

**The Thurgood Marshall School of Law Empirical Findings: A Report of the Relationship
between Graduate GPAs and First-Time Texas Bar Scores of February 2010 and July
2009**

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To: Holley, D.
Interim Dean, Thurgood Marshall School of Law (TMSL)

From: Kadhi, T.
Director of Assessment, TMSL

Subject: Descriptive Statistics of Final GPAs of February 2010 and July 2009 TMSL
First-Time Bar Examinees

The following report gives statistical findings of the Grade Point Averages (GPAs) of the February 2010 and July 2009 TMSL First Time Bar Test Takers and their TMSL Final GPA. Data was pre-existing and was given to the Evaluator by email from the Dean and Registrar. Statistical analyses were run using SPSS 17 to address the following questions:

1. What are the statistical descriptors of the first-time February 2010 and July 2009 TMSL Bar students' GPAs in conjunction with their Bar scores?
2. What is the relationship of the Final GPA of the First Time Bar Test Takers and their GPAs?

After the presentation of the data findings, a summary section is written at the end of this report/study addressing the above research questions.

CC:
Asst. Dean of Academic Support
Registrar

Statistical Descriptors of GPAs of First-Time Bar Test Takers

GPA Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Included		Excluded		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Final * GPA Grp	164	100.0%	0	.0%	164	100.0%
Final GPA * GPA Grp	164	100.0%	0	.0%	164	100.0%

GPA Case Summaries

GPA Groups		Final Bar Score	Final GPA
2.1-2.19	N	1	1
	Mean	632.00	2.170000
	Median	632.00	2.170000
	Minimum	632	2.1700
	Maximum	632	2.1700
	Range	0	.0000
	N and % of Total passed	0	0%
	% of Total Sum	.6%	.5%
	% of Total N	.6%	.6%
2.2-2.29	N	2	2
	Mean	624.00	2.255000
	Median	624.00	2.255000
	Minimum	591	2.2300
	Maximum	657	2.2800
	Range	66	.0500

	N and % of Total passed	0	0%
	% of Total Sum	1.1%	1.0%
	% of Total N	1.2%	1.2%
2.3-2.39	N	9	9
	Mean	639.56	2.347778
	Median	632.00	2.350000
	Minimum	565	2.3000
	Maximum	702	2.3900
	Range	137	.0900
	N and % of Total passed	1	11.1%
	% of Total Sum	5.0%	4.5%
	% of Total N	5.5%	5.5%
2.4-2.49	N	10	10
	Mean	651.90	2.439000
	Median	667.50	2.435000
	Minimum	537	2.4000
	Maximum	707	2.4800
	Range	170	.0800
	N and % of Total passed	5	50%
	% of Total Sum	5.7%	5.2%
	% of Total N	6.1%	6.1%
2.5-2.59	N	16	16
	Mean	658.38	2.551250
	Median	677.00	2.560000
	Minimum	537	2.5100
	Maximum	716	2.5900
	Range	179	.0800
	N and % of Total passed	9	56.3%
	% of Total Sum	9.2%	8.6%

	% of Total N	9.8%	9.8%
2.6-2.69	N	13	13
	Mean	667.85	2.627692
	Median	665.00	2.630000
	Minimum	613	2.6000
	Maximum	744	2.6900
	Range	131	.0900
	N and % of Total passed	6	46.2%
	% of Total Sum	7.6%	7.2%
	% of Total N	7.9%	7.9%
2.7-2.79	N	20	20
	Mean	678.50	2.739000
	Median	673.00	2.730000
	Minimum	621	2.7000
	Maximum	758	2.7900
	N and % of Total passed	10	50%
	Range	137	.0900
	% of Total Sum	11.9%	11.6%
	% of Total N	12.2%	12.2%
2.8-2.89	N	16	16
	Mean	681.00	2.840000
	Median	686.00	2.840000
	Minimum	607	2.8000
	Maximum	747	2.8900
	N and % of Total passed	11	68.8%
	Range	140	.0900
	% of Total Sum	9.5%	9.6%
	% of Total N	9.8%	9.8%
2.9-2.99	N	13	13

	Mean	687.08	2.949231
	Median	684.00	2.940000
	Minimum	632	2.9100
	Maximum	726	2.9900
	N and % of Total passed	10	76.9%
	Range	94	.0800
	% of Total Sum	7.8%	8.1%
	% of Total N	7.9%	7.9%
3.0-3.09	N	19	19
	Mean	712.16	3.038947
	Median	704.00	3.030000
	Minimum	631	3.0000
	Maximum	786	3.0800
	N and % of Total passed	17	89.5%
	Range	155	.0800
	% of Total Sum	11.9%	12.2%
	% of Total N	11.6%	11.6%
3.1-3.19	N	13	13
	Mean	730.38	3.140769
	Median	725.00	3.130000
	Minimum	699	3.1000
	Maximum	768	3.1900
	N and % of Total passed	13	100%
	Range	69	.0900
	% of Total Sum	8.3%	8.6%
	% of Total N	7.9%	7.9%
3.2-3.29	N	8	8
	Mean	743.13	3.258750
	Median	749.50	3.260000

