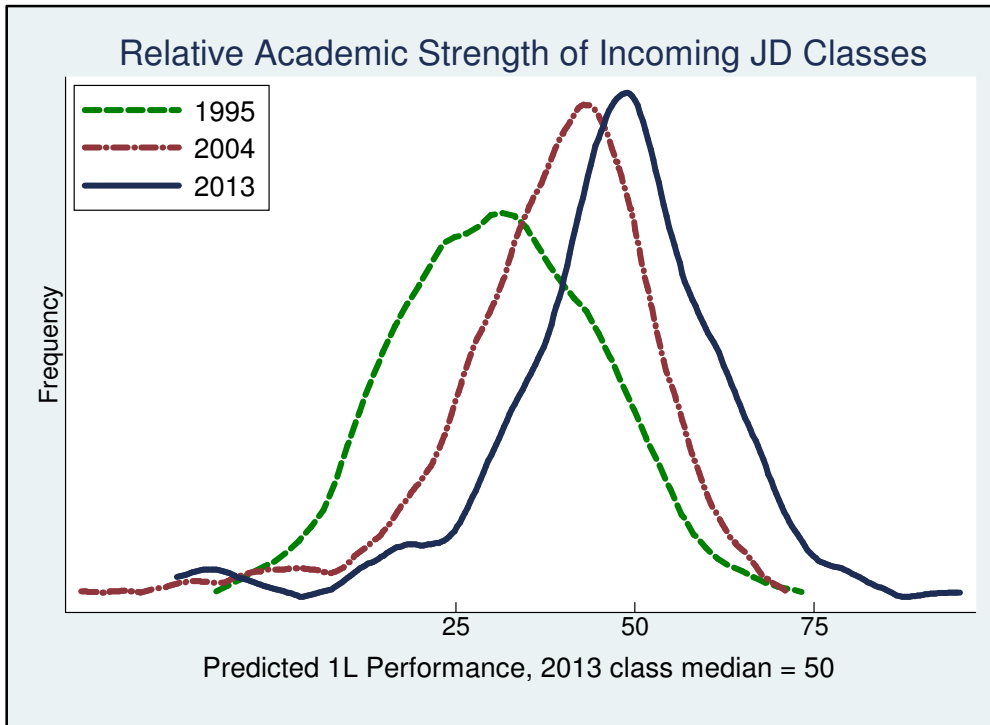




JD Class Composition, Admissions and Grading: Guidance for Employers

In September 2013 we will be welcoming a new class. The chart below shows the relative academic strength of our incoming students in 1995, 2004 and 2013. Notice that the *average* member of the 2013 class is stronger than 90% of the 1995 class. In light of the increased strength of our students, this document outlines some changes we have made to the admissions process and grading system that may be of interest.



Median LSAT Percentiles

1995: 91st percentile
2004: 93rd percentile
2013: 95th percentile

Median GPAs*

1995: 81.6%
2004: 84.3%
2013: 85.4%

Highest LSATs / GPAs*

1995: 99.9 percentile / 92.9%
2004: 99.9 percentile / 94.6%
2013: 99.9 percentile / 94.3%

* Based on three best full-time undergraduate years

Recent Changes to Admissions: Before making admissions offers we estimate the performance of applicants based on the performance of past admitted students from the same university programs. Because not all university programs are the same, this allows us to make distinctions that unadjusted numbers do not permit. The result is a better measure of an applicant's true academic abilities. We attend to the personal dimensions of applications too. Essays count for a third of our assessment and are read by three or more admissions committee members. For a student perspective on these changes, see <http://bit.ly/XfR1MM>

Recent Changes to Grading: We have adopted a new grading system for the JD program. Newly entering JD students beginning in 2012 are being assessed on a modified pass-fail system using the following grades: Low Pass ("LP", <5% frequency), Pass with Merit ("P", 55% frequency), Honours ("H", 30% frequency) and High Honours ("HH", 15% frequency). The new grading system means that most incoming JD students can expect to receive predominantly grades of Pass with Merit (P), despite being as academically gifted as students with *Honours Standing* from the incoming class of 1995 (see above). As a consequence, any performance at a higher level, including Honours (H) and especially High Honours (HH), is a remarkably strong result. For a student perspective on these changes, see <http://bit.ly/15RgYWY>

If you have any comments or questions about the 2013 class profile, the changes that we are making to the admissions process or the new JD grading system, please contact me—I'd be delighted to hear from you.