
Summary of 2017, 2018, and 2019 LSAT Correlation Study Results

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Part 1. Results from the 2017 LSAT Correlation Study

The annual LSAT Correlation Studies provide important information about the predictive validity of LSAT scores and UGPAs at each law school and their relationship to students' FYAs. Previous LSAT Correlation Studies have confirmed that LSAT score is a good predictor of first-year law school performance, as indicated by FYA. The findings have also verified that the combination of LSAT score and UGPA is usually better at predicting first-year performance than either factor alone.

From August 2017 through June 2018, 180 law schools (171 ABA-approved schools and 9 Canadian schools) participated in the 2017 cycle of the LSAT Correlation Studies. The number of participants continued to be at the lower levels experienced since the inception of disclosure agreements in 2012.

For most schools, the study was based on full-time students in the 2014, 2015, and 2016 fall-entering classes. Schools that instituted grade scale changes in 2015 or 2016 or those that did not participate in all 3 study years may have data representing a different set of entering classes.

The results for these 180 schools are summarized in Table 1.1, Figure 1.1, and Figure 1.2. Schools omitted from the rest of the summary include two ABA-approved Puerto Rican schools, one Canadian school, and four additional ABA-approved schools. The Puerto Rican schools were omitted based on evidence of preselection effects that may have influenced their results. Two ABA-approved schools had insufficient data, one school asked to be excluded from all summary reports, and one school changed from non-ABA-approved to ABA-approved during the report cycle.

In addition to the standard analysis, the study includes results for the school applicant pools and provides a multivariate correction for restriction of range. The corrected correlation estimates for the applicant pools (Tables 1.3c and 1.3d) are higher than the raw correlations for the matriculant group (Tables 1.3a and 1.3b) and should give a better assessment of the predictive validity of LSAT score and UGPA.

Although the outcomes for individual schools may have fluctuated from those obtained last year, the summary results are similar for these entering classes. For the fifth year in a row, the mean of the average LSAT scores for these matriculants has declined. While score variation is greater than in years prior to 2015, it has leveled off for the 2016 and 2017 cycles (Figures 1.3 and 1.4). The mean correlations of first-year averages (FYAs) with LSAT scores remained stable (Table 1.5, Table 1.7, and Figure 1.6). Correlations of FYAs with LSAT scores alone and with the combined predictors (LSAT scores and UGPAs) are the highest in recent years.

In recognition of ABA reporting requirements, a second report based on highest LSAT score was produced for each school. For 130 (75%) of the schools, average LSAT score was a better predictor than highest LSAT score (Figure 1.5) although the difference was slight. This summary focuses on results obtained using average LSAT score. For comparison purposes, results based on highest score are reported in Tables 1.2, 1.3b, 1.3d, 1.4, and 1.6.

TABLE 1.1
2017 LSAT Correlation Study participants

Type of School	No. of Participants	No. of Full Participants
ABA-Approved	171	165
Non-ABA-Approved	0	0
Canadian	9	8
International	0	0
Total	180	173

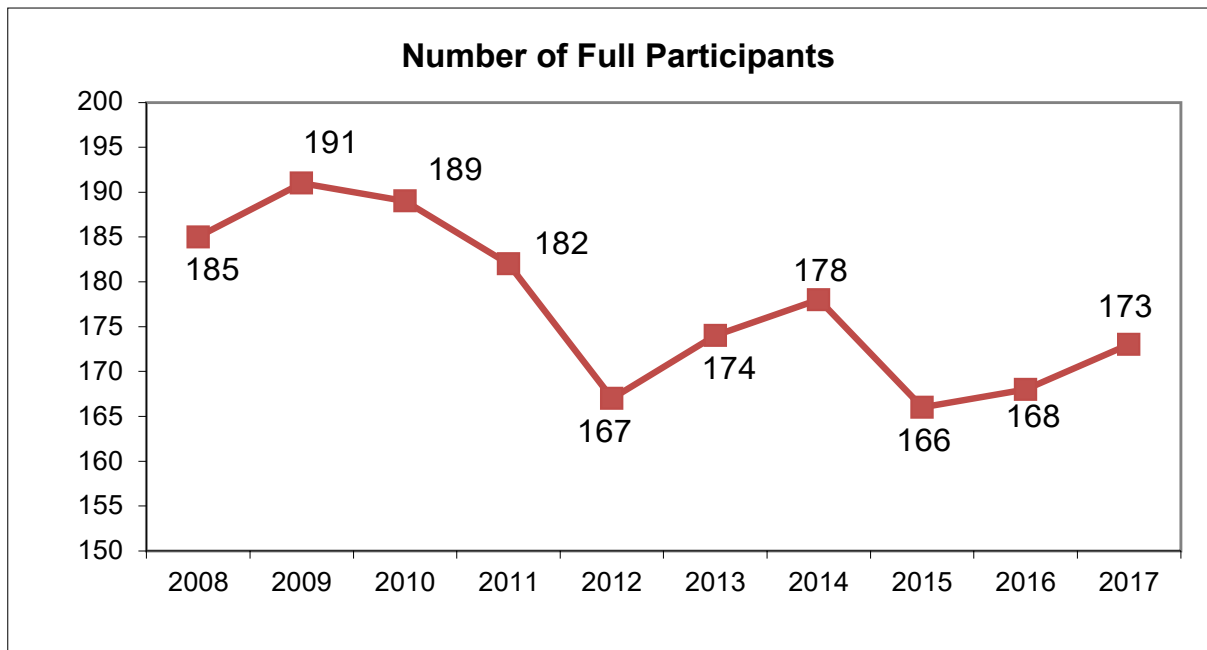


FIGURE 1.1. Trends in full LSAT Correlation Study participation from 2008 to 2017. The number of participants rose from 2008 at 185 participants to 2009 at a high of 191 participants. The number dropped to a low of 167 participants in 2012 and rose to 173 participants in 2017. Numbers by year are as follows: 185 in 2008, 191 in 2009, 189 in 2010, 182 in 2011, 167 in 2012, 174 in 2013, 178 in 2014, 166 in 2015, 168 in 2016, and 173 in 2017.

TABLE 1.2

Descriptive statistics for full participants in the 2017 LSAT Correlation Studies

Statistic	Combined Class Size	Average LSAT Score	Highest LSAT Score	UGPA ^a
Total Participants	180	180	180	171
Number of Schools ^b	173	173	173	168
Mean	399.38	154.18	155.22	3.34
SD	181.93	5.59	5.61	0.20
Range				
Minimum	35	143.17	144.56	2.84
Maximum	922	168.94	170.27	3.84
Percentiles				
25th	272	150.22	151.19	3.21
50th (median)	367	153.77	154.79	3.35
75th	527	157.64	158.85	3.47

^aOnly schools with standard UGPA scale data are included.

^bSummary data is based on schools that met all participation requirements.

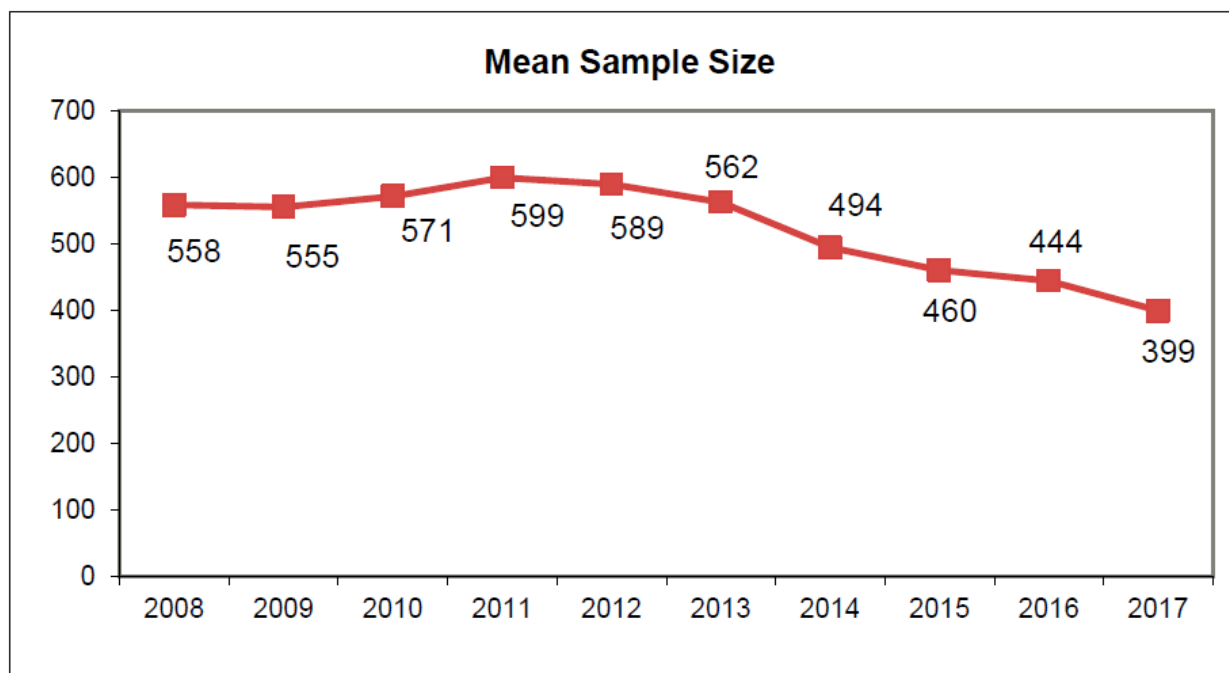


FIGURE 1.2. Trends in mean combined class size from 2008 to 2017. Means rose from 558 in 2008 to a high of 599 in 2011 and then dropped to a low of 399 in 2017. Mean combined class sizes by year are as follows: 558 in 2008, 555 in 2009, 571 in 2010, 599 in 2011, 589 in 2012, 562 in 2013, 494 in 2014, 460 in 2015, 444 in 2016, and 399 in 2017.

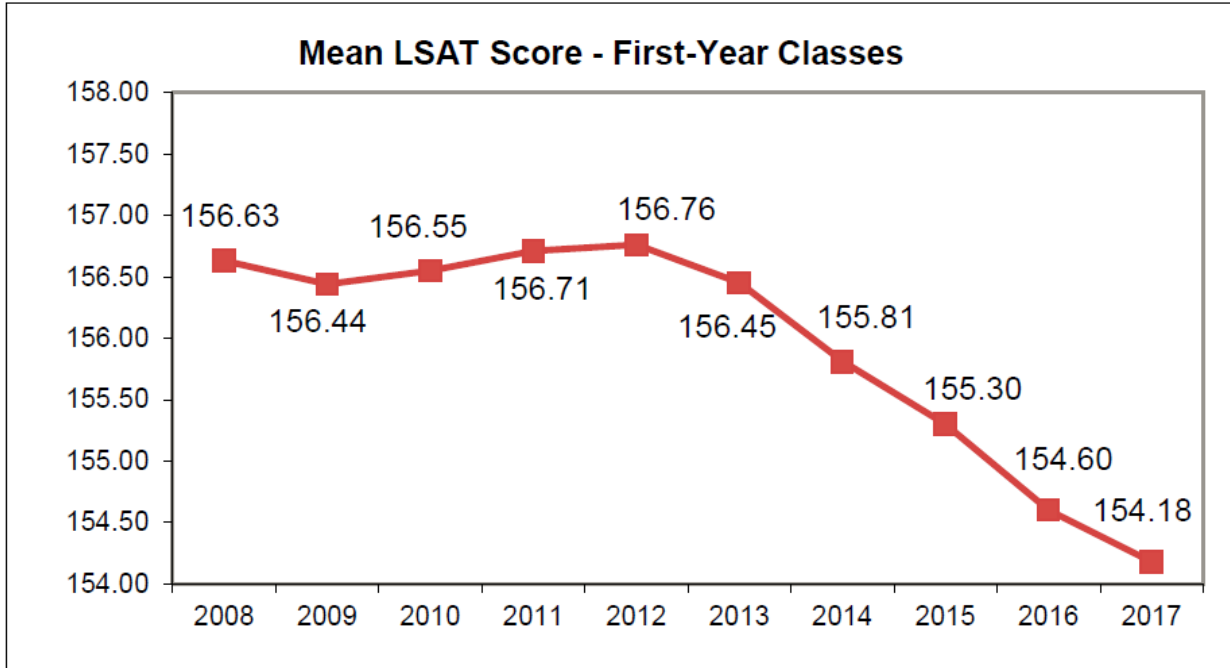


FIGURE 1.3. Mean LSAT scores for combined first-year classes from 2008 to 2017. Scores were consistent from 2008 to 2013 and then fell slightly each year from 2014 to 2017. Mean LSAT scores by year are as follows: 156.63 in 2008, 156.44 in 2009, 156.55 in 2010, 156.71 in 2011, 156.76 in 2012, 156.45 in 2013, 155.81 in 2014, 155.30 in 2015, 154.60 in 2016, and 154.18 in 2017.

