

# Schools of Law

## THE TOP 100 SCHOOLS

Rank/School	Overall score	Peer assessment score (5.0-highest)	Assessment score by lawyers/judges (5.0-highest)	'07 undergrad GPA 25th-75th percentile	'07 LSAT score 25th-75th percentile	'07 acceptance rate	'07 student/faculty ratio	'06 grads employed at graduation	Employed 9 months after graduation	School's bar passage rate in jurisdiction	Jurisdiction's overall bar passage rate*
1. Yale University (CT)	100	4.8	4.8	3.77-3.97	170-177	7.3%	7.4	96.1%	99.6%	91.2%/NY	77%
2. Harvard University (MA)	91	4.8	4.8	3.75-3.95	170-175	11.8%	10.3	96.4%	98.1%	97.1%/NY	77%
Stanford University (CA)	91	4.7	4.8	3.74-3.95	167-172	9.0%	8.3	98.3%	98.5%	88.7%/CA	65%
4. Columbia University (NY)	88	4.7	4.7	3.56-3.81	169-174	15.9%	9.5	98.9%	98.9%	95.6%/NY	77%
5. New York University	85	4.5	4.5	3.54-3.86	169-173	22.9%	10.4	96.3%	98.5%	95.1%/NY	77%
6. University of California–Berkeley	81	4.5	4.5	3.64-3.90	163-170	12.0%	12.3	99.0%	99.0%	84.9%/CA	65%
7. University of Chicago	80	4.6	4.6	3.49-3.76	169-173	16.2%	10.3	96.4%	99.0%	97.7%/IL	87%
University of Pennsylvania	80	4.3	4.4	3.52-3.86	166-171	16.3%	12.1	95.3%	98.2%	94.4%/NY	77%
9. Northwestern University (IL)	79	4.1	4.3	3.40-3.80	166-172	17.6%	10.4	96.2%	99.2%	95.1%/IL	87%
University of Michigan–Ann Arbor	79	4.5	4.6	3.49-3.79	167-170	20.7%	12.7	97.2%	98.8%	94.8%/NY	77%
University of Virginia	79	4.4	4.6	3.51-3.87	167-171	24.0%	13.3	96.8%	99.6%	91.1%/VA	74%
12. Cornell University (NY)	77	4.2	4.4	3.54-3.78	166-168	21.6%	11.2	96.9%	99.0%	92.1%/NY	77%
Duke University (NC)	77	4.2	4.4	3.61-3.82	167-170	26.6%	13.9	91.8%	98.2%	97.0%/NY	77%
14. Georgetown University (DC)	74	4.2	4.4	3.44-3.82	167-171	23.2%	13.2	94.8%	97.8%	91.0%/NY	77%
15. Vanderbilt University (TN)	72	3.8	4.1	3.54-3.83	164-168	25.0%	12.9	90.5%	98.3%	97.8%/TN	78%
16. University of California–Los Angeles	71	4.0	3.8	3.54-3.85	163-169	17.5%	12.9	94.9%	97.8%	85.7%/CA	65%
University of Texas–Austin	71	4.1	4.2	3.38-3.80	163-168	24.0%	14.2	92.0%	97.4%	89.4%/TX	82%
18. University of Southern California (Gould)	68	3.7	3.6	3.46-3.72	165-167	18.7%	12.7	90.1%	96.0%	85.1%/CA	65%
19. Washington University in St. Louis	67	3.6	3.9	3.30-3.70	163-167	25.7%	11.6	83.9%	98.8%	93.0%/IL	87%
20. George Washington University (DC)	65	3.5	3.8	3.40-3.86	163-168	19.8%	14.9	95.1%	97.1%	93.9%/NY	77%
21. Boston University	64	3.4	3.6	3.51-3.81	164-166	26.8%	12.3	96.3%	98.7%	95.0%/MA	86%
22. Emory University (GA)	63	3.4	3.8	3.28-3.62	162-166	26.2%	10.8	95.9%	98.3%	95.0%/GA	85%
University of Minnesota–Twin Cities	63	3.6	3.6	3.28-3.78	163-167	24.7%	12.1	87.0%	97.5%	96.3%/MN	91%
University of Notre Dame (IN)	63	3.3	3.8	3.40-3.76	164-167	18.6%	14.7	83.8%	97.3%	89.5%/IL	87%
25. Washington and Lee University (VA)	62	3.4	3.9	3.25-3.81	161-167	23.6%	10.6	74.4%	92.4%	79.2%/VA	74%
26. Boston College	61	3.3	3.7	3.44-3.78	162-165	20.2%	12.6	82.5%	97.6%	95.2%/MA	86%
27. Fordham University (NY)	60	3.3	3.5	3.41-3.74	163-167	23.5%	14.6	82.3%	94.7%	89.0%/NY	77%
University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign	60	3.4	3.7	3.18-3.80	160-167	30.2%	12.4	78.4%	92.6%	88.8%/IL	87%
