

Key Diversity Statistics: African Americans

GMAT® Exam Test Year 2011

Key Statistics

African American Unique GMAT Examinees

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Other GMAC research

GMAC Data-to-Go: US Underrepresented Populations in the Student Pipeline. This interactive report features data about the interests, motivations, and concerns of African American prospective students. Released July 2012 and based on data from the *mba.com Prospective Students Survey*, the report is available at gmac.com/datatogo.

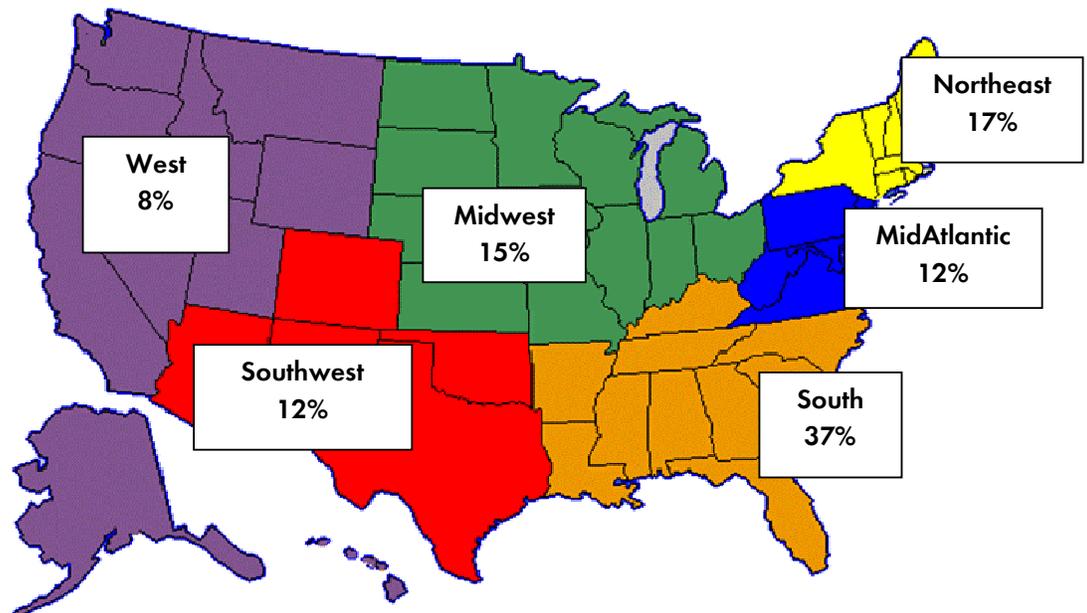
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African American Unique GMAT Examinees

Population and Geography

African Americans, with 8,537 unique GMAT examinees in TY2011, are the largest underrepresented US population group in the business school pipeline*.

- African Americans account for 8.6 percent of all US unique GMAT examinees.
- African Americans are the only underrepresented US population group in which women have greater representation than men. Of unique GMAT examinees, African American women outnumber men by 4.4 percent (52.2% women vs. 47.8% men in TY2011).
- The majority of women among African Americans also contrasts all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented population), where women represent only 37 percent of GMAT examinees.
- The majority of African American unique GMAT examinees are 30 years of age or younger (73.2%). Within this age range, African Americans between the ages of 25 and 30 slightly outnumber those younger than 25 (37.0% vs. 36.2%).
- By region, the South has the largest percentage of unique African American GMAT examinees, nearly 37 percent; other US regions with large representation of African Americans are the Northeast (17%) and the Midwest (15%). This is unlike the trend for the group of all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented population), where the South ranks second to the Midwest for the largest representation.



African American Unique GMAT Examinees by US Region, TY2011

*Note: Data are presented by unique GMAT examinees for Testing Year 2011, the period from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011. Underrepresented populations in this analysis refer to African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, and other Native American, as well as Hispanic American populations (including Mexican American, Puerto Rican, and other Hispanic American groups).

Work Experience

The majority of African American unique GMAT examinees have some work experience (85.2%), and the most often reported level of work experience was between four and nine years in TY2011.

- African Americans have a similar percentage of unique GMAT examinees with no work experience (15 percent reported zero years) when compared with other underrepresented US population groups (15 percent for Native Americans and 16 percent for Hispanics); however, this remains less than the percentage of all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented population) with no work experience, at 21 percent.
- In contrast, African Americans have a much greater representation of unique GMAT examinees with the highest levels of work experience (22 percent with 10 or more years of experience) when compared with only 14 percent of all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented population).

