International Legal Generative AI Report
Detailed Survey Findings
August 22, 2023
Executive Summary
LexisNexis Legal & Professional®, a leading global provider of information and analytics, conducted a survey across 7,950 people, including 3,752 lawyers, 1,239 law students, and 2,959 consumers in the US, UK, France, and Canada between March and July 2023. Surveys were conducted in English and French via the Forsta survey platform.

Despite the public launch of ChatGPT only a few months before the survey, nearly all lawyers surveyed are aware of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT (89%), and two in five have used them for any purpose (41%).

Lawyers have become aware of generative AI at a much higher rate than the general public; only 61% of consumers have heard of generative AI, but their usage is similar.

Among lawyers, the use of generative AI specifically for legal purposes is currently low (15%). However, 43% either currently use or plan to use generative AI in their legal work. 77% believe generative AI tools will increase the efficiency of lawyers, paralegals, or law clerks.

It's not just the practice of law, 63% of lawyers also believe generative AI will change the way law is taught and studied.
About half of all lawyers believe generative AI tools will significantly transform the practice of law (47% significant or transformative impact), and nearly all believe it will have at least some impact (92%).

While there are concerns about the ethical implications of this technology, the legal community’s sentiment toward generative AI is neutral and cautious, with many still exploring its potential applications.

Most lawyers can see the positive potential for generative AI in the legal market (77% positive or mixed). However, the most common sentiment across all regions was mixed.

Additionally, nearly all lawyers expressed at least some concerns about the ethical implications of generative AI on the practice of law (88%), with a third citing significant or fundamental concerns. These concerns underscore the need for trusted providers of generative AI tools in the legal market.

As this technology continues to evolve and gain acceptance, it will be important for legal professionals to stay informed and engage in ongoing discussions about the ethical considerations and best practices surrounding its use in the legal industry.
International Legal Generative AI Report | Findings
Nearly all lawyers are aware of generative AI (89%), and two in five have used it for any purpose (41%).

Awareness among the general population (consumers) is significantly lower than the legal population (61%) but their usage of generative AI is similar.

The use of generative AI specifically for legal purposes is currently low (15%). However, 43% either currently use or plan to use generative AI in their work.

Canadian and French lawyers have tried generative AI more than US/UK lawyers, while UK lawyers have used it for legal purposes less often than other regions.
Among lawyers who have used generative AI for legal purposes, research is the primary use case.

Generative AI is also popular as a tool to help lawyers with their writing, with nearly half using it for drafting documents and 2 in 5 using it to assist with writing emails.

Canadian lawyers have seen the benefit of using generative AI for writing emails more than other regions.
Most lawyers see potential for generative AI in researching matters (65%), especially those in France (77%).

More tactically, there’s an appetite to use generative AI for drafting documents (56%) and document analysis (44%). Again, the French see more potential for the use of AI in document analysis than their North American counterparts.

### Most Potential for Generative AI in Legal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>CANADA</th>
<th>FRANCE</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Researching matters</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafting documents</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document analysis</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing emails</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducting due diligence</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding new legal concepts</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing litigation strategies</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None / See no potential</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures in this slide are based to respondents who are aware of generative AI.
About half of all lawyers believe generative AI tools will significantly transform the practice of law (47% significant or transformative impact), with nearly all believing it will have at least some impact (92%).

French lawyers anticipate generative AI will have significant impact more than other regions.

Most lawyers believe generative AI will improve efficiency in their profession (77%), with UK lawyers seeing significantly less opportunity for efficiency than other regions.

Note: Figures in this slide are based to respondents who are aware of generative AI.
The majority of lawyers in all markets see positive potential for generative AI in the legal profession (77% positive or mixed), with UK lawyers most positive and French lawyers most hesitant.

However, the most common sentiment across all regions was mixed, with respondents admitting they can see both positive and negative potential outcomes.

A very high percentage of lawyers (88%) have at least some concerns about the ethical implications of generative AI on the practice of law, with a third citing significant or fundamental concerns regarding ethical implications. These concerns underscore the need for trusted providers of generative AI tools in the legal market.

Note: Figures in this slide are based to respondents who are aware of generative AI.
# Reasons for lawyers’ sentiment toward generative AI include:

| The benefits of accessibility, efficiency, cost-savings, and convenience | “Speed and efficiency for research and routine writing are the biggest areas of potential.” (US)  
“Cela peut accélérer le temps de recherche, de stratégie et de traitement de dossiers.” [This can speed up case search, strategy, and processing time.] (France) |
|---|---|
| Enables more time for higher value work - skills like analysis and counselling | “It can assume the task of mundane, time-intensive activities and allow lawyers to spend their time on other matters.” (Canada)  
“Gain de temps pour se concentrer sur les activités à forte valeur ajoutée” [Save time to focus on high value-added activities] (France) |
| There is a desire for human oversight, expertise, and nuance, and generative AI used as a tool to assist human lawyers, not replace them. | “Some things in the law are too nuanced for AI to do as effective a job as a human.” (US)  
“It feels risky if decisions are made and documents are prepared without human oversight, but I can see it has potential” (UK) |
| Concerns about job loss are frequently mentioned, especially for junior lawyers. | “I think this might take a lot of lawyers’ jobs away in the 3-7 years...especially transactional attorneys.” (US)  
“It could take away a lot of jobs but not necessarily for the better as some businesses seek to improve margin at the expense of people and culture.” (UK) |
| Concerns about quality, accuracy, and reliability of the technology | “ChatGPT’s tendency to hallucinate is so bad as to be comical. In the short term, these things will be problematic. In the longer term, I can see lawyers being significantly helped by LLMs and other generative text models.” (UK)  
“Accuracy issues and potential malpractice concerns.” (US) |
| Call for regulation and guidance to ensure generative AI is used appropriately and ethically in legal services. | “It has great potential but like all new technology the key is going to be monitoring its development and ensuring that regulations governing its use keep pace.” (UK)  
“I have concerns about the limits of using AI in practice, and the implications it has for perpetuating biases and protecting privacy.” (Canada) |
Overall, almost two-thirds of lawyers surveyed (60%) do not anticipate generative AI changing the relationship between law firms and in-house counsel. However, more than half of French lawyers believe it will change the relationship, significantly more than other regions.

Both in-house counsel and law firms expect that firms will both use and disclose the use of generative AI.

However, in-house counsel have higher expectations than law firms regarding the use and disclosure of generative AI than the law firms themselves.

The biggest difference is noted around the expectation that law firms will give their clients a choice regarding the use of generative AI, with only 45% of law firms expecting to offer a choice, while 65% of in-house counsel expects to receive a choice.
The majority of lawyers across all regions expect generative AI to change the way law is taught and studied. Reasons for these expectations included:

**Changes to curriculum, including how to effectively use AI for research and writing, and an increased focus on analysis, reasoning, and creativity**

- "I imagine it will need to be folded into the curriculum in some fashion, particularly with ethics." (UK)
- "The job of a lawyer in the real world is going to be impacted by AI—whether predictive AI or generative AI—in some capacity. The examination of law students therefore has to change to reflect the reality of the changing professional landscape. Prompt engineering is a major skill that needs to be embedded into education." (Canada)

**Changes to assignments and exams to prevent cheating, including less take-home work and more closed-book tests**

- "Greater reliance on in-person exams will be required. ‘Course work’ may have been developed using generative AI and thus could not be trusted to be by the student." (UK)
- "As it is now possible for AI to write papers, arguments, etc. I believe that there will be a shift towards oral exams/presentations or live test-based assessments when it comes to grading." (Canada)

**Threat to development of students’ critical thinking, analysis and research skills if over-relying on AI**

- "It is already an issue at Universities […] There is a difference between understanding the law and understanding how to use a computer to get an answer." (UK)
- "Legal education should focus on honing the critical thinking, judgement, and thoughtful analysis that generative AI is not (yet) capable of. The fact that generative AI could write and pass the Ontario Bar exam speaks to the need to redesign our evaluations" (Canada)

**Academic integrity concerns that AI will make plagiarism and cheating easier, requiring policy changes**

- "La ‘triche’ se complexifie avec l’IA. Il est très simple pour un étudiant de générer une dissertation via l’IA." [The ‘cheating’ gets more complex with AI. It is very simple for a student to generate a dissertation via AI.] (France)
- "Steps will need to be taken so that students do not have the AI completing their assignments." (US)

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International Legal Generative AI Report | Survey Question Wording

Awareness
• Have you heard of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT?

Ever Used
• Have you ever used generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) personally or professionally?

Current Use
• Are you currently using generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) in your work?

Plan to Use
• Do you plan to use generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) in your work?

How Using
• How are you using generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) in your work? Select all that apply.

Potential for Use
• Where do you see the most potential to use generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) in your work? Select all that apply.

Impact
• What impact will generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) have on the practice of law?

Sentiment Toward AI
• How do you feel about the impact of generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) on the practice of law?

Ethics
• Are you concerned about the ethical implications of generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) on the practice of law?

Increase Efficiency
• Do you believe generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT) will increase the efficiency of lawyers, paralegals, or law clerks?

Change Law Schools
• Will generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) change law schools and the way law is taught and studied?

Change Corp Counsel Relationship
• Will generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) change the relationship between in-house counsel and their outside firms?

How Will In-House Relationship Change (Law Firms only)
• Thinking about your corporate clients, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
  • I think clients will expect my firm to use cutting-edge technology, including generative AI tools
  • I think clients will expect to be made aware of any generative AI tools which my firm uses
  • I think clients will expect my firm to give them a choice regarding the use of generative AI tools
  • I do not think my clients will want my firm to use generative AI tools

How Will In-House Relationship Change (Corporate only)
• To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
  • I expect the law firms I work with will use cutting-edge technology, including generative AI tools
  • I expect to be made aware of the use of generative AI tools by the law firms with which I work
  • I expect the law firms I work with to give me a choice regarding the use of generative AI tools
  • I do not want law firms I work with using generative AI tools