

1983 Bar Examination Statistics

PREFATORY NOTE

For the third consecutive year a record number of 64,877 applicants wrote the February and July bar examination. Comparative figures were 63,339 in 1982, 61,527 in 1981 and 60,580 in 1980. The total of those who passed advanced slightly from 65.2 percent in 1982 to 66.1 percent in 1983.

In 1983 a larger number of applicants wrote the bar examination in 34 jurisdictions than in 1982; in 18 jurisdictions a smaller number wrote the examination in 1983 than in 1982. In Idaho the number of applicants (164) was the same in 1983 and 1982. One jurisdiction did not report its 1983 bar examination statistics. The largest increase (645) was in New Jersey. The second largest was in New York (372). The District of Columbia had a decrease of 215 over 1982 and Virginia had a decrease of 208 over 1982.

In four jurisdictions (Idaho, Iowa, South Carolina 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 1983 bar examination passed. California's passing rate of 40.9 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 1982 1,138 persons graduating from unaccredited law schools passed; in 1983 the number dropped to 1,028 not counting 643 passing applicants whose law school status is unknown.

The 78 percent of first timers who passed in 1983 was the same as in 1982. Happily, the percentage of repeaters who passed showed an increase from 34.0 percent to 36.0 percent in 1983.

We acknowledge with appreciation the continued helpful cooperation of examining boards in supplying the 1983 bar examination statistical data.

These statistics were compiled by Len Young Smith

Persons Taking and Passing the 1983 Bar Examination

State	1983 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
Alabama	February	173	93	53.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	362	259	71.5	535	352	65.8	362	—	173
Alaska	February	121	90	74.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	131	92	70.2	252	182	72.2	89	—	1
Arizona	February	260	143	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	545	375	55.0	805	518	64.3	517	—	1
Arkansas	February	135	107	79.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	177	135	76.3	312	242	77.6	242	—	—
California	February	4,805	1,332	27.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	7,694	3,773	49.0	12,499	5,105	40.9	3,765	—	691 ^a
Colorado	February	650	490	75.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	471	365	77.5	1,121	855	76.3	855	—	—
Connecticut	February	277	172	62.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	722	576	79.8	999	748	74.7	748	—	—
Delaware	July	108	65	60.2	108	65	60.2	65	—	—
District of Columbia	February	1,044	657	62.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,491	1,029	69.0	2,535	1,686	66.5	—	—	—
Florida	February	1,051	666	63.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,789	1,310	73.2	2,840	1,976	69.6	1,974	—	2
Georgia	February	1,072	528	49.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	782	333	42.6	1,854	861	—	735	—	126



Persons Taking and Passing the 1983 Bar Examination (Continued)

State	1983 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
Guam	February	10	7	70.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	6	5	83.3	16	12	75.0	—	—	—
Hawaii	February	92	74	80.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	210	178	84.8	302	252	83.4	—	—	—
Idaho	February	101	93	92.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	63	60	95.2	164	153	93.3	153	—	—
Illinois	February	843	693	82.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,924	1,689	88.0	2,767	2,382	86.1	2,382	—	—
Indiana	February	91	236	81.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	384	328	85.4	675	564	83.6	—	—	—
Iowa	January	86	71	82.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
	June	293	273	93.2	379	344	90.8	344	—	—
Kansas	February	119	102	85.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	246	216	87.8	365	318	87.1	318	—	—
Kentucky	February	140	95	67.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	387	291	75.2	527	386	73.0	386	—	—
Louisiana	February	268	178	66.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	692	536	77.5	960	714	74.4	—	—	—
Maine	February	69	54	78.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	144	113	78.5	213	167	78.4	167	—	—
Maryland ^b	February	647	383	60.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	950	616	64.8	1,597	999	62.6	834	—	8
Massachusetts	February	495	291	58.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,684	1,350	80.2	2,179	1,641	75.3	1,641	—	—
Michigan	February	556	381	68.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	941	732	77.8	1,497	1,113	74.4	1,113	—	—
Minnesota	February	225	162	72.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	684	586	85.7	909	748	82.3	748	—	—
Mississippi	February	33	17	51.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	65	47	72.3	98	64	65.3	61	1	2
Missouri	February	178	137	77.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	682	597	87.5	860	734	85.3	728	—	—
Montana	February	24	17	70.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	38	32	84.2	62	49	79.0	—	—	—
Nebraska	February	39	26	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	217	176	81.1	256	202	79.0	202	—	—
Nevada	July	211	175	82.9	211	175	82.9	175	—	—
New Hampshire ^c	February	61	47	77.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	145	118	81.4	206	165	80.1	165	—	—
New Jersey	February	954	663	69.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,932	1,516	78.5	2,886	2,179	75.5	2,179	—	—
New Mexico	February	106	70	66.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	226	193	85.4	332	263	79.2	263	—	—
New York	February	2,214	1,065	48.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	6,217	4,648	75.0	8,431	5,713	74.8	—	—	—
North Carolina	February	216	109	50.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	576	397	68.8	792	506	63.9	506	—	—
North Dakota	February	25	19	76.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	110	92	83.6	135	111	82.2	111	—	—
Ohio	February	629	505	80.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,425	1,155	81.1	2,054	1,660	80.8	1,660	—	—
Oklahoma	February	211	155	73.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	458	369	80.6	669	524	78.3	524	—	—