University of Iowa	60	3.5	3.7	3.41-3.86	159-163	34.6%	13.0	79.9%	92.8%	90.0%/IA	87%
30. College of William and Mary (Marshall-Wythe) (VA)	59	3.2	3.6	3.44-3.82	159-166	27.1%	14.8	82.3%	96.3%	86.8%/VA	74%
University of Washington	59	3.2	3.5	3.47-3.82	159-165	22.7%	10.2	87.6%	97.2%	87.6%/WA	82%
32. Ohio State University (Moritz)	58	3.4	3.4	3.34-3.81	158-164	29.5%	12.6	85.8%	95.4%	84.0%/OH	84%
University of Alabama	58	2.9	3.3	3.31-3.84	160-165	29.2%	9.8	83.7%	96.5%	97.2%/AL	79%
University of Colorado–Boulder	58	3.1	3.1	3.33-3.83	160-165	25.2%	12.2	88.6%	97.0%	91.2%/CO	76%
University of Georgia	58	3.1	3.3	3.42-3.86	159-165	24.9%	14.8	87.9%	98.1%	91.0%/GA	85%
36. Indiana University–Bloomington	57	3.2	3.6	3.03-3.67	158-165	38.9%	11.4	88.1%	97.7%	86.2%/IN	83%
University of Wisconsin–Madison	57	3.4	3.6	3.32-3.74	157-163	29.5%	13.4	72.9%	97.2%	100.0%/WI	89%
38. George Mason University (VA)	56	2.8	3.3	3.11-3.86	159-166	22.3%	16.7	93.2%	98.0%	83.8%/VA	74%
University of Arizona (Rogers)	56	3.2	3.4	3.23-3.73	157-164	30.9%	11.7	78.8%	94.9%	86.5%/AZ	75%
University of California (Hastings)	56	3.4	3.7	3.36-3.74	160-165	26.5%	16.2	67.5%	93.2%	82.4%/CA	65%
University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill	56	3.5	3.8	3.45-3.80	157-164	18.5%	15.7	62.6%	88.8%	86.5%/NC	74%
42. University of Maryland	55	2.9	3.2	3.47-3.84	160-166	15.5%	11.4	79.9%	94.2%	87.5%/MD	77%
Wake Forest University (NC)	55	3.0	3.5	3.17-3.68	159-166	35.4%	10.3	71.3%	95.0%	87.5%/NC	74%
44. Tulane University (LA)	54	3.1	3.5	3.37-3.75	158-163	35.6%	15.4	78.2%	95.8%	82.6%/LA	75%
University of California–Davis	54	3.4	3.5	3.38-3.75	159-165	28.8%	12.4	78.8%	87.1%	75.9%/CA	65%
46. American University (Washington) (DC)	53	3.0	3.2	3.14-3.59	161-163	22.8%	13.8	85.2%	95.8%	81.4%/MD	77%
Brigham Young University (Clark) (UT)	53	2.8	3.3	3.51-3.85	162-167	28.6%	18.9	75.0%	91.2%	96.2%/UT	87%
Southern Methodist University (TX)	53	2.7	3.2	3.28-3.84	157-165	22.9%	14.7	70.1%	94.7%	90.4%/TX	82%
University of Connecticut	53	2.9	3.0	3.24-3.64	160-164	14.1%	11.0	74.4%	95.5%	86.7%/CT	83%
University of Florida (Levin)	53	3.2	3.3	3.44-3.83	156-162	34.3%	15.7	77.7%	96.8%	77.9%/FL	74%
51. University of Utah (Quinney)	52	2.8	3.0	3.31-3.77	156-162	36.9%	9.9	96.2%	98.5%	85.8%/UT	87%
52. Arizona State University (O'Connor)	50	2.9	3.2	3.30-3.81	156-162	23.7%	9.4	N/A	93.3%	78.7%/AZ	75%
University of Cincinnati	50	2.6	2.8	3.39-3.87	157-162	35.1%	9.6	72.8%	96.2%	91.8%/OH	84%
University of Tennessee–Knoxville	50	2.8	3.0	3.35-3.82	157-162	29.2%	13.1	74.0%	95.3%	91.6%/TN	78%
55. Baylor University (Umphrey) (TX)	49	2.5	3.3	3.38-3.78	157-162	30.4%	16.6	68.3%	96.4%	98.5%/TX	82%
Florida State University	49	2.8	2.8	3.30-3.77	158-162	23.8%	13.7	82.0%	95.1%	88.1%/FL	74%
University of Houston	49	2.6	3.0	3.30-3.79	158-163	29.3%	13.9	76.8%	96.3%	88.5%/TX	82%
Yeshiva University (Cardozo) (NY)	49	2.7	2.9	3.30-3.70	162-166	27.5%	16.2	75.1%	95.4%	88.8%/NY	77%
59. Pepperdine University (CA)	48	2.4	3.2	3.42-3.73	158-162	32.5%	16.9	N/A	95.0%	82.8%/CA	65%

