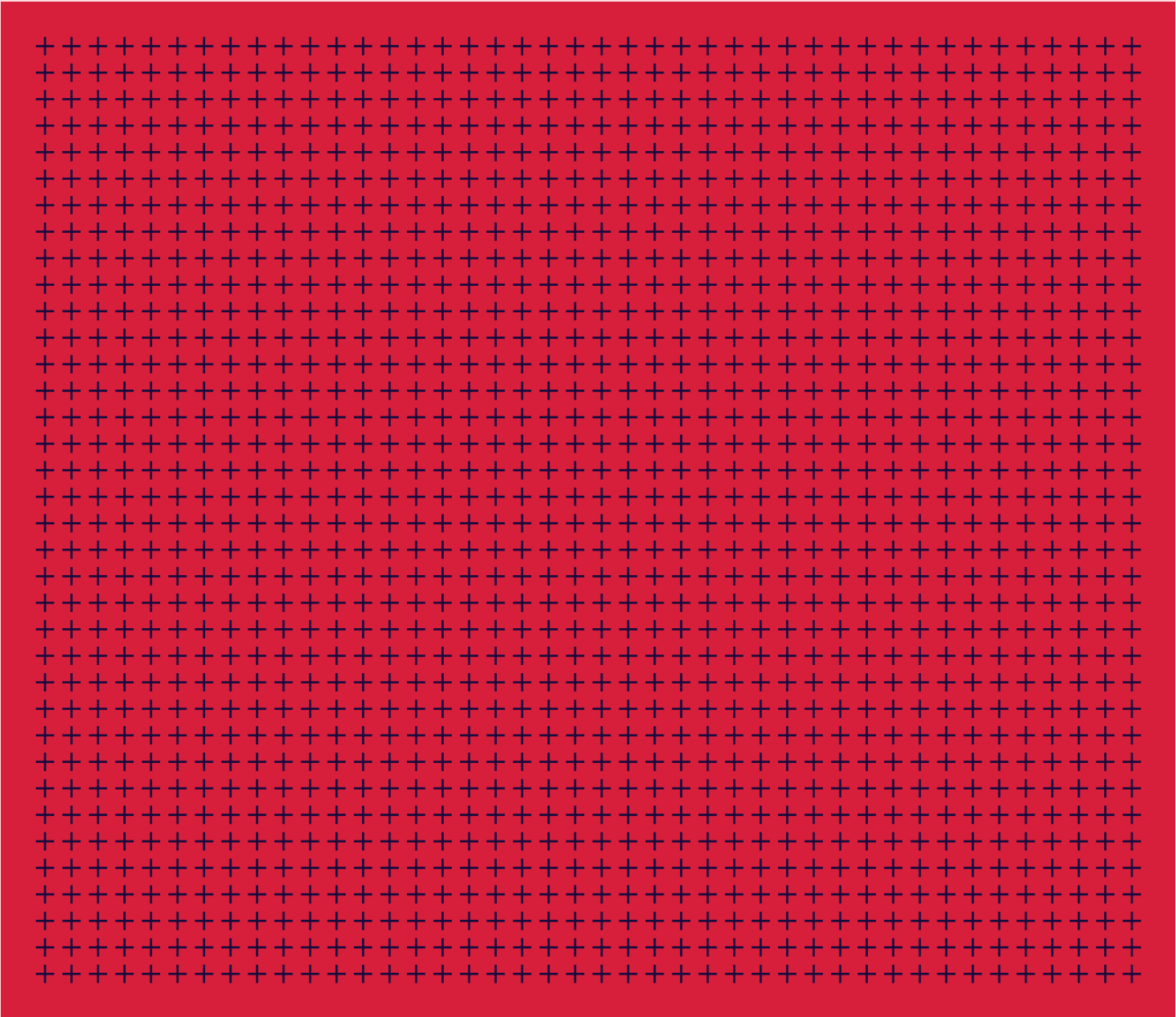


The 2026 Victorian Lawyer Census Technical Report

Dr Alice Catherine King, Dr Georgina Rychner,
Tenielle Hagland, Anna Scovelle, Prof Nigel J Balmer

Legal Services
Research Centre

Victorian Legal Services
BOARD + COMMISSIONER



The 2026 Victorian Lawyer Census Technical Report

Legal Services Research Centre

This report is published by the Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner (VLSB+C). The Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner are independent statutory authorities responsible for the regulation of the legal profession in Victoria.

The VLSB+C aims to:

- protect and empower consumers
- maintain and enhance legal practice and ethics
- improve access to justice.

The authors of this research report are:

Dr Alice Catherine King

Senior Researcher
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner

Dr Georgina Rychner

Principal Researcher
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner

Tenielle Hagland

Research Program Manager
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner

Anna Scovelle

Senior Researcher
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner

Prof Nigel J Balmer

Research Director
Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner

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Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner,
Level 27, 500 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000



The Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

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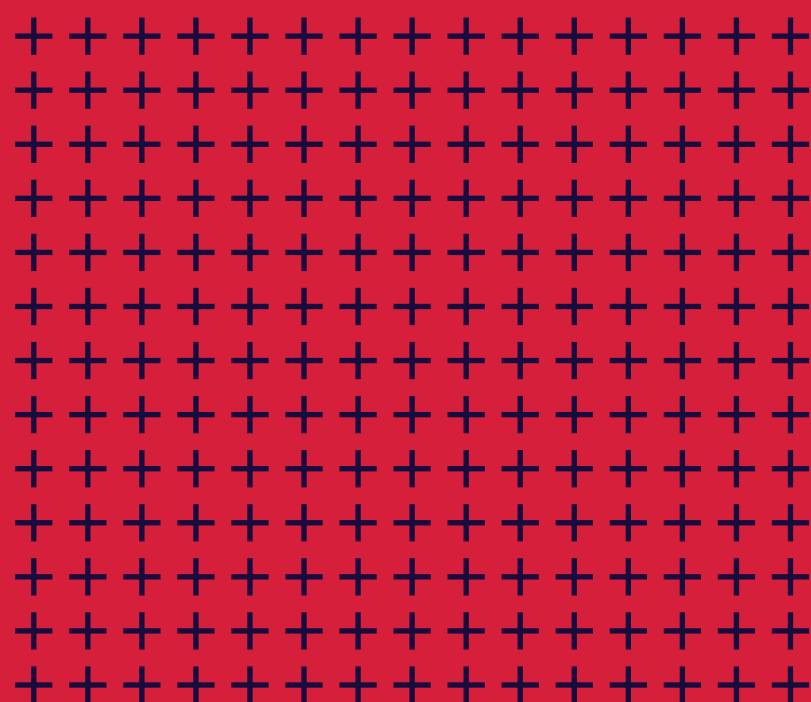
Contents

01	Introduction and methodology	06—13
02	The 2026 Victorian Lawyer Census Questionnaire	14—45
	References	46—47

01

Introduction and methodology

This section provides an overview of the survey aims, questionnaire development, and distribution and response rate. It also details participant demographics and the weighting used for analysis.



