

Your GMAT Score - the Lowdown

30 Day GMAT Success, with Brandon Wu



Your GMAT score: one number that can cause a lot of stress and worry. Let's take a closer look at the breakdown of the GMAT system, and understand your best chances at improving your overall score.

After taking the test, you will receive five separate scores on your results. These are:

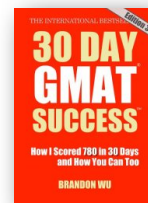
- 1) **Quantitative:** a scaled sub-score of 0-60 points
- 2) **Verbal:** a scaled sub-score of 0-60 points
- 3) **Overall:** a scaled score of 200-800 points, 800 being the perfect score.

You will also get:

4) **Analytical Writing Assessment:** a score from 0-6 in half point intervals. This is a separate score that is less important than the 200-800 score. You will write two essays, which will each get an independent rating.

5) **Integrated Reasoning Score:** your IR score ranges from 1-8.

It is important not to leave any questions unanswered as your score will be calculated based upon the number of questions answered. It will decrease



significantly if you skip any questions. In any uncertain cases, use the power of elimination and take an educated guess!

Good to know! If you believe that your AWA score is inaccurate, you may request that your essay be rescored via the [Essay Rescore Request Form](#)

Receiving your score:

Your unofficial score will be available to you immediately, on the same computer screen as you took your test on just minutes before. Within 20 calendar days, your official score report will be available to you, either online or through the mail. When scheduling your GMAT appointment, you can choose either option for receiving your results.

So what is the average GMAT score?

As for the “average” GMAT score, it depends very much on where you wish to apply. The median worldwide score has been quoted at 545.6, however, for the top MBA programs this is much higher. You can see just how competitive the top MBA programs are below (based on 2014 data):

Harvard Business School: 724

Stanford: 729

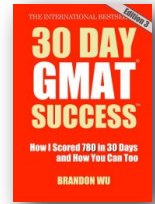
Penn Wharton: 718

MIT Sloan: 710

Yale: 717

The average GMAT score varies year by year, and for the schools you are choosing to apply to, it is best to contact the admissions office to find this information out. It is always best to aim much higher than the average score for that school to remain ahead of the competition and be accepted in the first review. GMAT scores are not everything - your application process includes references, essays and sometimes interviews - but a high score will certainly help your application stand out.

The figures below are rough indicators of the average GMAT score based on



percentiles (the percentage of people scoring below this score- these scores will vary each year).

96-99th percentile = 720

79-90th percentile = 630

61-75th percentile = 570

37-50th percentile = 500

How the test feeds you questions

GMAT questions are dynamically selected as you take the test, using the Computer Adaptive system. The computer uses your answer to each question to determine the next questions presented to you. This allows you to obtain a score that reflects the level of difficulty of the questions that you answer correctly. If you answer a question correctly, the next question will be harder; if you answer a question incorrectly, the next question will be easier.

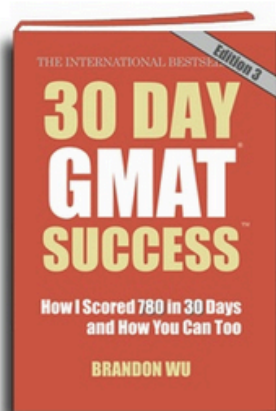
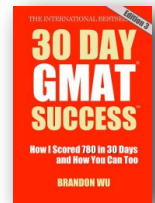
What is important: That you embark on a study schedule which aims to improve your score in the most effective way possible, and use techniques to allow the system to place you at a higher rank and continue to give you harder questions.

Study effectively, and you can be on the way to a great GMAT score and in the top percentage of all GMAT takers. The competition is high - beat it today!

Best wishes in your studies and beyond,

- Brandon and the 30 Day GMAT Success Team

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