Project 1 Questions

a. What story can you tell with this information? Does this story differ from your expectations? Why or why not?

From this data you would be able to tell how many students from each race/ethnicity are taking the SAT compared to how many students of that demographic live in their region. The final data shows us where certain ethnicities have the biggest (and smallest) differences of those who are taking the SAT compared to the census. I did not have any expectations, but the differences at the end were very surprising, and very large in some areas.

b. How could this data without the context of systemic racism be used for misinformation?

This data could be easily manipulated by isolating certain regions that do not have a big difference in test takers to population and claiming that the SAT is doing its job by singling that area out and claiming diversity. It could also be very easy for a bad actor to combine certain regions to make the demographics look better than they actually are.

c. Think about the data sources for this information. Are there any limitations to the information based on these data sources? What information may be missing? What, if anything, is too generalized in these datasets?

Since this data comes from the US census, it is most likely limited to people with a mailable address. The homeless and those hopping from place to place most likely are not represented in the census data given. The regions are also a bit generalized, as it isn't clear what part of the country is represented by the "south" or "west", this could be confusing to those reading the data if it isn't more properly defined.

d. Think about potential audiences for your story (perhaps College Board, state/federal education departments, journalists, and more). How could you use this information to advocate for individual, organizational, and/or policy change?

This could definitely be presented to the College Board to show how they could do a better job at giving more support to certain ethnicities in certain areas of the US if they are not able to get to testing areas. One could use this data to advocate for better transportation to SAT testing areas for people in regions that are being

underrepresented in the SAT where they should be more present based on census data..