



How to Improve SAT Participation Rates Across U.S.

DSI30 - Project 1

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Recent changes and trends for SAT

- New format for SAT was released in March 2016. Since then, levels of participation in multiple states have changed with varying legislative decisions.
- College Board partnered with Khan Academy in 2018 to provide free SAT preparation, which led to an increase in SAT test-takers.
- In 2019, SAT has taken over ACT as the more popular test. More than 2.2 million students took the SAT, as compared to 1.8 million students who took the ACT.
- Some companies have been reported to ask job candidates for their SAT scores, which could be used as a differentiator among other candidates.

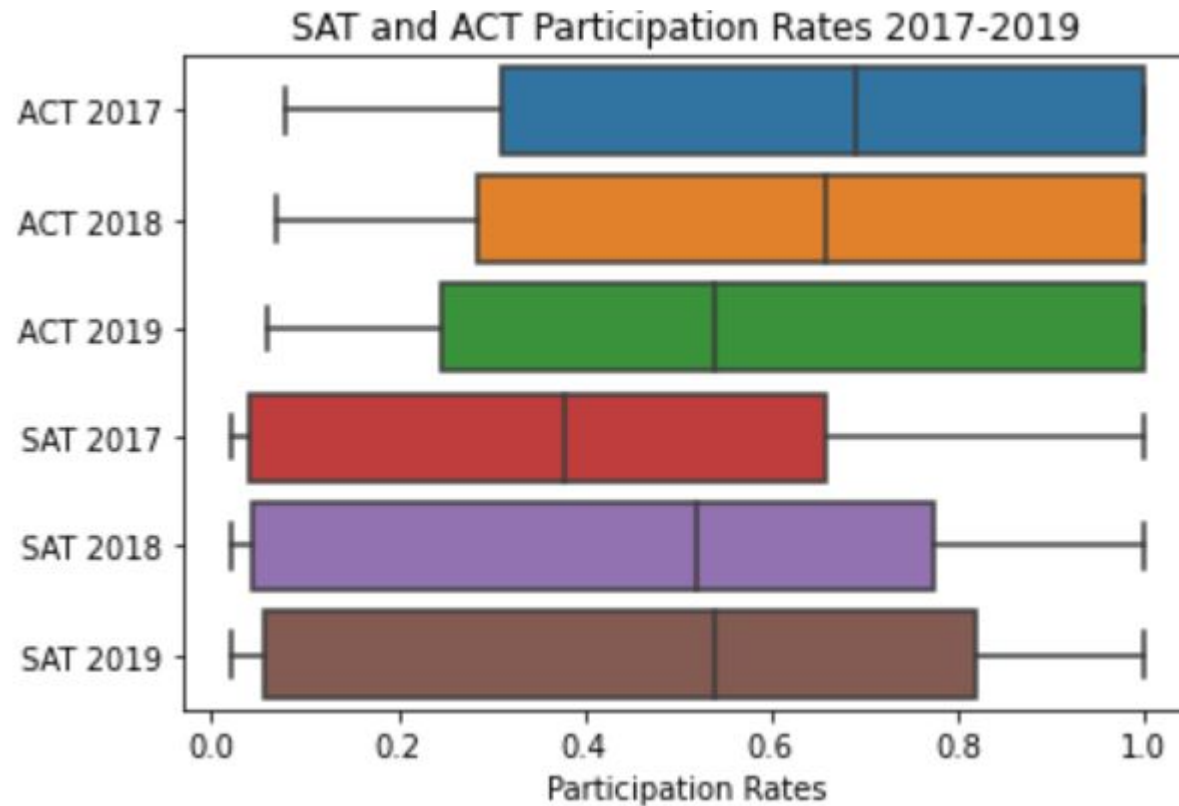


Presentation Scope

1. Explore trends in SAT and ACT scores and participation rate for the years 2017-2019
2. Provide summary of analysis done
3. Recommendations to College Board to improve participation rates of SAT