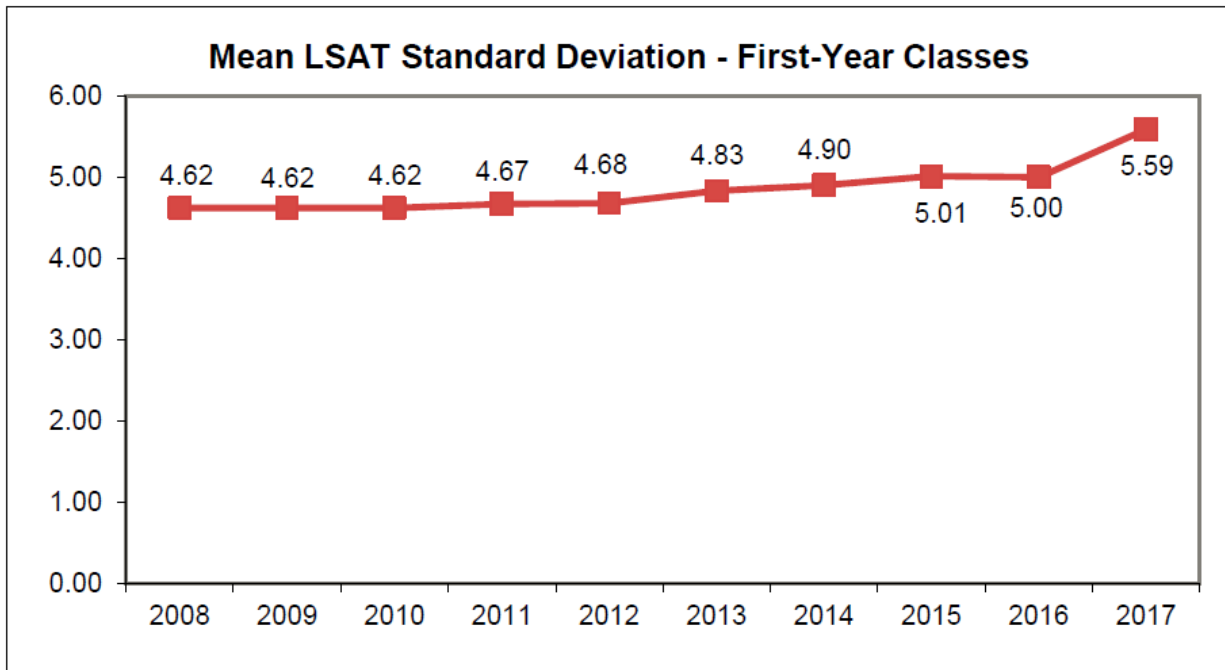


FIGURE 1.4. Mean LSAT standard deviations for combined first-year classes from 2008 to 2017. Standard deviations by year are as follows: 4.62 in 2008, 2009, and 2010; 4.67 in 2011; 4.68 in 2012; 4.83 in 2013, 4.90 in 2014, 5.01 in 2015; 5.00 in 2016, and 5.59 in 2017.

TABLE 1.3a

Summary correlations for full participants in the 2017 LSAT Correlation Studies based on average LSAT score

Statistics	LSAT/FYA	UGPA/FYA	LSAT/UGPA	LSAT+UGPA/ FYA
Mean	0.41	0.27	-0.04	0.50
<i>SD</i>	0.09	0.10	0.15	0.08
Range				
Minimum	0.12	-0.03	-0.47	0.25
Maximum	0.66	0.48	0.36	0.72
Percentiles				
25th	0.36	0.20	-0.13	0.45
50th (median)	0.41	0.27	-0.04	0.51
75th	0.47	0.34	0.06	0.56

TABLE 1.3b

Summary correlations for full participants in the 2017 LSAT Correlation Studies based on highest LSAT score

Statistics	LSAT/FYA	UGPA/FYA	LSAT/UGPA	LSAT+UGPA/ FYA
Mean	0.38	0.27	-0.08	0.49
<i>SD</i>	0.09	0.10	0.16	0.08
Range				
Minimum	0.10	-0.03	-0.54	0.24
Maximum	0.64	0.48	0.29	0.71
Percentiles				
25th	0.33	0.20	-0.18	0.43
50th (median)	0.39	0.27	-0.07	0.49
75th	0.44	0.34	0.04	0.55

TABLE 1.3c

Summary of corrected correlations for full participants in the 2017 LSAT Correlation Studies based on average LSAT score

Statistics	LSAT/FYA	UGPA/FYA	LSAT/UGPA	LSAT+UGPA/ FYA
Mean	0.61	0.43	0.27	0.67
<i>SD</i>	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.06
Range				
Minimum	0.25	0.26	0.13	0.34
Maximum	0.76	0.57	0.46	0.80
Percentiles				
25th	0.58	0.39	0.24	0.64
50th (median)	0.61	0.44	0.27	0.68
75th	0.66	0.48	0.30	0.71

TABLE 1.3d

Summary of corrected correlations for full participants in the 2017 LSAT Correlation Studies based on highest LSAT score

Statistics	LSAT/FYA	UGPA/FYA	LSAT/UGPA	LSAT+UGPA/ FYA
Mean	0.60	0.43	0.26	0.67
<i>SD</i>	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.07
Range				
Minimum	0.24	0.25	0.11	0.37
Maximum	0.76	0.58	0.45	0.81
Percentiles				
25th	0.57	0.39	0.23	0.65
50th (median)	0.61	0.45	0.25	0.68
75th	0.65	0.48	0.29	0.71

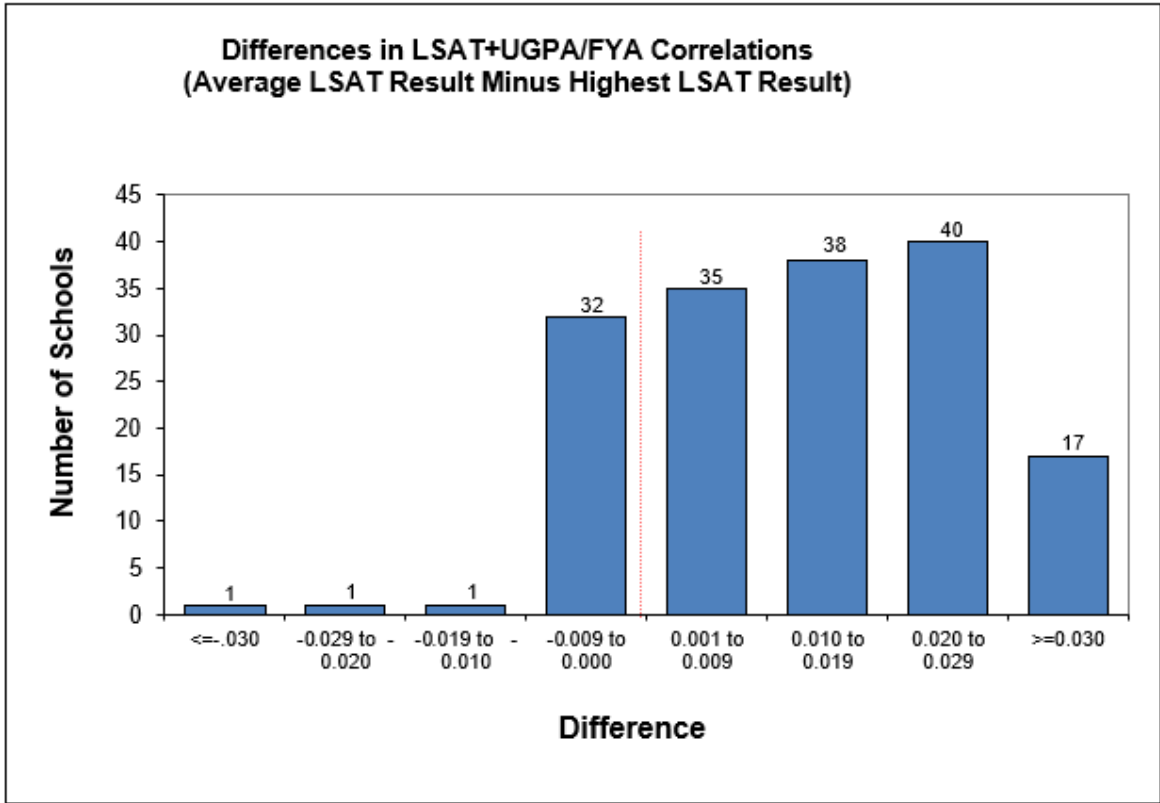


FIGURE 1.5. Differences in LSAT+UGPA/FYA correlations (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score): 1 school had a difference equal to or less than -0.030 ; 1 school had a difference of -0.029 to -0.020 ; 1 school had a difference of -0.019 to -0.010 ; 32 schools had a difference of -0.009 to 0.000 ; 35 schools had a difference of 0.001 to 0.009 ; 38 schools had a difference of 0.010 to 0.019 ; 40 schools had a difference of 0.020 to 0.029 ; and 17 schools had a difference equal to or greater than 0.030 .

TABLE 1.4
Differences in correlation coefficients (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score)

Difference Statistic	LSAT Score +UGPA	LSAT Score Only
Mean	0.01	0.03
<i>SD</i>	0.01	0.02
Range		
Minimum	-0.03	-0.03
Maximum	0.07	0.08
Percentages		
25th	0.00	0.01
50th (median)	0.01	0.03
75th	0.02	0.04

