

## GRE® Program Update



David G. Payne, PhD
Vice President and COO
College and Graduate Programs
Educational Testing Service

The GRE® General Test

## What we will cover today

- Overview
- ETS® Personal Potential Index (ETS® PPI)
- ETS My Credentials Vault<sup>SM</sup>
- GRE® Test Volumes
- Update on the GRE® Revised General Test
- ETS Awards for Best Practices in Graduate Admissions



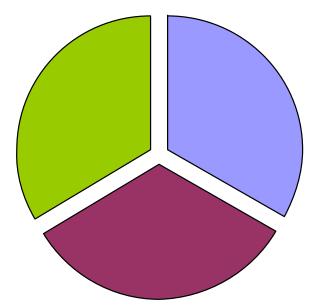


#### Overview

ETS continues to add value to the entire admissions process by expanding its products and services to better meet the needs of the graduate community.

## GRE General Test and Subject Tests

Standardized Assessments



#### **ETS PPI**

Web-based system for evaluating applicants' personal attributes on a quantitative and qualitative basis Launched July 2009

#### **ETS My Credentials Vault**

Web-based tool that simplifies the Letter of Recommendation process Launched June 2009





#### What is the ETS® Personal Potential Index?

- The launch of ETS PPI marks the first large-scale use of noncognitive measures for admissions in higher education.
  - The introduction of the ETS PPI for the graduate school community was approved by a unanimous vote of the GRE Board.
- ETS PPI is a web-based evaluation system that provides evaluator ratings on specific personal attributes that graduate deans and faculty have identified as essential for success in graduate or professional school.
- Provides a more complete picture of your graduate applicants





## Provides information on six dimensions identified as critical for academic success



Listening, Learning, Leading,\*

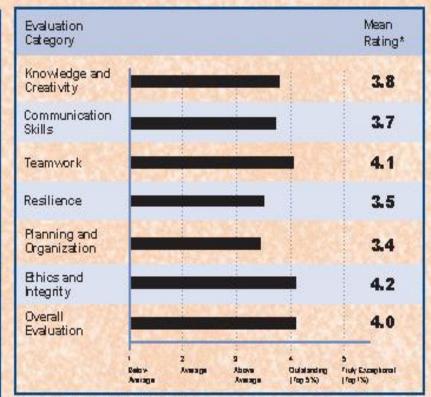
#### ETS® Personal Potential Index

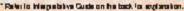
#### Applicant: Patricia S. King 123 Main Street. East Lansing, MI 12345 patsking@enet.com Last 4 Digits of SS#: 1234 DOB: 11/19/1988 Gender: Female Waived rights under FERPA: YES Undergraduate Institution: Carlisle State University Ann Arbor, MI 12435 Report Date: 01/05/2010 RECIPIENT: Institution Name: Michigan State University

Department Name: English

Institution Code: 2293574

Department Code: 34









#### How does ETS® PPI work?

#### 1. Applicant selects evaluators

• Up to five per report

#### 2. Evaluators rate applicant

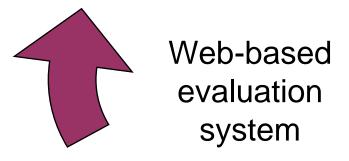
- 24 statements, plus overall rating
- Likert scale
- Evaluators can add optional text

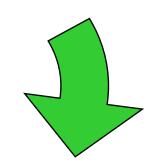
#### 3. ETS creates evaluation report

- Evaluators' individual and mean ratings for each dimension and for the overall evaluation
- Evaluator comments
- Evaluator contact information

## 4. Report sent to institutions designated by applicant













#### What is the research basis for ETS® PPI?

#### Multiple sources:

- Input from GRE Board noncognitive symposium (June 2001)
- Research by ETS scientists and others in the field
  - Personality theory
  - Measurement of personal and "noncognitive" attributes
- Feedback from hundreds of graduate and professional school deans and faculty members
- Analysis and refinement of the instrument

#### Three-year pilot with:

Project 1000 at Arizona State University

#### Commitment to:

 Ongoing validity studies exploring the relationship between these attributes and success in graduate and professional school





# How does ETS® PPI contribute to the admissions process?

#### Helps graduate and professional programs

- Identify applicants who are more likely to succeed
- Create more diverse and successful programs

