

1982 Bar Examination Statistics

PREFATORY NOTE

For the second successive year a record number of 63,339 applicants wrote the February and July bar examination. Comparable figures were 61,527 in 1981, 60,580 in 1980 and 60,018 in 1979. However, the total of those who passed dropped slightly from 65.9 percent in 1981 to 65.2 percent in 1982.

In 1982, a larger number of applicants wrote the bar examination in 28 jurisdictions than in 1981; in 25 jurisdictions a smaller number wrote the examination in 1982 than in 1981. The largest increase (791) was in New York. The second largest was in Texas (497). Georgia had 271 fewer applicants in 1982 than in 1981 and the District of Columbia had a decrease of 267 over 1981. In Alabama and Tennessee the number of applicants in both states was 598.

In six jurisdictions (Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, South Carolina, South Dakota and Utah) 90 percent or better of the persons who took the bar examination passed. In three jurisdictions (California, Georgia and Puerto Rico) less than 50 percent of those who took the 1982

bar examination passed. California's passing rate of 41.4 percent was the lowest of any major jurisdiction.

One category which continued to evidence a significant departure from the previous year was the number of persons from unaccredited law schools. In 1981, 1,334 persons graduating from unaccredited law schools passed; in 1982, the number dropped to 1,138.

The 78 percent of first timers who passed in 1982 showed a modest increase over the 75.4 percent who passed in 1981. Happily, the percentage of repeaters who passed showed an increase from 31.7 percent to 34.0 percent in 1982.

We acknowledge with appreciation the helpful cooperation of examining boards in supplying 1982 bar examination statistical data.

These statistics were compiled by Len Young Smith.

Persons Taking and Passing the 1982 Bar Examination

State	1982 Adminis- tration	Number Taking	Number Passing	Percent Passing	Total Taking	Total Passing	Percent Passing	Total Passing From	Total Passing	Total Passing
								ABA Approved Law Schools	Prepared By Law Office Study	From Unaccredited Law Schools
Alabama	February	169	118	69.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	429	335	78.0	598	453	75.8	361	—	92
Alaska	February	136	89	65.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	126	88	69.8	262	177	67.6	177	—	—
Arizona	February	257	162	63.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	484	348	71.9	741	510	68.8	—	—	—
Arkansas	February	118	106	89.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	176	109	61.9	294	215	73.1	215	—	—
California	February	4,747	1,492	31.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	7,623	3,624	47.5	12,370	5,116	41.4	3,632	1	925
Colorado	February	778	542	69.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	454	321	70.7	1,232	863	70.0	542	—	—
Connecticut	February	309	201	65.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	626	481	76.8	935	682	72.9	682	—	—
Delaware	July	118	79	66.9	118	79	66.9	79	—	—
District of Columbia	February	1,123	664	59.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,627	997	61.3	2,750	1,661	60.4	1,661	—	—
Florida	February	1,005	575	57.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,701	1,200	70.5	2,706	1,775	65.6	1,773	—	2
Georgia	February	1,156	633	57.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	760	261	34.3	1,916	894	46.6	549	—	84