Introduction

The Victorian Lawyer Census is the Legal Services Research Centre's (LSRC) survey of the legal profession in Victoria. It is designed to capture lawyers' experiences and attitudes towards current and emerging issues facing the profession. The aims of the survey were to both capture experiences and views of the profession on current issues across a range of demographics, roles and legal specialities, and to provide baseline data that will allow change over time to be tracked.

This technical report details the:

- lawyer census methodology
- questionnaire development and testing
- questionnaire topics
- standardised scales used
- recruitment and response
- analytical approach.

The report provides the methodological context for modules, each of which will be the focus of subsequent subject-specific reports.

The report includes a copy of the questionnaire with annotation. This can be freely used by researchers looking to explore similar issues elsewhere.

Methodology

Questionnaire development

The modules were programmed into Qualtrics, and user testing was undertaken with approximately 15 to 20 internal staff. The target completion time for the survey was 15 minutes. The final survey instrument took around 12 minutes on average to complete.

Demographics

The demographics module covered both personal characteristics and professional demographics. Three personal demographic questions were asked after the consent to participate question. They addressed gender, age and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. The module covered professional demographics such as practising certificate type, years practising, sector worked in, and other similar questions about workplace/professional careers. Further questions about personal characteristics were placed at the end of the survey.

Responding to client needs

The responding to client needs module explored legal capability from the perception of practitioners. It dovetails with the LSRC's Legal Understanding and Lawyer Use (LULU) survey, which explores the public levels of legal capability.¹ It contains initial questions that address lawyers' perceptions of the perceived capability barriers of their clients, the measures they take to identify barriers, practice adaption to address capability differences, and the nature of lawyer–client relationships. It also contains questions that address perspectives on the adoption of one-to-many legal services and the personal legal capability.

AI in legal practice

The artificial intelligence (AI) module asked participants about their use of AI tools as part of their legal practice and builds on the 2025 report to do so.² This included asking which tools they use, whether their organisation permitted the use of specific tools, and whether they think their AI use had changed in the last 12 months. Three questions were asked about observed changes to legal services pricing, delivery of legal services, and changes to the lawyer–client relationship as a direct result of AI.

Sexual harassment experimental module

This module was designed to explore the factors that influence respondent's perceptions and understandings of sexual harassment. It was based loosely around Keenan et al.'s study of workplace harassment in Queensland and adapted for the Victorian workplace context.³ Respondents were provided with 6 scenarios of sexual harassment (discussing a sexual encounter, sexualised joke, leering, commenting on appearance, asking out on a date, and touching). Each scenario contained 3 randomised variables: place (office, bar), perpetrator (peer, more senior colleague, client, manager) and frequency (single instance or multiple). This created 16 unique conditions. For each scenario, respondents were asked to rate how likely they were to consider the behaviour problematic on a 5-point Likert scale from 'very problematic' to 'not at all problematic'. Respondents were also asked how likely they thought the scenario would legally constitute workplace sexual harassment, as well as what they would do (if anything) to respond to this behaviour.

1. See Nigel Balmer and Pascoe Pleasance, *Pilot Legal Understanding and Lawyer Use (LULU) Survey Technical Report* (Legal Services Research Centre, Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner, 2025), <https://lsbc.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-09/LULU%20Technical%20Report%20-%20Final%20110725.pdf>.
2. See Legal Services Research Centre, *Generative AI Use in the Legal Profession: Findings from the 2025 Victorian Lawyer Census* (Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner, 2026), https://lsbc.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2026-04/VLS0801_Generative%20AI%20Use_Report_FA_WEB_0.pdf.
3. See Charlotte Keenan et al., "Blurred Ideas: How Perpetrator Behavior, Target Response, and Observer Gender Can Influence Perceptions of Workplace Sexual Harassment," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 40, nos. 13–14 (2025): 3,132–61. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605241271368>. For other studies that have also explored similar ideas see: Sara Charlesworth et al., "Naming and Claiming Workplace Sexual Harassment in Australia," *Australian Journal of Social Issues* 46, no. 2 (2011): 141–61, <https://doi.org/10.1002/j.1839-4655.2011.tb00211.x>; Lisa Lazard et al., "Calling It Out? A Q Methodological Study of Sexual Harassment Labelling," *Violence Against Women* 31, no. 1 (2025): 328–47. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012231209011>.

Sexual harassment

The sexual harassment module was informed by the LSRC's 2025 report on sexual harassment within the profession.⁴ It asked participants about the sexual harassment they had experienced and/or witnessed over the last 12 months. Follow-up questions asked about the location of harassment and the role of the perpetrator. Information was also collected on responses to harassment, reporting (informal and formal), and reasons for reporting/non-reporting.

Wellbeing

The wellbeing module consisted of 3 psychometrically validated scales that measured anxiety and depression (Patient Health Questionnaire 4 (PHQ4))⁵, subjective wellbeing (Personal Wellbeing Index (PWI))⁶ and burnout (Burnout Assessment Tool 4 (BAT4))⁷ across the profession, as well as questions about exposure to traumatic content. It was informed by the LSRC's 2025 report on wellbeing in the profession and other existing studies on the same topic.⁸

4. See Alice Catherine King et al., *Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession: Findings from the 2025 Victorian Lawyer Census* (Legal Services Research Centre, Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner, 2025), https://lsbc.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2026-03/VLS0753_Sexual%20Harassment%20Report_FA2.pdf.
5. Kurt Kroenke et al., "An Ultra-brief Screening Scale for Anxiety and Depression: The PHQ-4," *Psychosomatics* 50, no. 6 (2009): 613–21. doi: 10.1176/appi.psy.50.6.613. PMID: 19996233.
6. R. A. Cummins, ed., *Personal Wellbeing Index Manual: 6th edition, version 2* (Australian Centre on Quality of Life, School of Psychology, Deakin University, 2024).
7. Emina Hadžibajramović et al., "The Ultra-short Version of the Burnout Assessment Tool (BAT4): Development, Validation, and Measurement Invariance Across Countries, Age and Gender," *PLoS One* 19 no. 2 (2024): e0297843. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0297843. PMID: 38394265; PMCID: PMC10889892
8. See Tenielle Hagland et al., *Wellbeing in the Legal Profession: Findings from the 2025 Victorian Lawyer Census* (Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner, 2026); Norm Kelk et al., *Courting the Blues: Attitudes Towards Depression in Australian Law Students and Lawyers* (Brain & Mind Research Institute, 2009): 1; Vivian Holmes et al., *Lawyer Wellbeing, Workplace Experiences and Ethics: A Research Report* (Victorian Legal Services Board and Commissioner, the Law Society of New South Wales and the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, 2025), <https://lsbc.vic.gov.au/resources/lawyer-wellbeing-workplace-experiences-and-ethics-research-report>; Adele J. Bergin and Nerina L. Jimmieson, "Australian Lawyer Well-Being: Workplace Demands, Resources and the Impact of Time-Billing Targets," *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law* 21, no. 3 (2014): 427–441; Janet Chan et al., "Lawyering Stress and Work Culture: An Australian Study," *UNSW Law Journal* 37, no. 3 (2014): 1,062–1,102; Natalie Skead and Shane L. Rogers, "Stress, Anxiety and Depression in Law Students: How Student Behaviours Affect Student Wellbeing," *Monash University Law Review* 40, no. 2 (2014): 565; IBA Presidential Taskforce on Mental Wellbeing in the Legal Profession, *Mental Wellbeing in the Legal Profession: A Global Study* (International Bar Association, 2021).

