

SAT Scores and Parental Education

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This study aims to see if there is a relationship between parental education achieved and student SAT scores from 2017 to 2020.

Levels of parental education :

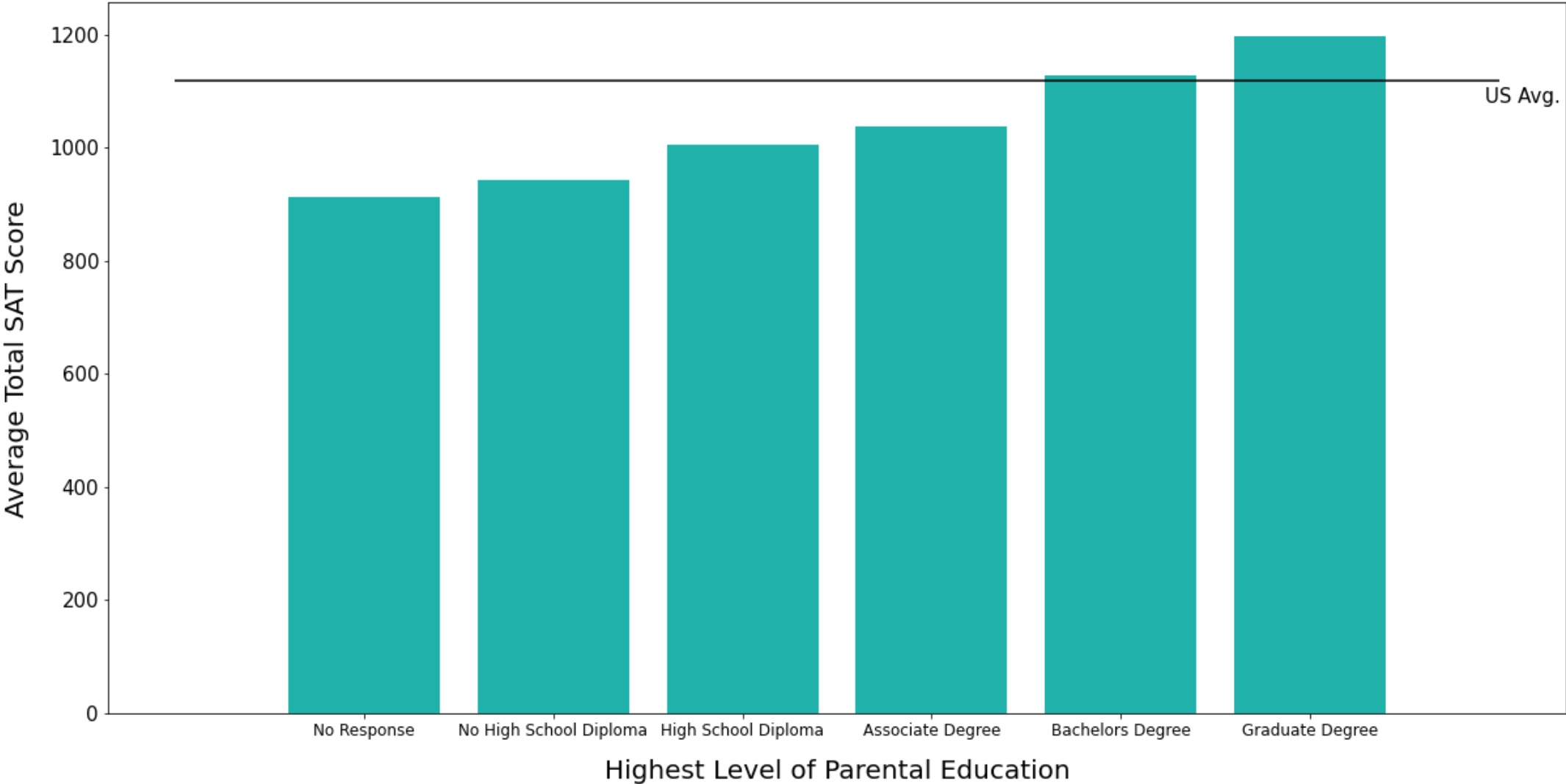
- Graduate Degree
- Bachelors Degree
- Associate Degree
- High School Diploma
- No High School Diploma
- No Response