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Temple University (Beasley) (PA)	48	2.7	3.1	3.27-3.65	160-164	41.0%	12.8	66.8%	94.2%	89.7%/PA	83%
University of Kentucky	48	2.5	3.0	3.36-3.79	156-162	36.3%	15.0	77.5%	99.3%	90.0%/KY	83%
University of Missouri—Columbia	48	2.7	3.2	3.26-3.80	156-161	35.8%	17.2	54.9%	98.6%	90.8%/MO	86%
63. Brooklyn Law School (NY)	47	2.7	2.8	3.17-3.63	162-165	29.4%	19.9	66.7%	97.0%	84.5%/NY	77%
Case Western Reserve University (OH)	47	2.7	3.1	3.17-3.60	156-160	34.8%	13.7	70.7%	96.7%	83.3%/OH	84%
Loyola Marymount University (CA)	47	2.6	2.9	3.22-3.65	159-163	29.7%	15.8	66.6%	96.9%	74.9%/CA	65%
66. Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago-Kent)	46	2.7	2.7	3.20-3.77	157-164	33.3%	11.5	71.8%	90.7%	90.3%/IL	87%
Seton Hall University (NJ)	46	2.5	2.8	3.22-3.65	157-162	42.6%	15.4	89.7%	98.3%	85.4%/NJ	79%
68. Indiana University—Indianapolis	45	2.6	3.1	3.36-3.78	151-158	35.0%	17.0	81.5%	95.9%	84.8%/IN	83%
University of New Mexico	45	2.5	2.7	3.09-3.72	152-159	22.5%	10.0	60.5%	98.5%	92.4%/NM	88%
University of Oklahoma	45	2.5	3.0	3.35-3.78	154-160	38.4%	11.9	81.7%	95.7%	96.2%/OK	92%
University of Richmond (Williams) (VA)	45	2.4	3.1	3.23-3.66	158-162	34.7%	15.6	72.5%	94.6%	84.8%/VA	74%
Villanova University (PA)	45	2.7	3.2	3.14-3.63	160-163	43.4%	16.0	64.2%	94.3%	86.2%/PA	83%
73. Lewis and Clark College (Northwestern) (OR)	44	2.4	2.9	3.11-3.73	157-163	37.0%	10.6	N/A	92.2%	85.8%/OR	82%
University of Kansas	44	2.7	3.1	3.09-3.77	155-160	36.7%	12.1	65.9%	94.7%	91.8%/KS	90%
University of Nebraska—Lincoln	44	2.5	3.0	3.50-3.82	153-159	37.1%	12.5	78.9%	93.9%	87.1%/NE	83%
University of Pittsburgh	44	2.8	2.9	3.11-3.65	158-161	36.9%	15.3	73.5%	94.1%	89.9%/PA	83%
77. Georgia State University	43	2.3	2.6	3.11-3.62	158-162	17.7%	12.8	N/A	97.9%	92.8%/GA	85%
Pennsylvania State University (Dickinson)	43	2.3	2.9	3.02-3.69	156-159	33.3%	11.5	N/A	92.4%	87.4%/PA	83%
Rutgers, the State Univ. of New Jersey—Camden	43	2.6	2.8	3.09-3.65	160-162	22.5%	14.1	71.8%	91.6%	79.4%/NJ	79%
Rutgers, the State Univ. of New Jersey—Newark	43	2.6	2.8	3.08-3.55	155-161	29.8%	14.8	82.4%	95.3%	80.0%/NJ	79%
Santa Clara University (CA)	43	2.6	3.2	3.16-3.59	156-161	51.3%	15.9	72.3%	92.5%	77.3%/CA	65%
82. Loyola University Chicago	42	2.5	3.0	3.35-3.75	159-163	25.8%	14.5	54.2%	89.2%	89.5%/IL	87%
Seattle University	42	2.3	2.8	3.17-3.62	155-161	28.2%	14.4	66.6%	98.5%	81.9%/WA	82%
University of Hawaii (Richardson)	42	2.4	2.7	3.09-3.62	155-160	18.7%	8.5	64.4%	94.3%	82.2%/HI	77%
University of Miami (FL)	42	2.8	2.9	3.21-3.63	155-160	50.9%	19.1	72.4%	90.7%	84.8%/FL	74%
University of Oregon	42	2.9	3.1	3.27-3.68	156-160	40.8%	17.6	63.3%	89.5%	85.4%/OR	82%
University of San Diego	42	2.8	2.9	3.10-3.53	160-164	31.5%	14.0	N/A	87.9%	75.5%/CA	65%
88. Catholic University of America (Columbus) (DC)	41	2.5	2.9	3.08-3.57	156-160	34.3%	13.6	70.1%	93.7%	79.6%/MD	77%
DePaul University (IL)	41	2.4	2.8	3.10-3.66	159-162	35.2%	13.6	82.7%	90.3%	87.2%/IL	87%
Louisiana State University—Baton Rouge	41	2.3	2.9	3.16-3.70	155-159	37.4%	16.2	73.7%	93.8%	88.8%/LA	75%
Northeastern University (MA)	41	2.4	2.8	3.14-3.61	156-162	36.2%	16.9	N/A	93.7%	87.8%/MA	86%
St. John's University (NY)	41	2.4	2.7	3.19-3.74	157-162	34.2%	16.4	65.7%	88.7%	88.8%/NY	77%
University of Denver (Sturm)	41	2.5	2.8	3.15-3.66	155-160	33.4%	18.7	67.4%	95.9%	65.7%/CO	76%
University of Nevada—Las Vegas (Boyd)	41	2.3	2.8	3.20-3.66	156-161	23.0%	14.0	N/A	91.5%	76.6%/NV	72%
95. Marquette University (WI)	40	2.3	3.1	3.20-3.65	155-159	45.6%	17.5	63.4%	95.7%	100.0%/WI	89%
St. Louis University	40	2.4	3.2	3.24-3.74	154-159	52.3%	17.6	70.8%	93.0%	85.6%/MO	86%
University of South Carolina	40	2.3	2.7	3.04-3.69	156-161	30.9%	14.3	63.9%	93.6%	87.9%/SC	81%
University of the Pacific (McGeorge) (CA)	40	2.2	2.5	3.13-3.60	155-159	39.7%	13.5	N/A	94.4%	72.7%/CA	65%
99. Hofstra University (NY)	39	2.4	2.8	3.11-3.69	154-159	42.0%	15.5	N/A	92.9%	73.6%/NY	77%
100. Mercer University (GA)	38	2.2	2.6	3.20-3.69	155-158	31.8%	13.3	62.1%	94.4%	88.0%/GA	85%
Stetson University (FL)	38	2.1	2.4	3.48-3.71	153-157	31.1%	17.9	N/A	97.7%	81.5%/FL	74%
Syracuse University (NY)	38	2.4	2.9	3.09-3.59	152-156	49.6%	12.7	62.6%	92.6%	79.6%/NY	77%
University at Buffalo—SUNY	38	2.4	2.4	3.19-3.65	154-159	38.5%	15.6	73.8%	92.7%	80.6%/NY	77%
University of Louisville (Brandeis) (KY)	38	2.3	2.5	3.17-3.73	155-159	38.0%	14.4	58.9%	93.8%	85.0%/KY	83%