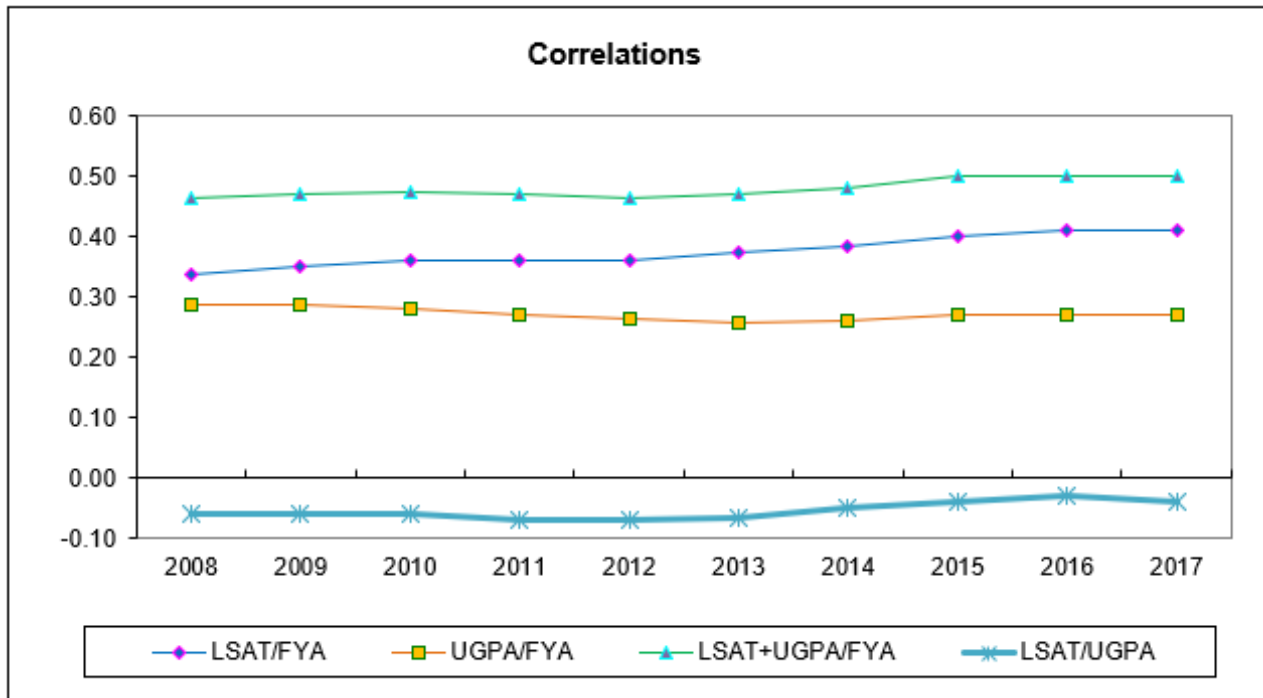


FIGURE 1.6. Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score from 2008 to 2017. Correlation results are as follows: For LSAT/FYA, approximately 0.34 in 2008, rising to approximately 0.41 in 2017; for UGPA/FYA: approximately 0.29 in 2008, lowering slightly to 0.26 in 2012 and 2013, and then rising back to approximately 0.27 in 2017; for LSAT+UGPA/FYA, approximately 0.46 in 2008, rising to approximately 0.50 in 2017; for LSAT/UGPA, approximately -0.06 in 2008, lowering slightly to -0.07 in 2011 and 2012, and then rising to -0.04 in 2017.

TABLE 1.5
Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
LSAT/FYA	0.34	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.41	0.41
UGPA/FYA	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.27
LSAT/UGPA	-0.06	-0.06	-0.06	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07	-0.05	-0.04	-0.03	-0.04
LSAT+UGPA/FYA	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.48	0.50	0.50	0.50

TABLE 1.6
Summary of proportional contributions by predictor variable in predictive formula

Statistic	UGPA		Highest LSAT Score	UGPA (Highest LSAT Score)
	Average LSAT Score	(Average LSAT Score)		
Mean	59.79	40.21	57.61	42.39
<i>SD</i>	7.63	7.63	7.87	7.87
Range				
Minimum	26.75	21.18	19.82	23.90
Maximum	78.82	73.25	76.10	80.18
Percentiles				
25th	54.75	35.24	52.77	37.63
50th (median)	59.62	40.38	57.77	42.23
75th	64.76	45.25	62.37	47.23

TABLE 1.7
Changes in correlation coefficients from 2016 to 2017 for predictors of first-year average^a

Difference Statistic	Average LSAT Score + UGPA	Average LSAT Score Only	UGPA Only
Mean	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>SD</i>	0.04	0.04	0.05
Range			
Minimum	-0.11	-0.15	-0.11
Maximum	0.16	0.21	0.15
Percentages			
25th	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03
50th (median)	0.00	0.00	0.00
75th	0.02	0.03	0.03

^a2017 result minus 2016 result, based on the 165 schools that participated in both years

Part 2. Results from the 2018 LSAT Correlation Study

The annual LSAT Correlation Studies provide important information about the predictive validity of LSAT scores and UGPAs at each law school and their relationship to students' FYAs. Previous LSAT Correlation Studies have confirmed that LSAT score is a good predictor of first-year law school performance, as indicated by FYA. The findings have also verified that the combination of LSAT score and UGPA is usually better at predicting first-year performance than either factor alone.

From August 2018 through May 2019, 179 law schools (170 ABA-approved schools and 9 Canadian schools) participated in the 2018 cycle of the LSAT Correlation Studies. The number of participants continued to be at the lower levels experienced since the inception of disclosure agreements in 2012.

For most schools, the study was based on full-time students in the 2015, 2016, and 2017 fall-entering classes. Schools that instituted grade scale changes in 2016 or 2017 or those that did not participate in all 3 study years may have data representing a different set of entering classes. Data for the 2017 fall-entering class was combined with the data for up to two previous entering classes, as available, to update the validity analysis for each school.

The results for these 179 schools are summarized in Table 2.1, Figure 2.1, and Figure 2.2. Schools omitted from the rest of the summary include three ABA-approved schools, two ABA-approved Puerto Rican schools, and one non-ABA-approved school. The Puerto Rican schools were omitted based on evidence of preselection effects that may have influenced their results. Two ABA-approved schools and one non-ABA-approved school had insufficient data, and one ABA-approved school asked to be excluded from all summary reports.

In addition to the standard analysis, the study includes results for the school applicant pools and provides a multivariate correction for restriction of range. The corrected correlation estimates for the applicant pools (Table 2.2b) are higher than the raw correlations for the matriculant group (Table 2.2a) and should give a better assessment of the predictive validity of LSAT score and UGPA (Figures 2.7a, 2.7b, and 2.7c).

Although the outcomes for individual schools may have fluctuated from those obtained last year, the summary results are similar for these entering classes. For the sixth year in a row, the mean of the average LSAT scores for these matriculants has declined. While score variation had increased over the past 3 years, it has decreased to levels similar to those observed in the 2014 cycle (Figures 2.3 and 2.4). The mean correlations of FYAs with LSAT scores remained stable (Table 2.4, Table 2.6, and Figure 2.6). Correlations of FYAs with LSAT scores alone and with the combined predictors (LSAT scores and UGPAs) have remained steady since the 2015 cycle.

In recognition of ABA reporting requirements, a second report based on highest LSAT score was produced for each school. For 143 (86%) of the schools, average LSAT score was a better predictor than highest LSAT score (Figure 2.5), although the difference was slight. This summary focuses on results obtained using average LSAT score. For comparison purposes, results based on highest score are reported in Tables 2.3 and 2.5.

TABLE 2.1

Descriptive statistics for full participants in the 2018 LSAT Correlation Studies

Statistic	Combined Class Size	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT	UGPA ^a
Total Participants	179	179	179	170
Number of Schools ^b	172	172	172	169
Mean	420.48	153.99	155.03	3.35
<i>SD</i>	210.27	5.36	5.38	0.20
Range	30	142.84	144.25	2.86
Minimum	1,251	168.47	169.79	3.83
Maximum	274	150.32	151.44	3.22
Percentiles	390	153.39	154.32	3.36
25th	540	157.55	158.65	3.48
50th (median)	172	172	172	169
75th	420.48	153.99	155.03	3.35

^aOnly schools with standard UGPA scale data are included.^bSummary data is based on schools that met all participation requirements.

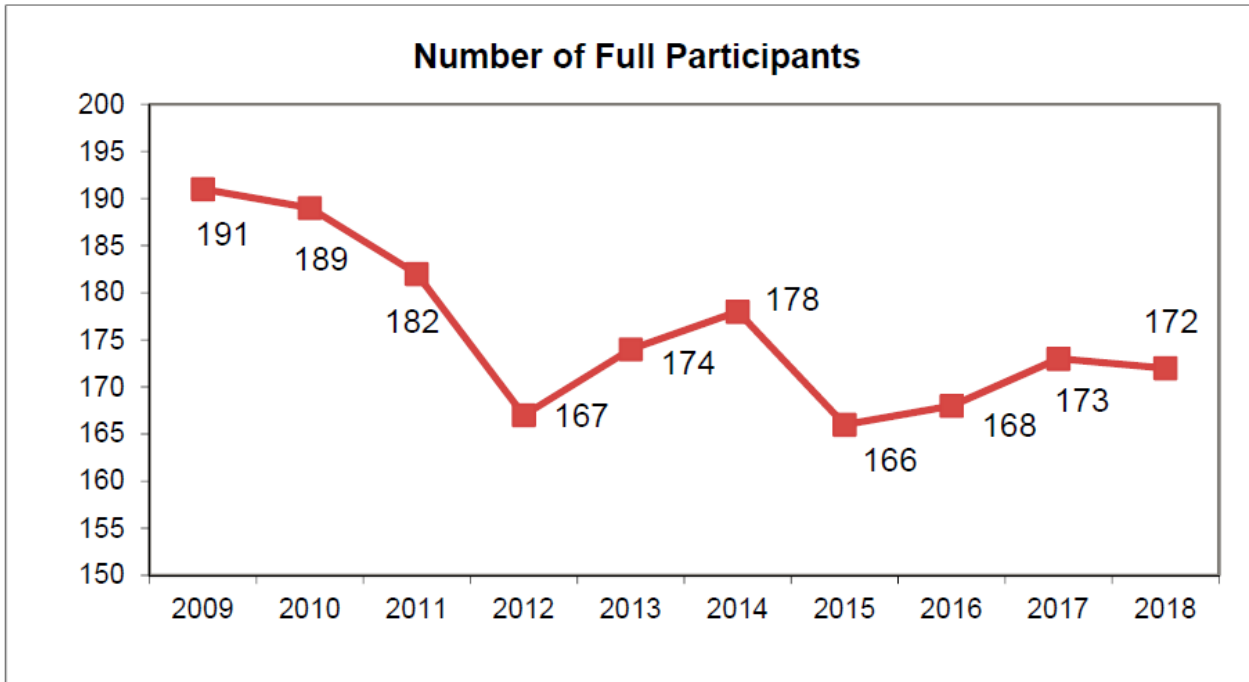


FIGURE 2.1. Trends in full LSAT Correlation Study participation from 2009 to 2018. The number of participants declined from 2009 at a high of 191 participants to 2018 at a low of 172 participants. Numbers by year are as follows: 191 in 2009, 189 in 2010, 182 in 2011, 167 in 2012, 174 in 2013, 178 in 2014, 166 in 2015, 168 in 2016, 173 in 2017, and 172 in 2018.

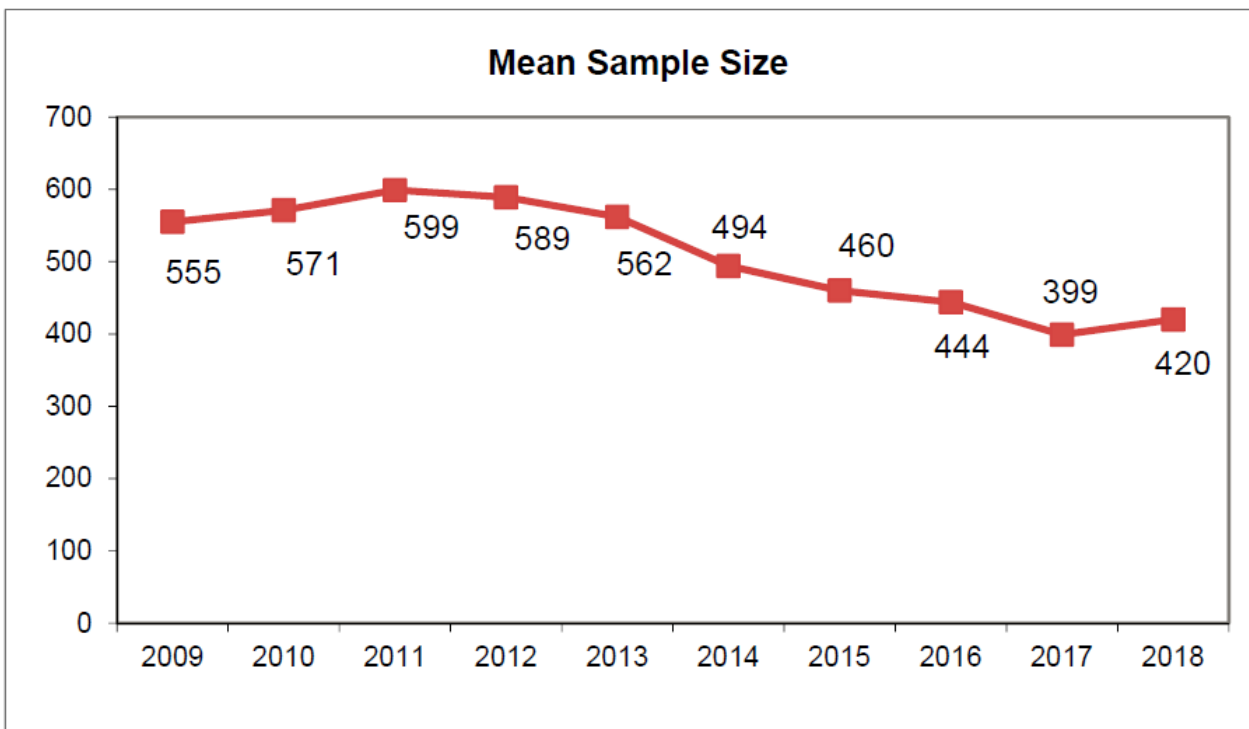


FIGURE 2.2. Trends in mean combined class size from 2009 to 2018. Means rose from 555 in 2009 to a high of 599 in 2011, fell to a low of 399 in 2017, and then rose to 420 in 2018. Mean combined class sizes by year are as follows: 555 in 2009, 571 in 2010, 599 in 2011, 589 in 2012, 562 in 2013, 494 in 2014, 460 in 2015, 444 in 2016, 399 in 2017, and 420 in 2018.

