

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

Philosophy majors consistently perform extremely well on graduate school admission exams, year after year and across various sections compared to other majors. 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 outperform students with any other humanities degree and rank second highest of the fields with the largest number of students taking the exam for the 2022–2023 academic year. Only economics majors average better scores.

Average LSAT Scores by Major, 2022–2023

Major	Average Score	Number of Students
Economics	161.71	3,263
Philosophy	159.47	2,502
History	158.95	2,900
English	157.30	2,979
Finance	157.22	1,792
Other Arts & Humanities	156.64	2,395
Political Science	156.03	13,693
Psychology	155.07	3,958
Communications	154.17	1,861
Sociology	153.91	2,000
Business Administration	153.35	1,639
Any Area Not Listed	151.35	5,335
Criminal Justice	148.82	3,672

Prior data also show philosophy students scoring very high—including second overall in 1991–1992, 1994–1995, 2003–2004, and 2017–2018. Philosophy majors are also admitted to law school at high rates.

Law School Admissions by Major, 2022–2023

Major	Applicants	Admitted	% Admitted	Enrolled	% Enrolled
History	2,900	2,293	79.1%	1,990	68.6%
Economics	3,263	2,553	78.2%	2,147	65.8%
English	2,979	2,274	76.3%	1,973	66.2%
Philosophy	2,502	1,889	75.5%	1,622	64.8%
Political Science	13,693	10,134	74.0%	8,858	64.7%
Finance	1,792	1,312	73.2%	1,109	61.9%
Other Arts & Humanities	2,395	1,744	72.8%	1,471	61.4%
Psychology	3,958	2,840	71.8%	2,466	62.3%
Communications	1,861	1,314	70.6%	1,118	60.1%
Sociology	2,000	1,341	67.1%	1,160	58.0%
Business Administration	1,639	1,052	64.2%	884	53.9%
Any Area Not Listed	5,335	3,101	58.1%	2,667	50.0%
Criminal Justice	3,672	2,100	57.2%	1,851	50.4%

Data source: <https://report.lsac.org/view.aspx?report=applicantsbymajor&Format=PDF>