

Policy Recommendations For States Based on SAT And ACT Participation and Scoring

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Problem Statement

1. Which states could benefit from increasing SAT and ACT participation rates?
2. Which states would most benefit from increasing overall testing performance.
3. Does mandating SAT/ACT testing have any correlation with testing performance?

Why Does It Matter?

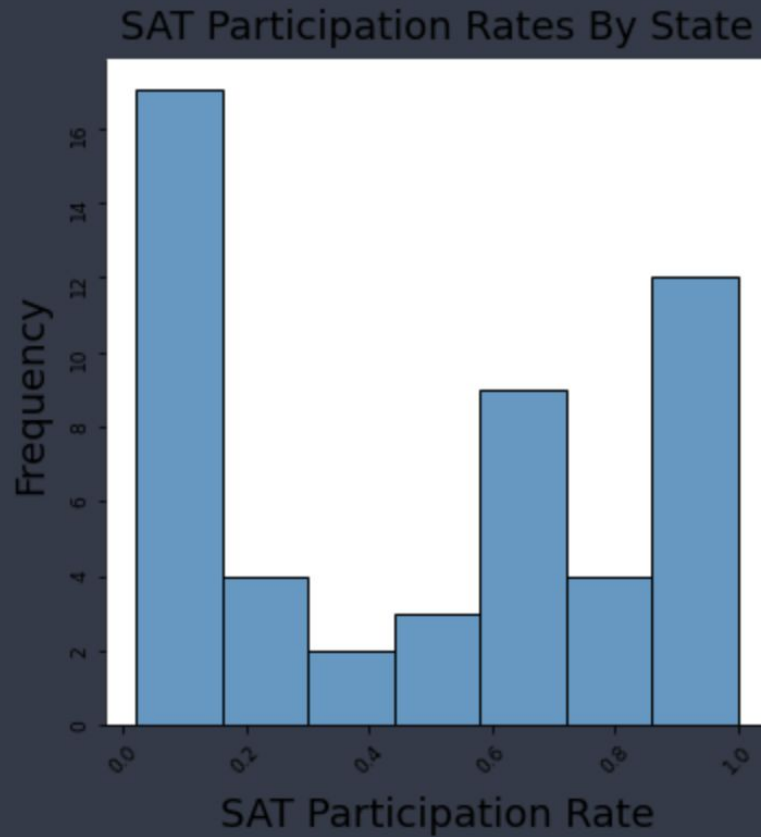
1. Student performance on SAT and ACT testing is correlated with student admission to institutions of higher education
2. While universities use these tests in admissions decisions, high SAT/ACT scores and participation will benefit students in their pursuit of higher education
3. The SAT and ACT tests are not perfect. However, states can do their part to help level the playing field.

My Data:

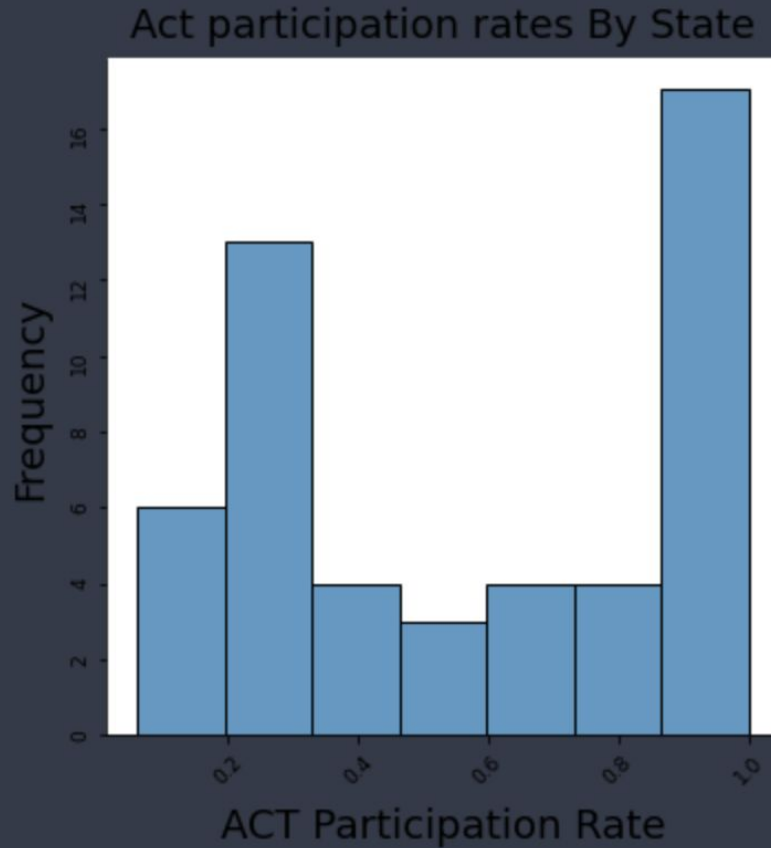
DATA DICTIONARY:

Feature	Type	Dataset	Description
State	object	ACT/SAT	State in the US
Sat Participation Rate By State 2019	float	SAT	Student participation rate in the SAT by state
Sat Average Reading and Writing Score By State 2019	int	SAT	Average evidence based reading/writing score on the SAT out of 800
Sat Average Math Score By State 2019	int	SAT	Average math score on the SAT out of 800
Sat Average Total Score By State 2019	int	SAT	Average overall score on the SAT out of 1600
Act Participation Rate By State 2019	float	ACT	Student participation rate in the ACT by state
Act Average Composite Score By State 2019	float	ACT	Average overall score on the ACT out of 36

SAT Participation By State



ACT Participation By State

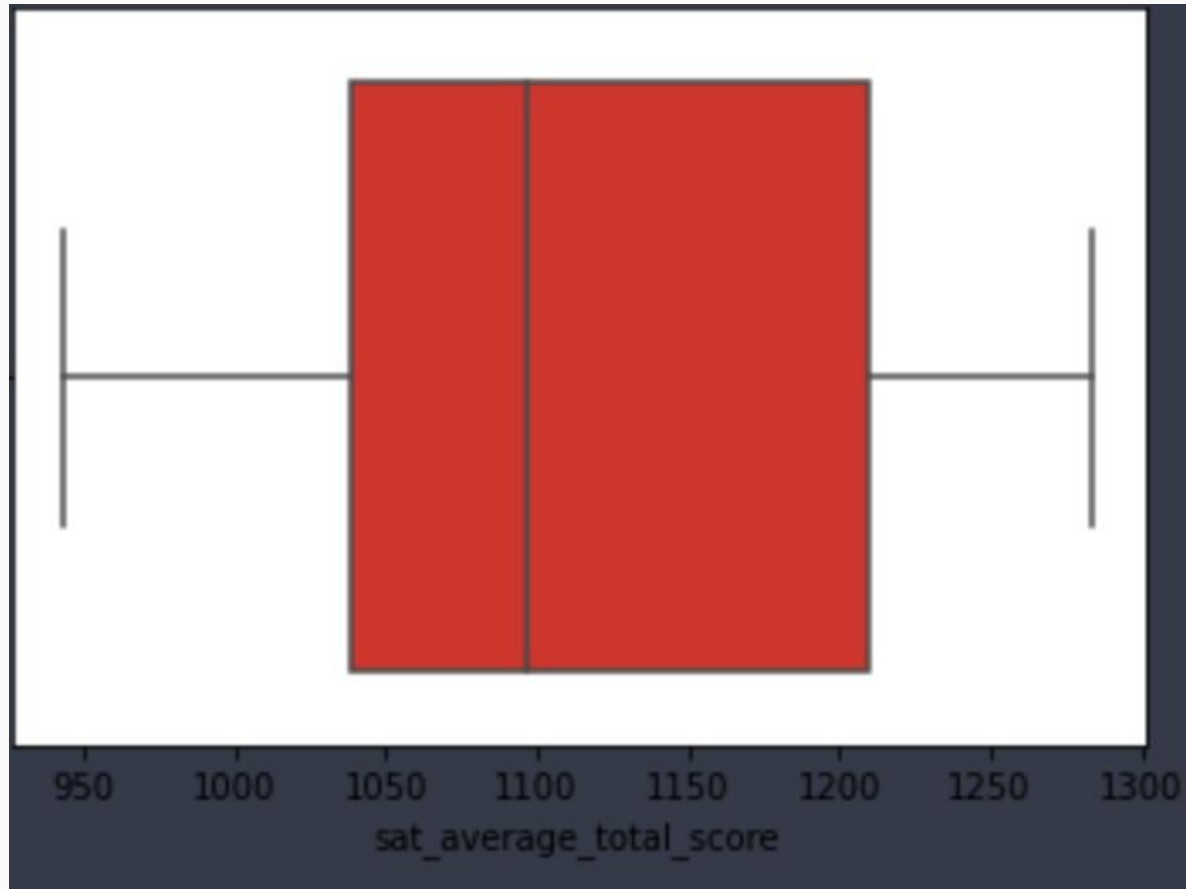


Which states should increase SAT and ACT participation rates?

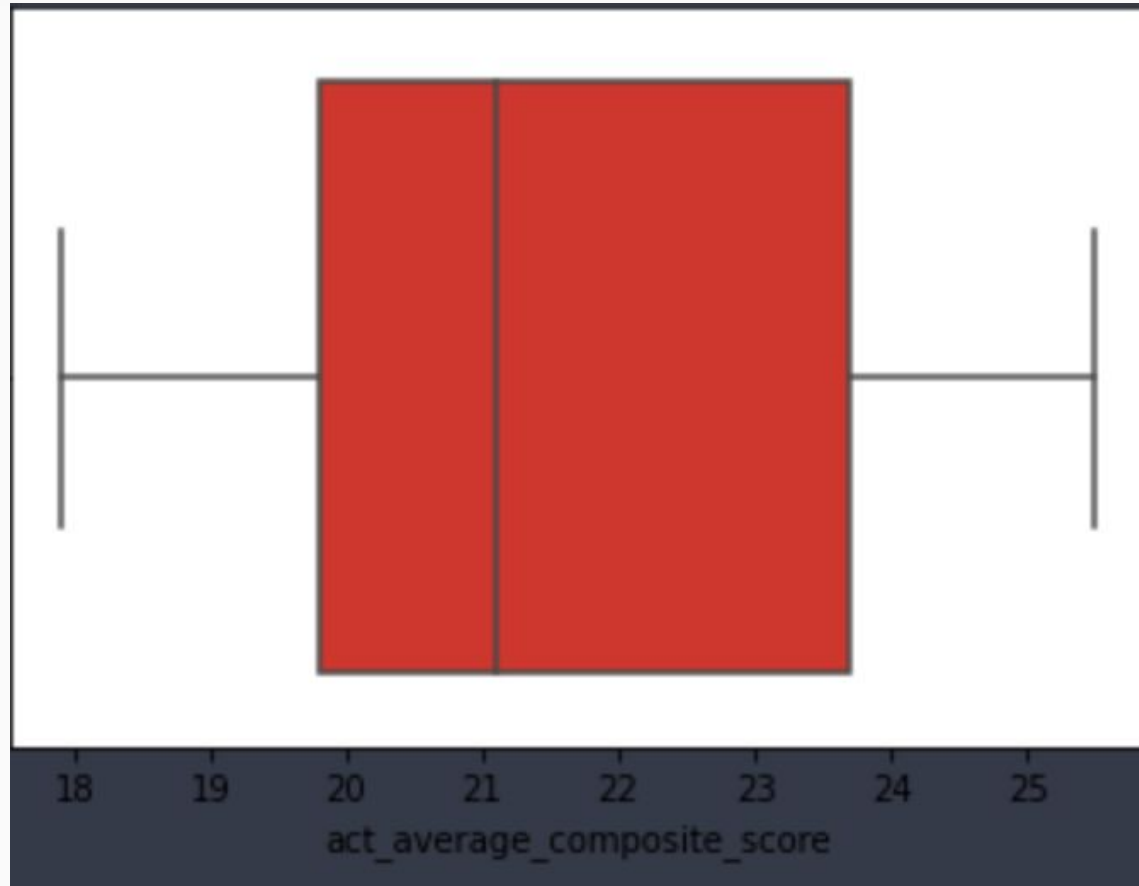
	state	sat_participation_rate	act_participation_
1	Alaska	0.41	0.38
4	California	0.63	0.23
31	New Mexico	0.18	0.63
37	Oregon	0.51	0.42

