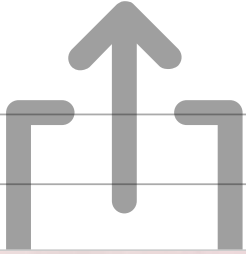


10 Med Schools With the Lowest Acceptance Rates

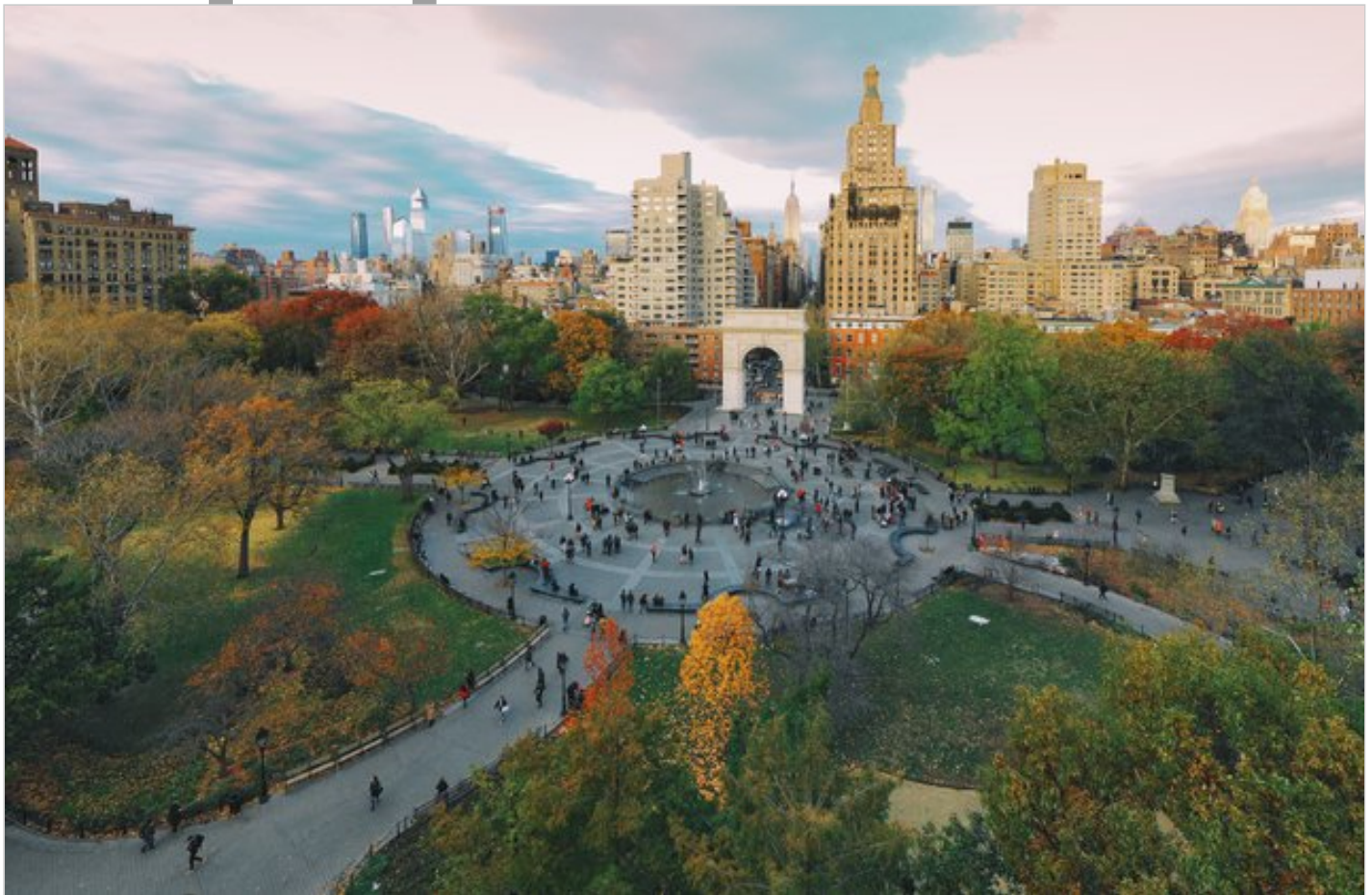
Applicants to each of these medical schools in fall 2020 had less than a 3% chance of getting in, U.S. News data shows.

By [Emma Kerr](#)

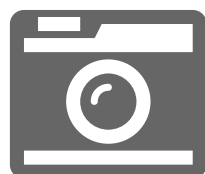
April 13, 2021



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Two of the most selective medical schools are ranked among the top 10 Best Medical Schools for Research: New York University's Grossman School of Medicine is ranked No. 2 and Stanford University in California is ranked in a



tie for No. 4.