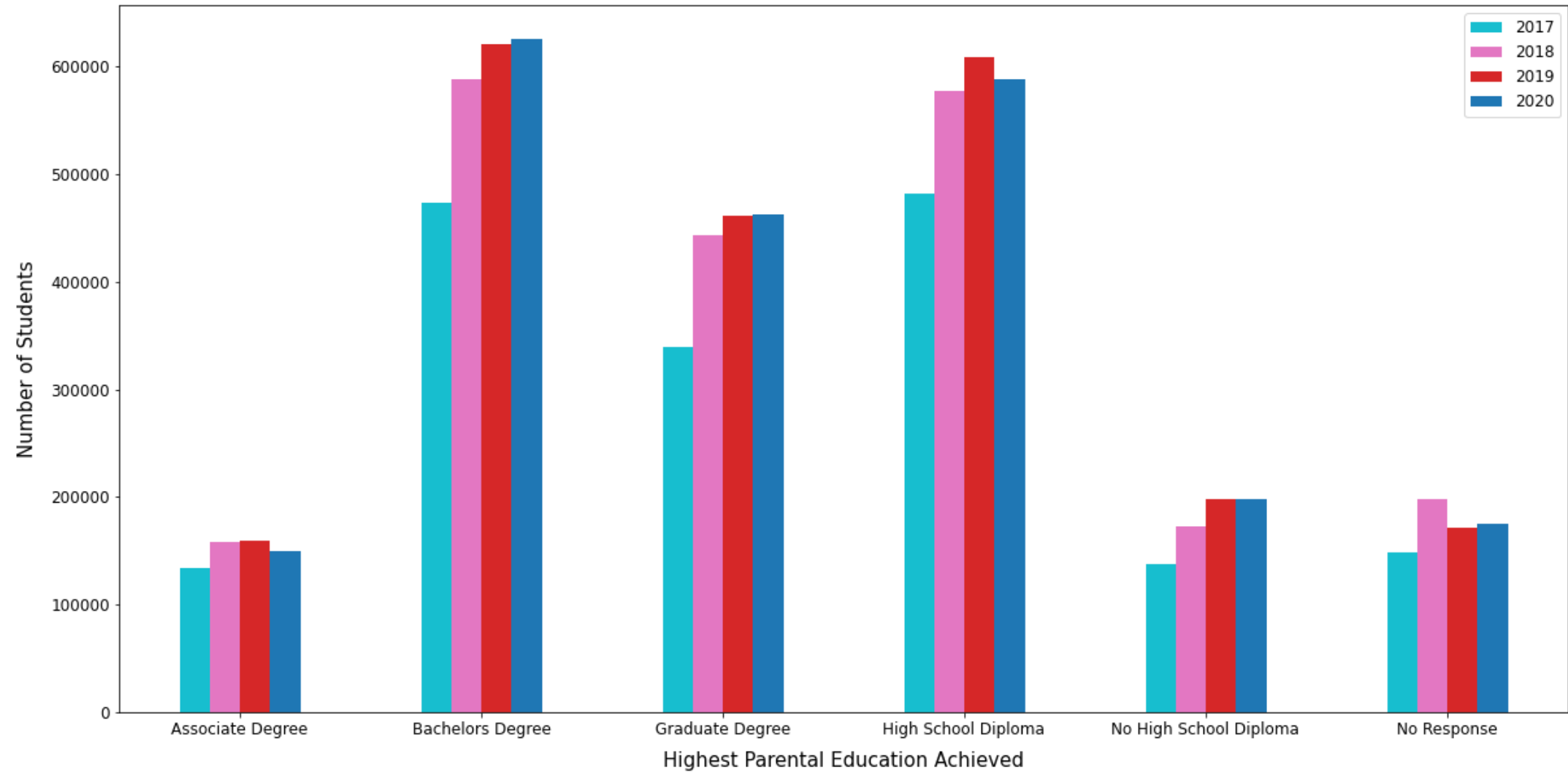
Primary Findings

- Student SAT scores are strongly correlated to parental education levels
- 2020 SAT scores were lower than 2018 and 2019 scores, regardless of parental education levels
- There was a lower number of test takers with a parental education of Associate Degree, High School Diploma, and No High School Diploma in 2020 compared to 2019.
- The number of test takers with a parental education of a Bachelors or Graduate degree increased by less than a percent from 2019 to 2020.