- Alaska, California, New Mexico, and Oregon all had less than 65% participation on the SAT and ACT in 2019

Average SAT Performance By State 2019



Average ACT Performance By State 2019



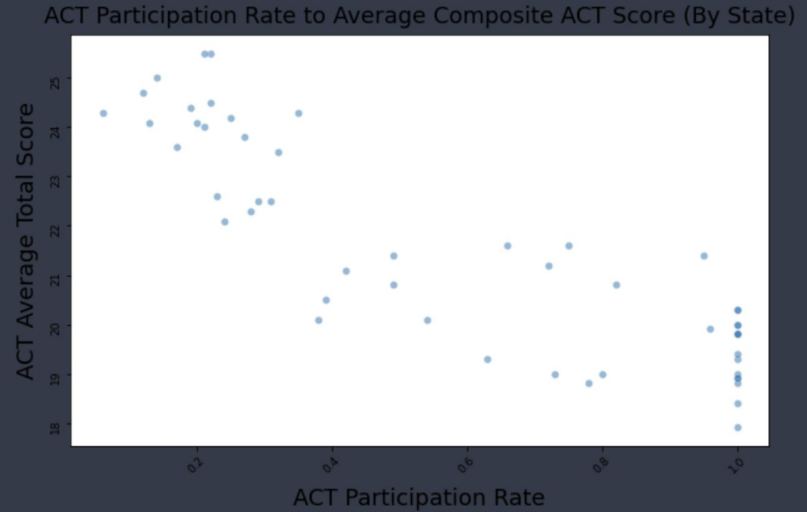
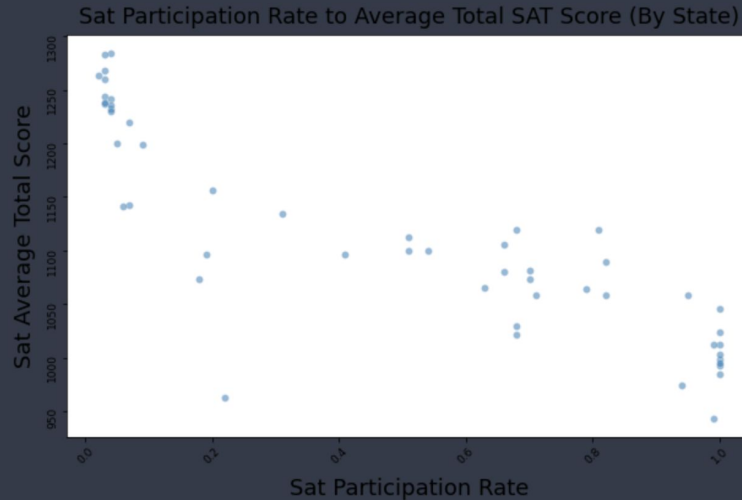
Which states should focus on bettering average SAT and ACT Scores?

	state	sat_average_total	act_average_composite_score
0	Oklahoma	963	18.9
1	Florida	999	20.1
2	South Carolina	1030	18.8
3	New Mexico	1073	19.3

- Oklahoma, Florida, South Carolina, and New Mexico were in the lowest 20 average scores on both the SAT and the ACT in 2019 out of all states.

Does mandating SAT/ACT testing have any correlation with testing performance?

- Mandatory testing is strongly correlated with lower statewide average scores



Recommendations

1. I recommend that Alaska, California, New Mexico, Oregon look into increasing overall SAT or ACT testing rates and consider mandating participation in one of these tests.
2. I would recommend Oklahoma, Florida, South Carolina, and New Mexico focus specifically on increasing preparation resources for students for the SAT and ACT test.
3. A final recommendation of mine is that states increase SAT and ACT prep resources in schools to attempt to start create more equality in opportunity for preparation for all participants.
 - a. This will also help raise average scores in states that mandate testing.

Works Cited

ALL SOURCES:

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THANKS FOR LISTENING!!!