

BILLING SURVEY

A nationwide sampling of law firm billing rates

The National Law Journal asked the respondents to its 2011 survey of the nation's 250 largest law firms to provide a range of hourly billing rates. Firms that supplied the information are listed in alphabetical order.

FIRM NAME	PRINCIPAL OR LARGEST OFFICE	AVERAGE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ATTORNEYS*	FIRMWIDE			PARTNER			ASSOCIATE			
			AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz	Memphis, Tenn.	527	\$311	\$310	\$595	\$250	\$357	\$345	\$315	\$160	\$228	\$225
Best Best & Krieger	Riverside, Calif.	195	\$358	\$360	\$575	\$275	\$417	\$420	\$375	\$205	\$265	\$240
Briggs and Morgan	Minneapolis	185			\$625	\$325			\$305	\$230		
Broad and Cassel	Oriando, Fla.	160	\$377	\$350	\$575	\$295	\$435	\$395	\$350	\$180	\$265	\$265
Bryan Cave	St. Louis	908	\$475	\$460	\$795	\$375	\$565	\$553	\$540	\$200	\$356	\$360
Butzel Long	Detroit	176			\$700	\$325	\$440		\$425	\$225	\$274	
Carlton Fields	Tampa, Fla.	270	\$397	\$400	\$815	\$320	\$470	\$470	\$380	\$195	\$262	\$265
Cozen O'Connor	Philadelphia	504	\$439	\$410	\$900	\$305	\$510	\$490	\$550	\$225	\$330	\$330
Day Pitney	Parsippany, N.J.	324	\$447	\$450	\$960	\$380	\$537	\$525	\$470	\$235	\$317	\$315
Dickinson Wright	Detroit	229			\$600	\$325			\$320	\$200		
Dickstein Shapiro	Washington	335	\$560	\$550	\$1,000	\$540	\$680	\$670	\$545	\$225	\$435	\$465
Dinsmore & Shohl	Cincinnati	407	\$308	\$295	\$630	\$150	\$373	\$370	\$310	\$130	\$217	\$220
DLA Piper	New York	3,348	\$585	\$615	\$1,120	\$530	\$747	\$730	\$730	\$320	\$508	\$510
Dorsey & Whitney	Minneapolis	567	\$426	\$405	\$810	\$295	\$526	\$525	\$465	\$190	\$294	\$275
Duane Morris	Philadelphia	629	\$503	\$500	\$875	\$375	\$575	\$570	\$530	\$225	\$365	\$365
Dykema Gossett	Detroit	333	\$406	\$400	\$665	\$310	\$482	\$485	\$395	\$260	\$309	\$305
Epstein Becker & Green	New York	300	\$428	\$425	\$850	\$350	\$519	\$500	\$550	\$195	\$341	\$325
Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto	New York	168			\$730	\$460		\$525	\$440	\$275		\$325
Fox Rothschild	Philadelphia	450	\$413	\$420	\$725	\$325	\$486	\$483	\$455	\$190	\$297	\$295
Frost Brown Todd	Cincinnati	401	\$296	\$295	\$515	\$205	\$340	\$340	\$265	\$150	\$200	\$200
Gardere Wynne Sewell	Dallas	265	\$435	\$450	\$815	\$380	\$550	\$550	\$500	\$225	\$325	\$320
Gibbons	Newark, N.J.	199	\$505	\$450	\$725	\$400	\$563	\$505	\$475	\$285	\$380	\$320
Harris Beach	Rochester, N.Y.	176			\$390	\$275			\$260	\$160		
Hiscock & Barclay	Syracuse, N.Y.	174	\$269	\$240	\$750	\$195	\$304	\$265	\$350	\$150	\$207	\$195
Hodgson Russ	Buffalo, N.Y.	199			\$685	\$240	\$378	\$360	\$420	\$180	\$234	\$225
Holland & Knight	Washington	910	\$445	\$455	\$895	\$300	\$530	\$520	\$495	\$175	\$295	\$290
Hughes Hubbard & Reed	New York	300	\$633	\$615	\$990	\$625	\$828	\$800	\$695	\$270	\$533	\$540
Husch Blackwell	St. Louis	551	\$341	\$340	\$850	\$225	\$395	\$390	\$425	\$175	\$226	\$210
Jackson Kelly	Charleston, W.Va.	170	\$275	\$275	\$505	\$255	\$319	\$325	\$260	\$155	\$208	\$205
Kaye Scholer	New York	425	\$661	\$665	\$1,080	\$685	\$831	\$835	\$705	\$310	\$519	\$525
Kelley Drye & Warren	New York	321	\$474	\$400	\$925	\$480	\$634	\$645	\$595	\$275	\$425	\$420
Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear	Irvine, Calif.	268	\$439	\$415	\$735	\$415	\$525	\$500	\$495	\$295	\$346	\$345
Lane Powell	Seattle	180	\$405	\$425	\$645	\$340	\$460	\$450	\$360	\$225	\$295	\$285
Lathrop & Gage	Kansas City, Mo.	281	\$337	\$340	\$735	\$275	\$390	\$390	\$410	\$205	\$246	\$245
Lewis, Rice & Fingersh	St. Louis	162	\$275		\$470	\$270			\$320	\$150		
Lowenstein Sandler	Roseland, N.J.	249	\$478	\$480	\$895	\$435	\$613	\$595	\$660	\$250	\$400	\$390
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips	Los Angeles	322	\$602	\$620	\$850	\$540	\$676	\$670	\$550	\$215	\$464	\$500
McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter	Morristown, N.J.	272	\$245	\$275	\$575	\$295	\$350	\$375	\$325	\$185	\$250	\$235
McKenna Long & Aldridge	Atlanta	425	\$472	\$455	\$800	\$405	\$562	\$540	\$510	\$215	\$374	\$375
Michael Best & Friedrich	Milwaukee	208	\$321	\$310	\$650	\$245	\$413		\$310	\$205	\$241	
Miller & Martin	Chattanooga, Tenn.	184	\$313	\$325	\$610	\$240	\$369	\$375	\$275	\$185	\$215	\$215
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough	Columbia, S.C.	399	\$318	\$310	\$850	\$220	\$412	\$400	\$350	\$170	\$255	\$250
Nexsen Pruet	Columbia, S.C.	178			\$550	\$235			\$265	\$170		

