

## Golden Gatekeepers

In the mid-1970's, the University of California at Berkeley was sued for discriminating against women. Plaintiffs argued that men had an easier time getting into graduate school than did women. The table below shows the university's admissions data from 1973.

	Accepted	Rejected	Applied
Men	3,378	4,704	8,442
Women	1,494	2,827	4,321
Total	5,232	7,531	12,763

1. Calculate the probability that, had you been a male applicant in 1973, you would have been accepted. Then calculate the probability that you would have been accepted had you been a female. Based on this, does it appear that Berkeley discriminated against female applicants? Explain

The following table shows admissions data for the six largest graduate departments at UC Berkeley in 1973.

	MEN			FEMALE		
	Applied	Accepted	% Accepted	Applied	Accepted	% Accepted
Dept. A	825	512		108	89	
Dept. B	560	365		25	17	
Dept. C	325	120		593	202	
Dept. D	417	138		375	131	
Dept. E	191	53		393	94	
Dept. F	373	22		341	24	

2. For each one, calculate the percent of male applicants that were accepted and the percent of female applicants that were accepted.

3. Based on your answers from Question #2, do you think female applicants were at a disadvantage in 1973? Explain your reasoning.

4. The lawsuit asserted that UC Berkeley was discriminating against women in 1973, and used as evidence the fact that a much larger percentage of men were accepted to graduate school. Do you think the university was discriminating against women? If so, why? If not, how can you explain why men appeared to have such a better chance of being accepted to graduate school?