

Barristers subject to reports

In 2023 the Bar Standards Board received reports about 1205 barristers.

The characteristics¹ of these barristers were:

Age		
 From the list of age bands below, please indicate the category that includes your current age in years:		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Under 25	4	0.3%
25 - 34	159	13.2%
35 - 44	272	22.6%
45 - 54	253	21.0%
55 - 64	231	19.2%
65 +	97	8.0%
Prefer not to say	3	0.2%
No information	186	15.4%

Gender		
 Please enter your gender identity		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Male	751	62.3%
Female	369	30.6%
Non-binary	0	0.0%
I use a different term	6	0.5%
Prefer not to say	14	1.2%
No information	65	5.4%

Gender Identity		
 Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes	535	44.4%
No	5	0.4%
Prefer not to say	12	1.0%
No information	653	54.2%

Disability		
“ Do you consider yourself to have a disability or do you automatically meet the disability definition under the Equality Act 2010?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes	67	5.6%
No	620	51.5%
Prefer not to say	28	2.3%
No information	490	40.7%
“ Is your ability to perform day-to-day activities limited because of a physical or mental disability, condition or illness, which has lasted or is expected to last for at least 12 months?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes, a lot	16	1.3%
Yes, a little	51	4.2%
Not at all	455	37.8%
Prefer not to say	22	1.8%
No information	661	54.9%

Ethnic Group		
 What is your ethnic group?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Asian/Asian British		
Bangladeshi	20	1.7%
Chinese	10	0.8%
Indian	34	2.8%
Pakistani	42	3.5%
I use a different term to describe my Asian background	16	1.3%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British		
African	32	2.7%
Caribbean	29	2.4%
I use a different term to describe my Black background	3	0.2%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups		
White and Asian	11	0.9%
White and Black African	2	0.2%
White and Black Caribbean	6	0.5%
White and Chinese	1	0.1%
I use a different term to describe my Mixed/Multiple ethnic background	22	1.8%
White		
British/English/Welsh/Northern Irish/Scottish	750	62.2%
Irish	27	2.2%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0	0.0%
I use a different term to describe my White background	46	3.8%
Other ethnic group		
Arab	1	0.1%
I use a different term to describe my ethnicity, which does not fall under "White", "Asian", "Black" or "Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background"	18	1.5%
Prefer not to say		
Prefer not to say	19	1.6%
No information		
No information	116	9.6%

Religion or belief		
 What is your religion or belief?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
No religion	206	17.1%
Buddhist	5	0.4%
Christian	287	23.8%
Hindu	9	0.7%
Jewish	32	2.7%
Muslim	45	3.7%
Sikh	13	1.1%
I have a different religion/belief	8	0.7%
Prefer not to say	62	5.1%
No information	538	44.6%

Sexual orientation



Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Bisexual	19	1.6%
Gay or Lesbian	39	3.2%
Heterosexual	581	48.2%
I use a different term (for example, pansexual or asexual)	6	0.5%
Prefer not to say	55	4.6%
No information	505	41.9%

Socio-economic background



Did either of your parents attend university and gain a degree (e.g. BA/BSc or equivalent) by the time you were 18?

Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes, one or both of my parents attended university	325	27.0%
No, neither of my parents attended university	278	23.1%
I don't know/not sure	2	0.2%
Prefer not to say	35	2.9%
No Information	565	46.9%



Which type of school did you attend for the most time between the ages of 11 and 16?

Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a bursary covering 90% or more of my tuition	13	1.1%
Independent or fee-paying school	76	6.3%
UK fee-paying School (Old category)	133	11.0%
A state-run or state-funded school – selective (e.g., grammar school)	50	4.1%
A state-run or state funded school – non-selective (e.g., comprehensive school)	123	10.2%
UK State School (Old category)	193	16.0%
Attended school outside the UK	65	5.4%
Prefer not to say	45	3.7%
No information	507	42.1%

Caring responsibilities		
“ Are you a primary carer for a child or children under 18?		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes	190	15.8%
No	491	40.7%
Prefer not to say	18	1.5%
No Information	506	42.0%
“ Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either: — Long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability — Problems related to old age? (Do not count anything you do as part of paid employment)		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
No	542	45.0%
Yes, 1 - 19 hours a week	94	7.8%
Yes, 20 - 49 hours a week	11	0.9%
Yes, 50 or more hours a week	4	0.3%
Prefer not to say	33	2.7%
No Information	521	43.2%