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FIRM NAME	PRINCIPAL OR LARGEST OFFICE	AVERAGE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ATTORNEYS*	FIRMWIDE			PARTNER			ASSOCIATE			
			AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN
Patton Boggs	Washington	512	\$546	\$540	\$990	\$410	\$659	\$645	\$570	\$240	\$410	\$415
Pepper Hamilton	Philadelphia	459			\$825	\$380	\$557		\$460	\$235	\$344	
Perkins Coie	Seattle	693	\$462		\$875	\$285	\$550	\$545	\$590	\$215	\$368	
Phelps Dunbar	New Orleans	280	\$236	\$225	\$465	\$190	\$281	\$275	\$245	\$150	\$189	\$190
Polsinelli Shughart	Kansas City, Mo.	466			\$630	\$275			\$335	\$205		
Saul Ewing	Philadelphia	220	\$431	\$450	\$750	\$350	\$502	\$490	\$495	\$245	\$326	\$300
Schulte Roth & Zabel	New York	406	\$615	\$630	\$935	\$770	\$846	\$840	\$675	\$285	\$608	\$580
Seyfarth Shaw	Chicago	702	\$437	\$425	\$790	\$355	\$528	\$525	\$505	\$225	\$341	\$340
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton	Los Angeles	465			\$860	\$505			\$635	\$275		
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick	Toledo, Ohio	208	\$345	\$365	\$555	\$265	\$364	\$375	\$320	\$195	\$252	\$250
Stoel Rives	Portland, Ore.	373	\$385	\$395	\$625	\$320	\$451	\$450	\$500	\$195	\$292	\$275
Strasburger & Price	Dallas	181	\$363	\$362	\$630	\$211	\$395	\$397	\$332	\$199	\$250	\$238
Thompson & Knight	Dallas	319	\$520	\$520	\$875	\$440	\$594	\$585	\$460	\$250	\$358	\$350
Thompson Coburn	St. Louis	325			\$750	\$315			\$445	\$195		
Ulmer & Berne	Cleveland	179	\$316		\$585	\$280	\$405		\$390	\$200	\$260	
Vedder Price	Chicago	246	\$445	\$445	\$735	\$295	\$500	\$490	\$520	\$265	\$345	\$335
Winstead	Dallas	265	\$406		\$680	\$365	\$477		\$410	\$215	\$301	
Winston & Strawn	Chicago	868	\$557	\$550	\$1,130	\$580	\$713	\$700	\$600	\$350	\$434	\$413
Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs	Louisville, Ky.	181	\$312	\$350	\$500	\$240	\$325	\$375	\$275	\$180	\$220	\$235