## Gives applicants

- The opportunity to provide evidence of a broader range of capabilities
- An easy way to request and track evaluations

#### Enables evaluators

 To consistently evaluate students' attributes that are not reflected in current application information





#### How much interest is anticipated?

#### Market research findings:

#### Widespread use within three years

Phone interviews with 225 Directors of Graduate Programs

- Roughly half surveyed see ETS PPI as very or extremely useful
- Other findings about ETS PPI:
  - Is potentially valuable for ALL applicants
  - Provides more complete or better organized information
  - Adds value to the selection process in a variety of ways
  - Widespread agreement that ETS PPI Evaluation Reports are easy to interpret
  - Is likely to be recommended or required by most departments within the next three years





# Available to GRE® General Test registrants at no additional charge

#### ETS PPI is available:

- To everyone who registers for the GRE General Test
  - Registrants can send up to four ETS PPI
     Evaluation Reports at no additional charge.
- As a stand-alone service to other applicants
  - -\$20 per ETS PPI Evaluation Report



## What is ETS My Credentials Vault<sup>SM</sup>?

The ETS *My Credentials Vault* service — powered by Interfolio — is a centralized, web-based service that streamlines the entire letter of recommendation process <u>for both applicants and letter writers.</u>

- Collect, store and distribute letters of recommendation
- Manage recommendations from initial request through the critical delivery to designated graduate and professional schools.







## Who uses **ETS My Credentials Vault<sup>SM</sup>?**

Student/Subscriber

Request for Letter of Recommendation Other Documents

My Credentials Vault

Letter of Recommendation Request

> Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation & Other Documents

**Letter Writers** 

- Application
- Test Scores
- Transcripts





## ETS My Credentials Vault<sup>SM</sup> subscription

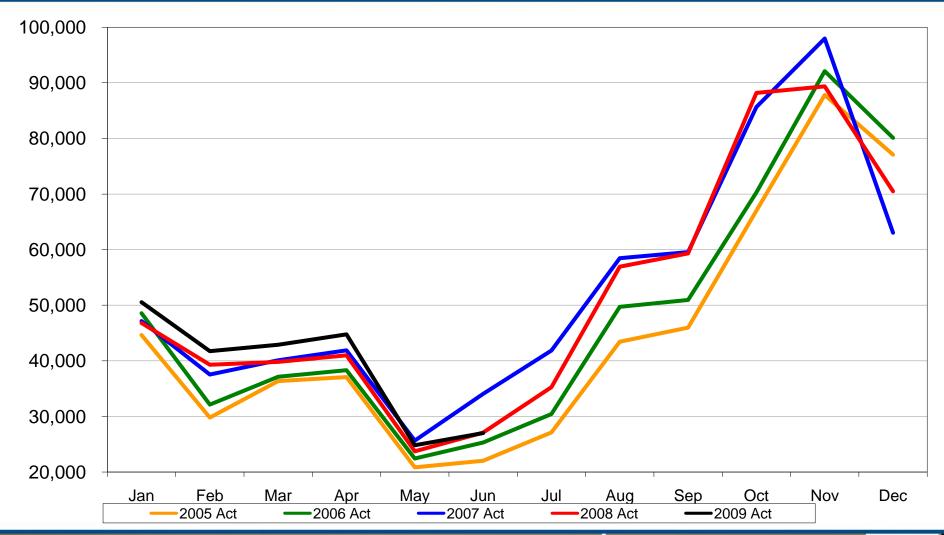
The ETS My Credentials Vault service is convenient and affordable.

- Applicants can enjoy a one-year subscription for a low annual fee of \$19.
- Additional discounts apply for 3- or 5-year subscriptions.
- Modest transaction fees apply.
- There is no charge to letter writers for using the service.