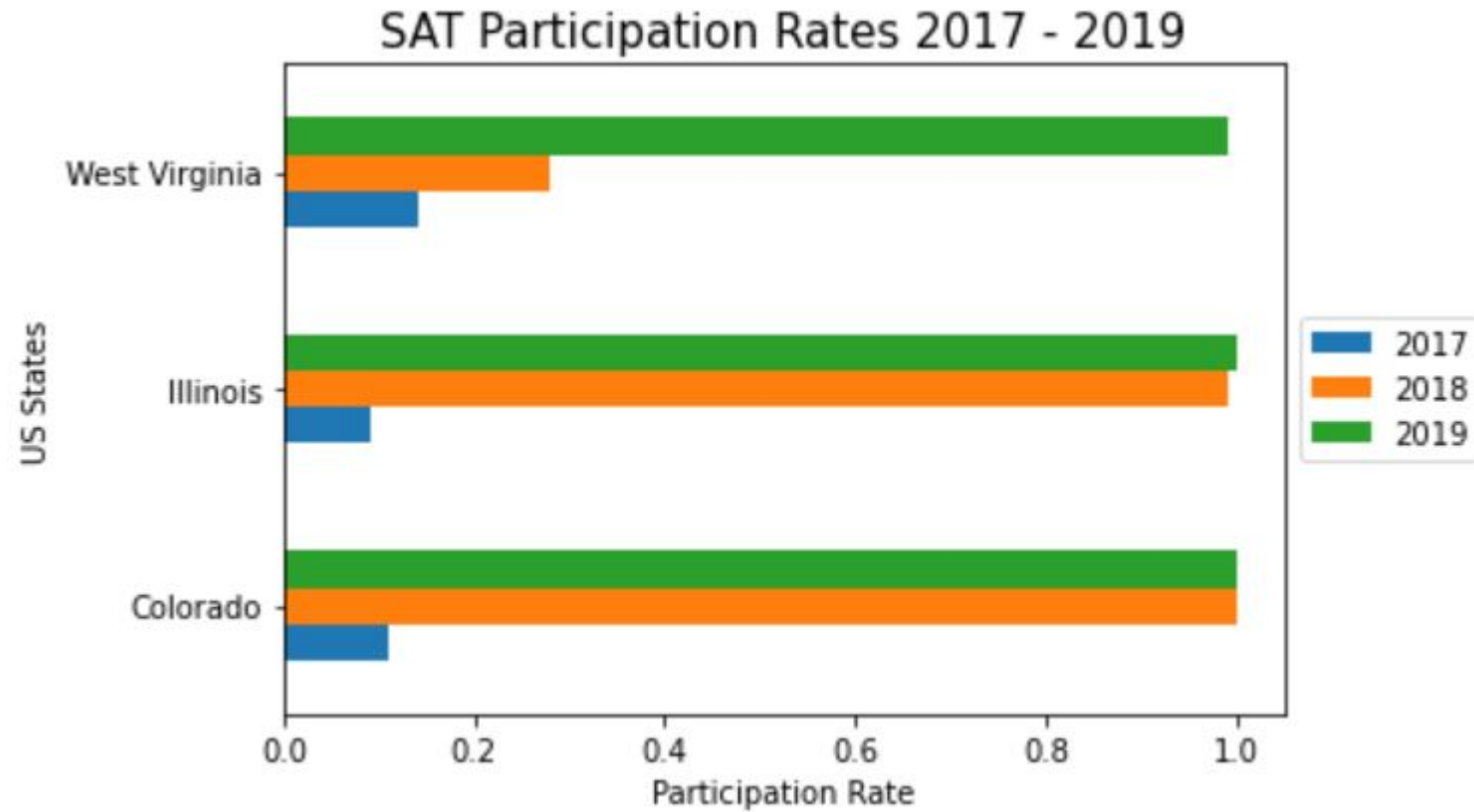


Increase in SAT participation rates



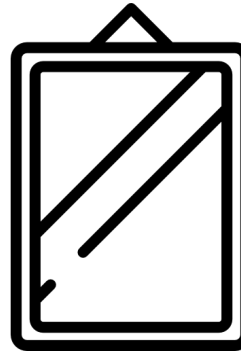
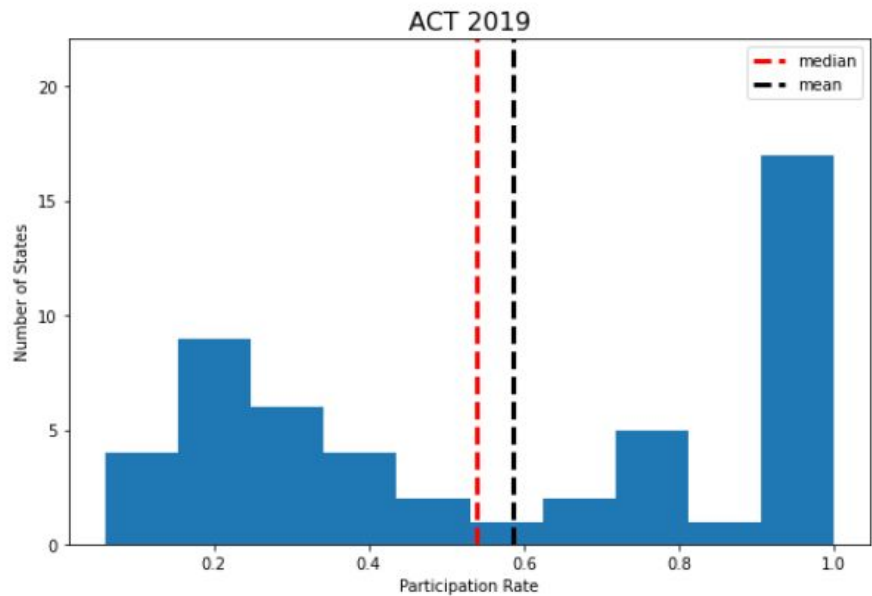
- Median ACT participation rates has decreased
