

Barristers subject to reports

In 2024 the Bar Standards Board received reports about 1208 barristers.

The characteristics¹ of these barristers were:

Age		
<p>“ From the list of age bands below, please indicate the category that includes your current age in years:</p>		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Under 25	8	0.7%
25 - 34	170	14.1%
35 - 44	247	20.4%
45 - 54	281	23.3%
55 - 64	262	21.7%
65 +	77	6.4%
Prefer not to say	1	0.1%
No information	162	13.4%

Gender		
<p>“ Please enter your gender identity</p>		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Male	721	59.7%
Female	405	33.5%
Non-binary	0	0.0%
I use a different term	6	0.5%
Prefer not to say	21	1.7%
No information	55	4.6%

Gender Identity		
<p>“ Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?</p>		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes	574	47.5%
No	1	0.1%
Prefer not to say	18	1.5%
No information	615	50.9%

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	85	7.0%
No	646	53.5%
Prefer not to say	34	2.8%
No information	443	36.7%



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	52	4.3%
Not at all	448	37.1%
Prefer not to say	43	3.6%
No information	649	53.7%

Ethnic Group		
<p>“ What is your ethnic group?</p>		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Asian/Asian British		
Bangladeshi	24	2.0%
Chinese	2	0.2%
Indian	44	3.6%
Pakistani	42	3.5%
I use a different term to describe my Asian background	20	1.7%
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British		
African	37	3.1%
Caribbean	19	1.6%
I use a different term to describe my Black background	2	0.2%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups		
White and Asian	16	1.3%
White and Black African	7	0.6%
White and Black Caribbean	2	0.2%
White and Chinese	1	0.1%
I use a different term to describe my Mixed/Multiple ethnic background	16	1.3%
White		
British/English/Welsh/Northern Irish/Scottish	745	61.7%
Irish	20	1.7%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0	0.0%
Roma	0	0.0%
I use a different term to describe my White background	47	3.9%
Other ethnic group		
Arab	2	0.2%
I use a different term to describe my ethnicity, which does not fall under "White", "Asian", "Black" or "Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background"	23	1.9%
Prefer not to say		
Prefer not to say	25	2.1%
No information		
No information	114	9.4%

Religion or belief		
<p>“ What is your religion or belief?</p>		
Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
No religion	228	18.9%
Buddhist	4	0.3%
Christian	292	24.2%
Hindu	14	1.2%
Jewish	20	1.7%
Muslim	59	4.9%
Sikh	11	0.9%
I have a different religion/belief	12	1.0%
Prefer not to say	65	5.4%
No information	503	41.6%

Sexual orientation



Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Bisexual	20	1.7%
Gay or Lesbian	28	2.3%
Heterosexual	603	49.9%
I use a different term (for example, pansexual or asexual)	4	0.3%
Prefer not to say	60	5.0%
No information	493	40.8%

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	361	29.9%
No, neither of my parents attended university	286	23.7%
I don't know/not sure	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	30	2.5%
No Information	531	44.0%



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	17	1.4%
Independent or fee-paying school	86	7.1%
UK fee-paying School (Old category)	115	9.5%
A state-run or state-funded school – selective (e.g., grammar school)	60	5.0%
A state-run or state-funded school – non-selective (e.g., comprehensive school)	154	12.7%
UK State School (Old category)	175	14.5%
Attended school outside the UK	59	4.9%
Prefer not to say	44	3.6%
No information	498	41.2%

Caring responsibilities



Are you a primary carer for a child or children under 18?

Response	Barristers	Percentage of total
Yes	211	17.5%
No	477	39.5%
Prefer not to say	21	1.7%
No Information	499	41.3%



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	536	44.4%
Yes, 1 - 19 hours a week	104	8.6%
Yes, 20 - 49 hours a week	13	1.1%
Yes, 50 or more hours a week	6	0.5%
Prefer not to say	37	3.1%
No Information	512	42.4%