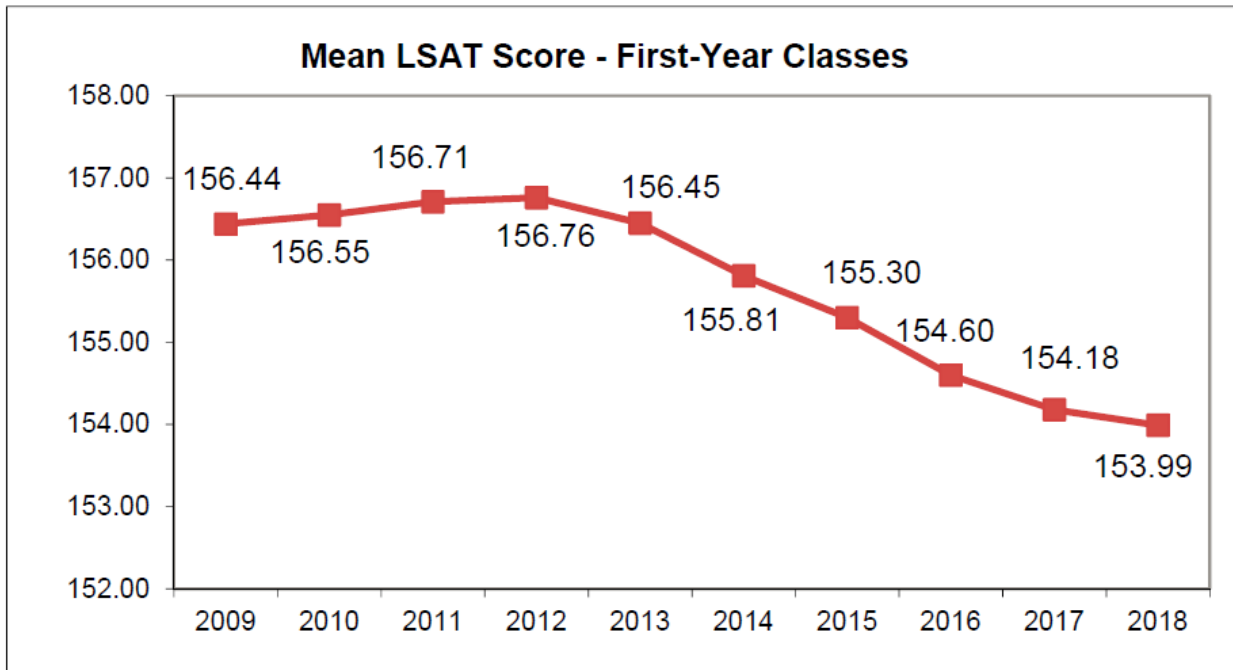


FIGURE 2.3. Mean LSAT scores for combined first-year classes from 2009 to 2018. Scores were consistent from 2009 to 2013 and then fell slightly each year from 2014 to 2018, dropping to a low of 153.99 in 2018. Mean LSAT scores by year are as follows: 156.44 in 2009, 156.55 in 2010, 156.71 in 2011, 156.76 in 2012, 156.45 in 2013, 155.81 in 2014, 155.30 in 2015, 154.60 in 2016, 154.18 in 2017, and 153.99 in 2018.

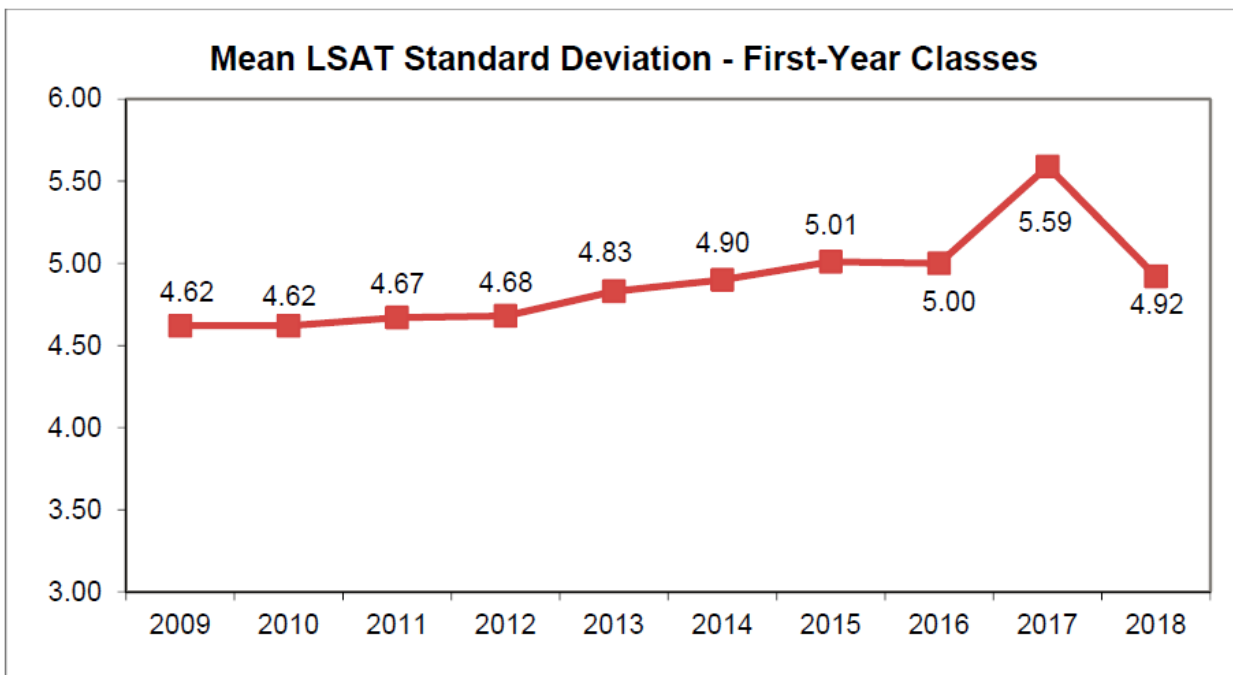


FIGURE 2.4. Mean LSAT standard deviations for combined first-year classes from 2009 to 2018. Standard deviations by year are as follows: 4.62 in 2009 and 2010; 4.67 in 2011; 4.68 in 2012; 4.83 in 2013; 4.90 in 2014; 5.01 in 2015; 5.00 in 2016; 5.59 in 2017; and 4.92 in 2018.

TABLE 2.2a

Summary correlations for participants in the 2018 LSAT Correlation Studies based on LSAT score

Statistic	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT	UGPA/FYA	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT
	Score/FYA	Score/FYA		Score/UGPA	Score/UGPA	Score + UGPA/FYA	Score + UGPA/FYA
Mean	0.41	0.38	0.26	-0.04	-0.08	0.50	0.49
<i>SD</i>	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.15	0.16	0.08	0.08
Range							
Minimum	0.14	0.14	0.01	-0.46	-0.53	0.20	0.22
Maximum	0.67	0.64	0.47	0.30	0.27	0.73	0.70
Percentiles							
25th	0.35	0.32	0.20	-0.14	-0.19	0.45	0.43
50th (median)	0.40	0.38	0.28	-0.04	-0.08	0.50	0.49
75th	0.46	0.44	0.33	0.06	0.04	0.55	0.54

TABLE 2.2b

Summary of corrected correlations for participants in the 2018 LSAT Correlation Studies based on LSAT score

Statistic	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT	UGPA/FYA	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT	Average LSAT	Highest LSAT
	Score/FYA	Score/FYA		Score/UGPA	Score/UGPA	Score + UGPA/FYA	Score + UGPA/FYA
Mean	0.60	0.60	0.43	0.26	0.25	0.67	0.67
<i>SD</i>	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06
Range							
Minimum	0.29	0.38	0.21	0.12	0.10	0.32	0.41
Maximum	0.82	0.80	0.57	0.45	0.44	0.85	0.84
Percentiles							
25th	0.57	0.56	0.39	0.23	0.21	0.63	0.63
50th (median)	0.61	0.61	0.43	0.26	0.25	0.68	0.68
75th	0.64	0.65	0.47	0.30	0.28	0.71	0.71

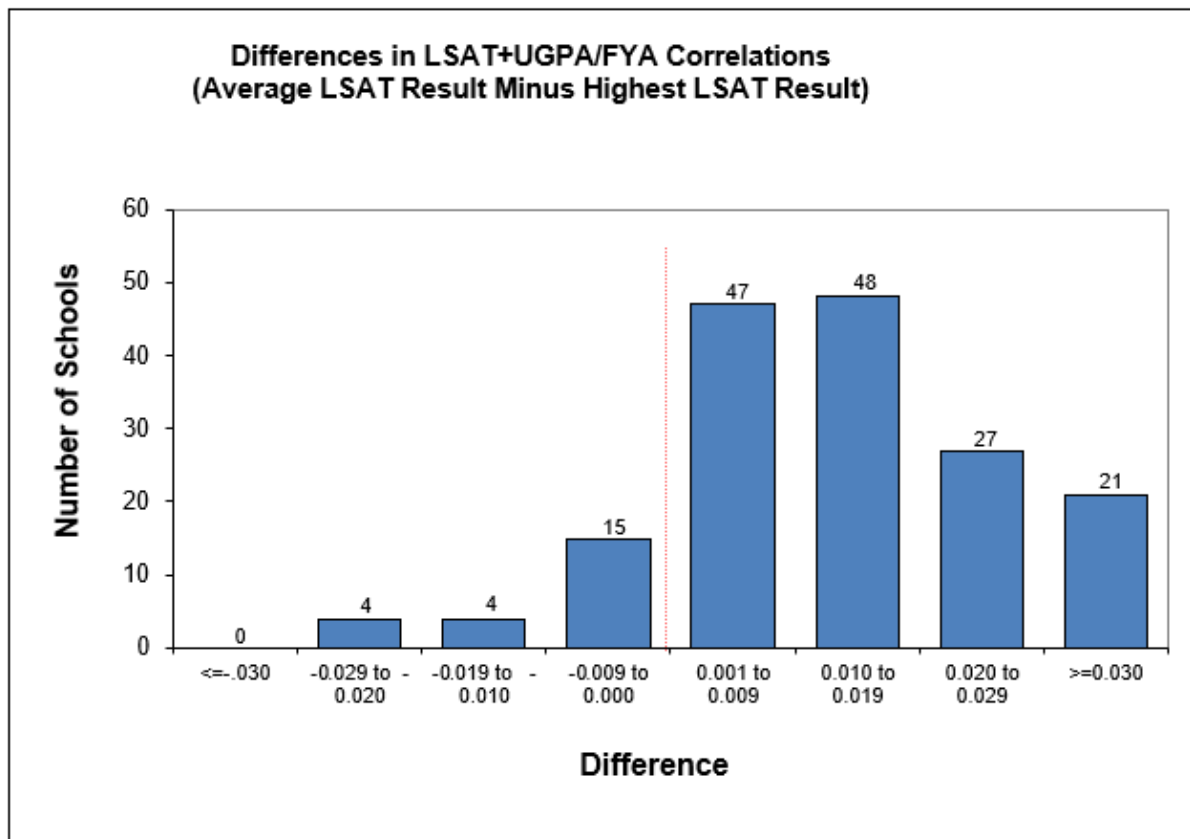


FIGURE 2.5. Differences in LSAT+UGPA/FYA correlations (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score): 0 schools had a difference equal to or less than -0.030 ; 4 schools had a difference of -0.029 to -0.020 ; 4 schools had a difference of -0.019 to -0.010 ; 15 schools had a difference of -0.009 to 0.000 ; 47 schools had a difference of 0.001 to 0.009 ; 48 schools had a difference of 0.010 to 0.019 ; 27 schools had a difference of 0.020 to 0.029 ; and 21 schools had a difference equal to or greater than 0.030 .