Sources: *U.S. News* and the schools. Assessment data collected by Synovate. N/A means that the data were not provided by the school. Western State University and University of La Verne in California, Florida A&M University, John Marshall Law School—Atlanta, Charleston School of Law in South Carolina, Faulkner University in Alabama, Liberty University in Virginia, and Phoenix School of Law in Arizona are not ranked because as of December 2007 they were only provisionally approved by the American Bar Association. Three law schools in Puerto Rico—Catholic University, Inter-America University, and the University of Puerto Rico—are not ranked. Note: The state bar examination pass rates for first-time test takers in summer 2006 and winter 2007 were provided by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

## METHODOLOGY

The rankings of 184 accredited law schools are based on a weighted average of the 12 measures of quality described below. More on our methods appears on Page 16. **Quality assessment** (weighted by .40): Quality was measured by two surveys conducted in fall 2007. The dean and three faculty members at each school were asked to rate schools from “marginal” (1) to “outstanding” (5); 70 percent voted. Their average rating for a school is weighted by .25 in the ranking model. Lawyers and judges

also rated schools; 26 percent responded. Their average rating is weighted by .15.

**Selectivity** (.25): For full-time students entering in 2007, this combines median LSAT scores (50 percent), median undergrad GPA (40 percent), and proportion of applicants accepted (10 percent).

**Placement success** (.20): Success is determined by employment rates for 2006 graduates at graduation (20 percent) and nine months after (70 percent) as well as their bar passage rate (10 percent). Employment rates include graduates reported as working or pursuing graduate degrees; for the nine-month rate only, 25 per-

cent of those whose status is unknown are also counted as working. All others are counted as unemployed. The bar passage rate indicator is the ratio of a school's rate in the cited jurisdiction to the overall state rate, computed for first-time test takers in summer 2006 and winter 2007. The jurisdiction cited is the state where the largest number of 2006 grads first took the test. **Faculty resources** (.15): Resources are based on average 2006 and 2007 expenditures per student for instruction, library, and supporting services (65 percent) and on all other items including financial aid (10 percent); 2007 student/teacher

ratio (20 percent); and total number of volumes and titles in library (5 percent).

**Overall rank:** A school's score on each indicator was standardized. Then scores were weighted, totaled, and rescaled so that the top school received 100 and other schools received a percentage of the top score. **Specialty rankings:** Rankings are based solely on votes by law faculty who are listed in the *AALS Directory of Law Teachers 2005–2006* as teaching in the field or by directors of clinical and legal writing programs. They named up to 15 of the best in each field. Schools receiving the most votes are listed.

SPECIALTIES

PROGRAMS RANKED BEST BY FACULTY WHO TEACH IN THE FIELD

**CLINICAL TRAINING**

1. Georgetown University (DC)
2. American University (Washington) (DC)
3. New York University
4. CUNY–Queens College
5. University of New Mexico
6. Washington Univ. in St. Louis
7. Yale University (CT)
8. University of Oregon
9. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor
10. Fordham University (NY)

**DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

1. Pepperdine University (CA)
2. Harvard University (MA)
3. Univ. of Missouri–Columbia
4. Hamline University (MN)
5. Ohio State University (Moritz)
6. Marquette University (WI)
7. University of Oregon
8. Yeshiva Univ. (Cardozo) (NY)
9. University of Nevada–Las Vegas (Boyd)
10. Fordham University (NY)

**ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

1. Lewis and Clark College (Northwestern) (OR)
2. Vermont Law School
3. Pace University (NY)

4. Georgetown University (DC)
5. Duke University (NC)
6. University of Colorado–Boulder
7. Stanford University (CA)
8. University of Maryland
9. University of Oregon
10. Florida State University

**HEALTH LAW**

1. St. Louis University
2. University of Houston
3. University of Maryland
4. Case Western Reserve University (OH)
5. Seton Hall University (NJ)
6. Loyola University Chicago
7. Boston University
8. Georgetown University (DC)
9. Widener University (DE)
10. Georgia State University

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**

1. University of California–Berkeley
2. Stanford University (CA)
3. George Washington Univ. (DC)
4. Columbia University (NY)
5. Franklin Pierce Law Center (NH)
6. Duke University (NC)
7. University of Houston
8. Santa Clara University (CA)

