



SAT & ACT

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PARTICIPATION

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IN 2019, MANY HEADLINES WERE MADE STATING THAT THERE WAS A DECREASE IN PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO TOOK THE SAT COMPARED TO THE ACT, LEADING PEOPLE TO SUGGEST TO STOP CONDUCTING THE SAT ALTOGETHER AND TO FOCUS ON THE ACT. THIS RESULTED IN THE COLLEGE BOARD FORMING A COMMITTEE TO CHECK THE SAME.

THIS ANALYSIS SEEKS TO EXPLORE IF THE HEADLINES MADE WERE TRUE, IF SO, WHAT ARE THOSE STATES AND POSSIBLE REASONS BEHIND THAT.

THIS ANALYSIS ALSO AIMS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COLLEGE BOARD FOR STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE THE PARTICIPATION RATE



# ACT VS SAT 2019

Compare highest and lowest

SAT/ACT PARTICIPATION

SCORES

Compare participation with  
mean score

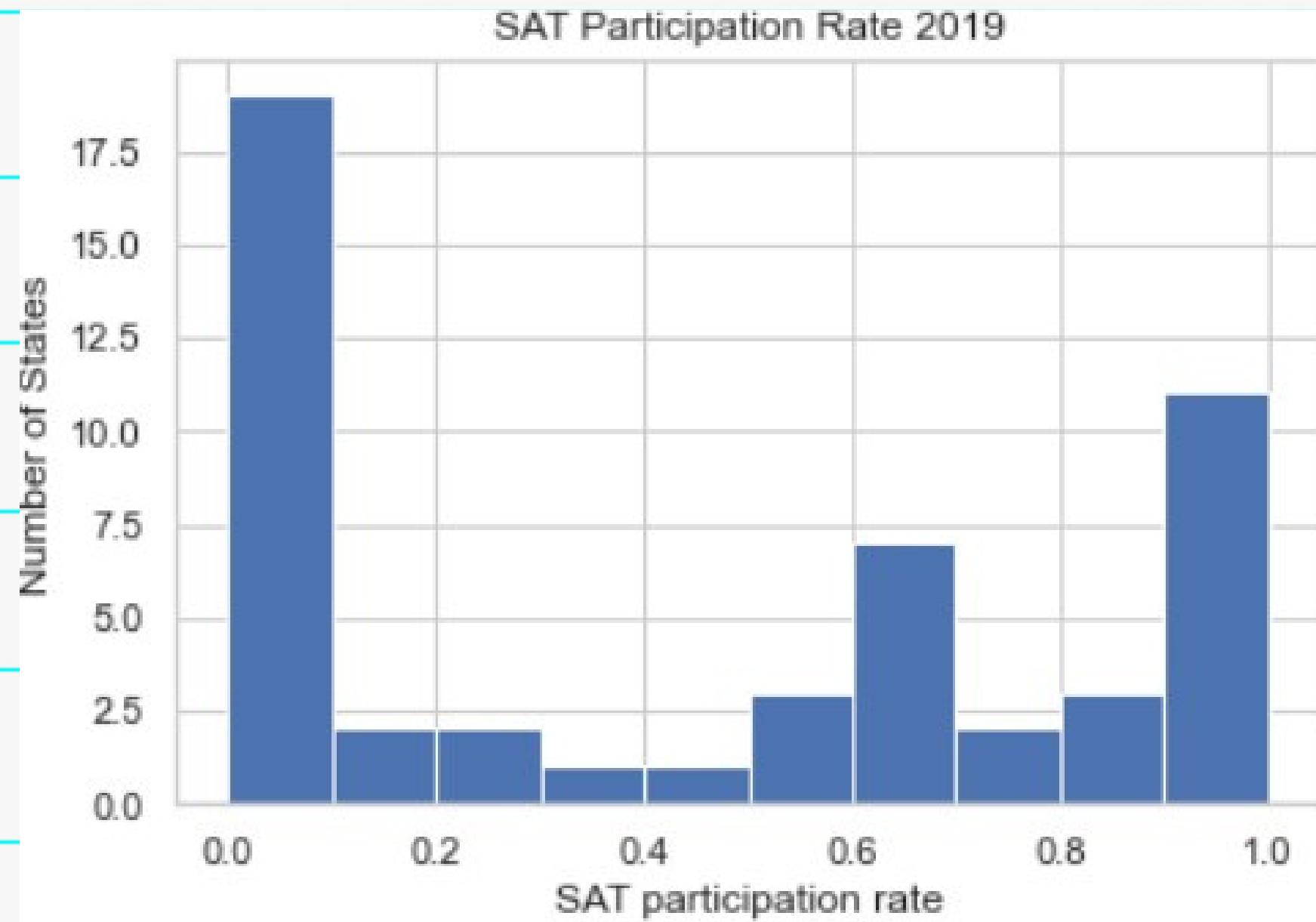
ACHIEVING STATES

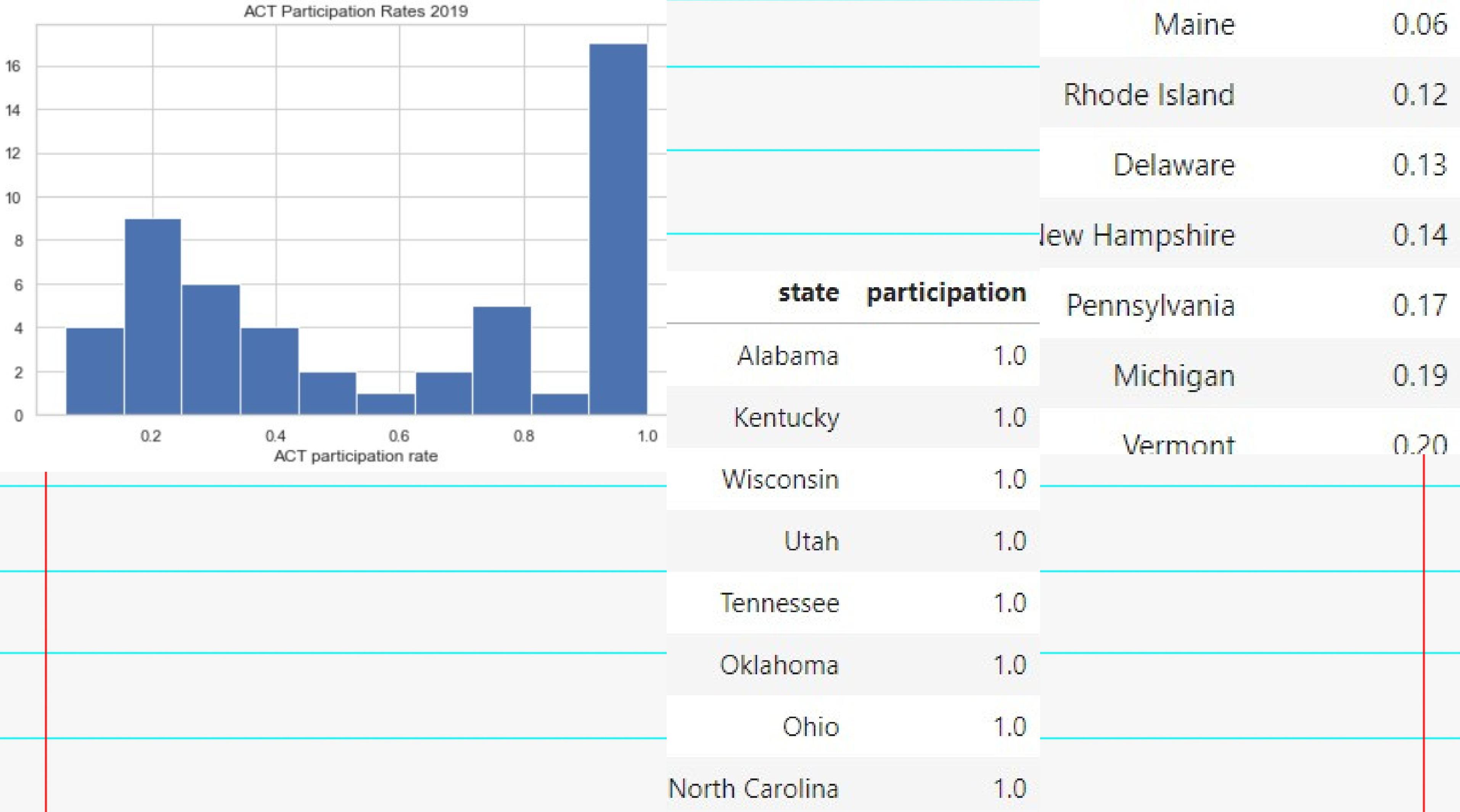
CONCLUSION

Compare score percentages

# STATES WITH THE HIGHEST PARTICIPATION RATES VS THE LOWEST

state	participation
Idaho	1.00
Florida	1.00
Michigan	1.00
Illinois	1.00
Colorado	1.00
Connecticut	1.00
Delaware	1.00
North Dakota	0.02
Wyoming	0.03
South Dakota	0.03
Nebraska	0.03





SAT

There are 14 states with participation rate under 5%.

ACT

There are 15 states with participation rate of 100% in ACT,  
which shows that ACT is outpacing the SAT.

50% PARTICIPATION AND ACHIEVED MEAN SCORE OF 1100 IN SAT

state	participation	score
Massachusetts	0.81	1120
Oregon	0.51	1112
Vermont	0.66	1106