Persons Taking and Passing the 1982 Bar Examination

State	1982 Adminis- tration	Number Taking	Number Passing	Percent Passing	Total Taking	Total Passing	Percent Passing	Total Passing From ABA Approved Law Schools	Total Passing Prepared By Law Office Study	Total Passing From Unaccredited Law Schools
								—	—	—
Hawaii	February	69	64	92.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	166	150	90.4	235	214	91.0	—	—	—
Idaho	February	49	48	98.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	115	107	93.0	164	155	94.5	155	—	—
Illinois	February	796	650	81.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,924	1,661	86.3	2,720	2,311	84.9	2,310	—	1
Indiana	February	286	204	71.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	414	322	77.8	700	526	75.1	—	—	—
Iowa	January	72	69	95.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	June	266	245	92.1	338	314	92.9	314	—	—
Kansas	February	83	68	81.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	241	214	88.8	324	282	87.0	282	—	—
Kentucky	February	134	89	66.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	356	290	81.5	490	379	77.3	379	—	—
Louisiana	February	257	178	69.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	687	511	74.4	944	689	73.0	689	—	—
Maine	February	64	49	76.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	140	121	86.4	204	170	83.3	170	—	—
Maryland ¹	February	581	411	70.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	904	599	65.2	1,485	1,010	68.1	876	—	18
Massachusetts	February	460	291	63.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,694	1,294	76.4	2,154	1,585	73.6	1,585	—	—
Michigan	February	615	446	72.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	943	756	80.2	1,558	1,202	77.1	1,202	—	—
Minnesota	February	188	146	77.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	657	591	90.0	845	737	87.2	737	—	—
Mississippi	February	45	38	84.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	78	58	74.4	123	96	78.0	90	1	5
Missouri	February	212	187	88.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	623	534	85.7	835	721	86.3	721	—	—
Montana	February	40	30	75.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	34	24	70.6	74	54	72.9	54	—	—
Nebraska	February	40	31	77.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	209	174	83.3	249	205	82.3	204	—	1
Nevada	February	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	216	164	75.9	216	164	75.9	164	—	—
New Hampshire	February	88	72	81.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	133	104	78.2	221	176	79.6	176	—	—
New Jersey	February	685	432	63.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,556	1,043	67.0	2,241	1,475	65.9	1,475	—	—
New Mexico	February	99	73	73.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	213	171	80.3	312	244	78.2	244	—	—
New York	February	2,241	1,008	45.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	5,818	4,033	69.3	8,059	5,041	62.6	N/A	—	—
North Carolina	February	152	74	48.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	558	374	67.0	710	448	63.1	447	—	1
North Dakota	February	19	13	68.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	92	72	78.3	111	85	76.6	85	—	—
Ohio	February	624	460	73.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,403	1,079	76.9	2,027	1,539	75.9	1,539	—	—
Oklahoma	February	194	149	76.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	482	426	88.4	676	575	85.1	575	—	—
Oregon	February	220	161	73.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	432	336	77.8	652	497	76.2	497	—	—

Persons Taking and Passing the 1982 Bar Examination

State	1982 Adminis- tration	Number Taking	Number Passing	Percent Passing	Total Taking	Total Passing	Percent Passing	Total Passing From ABA Approved Law Schools	Total Passing Prepared By Law Office Study	Total Passing From Unaccredited Law Schools
								—	—	—
Pennsylvania	February	735	465	63.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,895	1,588	83.8	2,630	2,053	78.0	2,053	—	—
Puerto Rico	March	349	41	11.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	September	583	149	25.6	932	190	20.4	190	—	—
Rhode Island	February	41	38	92.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	127	103	81.4	168	141	83.9	141	—	—
South Carolina	February	79	77	97.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	230	228	99.1	309	305	98.7	305	—	—
South Dakota	July	22	20	90.9	22	20	90.9	20	—	—
Tennessee	February	191	116	60.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	407	290	71.3	598	406	67.9	—	—	—
Texas	February	1,051	892	84.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,883	1,545	82.0	2,934	2,437	83.0	2,948	—	—
Utah	February	61	54	88.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	208	190	91.3	269	244	90.7	—	—	—
Vermont	February	39	19	48.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	104	57	54.8	143	76	53.1	—	4	—
Virgin Islands	July	34	25	73.5	34	25	73.5	25	—	—
Virginia	February	711	553	77.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	570	399	70.0	1,281	952	74.3	926	17	9
Washington	February	342	287	83.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	676	525	77.6	1,018	812	79.8	812	—	—
West Virginia	February	28	22	78.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	49	42	85.7	77	64	83.1	64	—	—
Wisconsin	February	4	3	75.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	216	192	88.9	220	195	88.6	195	—	—
Wyoming	February	32	14	43.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	83	60	72.3	115	74	64.5	74	—	—
Total		63,339	41,313	65.2	63,339	41,313	65.2	31,897	23	1,138

These figures include out of state attorneys who, pursuant to Maryland's Rule 14, were seeking admission by a special attorney's examination.

The numbers are as follows:

Numbers Taking		Numbers Passing	
February	July	February	July
68	98	54	62



First Timers and Repeaters in 1982

State	1982 Adminis- tration	First-Timers		Repeaters		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking Examination	Percent Passing for Year		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking 1982
		Taking	Percent Passing	Taking	Percent Passing		1st Timers	Repeaters	
Alabama	February	108	80	61	52	36	—	—	—
	July	388	84	41	27	10	83	42	17
Alaska	February	100	72	36	47	76	—	—	—
	July	103	75	23	48	18	73	47	23
Arizona	February	160	66	97	58	33	—	—	—
	July	409	76	75	49	15	73	54	23
Arkansas	February	74	93	44	84	37	—	—	—
	July	159	67	17	18	10	75	66	21
California	February	1,373	45	3,374	26	71	—	—	—
	July	4,680	63	2,943	23	39	59	24	51
Colorado	February	679	75	99	30	13	75	30	N/A
	July	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Connecticut	February	155	77	154	53	50	—	—	—
	July	548	84	78	26	12	82	44	25
Delaware	February	96	72	22	45	19	72	45	19
District of Columbia	February	584	86	539	30	48	—	—	—
	July	1,276	71	351	24	22	76	28	32
Florida	February	732	66	273	33	27	—	—	32
	July	1,431	77	270	37	16	73	35	26
Georgia	February	693	78	463	19	40	—	—	—
	July	354	63	406	9	53	73	15	45
Guam	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	February	56	95	13	85	19	—	—	—
	July	161	98	5	80	3	97	83	8
Idaho	February	46	98	3	100	6	—	—	—
	July	110	95	5	60	4	96	75	5
Illinois	February	618	89	178	58	22	—	—	—
	July	1,800	90	124	32	6	90	47	11
Indiana	February	248	76	38	42	13	—	—	—
	July	358	72	56	48	13	74	46	13
Iowa	February	54	94	18	100	25	—	—	—
	July	260	92	6	67	2	93	92	7
Kansas	February	58	86	25	72	30	—	—	—
	July	224	92	17	53	7	90	64	13
Kentucky	February	93	73	41	51	36	—	—	—
	July	322	85	34	44	10	83	48	15
Louisiana	February	136	72	121	66	47	—	—	—
	July	612	77	75	53	11	76	61	21
Maine	February	46	85	18	56	28	—	—	—
	July	132	90	8	25	6	89	46	13
Maryland	February	348	77	233	61	40	—	—	—
	July	740	74	164	32	18	75	49	27
Massachusetts	February	295	77	165	38	36	—	—	—
	July	1,563	87	130	25	8	80	32	14
Michigan	February	418	84	197	48	32	—	—	—
	July	793	88	150	39	16	87	44	22
Minnesota	February	148	86	40	48	21	—	—	—
	July	620	92	37	57	6	91	52	9
Mississippi	February	30	87	15	80	33	—	—	—
	July	55	89	16	56	21	88	68	25
Missouri	February	118	86	94	90	44	—	—	—
	July	599	86	24	67	4	86	86	14
Montana	February	31	97	9	0	23	—	—	—
	July	26	77	8	50	24	88	24	23

First Timers and Repeaters in 1982

State	1982 Adminis- tration	First-Timers		Repeaters		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking Examination	Percent Passing for Year		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking 1982
		Taking	Percent Passing	Taking	Percent Passing		1st Timers	Repeaters	
Nebraska	February	20	100	20	55	50	—	—	—
	July	203	85	6	33	3	85	50	10
Nevada	July	183	76	45	56	21	76	56	21
New Hampshire	February	57	84	31	77	35	—	—	—
	July	118	81	15	60	11	82	72	21
New Jersey	February	296	71	389	57	57	—	—	—
	July	1,334	73	222	32	14	72	48	27
New Mexico	February	63	90	36	44	36	—	—	—
	July	190	85	23	43	11	86	44	19
New York	February	736	57	1,505	39	67	—	—	—
	July	4,789	76	1,029	39	18	73	39	31
North Carolina	February	74	69	78	29	51	—	—	—
	July	492	74	66	14	12	73	22	20
North Dakota	February	15	80	4	25	21	—	—	—
	July	88	81	4	25	4	81	25	7
Ohio	February	353	81	271	64	43	—	—	—
	July	1,243	83	160	28	11	83	51	21
Oklahoma	February	142	85	52	54	27	—	—	—
	July	438	91	44	61	0	90	57	14
Oregon	February	120	73	100	74	49	—	—	—
	July	385	80	47	60	10	78	71	22
Pennsylvania	February	425	79	310	42	42	—	—	—
	July	1,730	89	165	28	9	87	37	18
Puerto Rico	March	77	27	272	7	78	—	—	—
	September	290	42	293	10	50	39	51	61
Rhode Island	February	23	100	18	83	44	—	—	—
	July	123	82	4	50	3	85	77	13
South Carolina	February	70	99	9	88	11	—	—	—
	July	226	99	4	100	2	99	92	4
South Dakota	July	21	90	1	100	5	90	100	5
Tennessee	February	125	80	66	24	35	—	—	—
	July	361	77	46	24	11	78	25	19
Texas	February	814	89	237	70	23	—	—	—
	July	1,676	91	207	13	11	90	44	15
Utah	February	52	88	9	89	15	—	—	—
Vermont	February	20	55	19	42	49	—	—	—
	July	203	92	5	80	2	91	86	5
Virgin Islands	July	79	57	25	48	24	57	45	31
	July	32	75	2	50	6	75	50	6
Virginia	February	509	82	202	67	28	—	—	—
	July	417	76	153	53	27	79	61	28
Washington	February	199	91	143	74	42	—	—	—
	July	526	94	150	19	22	94	46	29
West Virginia	February	17	100	11	45	39	—	—	—
	July	44	90	5	20	10	95	38	21
Wisconsin	February	—	—	4	75	100	—	75	100
	July	200	93	16	44	7	93	50	9
Wyoming	February	26	42	6	50	19	—	—	—
	July	72	71	11	82	13	63	71	15
Total		44,716	78	17,974	34	26	78	34	28