Professional boundaries

Professional boundaries were measured using the Lawyer Professional Boundaries Measure (LPBM), a purpose-built instrument mapped to the VLSB+C Professional Boundaries Framework.

The LPBM comprises 32 items across 8 domains, with 4 items per domain:

- professional independence
- professional communication under social pressure
- access and availability
- role clarity
- emotional boundaries
- commercial and material pressure
- boundary assertion and enforcement
- boundary risk assessment.

Items were framed as self-efficacy statements ('I find it easy to...') rather than behavioural statements. Responses were recorded on a 4-point agreement scale ('strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree'), with a 'not applicable' option for items that do not apply in all practice contexts.

Two companion measures were included. First, respondents were asked how often they had faced boundary challenges in the past 12 months, rated from 'very frequently' to 'never'. It measures exposure to boundary demands alongside the LPBM's measure of capability. Second, a single item asked about workplace support in maintaining professional boundaries. As the LPBM is a new instrument, its dimensionality and item functioning will be assessed on the 2026 data before scale scores are reported.

Distribution and response rate

All Victorian lawyers who currently hold a practising certificate were invited to participate (n=29,537) with 2,221 responding (a response rate of 7.2%). The survey was first distributed to the profession via a direct email containing the survey link on 12 March 2026. A reminder was issued in the March edition of the VLSB+C's *Commissioner's Update*, which was sent to the profession on 30 March 2026. A follow-up email was sent on 9 April 2026 and a final reminder was sent on 21 April 2026. Respondents could close the survey and return to it later, ensuring each survey response corresponded to one practitioner only.

While the survey was open, it was also promoted across VLSB+C's social media channels (LinkedIn and Instagram). The survey link was not shared within these posts to mitigate the chances of receiving automated responses. Instead, the posts stated that all lawyers eligible to participate had received an email containing the survey link. The same messaging was also shared on the VLSB+C's website.

Weighting

To ensure that survey results more accurately reflected the broader population of Victorian lawyers, post-stratification weighting was implemented. The weighting procedure was adjusted for demographic differences between the survey sample and known population distributions derived from internal practising certificate data, as well as 3 key dimensions: age, gender and practising certificate type. The application of weights enables more accurate estimation of population parameters and helps reduce potential biases from under or over-representation of certain lawyer groups in the sample. All analyses presented in this report use these weighted data unless explicitly noted otherwise.

Post-stratification weights were calculated using the following methodology:

1. For each demographic variable, population proportions were compared to sample proportions.
2. Individual adjustment factors were calculated for each demographic category by dividing the population proportion by the sample proportion.
3. Small numbers of respondents who selected 'other' for gender or 'prefer not to say' for any demographic question were assigned a neutral weight of 1.0, preserving their original representation in the sample. For gender, this ensured that those specifying 'other' were not assigned very small weights, since despite small numbers, percentages were higher in the sample compared to the population (1.7% vs 0.1%).
4. A composite weight was created by multiplying the individual adjustment factors across all 3 demographic dimensions for each respondent.
5. The composite weights were normalised to maintain the original sample size, ensuring that the sum of weights equals the number of respondents.
6. Weight values were reviewed for extremes, but all fell within an acceptable range, indicating that no trimming was necessary.

Participant demographics

Although not intended to provide an overall profile of the profession, the demographic data collected as part of the lawyer census is reported here. A selection of unweighted personal characteristics of respondents is set out in Table 1.

Table 1 – Selection of unweighted personal characteristics of respondents

		Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Man or male	808	37.1
	Woman or female	1,307	60.0
	Non-binary or other term	34	1.6
	Prefer not to say	28	1.3
Age	Under 30	300	13.8
	30–39	580	26.6
	40–49	475	21.8
	50–59	362	16.6
	60–69	272	12.5
	70+	150	6.9
	Prefer not to say	38	1.7
Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander	No	2,115	97.2
	Yes	19	0.9
	Prefer not to say	43	2.0

Table 1 – Selection of unweighted personal characteristics of respondents

		Frequency	Percentage
Sexual orientation	Straight (heterosexual)	1,133	79.1
	Gay or lesbian	75	5.2
	Bisexual	102	7.1
	Another term	29	2.0
	Prefer not to say	94	6.5
Relationship status	Married	696	31.9
	Single	305	14.0
	De facto	350	16.1
	Prefer not to say	83	3.8
Children under 18	No	911	63.5
	Yes	478	33.3
	Prefer not to say	45	3.2
Caring responsibilities (adults or elderly)	No	1,190	83.2
	Yes	189	13.2
	Prefer not to say	51	3.6
Language spoken at home	English	1,343	93.6
	Other	92	6.4
Country of birth	Australia	1,118	79.4
	Other	211	15.0
	Prefer not to say	78	5.6
Long-term health condition or disability	No	1,079	75.1
	Yes	290	20.2
	Prefer not to say	69	4.8

A selection of unweighted professional characteristics of respondents is set out in Table 2.