TABLE 2.3
Differences in correlation coefficients (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score)

Difference Statistic	LSAT Score + UGPA	LSAT Score Only
Mean	0.01	0.03
<i>SD</i>	0.01	0.02
Range		
Minimum	-0.02	-0.02
Maximum	0.06	0.07
Percentages		
25th	0.00	0.01
50th (median)	0.01	0.03
75th	0.02	0.04

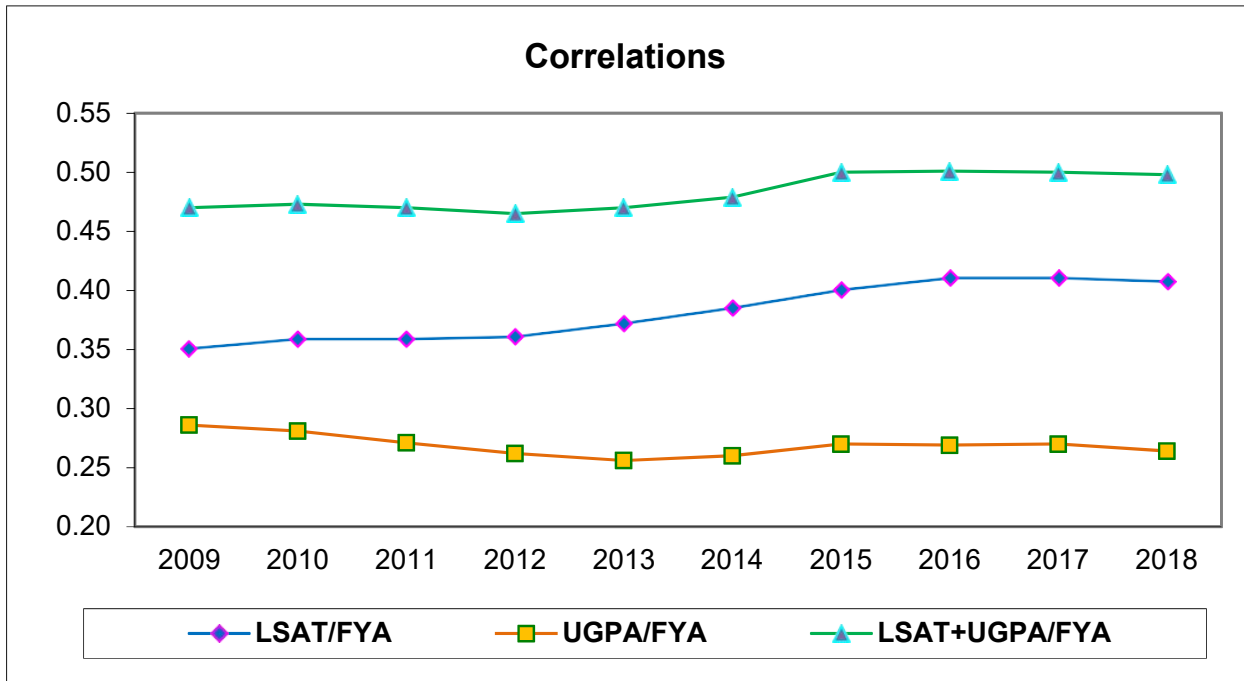


FIGURE 2.6. Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score from 2009 to 2018. Correlation results are as follows: For LSAT/FYA, approximately 0.35 in 2009, rising to approximately 0.41 in 2018; for UGPA/FYA, approximately 0.29 in 2009, lowering to approximately 0.26 in 2018; for LSAT+UGPA/FYA, approximately 0.47 in 2009, rising to approximately 0.50 in 2018.

TABLE 2.4
Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
LSAT/FYA	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.41
UGPA/FYA	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.26
LSAT/UGPA	-0.06	-0.06	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07	-0.05	-0.04	-0.03	-0.04	-0.04
LSAT+UGPA/FYA	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.48	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50

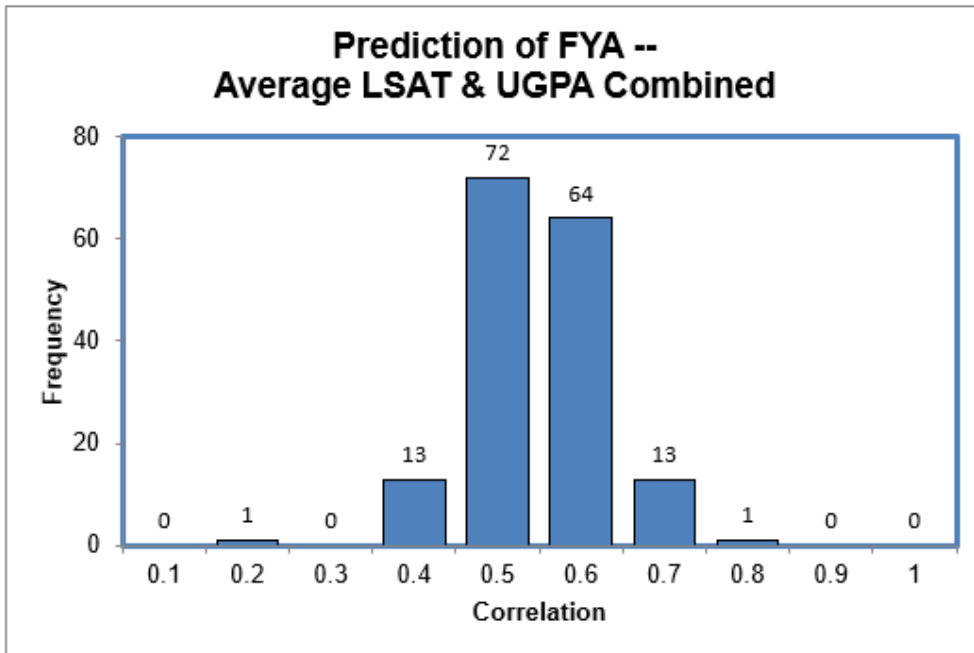


FIGURE 2.7a. Distribution of correlation results (average LSAT score + UGPA combined) from 2009 to 2018: 1 school had a correlation of 0.2; 13 schools had a correlation of 0.4; 72 schools had a correlation of .05; 64 schools had a correlation of 0.6; 13 schools had a correlation of 0.7; and 1 school had a correlation of 0.8.

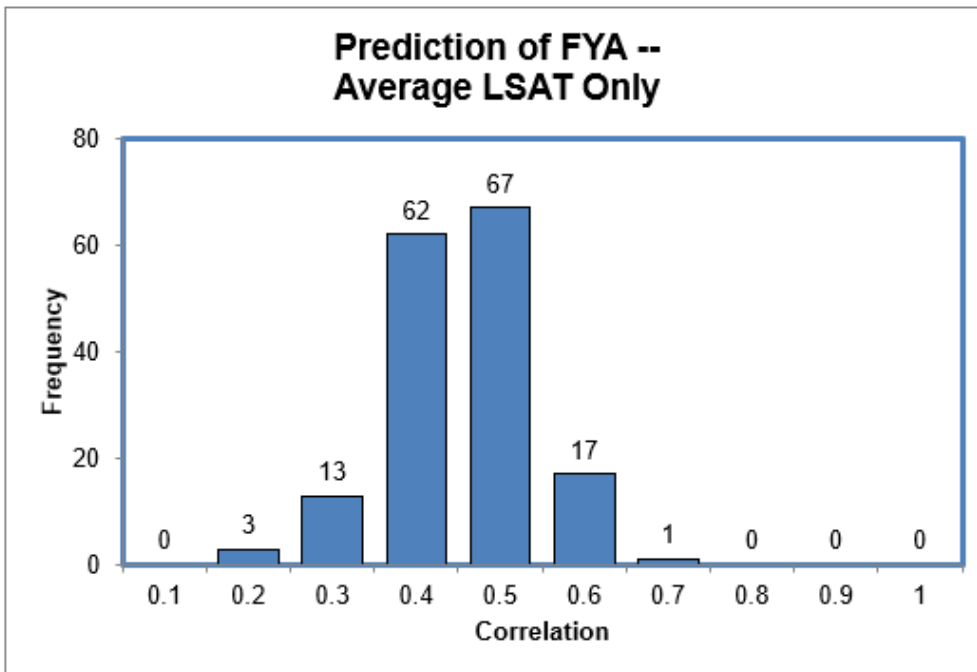


FIGURE 2.7b. Distribution of correlation results (average LSAT score only) from 2009 to 2018: 3 schools had a correlation of 0.2; 13 schools had a correlation of 0.3; 62 schools had a correlation of .04; 67 schools had a correlation of 0.5; 17 schools had a correlation of 0.6; and 1 school had a correlation of 0.7.

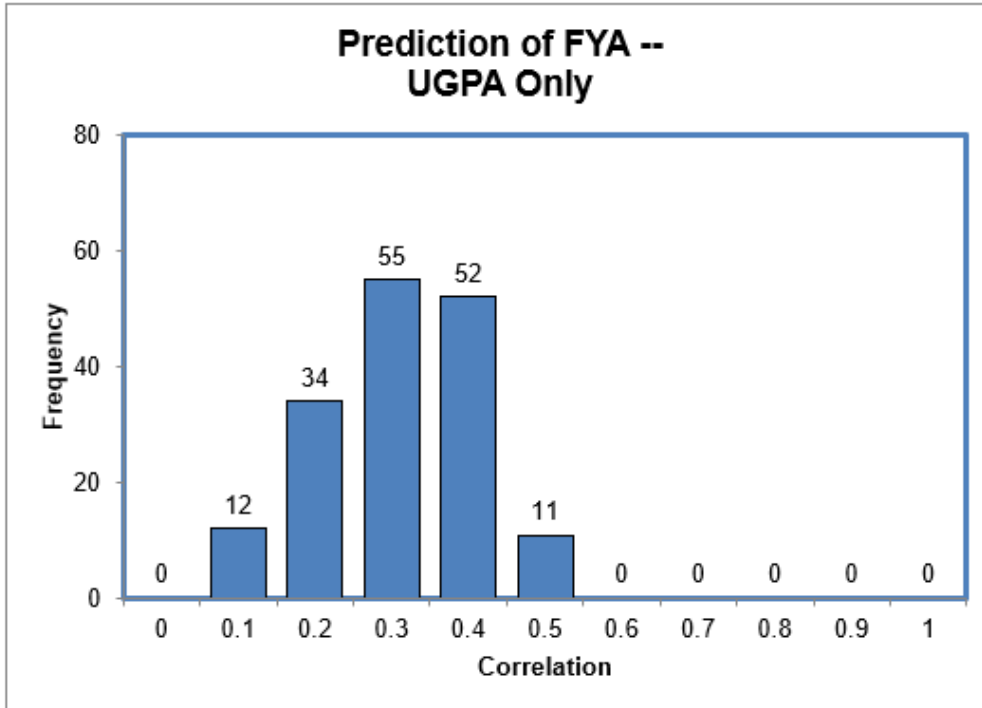


FIGURE 2.7c. Distribution of correlation results (UGPA only) from 2009 to 2018: 12 schools had a correlation of 0.1; 34 schools had a correlation of 0.2; 55 schools had a correlation of .03; 52 schools had a correlation of 0.4; and 11 schools had a correlation of 0.5.

