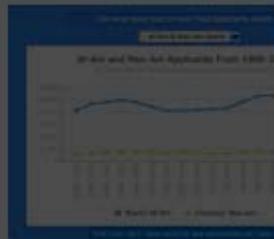


A Disturbing Trend in Law School Diversity

HOME || GRAPHS & DATA || BEST PRACTICES || THE GRUTTER DECISION || DIVERSITY RESOURCES

Steady Demand



Use drop down box to view Total Applicants Graph.

Af-Am & Mex-Am Applic

Af-Am and Mex-Am Applicants From 1990-2008

Af-Am & Mex-Am Have Been Applying in Constant Numbers



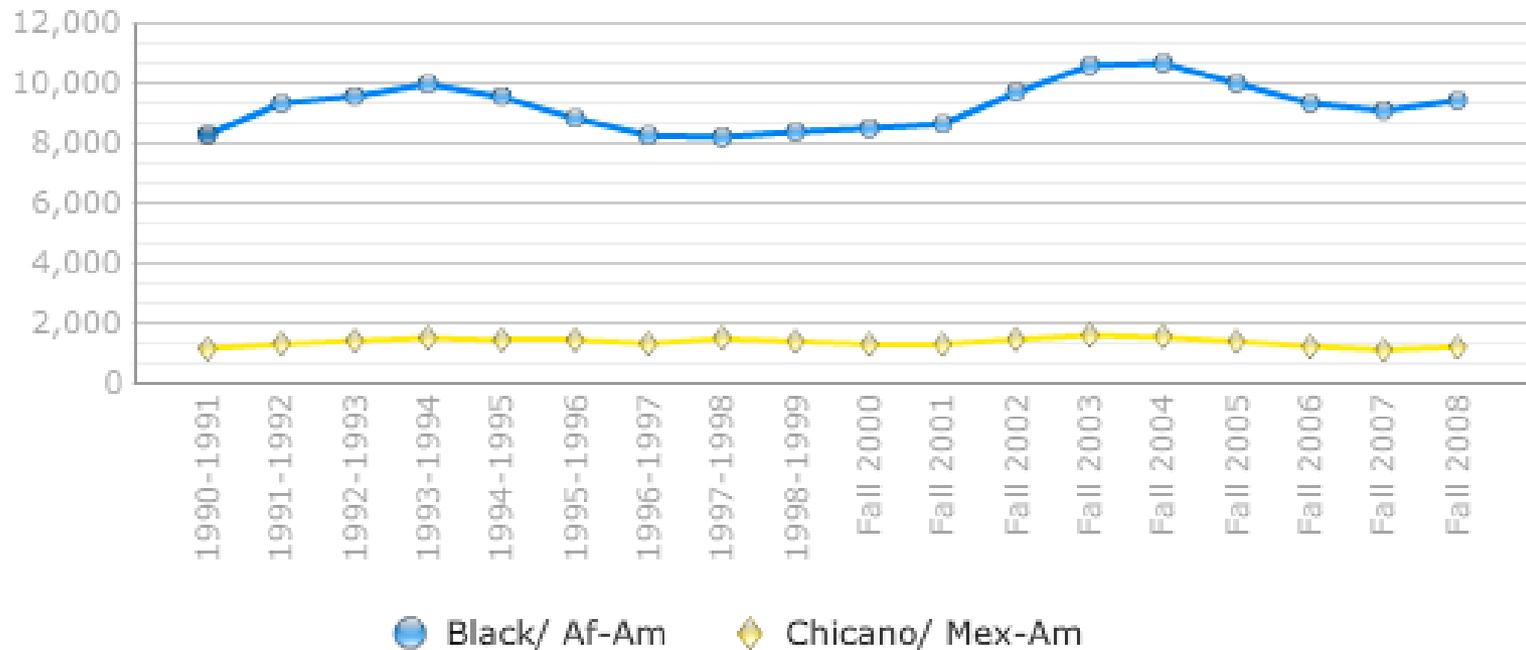
A Disturbing Trend in Law School Diversity

A collaboration between the [Society of American Law Teachers \(SALT\)](#) and the Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic at the [Columbia University School of Law](#).