Persons Taking and Passing the 1983 Bar Examination (Continued)

State	1983 Administration	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
Oregon	February	187	119	63.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	415	291	70.1	602	410	68.1	410	—	—
Pennsylvania	February	518	312	60.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	2,054	1,735	84.5	2,572	2,047	79.6	2,047	—	—
Puerto Rico	March	412	97	23.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	September	534	160	30.0	946	257	27.2	257	—	—
Rhode Island	February	76	59	77.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	162	128	79.0	238	187	78.6	187	—	—
South Carolina	February	80	76	95.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	226	222	98.2	306	298	97.4	298	—	—
South Dakota	July	27	24	88.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	August	14	12	85.7	41	36	87.8	36	—	—
Tennessee	February	203	129	63.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	479	338	70.6	682	467	68.5	414	—	53 ^d
Texas	February	1,202	992	82.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	1,796	1,243	69.3	2,998	2,235	74.5	NA	—	—
Utah	February	65	57	87.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	211	198	93.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Special Attorney Examination	9	8	88.9	285	263	92.3	—	—	—
Vermont	February	71	47	66.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	89	40	44.9	160	87	54.4	84	3	—
Virginia	February	374	183	48.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	699	500	71.5	1,073	683	63.7	653	11	19
Washington	February	383	340	88.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	801	554	69.2	1,184	894	75.5	889	5	—
West Virginia	February	26	21	80.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	56	48	85.7	82	69	84.1	69	—	—
Wisconsin	February	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	208	180	86.5	208	180	86.5	180	—	—
Wyoming	February	27	16	59.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	71	56	78.9	98	72	73.5	72	—	—
Total		64,877	42,913	66.1	64,877	42,913	66.1	29,607	23	1,719

a. Includes 643 applicants whose law school status is unknown.

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

	<u>Numbers Taking</u>		<u>Numbers Passing</u>	
	February	July	February	July
The numbers are as follows:	110	74	98	59

c. Includes applicants passing bar in previous years and admitted in 1983.

d. Approved by Tennessee Supreme Court.



