



iPhone J.D.

Lawyers using iPhones and iPads

[Main](#) [Index to Prior Posts](#) [Monthly Archives](#) [About Me](#)

ABOUT

iPhone J.D. is the oldest and largest website for lawyers using iPhones and iPads. iPhone J.D. is published by **Jeff Richardson**, an attorney in New Orleans, Louisiana. This site does not provide legal advice, and any opinions expressed on this site are solely those of the author and do not reflect the views of Jeff's law firm, Adams and Reese LLP. iPhone J.D. is not associated with Apple, Inc.

CONTACT ME

jeff@iphonejd.com
Twitter: @jeffrichardson
(occasional updates from me on iPhone topics and sometimes other items) and @iphonejd (automatic notice of every new post on iPhone J.D.)

[« In the news | Main](#)

September 08, 2015

2015 ILTA survey reveals that law firms purchase lots of iPhones and iPads



The [International Legal Technology Association](#) (ILTA) is a peer networking organization for people who work in the legal technology field, such as the people who work in law firm IT departments. ILTA just concluded its annual conference in Las Vegas, and at the conference, ILTA and InsideLegal released the [results of their tenth annual technology purchasing survey](#). The survey was sent to almost 1,300 ILTA member law firms with responses from 184 law firms, about 83% of which were U.S. firms. You can download this year's report in PDF format [here](#). Here is what I saw in the survey results that struck me as interesting for attorneys who use iPhones and iPads.

iPhones, iPads and the Apple Watch are exciting to IT departments

Every year, ILTA asks respondents to identify the most exciting technology or trend — an open ended question. Two of the top seven answers in 2015 relate to iOS: mobility (use of tablets as desktop replacements; mobile device management; virtual mobile computing; ability for attorneys to connect remotely and perform work without issues) and the Apple Watch. The other five exciting tech or trends were cloud computing, security, virtualization, artificial intelligence, and big data.

For law firms that buy smartphones, 91% buy iPhones

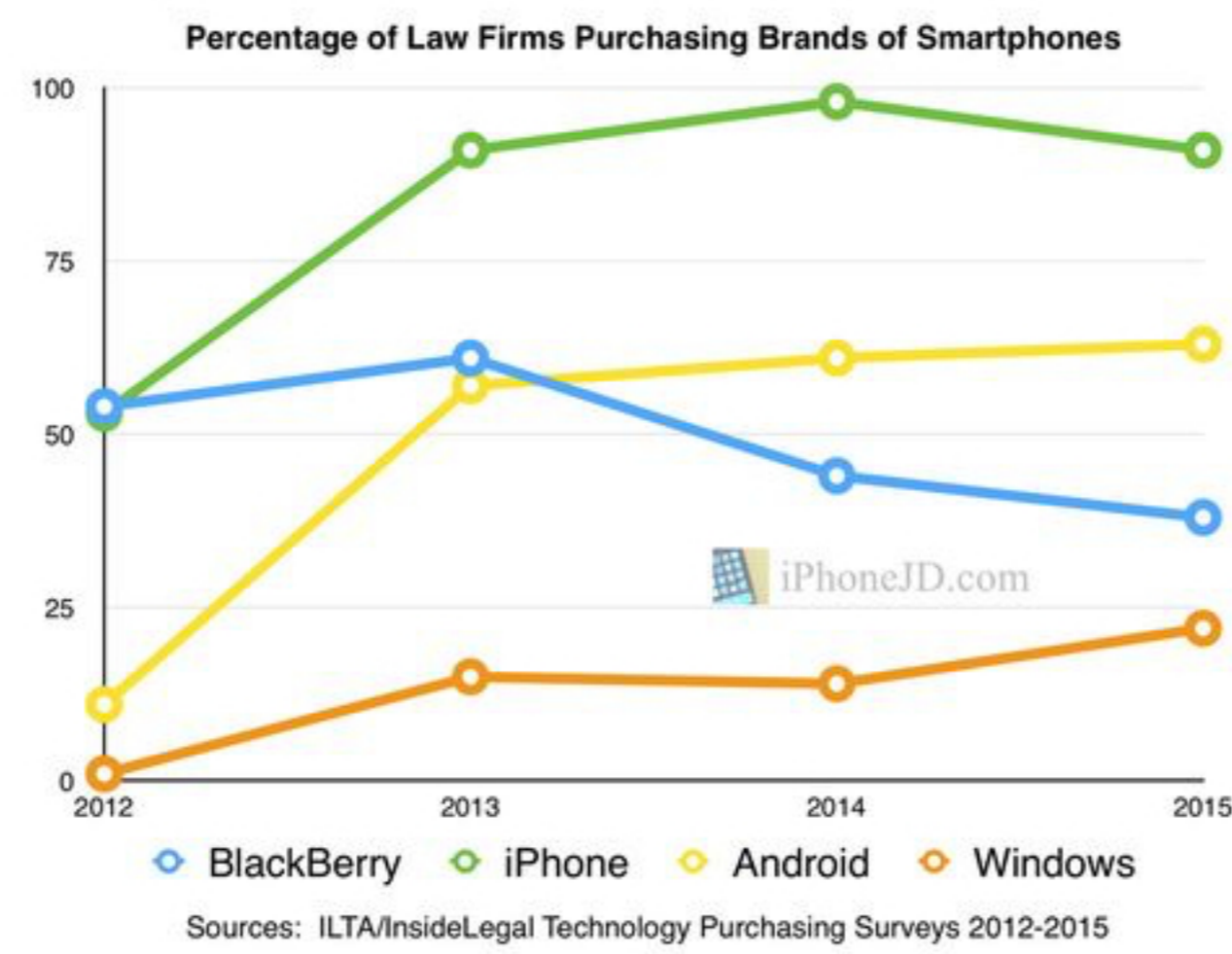
This is a "technology purchasing survey" which means it asks about technology purchased by law firms. There are many categories of legal technology that are virtually always purchased by law firms and not individual lawyers, but the category of mobile technology is one that is moving away from IT purchasing departments. Many attorneys now buy their own device, a practice so prevalent in all companies that there is a common acronym for it: BYOD (bring your own device).