- Increase in median and 75th percentile of SAT participation rates
- Some states remain at 100% ACT participation rates

States are changing to SAT

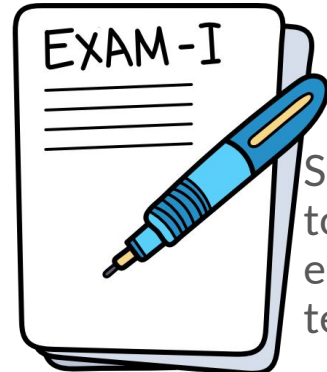
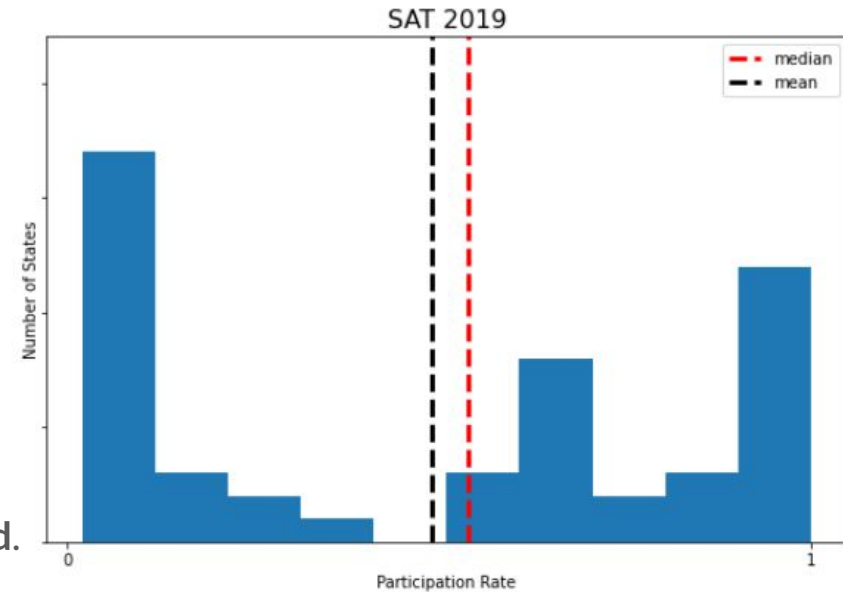