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Af-Am and Mex-Am Applicants From 1990-2008

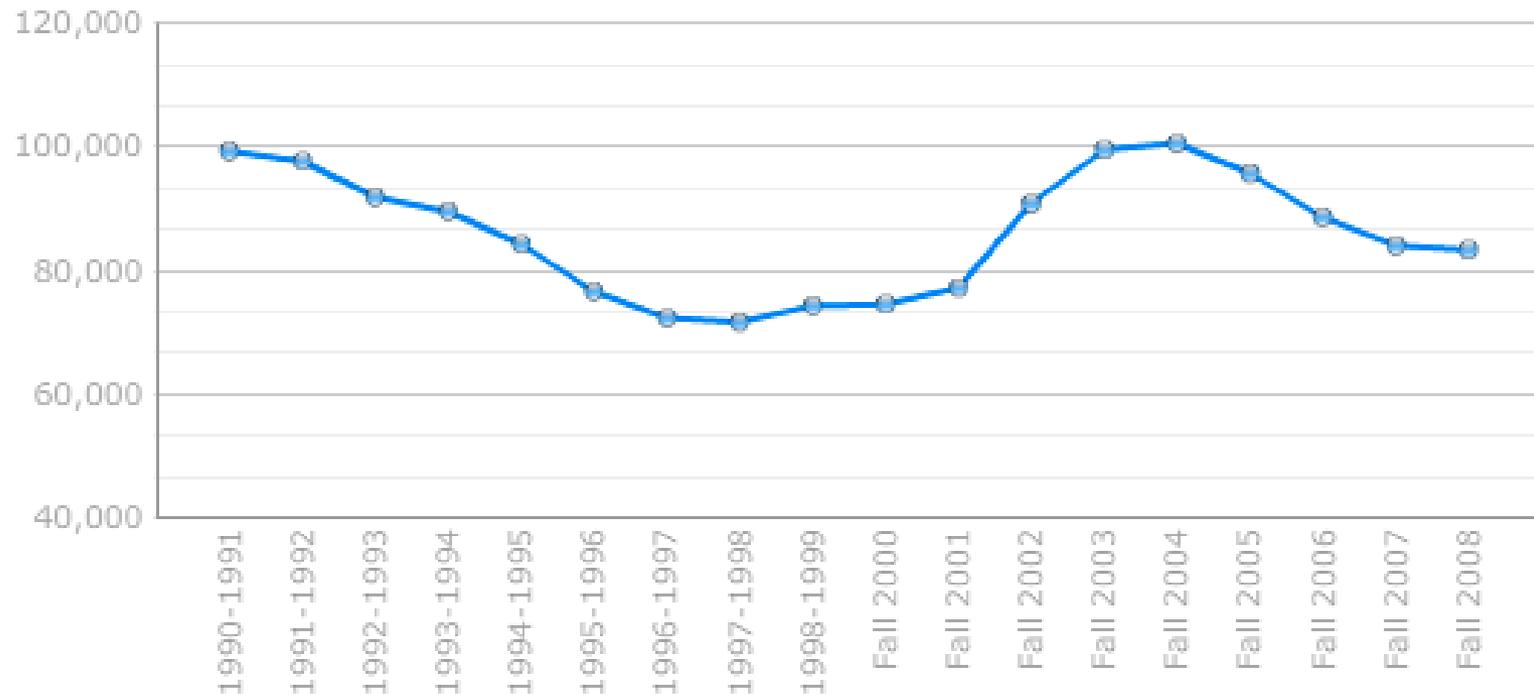
Af-Am & Mex-Am Have Been Applying in Constant Numbers



African American/Mexican American Applicants From 1990 to 2008

Steady Demand: Over the past 15 years, African Americans and Mexican Americans have been applying to law schools in relatively constant numbers.