The ILTA survey asks about BYOD, and there has been a move towards BYOD since 2012 although it decreased somewhat this year. In 2012, 10% of firms were BYOD. That increased in 21% in 2013, then to 36% in 2014. This year the number dropped to 32%. This was somewhat surprising to me as I would have expected to see even more BYOD in 2015 among ILTA firms.

The ILTA survey also reveals that 62% of law firms have BYOD policies. I think that it is helpful for a firm to have such a policy, especially for larger law firms. (Of the 28% of law firms that reported not having BYOD policies, 53% were from smaller firms of 1-49 attorneys.)

The ILTA survey does not ask any questions about smartphones that attorneys purchase themselves (the BYOD smartphones), only the smartphones that law firms are buying. If 32% of law firms are BYOD in 2015, that means that around 68% are buying smartphones for at least some of their attorneys. What are they buying? Almost all are buying iPhones (62%), most are buying Android (43%), almost half are still buying BlackBerries (26%), and some are buying Windows smartphones (15%). Or stated differently, for those law firms that purchase smartphones for their attorneys in 2015, 91% are buying iPhones, 63% are buying Android, 38% are buying BlackBerry and 22% are buying Windows.

Here is what the last four years of survey data looks like:



What this chart doesn't tell you is how many of each smartphone the firms are buying, just that the firm is buying at least one of that brand. On the other hand, the chart does tell us something about which smartphones are acceptable to IT departments at law firms. Back in 2012, half of the law firms were not buying iPhones, and now almost all of them buy iPhones. In 2012, very few law firms would buy any Android smartphones, and now almost two-thirds of them will do so. And while other surveys, such as the [latest ABA Technology Survey that I analyzed last month](#), indicate that attorney BlackBerry use has plummeted over the last few years (only 5% in 2015), over a third of law firms still buy a BlackBerry for at least some of their attorneys. Sure, that is a downward trend, but it shows that BlackBerry still has a role for attorneys when it is the law firm buying the device instead of the attorney.