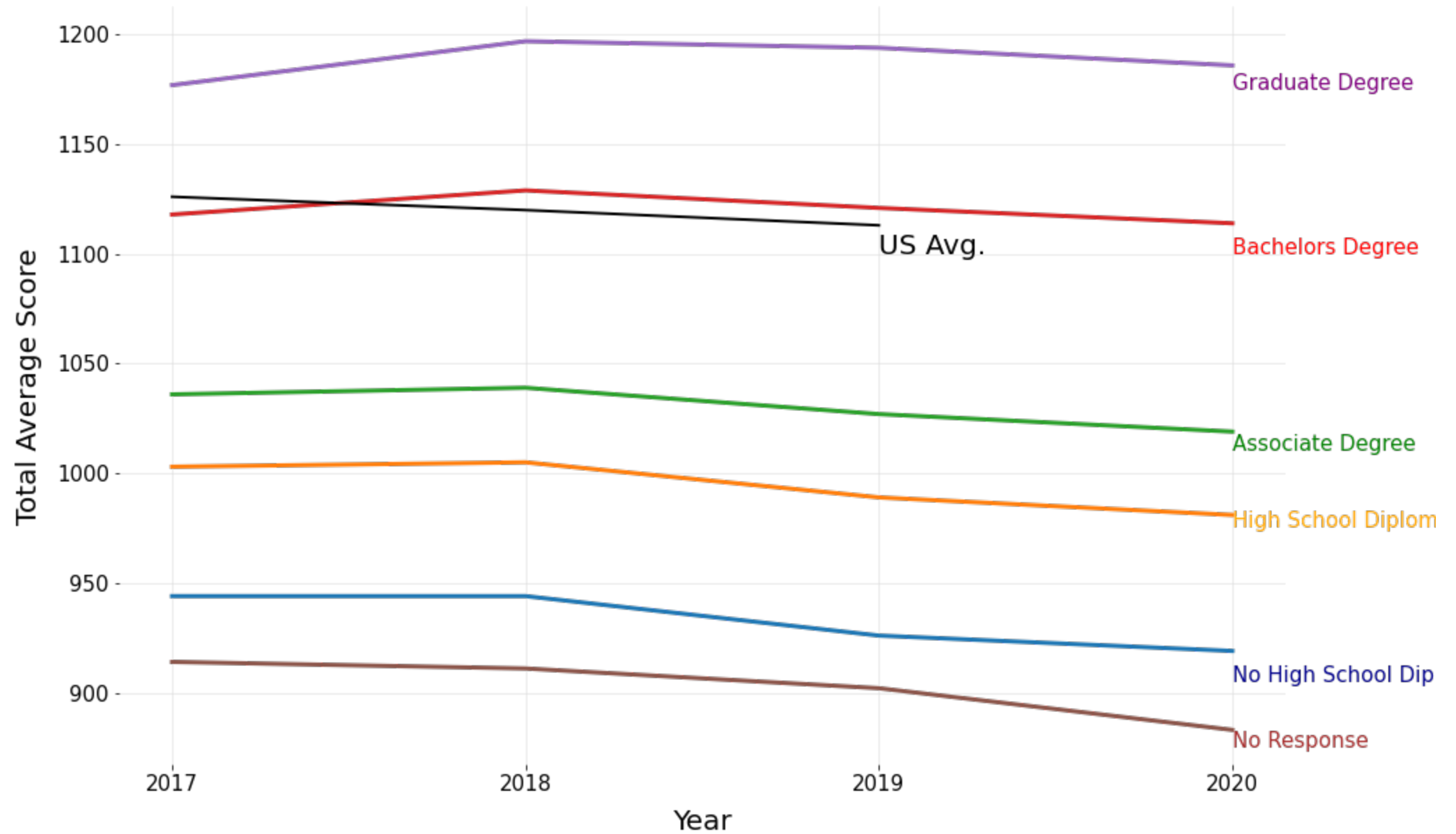
Average Total SAT Scores by Parental Education



