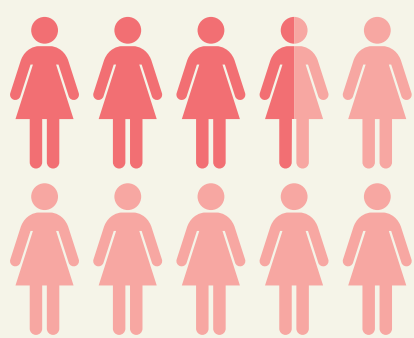


JURISDICTIONS SURVEYED

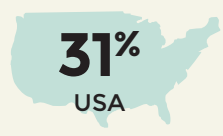
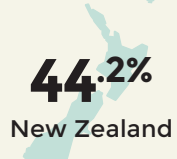
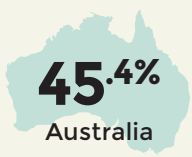
# WOMEN IN LAW IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

WOMEN IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION



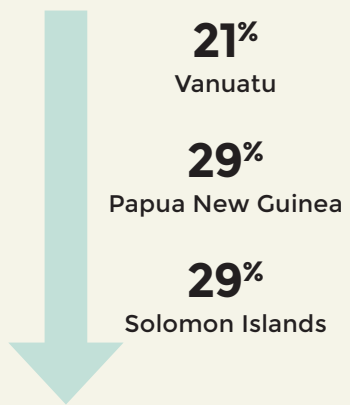
**34%**

of the legal profession are female (39% excl. Papua New Guinea), compared with:

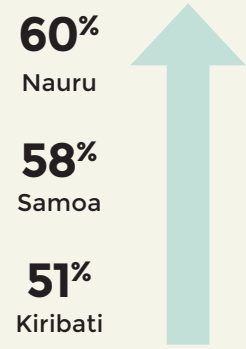


The South Pacific Lawyers' Association (SPLA) has compiled demographic data on women in law in the South Pacific with a view to facilitating statistical comparisons between surveyed countries and reference countries and to assist in identifying potential areas of gender based discrimination in the law.

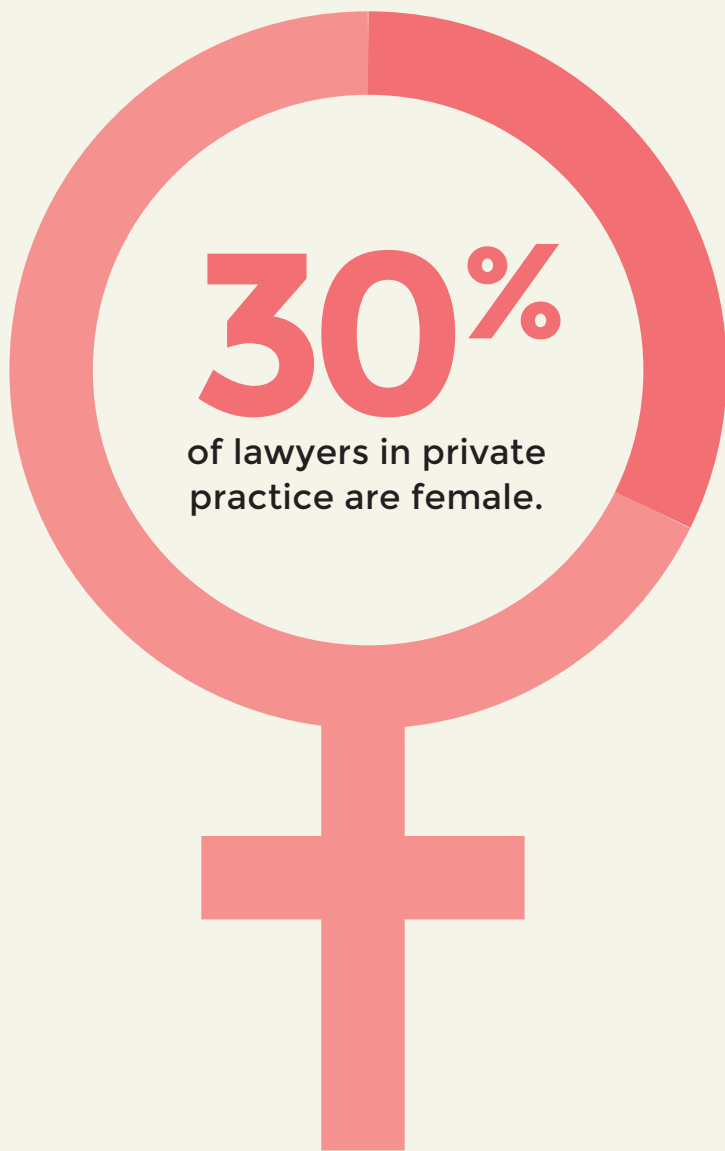
Jurisdictions with some of the **fewest** female lawyers:



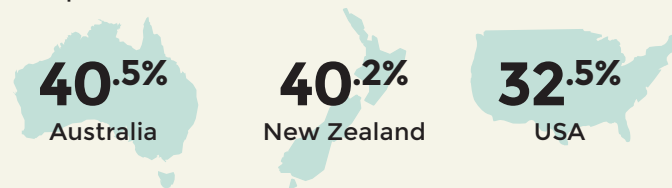
Jurisdictions with the **highest** percentage of female lawyers:



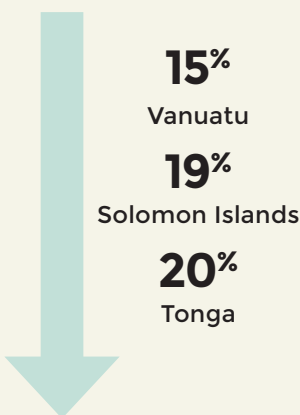
## WOMEN IN PRIVATE PRACTICE



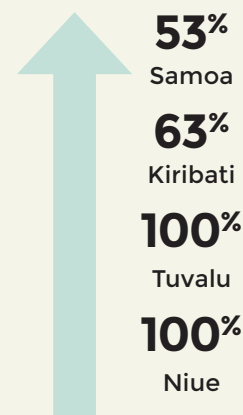
Excluding Papua New Guinea, women account for approximately **31%** of all lawyers in private practice, compared with:



Jurisdictions with the **smallest** percentage of female lawyers in private practice:



Jurisdictions with the **highest** percentage of female lawyers in private practice:



## WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT / IN-HOUSE LEGAL ROLES



**44%** of all lawyers employed in Government / in-house roles, compared with:



Papua New Guinea and the Cook Islands are the only jurisdictions in which there are more women in private practice than in government / in-house positions. In all other respondent jurisdictions there are significantly more women employed in government / in-house practice than in private practice.

Excluding Papua New Guinea, women account for approximately **57%** of all lawyers employed in Government / in-house roles in respondent jurisdictions.

## THE JUDICIARY

**26** female judges and magistrates in the South Pacific.



**7 of the 11** jurisdictions which responded to the survey have **one or no female judicial officers**.

This research was undertaken with a view to informing future research into gender equality in the law in the South Pacific region. The SPLA Women in Law Survey Report recommends further research to comprehensively examine possible inequities in pay and seeks to identify specific cultural practices which create gender inequality and how such inequalities may impact on gender equality within the legal profession.

The SPLA recognises the importance of gender equality and equal opportunity in the law. The SPLA believes that the legal profession has a key role to play in advocating for changes to laws which discriminate or disable women and in supporting initiatives to advance the status of women in member countries.