Table 2 – Selection of unweighted professional characteristics

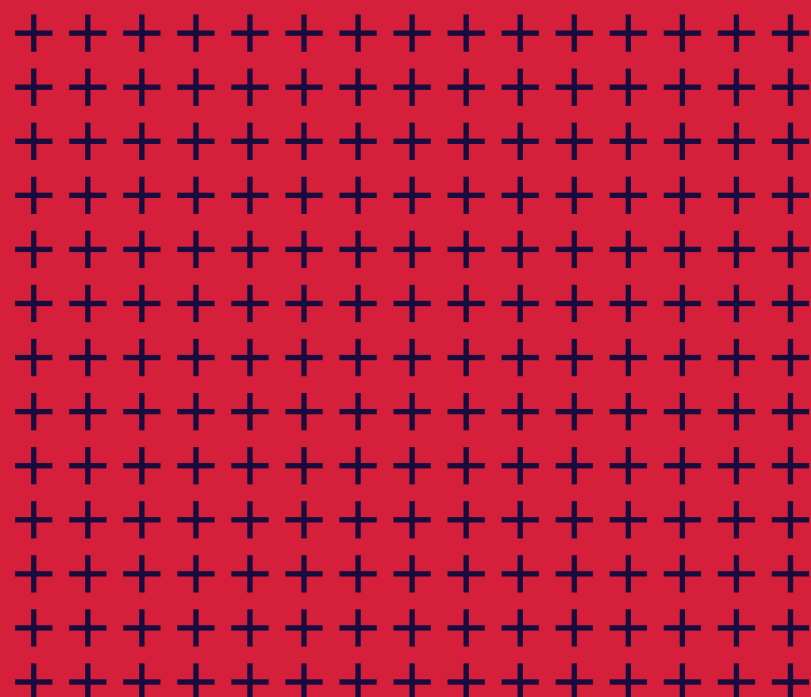
		Frequency	Percentage
Years practising	Less than 5 years	643	30.3
	5–9	405	19.1
	10–19	534	25.2
	20+	528	24.9
	Prefer not to say	13	0.6
Type of practising certificate	Principal	188	8.9
	Principal with trust	249	11.7
	Employee	866	40.8
	Employee with trust	29	1.4
	Barrister	150	7.1
	Corporate legal practitioner	326	15.4
	Government legal practitioner	286	13.5
	Volunteer / CLS	13	0.6
	Prefer not to say	15	0.7

		Frequency	Percentage
Organisation type	Law firm	837	38.4
	Solo practitioner	308	14.1
	Incorporated legal practice	166	7.6
	Government employer, excluding legal aid	240	11.0
	Victoria Legal Aid	66	3.0
	Community legal centre	135	6.2
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service (ATSIL)	14	0.6
	Unincorporated legal service	1	0.0
	Multi-disciplinary practice	17	0.8
	Non-legal employer	248	11.4
	Other	76	3.5
	Prefer not to say	14	0.6
Partner status	No	1,466	69.2
	Yes	232	10.6
	Not applicable	406	19.2
	Prefer not to say	14	0.7
Main type of legal work	Advocacy (court and tribunal work)	360	17.0
	General litigation	294	13.9
	Specialist litigation	307	14.5
	Advisory and opinion work	321	15.2
	Transactional work	443	20.9
	Alternative dispute resolution work	24	1.1
	Regulatory, compliance and law reform / public interest work	146	6.9
	Other (please specify)	191	9.0
	Prefer not to say	34	1.6
Location of workplace	Melbourne CBD	1,168	57.7
	Melbourne outside CBD	496	24.5
	Regional	246	12.1
	Rural	40	2.0
	Remote	16	0.8
	Interstate / overseas	26	1.3
	Other	16	0.8
	Prefer not to say	16	0.8
Number of people at organisation	1	248	11.4
	2–4	140	6.4
	5–19	348	16.0
	20–199	488	22.4
	200+	712	32.7
	Don't know / prefer not to say	81	3.7

02

The 2026 Victorian Lawyer Census Questionnaire

This section sets out the questionnaire used for the 2026 Victorian Lawyer Census. A rationale for the inclusion of items is at the start of each module.



About you

This section asks you some questions that relate to your personal characteristics. This will help us understand how people with different characteristics experience the various topics asked about in the survey. Your responses will be anonymous and you can choose to 'prefer not to say'.

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on age of respondents allows for analysis that considers the intersection of age and experiences of respondents.

Technical

Age brackets are in line with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021 census categories.

ID1 What is your age?

- Under 30
- 30–39
- 40–49
- 50–59
- 60–69
- 70+
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on gender of respondents allows for analysis that considers the intersection of gender and experiences of respondents.

Technical

Gender shapes your experience of society through socially constructed roles, expectations and power dynamics. It is therefore of greater relevance to the professional experiences of our participants than sex, which describes biological and physiological characteristics. Respondents were provided the option to give another term if they did not feel as though their gender fit within the categories provided.

Coding

For analysis, responses were coded into 1) male, 2) female, 3) non-binary or 4) I use a different term, with 3) and 4) being rolled into one category to minimise chance of identification due to small numbers.

ID2 How would you describe your gender?

- Man or male
- Woman or female
- Non-binary
- I use a different term (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on whether respondents are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status allows for analysis that considers the intersection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences and the experiences of respondents.

- ID3 Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?**
(For people of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin,
mark both 'yes' boxes.)
- No
 - Yes, Aboriginal
 - Yes, Torres Strait Islander
 - Prefer not to say

About your work

This section asks you some questions that relate to your work. Your responses will be anonymous, and you can choose 'prefer not to say'.

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on years practising and working as a lawyer allows for analysis that considers the intersection of this variable and the experiences of respondents. In the 2025 Lawyer Census, respondents were asked to provide a number with answers coded for analysis. In 2026, the years have been grouped in the census.

Technical

Question PD1 is phrased to encompass years as a lawyer as well as years holding a practising certificate, as not all people who hold a practising certificate will practice.

PD1 How many years have you held a practising certificate and worked as a lawyer?

- Less than 5 years
- 5–9
- 10–19
- 20+
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on the type of practising certificate held by respondents allows for analysis that considers the intersection of this variable and the experiences of respondents.

Technical

Practising certificate types are taken from practising certificate renewal certificate data.

PD2 Which type of practising certificate do you hold?

- Principal
- Principal with trust authorisation
- Employee
- Employee with trust authorisation
- Barrister
- Corporate legal practitioner
- Government legal practitioner
- Volunteer/CLS
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting whether respondents are partners allows for analysis across partners and non-partners.

Technical

Not applicable was added to PD3 as some legal professionals cannot be partners.

PD3 Are you a partner?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting type of legal work allows for better understanding of work done by participants beyond area of law.

PD4 Please select the main type of legal work involved in your practice:

- Advocacy (court and tribunal work)
- General litigation
- Specialist litigation
- Advisory and opinion work
- Transactional work
- Alternative dispute resolution work
- Regulatory, compliance and law reform/public interest work
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Asking what type of organisation respondents work at allows for analysis across different organisation type.

Technical

Organisation type was taken from the 2023/2024 practising certificate renewal surveys on early career lawyers and supervision – with ATSIL and multi-disciplinary practice added as additional choices. Victoria Legal Aid added as a category in 2026.

PD5 Which of the following best describes your organisation?

- Law firm
- Sole practitioner
- Incorporated legal practice
- Government employer, excluding legal aid
- Victoria Legal Aid
- Community legal centre
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (ATSIL)
- Unincorporated legal service
- Multi-disciplinary practice
- Non-legal employer
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question PD6 provides routing for the responding to client needs module (only those who have clients will be shown that module).

PD6 Does your current role involve providing legal services or advice directly to clients (whether individuals, organisations or internal clients)?

- Yes, this is a significant part of my role
- Yes, but only a minor part of my role
- No

Rationale/justification

Question PD7 provides further information on the types of client that can be used in analysis of the responding to client needs module.

Technical

Forced response to add up to 100%.

[If = yes at PD6]

PD7 Approximately what percentage of your individual workload is for the benefit of each of the following types of client?

