

Using Percentile Ranks in Admissions

► How can percentile ranks help with the interpretation of applicants' scores?

MCAT® score reports provide percentile ranks—one for each section score and one for the total score. The percentile ranks show the percentages of test takers who received the same or lower scores on the exam as the applicant. They show how the scores of your applicants compare to the scores of everyone who sat for the exam.

Percentile Ranks in Effect May 1, 2017–April 30, 2018

Total Score	Percentile Rank	Total Score	Percentile Rank	Total Score	Percentile Rank
472	<1	491	22	510	82
473	<1	492	24	511	85
474	<1	493	27	512	87
475	<1	494	30	513	89
476	1	495	33	514	91
477	1	496	37	515	93
478	2	497	40	516	94
479	2	498	43	517	95
480	3	499	47	518	97
481	4	500	50	519	97
482	5	501	54	520	98
483	6	502	57	521	99
484	7	503	61	522	99
485	9	504	64	523	100
486	11	505	67	524	100
487	12	506	71	525	100
488	15	507	74	526	100
489	17	508	77	527	100
490	19	509	80	528	100

As the percentile rank table shows, a total score of 501 on the MCAT exam has a percentile rank of 54%. This means that 54% of MCAT scores were equal to or less than 501.

Every year on May 1, the percentile ranks for the MCAT exam will be updated using data from one or more previous years. These annual updates will ensure that the percentile ranks reflect current and stable information about applicants' scores. This means that changes in percentile ranks from one year to another reflect meaningful changes in examinees' scores, rather than year-to-year fluctuations. Updating percentile ranks is consistent with industry practice.