50% PARTICIPATION AND ACHIEVED MEAN SCORE OF 21 IN ACT

state participation score

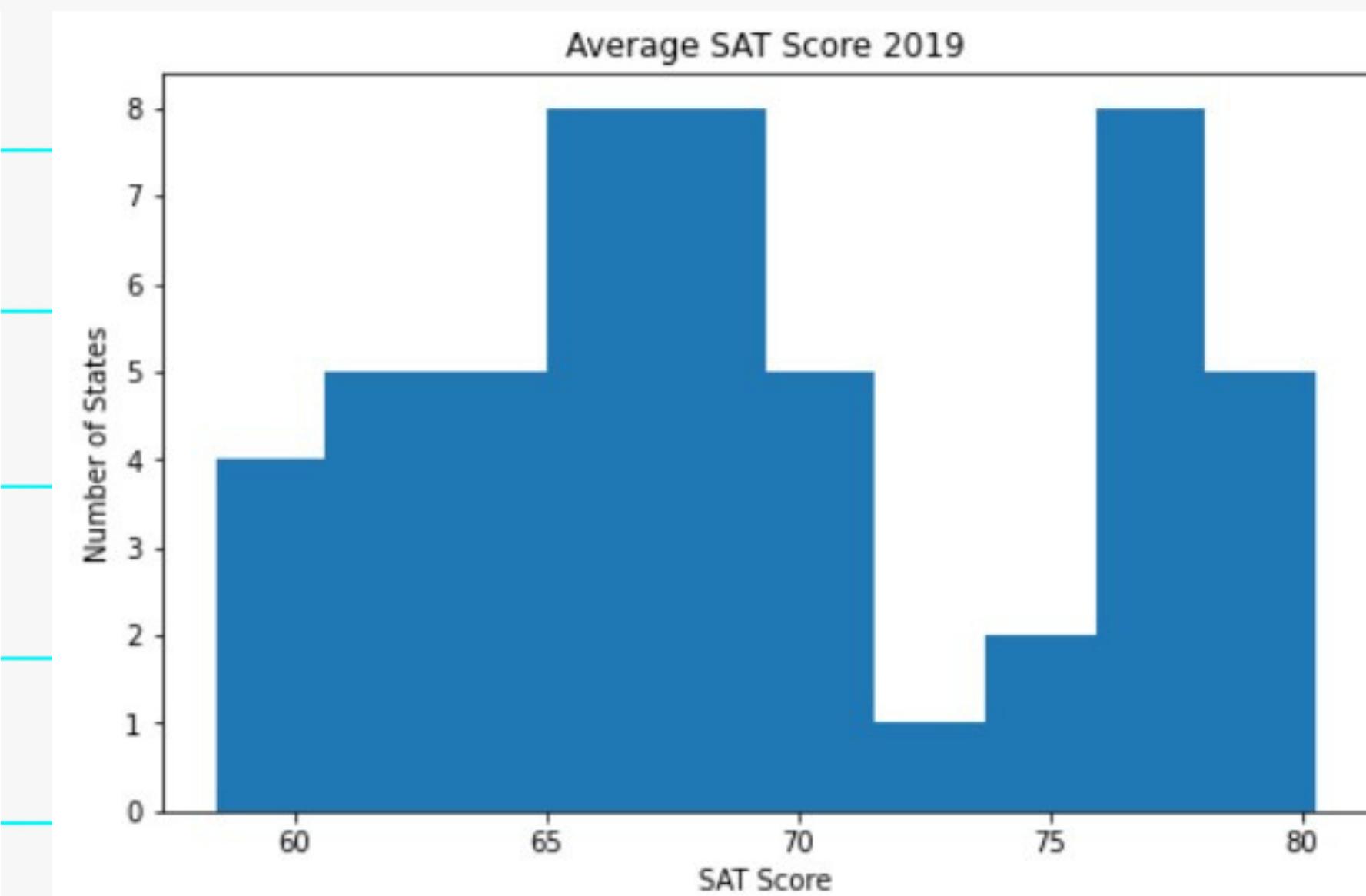
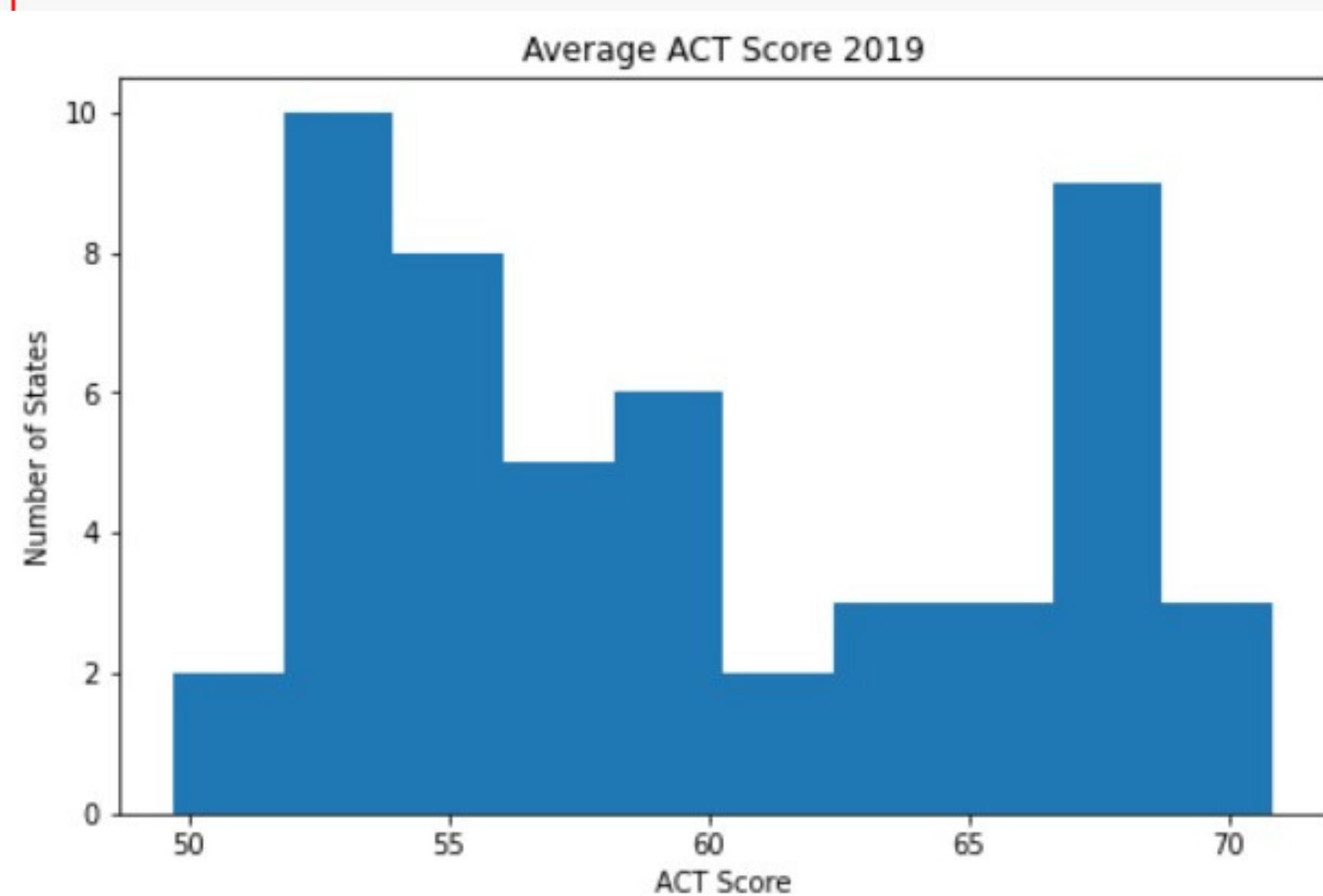
Iowa 0.66 21.6