TABLE 2.5
Summary of proportional contributions by predictor variable in predictive formula

Statistic	Average LSAT Score	UGPA (Average LSAT Score)	Highest LSAT Score	UGPA (Highest LSAT Score)
Mean	59.83	40.17	57.69	42.31
<i>SD</i>	7.57	7.57	7.50	7.50
Range				
Minimum	37.18	20.27	33.95	23.64
Maximum	79.73	62.82	76.36	66.05
Percentiles				
25th	54.48	34.69	52.83	36.78
50th (median)	60.10	39.91	57.78	42.23
75th	65.31	45.52	62.23	47.18

TABLE 2.6

Changes in correlation coefficients from 2017 to 2018 for predictors of first-year average^a

Difference Statistic	Average LSAT Score + UGPA	Average LSAT Score Only	UGPA Only
Mean	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
<i>SD</i>	0.04	0.04	0.05
Range			
Minimum	-0.16	-0.12	-0.12
Maximum	0.11	0.15	0.14
Percentages			
25th	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03
50th (median)	-0.01	-0.01	0.00
75th	0.02	0.02	0.02

^a2018 result minus 2017 result, based on the 169 schools that participated in both years

Part 3. Results from the 2019 LSAT Correlation Study

The annual LSAT Correlation Studies provide important information about the predictive validity of LSAT scores and UGPAs at each law school and their relationship to students' FYAs. Previous LSAT Correlation Studies have confirmed that LSAT score is a good predictor of first-year law school performance, as indicated by FYA. The findings have also verified that the combination of LSAT score and UGPA is usually better at predicting first-year performance than either factor alone.

From August 2019 through May 2020, 163 law schools (158 ABA-approved schools and 5 Canadian schools) participated in the 2019 cycle of the LSAT Correlation Studies. The number of participants continued to be at the lower levels experienced since the inception of disclosure agreements in 2012.

For most schools, the study was based on full-time students in the 2016, 2017, and 2018 fall-entering classes. Schools that instituted grade scale changes in 2017 or 2018 or those that did not participate in all 3 study years may have data representing a different set of entering classes. Data for the 2018 fall-entering class was combined with the data for up to two previous entering classes, as available, to update the validity analysis for each school.

The results for these 163 schools are summarized in Table 3.1, Figure 3.1, and Figure 3.2. Four schools are omitted from the summary due to the following reasons: insufficient combined class size, multiple entering classes and classifications, atypical score distributions, or a preference to be excluded from the summary.

In addition to the standard analysis, the study includes results for the school applicant pools and provides a multivariate correction for restriction of range. The corrected correlation estimates for the applicant pools (Table 3.2b) are higher than the raw correlations for the matriculant group (Table 3.2a) and should give a better assessment of the predictive validity of LSAT score and UGPA (Figures 3.7a, 3.7b, and 3.7c).

Although the outcomes for individual schools may have fluctuated from those obtained last year, the summary results are similar for these entering classes. The mean of the average LSAT scores for matriculants was similar to the prior cycle's results after having previously declined for 6 straight years. Score variation increased to levels similar to those observed in the 2017 cycle (Figures 3.3 and 3.4). The mean correlations of FYAs with LSAT scores remained stable (Table 3.4, Table 3.6, and Figure 3.6). Correlations of FYA with LSAT alone and with the combined predictors (LSAT scores and UGPAs) have remained steady since the 2015 cycle.

In recognition of ABA reporting requirements, a second report based on highest LSAT score was produced for each school. For 135 (88%) of the schools, average LSAT score was a better predictor than highest LSAT score (Figure 3.5), although the difference was slight. This summary focuses on results obtained using average LSAT score. For comparison purposes, results based on highest score are reported in Tables 3.3 and 3.5.

TABLE 3.1

Descriptive statistics for full participants in the 2019 LSAT Correlation Studies

Statistic	Combined Class Size	Average LSAT Score	Highest LSAT Score	UGPA ^a
Total Participants	163	163	163	159
Number of Schools ^b	159	159	159	157
Mean	452.92	153.93	155.05	3.36
<i>SD</i>	215.77	5.38	5.38	0.19
Range				
Minimum	58	142.85	144.30	2.90
Maximum	1,245	168.64	170.23	3.83
Percentiles				
25th	285	150.18	151.22	3.23
50th (median)	433	153.22	154.23	3.35
75th	565	157.62	158.77	3.48

^aOnly schools with standard UGPA scale data are included.^bSummary data is based on schools that met all participation requirements.

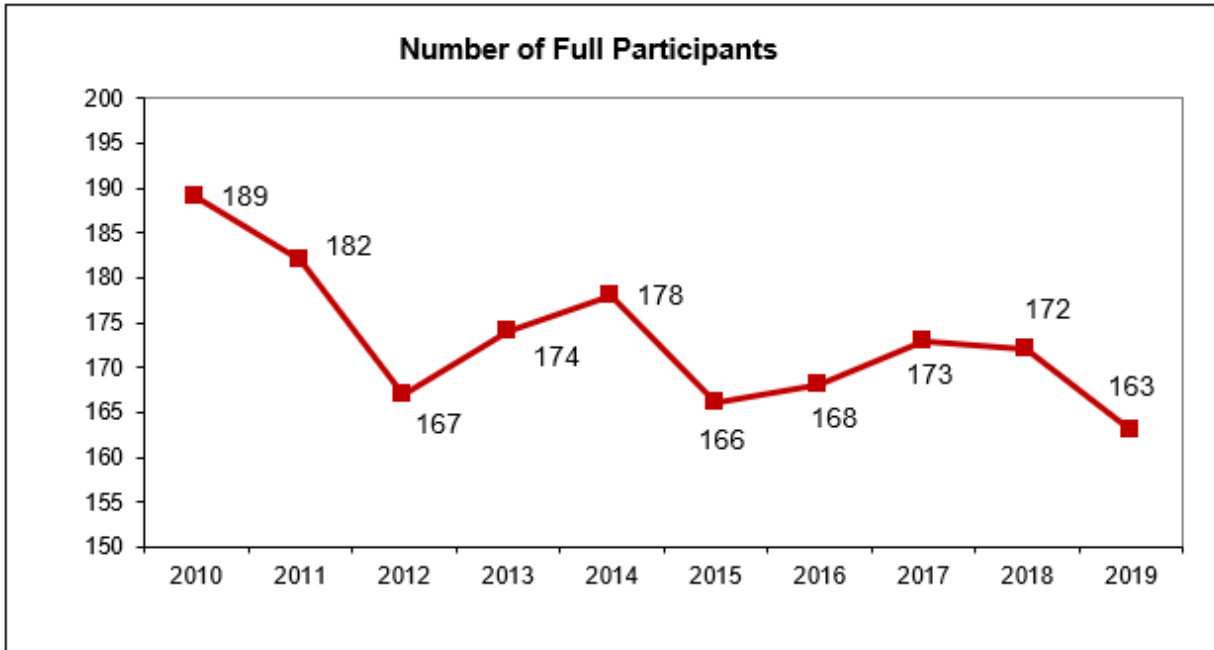


FIGURE 3.1. Trends in full LSAT Correlation Study participation from 2010 to 2019. The number of full participants fell from a high of 189 in 2010 to a low of 163 in 2019. Numbers by year are as follows: 189 in 2010, 182 in 2011, 167 in 2012, 174 in 2013, 178 in 2014, 166 in 2015, 168 in 2016, 173 in 2017, 172 in 2018, and 163 in 2019.

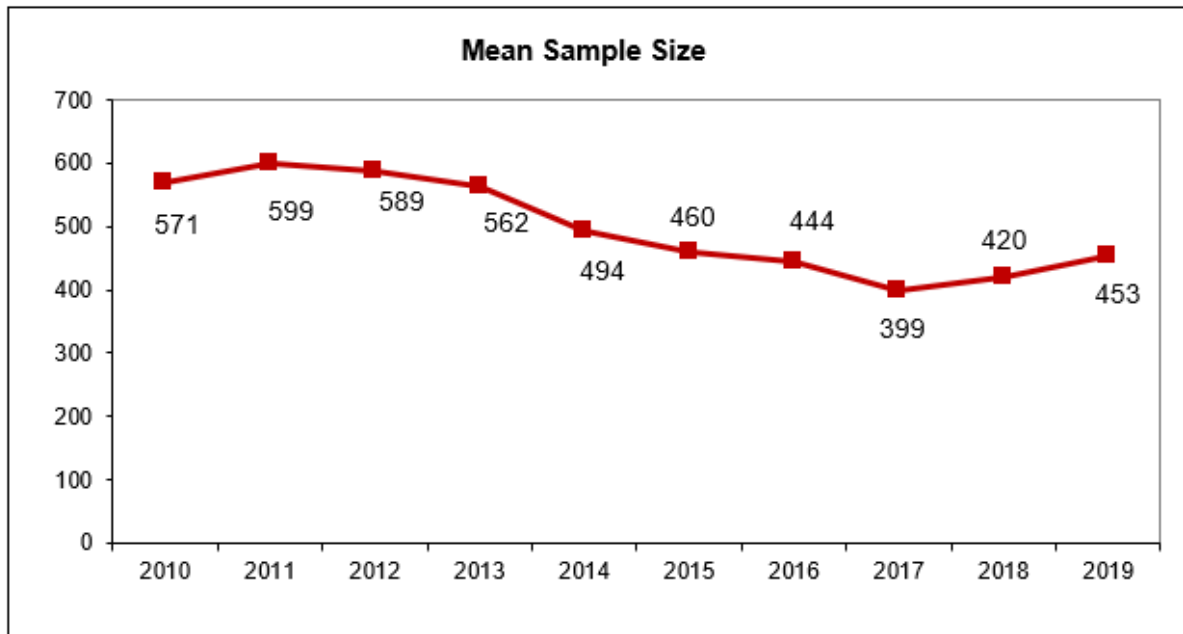


FIGURE 3.2. Trends in mean combined class size from 2010 to 2019. Means rose from 571 in 2010 to a high of 599 in 2011, dropping to a low of 399 in 2017 and rising back to 453 in 2019. Mean combined class sizes by year are as follows: 571 in 2010, 599 in 2011, 589 in 2012, 562 in 2013, 494 in 2014, 460 in 2015, 444 in 2016, 399 in 2017, 420 in 2018, and 453 in 2019.

