PA-CAT STATISTICAL SUMMARY REPORT

Summary of Candidate Performance from May 1, 2020 through July 20, 2024

Rajat Chadha, PhD (Psychometrician for PA-CAT)

Date: September 2024

Dr. Rajat Chadha, PhD

Dr. Rajat Chadha, with a PhD in Education from Indiana University, Bloomington, is an expert psychometrician with more than 14 years of extensive experience working on multiple significant projects. Dr. Chadha has worked as a psychometrician in high-stakes certification for physicians in the United States. He has also worked on predictive risk modeling for Physician Assistant programs and has published book chapters and peer-reviewed articles in leading journals.

Additional Information

For questions about the report or to express interest in participating in research studies, reach out to:

Michael Tharp, Content Department
mtharp@exammaster.com

For information about implementing the PA-CAT at your PA program, reach out to:

Jim Pearson, Managing Director
jpearson@exammaster.com

Claudia Biester, Vice President of Client Services
PA-CAT Implementation Specialist
cbiester@exammaster.com

Physician Assistant College Admissions Test (PA-CAT):

Statistical Summary Report

Physician Assistant College Admissions Test (PA-CAT)

The PA-CAT is a 240-item specialized discipline-specific assessment designed to measure knowledge and application in nine prerequisite science subjects necessary for success in the demanding Physician Assistant (PA) curriculum. The PA-CAT has been developed specifically for use by PA educators and their admissions departments as part of a holistic admissions process.

As of July 20, 2024, the assessment has been administered to 4,315 examinees since it was first administered on May 1, 2020.

One Composite scaled score based on all items comprising the assessment and three subject scaled scores (Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, and Chemistry) are reported for each examinee.

Candidate Performance on the PA-CAT

This report summarizes the performance of candidates in terms of the Composite scaled score from the beginning of administration on May 1, 2020 to July 20, 2024. Descriptive statistics are presented in Table 1, and the distribution of PA-CAT Composite scaled scores is presented in Figure 1.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics: PA-CAT Composite Scaled Scores (May 1, 2020 – July 20, 2024)

Number of Examinees	4,315
Mean	511.6
Standard Deviation	33.6
Median	511.0
Minimum	200
Maximum	635
Reliability	0.939

The reliability of scores is an indicator of how dependably an assessment measures what it intends to measure. Reliability ranges between 0 and 1, with a higher value indicating a higher likelihood that the examinees with higher scores *do* have higher science aptitude than examinees with lower scores. The reliability of PA-CAT Composite scaled scores is very high (0.939), indicating that the PA-CAT Composite scaled scores are very dependable, and it is highly likely that the examinees with higher scaled scores do have higher knowledge and application skills in the prerequisite science subjects necessary for physician assistant education.
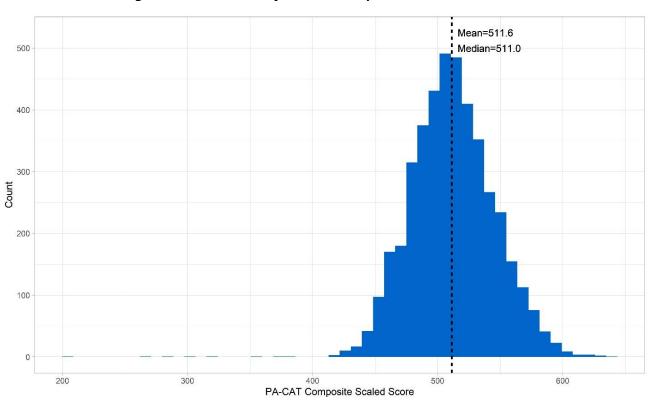
Figure 1: Distribution of PA-CAT Composite Scaled Scores