Kansas 0.72 21.2

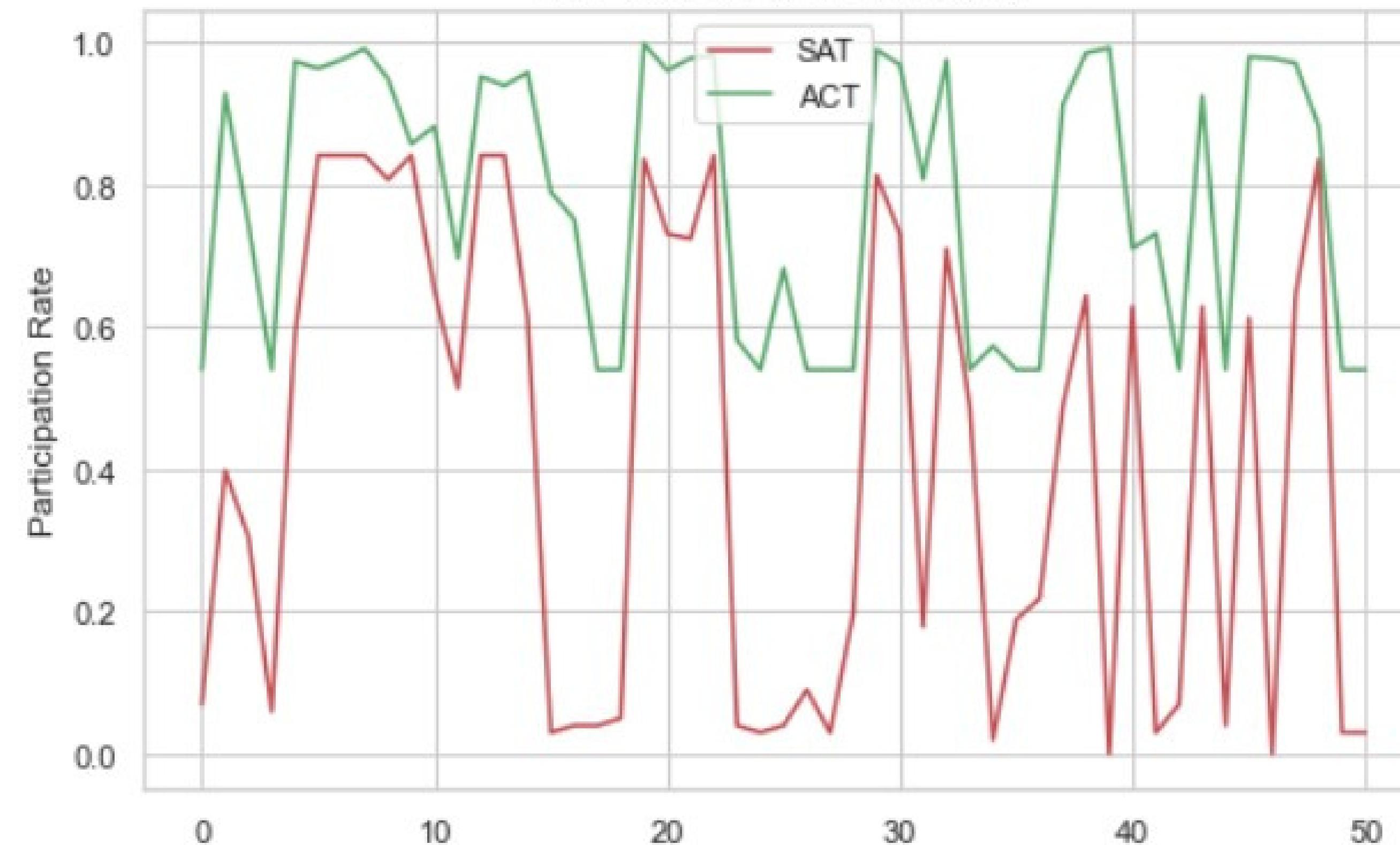
Minnesota 0.95 21.4