- Individual fee paying private clients
- Individual pro bono/low bono clients
- Legal aid clients
- Community/not-for-profit sector organisation clients
- Small and medium-sized enterprise (SMEs) clients
- Large corporate clients
- Government/public sector clients
- Internal clients (for in-house corporate lawyers and government lawyers)
- Other clients (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Asking where respondents work allows for analysis across location.

Technical

Question PD8 was adjusted from 2025 Lawyer Census to remove the need to code postcodes.

PD8 Please provide the location of your primary workplace.

- Melbourne, within the CBD
- Melbourne, outside the CBD
- Regional
- Rural
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Asking how many other employees work at the respondent's place of employment allows for analysis across size of organisation.

Technical

Categories were chosen in line with the ABS Economic Activity Survey 2019 categories around business structures.⁹

PD9 How many employees (including legal and non-legal) does your workplace have, approximately?

- 1
- 2–4
- 5–19
- 20–199
- 200+
- Don't know/prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Asking what areas lawyers work in allows for analysis across practice area type.

Technical

Respondents were given the option to select all that apply so percentages do not add up to 100.

Coding

For analysis, 'other (please specify)' was recoded into further categories. Commonly given 'other' responses from the 2025 Lawyer Census were provided as options in 2026.

PD10 Please select the main areas of law in which you practice:

- Administrative law
- Banking/finance law
- Civil litigation
- Commercial law
- Conveyancing/real property law
- Corporate law
- Construction law
- Criminal law
- Debts/insolvency law
- Employment/industrial law
- Environmental law
- Family law
- Immigration law
- Information technology/telecommunications law
- Intellectual property law
- Personal injury law
- Planning law/local government
- Small business
- Taxation law
- Trade practices law
- Wills and estates law
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

9. "Economic Activity Survey," Australian Bureau of Statistics, published 2019, <https://www.abs.gov.au/participate-survey/business-survey/economic-activity-survey>

Rationale/justification

Sustainability/exiting the profession is a focal point of other research projects (ongoing) and is important for wellbeing.

PD11 Do you intend to leave the legal profession within the next 5 years?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Sustainability/exiting the profession is a focal point of other research projects (ongoing) and is important for wellbeing.

[If = yes at PD11]

PD12 If you intend to leave the profession within the next 5 years, what is your primary reason for leaving?

- Parental/care duties
- Career change
- Return to study
- Retirement
- Career break
- Health and wellbeing
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question PD13 is designed to gain a better understanding of the reasons contributing to why people are leaving the profession.

Technical

Open text was used to allow for respondents to answer in their own words and avoid exhaustive list of reasons.

Analysis

Responses were thematically coded.

[If = yes at PD11]

PD13 Please tell us more about your intention to leave the profession.

Rationale/justification
Studies in comparable jurisdictions have recently asked lawyers if they would recommend a career as a lawyer.

- PD14 Would you recommend working as a lawyer?**
- Yes
 - No

Rationale/justification
Studies in comparable jurisdictions have recently asked lawyers if they would recommend a career as a lawyer.

Technical
Open text was used to allow for respondents to answer in their own words and avoid exhaustive list of reasons.

Analysis
Responses were thematically coded.

[Ask all]

PD15 Why?

Responding to client needs

This section is about some of the difficulties faced by your clients and how you respond to them.

Rationale/justification

Question CN1 was aimed at measuring some of the legal capability-related issues and variation lawyers see in their clients. It complements legal needs survey research exploring similar issues from the public perspective.

[If = yes at PD6]

CN1 Thinking about your own clients, how often do you observe them to have significant difficulties relating to...

CN1a Knowing what should be done in their situation

CN1b Clearly expressing their situation/needs

CN1c Confidence in taking legal action without professional assistance

CN1d Understanding information/advice you provide

CN1e Following through on your advice

CN1f Preparing written materials (including filling in forms)

CN1g Confidence/agency in dealing with other parties authorities etc

CN1h Accessing digital tools and services

CN1i The cost of taking necessary action

CN1j The time needed to take action (including competing caring responsibilities)

CN1k Mobility

- Very often
- Quite often
- Not often
- Never
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Question CN2 explores organisational responses to variation in the types of internal capabilities identified CN1.

[If = yes at PD6]

CN2 Before, or on first engagement, do you or your organisation do anything to assess whether a new client faces difficulties of the types just described (for example, concerning communication, understanding, decision making and following through on advice)?

- Yes, routinely
- Yes, sometimes
- No
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Question CN3 explores the approaches respondents or their organisations adopt to explore aspects of client legal capability.

[If = yes, routinely or yes, sometimes at CN2]

CN3 Which of the following do you (or your organisation) use to establish whether clients face such difficulties?

- Broad structured intake questions relating to such difficulties
- Questioning relating to particular difficulties
- Digital access/skills check
- Assessment of client written materials/verbal communication
- Informal assessment of needs
- Other (please specify) _____

Rationale/justification

Question CN4 asks about the specific difficulties explored where respondents or their organisations use structured intake questions.

[If = broad structured intake questions regarding such difficulties, or questions regarding particular difficulties at CN3]

CN4 What types of difficulty are asked about in particular?

- Language/communication
- Reading/writing
- Digital
- Planning/follow through
- Client confidence in dealing with other parties/authorities etc
- Time/caring responsibilities
- Mobility/transportation
- Other (please specify) _____

Rationale/justification

Question CN5 asked about practice adaptations where there are perceived capability issues. An open question was asked to allow for exploration into the full range of responses. Further studies could then adopt a closed question based on these responses.

[If = very often or quite often at CN1]

CN5 What changes to your normal practice and/or additional support do you (or your organisation) put in place for clients facing difficulties of the types you mentioned?

[Open text response]

Rationale/justification

The items in CN6 are designed to capture respondent's perceptions on the functionality of the legal system. They follow capability items to move from how respondents address their own clients' difficulties regarding how well the system addresses user needs more broadly.

[Ask all]

CN6 In the area(s) of law in which you work, how well is the legal system functioning to provide users with...

CN6a Affordable/cost proportionate legal advice/assistance

CN6b Good quality legal advice/assistance

CN6c Clear and understandable processes

CN6d Affordable/cost-proportionate issue resolution

CN6e Appropriate protection/support for those who are vulnerable/less capable

CN6f Timely/speedy outcomes

CN6g Fair/appropriate outcomes

CN6h Effective enforcement of negotiated/litigated outcomes

- Very well
- Fairly well
- Not that well
- Not at all well
- Unsure/not applicable

AI in legal practice

The following section explores the use of generative AI by you and your clients.

Rationale/justification

Question AI1 allows for comparison to 2025 Lawyer Census results. Alongside the 2025 data, it provides a baseline on the use of AI within the legal profession. This is used for display logic for the rest of the module.

[Ask all]

AI1 Do you use artificial intelligence (AI) tools in your legal work?

