

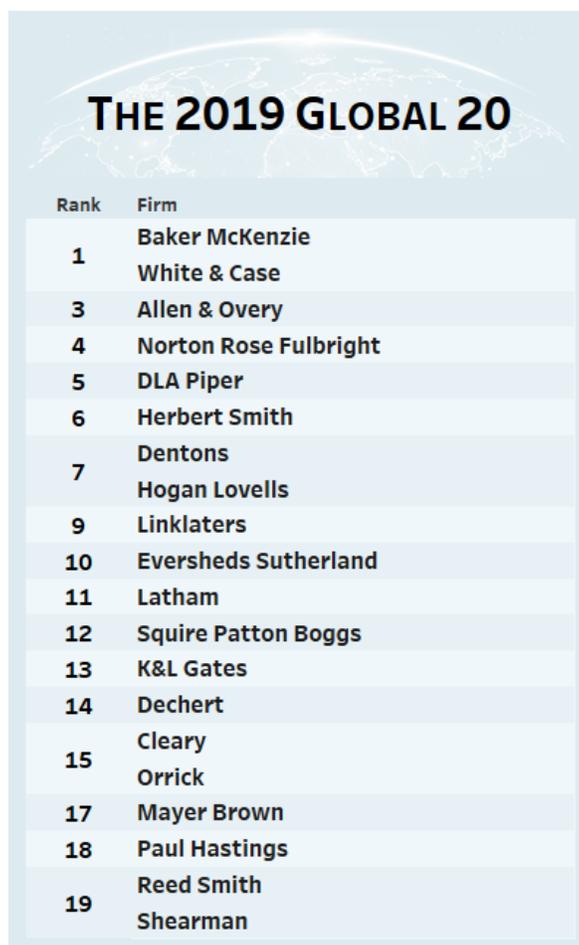
## Law360 Reveals The Global 20 Firms Of 2019

By **Jacqueline Bell**

*Law360 (July 28, 2019, 10:03 PM EDT)* -- What does it mean to be a global legal powerhouse? These firms have it figured out.

White & Case LLP and Baker McKenzie share the top honors on Law360's Global 20 list this year. These two global giants are closely followed by Allen & Overy and Norton Rose Fulbright, with DLA Piper rounding out the top five in our ninth annual ranking of firms with a truly global reach.

These firms have a deep bench of attorneys stationed around the globe and are trusted by clients to handle their most challenging cross-border matters, from multibillion-dollar mergers to bet-the-company litigation.



Rank	Firm
1	Baker McKenzie
2	White & Case
3	Allen & Overy
4	Norton Rose Fulbright
5	DLA Piper
6	Herbert Smith
7	Dentons
8	Hogan Lovells
9	Linklaters
10	Eversheds Sutherland
11	Latham
12	Squire Patton Boggs
13	K&L Gates
14	Dechert
15	Cleary
16	Orrick
17	Mayer Brown
18	Paul Hastings
19	Reed Smith
20	Shearman

The firms on the Global 20 list are some of the biggest of BigLaw. They range in size from Shearman & Sterling LLP's nearly 900 lawyers to Dentons' army of more than 10,000 attorneys.

The average Global 20 firm has attorneys in four dozen offices around the globe, from London to Beijing, Nairobi to Caracas. On average, more than half of those attorneys are outside of the firm's home office or outside the country where the firm has the most attorneys stationed if the firm is structured without a single headquarters. The typical Global 20 firm has offices in more than 20 countries.

But size isn't the only thing that makes a firm a global powerhouse. In determining the list of Global 20 firms, Law360 considers the number of offices and attorneys a law firm has around the world but also weighs the variety and complexity of the cross-border work it has done over the past year.

### The average firm for the Global 20 in 2019 has:

**2,772**  
total attorneys

**52%**  
of whom are  
outside the  
firm's home  
country

**48**  
total offices,  
which are spread  
across

**24**  
countries

On any given day, these firms are handling matters as varied as an international arbitration for a top multinational corporation, a multibillion-dollar acquisition or a multijurisdictional intellectual property brawl.

They are using their global capabilities to help clients navigate contract disputes, infrastructure projects, investments or restructurings that have cross-border implications.