	Minimum	682	3.2100
	Maximum	811	3.2900
	N and % of Total passed	8	100%
	Range	129	.0800
	% of Total Sum	5.2%	5.5%
	% of Total N	4.9%	4.9%
3.3-3.39	N	11	11
	Mean	742.73	3.341818
	Median	739.00	3.330000
	Minimum	696	3.3100
	Maximum	796	3.3900
	N and % of Total passed	11	100%
	Range	100	.0800
	% of Total Sum	7.2%	7.8%
	% of Total N	6.7%	6.7%
3.4-3.49	N	6	6
	Mean	780.17	3.448333
	Median	786.00	3.450000
	Minimum	742	3.4000
	Maximum	814	3.4800
	N and % of Total passed	6	100%
	Range	72	.0800
	% of Total Sum	4.1%	4.4%
	% of Total N	3.7%	3.7%
3.5-3.59	N	2	2
	Mean	774.00	3.550000
	Median	774.00	3.550000
	Minimum	742	3.5300
	Maximum	806	3.5700

	N and % of Total passed	2	100%
	Range	64	.0400
	% of Total Sum	1.4%	1.5%
	% of Total N	1.2%	1.2%
3.6-3.69	N	3	3
	Mean	796.00	3.640000
	Median	799.00	3.640000
	Minimum	788	3.6000
	Maximum	801	3.6800
	N and % of Total passed	3	100%
	Range	13	.0800
	% of Total Sum	2.1%	2.3%
	% of Total N	1.8%	1.8%
3.7-3.79	N	1	1
	Mean	797.00	3.720000
	Median	797.00	3.720000
	Minimum	797	3.7200
	Maximum	797	3.7200
	N and % of Total passed	1	100%
	Range	0	.0000
	% of Total Sum	.7%	.8%
	% of Total N	.6%	.6%
3.8-3.89	N	1	1
	Mean	790.00	3.820000
	Median	790.00	3.820000
	Minimum	790	3.8200
	Maximum	790	3.8200
	N and % of Total passed	1	100%
	Range	0	.0000

	% of Total Sum	.7%	.8%
	% of Total N	.6%	.6%
Total	N	164	164
	Mean	695.82	2.886524
	Median	696.50	2.855000
	Minimum	537	2.1700
	Maximum	814	3.8200
	N and % of Total passed	114	69.5%
	Range	277	1.6500
	% of Total Sum	100.0%	100.0%
	% of Total N	100.0%	100.0%

Correlations

		Final GPA	Final Bar Score
Final GPA	Pearson Correlation	1	.735**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	164	164
Final Bar Score	Pearson Correlation	.735**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	164	164

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Final Summary

In conclusion, the findings addressed the following questions:

1. What are the statistical descriptors of the first-time February 2010 and July 2009 TMSL Bar students' GPAs in conjunction with their Bar scores?

The statistical descriptors in **turquoise** indicate the number of passing Bar students in each GPA group along with the passing percentage of that GPA group. The median measure for each group is highlighted in **yellow**.

In addition, further analysis of the descriptive data shows that the highest group median measure for the Bar according to the GPA was the 3.6-3.69 group. The group bar median was 799. Also, the highest Bar score came from that GPA group (801). These findings support a theory that there is a relatively negligent difference from the 3.6-3.69 GPA group and those higher GPAs (3.7-3.9). Although the highest GPA was 3.82, that student's Bar score was 790.

The largest numerical group was 2.7-2.79. There were 20 students in this group, representing 11.9% of the total N and a median score of 673 Bar and 2.73 GPA.

The lowest GPA group that attained a minimal median passing Bar Score (675 Score or greater) was the 2.5-2.59 GPA Group. Their median Bar score was 677. All of the GPA groups below (2.1-2.49) and 2 of the groups above (2.6-2.79) had failing median scores. This phenomenon can only be empirically explained with further investigation.

It should also be noted that 100% of students with a 3.1 or above successfully passed the Bar examination on their first attempt.

2. What is the relationship of the Final GPA of the First Time Bar Test Takers and their GPAs?

The analysis of the GPAs to the Bar Scores indicates a strong statistically significant correlational relationship between the two variables ($R=.735$, $p<.001$). This finding supports the simple theory that as GPAs are higher the Bar Scores for the First-Test Test takers get higher. It should be noted that a strong correlation does not mean causality, but there is rarely a statistical causality without a strong correlation.