Admission to Bar by States—1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982

State	Admission by Examination				Admission by Diploma				Admission of Foreign Attorneys on Motion			
	1979	1980	1981	1982	1979	1980	1981	1982	1979	1980	1981	1982
Alabama	404	401	452	486	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1
Alaska	144	121	141	177	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Arizona	476	473	508	510	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arkansas	264	207	215	215	—	—	—	—	30	21	15	14
California	6,275	5,326	5,344	5,116	—	—	—	—	201	—	—	—
Colorado	684	645	861	863	—	—	—	—	30	25	53	83
Connecticut	654	566	697	682	—	—	—	—	30	25	30	30
Delaware	84	80	71	79	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	1,491	1,727	1,812 ¹	1,548	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	2,342	2,340	2,220	1,775	—	—	—	—	2,396	2,038	992	443
Georgia	1,200	943	951	894	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guam	26	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	214	262	253	212	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idaho	154	153	144	155	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illinois	2,433	2,645	2,470	2,311	—	—	—	—	43	N/A	37	41
Indiana	579	532	503	526	—	—	—	—	24	42	—	36
Iowa	348	340	347	314	—	—	—	—	6	19	9	20
Kansas	321	279	285	282	—	—	—	—	8	22	15	21
Kentucky	496	413	379	379	—	—	—	—	25	28	42	33
Louisiana	651	620	651	689	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maine	140	184	150	178	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	677	766	829	1,029	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	1,529	1,658	1,635	1,585	—	—	—	—	50	70	70	58
Michigan	1,279	1,212	1,277	1,202	N/A	—	—	—	—	52	59	—
Minnesota	795	734	809	752	—	—	—	—	19	36	96	72
Mississippi	137	116	105	96	152	180	237	146	3	5	4	6
Missouri	676	669	629	721	—	—	—	—	27	35	39	49
Montana	41	45	39	54	74	73	13	73	5	10	10	12
Nebraska	239	259	235	205	—	—	—	—	48	66	52	115
Nevada	164	170	160	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Hampshire	134	150	140	178	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	944	1,277	1,359	1,475	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Mexico	239	201	279	244	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New York	4,330	4,537	4,782	5,041	N/A	N/A	N/A	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Carolina	440	449	556	448	—	—	—	—	35	21	28	30
North Dakota	111	66	81	83	—	—	—	—	3	7	15	9
Ohio	1,672	1,568	1,493	1,539	—	—	—	—	26	48	53	51
Oklahoma	515	477	485	562	—	—	—	—	16	22	27	31
Oregon	510	471	517	497	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	2,106	1,934	2,049	2,053	—	—	—	—	144	132	145	90
Puerto Rico	439	434	305	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rhode Island	167	168	153	135	—	—	—	—	7	12	10	4
South Carolina	308	253	274	296	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
South Dakota	16	20	25	20	73	54	59	45	—	3	3	4
Tennessee	529	659	554	406	—	—	—	—	23	44	67	30
Texas	2,134	2,185	2,048	2,451	—	—	—	—	107	260	216	321
Utah	223	250	233	248	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	8
Vermont	96	105	71	76	—	—	—	—	8	6	13	N/A
Virgin Islands	29	20	25	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	821	828	714	952	—	—	—	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington	829	834	829	812	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Virginia	78	76	75	62	113	153	124	134	6	7	6	4
Wisconsin	222	179	209 ²	194	441	432	447	256	22	23	65	85
Wyoming	94	72	83	74	—	—	—	—	8	9	8	14
Total	41,903	41,105	41,442	42,251	853	892	940	654	3,350	3,100	2,197	1,716

Total Admission to the Bar by Examination, by Diploma and on Motion.

1978 41,662 1980 45,097
 1979 46,137 1981 44,679
 1982 43,621

¹ Includes applicants from a previous examination who took their oath.

² Includes successful applicants, 1979 WBE (1); 1980 WBE (8); 1981 WBE (200).