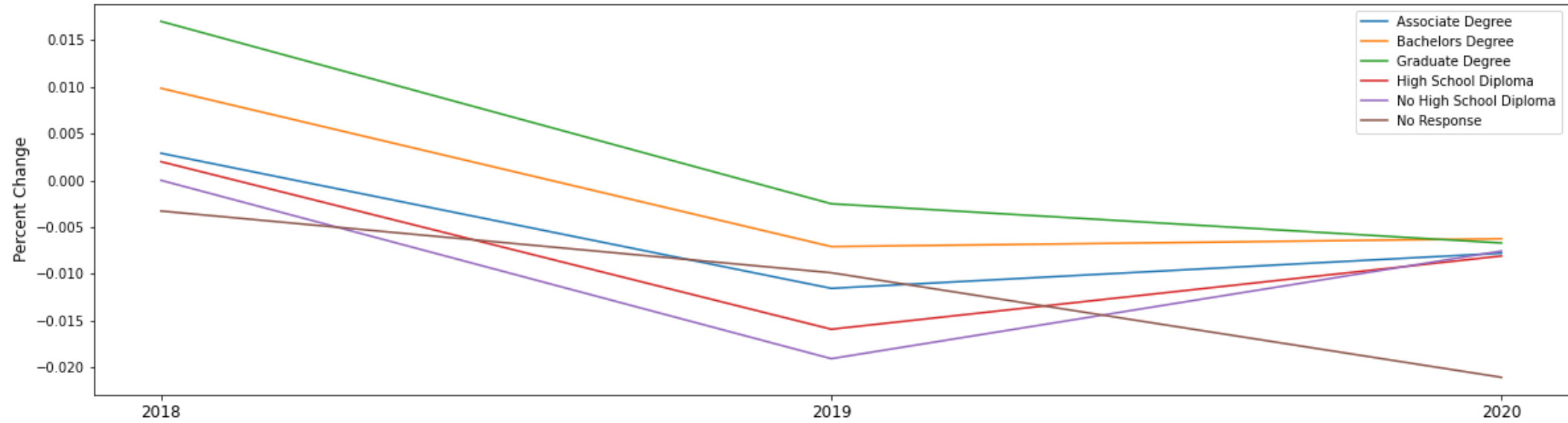
Total Number of Students by Parental Education



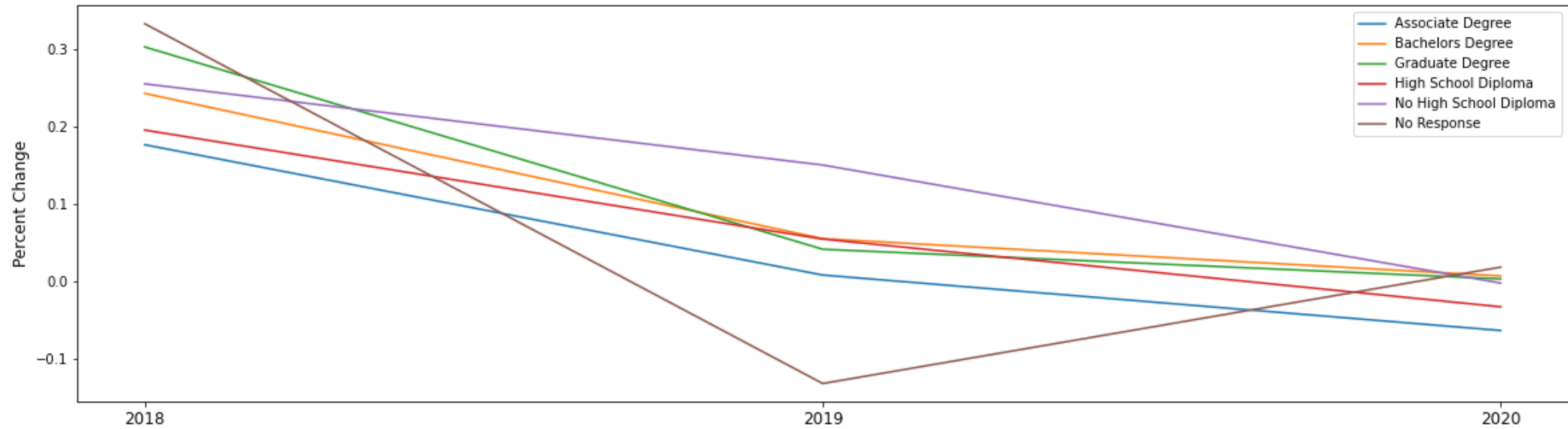
Total Average Score by Parental Education