Further analysis on participation rates

- States that are ACT centric (Participation Histogram. ACT_2019, SAT_2019)



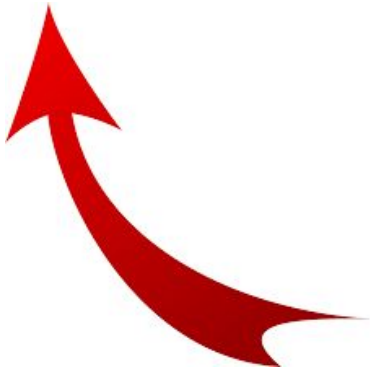
Distributions are somewhat mirrored.



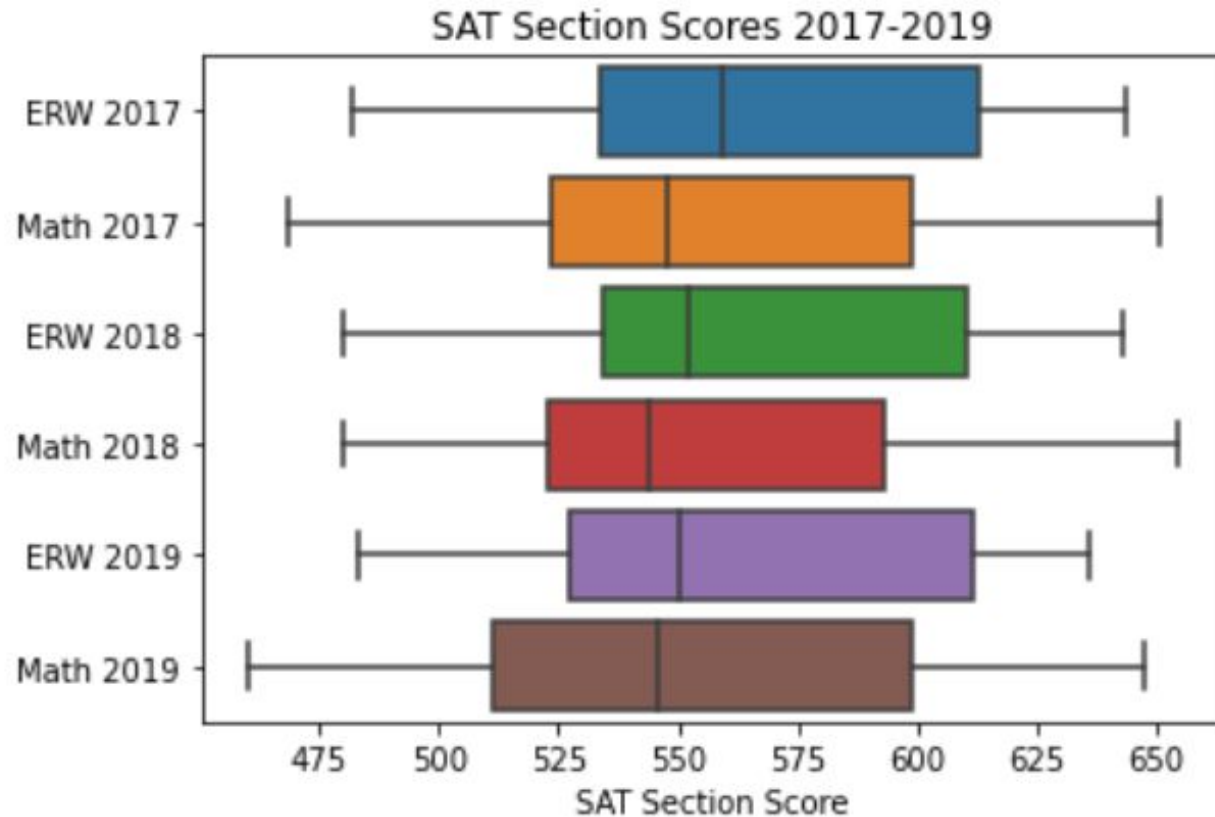
Student took only either test

Potential states to take up SAT

State	ACT Participation	ACT Score	SAT Participation	SAT Score
Minnesota	95%	21.4	4%	1284
Wisconsin	100%	20.3	3%	1283
North Dakota	96%	19.9	2%	1263
Nebraska	100%	20.0	3%	1260
National Average (2019)		21.4		1113

