

# BOUTIQUE LAW FIRMS: STRONG SALARY GROWTH BUT POOR SATISFACTION RATES

The micro and boutique sector saw the sharpest salary growth in 2025. Despite this progress, they remain the lowest-paid legal professionals overall.

While bonuses are climbing, structured reviews and benefits are minimal. Salary satisfaction levels are also the lowest in this sector.

## 2025

| KEY INSIGHTS                                      | 2025     |
|---|----------|
| Average salary                                    | \$97,253 |
| Proportion eligible for bonuses                   | 29%      |
| Received a promotion or pay rise (past 1-2 years) | 59%      |
| Discussion around education/training needs        | 12%      |
| Satisfaction with current salary                  | 34%      |

## Key insights

- 💡 Strong salary growth
- 💡 Moderate rates of raises or promotion
- 💡 Lowest level of salary satisfaction

## How does your sector compare?

| Organisation type    | Salary growth | Bonus opportunity | Career progression | Salary satisfaction |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Corporate            | Steady        | Strong            | Strong             | Highest             |
| Law firms            | Modest        | Slight            | Slight             | Moderate            |
| Government agencies  | Strong        | Small             | Strong             | Moderate            |
| NFP/CLCs             | Strong        | Minimal           | Strong             | Moderate            |
| Micro/boutique firms | Strongest     | Strong            | Moderate           | Lowest              |

## Want deeper insights?

Download today your copy of the 2025 Australian Legal Salary Survey Report to uncover the latest trends shaping salaries, bonuses, and benefits across the legal profession.

