

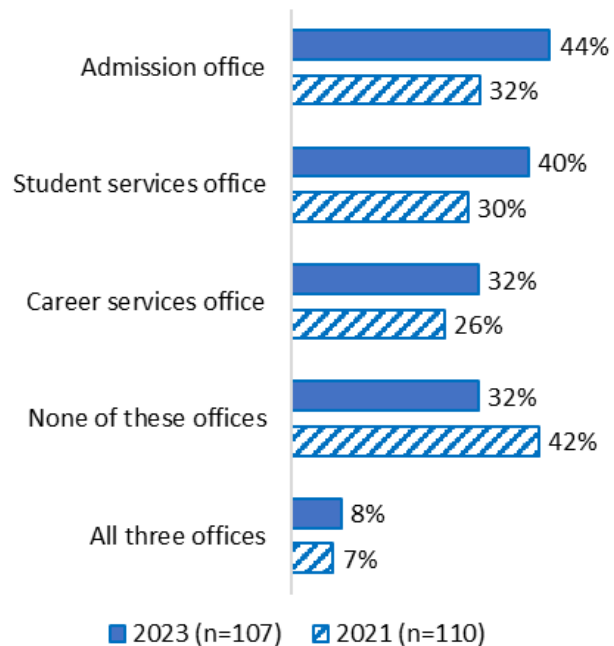
The 2023 LGBTQ+ Law School Survey

LGBTQ+ Representation in Legal Education

Faculty and Staff Representation in Law School

As students move through their legal education, they often interact with staff outside of the classroom for academic, social, emotional, personal, career, and professional support. The staff with whom students interact when seeking support can be as or even more important than the resources provided. Schools completing the 2023 LGBTQ+ Law School survey most often reported having more LGBTQ+ faculty members than student-facing support staff. A crucial aspect of sending students a message of inclusivity, however, is to ensure representation both inside and outside of the classroom. When asked about student-facing offices, 73 of the 107 schools (68%) that responded to this question indicated that at least one of their three major offices — admission, student affairs, and career services — have LGBTQ+ employees (Figure 1), up from the 64 schools (42%) reporting this in the 2021 LSAC LGBTQ+ Law School Survey. Specifically, 44% of these schools reported LGBTQ+ staff in their admission offices, 40% in their student affairs offices, and 32% in their career services offices. While representation in each student-facing office among schools that responded in 2023 is more than the 21% of responding schools in 2021, the proportion of schools that have representation in all three of these offices is essentially the same. Although, it is important to keep in mind that office size and staffing structures vary greatly among law schools.

Figure 1. Percentage of Schools With LGBTQ+ Staff in Admission, Student Affairs, and/or Career Services Offices in 2023 and 2021



Sources: 2021 LSAC LGBTQ+ Law School Survey and 2023 LGBTQ+ Law School Survey data

Law School Pipeline

LGBTQ+ Applicantsⁱ

- Applicants for the 2022-2023 academic year identifying as LGBTQ+ made up 13.4% of all applicants, an increase from the 2020-2021 academic year when LGBTQ+ applicants made up 12% of the applicant pool.
- Among applicants for the 2022-2023 academic year who identified as LGBTQ+, 45% also identified as members of historically racially/ethnically marginalizedⁱⁱ groups, a slight increase from the 44% of LGBTQ+ applicants for the 2020-2021 academic year who were members of historically racially/ethnically marginalized groups.

LGBTQ+ Law Students

- Among the 70 schools that provided information regarding how many LGBTQ+ law students were enrolled for the 2022-2023 academic year, slightly more than 50% (n=36) reported that LGBTQ+ students comprised 15% or more of their student population.
- LGBTQ+-identifying 1L students comprised 13.9% of all students matriculating to law school for the 2022-2023 academic year, up from 12% of 1Ls in the 2020-2021 academic year.ⁱⁱⁱ

To learn about recruitment, admission, orientation, engagement, and more, [download the full report online](#).

ⁱ Applicant data was not collected during the 2023 LGBTQ+ Law School Survey. Applicant information included in this brief comes from the LSAC 2022 End-of-Year Applicant and Matriculant Data.

ⁱⁱ The term “marginalized” refers to populations that historically have been excluded, disempowered, disenfranchised, or otherwise treated as being insignificant, unimportant, or peripheral. Marginalized can be used to describe various populations and is not synonymous with or limited to racially/ethnically underrepresented populations.

ⁱⁱⁱ Data on matriculants for the 2022-2023 academic year was not collected in the 2023 LGBTQ+ Law School Survey. The information about matriculants in this brief comes from the LSAC 2022 End-of-Year Applicant and Matriculant Data.