

MCAT, LSAT and Physics Bachelor's

Data provided by Association of American Medical Colleges and the Law School Admission Council

Table 1

Average MCAT Scores by Selected Majors, 2009.

| | Physical Sciences | Biological Sciences | Verbal reasoning | Number of applicants |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Biomedical Engineering | 10.9 | 10.7 | 9.6 | 1,005 |
| Physics | 11.1 | 10.3 | 9.6 | 207 |
| Electrical Engineering | 10.9 | 10.5 | 9.4 | 195 |
| Economics | 10.4 | 10.5 | 9.7 | 566 |
| Neuroscience | 9.9 | 10.6 | 9.5 | 1,066 |
| Mathematics | 10.3 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 374 |
| English | 9.4 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 434 |
| Biochemistry | 9.9 | 10.3 | 9.1 | 2,594 |
| Chemistry | 9.8 | 9.9 | 9.0 | 2,091 |
| Microbiology (or Bacteriology) | 9.0 | 9.9 | 8.7 | 775 |
| Psychology | 8.8 | 9.4 | 9.1 | 2,421 |
| Biology | 8.7 | 9.5 | 8.7 | 12,705 |
| Premedical | 8.3 | 9.0 | 8.4 | 663 |
| All Majors | 9.2 | 9.8 | 9.0 | 41,487 |

A physics bachelor's is an excellent entry degree for medical school.

The Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) has three sections of standardized multiple choice questions (total of 219 items) with an additional writing sample comprised of two essays. Scores of 9.5 to 11 in each section are considered competitive by most medical schools.

Source: Association of American Medical Colleges, Data Warehouse

<http://www.aip.org/statistics>

The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) is a half-day, standardized test administered four times each year at designated testing centers throughout the world. All law schools approved by the American Bar Association require applicants to take the LSAT as part of their admission process.

Table 2

Average LSAT Scores* by Selected Majors, 2009.

| | Mean score | Number of applicants |
|------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Physics | 161.5 | 180 |
| Mathematics | 159.7 | 336 |
| Economics | 157.4 | 3,047 |
| Electrical Engineering | 156.3 | 546 |
| Mechanical Engineering | 156.0 | 427 |
| Chemistry | 155.7 | 355 |
| English | 154.7 | 5,120 |
| Biology | 154.5 | 1,055 |
| Computer Science | 154.0 | 682 |
| Political Science | 153.0 | 14,964 |
| Psychology | 152.5 | 4,355 |
| Pre Law | 148.3 | 1,078 |
| Criminal Justice | 145.5 | 3,306 |
| All Majors | 152.6 | 81,530 |

*The scores in the table are for individuals who applied to Law school for the 2007-08 academic year. All test takers are not represented. Individuals may have taken the LSAT months or possibly years earlier.

Source: AIP Statistical Research Center compiled data from the Law School Admission Council, Newton PA.

<http://www.aip.org/statistics>

Physics bachelor's receive higher scores on the LSAT than other undergraduate majors.

Contact Patrick Mulvey for more information.