South Dakota 0.75 21.6

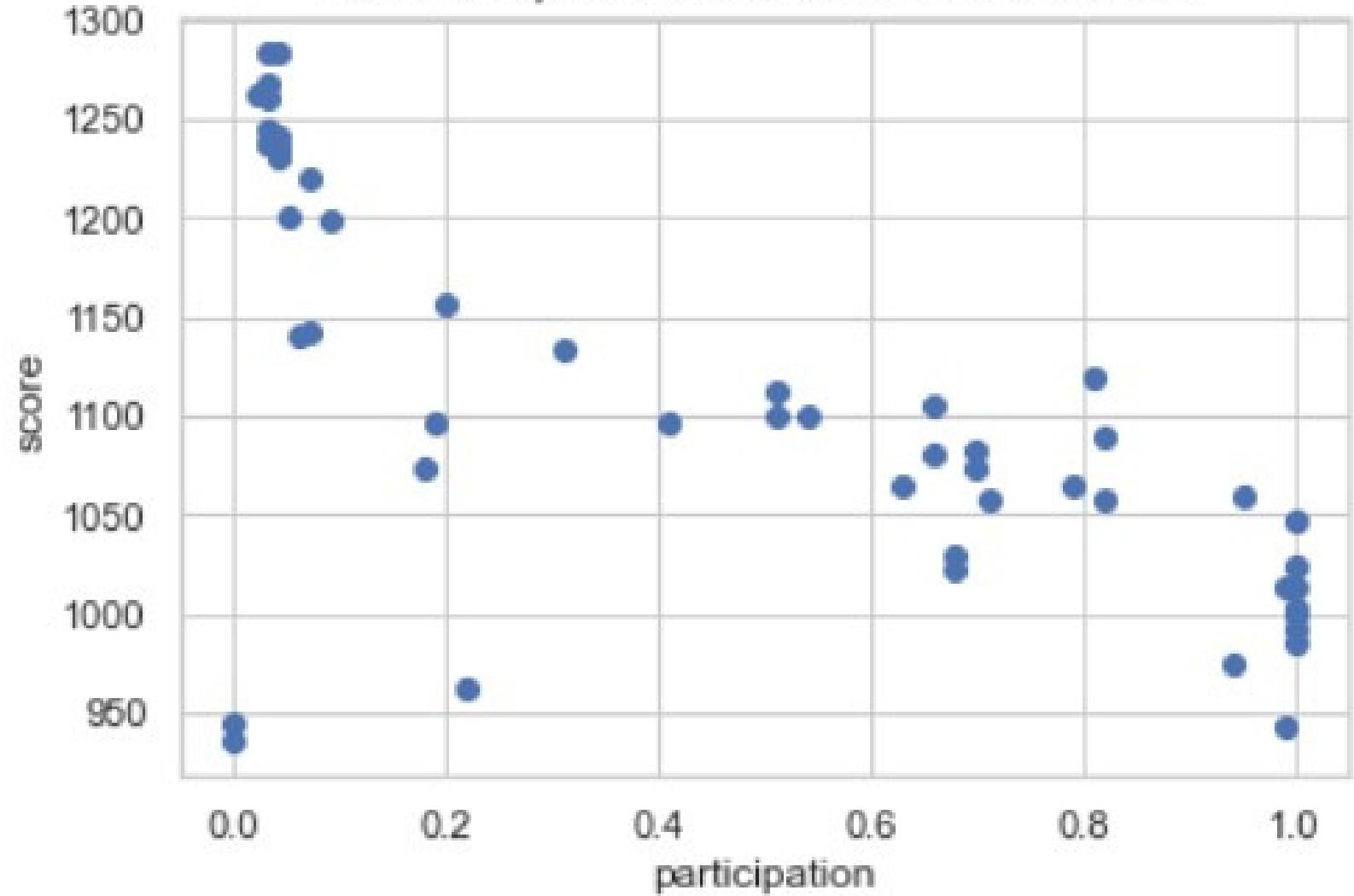
# AVERAGE SCORE% COMPARISON:



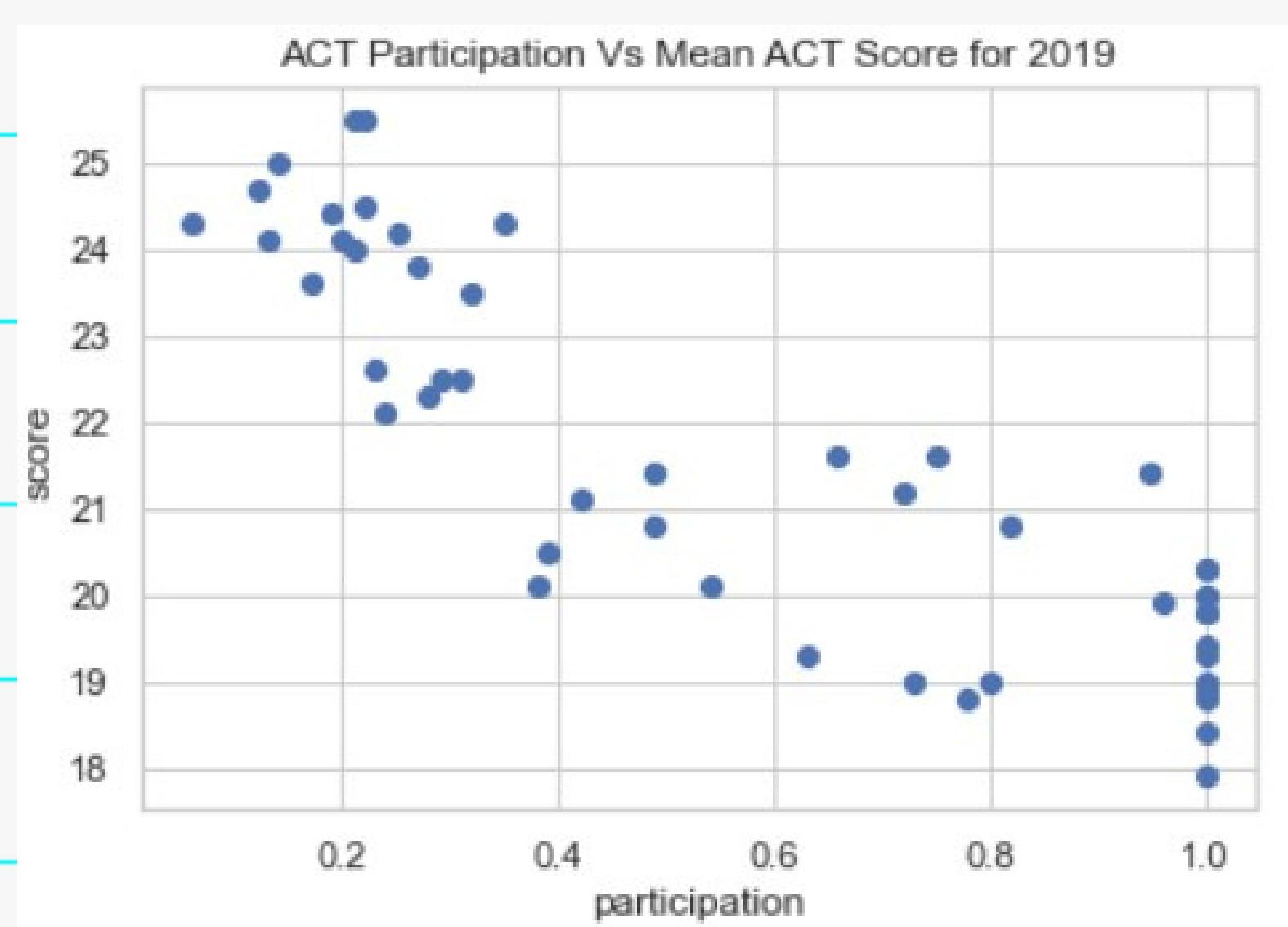
### SAT Vs ACT Participation Rate



SAT Participation Vs Mean SAT Score for 2019



ACT Participation Vs Mean ACT Score for 2019



THERE ARE 8 STATES WITH SAT PARTICIPATION RATE OF 100% WHEREAS THERE ARE 15 STATES WITH ACT PARTICIPATION RATE OF 100%. LOWEST PARTICIPATION RATE OF SAT IS 2% WHERE AS IN ACT LOWEST PARTICIPATION RATE IS 6%.

ACT OUTPERFORMED SAT IN TERMS OF PARTICIPATION RATE IN THE YEAR 2019.

PARTICIPATION IS HIGH IN THE STATES WHERE TEST IS MADE MANDATE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND BY WAIVING OF THE TEST FEE. 11 STATES (COLORADO, CONNECTICUT, DELAWARE, IDAHO, ILLINOIS, MAINE, MICHIGAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, AND WEST VIRGINIA AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA) MADE SAT MANDATORY AND ADMINISTERED AT NO COST TO STUDENTS BECAUSE OF WHICH PARTICIPATION IS ABOVE 90% IN THOSE STATES.

BECAUSE ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN STATE DEPARTMENTS MADE SAT MANDATORY ACT PARTICIPATION IS LOW THERE EVEN THOUGH MIDWEST REGION TENDS TO PREFER ACT.

ACT AND SAT PARTICIPATION RATES ARE INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL TO THEIR RESPECTIVE SCORES. WISCONSIN, FOR INSTANCE, DESPITE 3% PARTICIPATION, RANKS 2ND IN SAT MEAN SCORE. IN THE SAME WAY, RHODE ISLAND, DESPITE 14% PARTICIPATION RANKS 4TH IN ACT MEAN SCORE.

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## IN CONCOLUSION

In order to increase the participation of SAT, the College Board should collaborate with state departments of education to subsidize full costs of the test ,offer scholarships to students who take SAT and making SAT mandatory in the states with low participation. College board collaborating with coaching centers to offer free online pratcice tests and instructional videos on how to score more to students which will help in increasing states mean score as well. ACT is a paper based and computer based test whereas SAT is a paper based test. So college board should make computer-based SAT tests available so that it would be flexible for students and they can receive their scores faster.

THANK YOU!