The NYT College Accesss Index is calculated in two parts. Places each score over the average of all socres. Thus, part one calculates a natural index which can be thought of as a raw score:

$$NaturalIndex_i = \left(\frac{PellShare_i \times 6yrPellGradRt_i}{\frac{1}{N}\sum PellShare_i \times 6yrPellGradRt_i} - \frac{MidNPrice_i}{\frac{1}{N}\sum MidNPrice_i} \right)$$

Part two calculates a normalized or standized index which, in a manner of speaking, condenses the scores so that all are betwen zero (0) *and two* (2). *Operation is to divide the Natural by the* max *abs value of the natural.*

$$NormalizedIndex_i = 1 + \frac{NaturalIndex_i}{max|NaturalIndex_{i...k}|}$$

Where *PellShare* corresponds to the figure described in paragraph2 11-14 of methods article.[1]

6yrPellGradRt corresponds to the figure described in paragraph 15-18 of the methods article.[1]

Together, *PellShare x 6yrPellGradRt* corresponds to the "Pell grad share" column in the 2017 edition of college access index.[2]

MidNPrice corresponds to the figure described in 19-23 of the methods article.[1]s

Note: As of September 22, 2017 – the author of NYT's college access index has not returned requests for clarification or comment.