Employment Status Class of 2018 - as of March 15, 2019

# of Graduates = 33,510
(with known employment status)

Note: Jobs for which an offer has been accepted but for which the start date is deferred, and jobs for which type, e.g. bar passage required, was not specified, account for 0.84% and 0.09% of graduates, respectively, but are not shown in the chart.
Total Number of Law Firm Jobs Taken by State

Legend

- Less than 50
- 51-100
- 101-200
- 201-500
- 501+

Jobs & JDs, Class of 2018 © 2019 NALP
Government Employment

Over the course of NALP’s study of the employment of recent law graduates, the frequency of government employment has ranged from 19.3% in 1975 to 11.4% in 1989. Since 2002, government employment has accounted for between 11.4% and 12.8% of the jobs taken. For the Class of 2018, 11.9% of jobs were with government. [Note that public defenders have been counted in the public interest category since 2004, as they were prior to 1990.]

Prosecution jobs — at any level of government — continue to be the single most common type of government job, followed by jobs at executive branch agencies. However, it appears that some of the latter jobs were reported as “other” rather than as executive/administrative agency jobs, particularly at the local level, and hence may be under-reported. JAG Corps positions accounted for just under 7% of government jobs, or slightly less than 250 positions.

The wider range of reported salaries for “other professional jobs” reflects the wide variety of such jobs taken, including those taken by graduates returning to, or continuing in, a position held prior to or during law school. However, among more specific job types, salaries are highest for other military (non-JAG Corps) and agency honors programs.

**Distribution of Jobs by Level of Government**

- 26.4% are federal
- 37.0% are state
- 35.1% are local
- 1.5% are other/unknown

Note: Includes full- and part-time jobs. Excludes judicial clerkships and public defenders.