



May 10, 2013

The February 2013 bar scores have been released, and the results are very good. Denver Law's pass rate for first time takers was **78%**. This was **1 percentage point above the state average** of 77%, making this the first time in recent history that Denver Law beat the state average on a February bar exam (which almost always have lower pass rates than the July exam).

This has been a **record-setting year for bar passage**. Trends in bar passage are best measured by (1) looking at the two bar exams following a class's graduation (in this case July 2012 and February 2013, the exams taken by most members of the Class of 2012), and (2) comparing our graduates' performance on those two exams with the statewide average pass rate (the measure used by *US News* in its rankings, which takes into account the level of difficulty of the exam). In both respects, Denver Law not only excelled; it set records.

Bar Dates	DU Pass Rate	State Pass Rate	Difference
July 12/Feb 13	90%	83%	6%
July 11/Feb 12	88%	85%	3%
July 10/Feb 11	87%	86%	1%
July 09/Feb 10	88%	88%	1%
July 08/Feb 09	82%	84%	-1%
July 07/Feb 08	78%	79%	-1%
July 06/Feb 07	68%	75%	-7%
July 05/Feb 06	69%	76%	-7%

(Includes rounding errors)

Denver Law's July 2012/February 2013 **pass rate of 90% is the highest in modern memory**. And our **6 percentage point margin above the state average pass rate is also the highest in modern memory**. As you can see from the table above, Denver Law has improved significantly in both measures since just a few years ago.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming the newest members of our profession. And please join me thanking our faculty, staff, and all the other members of our community who have helped our graduates succeed in passing the bar.

Regards,

Martin J. Katz
Dean & Professor of Law