

Number of practising solicitors having Higher Rights of Audience

Higher Rights of Audience is a qualification that allows a solicitor to act as an advocate in the higher courts in England and Wales. Solicitors can become qualified to represent clients in the criminal courts, civil courts or both.

The Solicitors' Higher Rights of Audience Regulations 2010 came into effect on 1 April 2010. They replace the Higher Courts Qualification Regulations 2000. The new regulations mean that there is now just one route to qualification in either civil or criminal proceedings. Solicitors who had already gained rights of audience qualifications under the previous regulations have been automatically passported onto the new scheme and retain their existing rights of audience.

The table below shows the number of practising solicitors that hold a Higher Rights of Audience qualification.

Date(s)	Civil Only	Criminal Only	Both	Total
April 2025	2,924 (41%)	2,822 (40%)	1,323 (19%)	7,069
March 2025	2,902 (41%)	2,819 (40%)	1,319 (19%)	7,040
February 2025	2,890 (41%)	2,810 (40%)	1,315 (19%)	7,015
January 2025	2,876 (41%)	2,806 (40%)	1,313 (19%)	6,995
December 2024	2,851 (41%)	2,790 (40%)	1,310 (19%)	6,951
November 2024	2,895 (41%)	2,863 (40%)	1,339 (19%)	7,097
October 2024	2,922 (41%)	2,897 (40%)	1,357 (19%)	7,176
September 2024	2,907 (41%)	2,889 (40%)	1,351 (19%)	7,147
August 2024	2,905 (41%)	2,889 (40%)	1,348 (19%)	7,142
July 2024	2,886 (40%)	2,883 (41%)	1,346 (19%)	7,115
June 2024	2,875 (40%)	2,881 (41%)	1,345 (19%)	7,101
May 2024	2,858 (40%)	2,875 (41%)	1,343 (19%)	7,076



April 2024	2,851 (40%)	2,871 (41%)	1,339 (19%)	7,061
March 2024	2,837 (40%)	2,863 (41%)	1,338 (19%)	7,038
February 2024	2,822 (40%)	2,863 (41%)	1,333 (19%)	7,018
January 2024	2,800 (40%)	2,861 (41%)	1,332 (19%)	6,993
December 2023	2,789 (40%)	2,861 (41%)	1,319 (19%)	6,969
November 2023	2,838 (40%)	2,930 (41%)	1,346 (19%)	7,114
October 2023	2,851 (40%)	2,967 (41%)	1,353 (19%)	7,171
September 2023	2,843 (40%)	2,963 (41%)	1,351 (19%)	7,157
August 2023	2,832 (40%)	2,959 (41%)	1,350 (19%)	7,141
July 2023	2,825 (40%)	2,960 (41%)	1,349 (19%)	7,134
June 2023	2,798 (39%)	2,954 (42%)	1,348 (19%)	7,100
May 2023	2,782 (39%)	2,948 (42%)	1,344 (19%)	7,074
Apr 2023	2,773 (39%)	2,945 (42%)	1,344 (19%)	7,062
Mar 2023	2,802 (39%)	2,965 (42%)	1,351 (19%)	7,118
Feb 2023	2,775 (39%)	2,954 (42%)	1,347 (19%)	7,076
Jan 2023	2,764 (39%)	2,943 (42%)	1,344 (19%)	7,051
Dec 2022	2,741 (39%)	2,933 (42%)	1,338 (19%)	7,012
Nov 2022	2,798 (39%)	3,002 (42%)	1,374 (19%)	7,174
Oct 2022	2,804 (39%)	3,017 (42%)	1,388 (19%)	7,209
Sep 2022	2,783 (39%)	3,010 (42%)	1,389 (19%)	7,182
Aug 2022	2,769 (39%)	3,002 (42%)	1,386 (19%)	7,157
Jul 2022	2,749 (39%)	3,004 (42%)	1,387 (19%)	7,140



Jun 2022	2,742 (38%)	3,003 (42%)	1,388 (19%)	7,133
May 2022	2,729 (38%)	2,999 (42%)	1,385 (19%)	7,113
Apr 2022	2,715 (38%)	2,988 (42%)	1,382 (20%)	7,085
Mar 2022	2,695 (38%)	2,982 (42%)	1,382 (20%)	7,059
Feb 2022	2,677 (38%)	2,982 (42%)	1,378 (20%)	7,037
Jan 2022	2,714 (38%)	3,049 (43%)	1,392 (19%)	7,155
Dec 2021	2,700 (38%)	3,048 (43%)	1,390 (19%)	7,138
Nov 2021	2,708 (38%)	3,061 (43%)	1,392 (19%)	7,161
Oct 2021	2,714 (38%)	3,087 (43%)	1,408 (20%)	7,209
Sep 2021	2,694 (38%)	3,082 (43%)	1,403 (20%)	7,179
Aug 2021	2,667 (37%)	3,075 (43%)	1,402 (20%)	7,144
Jul 2021	2,644 (37%)	3,072 (43%)	1,400 (20%)	7,116
Jun 2021	2,635 (37%)	3,067 (43%)	1,397 (20%)	7,099
May 2021	2,611 (37%)	3,058 (43%)	1,393 (20%)	7,062
Apr 2021	2,599 (37%)	3,053 (44%)	1,385 (20%)	7,037
Mar 2021	2,591 (37%)	3,097 (44%)	1,407 (20%)	7,095
Feb 2021	2,564 (36%)	3,098 (44%)	1,410 (20%)	7,072
Jan 2021	2,564 (36%)	3,098 (44%)	1,407 (20%)	7,069
Dec 2020	2,536 (36%)	3,140 (44%)	1,433 (20%)	7,109
Nov 2020	2,551 (36%)	3,171 (44%)	1,446 (20%)	7,168
Oct 2020	2,533 (35%)	3,160 (44%)	1,444 (20%)	7,137
Sep 2020	2,509 (35%)	3,141 (44%)	1,440 (20%)	7,090