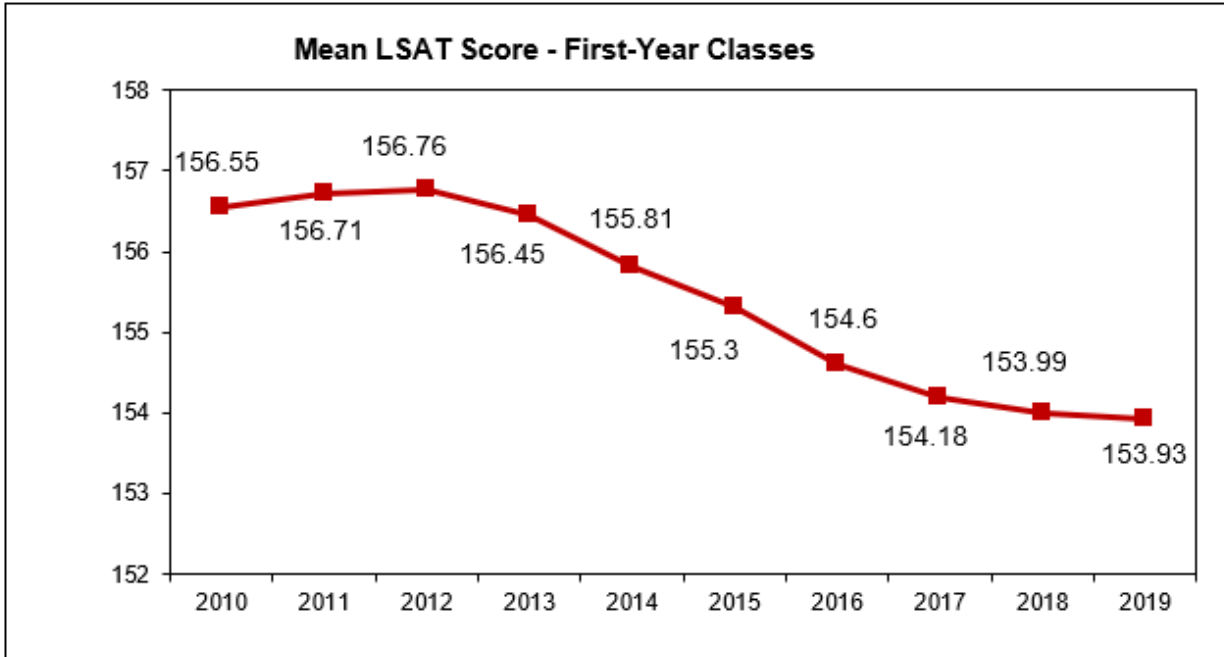


FIGURE 3.3. Mean LSAT scores for combined first-year classes from 2010 to 2019. Scores were consistent from 2010 to 2013 and then fell slightly each year from 2014 to 2019. Mean LSAT scores by year are as follows: 156.55 in 2010, 156.71 in 2011, 156.76 in 2012, 156.45 in 2013, 155.81 in 2014, 155.30 in 2015, 154.60 in 2016, 154.18 in 2017, 153.99 in 2018, and 153.93 in 2019.

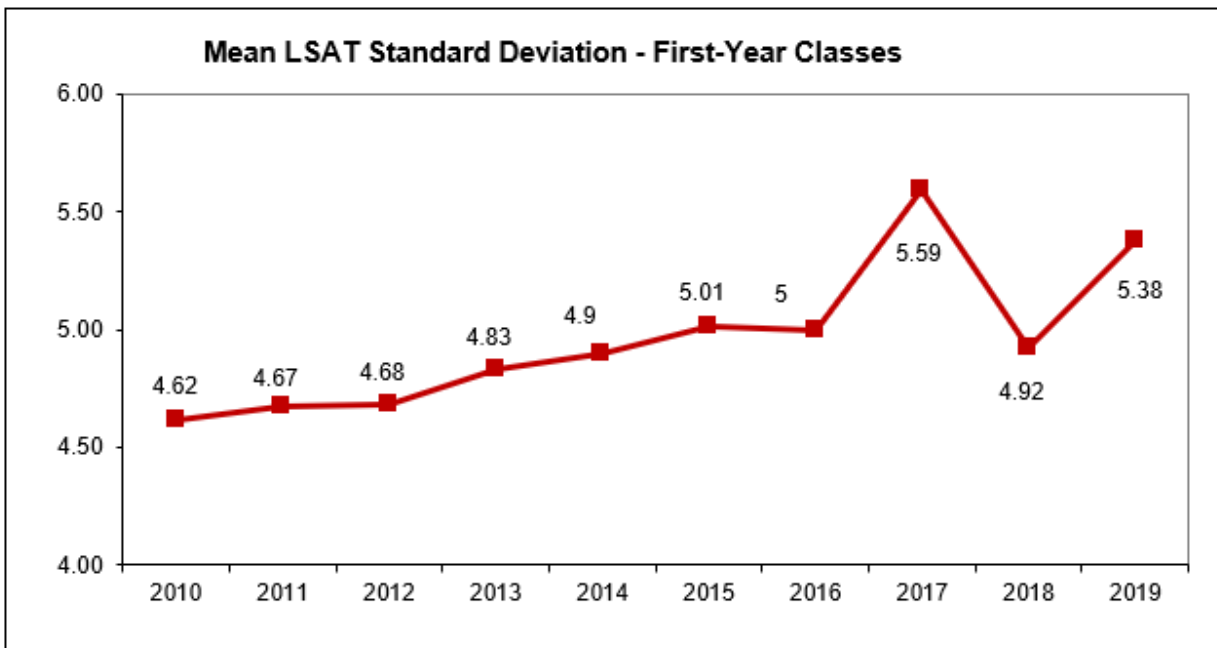


FIGURE 3.4. Mean LSAT standard deviations for combined first-year classes from 2010 to 2019. Standard deviations by year are as follows: 4.62 in 2010, 4.67 in 2011, 4.68 in 2012, 4.83 in 2013, 4.90 in 2014, 5.01 in 2015, 5.00 in 2016, 5.59 in 2017, 4.92 in 2018, and 5.38 in 2019.

TABLE 3.2a

Summary of Pearson correlations for participants in the 2019 LSAT Correlation Studies based on LSAT score

Statistic	Average LSAT Highest LSAT			Average LSAT Highest LSAT			Average LSAT Highest LSAT	
	Score/FYA	Score/FYA	UGPA/FYA	Score/UGPA	Score/UGPA	UGPA/FYA	Score +	Score +
Mean	0.40	0.37	0.26	-0.06	-0.09	0.49	0.48	
SD	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.14	0.15	0.08	0.08	
Range								
Minimum	0.20	0.18	0.04	-0.44	-0.50	0.28	0.25	
Maximum	0.64	0.61	0.47	0.29	0.27	0.73	0.69	
Percentiles								
25th	0.35	0.31	0.20	-0.15	-0.19	0.44	0.42	
50th (median)	0.40	0.37	0.26	-0.05	-0.08	0.50	0.48	
75th	0.45	0.42	0.32	0.04	0.02	0.54	0.53	

TABLE 3.2b

Summary of corrected correlations for participants in the 2019 LSAT Correlation Studies based on LSAT score

Statistic	Average LSAT Highest LSAT			Average LSAT Highest LSAT			Average LSAT Highest LSAT	
	Score/FYA	Score/FYA	UGPA/FYA	Score/UGPA	Score/UGPA	UGPA/FYA	Score +	Score +
Mean	0.60	0.59	0.42	0.25	0.24	0.66	0.66	
SD	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	
Range								
Minimum	0.39	0.38	0.21	0.13	0.11	0.43	0.42	
Maximum	0.80	0.78	0.58	0.45	0.43	0.86	0.85	
Percentiles								
25th	0.56	0.55	0.39	0.22	0.20	0.63	0.62	
50th (median)	0.60	0.60	0.43	0.25	0.24	0.66	0.67	
75th	0.64	0.63	0.46	0.28	0.27	0.70	0.70	

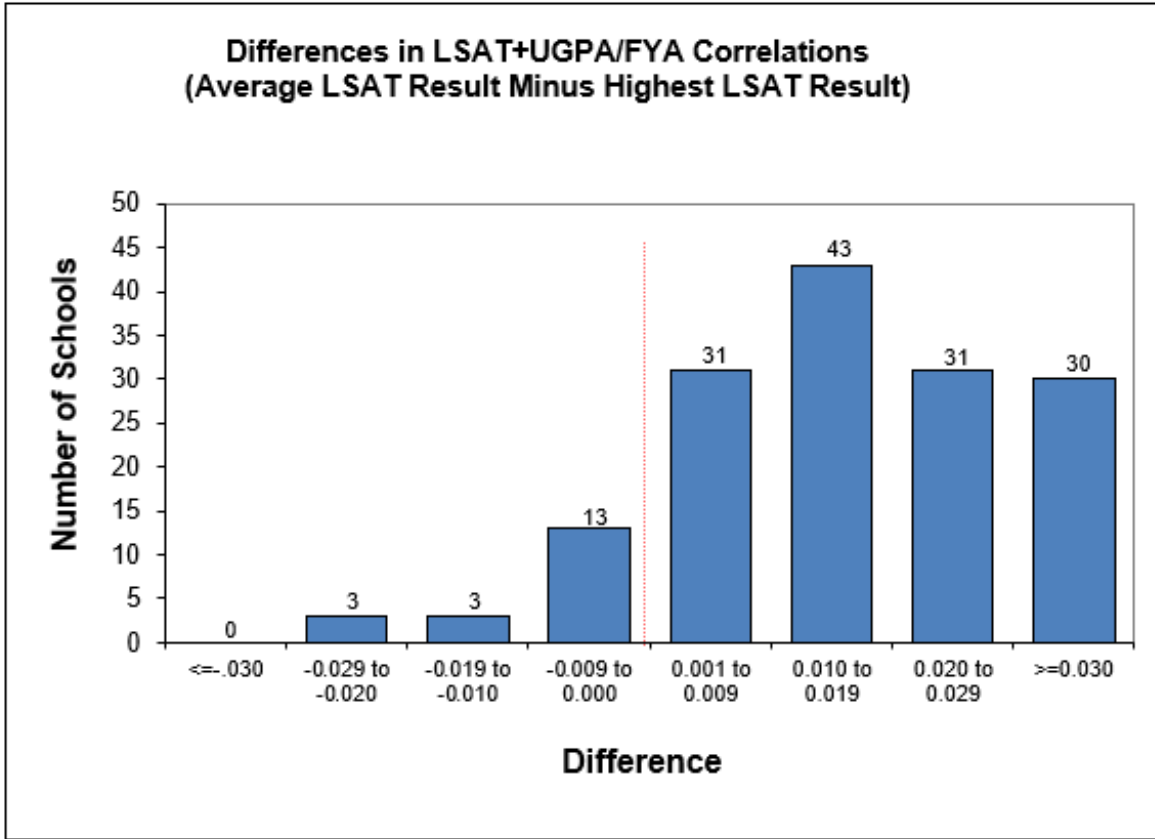


FIGURE 3.5. Differences in LSAT+UGPA/FYA correlations (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score): Zero schools had a difference equal to or less than -0.030 ; 3 schools had a difference of -0.029 to -0.020 ; 3 schools had a difference of -0.019 to -0.010 ; 13 schools had a difference of -0.009 to 0.000 ; 31 schools had a difference of 0.001 to 0.009 ; 43 schools had a difference of 0.010 to 0.019 ; 31 schools had a difference of 0.020 to 0.029 ; and 30 schools had a difference equal to or greater than 0.030 .