* Attorney numbers are from NLJ 250 published in April 2011.



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For more information please contact:

Jamie Berry, Managing Director
202 507 7106
jberry@capstoneag.com

Eric Mazur, Managing Director
202 507 7108
emazur@capstoneag.com

NEW YORK
212 782 1400

NEW JERSEY
201 587 7100

WASHINGTON, DC
202 507 7100

LOS ANGELES
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CHICAGO
312 588 7100

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BILLING SURVEY

Firms report their billing rates by associate class

Below is a sampling of hourly rates charged by law firms that establish billing rates based on associate class.

Firms that supplied this information are listed in alphabetical order.

FIRM NAME	PRINCIPAL OR LARGEST OFFICE	AVERAGE FTE ATTORNEYS*	1ST YEAR	2D YEAR	3D YEAR	4TH YEAR	5TH YEAR	6TH YEAR	7TH YEAR	8TH YEAR
Bryan Cave	St. Louis	908	\$200-\$365	\$200-\$355	\$250-\$385	\$225-\$420	\$300-\$430	\$335-\$455	\$280-\$485	\$350-\$510
Butzel Long	Detroit	176	\$225							
Carlton Fields	Tampa, Fla.	270	\$195-\$210	\$210-\$225	\$210-\$225	\$225-\$240	\$250-\$265	\$255-\$315	\$275-\$365	\$300-\$380
Cozen O'Connor	Philadelphia	504	\$225-\$290	\$225-\$290	\$235-\$320	\$245-\$360	\$245-\$340	\$265-\$350	\$285-\$380	\$290-\$395
Day Pitney	Parsippany, N.J.	324	\$244	\$275	\$295	\$291	\$301	\$335	\$360	\$351
Dickinson Wright	Detroit	229	\$195	\$205	\$210	\$220	\$235	\$245	\$255	\$265
Dickstein Shapiro	Washington	335	\$225-\$290	\$275-\$385	\$330-\$440	\$345-\$465	\$360-\$490	\$390-\$510	\$425-\$530	\$435-\$545
Dinsmore & Shohl	Cincinnati	407	\$185	\$195	\$210	\$225	\$235	\$245	\$255	\$265
DLA Piper	New York	3,348	\$345	\$395	\$455	\$520	\$580	\$620	\$650	\$675
Dorsey & Whitney	Minneapolis	567	\$238	\$253	\$260	\$297	\$305	\$336	\$370	
Duane Morris	Philadelphia	629	\$280	\$305	\$320	\$335	\$350	\$370	\$380	\$420
Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto	New York	168	\$275	\$300	\$325	\$350	\$370	\$385	\$405	\$420
Fox Rothschild	Philadelphia	450	\$220-\$235	\$230-\$265	\$240-\$285	\$240-\$285	\$245-\$300	\$270-\$455	\$190-\$410	\$260-\$425
Frost Brown Todd	Cincinnati	401	\$150	\$165-\$185	\$175-\$185	\$180-\$235	\$190-\$230	\$190-\$240	\$185-\$260	\$200-\$265
Gardere Wynne Sewell	Dallas	265	\$225	\$260	\$290	\$320	\$350	\$370	\$385	\$400