(GETTY IMAGES)

The U.S. News Short List, separate from our overall rankings, is a regular series that magnifies individual data points in hopes of providing students and parents a way to find which undergraduate or graduate programs excel or have room to grow in specific areas. Be sure to explore [The Short List: College](#), [The Short List: Grad School](#) and [The Short List: Online Programs](#) to find data that matters to you in your college or grad school search.

With the number of [medical school](#) applicants hitting an all-time high in 2020, likely due to the coronavirus pandemic, gaining admission can be a challenge.

Medical school acceptance rates range widely from about 20% at their highest to under 3% at the most selective institutions, according U.S. News data. The most selective medical school is once again Florida State University, with a 2.1% acceptance rate in fall 2020. On the other end of the spectrum, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences reported the highest acceptance rate of 20.2% in fall 2020.

[[SEE: 14 Mistakes That Can Keep You Out of Medical School.](#)]

Nationally, among the 121 ranked medical schools that provided this data to U.S. News in an annual survey, the average acceptance rate for 2020 was 6.5%.

Medical school [admissions committees](#) typically consider an applicant's GPA and MCAT scores, but experts say these metrics alone aren't enough. Admissions officials also look at applicants' life experiences, including their employment, volunteer work, clinical experience and research experience.

The 10 most selective medical schools received between 4,299 and 14,464 applicants, ultimately offering acceptance to only a small number – ranging from just 100 total acceptances at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine to 390 acceptances at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

U.S. News ranks the quality of medical schools for both research and primary care, evaluating factors such as faculty resources and the academic achievements of incoming students. Two of the most selective medical schools are ranked among the top 10 [Best Medical Schools for Research](#): New York University's Grossman School of Medicine is ranked No. 2 and Stanford University in California is ranked in a tie for No. 4.

[[READ: How to Use Medical School Rankings to Your Benefit.](#)]

These selective schools are geographically diverse. Two medical schools on this list are based in California and three are in Washington, D.C., with the remaining schools located across the country.

Below is a list of the 10 ranked medical schools that accepted the lowest percentage of applicants in fall 2020. Unranked schools, which did not meet certain criteria required by U.S. News to be numerically ranked, were not considered for this report.

Florida State University

7,148 TOTAL APPLICANTS

149 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.1% ACCEPTANCE RATE

93-123 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

79 U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

New York University (Grossman)

9,243 TOTAL APPLICANTS

205 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.2% ACCEPTANCE RATE

2 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

41 (tie) U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Stanford University (CA)

6,800 TOTAL APPLICANTS

155 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.3% ACCEPTANCE RATE

4 (tie) U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

null U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

University of Arizona—Tucson

9,563 TOTAL APPLICANTS

216 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.3% ACCEPTANCE RATE

70 (tie) U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

58 U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

4,299 TOTAL APPLICANTS

100 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.3% ACCEPTANCE RATE

83 (tie) U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

93-123 U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Georgetown University (DC)

14,464 TOTAL APPLICANTS

390 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.7% ACCEPTANCE RATE

55 (tie) U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

89 (tie) U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

George Washington University (DC)

11,772 TOTAL APPLICANTS

329 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.8% ACCEPTANCE RATE

60 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

78 U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

University of California—Los Angeles (Geffen)

11,784 TOTAL APPLICANTS

333 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.8% ACCEPTANCE RATE

21 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

12 (tie) U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Wright State University (Boonshoft) (OH)

7,523 TOTAL APPLICANTS

214 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.8% ACCEPTANCE RATE

93-123 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

80 (tie) U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Howard University (DC)

8,758 TOTAL APPLICANTS

256 TOTAL ACCEPTANCES

2.9% ACCEPTANCE RATE

93-123 U.S. NEWS RESEARCH RANK

84 (tie) U.S. NEWS PRIMARY CARE RANK

Don't see your school in the top 10? Access the [U.S. News Medical School Compass](#) to find admissions data, complete rankings and much more. School officials can access historical data and rankings, including of peer institutions, via [U.S. News Academic Insights](#).

U.S. News surveyed 191 medical schools for our 2020 survey of research and primary care programs. Schools self-reported myriad data regarding their academic programs and the makeup of their student body, among other areas, making U.S. News' data the most accurate and detailed collection of college facts and figures of its kind. While U.S. News uses much of this survey data to rank schools for our annual Best Medical Schools rankings, the data can also be useful when examined on a smaller scale. U.S. News will now produce lists of data, separate from the overall rankings, meant to provide students and parents a means to find which schools excel, or have room to grow, in specific areas that are important to them. While the data comes from the schools themselves, these lists are not related to, and have no influence over, U.S. News' rankings of [Best Colleges](#), [Best Graduate Schools](#) or [Best Online Programs](#). The acceptance rate data above is correct as of April 13, 2021.