Total Applicants From 1990 to 2008

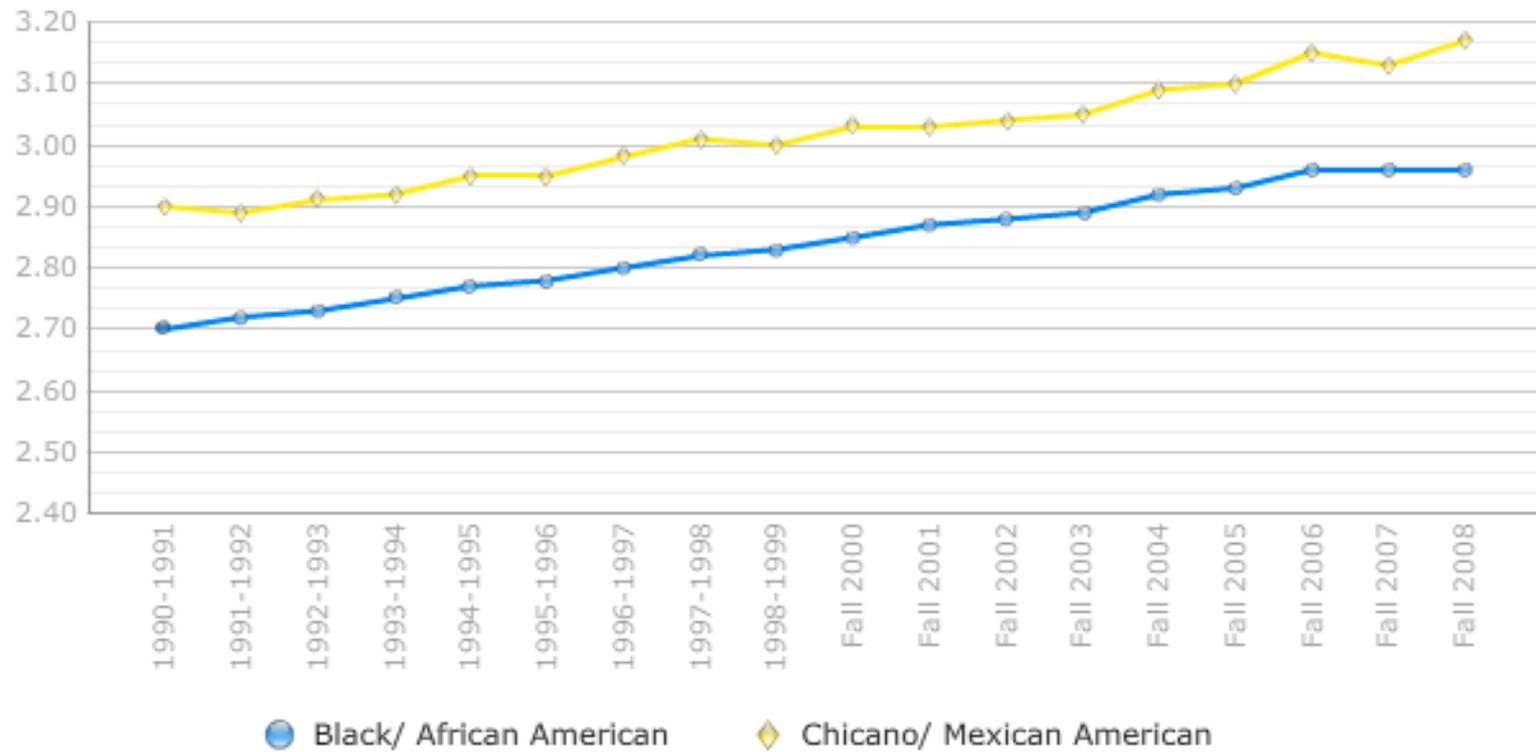


Total Applicants From 1990 to 2008

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African American and Mexican American GPAs