9. Boston University
10. Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago–Kent)

**INTERNATIONAL LAW**

1. New York University
2. Columbia University (NY)
3. Harvard University (MA)
4. Georgetown University (DC)
5. American University (Washington) (DC)
6. Yale University (CT)
7. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor
8. George Washington Univ. (DC)
9. University of California–Berkeley
10. University of Virginia

**LEGAL WRITING**

1. Mercer University (GA)
2. Seattle University
3. University of Nevada–Las Vegas (Boyd)
4. Temple University (Beasley) (PA)
5. John Marshall Law School (IL)
6. Stetson University (FL)
7. Boston College
8. Northwestern University (IL)
9. Brooklyn Law School (NY)
10. University of Oregon

**TAX LAW**

1. New York University
2. University of Florida (Levin)
3. Georgetown University (DC)
4. Northwestern University (IL)
5. University of California–Los Angeles
6. Harvard University (MA)
7. University of Miami (FL)
8. Boston University
9. University of Virginia
10. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor
11. University of Texas–Austin
12. Yale University (CT)

**TRIAL ADVOCACY**

1. Stetson University (FL)
2. Temple Univ. (Beasley) (PA)
3. Northwestern University (IL)
4. Washington Univ. in St. Louis
5. Georgetown University (DC)
6. Loyola Marymount University (CA)
7. South Texas College of Law
8. Baylor University (Umphrey) (TX)
9. American University (Washington) (DC)
10. New York University
11. University of Texas–Austin

Other Schools to Consider

The next two quartiles of schools are listed alphabetically in two groups, the Third Tier and Fourth Tier. Law schools within each of these tiers should be considered broadly similar in quality. To be listed, a law school must be accredited and fully approved by

the American Bar Association and must draw most of its students from the United States. Remember that in considering a law school, you should look not only at its ranking or tier but also at other characteristics—its location, price, course offerings, and faculty expertise, to name a few. More information on all the schools is available in the directory (Page 73).

**THIRD TIER** (ranking begins at 105; schools are listed alphabetically)

Rank/School	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Assessment score by lawyers/judges (5.0=highest)	'07 undergrad GPA 25th-75th percentile	'07 LSAT score 25th-75th percentile	'07 acceptance rate	'07 student/faculty ratio	'06 grads employed at graduation	Employed 9 months after graduation	School's bar passage rate in jurisdiction	Jurisdiction's overall bar passage rate*
Albany Law School–Union University (NY)	2.1	2.4	2.92-3.48	152-157	45.1%	14.7	N/A	97.2%	86.3%/NY	77%
Chapman University (CA)	1.8	1.9	3.10-3.61	154-159	31.5%	12.6	51.1%	95.4%	61.3%/CA	65%
Cleveland State University (Cleveland–Marshall)	2.1	2.3	3.14-3.65	153-157	36.3%	13.0	63.0%	93.3%	82.4%/OH	84%
Creighton University (NE)	2.0	2.9	3.23-3.68	151-156	45.3%	18.1	73.0%	97.3%	75.0%/NE	83%
Drake University (IA)	2.0	2.6	3.11-3.72	153-158	50.7%	12.9	N/A	94.9%	90.6%/IA	87%
Franklin Pierce Law Center (NH)	1.9	2.5	3.00-3.50	150-155	49.8%	14.4	65.8%	95.5%	95.6%/MA	86%
Gonzaga University (WA)	2.1	3.0	3.06-3.54	153-157	45.4%	14.8	N/A	92.6%	84.3%/WA	82%
Hamline University (MN)	1.9	2.3	3.22-3.70	152-158	48.6%	14.6	N/A	91.5%	85.8%/MN	91%
Howard University (DC)	2.3	2.7	2.90-3.50	149-155	22.7%	18.7	87.6%	94.1%	61.5%/NY	77%
Loyola University New Orleans	2.1	3.0	3.09-3.56	149-155	67.2%	17.5	63.4%	95.3%	79.7%/LA	75%
Michigan State University	2.2	2.9	3.21-3.64	155-161	41.8%	19.4	N/A	90.7%	93.7%/MI	89%
New York Law School	2.2	2.8	3.08-3.57	153-157	47.1%	22.9	N/A	90.2%	81.3%/NY	77%
Ohio Northern University (Pettit)	1.7	1.9	3.10-3.70	148-156	29.7%	12.2	N/A	95.5%	81.4%/OH	84%
Pace University (NY)	2.1	2.3	3.13-3.59	153-157	36.9%	14.2	N/A	88.1%	81.0%/NY	77%
Quinnipiac University (CT)	2.0	2.2	3.01-3.62	157-160	27.6%	10.4	N/A	93.8%	82.7%/CT	83%
Samford University (Cumberland) (AL)	1.9	2.3	3.07-3.52	155-159	40.2%	17.6	66.0%	90.1%	89.7%/AL	79%