- Yes
- No

Rationale/justification

Question AI2 collects data on the types of AI tool being used over the last 12 months. It allows for comparison to 2025 Lawyer Census results.

[If = yes at AI1]

AI2 Which of the following AI tools or platforms have you used for legal work in the past 12 months? (*Select all that apply.*)

- General-purpose AI tools (such as, ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Microsoft and 365 Copilot)
- Legal-specific AI tools (such as, LEAP AI, Lexia+ AT, Jade Professional, Harvey and CoCounsel)

Rationale/justification

Question AI3 collects data on organisational policies relating to AI use.

[If = yes at AI1]

AI3 Does your organisation specify the tools that you are permitted to use?

- Yes
- No

Rationale/justification

Question AI4 collects data on changes in AI use over the last 12 months.

[If = yes at AI1]

AI4 Compared to 12 months ago, how has your use of AI tools in legal work changed?

- I use AI significantly more
- I use AI somewhat more
- My use has stayed about the same
- I use AI less
- I did not previously use AI

Rationale/justification

Question A15 collects data on the impact of AI on pricing of legal services.

[If = yes at A1]

A15 Has your use of AI tools led to any changes in how your legal services are priced or delivered to clients? (Select all that apply.)

- Enabled offering fixed-fee or capped-fee arrangements for work previously billed by the hour
- Enabled unbundling of services (offering discrete components rather than full-service representation)
- Led to reduced fees for clients
- Enabled taking on work that would previously have been uneconomical
- No changes to pricing or service delivery
- Not applicable to my role

Rationale/justification

Question A16 collects data on the impact of AI on client behaviour and potential changes to the lawyer–client relationship.

[Ask all]

A16 Have you noticed any changes in how clients engage with you that you attribute to their use of AI tools (for example, ChatGPT and websites with AI features). (Select all that apply.)

- Clients are arriving with a better preliminary understanding of their legal issues
- Clients are arriving with inaccurate or misleading information about their legal issues
- Clients are questioning or challenging my advice based on information obtained from AI tools
- Clients are requesting specific legal strategies or documents they have identified through AI
- Clients are attempting to complete legal tasks themselves using AI before seeking professional help
- Clients are presenting AI-generated documents or correspondence that require correction
- I have not noticed any changes attributable to client AI use
- Not applicable/I do not work with clients

Rationale/justification

Question A17 collects data on the impact of AI on the time and effort of service delivery.

[If ≠ not noticed any changes or not applicable at A16]

A17 Overall, how has clients' use of AI tools affected the time and effort required to deliver your services?

- Significantly reduced time/effort
- Somewhat reduced time/effort
- No noticeable effect
- Somewhat increased time/effort
- Significantly increased time/effort

Workplace behavior

The following section explores perceptions and experiences of workplace behaviour. We are interested in understanding how different workplace situations are perceived across the legal profession. Some questions may ask about experiences that could be confronting. Your responses are completely anonymous, solely for research purposes. Please read each scenario carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Rationale/justification

This module was designed to understand the factors that influence labelling of behaviours as sexual harassment, building on the 2025 Lawyer Census findings. Respondents were presented with scenarios in a randomised order, with the variables within each question being randomised too. Scenarios set out to test the impact of perpetrator, the location of the behaviour, and the frequency of behaviour.

Respondents were asked how problematic they believed the behaviour to be, whether they believed the behaviour would constitute sexual harassment, and what they would do if they witnessed the behaviour.

Each respondent was asked to explain why they would act in that way once – depending upon the randomised group they were assigned at the start of the survey.

Scenarios

[The order that scenarios SHSa to SHSf were presented to participants was randomised – variables within brackets were randomised for each scenario]

- SHSa** [A client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] is discussing in detail a sexual encounter from the weekend [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar]. They are speaking loudly enough that everyone present, including you, can hear the explicit conversation. [This happens regularly/once].
- SHSb** [A client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] begins making explicit sexualised jokes [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar] in the presence of several people, including you. [This happens regularly/once].
- SHSc** You are [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar] when you notice [a client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] begins looking at you in a prolonged and intense manner that makes you uncomfortable. [This happens regularly/once].
- SHSd** You are [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar] and notice [a client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] makes a comment to you about your physical appearance that is sexual in nature. [This happens regularly/once].
- SHSe** You are [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar] when [a client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] asks you if you would like to go on a date at the weekend. You are not interested and you decline. [This happens regularly/once].
- SHSf** You are [in a work meeting at the office/at after-work drinks in a bar] when [a client/a peer colleague/a more senior colleague] places their hand on your thigh while you are mid-conversation. [This happens regularly/once].

Follow-up questions

[Asked after every scenario]

- i. **How problematic would you consider this behaviour?**
- Very problematic
 - Quite problematic
 - Not very problematic
 - Not at all problematic
 - Unsure
- ii. **How likely do you think this behaviour would be to constitute sexual harassment in workplace? (under s 93 of the *Equal Opportunity Act 2010* (Vic))**
- Very likely
 - Quite likely
 - Not that likely
 - Not at all likely
 - Unsure
- iii. **How do you think you would respond to this behaviour? I would... (Select all that apply.)**
- Do nothing
 - Speak directly to the person exhibiting the behaviour
 - Remove myself from the situation
 - Report the behaviour
 - Unsure
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - Prefer not to say

[Asked once for one randomly selected scenario from SHSa to SHSf]

- iv. **Why would you respond in this way?**

Sexual harassment

The following questions relate directly to sexual harassment in the workplace, including asking about incidents you may have experienced or witnessed. We suggest answering these questions in a quiet space and taking breaks if you feel as though you need them. Again, your responses will remain anonymous, are solely for research purposes, and you can choose to ‘prefer not to say’.

Rationale/justification

Question SH1 is designed to gain an understanding about the types of sexual harassment that have been experienced and witnessed within the legal profession across the last 12 months.

Technical

Items were retained from the 2025 Lawyer Census.

[Ask all]

- SH1** **In the course of your work, have you ever experienced or witnessed any of the following behaviours, either in person or online?**
- SH1a** Sexually suggestive or offensive comments or jokes
- SH1b** Displayed explicit, sexually suggestive or offensive materials
- SH1c** Inappropriate staring or leering
- SH1d** Attempted to touch you in a way that made you feel uncomfortable
- SH1e** Repeated attempts to establish a sexual and/or romantic relationship where it was unwanted
- SH1f** Attempted to bribe or threaten you to engage in unwanted behaviour, including sharing intimate images
- SH1g** Attempted to or engaged in non-consensual sexual activity
- SH1h** Any other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature
- Experienced
 - Witnessed
 - Neither witnessed nor experienced
 - Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question SH2 is designed to collect data regarding the gender of the perpetrator, which was omitted in the 2025 Lawyer Census.