Mexican Americans & African Americans Are Doing Better Than Ever

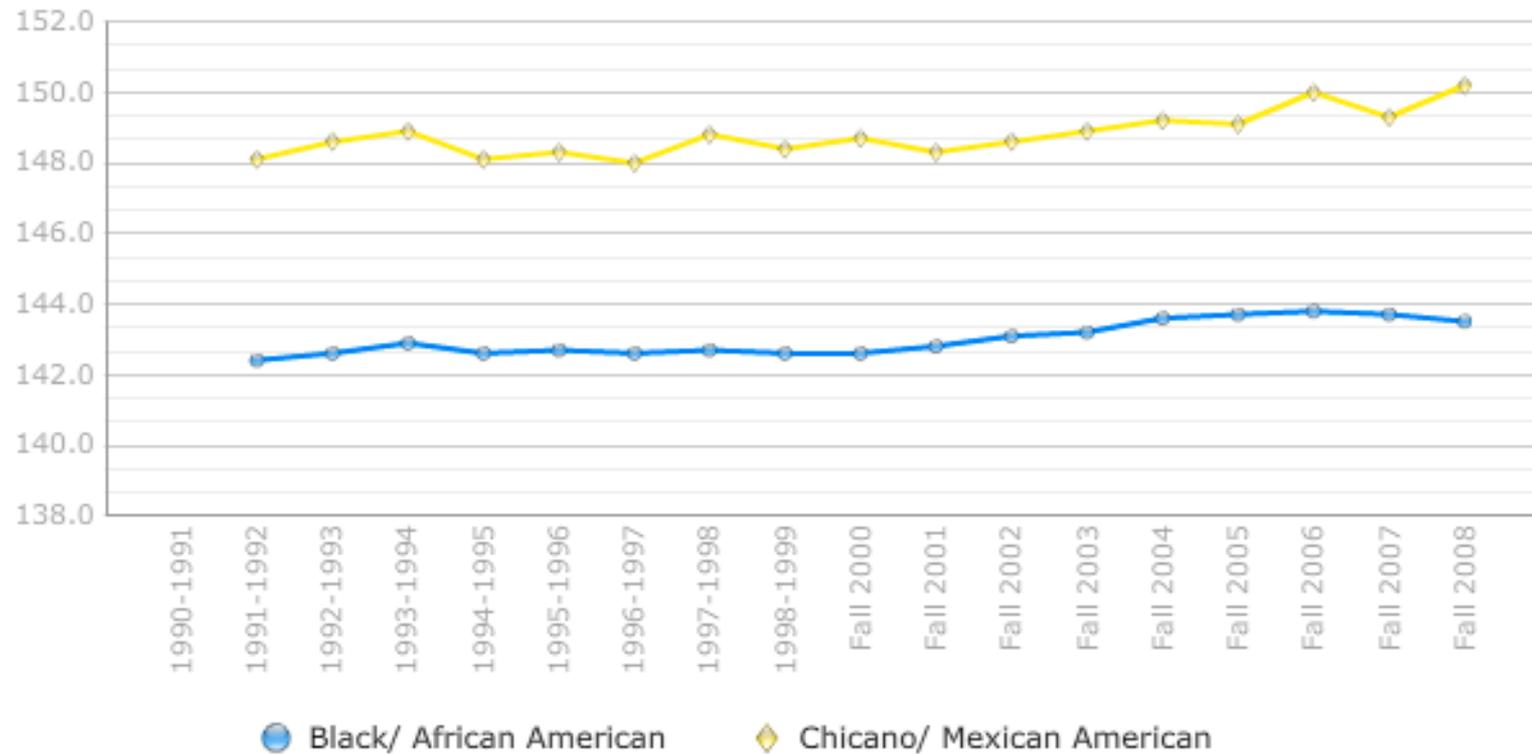


African American and Mexican American GPAs

Improving Quality: These African-American and Mexican-American applicants are doing better than ever on the leading indicators used by law schools to determine admissibility: undergraduate grade point average and LSAT scores.