Harris Beach	Rochester, N.Y.	176	\$160	\$175	\$200	\$215	\$215	\$235	\$235	\$260
Hiscock & Barclay	Syracuse, N.Y.	174	\$175	\$175	\$195	\$195	\$205	\$205	\$205	\$220
Hughes Hubbard & Reed	New York	300	\$350	\$450	\$510	\$540	\$570	\$600	\$615	\$630
Jackson Kelly	Charleston, W.Va.	170	\$180	\$195	\$205	\$215	\$225	\$240		
Kaye Scholer	New York	425	\$320	\$410	\$475	\$525	\$570	\$595	\$620	\$640
Kelley Drye & Warren	New York	321	\$305	\$305	\$350	\$380	\$420	\$450	\$470	\$500
Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear	Irvine, Calif.	268	\$295	\$320	\$345	\$370	\$395			
Lane Powell	Seattle	180	\$250	\$260	\$260-\$340	\$260-\$305	\$260-\$325	\$265-\$340	\$305-\$330	\$300-\$360
Lathrop & Gage	Kansas City, Mo.	281	\$205	\$210	\$220	\$230	\$250	\$255	\$270	\$280
McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter	Morristown, N.J.	272	\$185	\$195	\$215	\$225	\$235	\$250	\$265	\$275
McKenna Long & Aldridge	Atlanta	425	\$275	\$280	\$317	\$346	\$354	\$371	\$386	\$408
Michael Best & Friedrich	Milwaukee	208	\$210	\$205-\$230	\$210-\$250	\$220-\$300	\$225-\$260	\$240-\$295	\$220-\$265	\$230-\$305
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough	Columbia, S.C.	399	\$170-\$265	\$210-\$345	\$215-\$295	\$225-\$325	\$195-\$335	\$205-\$350	\$245-\$325	\$255-\$270
Patton Boggs	Washington	512	\$300	\$325	\$355	\$385	\$415	\$445	\$465	\$490
Perkins Coie	Seattle	693	\$264	\$273	\$284	\$291	\$321	\$337	\$359	\$378
Saul Ewing	Philadelphia	220		\$245-\$255	\$250-\$280	\$275-\$300	\$275-\$340	\$275-\$310	\$295-\$325	\$320-\$450
Schulte Roth & Zabel	New York	406	\$285-\$390	\$465	\$515	\$560	\$580	\$605	\$630	\$650
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton	Los Angeles	465	\$275-\$340	\$340-\$440	\$380-\$490	\$410-\$525	\$435-\$555	\$460-\$580	\$485-\$610	\$505-\$635
Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick	Toledo, Ohio	208	\$205							
Strasburger & Price	Dallas	181	\$221	\$234	\$221	\$238	\$258	\$259	\$284	\$275
Thompson & Knight	Dallas	319	\$250-\$280	\$315	\$350	\$385	\$405	\$425	\$445	\$460
Vedder Price	Chicago	246	\$255	\$265	\$280	\$300	\$320	\$335	\$355	\$370
Winstead	Dallas	265	\$215	\$215	\$240	\$260	\$290	\$315	\$335	\$360
Winston & Strawn	Chicago	868	\$350	\$375	\$400	\$435	\$470	\$500	\$525	\$550
Wvatt, Tarrant & Combs	Louisville, Ky.	181	\$180							

* Full-time equivalent attorney numbers are from NJ 250 published in April 2011.