[If = experienced any at SH1]

- SH2** **Thinking back to the most recent incident you experienced, what was the gender of the person who exhibited the behaviour?**
- Man
 - Woman
 - Non-binary
 - Another term (please specify)
 - Unsure
 - Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question SH3 is designed to continue to collect data on the job role of perpetrators of sexual harassment within the profession.

[If = experienced any at SH1]

SH3 Again thinking back to the most recent incident, what best describes the person who exhibited the behaviour towards you?

- A peer colleague
- A more senior colleague
- A judge or magistrate
- A client
- A barrister
- Someone else (please specify) _____
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question SH4 is designed to continue to collect data as to action/inaction after sexual harassment, which is broader and encapsulates more behaviours than just reporting.

[If = experienced any at SH1]

SH4 How did you respond to this incident? (*Select all that apply.*)

- Did nothing
- Spoke directly to the person exhibiting the behaviour
- Removed myself from the situation
- Reported the behaviour
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question SH4a is designed to continue to collect data as to action/inaction after sexual harassment, which is broader and encapsulates more behaviours than just reporting.

[If = experienced any at SH1]

SH4a Why did you respond in this way?

Rationale/justification

Question SH5 is designed to continue to collect data on reporting patterns.

Technical

Open-ended to allow respondents to provide reasoning in their own words.

[If = reported the behaviour at SH4]

SH5 Who did you report the behaviour to?

Rationale/justification

Question SH6 is designed to continue to collect data as to action/inaction after witnessing sexual harassment, which is broader and encapsulates more behaviours than just reporting.

[If = witnessed any at SH1]

SH6 Thinking back to the most recent incident you witnessed, how did you respond to this incident? (Select all that apply.)

- Did nothing
- Spoke directly to the person exhibiting the behaviour
- Removed myself from the situation
- Reported the behaviour
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Question SH7 is designed to continue to collect data as to action/inaction after witnessing sexual harassment which is broader and encapsulates more behaviours than just reporting.

[If = witnessed any at SH1]

SH7 Why did you respond in this way?

Rationale/justification

Question SH8 is designed to continue to collect data on reporting patterns.

Technical

Open-ended to allow respondents to provide reasoning in their own words.

[If = reported this behaviour at SH6]

SH8 Who did you report the behaviour to?

Wellbeing

This module asks you some questions about your wellbeing and workload. It will provide a better understanding of the health of the legal profession and how it is changing over time. Again, your responses will remain anonymous and you can choose to ‘prefer not to say’.

Rationale/justification

Question WB1 is intended to measure indicative levels of depression, anxiety and overall wellbeing of the profession. It is a short measure that can be included on an annual basis, upon which progress of wellbeing initiatives can be measured.

Technical

PHQ4 was the most appropriate short, validated measure that encapsulates anxiety, depression and overall wellbeing. It has been used in other studies that have measured wellbeing within the legal profession, both within and outside Australia.

Scoring

Answers were scored in line with recognised scoring guidelines for PHQ4. The exact process can be found within the main body of the technical report.

[Ask all]

- WB1 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?**
- WB1a** Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge
- WB1b** Not being able to stop or control worrying
- WB1c** Feeling down, depressed or hopeless
- WB1d** Little interest or pleasure in doing things
- Not at all
 - Several days
 - More than half the days
 - Nearly every day
 - Prefer not to say
- WB2 The following statements are related to your work situation and how you experience this situation. Please state how often each statement applies to you.**
- WB2a** At work, I feel mentally exhausted
- WB2b** I struggle to find any enthusiasm for my work
- WB2c** When I am working, I have trouble concentrating
- WB2d** At work, I may overreact unintentionally
- Never
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Often
 - Always
 - Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

The PWI and the GLS item are standardised measures of subjective wellbeing. Their wording, scoring and administration are specified in the *Personal Wellbeing Index Manual*.¹⁰ GLS is a single item, 'How satisfied are you with your life as a whole?', which sits outside the index. An additional item asking about satisfaction with 'your work/job' was included given the occupational focus of the survey.

WB3 **The following questions ask how satisfied you feel about specific aspects of your life. Please select the number below that best represents how you feel with each item. 0 means you have 'no satisfaction at all' and 10 means you are 'completely satisfied'.**

- Your life as a whole
- Your standard of living
- Your health
- What you are currently achieving in life
- Your personal achievements
- How safe you feel
- Feeling part of your community
- Your future security
- Your job/work

Rationale/justification

Question WB4 asks respondents about the psychological health and wellbeing support available to them in their professional life.

WB4 **To what extent do you agree or disagree that... I have adequate access to support for my psychological health and wellbeing in my professional life.**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Question WB5 captures how respondents see the profession's treatment of wellbeing, as distinct from their own wellbeing, or discrete organisational responses.

WB5 **To what extent do you agree or disagree that... The Victorian legal profession values the wellbeing of its members?**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree¹¹

10. Cummins, *Personal Wellbeing Index Manual*.

11. M. F. Dollard and A. B. Bakker, "Psychosocial Safety Climate as a Precursor to Conducive Work Environments, Psychological Health Problems, and Employee Engagement," *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology* 83, no. 3 (2010): 579–599. <https://doi.org/10.1348/096317909X470690>

Rationale/justification

WB6 questions are designed to capture workplace psychosocial safety climate, and specifically the priority, commitment, communication and participation that workplaces give to psychological health. The items are informed by the psychosocial safety climate framework rather than drawn from an existing scale. In part, this is because a workplace referent was required so that items functioned for sole practitioners and barristers as well (given they often have no conventional management structure).

WB6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your workplace?

- WB6a** In my workplace, the psychological health and wellbeing of staff is treated as a priority.
- WB6b** If a concern about my psychological health and wellbeing were raised in my workplace, I am confident it would be acted upon.
- WB6c** There is good communication in my workplace about matters that affect psychological health and wellbeing.
- WB6d** Staff in my workplace are consulted about matters that affect their psychological health and wellbeing.
- Strongly disagree
 - Disagree
 - Neither agree nor disagree
 - Agree
 - Strongly agree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

WB7 questions measure lawyers exposure to traumatic content, including materials, verbalised account and interactions with those who have experienced and are affected by trauma.

- WB7 The following questions ask about your exposure to potentially traumatic content in your legal work. Potentially traumatic content refers to the details of real or threatened death, serious injury or sexual violence, or the impact of these events. We suggest answering these questions in a quiet space and taking breaks if you feel as though you need them. Again, your responses will remain anonymous, are solely for research purposes, and you can choose to 'prefer not to say'.**
- WB7a** In your current work, how often are you exposed to materials that include potentially traumatic content (for example, case files, email content, evidence briefs, videos and images)?
- Never
 - Rarely (a few times a year)
 - Sometimes (monthly)
 - Often (weekly)
 - Very often (daily or almost daily)

WB7b In your current work, how often are you exposed to potentially traumatic content as verbalised by victims, witnesses, colleagues or third parties (for example, accounts given in court, interacting with clients, debriefing with colleagues, verbal briefings and informal discussions)?