African American and Mexican American LSAT Scores

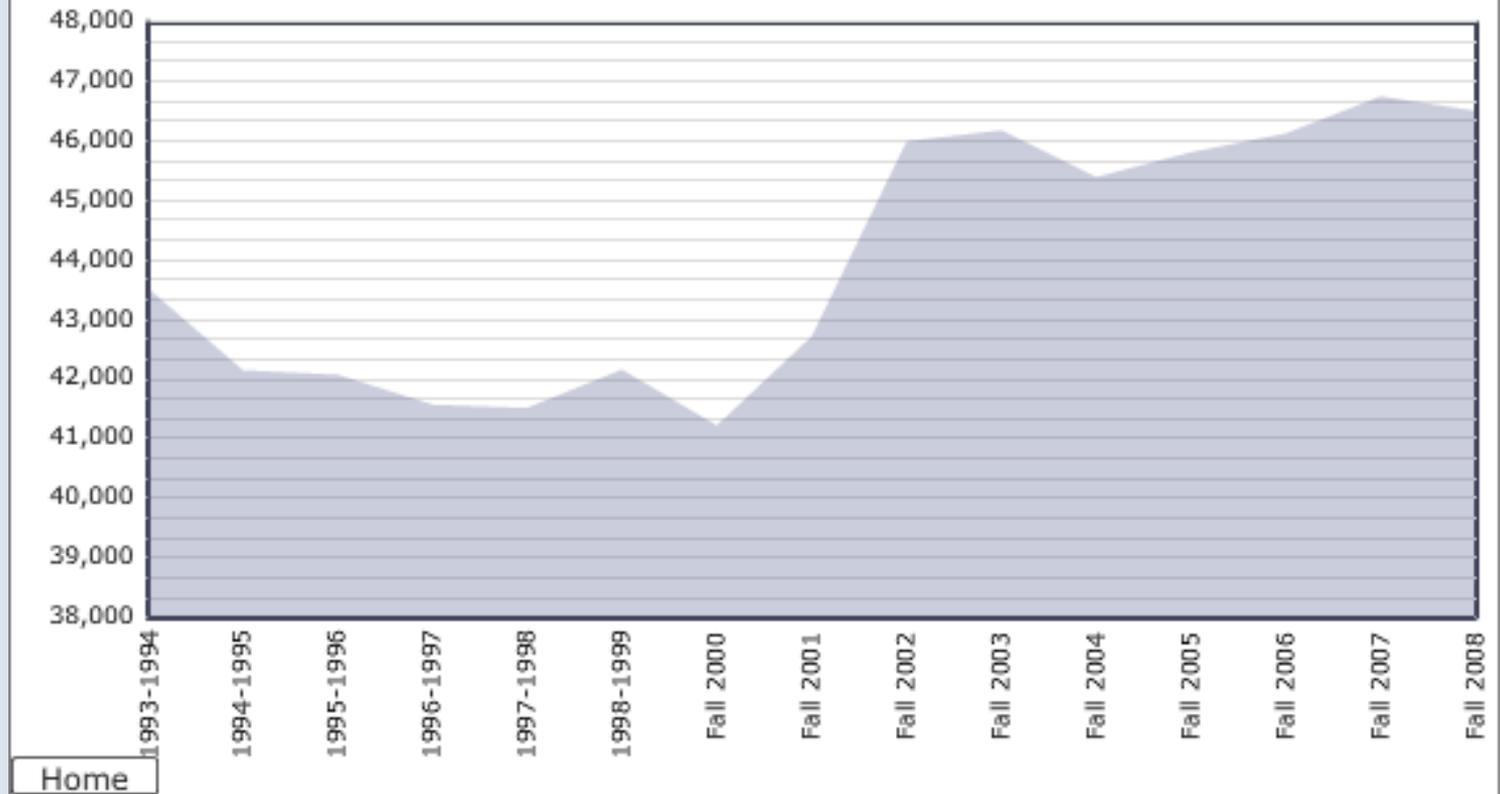
Mexican Americans & African Americans Are Doing Better Than Ever



African American and Mexican American LSATs

Improving Quality: These African-American and Mexican-American applicants are doing better than ever on the leading indicators used by law schools to determine admissibility: undergraduate grade point average and LSAT scores.