Continued on Page 50

Rank/School	Peer assessment score (5.0-highest)	Assessment score by lawyers/judges (5.0-highest)	'07 undergrad GPA 25th-75th percentile	'07 LSAT score 25th-75th percentile	'07 acceptance rate	'07 student/faculty ratio	'06 grads employed at graduation	Employed 9 months after graduation	School's bar passage rate in jurisdiction	Jurisdiction's overall bar passage rate*
Suffolk University (MA)	2.1	2.4	3.03-3.49	154-158	49.8%	16.5	56.7%	91.4%	81.9%/MA	86%
Texas Tech University	2.0	2.7	3.34-3.75	151-157	43.4%	15.4	40.7%	92.1%	87.1%/TX	82%
University of Akron (OH)	1.9	2.2	3.16-3.76	156-160	32.1%	13.3	75.2%	91.8%	84.6%/OH	84%
University of Arkansas-Fayetteville	2.4	2.7	3.17-3.70	151-159	30.3%	13.8	N/A	88.6%	83.3%/AR	82%
University of Arkansas-Little Rock (Bowen)	2.2	2.5	2.94-3.68	151-156	26.1%	14.3	N/A	87.8%	85.6%/AR	82%
University of Baltimore	2.0	2.4	3.00-3.57	153-157	40.9%	18.9	93.9%	94.9%	75.3%/MD	77%
University of Idaho	2.1	2.7	3.03-3.64	151-159	43.7%	16.0	N/A	92.7%	87.5%/ID	85%
University of Maine	2.3	2.9	3.06-3.69	154-159	46.9%	15.3	N/A	91.8%	85.6%/ME	83%
University of Mississippi	2.2	2.9	3.28-3.79	152-157	30.7%	15.8	59.6%	88.2%	92.2%/MS	88%
University of Missouri-Kansas City	2.3	2.7	3.03-3.64	152-156	50.4%	12.8	N/A	91.2%	88.1%/MO	86%
University of Montana	2.1	2.7	3.12-3.75	151-158	42.3%	14.3	N/A	94.1%	94.9%/MT	92%
University of San Francisco	2.2	2.5	3.02-3.56	156-161	37.7%	19.1	N/A	92.7%	73.3%/CA	65%
University of South Dakota	2.0	2.7	3.21-3.75	150-156	49.3%	16.2	59.3%	93.3%	83.6%/SD	87%
University of St. Thomas (MN)	1.9	2.7	3.16-3.63	154-161	48.6%	16.8	N/A	94.9%	91.2%/MN	91%
University of Toledo (OH)	2.0	2.1	3.10-3.74	156-161	26.9%	15.1	71.5%	92.2%	91.1%/OH	84%
University of Wyoming	2.1	2.9	3.18-3.63	150-156	27.6%	11.4	N/A	87.0%	78.4%/WY	62%
Vermont Law School	2.3	2.7	2.95-3.54	151-158	58.6%	11.6	N/A	90.7%	71.9%/VT	77%
Washburn University (KS)	2.0	2.5	3.06-3.69	150-156	52.3%	13.8	N/A	94.0%	89.3%/KS	90%
Wayne State University (MI)	2.3	2.5	3.29-3.69	152-158	51.8%	14.2	N/A	87.9%	92.2%/MI	89%
West Virginia University	2.1	2.3	3.18-3.75	150-156	37.2%	13.8	67.9%	94.9%	66.3%/WV	66%
Willamette University (Collins) (OR)	2.1	2.6	2.85-3.52	153-158	45.0%	14.1	N/A	87.8%	83.7%/OR	82%