For law firms that buy tablets, the iPad remains popular

In the 2012 ILTA purchasing survey, only 13% of law firms purchased tablets for at least some of their attorneys. That increased substantially in the 2013 survey, when 58% of law firms purchased tablets for at least some of their attorneys. In 2014, the number dropped to 48%, but this year it is back up to 58%.

For those law firms that do purchase tablets for their attorneys, the iPad remains incredibly popular. In 2015, 81% of law firms that purchase tablets say that they purchase iPads. That's down somewhat from prior years; it was 92% in 2014 and almost 100% in 2013. For those law firms that do purchase tablets for their attorneys, Android and Microsoft Surface tablets are also popular; about 50% purchase Microsoft tablets in 2015, and about 24% purchase Android tablets.

For the last three years, ILTA has asked "What percentage of your firm's attorneys use tablets in their day-to-day work?" This year, the answer was 89%, compared to 91% in 2014 and 86% in 2013. I've always wondered about this question; does my IT department really know how many of us at my law firm are using iPads day-to-day? Having said that, it is good to know that IT departments understand that the tablet is an important tool for attorneys, and hopefully this knowledge encourages them to help their attorneys get even more value from their iPads.

[Permalink](#)

Comments

Comment below or sign in with [G+](#) [f](#) [t](#) [g+](#) and

(You can use HTML tags like <i> and to style your text. URLs automatically linked.)

Email address is not displayed with comment.

SEARCH

SUBSCRIBE

Get iPhone J.D. delivered to you for free:



Subscribe to iPhone J.D. by Email

DOCUMENT REVIEW DOESN'T HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE OR COMPLICATED

Desktop Class Document Review

- Review and Annotate Documents on your iPad
- Apply Custom Bates Numbering
- Assign Issue Codes
- Create Evidence Reports
- Export Directly to TrialPad

Download DocReviewPad from the App Store today!

WestlawNext. Precisely.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Bloomberg Law

EXPAND

Cultivate stronger client relationships.

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

FTC NOTICE

Pursuant to 16 CFR Part 255, the **Federal Trade Commission's Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising**, please note: (1) iPhone software and hardware developers routinely send me free versions of their products to review. I sometimes keep and continue to use these products that I did not pay for after posting my review, which might be considered a form of compensation for my review, but I do not believe that I let that color my review. (2) When I post links to product pages on certain stores, including but not limited to Amazon and the iTunes App Store, my links include a referral code so that when products are purchased after clicking on the link, I often receive a very small percentage of the sale. This helps to defray some of the cost of running this site, and gives me a small vested interest in having readers of iPhone J.D. purchase products using these links. Again I do not believe that I let that color my review of products. (3) Some of the ads that run on this website are selected by others such as Amazon or Google. If one of these ads comes from the seller of a product reviewed on iPhone J.D., that is a coincidence and I do not believe that it colors my review of that product. Other ads are from paid advertisers, and if I discuss a product from a company that is an advertiser, I will note that. (4) Some of the ads that run on this website are from monthly sponsors of iPhone J.D. When I discuss products from these companies on iPhone J.D., I do so to pass along information provided to me by those sponsor. Often, I will also provide my own commentary on the product, and while my goal is to be honest, please keep in mind that I was compensated to promote the product. If you have any questions about this, just send me an e-mail or post a comment on a specific product review.

FDA

IVC FILTER SAFETY WARNING

IVC Filters Linked to Serious Injury & Death

LEARN THE FACTS HERE

RxWatch.com

AWARDS

ABA Journal named iPhone J.D. the best Legal Technology blog in 2010, 2011 and 2013, and added iPhone J.D. to its Hall of Fame in 2014:



RECENT POSTS

2015 ILTA survey reveals that law firms purchase lots of iPhones and iPads

In the news

[Sponsor] DocReviewPad -- review and annotate documents on the iPad

In the news

Review: Black's Law Dictionary, 10th edition -- legal dictionary for the iPad, iPhone

In the news

Review: Spigen Apple Watch Night Stand -- a place to charge your watch at night

2015 ABA Tech Survey shows 60% of attorneys use an iPhone, 40% use an iPad

In the news

Review: Apple Watch bands - Sport Band, Classic Buckle, Milanese Loop

[Florida Criminal](#)