457	\$444	\$414
	Non-Litigation	Partner	99	\$400	\$623	\$838	\$654	\$646	\$658
		Associate	102	\$360	\$530	\$655	\$523	\$508	\$464
Baton Rouge LA	Non-Litigation	Partner	13	\$303	\$348	\$446	\$375	\$376	\$350

Section II: Industry Analysis

All

By Matter Type

2021 - Real Rates for Associate and Partner

Trend Analysis - Mean

Industry	Matter Type	Role	n	First Quartile	Median	Third Quartile	2021	2020	2019
Basic Materials and Utilities	Litigation	Partner	329	\$299	\$395	\$576	\$448	\$436	\$459
		Associate	263	\$212	\$268	\$374	\$307	\$301	\$300
	Non-Litigation	Partner	394	\$481	\$655	\$1,190	\$851	\$775	\$671
		Associate	312	\$395	\$652	\$992	\$695	\$607	\$481
Consumer Goods	Litigation	Partner	218	\$295	\$365	\$486	\$443	\$442	\$410
		Associate	151	\$215	\$245	\$365	\$308	\$310	\$295
	Non-Litigation	Partner	307	\$450	\$595	\$795	\$633	\$606	\$602
		Associate	136	\$309	\$385	\$578	\$452	\$409	\$405
Consumer Services	Litigation	Partner	712	\$400	\$560	\$760	\$620	\$627	\$594
		Associate	666	\$320	\$414	\$580	\$467	\$450	\$410
	Non-Litigation	Partner	794	\$462	\$620	\$825	\$704	\$695	\$694
		Associate	762	\$357	\$485	\$678	\$536	\$491	\$488
Financials Excluding Insurance	Litigation	Partner	1,223	\$356	\$538	\$770	\$616	\$599	\$608
		Associate	1,025	\$275	\$375	\$539	\$434	\$420	\$417
	Non-Litigation	Partner	3,232	\$565	\$870	\$1,217	\$922	\$911	\$866
		Associate	3,217	\$420	\$618	\$885	\$666	\$653	\$603
Health Care	Litigation	Partner	824	\$450	\$725	\$946	\$708	\$682	\$658

Section III: Practice Area Analysis

Bankruptcy and Collections

By City

2021 - Real Rates for Associate and Partner

Trend Analysis - Mean

City	Role	n	First Quartile	Median	Third Quartile	2021	2020	2019
Atlanta GA	Associate	11	\$336	\$383	\$411	\$404	\$382	\$435
Baltimore MD	Partner	15	\$364	\$416	\$494	\$438	\$435	\$427
	Associate	11	\$230	\$240	\$290	\$302	\$281	\$290
Birmingham AL	Partner	16	\$325	\$325	\$467	\$389	\$339	\$334
Buffalo NY	Partner	12	\$255	\$340	\$344	\$325	\$315	\$339
Chicago IL	Partner	27	\$525	\$1,117	\$1,248	\$946	\$1,076	\$611
	Associate	29	\$568	\$752	\$864	\$684	\$764	\$482
Cleveland OH	Partner	26	\$391	\$433	\$565	\$487	\$428	\$390
Columbus OH	Partner	13	\$355	\$414	\$420	\$431	\$413	\$417
Dallas TX	Partner	14	\$381	\$525	\$580	\$529	\$615	\$463
Houston TX	Partner	12	\$654	\$792	\$832	\$770	\$792	\$741
	Associate	30	\$356	\$375	\$508	\$431	\$429	\$426
Los Angeles CA	Associate	13	\$323	\$375	\$390	\$377	\$354	\$317
New York NY	Partner	69	\$400	\$546	\$790	\$633	\$649	\$585
	Associate	52	\$300	\$375	\$413	\$394	\$457	\$443

Section IV: In-Depth Analysis for Select US Cities

Boston MA

By Practice Area and Firm Size

2021 - Real Rates for Associate and Partner

Trend Analysis - Mean

Practice Area	Firm Size	Role	n	First Quartile	Median	Third Quartile	2021	2020	2019
Commercial	More Than 1,000 Lawyers	Associate	12	\$695	\$865	\$985	\$861	\$749	\$572
Corporate: Other	51-200 Lawyers	Partner	13	\$695	\$730	\$858	\$769	\$722	\$727
		Associate	16	\$403	\$425	\$610	\$460	\$452	\$408
	More Than 1,000 Lawyers	Partner	17	\$812	\$925	\$1,240	\$1,019	\$982	\$839
		Associate	17	\$435	\$660	\$910	\$682	\$581	\$445
Finance and Securities: Investments and Other Financial Instruments	501-1,000 Lawyers	Partner	12	\$1,040	\$1,139	\$1,281	\$1,163	\$997	\$964
		Associate	13	\$495	\$582	\$842	\$623	\$651	\$645
	More Than 1,000 Lawyers	Partner	13	\$872	\$986	\$1,243	\$1,052	\$1,093	\$1,040
Insurance Defense: Property Damage	51-200 Lawyers	Partner	15	\$215	\$220	\$325	\$257	\$250	\$209
Intellectual Property: Patents	51-200 Lawyers	Partner	15	\$602	\$725	\$811	\$734	\$748	\$777
	201-500 Lawyers	Partner	21	\$655	\$707	\$808	\$724	\$702	\$643

Section V: International Analysis

Countries

By Role

2021 - Real Rates for Partners, Associates, and Paralegals

Trend Analysis - Mean

Country	Role	n	First Quartile	Median	Third Quartile	2021	2020	2019
Argentina	Partner	24	\$49	\$52	\$240	\$121	\$160	\$190
	Associate	40	\$43	\$115	\$238	\$149	\$153	\$161
Australia	Partner	115	\$467	\$554	\$628	\$549	\$515	\$500
	Associate	198	\$244	\$332	\$445	\$354	\$329	\$329
	Paralegal	44	\$150	\$199	\$260	\$209	\$200	\$194
Austria	Partner	25	\$426	\$480	\$524	\$583	\$515	\$516
	Associate	43	\$306	\$444	\$848	\$552	\$499	\$481
Belgium	Partner	48	\$490	\$715	\$909	\$713	\$618	\$557
	Associate	104	\$232	\$327	\$539	\$406	\$386	\$367
	Paralegal	11	\$233	\$324	\$398	\$324	\$297	\$236
Brazil	Partner	67	\$285	\$376	\$500	\$399	\$435	\$416
	Associate	131	\$128	\$224	\$320	\$232	\$244	\$240
	Paralegal	60	\$75	\$75	\$110	\$91	\$109	\$96
Canada	Partner	544	\$435	\$571	\$779	\$609	\$598	\$583
	Associate	288	\$304	\$443	\$561	\$463	\$430	\$401
	Paralegal	291	\$145	\$216	\$285	\$222	\$216	\$210