

Analysis of LSAT Takers' Application Behavior

1997-1998 through 2006-2007

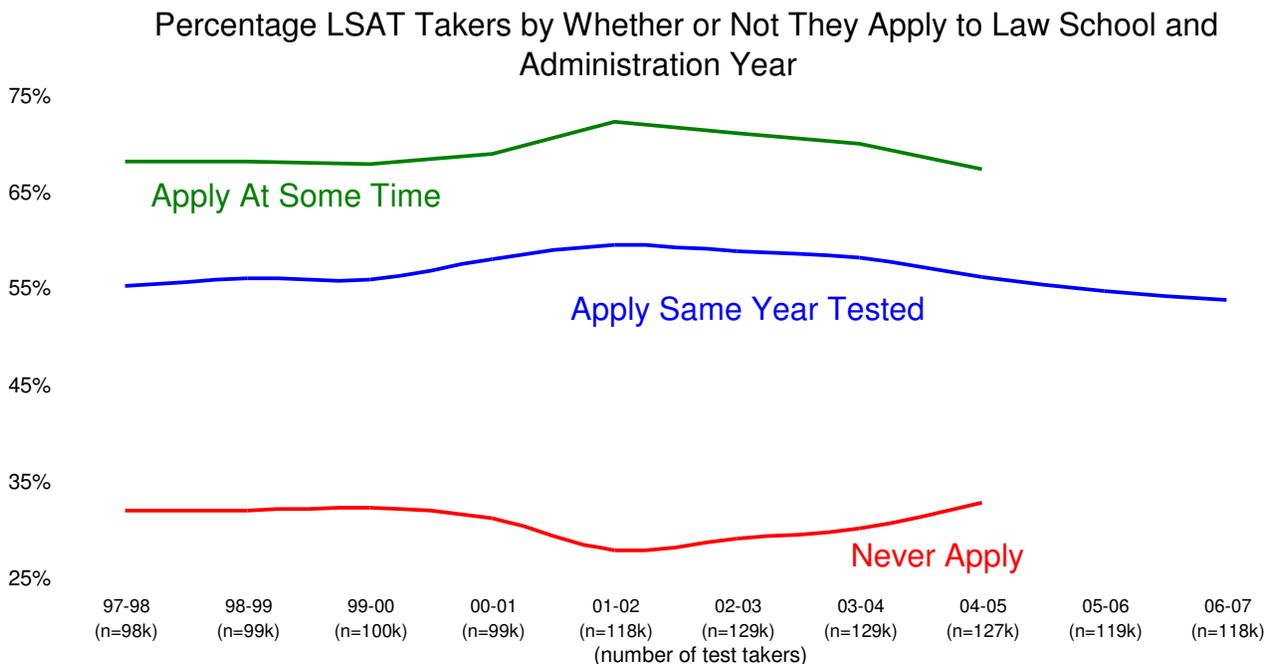
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Analysis of LSAT takers' application behavior between the 1997-1998 and 2006-2007 administration years found fewer test takers applying to law school, perhaps because their scores are falling farther and farther below the scores of admitted students.

Starting with 1997-1998, LSAC analyzed the number of LSATs taken by individuals in a testing year as well as how many of these individuals apply to law school before, during, or after that testing year. "Applied Same Year" in the chart and table below means that the individual applied for the upcoming academic year. In other words, an individual who tested during the 2004-2005 testing year and applied for admission in fall 2005 was considered as having applied in the same year. LSAC also analyzed the performance of test takers on the LSAT during that administration year.¹ Because many test takers do not apply to law school until a year or two after they take the test, 2004-2005 was the most recent year for which calculations of ever/never applying to law school were made.