Years of Work Experience Reported by Unique GMAT Examinees, TY2011		
Years of Work Experience	African Americans	US Citizen Non-Underrepresented Populations
Zero Years	14.8%	21.1%
1-3 Years	29.9%	32.5%
4-9 Years	33.0%	32.1%
10+ Years	22.3%	14.3%
Total	100%	100%

US citizen classification does not include figures for other underrepresented groups such as Native American or Hispanic populations. TY2011 refers to July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Source: GMAC Data

Educational Attainment and Business Studies

Business and Commerce is the MOST cited undergraduate major among African American unique GMAT examinees (61.4%), consistent among all GMAT examinees from the United States.

- The fields of Social Sciences and Science and Engineering are the second and third most-reported undergraduate major by African American unique GMAT examinees (15% and 13% for each discipline respectively).
- While the number of African American unique GMAT examinees that “have not yet completed undergraduate studies” is larger than their counterparts in other underrepresented population groups (1,087 total), African Americans have the *lowest representation* of current undergrads at nearly 13 percent—lower than the reported 16 percent for Hispanics (1,006), 16 percent for Native Americans (118 total), and 19 percent for all other unique US GMAT examinees (16,348 non-underrepresented populations).
- The majority of African American unique GMAT examinees report a GPA of between 3.0 and 3.5 (49 percent). Only 13 percent of African American unique GMAT examinees reported GPAs of 3.6 or higher, lower than the reported 20 percent for Hispanics, 23 percent for Native Americans, or 30 percent for all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented populations).
- Only 11 percent of African American unique GMAT examinees scored 600 or higher on the GMAT exam in TY2011.
- Nearly 71 percent of African American unique GMAT examinees indicate their intent to pursue a Master of Business Administration (MBA). This rate is consistent with that of all other groups: 69 percent for Hispanics, 70 percent for Native Americans, and 70 percent for all other unique US GMAT examinees (non-underrepresented populations).

Detailed Demographic Data

Demographic data for the 8,537 unique GMAT examinees in TY2011 who identified themselves as “African American” are presented below. Examinees are not required to provide biographical and demographic information. *Bold italics* indicate the largest group within each data point.

GMAT Exam Testing Year 2011, African American Unique GMAT Examinees

Gender

- **Women: 52.2%**
- Men: 47.8%

Age range

- Younger than 25: 36.2%
- **25–30: 37.0%**
- 31–39: 18.6%
- 40 and older: 8.2%

US region

- Middle Atlantic: 11.6%
- Midwest: 14.7%
- Northeast: 17.1%
- **South: 36.9%**
- Southwest: 11.7%
- West: 7.9%

Years of work experience

- Zero years: 14.8%
- 1–3 years: 29.9%
- **4–9 years: 33.0%**
- 10–14 years: 11.8%
- 15 or more years: 10.6%

Highest education level attained

- Still an undergraduate: 12.7%
- **Earned bachelor's degree: 65.3%**
- Taken graduate courses beyond first degree: 9.9%
- Earned master's degree: 5.2%
- Earned doctorate: 0.9%

Undergraduate major category

- **Business and commerce: 61.4%**
- Social science: 14.7%
- Science and Engineering: 13.3%
- Humanities: 5.6%
- Other major: 5.0%

Undergraduate GPA

- 2.9 or below: 37.8%
- **3.0–3.5: 49.3%**
- 3.6 or above: 12.9%

Total GMAT score

- **Below 500: 71.9%**
- 500–540: 9.9%
- 550–590: 7.5%
- 600–640: 5.5%
- 650–690: 3.4%
- 700 and above: 1.9%

Intended degree program*

- **Master of Business Administration (MBA): 70.8%**
- Master's in Business (MS/MA): 6.3%
- Master of Accountancy: 8.0%
- Executive MBA: 2.1%
- Master's in health care administration: 1.7%
- Master of Public Administration: 0.5%
- Joint degree, MBA/engineering: 0.5%
- Joint degree, MBA/law: 2.3%
- Other joint degree: 1.8%
- Doctorate in business: 2.7%
- Other degree: 2.0%
- Undecided: 1.3%

Intended study pace

- **Full-time: 57.4%**
- Part-time: 25.2%
- Executive MBA: 3.7%
- Undecided: 7.9%

GMAT Testing Year 2011 refers to July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011. *Categories may not sum to 100 percent because of rounding.

Source: GMAC Data

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