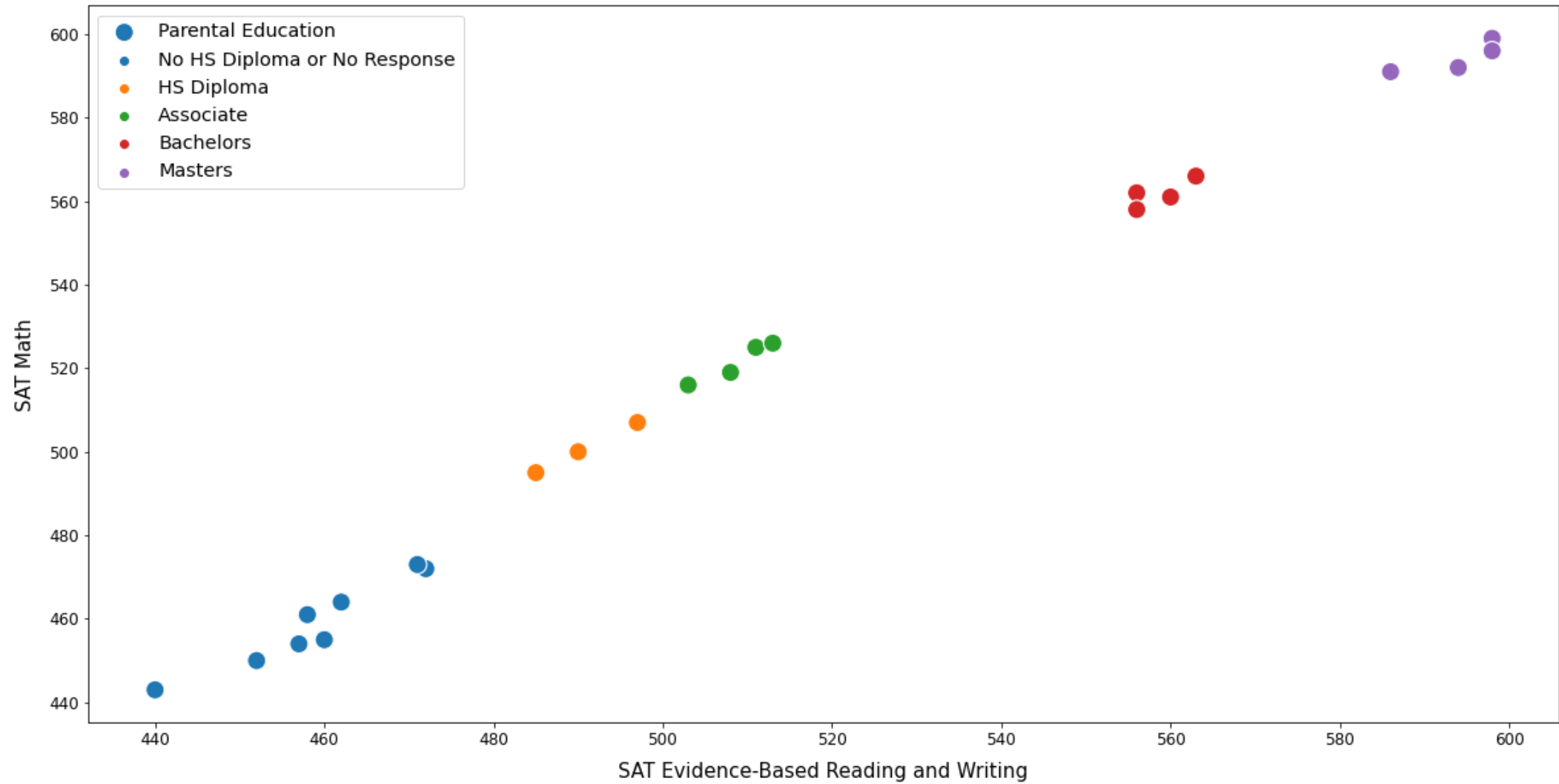
Change in Total SAT Score



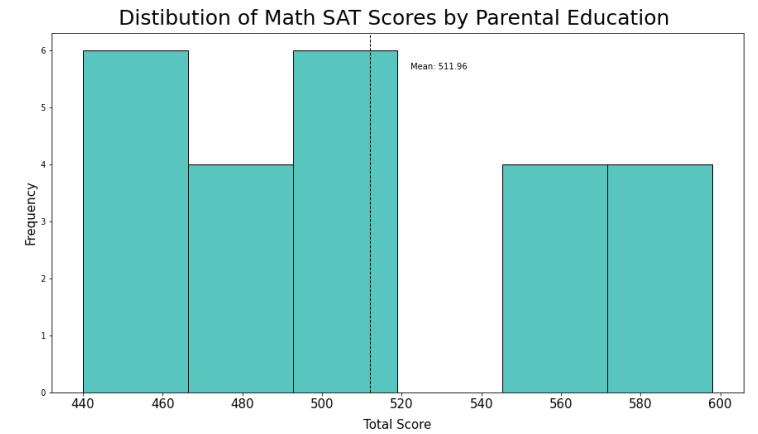