Many have advised governments on new legislation or policies that might aid international relationships, investments and projects. Others are working on innovative technologies, products or collaborations that involve a broad spectrum of clients from different countries and cultures.

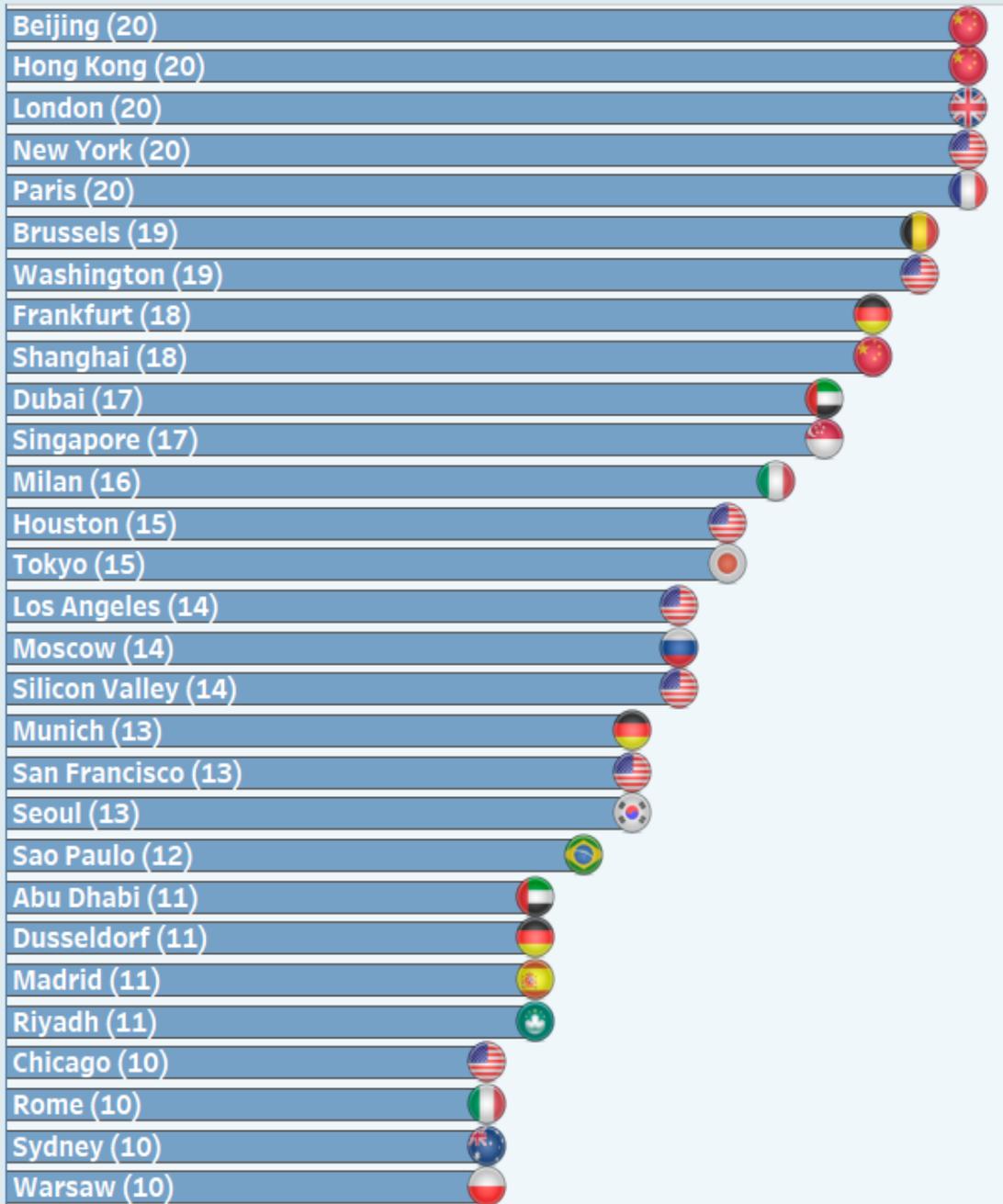
Collectively, attorneys at these firms speak dozens of languages and can deftly move between cultures and jurisdictions to assist clients.