Law School Enrollment from 1993 to 2008
An Increase of Student Enrollment by Nearly 3,000 More Seats

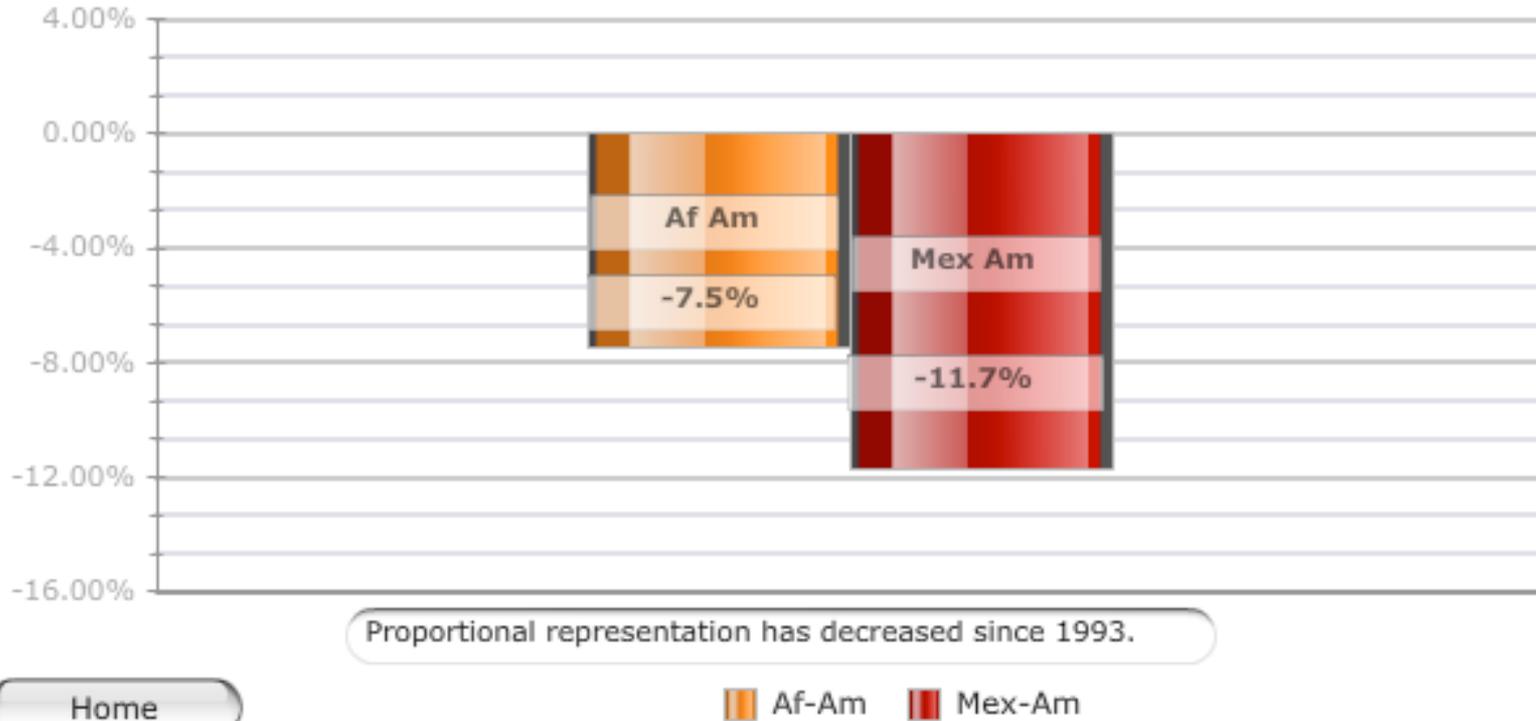


Law School Enrollment From 1993 to 2008

Rising Capacity: During the same 15-year period, the size of law school classes and the total number of law schools have increased, resulting in nearly 3,000 more first-year matriculants. There were 176 ABA-accredited law schools in 1992. As of 2008, that number has increased to 200 schools.