Findings include:

- Roughly one-third of LSAT takers in any given year never apply to law school.
- The percentage of test takers never applying has increased over the last several years, from 28% (2001-2002) to 33% (2004-2005).
- Over half of the test-takers in any given year apply to law school for the upcoming fall. That percentage has been decreasing (from 59% in 2002-2003 to 54% in 2006-2007)



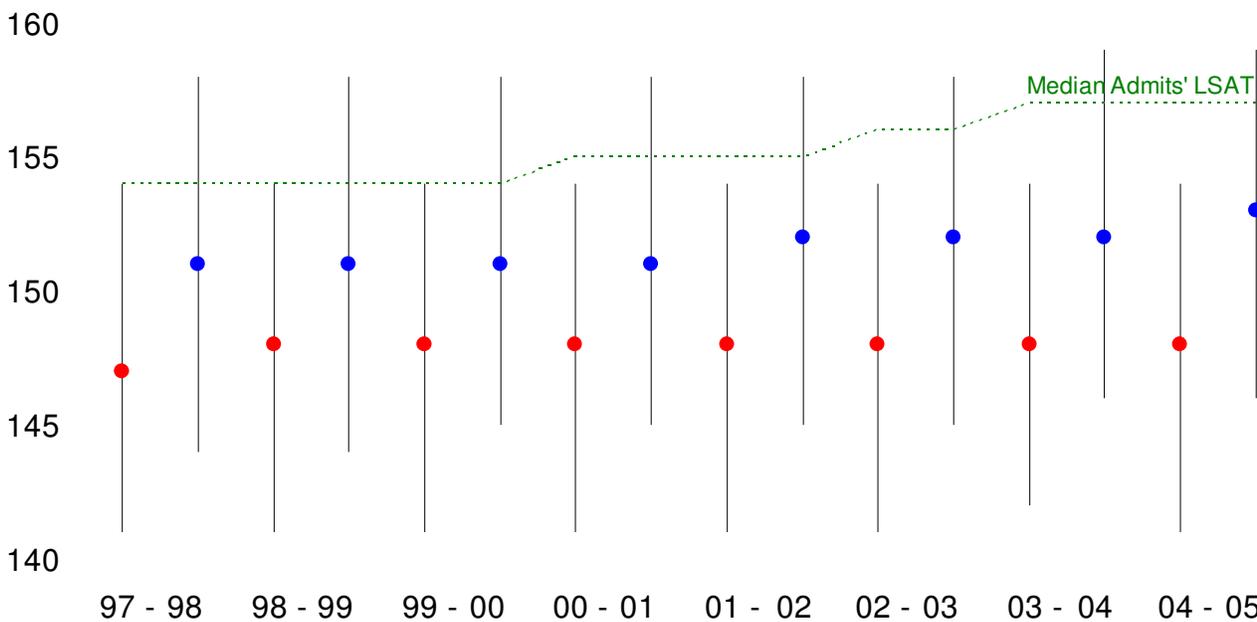
¹ For individuals who tested more than once during the administration year, an average LSAT score was calculated for that administration year.

Number of LSAT Takers and When They Apply to Law School by Administration Year.

Admin Year	Test Takers	Never Apply	Apply Yr-2	Apply Yr-1	Apply Same Yr	Apply Yr+1	Apply Yr+2
97-98	98,424	32%	1%	6%	55%	16%	6%
98-99	98,603	32%	1%	6%	56%	16%	6%
99-00	99,589	32%	1%	6%	56%	15%	6%
00-01	99,354	31%	1%	6%	58%	16%	5%
01-02	118,037	28%	1%	6%	59%	19%	7%
02-03	129,497	29%	1%	7%	59%	19%	7%
03-04	129,342	30%	2%	7%	58%	18%	7%
04-05	126,757	33%	2%	7%	56%	17%	6%
05-06	119,429	na	2%	7%	55%	16%	na
06-07	118,168	na	2%	6%	54%	na	na

- Those who take the LSAT and apply to law school typically have higher scores than do those who never apply.
- There is considerable overlap between those who apply and those who never apply when considering the interquartile range (from 75th percentile to 25th percentile) of scores.
- The gap between the median scores of those who never apply and the median score of those admitted to law school has increased over the last several years.

25th, Median, and 75th Percentile of LSAT Scores by Whether Apply (*) or Never Apply (*) to Law School and LSAT Administration Year



- No meaningful demographic (e.g., age, race, gender) differences were found either over time (i.e., the percentage of Hispanics never applying was consistent over the years) or across application behavior (i.e., females did not constitute a greater percentage of those who never applied than of those who applied for any particular year).

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