- Never
- Rarely (a few times a year)
- Sometimes (monthly)
- Often (weekly)
- Very often (daily or almost daily)

WB7c In your current work, how often do you interact with people who have been impacted by traumatic events and who are distressed, aggressive or challenging to communicate with?

- Never
- Rarely (a few times a year)
- Sometimes (monthly)
- Often (weekly)
- Very often (daily or almost daily)

[If ≠ never at WB7a, WB7b or WB7c]

WB8 Does your workplace have formal policies or procedures for supporting staff who work with traumatic content?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Question WB9 captures perceived effectiveness of organisational responses to exposure to traumatic content.

WB9 How would you rate your organisation's overall approach to managing exposure to traumatic content as a workplace risk?

- Very effective
- Mostly effective
- Somewhat effective
- Not very effective
- Not at all effective
- Unsure/not applicable

Professional boundaries

The following questions ask you about your capability to maintain professional boundaries in your work. For each statement, please indicate your level of agreement.

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB1 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning professional independence.

PB1 Professional independence

I find it easy to...

- PB1a** Exercise my judgment free from external influences, including economic and career considerations
- PB1b** Resist placing client preferences/needs over professional obligations
- PB1c** Provide candid advice, even when it is unwelcome
- PB1d** Seek ethical guidance/clarification when conflicts of interest may arise
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB2 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning professional communication under social pressure.

PB2 Professional communication under social pressure

I find it easy to...

- PB2a** Navigate conversations about work in social settings
- PB2b** Decline/redirect requests for professional advice in social settings
- PB2c** Pause or move a professional conversation when the setting isn't appropriate
- PB2d** Manage what I share about client matters with colleagues, even in a collaborative work environment
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB3 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning access and availability.

PB3 Access and availability boundaries

I find it easy to...

- PB3a** Set clear expectations about my availability and response times
- PB3b** Set clear boundaries about which communication channels I will use professionally
- PB3c** Keep professional and personal spaces separate
- PB3d** Maintain boundaries when clients contact me through personal channels or outside agreed arrangements
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB4 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning role clarity.

PB4 Role clarity

I find it easy to...

- PB4a** Identify if personal relationships may impact my role as a professional
- PB4b** Maintain boundaries when working with clients from my own community
- PB4c** Clarify roles and responsibilities in all my professional relationships
- PB4d** Set clear expectations about the scope and duration of professional relationships
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB5 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning emotional boundaries.

PB5 Emotional boundaries

I find it easy to...

PB5a Maintain emotional distance from my work

PB5b Identify when my work is becoming emotionally exhausting

PB5c 'Switch off' from work matters when I finish work

PB5d Emotionally recover after difficult professional interactions

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB6 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning commercial and material pressure.

PB6 Commercial and material pressure

I find it easy to...

PB6a Maintain professional practice when a client offers gifts or benefits

PB6b Maintain standard billing practices in the face of internal or client pressure

PB6c Recognise when favours from a client may create expectations about how I act

PB6d Maintain professionalism when a client implies that financial incentives could be available

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB7 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning boundary assertion and enforcement.

PB7 Boundary assertion and enforcement

I find it easy to...

- PB7a** Confidently address situations where others act unprofessionally, including senior colleagues or those in positions of authority
- PB7b** End professional relationships if boundaries are crossed
- PB7c** Decline requests or tasks when accepting them could compromise my professional boundaries
- PB7d** Maintain professional boundaries even when others are confrontational or provocative
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

The 4 items in PB8 explore the ease with which respondents maintained professional boundaries concerning boundary risk assessment.

PB8 Boundary risk assessment

I find it easy to...

- PB8a** Consider potential boundary risks before entering new professional relationships or agreeing new work
- PB8b** Recognise situations where my professional boundaries are at higher risk
- PB8c** Withdraw from work if my boundary risks are high
- PB8d** Put safeguards in place if I identify a boundary risk
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Items in PB9 capture how often respondents faced boundary challenges in the past 12 months, mirroring the broad domains explored in PB1 to PB8.

- PB9** **In the past 12 months, how often have you experienced...**
- PB9a** Pressure to compromise professional independence
- PB9b** Difficulty maintaining role clarity
- PB9c** Requests for advice in social/appropriate settings
- PB9d** Challenges managing emotional distance
- PB9e** Difficulty enforcing when boundaries are challenged
- PB9f** Difficulty managing boundaries with colleagues/professionals
- PB9g** Situations where boundaries were at risk
- Very frequently
 - Frequently
 - Not very frequently
 - Never
 - Not applicable

Rationale/justification

Question PB10 measures the extent to which respondents' workplaces support them in maintaining professional boundaries.

- PB10** **To what extent does your workplace support you in maintaining professional boundaries?**
- To a very great extent
 - To a good extent
 - To some extent
 - Not at all
 - Not applicable

Personal demographics

This section asks you some final questions that relate to your personal characteristics. Again, this is to help us better understand how different characteristics relate to people's experience within the legal profession. Any responses you provide will be anonymous and you can 'prefer not to say'.

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on sexual orientation allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

ABS 2024 categories are used.

ID4 How would you describe your sexual orientation?

- Straight (heterosexual)
- Gay or lesbian
- Bisexual
- Another term (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on relationship status allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

A variation of ABS census categories is used.

ID5 How would you describe your relationship status?

- Married
- Single
- De facto
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on dependent children allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

Age is given to differentiate between those who have adult and likely non-dependent children.

ID6 Do you have children under the age of 18?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on other caring responsibilities allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

Question ID7 is differentiated from dependent children to allow for multi-variate analysis across different types of caring responsibility.

ID7 Do you provide day-to-day care for anyone (such as disabled or elderly family members)?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on ethnicity and race allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

ABS question used.

ID8 In which country were you born?

- Australia
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on ethnicity and race allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

ABS question used.

ID9 Which language do you mainly speak at home?

- English
- Mandarin
- Arabic
- Cantonese
- Vietnamese
- Italian
- Greek
- Hindi
- Spanish
- Punjabi
- Other (please specify) _____
- Prefer not to say¹²

12. “The Public Understanding of Law Survey,” The Victoria Law Foundation, <https://www.victorialawfoundation.org.au/research-projects/the-public-understanding-of-law-survey>

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on disability allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

A question from the Public Understanding of Law Survey (PULS) was used.

ID10 Do you have a long-term health condition (physical or mental), impairment or disability that restricts you in your everyday activities, and has lasted or is likely to last, for 6 months or more?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Rationale/justification

Collecting data on disability allows for multi-variate analysis across modules.

Technical

A question from PULS was used.

[If = yes at ID10]

ID11 During the last 12 months, how much did your condition restrict your daily activities, such as communication, mobility or self-care?

- Not at all
- Mildly
- Moderately
- Severely
- Extremely
- Prefer not to say

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Level 27, 500 Bourke Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

GPO Box 492
Melbourne Victoria 3001