Change in Proportion of Matriculants

From 1993 to 2008



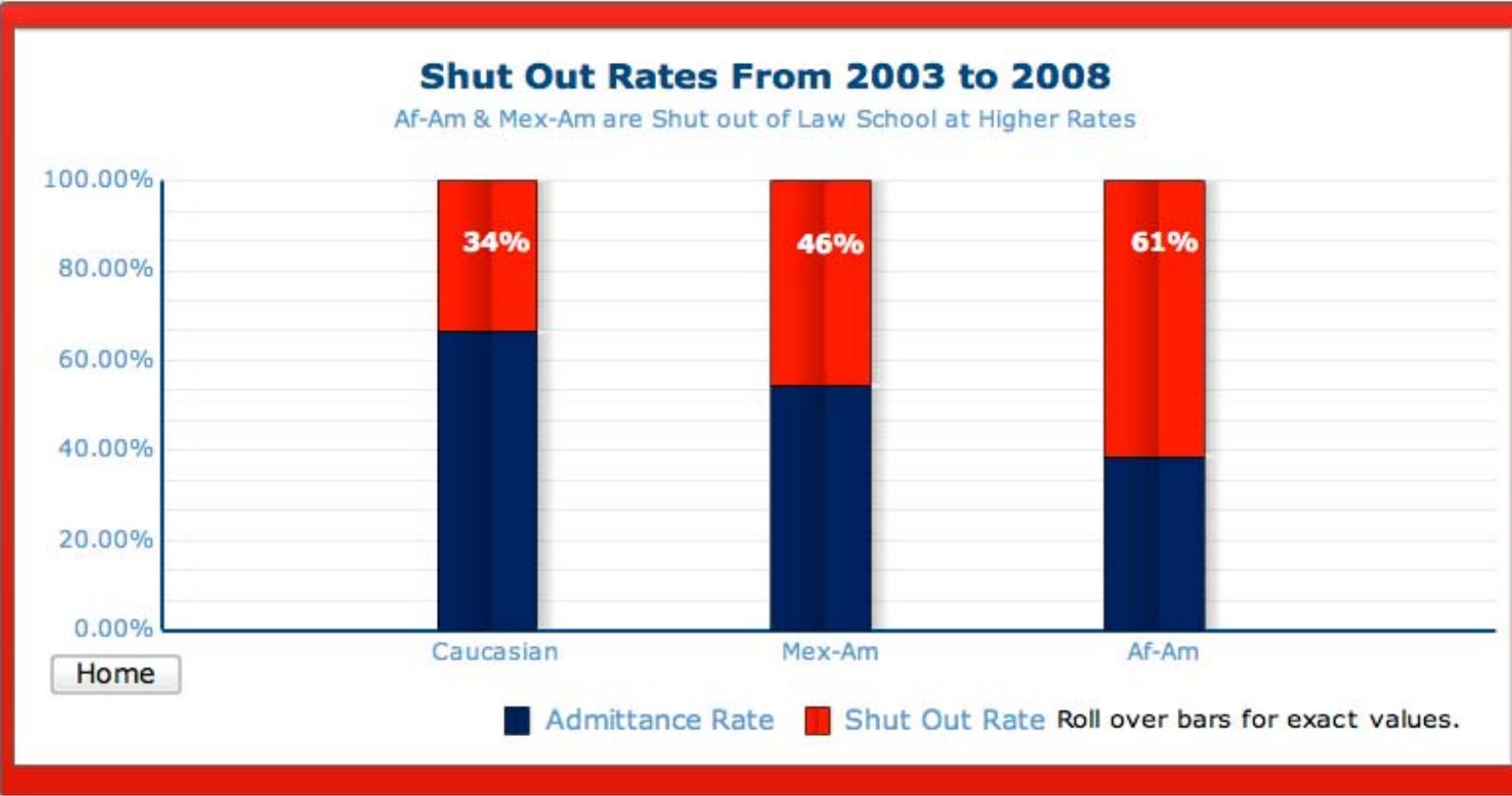
Change in Proportion of Matriculants

And yet...Declining Enrollment: The percentage representation of both groups has actually trended downward since 1993. These groups account for a significantly smaller percentage of the 2008 entering class than the 1993 entering class. Indeed, there was a 7.5% decrease in the proportion of African Americans in the 2008 class as compared with the 1993 class. There was a 11.7% decrease in the proportion of Mexican Americans in the 2008 class as compared with the proportion entering law school 15 years ago.



