

1988 First woman appointed to  
the Court of Appeal

Lord Justice Butler Sloss

1993: Called to the bar  
at Gray's Inn



2004 first judicial  
appointment:

Deputy District Judge



# Lady Justices of Appeal 2004

Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss and Dame Mary Arden (appointed 2000)

The title Lady Justice of Appeal had been informally recognised in 1994,  
and was officially changed by the Courts Act 2003

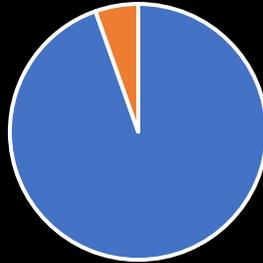
# Judicial Gender Diversity Figures 2004

Law Lords



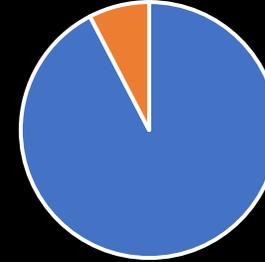
Men 11 Women 1

Court of Appeal



Men 35 Women 2

High Court



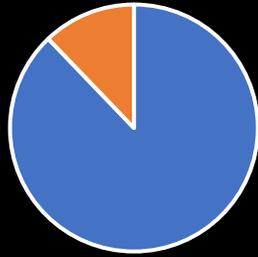
Men 97 Women 8

Circuit Judges



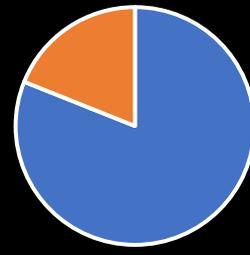
Men 552 Women 58

Recorders



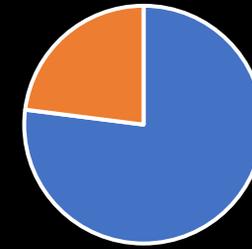
Men 1338 Women 185

District Judges



Men 351 Women 82

Deputy District Judges



Men 613 Women 183

2004: appointment of the first  
woman Law Lord

Baroness Hale of Richmond

# Changes to the appointments system

Competitions for appointment are now run by the Judicial Appointments Commission, and appointments are made on the recommendations of the Judicial Appointments Commission.

The JAC's statutory duties are to:

- select candidates solely on merit
- select only people of good character
- have regard to the need to encourage diversity in the range of persons available for judicial selection

Prior to 2006

- There wasn't an independent appointments commission
- Judges were appointed by a system of "secret soundings"
- People could be appointed as judges without ever applying for the job
- The result was that people appointed were often carbon copies of serving judges – diversity was limited



2012: appointment as a District Judge



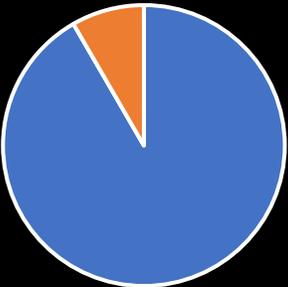
2013: appointment as a Recorder

# Lady Justices of Appeal 2012

Dame Heather Hallett, Dame Janet Smith, Dame Mary Arden, Dame Anne Rafferty

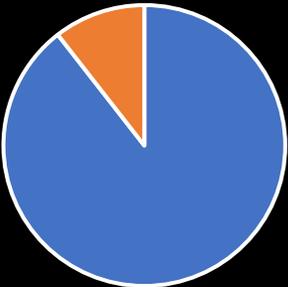
# Judicial Gender Diversity Figures 2012

Supreme Court



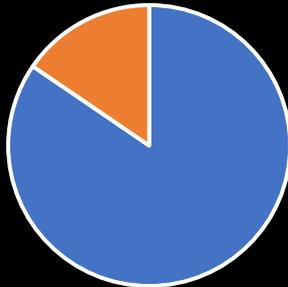
Men 11 Women

Court of Appeal



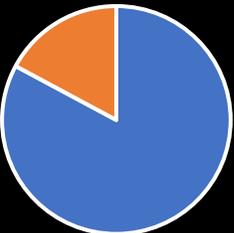
Men 34 Women 4

High Court



Men 93 Women 17

Circuit Judges



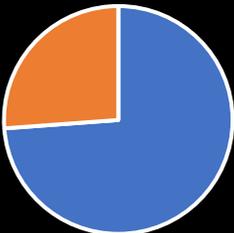
Men 551 Women 114

Recorders



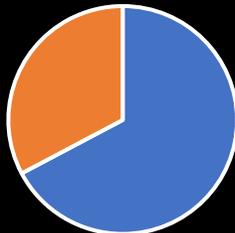
Men 967 Women 188

District Judges



Men 330 Women 117

Deputy District Judge



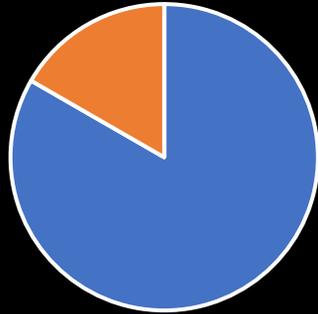
Men 507 Women 247



2018 appointment  
as a Circuit Judge

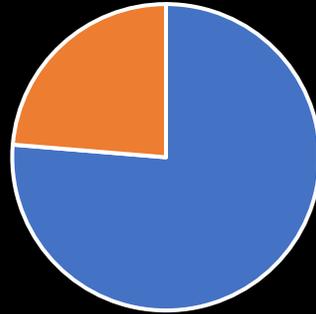
# Judicial Gender Diversity Figures 2018