#### FOURTH TIER (ranking begins at 142; schools are listed alphabetically)

Rank/School	Peer assessment score (5.0-highest)	Assessment score by lawyers/judges (5.0-highest)	'07 undergrad GPA 25th-75th percentile	'07 LSAT score 25th-75th percentile	'07 acceptance rate	'07 student/faculty ratio	'06 grads employed at graduation	Employed 9 months after graduation	School's bar passage rate in jurisdiction	Jurisdiction's overall bar passage rate*
Appalachian School of Law (VA)	1.4	1.5	2.75-3.32	147-153	38.0%	21.0	N/A	69.1%	46.7%/VA	74%
Ave Maria School of Law (MI)	1.3	2.1	2.93-3.47	147-155	51.0%	15.7	N/A	73.3%	96.3%/MI	89%
Barry University (FL)	1.3	1.4	2.70-3.30	148-152	55.3%	20.7	N/A	80.3%	71.1%/FL	74%
California Western School of Law	1.8	2.1	3.00-3.53	150-156	54.9%	17.7	N/A	84.2%	67.6%/CA	65%
Campbell University (Wiggins) (NC)	1.6	2.3	2.94-3.55	151-157	36.2%	16.5	62.6%	93.9%	96.5%/NC	74%
Capital University (OH)	1.8	1.7	2.94-3.54	151-156	51.2%	16.2	N/A	82.1%	84.3%/OH	84%
CUNY-Queens College	2.0	2.2	2.92-3.47	151-156	24.6%	13.0	36.7%	87.7%	76.4%/NY	77%
Duquesne University (PA)	1.9	2.4	3.28-3.65	151-155	52.8%	18.2	N/A	86.1%	87.5%/PA	83%
Florida Coastal School of Law	1.4	1.5	2.81-3.47	149-154	54.9%	19.7	N/A	88.1%	73.7%/FL	74%
Florida International University	1.6	2.1	2.97-3.58	153-157	24.6%	15.0	21.4%	84.2%	82.5%/FL	74%
Golden Gate University (CA)	1.7	2.0	2.82-3.37	150-154	62.9%	18.9	N/A	77.6%	60.4%/CA	65%
John Marshall Law School (IL)	1.8	2.3	2.85-3.42	151-156	49.3%	17.9	N/A	87.5%	87.3%/IL	87%
Mississippi College	1.5	2.5	2.88-3.50	148-153	52.3%	18.9	45.4%	86.7%	83.0%/MS	88%
New England School of Law (MA)	1.8	2.2	3.02-3.52	150-153	57.7%	23.2	30.5%	76.1%	80.0%/MA	86%
North Carolina Central University	1.7	2.1	2.88-3.45	143-151	22.1%	17.6	N/A	81.4%	81.9%/NC	74%
Northern Illinois University	1.7	2.2	3.09-3.66	150-157	37.2%	18.6	55.0%	90.4%	84.4%/IL	87%
Northern Kentucky University (Chase)	1.7	1.6	3.07-3.56	153-156	43.3%	17.1	54.9%	88.6%	81.3%/KY	83%
Nova Southeastern University (Broad) (FL)	1.8	2.0	3.00-3.53	147-151	47.0%	14.1	N/A	85.4%	69.4%/FL	74%
Oklahoma City University	1.7	1.9	2.87-3.40	147-152	57.2%	18.2	N/A	84.4%	89.8%/OK	92%
Regent University (VA)	1.3	1.7	2.95-3.66	150-156	52.8%	20.0	40.6%	82.5%	73.7%/VA	74%
Roger Williams University (RI)	1.8	2.1	2.90-3.50	151-155	57.0%	18.3	N/A	83.8%	84.8%/MA	86%
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	2.1	2.3	2.90-3.60	151-156	52.0%	11.7	N/A	85.4%	86.2%/IL	87%
Southern University (LA)	1.4	1.9	2.52-3.26	143-149	37.1%	13.0	79.4%	84.0%	62.6%/LA	75%
South Texas College of Law	1.7	2.2	2.99-3.52	150-155	50.5%	20.4	N/A	77.5%	81.6%/TX	82%
Southwestern Law School (CA)	2.0	2.1	3.06-3.58	153-157	33.5%	16.3	76.4%	85.1%	63.5%/CA	65%
St. Mary's University (TX)	1.8	2.3	2.80-3.41	149-156	51.1%	22.1	N/A	81.9%	82.6%/TX	82%
St. Thomas University (FL)	1.5	1.9	2.75-3.43	147-151	45.5%	18.0	N/A	83.0%	64.5%/FL	74%
Texas Southern University (Marshall)	1.4	1.9	2.83-3.29	146-151	35.9%	14.5	N/A	88.1%	56.2%/TX	82%
Texas Wesleyan University	1.7	1.6	2.89-3.40	152-156	45.8%	20.8	54.4%	82.7%	85.8%/TX	82%
Thomas Jefferson School of Law (CA)	1.5	2.1	2.75-3.23	148-151	45.4%	14.9	N/A	80.0%	54.5%/CA	65%
Thomas M. Cooley Law School (MI)	1.4	1.9	2.75-3.35	145-154	73.8%	24.3	N/A	73.3%	79.9%/MI	89%
Touro College (Fuchsberg) (NY)	1.7	1.7	2.81-3.32	150-153	43.4%	15.7	N/A	74.4%	78.4%/NY	77%
University of Dayton (OH)	2.0	2.4	2.96-3.50	149-154	50.7%	14.5	N/A	88.1%	78.0%/OH	84%
University of Detroit Mercy	1.6	2.1	2.95-3.36	146-154	46.6%	16.8	N/A	86.0%	92.0%/MI	89%
University of Memphis (Humphreys)	1.9	2.4	3.03-3.64	154-158	33.8%	17.7	36.0%	89.2%	91.1%/TN	78%
University of North Dakota	2.0	2.5	3.02-3.73	147-154	28.5%	17.7	N/A	92.4%	76.2%/ND	80%
University of the District of Columbia (Clarke)	1.4	1.5	2.70-3.40	148-153	18.7%	10.5	N/A	66.9%	53.8%/MD	77%
University of Tulsa (OK)	2.0	2.4	2.95-3.50	151-155	51.0%	13.5	56.1%	90.5%	88.2%/OK	92%
Valparaiso University (IN)	2.0	2.6	3.23-3.67	150-154	26.6%	15.8	39.4%	88.1%	82.5%/IN	83%
Western New England College (MA)	1.7	1.8	2.80-3.38	150-156	71.0%	13.8	N/A	76.1%	75.3%/MA	86%
Whittier Law School (CA)	1.4	2.0	2.56-3.19	149-153	61.6%	13.9	N/A	92.1%	55.6%/CA	65%
Widener University (DE)	2.0	2.1	2.88-3.46	150-154	51.0%	13.7	52.9%	82.8%	77.3%/PA	83%
William Mitchell College of Law (MN)	1.9	2.1	3.15-3.63	151-157	51.3%	22.5	N/A	90.0%	91.0%/MN	91%

Note: \*The state bar examination pass rates for first-time test takers in summer 2006 and winter 2007 were provided by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

# Law School Diversity

To identify law schools where students are most likely to encounter classmates from different racial or ethnic groups, *U.S. News* has created a diversity index based on the total proportion of minority students—not including international students—and the mix of racial and ethnic groups on campus. The index is calculated using demographic data reflecting each law school's student body during the 2007–2008 academic year, including both full- and part-time students. The groups that form the basis for our calculations are African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, and

non-Hispanic whites. Our formula produces a diversity index that ranges from 0.0 to 1.0. The closer a school's number is to 1.0, the more diverse is the student population. Law schools that enroll a large proportion of students from one ethnic group, even if it is a minority group, don't score high in this index. To be included in the table, a law school must be accredited by the American Bar Association. Because student-body ethnic diversity data are not consistently compiled and reported as yet for other types of graduate schools, *U.S. News* has prepared a diversity table for law schools only.