Where all this legal talent needs to be stationed depends a lot on the firm and the particular legal market they serve. Every firm has its own regional strengths, its own priorities and its own specialized footprint.

Still, the world's global business centers are must-have locations for these legal behemoths. All law firms ranked in Law360's Global 20 this year have offices in New York, London, Paris, Hong Kong and Beijing.

## The Must-Have Office Locations

At least 10 Global 20 firms have offices in these cities. All have set up shop in New York, London, Hong Kong, Beijing and Paris.



Beyond the top five cities, Brussels, Washington, D.C., Frankfurt and Shanghai are must-have locations for most firms. Demanding cross-border work requires even some of the smaller Global 20 firms to maintain a presence in a wide variety of cities, from Seoul to Moscow, Abu Dhabi and Sydney.

It's not all about world financial centers — these legal powerhouses have offices in nearly every corner

of the world. When combined, the Global 20 firms have offices in 276 cities in more than 100 countries on six continents.

Several firms bolstered existing European offices or opened new ones, both to take advantage of business opportunities as well as assist clients with potential Brexit complications. Texas and Silicon Valley continue to be U.S. hotspots, with some Global 20 law firms boosting their ranks or opening new offices there.

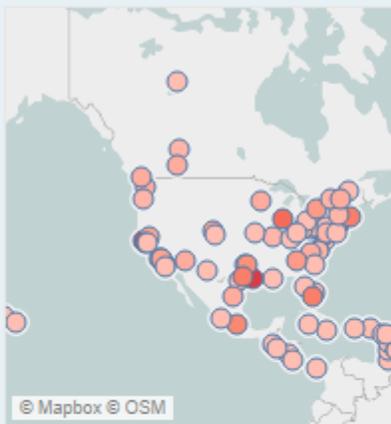
Dentons continued its quest to be a pan-African law firm, launching Dentons Mauritius and combining with a Kenya law firm.

Establishing offices in an ever-growing number of regions is part and parcel of keeping many practices truly global. From Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, to Lima, Peru, to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, these law firms have attorneys anywhere a client might need them.

## All Over The Map

Global 20 firms have over 900 offices in more than 270 cities.

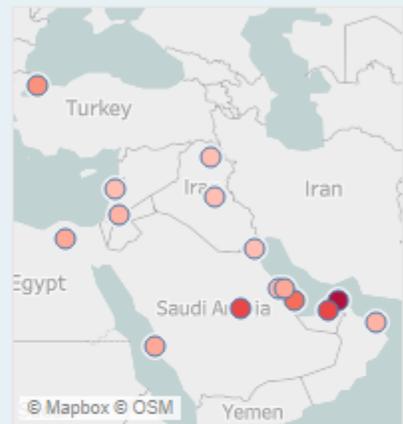
### North America



### Europe



### Middle East



### South America



### Africa



### Asia



All the firms on the Global 20 list have made their mark in the international arena in a wide range of practice areas, even as they continue to expand their geographical influence and reach.

In an era where clients increasingly need cross-border and cross-cultural legal expertise, having an exemplary global legal practice can be a big draw.

From notching big wins in international legal battles to deftly tackling big-ticket cross-border transactions, these firms have proved their global legal expertise on the international stage and are primed for the next cross-border opportunity.

--Editing by Pamela Wilkinson, Jocelyn Allison and Alyssa Miller.

*Methodology: Law360 surveyed law firms about their global attorney headcounts, office locations and cross-border and international work between April 1, 2018, and March 31, 2019. Head count and office information is as of March 31, 2019, except for Cleary Gottlieb, which is as of Dec. 31, 2018. Firms are ranked based on five factors: the percentage of the firm's attorneys located outside its home country; the number of offices outside the firm's home country; the number of countries where the firm has at least one office; the practice area breadth of the firm's cross-border and international work; and the size and complexity of the firm's cross-border and international work.*

*If a firm has no designated home country, Law360 used the country where the most attorneys are based as a "home" country in order to calculate the firm's rank.*