Aug 2020	2,505 (35%)	3,152 (44%)	1,441 (20%)	7,098
July 2020	2,481 (35%)	3,153 (45%)	1,440 (20%)	7,074
June 2020	2,450 (35%)	3,085 (45%)	1,393 (20%)	6,928
May 2020	2,432 (35%)	3,079 (45%)	1,393 (20%)	6,904
April 2020	2,425 (35%)	3,077 (45%)	1,391 (20%)	6,893
March 2020	2,415 (35%)	3,075 (45%)	1,390 (20%)	6,880
February 2020	2,404 (35%)	3,068 (45%)	1,388 (20%)	6,860
January 2020	2,384 (35%)	3,062 (45%)	1,382 (20%)	6,828
December 2019	2,374 (35%)	3,059 (45%)	1,380 (20%)	6,813
November 2019	2,407 (35%)	3,115 (45%)	1,412 (20%)	6,934
October 2019	2,439 (35%)	3,153 (45%)	1,417 (20%)	7,009
September 2019	2,408 (35%)	3,137 (45%)	1,419 (20%)	6,964
August 2019	2,373 (34%)	3,130 (45%)	1,419 (20%)	6,964
July 2019	2,372 (34%)	3,129 (45%)	1,417 (20%)	6,918
June 2019	2,367 (34%)	3,126 (45%)	1,414 (20%)	6,907
May 2019	2,359 (34%)	3,121 (45%)	1,414 (21%)	6,894
April 2019	2,320 (34%)	3,116 (45%)	1,413 (21%)	6,849
February 2019	2,279 (34%)	3,110 (46%)	1,412 (21%)	6,801
January 2019	2,264 (33%)	3,105 (46%)	1,409 (21%)	6,778
December 2018	2,244 (33%)	3,113 (46%)	1,407 (21%)	6,764
November 2018	2,262 (33%)	3,182 (46%)	1,429 (21%)	6,873
October 2018	2,279 (33%)	3,200 (46%)	1,437 (21%)	6,916

September2018	2,254 (33%)	3,193 (46%)	1,436 (21%)	6,883
August2018	2,253 (33%)	3,189 (46%)	1,438 (21%)	6,880
July2018	2,221 (32%)	3,185 (47%)	1,436 (21%)	6,842
June2018	2,211 (32%)	3,173 (47%)	1,436 (21%)	6,820
May2018	2,193 (32%)	3,164 (47%)	1,435 (21%)	6,792
April2018	2,172 (32%)	3,164 (47%)	1,437 (21%)	6,773
March2018	2,151 (32%)	3,163 (47%)	1,434 (21%)	6,748
February2018	2,125 (32%)	3,156 (47%)	1,432 (21%)	6,713
January2018	2,106 (31%)	3,148 (47%)	1,432 (21%)	6,686
December2017	2,096 (31%)	3,173 (47%)	1,432 (21%)	6,701
November2017	2,118 (31%)	3,237 (48%)	1,456 (21%)	6,811
October2017	2,131 (31%)	3,272 (48%)	1,464 (21%)	6,867
September2017	2,099 (31%)	3,261 (48%)	1,463 (21%)	6,823
August2017	2,090 (31%)	3,262 (48%)	1,464 (21%)	6,816
July2017	2,077 (31%)	3,262 (48%)	1,462 (21%)	6,801
June2017	2,058 (30%)	3,256 (48%)	1,462 (22%)	6,776
May2017	2,046 (30%)	3,250 (48%)	1,464 (22%)	6,760
April2017	2,024 (30%)	3,240 (48%)	1,460 (22%)	6,724
March2017	1,999 (30%)	3,234 (48%)	1,457 (22%)	6,690
February2017	1,986 (30%)	3,230 (48%)	1,451 (22%)	6,667
January2017	1,956 (30%)	3,219 (49%)	1,450 (22%)	6,625
December2016	1,937 (29%)	3,202 (49%)	1,444 (22%)	6,583