## THE MOST DIVERSE SCHOOLS

School	Diversity index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its proportion
Texas Southern University (Marshall)	0.67	African-American, 47%
Florida A&M University	0.65	African-American, 47%
University of New Mexico	0.60	Hispanic, 29%
Florida International University	0.59	Hispanic, 42%
University of the District of Columbia (Clarke)	0.59	African-American, 28%
St. Thomas University (FL)	0.58	Hispanic, 32%
North Carolina Central University	0.57	African-American, 42%
Rutgers, the State U. of New Jersey–Newark	0.57	African-American, 14%
Santa Clara University (CA)	0.57	Asian-American, 28%
University of Southern California (Gould)	0.57	Asian-American, 17%
Loyola Marymount University (CA)	0.56	Asian-American, 24%
Northwestern University (IL)	0.56	Asian-American, 19%
University of San Francisco	0.56	Asian-American, 20%
University of Hawaii (Richardson)	0.54	Asian-American, 58%
University of Maryland	0.54	African-American, 14%
Southwestern Law School (CA)	0.53	Asian-American, 16%
Stanford University (CA)	0.53	Asian-American, 14%
Southern University (LA)	0.52	African-American, 54%
University of California–Davis	0.52	Asian-American, 25%
American University (Washington) (DC)	0.51	Hispanic, 12%
St. Mary's University (TX)	0.51	Hispanic, 24%
University of California–Los Angeles	0.51	Asian-American, 20%
Columbia University (NY)	0.50	Asian-American, 15%
CUNY–Queens College	0.50	Asian-American, 16%
Harvard University (MA)	0.50	African-American, 12%
University of California (Hastings)	0.50	Asian-American, 24%
University of California–Berkeley	0.50	Asian-American, 17%
University of La Verne (CA)	0.50	Hispanic, 16%
Whittier Law School (CA)	0.50	Asian-American, 20%
Thomas Jefferson School of Law (CA)	0.49	Hispanic, 13%
Western State University (CA)	0.49	Asian-American, 17%
University of Nevada–Las Vegas (Boyd)	0.47	Asian-American, 12%
University of Texas–Austin	0.47	Hispanic, 16%
Yale University (CT)	0.47	Asian-American, 14%
Emory University (GA)	0.46	Asian-American, 10%
University of Michigan–Ann Arbor	0.46	Asian-American, 14%
University of San Diego	0.46	Asian-American, 17%

School	Diversity index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its proportion
Brooklyn Law School (NY)	0.45	Asian-American, 15%
California Western School of Law	0.45	Asian-American, 14%
University of Arizona (Rogers)	0.45	Hispanic, 11%
University of Houston	0.45	Asian-American, 11%
University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign	0.45	Asian-American, 13%
Arizona State University (O'Connor)	0.44	Hispanic, 14%
Golden Gate University (CA)	0.44	Asian-American, 18%
Northeastern University (MA)	0.44	Asian-American, 10%
University of Chicago	0.43	Asian-American, 12%
University of Pennsylvania	0.43	Asian-American, 9%
University of the Pacific (McGeorge) (CA)	0.43	Asian-American, 13%
George Washington University (DC)	0.42	Asian-American, 10%
Loyola University New Orleans	0.42	African-American, 11%
Nova Southeastern University (Broad) (FL)	0.42	Hispanic, 17%
Seattle University	0.42	Asian-American, 15%
University of Wisconsin–Madison	0.42	Hispanic, 8%
Fordham University (NY)	0.41	Hispanic, 10%
Georgetown University (DC)	0.41	Asian-American, 10%
South Texas College of Law	0.41	Asian-American, 11%
Chapman University (CA)	0.40	Asian-American, 15%
Hofstra University (NY)	0.40	African-American, 9%
John Marshall Law School–Atlanta	0.40	African-American, 16%
Ohio State University (Moritz)	0.40	Asian-American, 9%
Pennsylvania State University (Dickinson)	0.40	African-American, 9%
University of Arkansas–Fayetteville	0.40	African-American, 16%
Boston College	0.39	Asian-American, 11%
New York Law School	0.39	Asian-American, 9%
New York University	0.39	Asian-American, 11%
Southern Methodist University (TX)	0.39	Asian-American, 10%
St. John's University (NY)	0.39	Asian-American, 10%
University of Miami (FL)	0.39	Hispanic, 12%
University of Oklahoma	0.39	Native American, 10%
Cornell University (NY)	0.38	Asian-American, 10%
DePaul University (IL)	0.38	Hispanic, 10%
University of Colorado–Boulder	0.38	Asian-American, 8%
University of Notre Dame (IN)	0.38	Hispanic, 9%

Note: The diversity index is based on ethnicity data collected by *U.S. News* from each law school. The methodology used to compute the index was published in a 1992 article by Philip Meyer and Shawn McIntosh in the *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*. For this index, students classified as ethnicity unknown/unreported were counted as white. A more detailed explanation of the methodology is available at [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com).