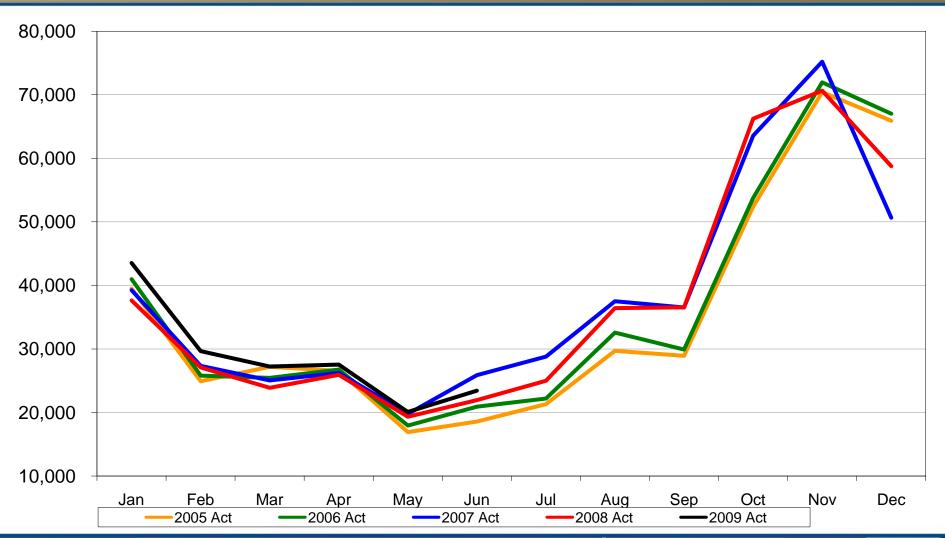
## Total GRE volumes







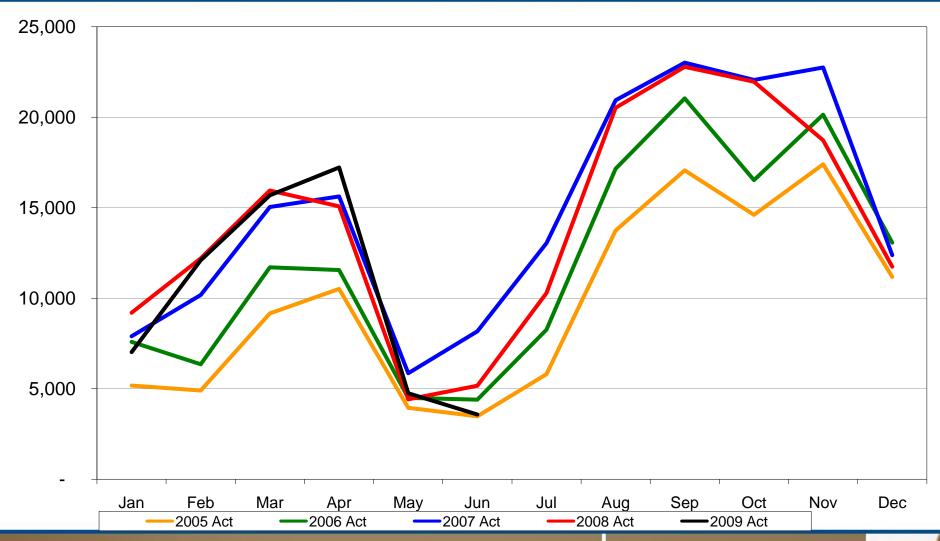
#### Domestic GRE volumes





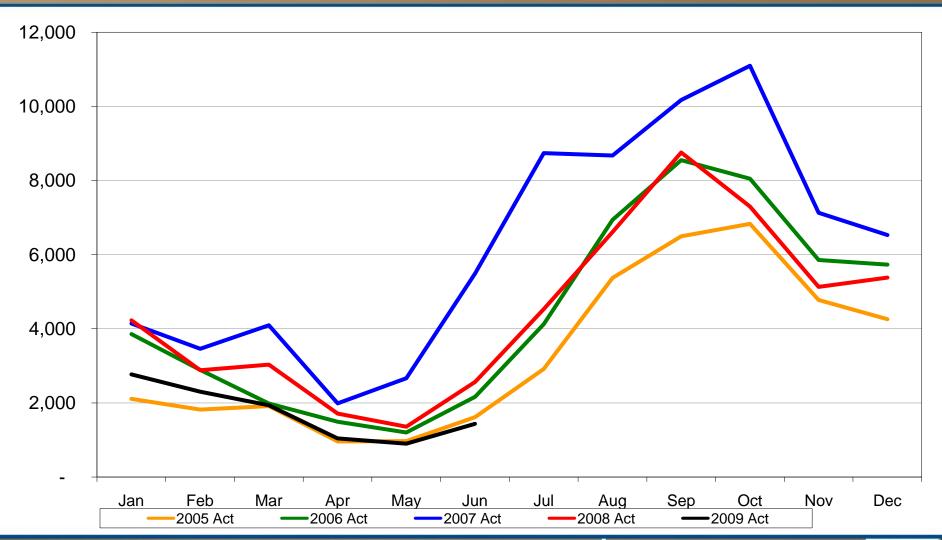


#### International GRE volumes





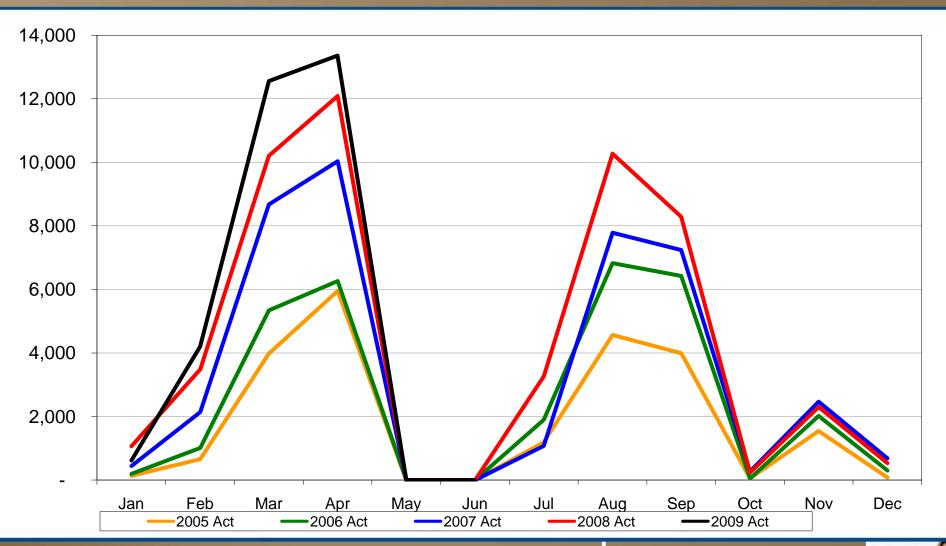
#### India GRE volumes







## China GRE volumes

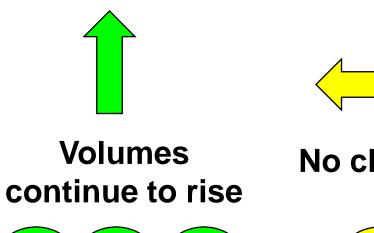






## What is your prediction for 2009?

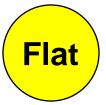
GRE volumes continue to be strong. What is your prediction for the remainder of 2009?



+5% +10% +15%



No change





Volumes begin to drop







## GRE® Revised General Test nearing completion

- We have completed a great deal of work (e.g., test design specifications, psychometric model, etc.).
- We are meeting system development milestones and are in the process of conducting quality testing.
- We are committed to an orderly transition to the revised test.
- The new test will provide significant benefits to faculty and test takers.
- We will announce launch date in December.



#### ETS awards

- The GRE and TOEFL® Programs are sponsoring \$2,500 awards for "Best Practices in Graduate Admissions" with Regional CGS organizations and CHBGS. (CAGS is considering the award.)
  - Focus on mission and strategy for the institutions/programs
- ETS is supporting the "Award for Innovation in Promoting Success in Graduate Education: From Admissions through Completion."
  - \$20,000 plus institutional matching
  - First award to be made in December 2009 at CGS Annual Meeting





#### Need more information?

#### To get the most up-to-date information:

- √ Visit the GRE website at <u>www.ets.org/gre</u>
- √ Visit the ETS PPI website at <u>www.ets.org/ppi</u>

#### If you have questions:

- ✓ E-mail GRE questions to <u>gretests@ets.org</u>
- √ E-mail ETS PPI questions to ppi@ets.org
- ✓ E-mail David Payne at <u>dpayne@ets.org</u>