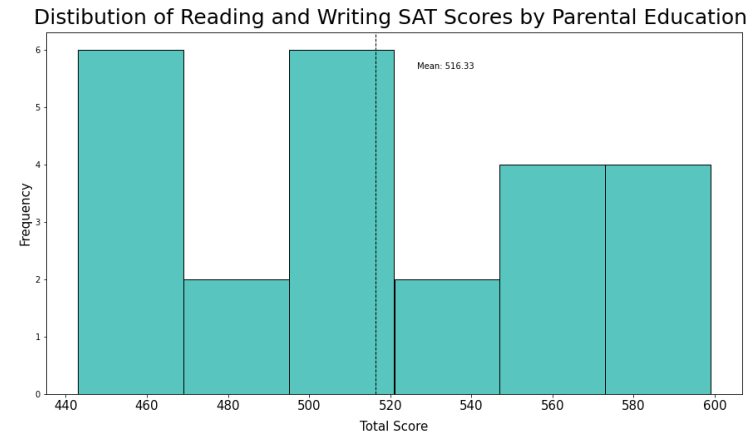
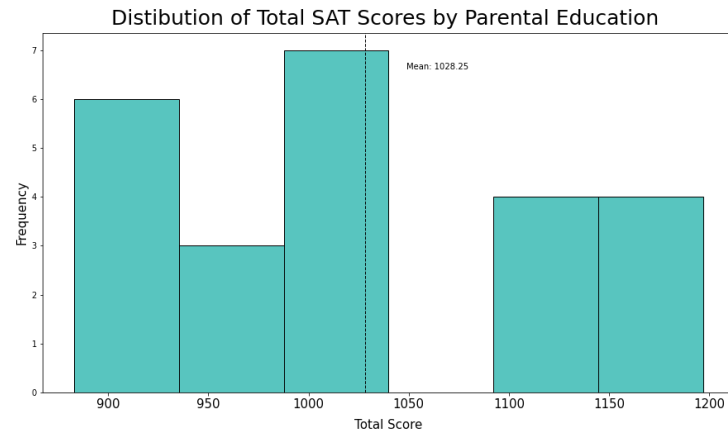
Change in Number of Students Testing



