

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Standardized Test Scores and Academic Performance at Ivy-Plus Colleges](#)

Article

Link: https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/SAT_ACT_on_Grades.pdf

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Tweet: [Students at Ivy-Plus colleges with 99th percentile SAT/ACT scores earned a first-year college GPA 0.43 points higher than students who scored at the 75th percentile, ~ 1200 SAT. @John_N_Friedman](#)

Summary: We use admissions records and first-year college grades from multiple Ivy-Plus colleges for students between 2017 and 2022 to study how standardized test scores and high school grade point average relate to academic success in college. Even among otherwise similar students with the same high school grades, we find that SAT and ACT scores have substantial predictive power for academic success in college. Students with a perfect (scaled) high school GPA of 4.0 achieve a cumulative GPA in college that is less than 0.1 points higher than a student with a 3.2 high school GPA, indicating high school GPA does little to predict academic success in college. We compare college success outcomes (first-year college GPA) of students from less advantaged vs. more advantaged high schools and find that conditional on SAT/ACT scores, there is no evidence that students from higher-resourced backgrounds outperform students from lower-resourced backgrounds – their college GPAs are virtually identical.

Related Articles: [Diversifying Society's Leaders? The Determinants and Causal Effects of Admission to Highly Selective Private Colleges](#) and [The Misguided War On The SAT and Ivy League's Dartmouth College Reinstates Standardised Tests For Admissions](#)

Primary Topic: Education

Topics: Academic paper, Database, Education, Test Scores, Weekly, Workforce

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