TABLE 3.3
Differences in correlation coefficients (average LSAT score minus highest LSAT score)

Difference Statistic	LSAT Score +UGPA	LSAT Score Only
Mean	0.02	0.03
SD	0.02	0.02
Range		
Minimum	-0.03	-0.02
Maximum	0.08	0.12
Percentages		
25 th	0.01	0.02
50 th (median)	0.02	0.03
75 th	0.03	0.04

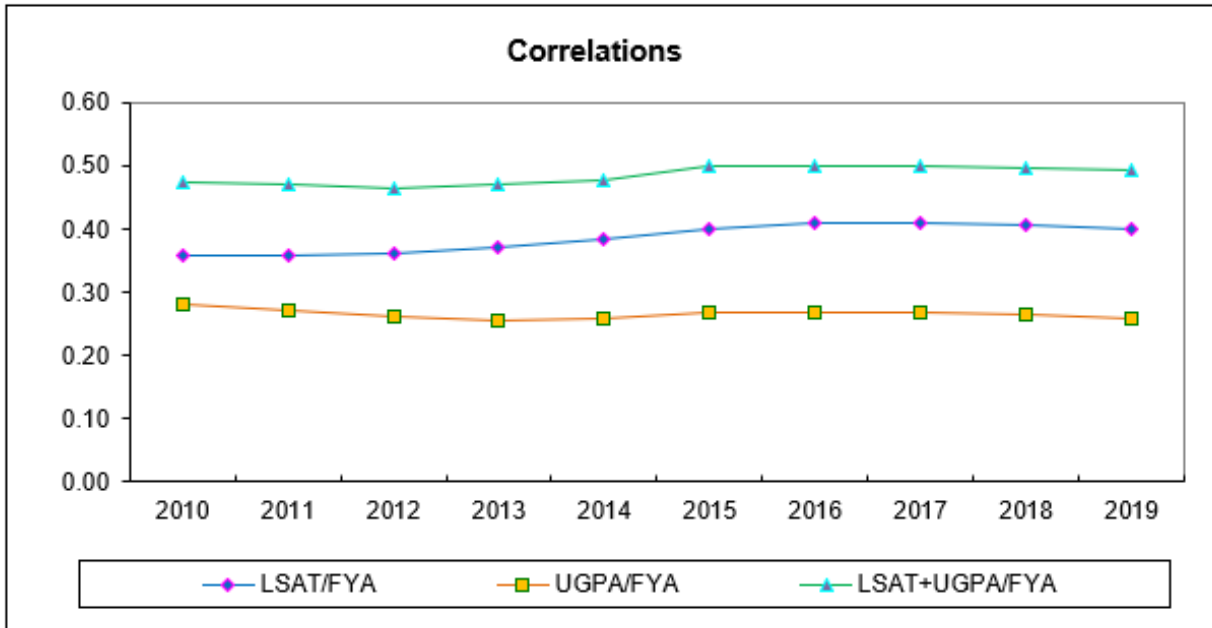


FIGURE 3.6. Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score from 2010 to 2019. Correlation results are as follows: For LSAT/FYA, approximately 0.36 in 2010, rising to approximately 0.40 in 2019; for UGPA/FYA, approximately 0.28 in 2010, lowering to approximately 0.26 in 2019; for LSAT+UGPA/FYA, approximately 0.47 in 2010, rising to approximately 0.49 in 2019.

TABLE 3.4
Trends in correlation results using average LSAT score

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
LSAT/FYA	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.40
UGPA/FYA	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.26
LSAT/UGPA	-0.06	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07	-0.05	-0.04	-0.03	-0.04	-0.04	-0.06
LSAT+UGPA/FYA	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.48	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.49

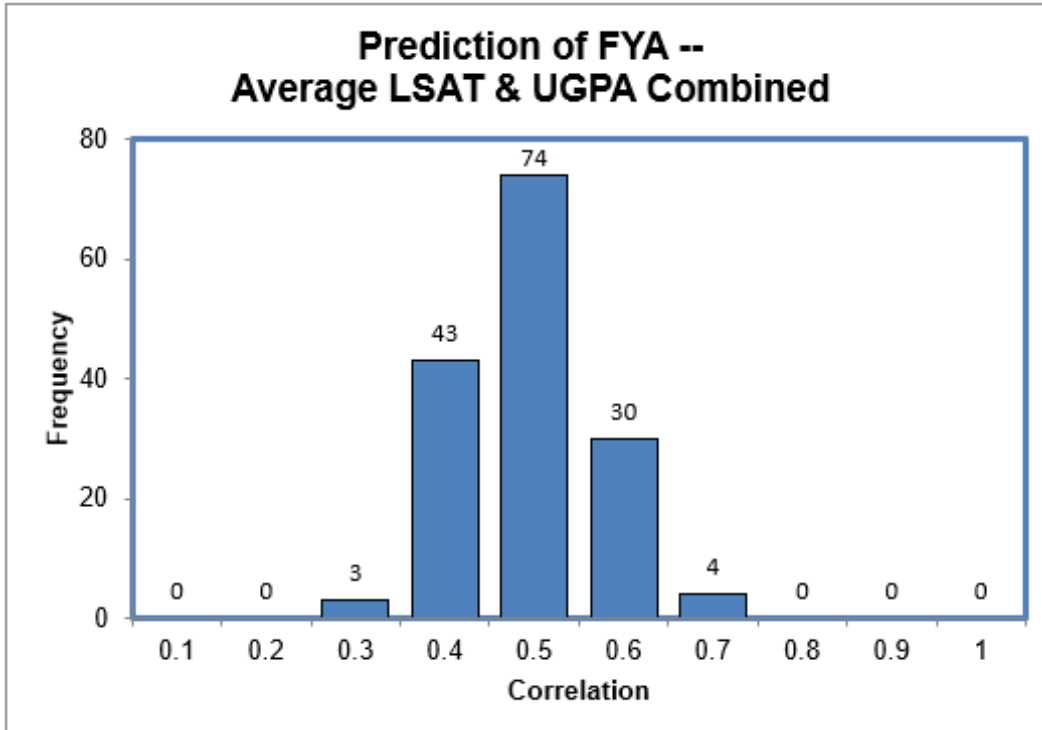


FIGURE 3.7a. Distribution of correlation results (average LSAT score + UGPA combined) from 2010 to 2019: 3 schools had a correlation of 0.3; 43 schools had a correlation of 0.4; 74 schools had a correlation of .5; 30 schools had a correlation of 0.6; and 4 schools had a correlation of 0.7.

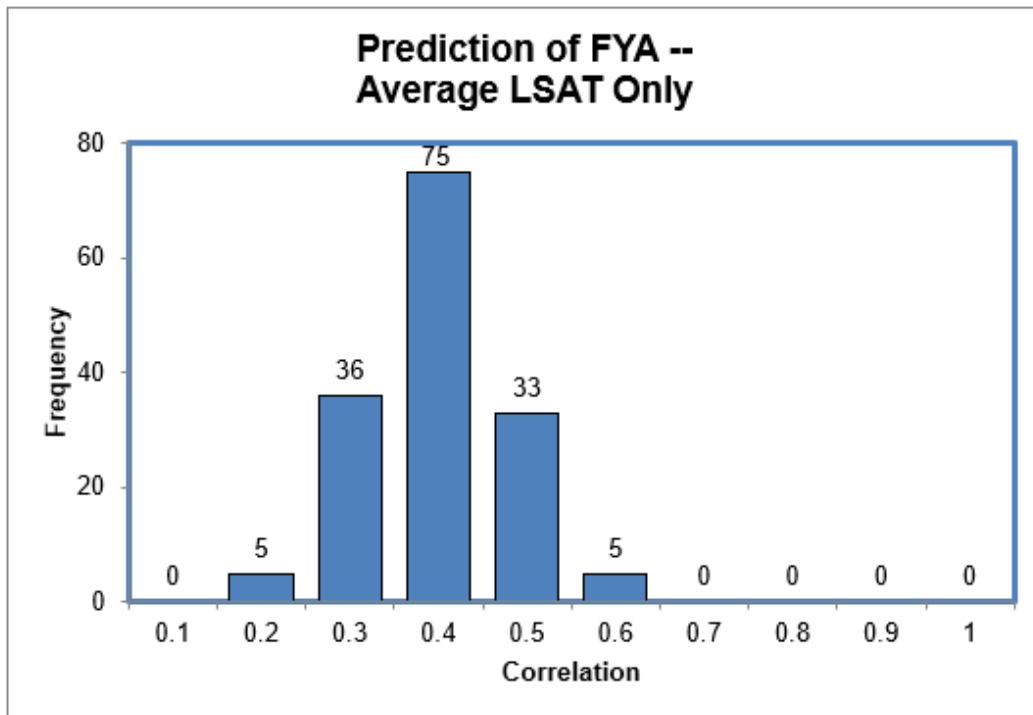


FIGURE 3.7b. Distribution of correlation results (average LSAT score only) from 2010 to 2019: 5 schools had a correlation of 0.2; 36 schools had a correlation of 0.3; 75 schools had a correlation of .04; 33 schools had a correlation of 0.5; and 5 schools had a correlation of 0.6.

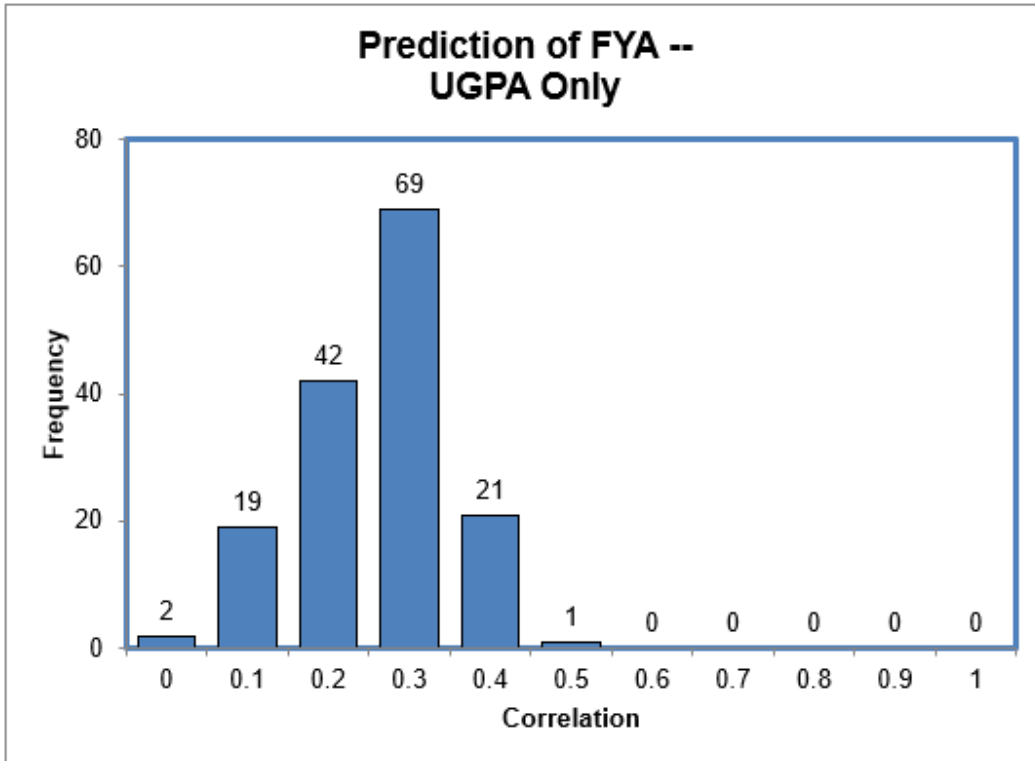


FIGURE 3.7c. Distribution of correlation results (UGPA only) from 2010 to 2019: 2 schools had a correlation of 0.0; 19 schools had a correlation of 0.1; 42 schools had a correlation of .02; 69 schools had a correlation of 0.3; 21 schools had a correlation of 0.4; and 1 school had a correlation of 0.5.

TABLE 3.5
Summary of proportional contributions by predictor variable in predictive formula

Statistic	UGPA		UGPA	
	Average LSAT Score	(Average LSAT Score)	Highest LSAT Score	(Highest LSAT Score)
Mean	59.44	40.56	57.19	42.81
SD	7.13	7.13	7.16	7.16
Range				
Minimum	40.62	23.47	35.13	26.45
Maximum	76.53	59.38	73.55	64.87
Percentiles				
25th	55.31	35.89	53.09	38.00
50th (median)	59.50	40.50	57.52	42.48
75th	64.11	44.69	62.00	46.91

TABLE 3.6

Changes in correlation coefficients from 2018 to 2019 for predictors of first-year average^a

Difference Statistic	Average LSAT Score + UGPA	Average LSAT Score Only	UGPA Only
Mean	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>SD</i>	0.03	0.04	0.04
Range			
Minimum	-0.11	-0.14	-0.12
Maximum	0.17	0.09	0.18
Percentages			
25th	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03
50th (median)	-0.01	-0.01	0.00
75th	0.02	0.02	0.02

^a2019 result minus 2018 result, based on the 145 schools that participated in both years