1993 vs. 2008 Matriculation Comparison

Therefore, over the past 15 years, African American and Mexican American representation in law school has decreased. African Americans and Mexican Americans have captured none of the nearly 3,000 additional seats that became available. Even in real numbers, there are fewer African-American and Mexican-American matriculants in the 2008 class (4,060 combined) than existed in the Fall 1993 class (4,142 combined).

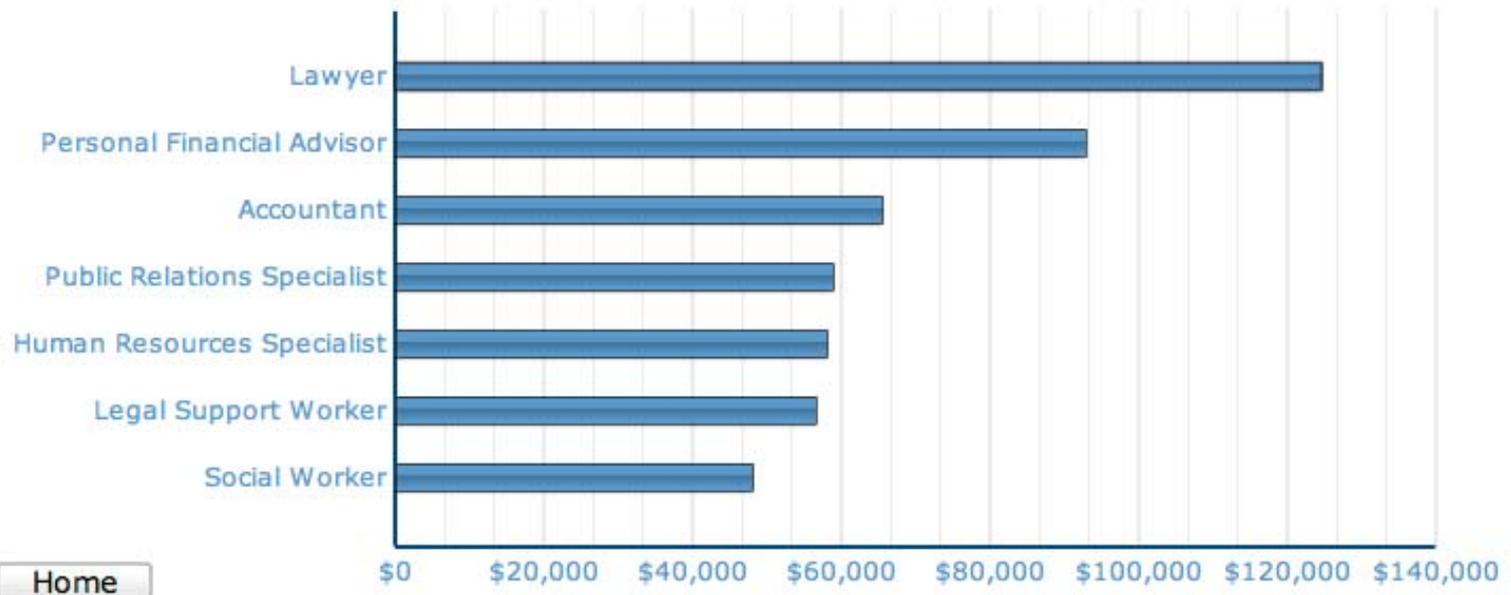


Shut Out Rates From 2003 to 2008

Also...Higher Shut Out Rate & Lost Opportunity Costs: African American and Mexican American applicants have higher shut out rates than Caucasian applicants, which means a higher percentage of applicants in those groups are denied acceptance by all the schools to which they apply.

A Comparison of Annual Earnings in Other Jobs

There may be lost opportunity cost from being shut out of law school.



Annual incomes based on figures from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (roll over bars for exact figures).

Comparison of Annual Earnings in Other Jobs

As they are shut out of the legal profession, African Americans and Mexican Americans must turn to other careers. As a result, they may face lost opportunity costs in the form of lower mean incomes. The net result is that for African Americans and Mexican Americans, law schools are not progressing towards more inclusive admissions. This affects everyone who is concerned about better education and a more representative