November2016	1,947 (29%)	3,265 (49%)	1,468 (22%)	6,680
October2016	1,947 (29%)	3,305 (49%)	1,483 (22%)	6,735
September2016	1,938 (29%)	3,312 (49%)	1,487 (22%)	6,737
August2016	1,928 (29%)	3,306 (49%)	1,484 (22%)	6,718
July2016	1,910 (29%)	3,299 (49%)	1,484 (22%)	6,693
June2016	1,897 (28%)	3,289 (49%)	1,485 (22%)	6,671
May2016	1,873 (28%)	3,280 (49%)	1,484 (22%)	6,637
April2016	1,847 (28%)	3,276 (50%)	1,482 (22%)	6,605
March2016	1,834 (28%)	3,271 (50%)	1,480 (22%)	6,585
February2016	1,820 (28%)	3,274 (50%)	1,483 (23%)	6,577
January2016	1,805 (28%)	3,261 (50%)	1,479 (23%)	6,545
December2015	1,793 (27%)	3,254 (50%)	1,482 (23%)	6,529
November2015	1,815 (27%)	3,366 (50%)	1,531 (23%)	6,712
October2015	1,797 (27%)	3,363 (50%)	1,528 (23%)	6,688
September2015	1,787 (27%)	3,356 (50%)	1,530 (23%)	6,673
August2015	1,769 (27%)	3,350 (50%)	1,532 (23%)	6,651
July2015	1,742 (26%)	3,341 (51%)	1,527 (23%)	6,610
June2015	1,725 (26%)	3,335 (51%)	1,529 (23%)	6,589
May2015	1,709 (26%)	3,328 (51%)	1,523 (23%)	6,560
April2015	1,704 (26%)	3,318 (51%)	1,519 (23%)	6,541
March2015	1,693 (26%)	3,309 (51%)	1,514 (23%)	6,516
February2015	1,664 (26%)	3,304 (51%)	1,511 (23%)	6,479



January2015	1,641 (25%)	3,296 (51%)	1,507 (23%)	6,444
December2014	1,622 (25%)	3,282 (51%)	1,504 (23%)	6,408
November2014	1,624 (25%)	3,350 (51%)	1,540 (24%)	6,514
October2014	1,613 (25%)	3,372 (52%)	1,556 (24%)	6,541
September2014	1,601 (25%)	3,373 (52%)	1,558 (24%)	6,532
August2014	1,585 (24%)	3,361 (52%)	1,550 (24%)	6,496
July2014	1,569 (24%)	3,352 (52%)	1,551 (24%)	6,472
June2014	1,541 (24%)	3,342 (52%)	1,543 (24%)	6,426
May2014	1,532 (24%)	3,323 (52%)	1,541 (24%)	6,396
April2014	1,510 (24%)	3,310 (52%)	1,539 (24%)	6,359
March2014	1,496 (24%)	3,300 (52%)	1,540 (24%)	6,336
February2014	1,469 (23%)	3,284 (52%)	1,531 (24%)	6,284
January2014	1,472 (23%)	3,334 (52%)	1,562 (25%)	6,368
December2013	1,470 (23%)	3,342 (52%)	1,572 (25%)	6,384
November2013	1,458 (23%)	3,340 (52%)	1,571 (25%)	6,369
October2013	1,444 (23%)	3,352 (53%)	1,575 (25%)	6,371
September2013	1,422 (22%)	3,345 (53%)	1,577 (25%)	6,344
August2013	1,412 (22%)	3,337 (53%)	1,575 (25%)	6,324
July2013	1,392 (22%)	3,330 (53%)	1,573 (25%)	6,295
June2013	1,380 (22%)	3,320 (53%)	1,565 (25%)	6,265
May2013	1,357 (22%)	3,305 (53%)	1,560 (25%)	6,222
April2013	1,345 (22%)	3,292 (53%)	1,560 (25%)	6,197

March2013	1,315 (21%)	3,281 (53%)	1,556 (25%)	6,152
February2013	1,334 (21%)	3,332 (53%)	1,589 (25%)	6,255
January2013	1,327 (21%)	3,334 (53%)	1,592 (25%)	6,253
December2012	1,310 (21%)	3,321 (53%)	1,591 (26%)	6,222
November2012	1,302 (21%)	3,316 (53%)	1,594 (26%)	6,212
October2012	1,287 (21%)	3,303 (53%)	1,584 (26%)	6,174
September2012	1,275 (21%)	3,298 (54%)	1,585 (26%)	6,158
August2012	1,249 (20%)	3,285 (54%)	1,582 (26%)	6,116
July2012	1,250 (20%)	3,324 (54%)	1,626 (26%)	6,200
June2012	1,232 (20%)	3,321 (54%)	1,623 (26%)	6,176
May2012	1,208 (20%)	3,300 (54%)	1,621 (26%)	6,129
April2012	1,173 (19%)	3,276 (54%)	1,576 (26%)	6,025
March2012	1,159 (19%)	3,255 (54%)	1,562 (26%)	5,976
February2012	1,144 (19%)	3,239 (55%)	1,550 (26%)	5,933
January2012	1,102 (19%)	3,201 (55%)	1,526 (26%)	5,829
December2011	1,088 (19%)	3,188 (55%)	1,511 (26%)	5,787
November2011	1,078 (19%)	3,177 (55%)	1,508 (26%)	5,763
October2011	1,067 (19%)	3,148 (55%)	1,478 (26%)	5,693
September2011	1,061 (19%)	3,145 (55%)	1,489 (26%)	5,695