# Average Attorney Salary Might Surprise New Lawyers (And Judges' Average Earnings Are Even Lower)

An **Above the Law** contributor takes a look at a Bureau of Labor Statistics report and finds that the estimated mean annual wage for lawyers is a respectable $144,230.

Jonathan Wolf points out that while $144,000 a year doesn't even scratch the bottom of the Milbank/Simpson/Cravath scale, it's still "more than enough to live a comfortable life and have a reasonable shot at paying off your student loan debt."

He breaks down the numbers by median annual wage (lower than mean annual) and shows the range from the 10th percentile to the 75th percentile.

He also looks at judges' wages, which tend to be lower than other attorneys'.

**Read the Above the Law article**.