Supreme Court



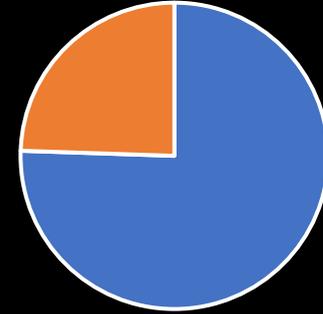
Men 10 Women 2

Court of Appeal



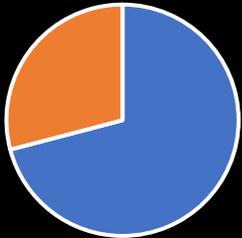
Men 29 Women 9

High Court



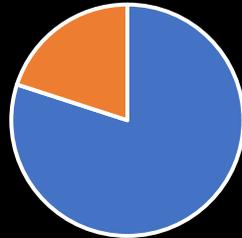
Men 71 Women 23

Circuit Judges



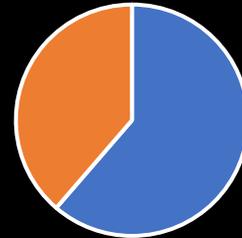
Men 468 Women 192

Recorders



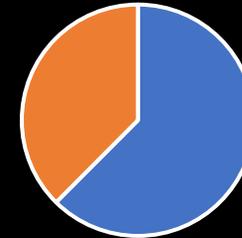
Men 664 Women 166

District Judges



Men 244 Women 154

Deputy District Judge



Men 364 Women 219

# Three women on the Supreme Court following Lady Arden's appointment in October 2018

Lady Hale

Lady Black

Lady Arden



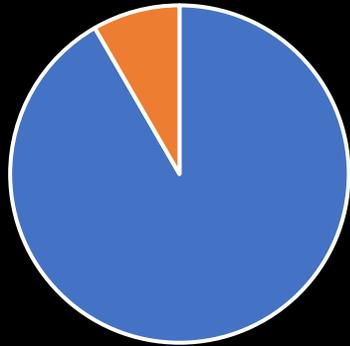
Harrow Crown Court 2019



2022 Appointment as Resident Judge at St Albans Crown Court  
2024 Appointment as Honorary Recorder of St Albans

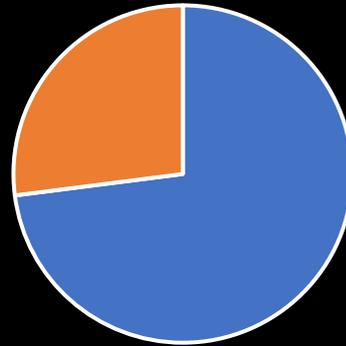
# Judicial Gender Diversity Figures 2022

Supreme Court



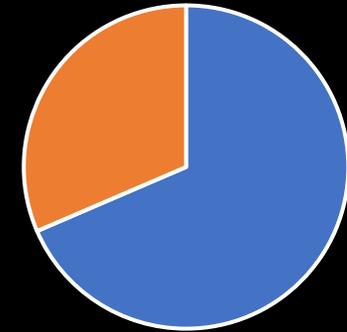
Men 11 Women 1

Court of Appeal



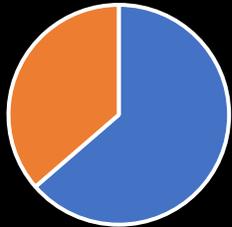
Men 27 Women 10

High Court



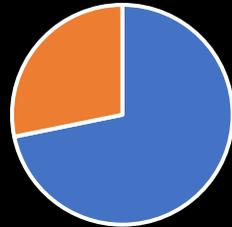
Men 74 Women 34

Circuit Judges



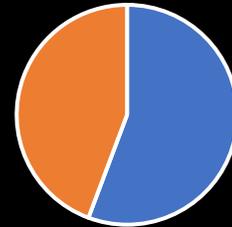
Men 427 Women 244

Recorders



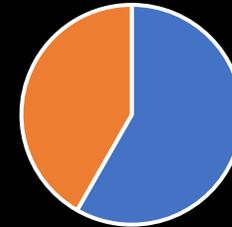
Men 751 Women 295

District Judges



Men 230 Women 183

Deputy District Judges



Men 452 Women 324

Moving away from a male, pale and stale judiciary....

...towards a more equal future?

# Diversity as at today's date

2 Supreme Court Judges out of 12 are women - down from the all time high of 3 out of 12 in 2018

10 Court of Appeal Judges out of 40 are women - down from the all time high of 27% in 2022

The judiciary has since 2023 been led by a woman:  
Lady Chief Justice Sue Carr