

Philosophy Student Performance on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)

Philosophy majors consistently perform best or near best on graduate school admission exams, year after year and across various sections compared to other majors. As is clear from the following data, the success of philosophy graduates on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) is persistent, and despite changes in the content and scoring, students of philosophy regularly outperform their peers.

On the LSAT, philosophy majors rank significantly better than any other humanities degree, with an average score tied with economics for the highest of any field with more than 2,000 students taking the exam for the 2007-2008 year.

Average LSAT Scores by Major

Major	Average Score	Number of Students
Economics	157.4	3,047
Philosophy	157.4	2,184
Engineering	156.2	2,197
History	155.9	4,166
English	154.7	5,120
Finance	153.4	2,267
Political Science	153.0	14,964
Psychology	152.5	4,355
Communications	150.5	2,230
Criminal Justice	145.5	3,306

Data source: http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1430654

[Prior data](#) also show philosophy students scoring very high: they ranked second overall (first among majors with large numbers of students testing) in 1991-1992, 1994-1995, and 2003-2004.

Some data also indicate that philosophy students may be accepted to law schools at higher rates compared to other popular fields. The following data are from the 1997-1998 law school admissions cycle.

Major	# of Applicants	Average LSAT score	Rate of Law School Admission
Philosophy	1,570	156.9	82.4%
History	4,988	154.1	80.1%
English	4,854	153.8	78.4%
Psychology	4,062	151.8	73.8%
Political Science	12,737	151.4	73.5%
Criminal Justice	3,283	145.0	56.7%

Data source: <http://www2.gsu.edu/~phlkkk/foryou.html>