Law Society of New South Wales
Statistics
February 2005

The following data about practising solicitors was drawn from the Law Society's membership database on 1 February 2005.

Table 1: Practising Solicitors	**2005**	
	No	**%**
All Solicitors	19618	
Male solicitors	11664	59.5
Female solicitors	7954	40.5
City solicitors	10484	53.4
Suburban solicitors	5618	28.6
Country solicitors	2654	13.5
Interstate solicitors	442	2.3
Overseas solicitors	417	2.1
Unknown	3	0.02
Type of Practitioner		
Private practice	14190	72
Government	2095	10.7
Corporate	2862	14.7
Other [1]	471	2.4

Table 2: Years Since Admission [2]	**<1 year**	**<5 years**	**6 – 10 years**	**11 - 14 years**	**15+ years**	**Unknown**	**Total**
All	14.7	22.9	16.1	9.6	36.6	-	100
Male	10.2	18.25	14.1	9.1	48.3	-	100
Female	21.2	29.7	19	10.4	19.7	-	100
Table 3: Age [3]	**<29 years**	**30 – 39 years**	**40 – 49 years**	**50 – 59 years**	**60+ years**	**Unknown**	
All	19.6	29.7	25.5	18.1	6.5	0.6	100
Male	12.3	25.7	27.4	24.5	9.6	0.3	100
Female	30.3	35.7	22.7	8.7	1.9	0.7	100

Table 4: Profile of Private Practice	**Firms**		**Solicitors Working in Firms**	
Firms [4]	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Sole practitioner	3439	83	4575	32.2
2 - 4 partners	580	14.1	2776	19.6
5 - 10 partners	75	18.2	1155	8.1
11 - 20 partners	15	0.36	626	4.4
21+ partners	23	0.55	4575	32.2
Total	4123	100.0	14190	100.0

Table 5: Profile: Individual Solicitors in Private Practice						
	Female		**Male**		**All**	
	No	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Principal	502	10.3	2899	31.6	3401	24.2
Sole principal	661	13.6	2675	29.1	3336	23.7
Employee	3676	75.5	3483	38	7159	51
Other	31	0.6	122	1.33	153	1.1
Total	4870	100.0	9179	100.0	100	100.0

Table 6	Female				Male				All			
	Principal		Employee		Principal		Employee		Principal		Employee	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Sole Principal	661	57.4	697	19	2654	48.4	853	24.5	3315	50.2	1550	21.7
2 - 4 Partners	175	15.2	638	17.4	1190	21.7	716	20.6	1365	20.6	1354	18.9
5 - 10 Partners	61	5.3	342	9.3	430	7.8	295	8.5	491	7.44	637	9
11 - 20 Partners	34	2.9	192	5.2	178	3.2	204	5.9	212	3.2	396	5.5
21+ Partners	221	19.2	1807	49.2	1030	18.7	1415	40.6	1215	18.4	3222	45
Total	1152	100.0	3676	100.0	5474	100.0	3483	100.0	6598	100.0	7159	100.0

1. Other includes: Solicitor Corporations, Foreign Firms and, Quasi Firms
2. From 1 August 2003 the "years since admission" categories have been changed. The category 2 -3 years and 4 – 7 years has been replaced with less than 5 years and 6 – 10 years
3. Firm size is measured by the number of partners.
4. The totals for the number of solicitors in Table 4 differ from the totals in Tables 5 and 6, because Table 4 records those solicitors who work in more than one legal practice (that is, several solicitors are counted more than once).

This report is a summary of those solicitors who held New South Wales practising certificates as at 1February 2005.

For an extended description of the solicitors of New South Wales see the 2004 Profile of the Solicitors of NSW published on the Law Society's web site at http://www.lawsociety.com.au/page.asp?partid=934

The information in this profile is only a summary of the information captured by the Law Society's membership database. If you have different information requirements please contact:

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