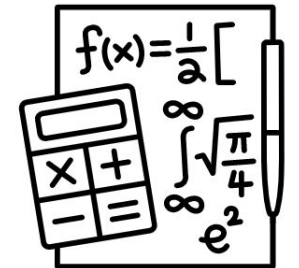


Performance in ERW and Math

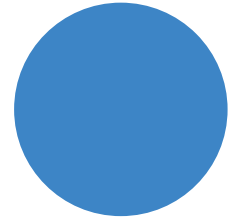
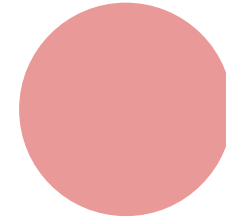


Median
**Evidence-Based
Reading and Writing**
score consistently
outperforms

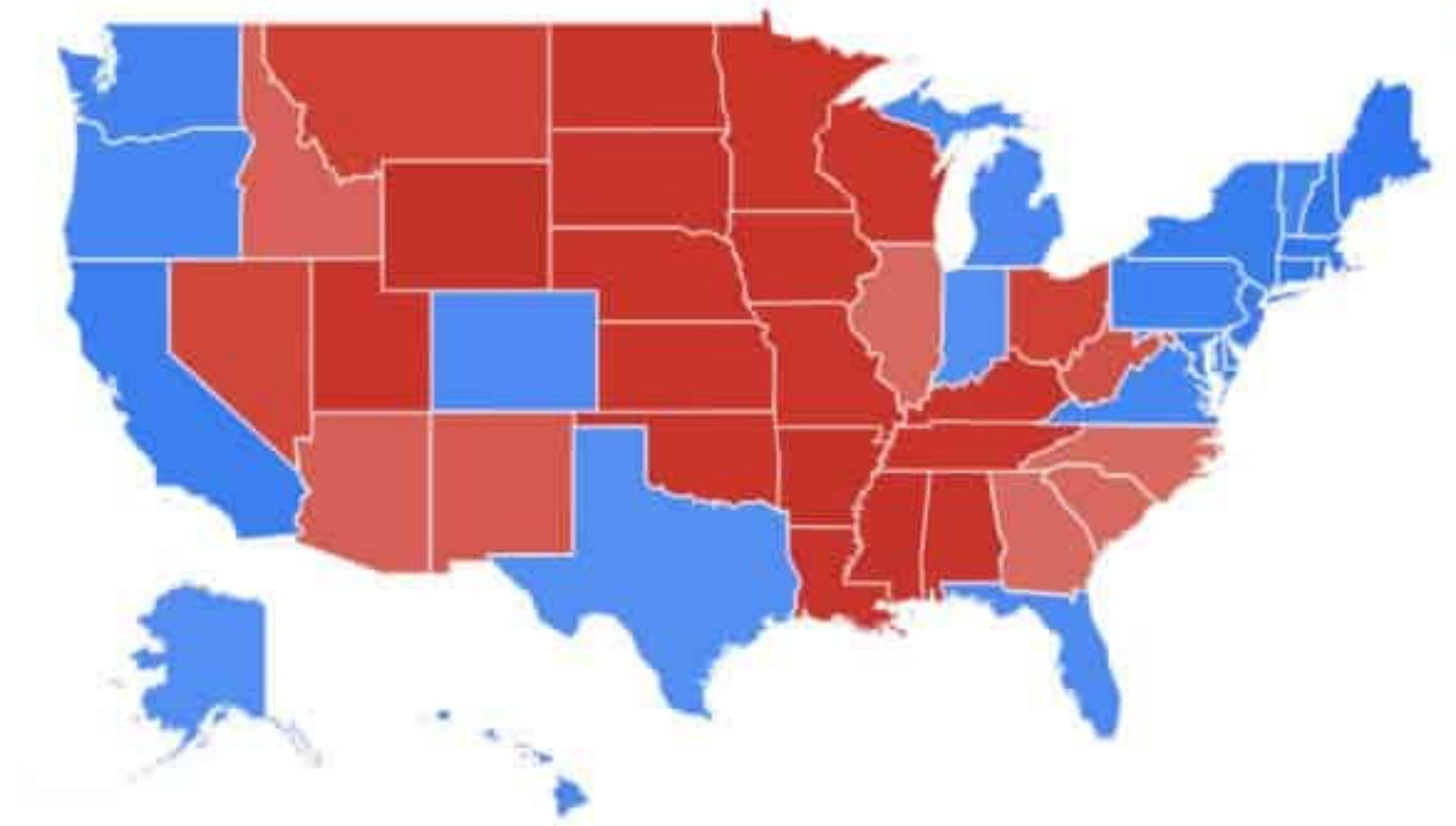
median **Math** score
from 2017-2019



Conclusion & Recommendation



Many states with high ACT participation and low SAT participation



Conclusion & Recommendation



starting with these **4** states
with **higher mean scores**
for both ACT and SAT

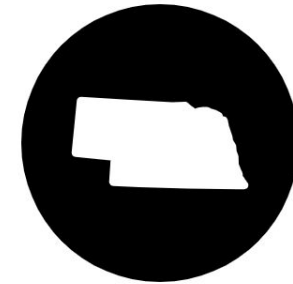
Encourage more **state level**
education agencies to adopt SAT



Minnesota



North
Dakota



Nebraska



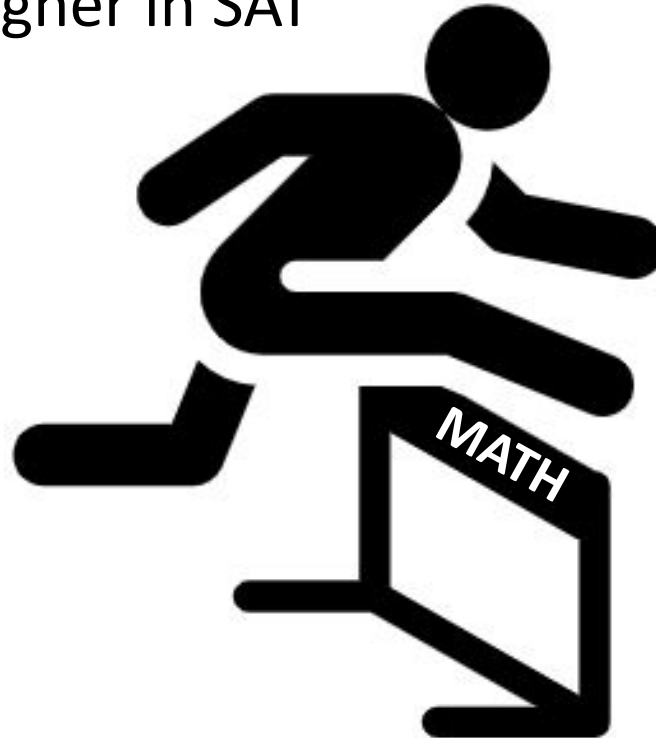
Wisconsin

Conclusion & Recommendation



Providing more resources to improve **Math** scores in SAT

Overcome “Math Hurdle” to score higher in SAT



Resulting in better college admission

References

1. <https://newsroom.collegeboard.org/college-board-announces-surge-students-taking-new-sat-r-suite-assessments-creating-opportunity>
2. <https://newsroom.collegeboard.org/over-22-million-students-class-2019-took-sat-largest-group-ever#:~:text=Over%202.2%20Million%20Students%20in,Group%20Ever%20%7C%20The%20College%20Board>
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6. <https://co.chalkbeat.org/2015/12/23/21092477/goodbye-act-hello-sat-a-significant-change-for-colorado-high-schoolers>
7. <https://wvde.state.wv.us/news/3413/>

Any Questions?