Ralph Creasman

First Timers and Repeaters in 1983

State	1983 Adminis- tration	First-Timers		Repeaters		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking Examination	Percent Passing for Year		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking 1983
		Taking	Percent Passing	Taking	Percent Passing		1st Timers	Repeaters	
Alabama	February	99	72	74	30	43	—	—	—
	July	332	77	30	20	8	75	29	19
Alaska	February	85	85	36	50	30	—	—	—
	July	112	65	19	32	15	74	44	22
Arizona	February	153	59	107	50	41	—	—	—
	July	455	73	90	41	17	70	50	24
Arkansas	February	77	80	58	79	43	—	—	—
	July	157	82	20	30	11	81	67	25
California	February	1,321	42	3,484	23	73	—	—	—
	July	4,825	64	2,869	23	37	60	23	51
Colorado	February	577	79	73	47	11	—	—	—
	July	271	84	200	69	42	81	63	24
Connecticut	February	160	79	117	39	42	—	—	—
	July	629	84	93	48	13	83	43	21
Delaware	July	90	62	18	50	17	62	50	17
District of Columbia	February	558	80	486	43	47	—	—	—
	July	1,177	80	314	29	21	80	37	32
Florida	February	733	75	318	37	30	—	—	—
	July	1,534	79	255	37	14	78	37	20
Georgia	February	610	74	462	17	43	—	—	—
	July	325	75	457	19	58	74	18	50
Guam	February	8	88	2	0	20	—	—	—
	July	4	100	2	50	33	92	25	25
Hawaii	February	76	91	16	31	17	—	—	—
	July	202	99	8	13	4	97	25	8
Idaho	February	100	92	1	100	1	—	—	—
	July	56	95	7	100	11	93	100	5
Illinois	February	620	90	223	60	26	—	—	—
	July	1,816	90	108	50	6	90	57	12
Indiana	February	223	84	68	71	23	—	—	—
	July	352	89	32	50	8	87	64	15
Iowa	February	69	86	17	70	20	—	—	—
	July	285	93	8	88	3	92	76	7
Kansas	February	94	93	25	60	21	—	—	—
	July	233	91	13	31	5	91	50	10
Kentucky	February	81	85	59	44	42	—	—	—
	July	354	77	33	52	9	79	49	17
Louisiana	February	107	70	161	64	60	—	—	—
	July	602	79	90	66	13	78	65	26
Maine	February	50	78	19	79	28	—	—	—
	July	133	79	11	73	8	79	77	19
Maryland	February	410	70	237	41	37	—	—	—
	July	767	72	183	34	19	71	39	26
Massachusetts	February	242	72	253	46	51	—	—	—
	July	1,539	83	145	50	9	81	48	18
Michigan	February	385	76	171	52	31	—	—	—
	July	796	84	145	43	15	81	48	21
Minnesota	February	163	81	62	48	28	—	—	—
	July	637	89	47	62	7	86	54	12
Mississippi	February	22	68	11	18	33	—	—	—
	July	53	79	12	42	18	76	30	23
Missouri	February	104	88	74	61	42	—	—	—
	July	643	90	39	49	6	90	57	13
Montana	February	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	July	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

First Timers and Repeaters in 1983 (Continued)

State	1983 Adminis- tration	First-Timers		Repeaters		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking Examination	Percent Passing for Year		Percent Repeaters to Total Taking 1983
		Taking	Percent Passing	Taking	Percent Passing		1st Timers	Repeaters	
Nebraska	February	18	67	21	67	54	—	—	—
	July	202	83	15	60	7	81	64	14
Nevada	July	174	87	37	65	18	87	65	18
New Hampshire	February	37	84	24	67	39	—	—	—
	July	139	83	6	50	4	83	63	15
New Jersey	February	517	77	437	60	46	—	—	—
	July	1,685	82	247	53	13	81	58	24
New Mexico	February	73	75	33	45	31	—	—	—
	July	203	91	23	39	10	87	43	17
New York	February	811	57	1,403	43	63	—	—	—
	July	5,179	81	1,038	46	17	77	44	29
North Carolina	February	81	67	135	41	63	—	—	—
	July	481	77	95	31	16	75	37	29
North Dakota	February	16	75	9	78	36	—	—	—
	July	106	85	4	50	4	84	69	10
Ohio	February	339	88	290	71	46	—	—	—
	July	1,312	85	113	33	8	86	60	20
Oklahoma	February	166	81	45	44	21	—	—	—
	July	408	86	50	34	11	85	39	14
Oregon	February	106	68	81	58	43	—	—	—
	July	374	74	41	32	10	73	49	20
Pennsylvania	February	289	78	229	38	44	—	—	—
	July	1,878	87	176	34	9	88	36	16
Puerto Rico	March	84	32	328	21	80	—	—	—
	September	252	50	282	12	53	46	17	62
Rhode Island	February	54	87	22	55	29	—	—	—
	July	144	80	18	72	11	82	63	17
South Carolina	February	73	99	7	57	9	—	—	—
	July	221	99	5	80	2	99	67	4
South Dakota	July	26	90	1	100	4	88	100	2
	August	14	86	0	0	0	—	—	—
Tennessee	February	96	78	107	50	53	—	—	—
	July	421	76	58	34	12	76	45	24
Texas	February	899	91	303	58	25	—	—	—
	July	1,648	73	148	24	8	80	47	15
Utah	February	51	92	14	71	22	—	—	—
	July	207	94	4	100	2	—	—	—
	Special Attorney Examination (Various Dates)	9	89	0	0	0	93	78	6
Vermont	February	36	61	35	71	49	—	—	—
	July	74	46	15	40	17	51	62	31
Virginia	February	239	56	135	37	36	—	—	—
	July	574	76	125	50	18	70	43	24
Washington	February	236	93	147	83	38	—	—	—
	July	697	75	104	30	13	80	61	21
West Virginia	February	21	95	5	20	19	—	—	—
	July	54	87	2	50	4	89	29	9
Wisconsin	February	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	July	195	89	13	54	6	89	54	6
Wyoming	February	13	92	14	29	52	—	—	—
	July	63	80	8	75	11	82	45	22
Total		46,563	78	18,314	36	28	78	31	28

Admission to Bar by States—1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983

State	Admission by Examination				Admission by Diploma				Admission of Foreign Attorneys on Motion			
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1980	1981	1982	1983	1980	1981	1982	1983
Alabama	401	452	486	378	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	2
Alaska	121	141	177	182	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Arizona	473	508	510	518	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arkansas	207	215	215	242	—	—	—	—	21	15	14	8
California	5,326	5,344	5,116	5,105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colorado	645	861	863	N/A	—	—	—	—	25	53	83	—
Connecticut	566	697	682	748	—	—	—	—	25	30	30	60
Delaware	80	71	79	71	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	1,727	1,812 ^a	1,548	1,774	—	—	—	—	2,038	992	443	408
Florida	2,340	2,220	1,775	2,425	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Georgia	943	951	894	861	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guam	6	11	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	262	253	212	243	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idaho	153	144	155	153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illinois	2,645	2,470	2,311	2,382	—	—	—	—	N/A	37	41	42
Indiana	532	503	526	563	—	—	—	—	42	—	36	20
Iowa	340	347	314	344	—	—	—	—	19	9	20	9
Kansas	279	285	282	318	—	—	—	—	22	15	21	34
Kentucky	413	379	379	386	—	—	—	—	28	42	33	33
Louisiana	620	651	689	714	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maine	184	150	170	167	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	766	829	1,029	928	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	1,658	1,635	1,585	1,641	—	—	—	—	70	70	58	81
Michigan	1,212	1,277	1,202	1,113	—	—	—	—	52	59	—	60
Minnesota	734	809	752	745	—	—	—	—	36	96	72	105
Mississippi	116	105	96	64	180	237	146	130	5	4	6	3
Missouri	669	629	721	728	—	—	—	—	35	39	49	62
Montana	45	39	54	49	73	13	73	70	10	10	12	—
Nebraska	259	235	205	202	—	—	—	—	66	52	115	143
Nevada	170	160	163	173	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Hampshire	150	140	178	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	1,277	1,359	1,475	2,068	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Mexico	201	279	244	263	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New York	4,537	4,782	5,041	5,713	N/A	N/A	—	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Carolina	449	556	448	506	—	—	—	—	21	28	30	31
North Dakota	66	81	83	111	—	—	—	—	7	15	9	12
Ohio	1,568	1,493	1,539	1,660	—	—	—	—	48	53	51	27
Oklahoma	477	485	562	520	—	—	—	—	22	27	31	25
Oregon	471	517	497	410	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	1,934	2,049	2,053	2,047	—	—	—	—	132	145	90	75
Puerto Rico	434	305	190	257	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rhode Island	168	153	135	187	—	—	—	—	12	10	4	16
South Carolina	253	274	296	298	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
South Dakota	20	25	20	26	54	59	45	11	3	3	4	11
Tennessee	659	554	406	467	—	—	—	—	44	67	30	34
Texas	2,185	2,048	2,451	2,235	—	—	—	—	260	216	321	227
Utah	250	233	248	263	—	—	—	—	11	10	8	15
Vermont	105	71	76	61	—	—	—	—	6	13	N/A	22
Virgin Islands	20	25	25	N/A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	828	714	952	683	—	—	—	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington	834	829	812	889	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Virginia	76	75	62	66	153	124	134	153	7	6	4	9
Wisconsin	179	209	422	180	432	447	256	431	23	65	85	100
Wyoming	72	83	74	73	—	—	—	—	9	8	14	11
Total	41,105	41,442	42,479	43,369	892	940	654	795	3,100	2,197	1,716	1,685

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

1978..... 41,662 1981..... 44,679
 1979..... 46,137 1982..... 42,479
 1980..... 45,097 1983..... 43,369

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