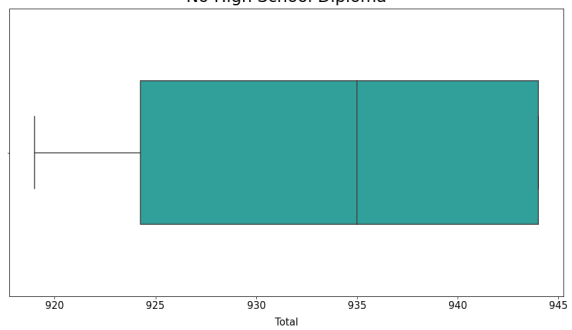
Math and ERW Scores



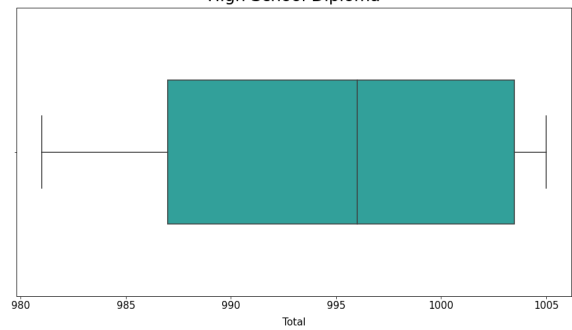
Distribution of SAT Scores



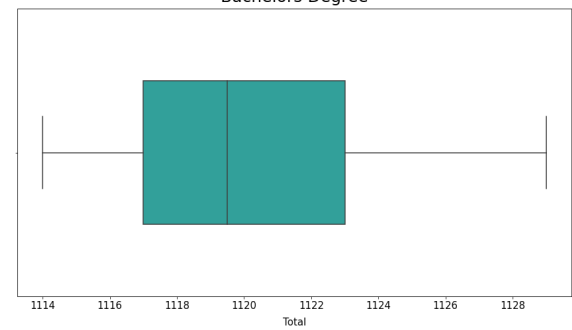
No High School Diploma



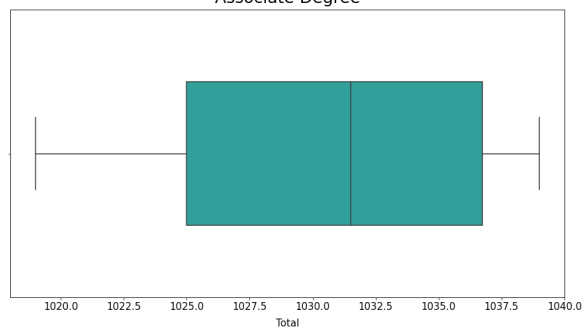
High School Diploma



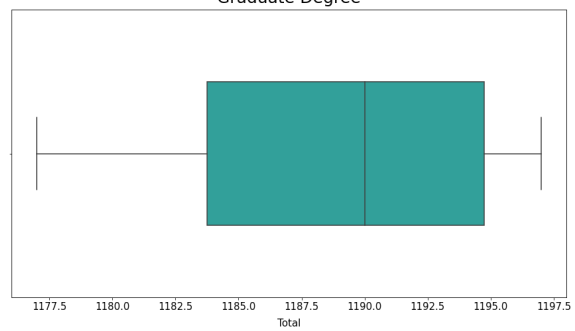
Bachelors Degree



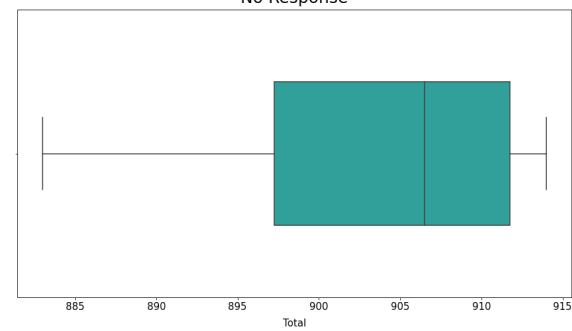
Associate Degree



Graduate Degree



No Response



Recommendations

Further research and analysis recommended, and should include the following areas:

- Evaluate state level parental education
- Evaluate county and school district level parental education
- Evaluate participation rates by parental education
- Evaluate household income vs. parental education

Due to the decrease in the number of students taking the SAT, evaluate whether students with/without parental education are applying to schools that may not require SAT scores or if they are in states that do not require participation.

Look into potential reasons why students do not respond to the parental education section and how it correlates with the average low score of those who do not respond.

Develop programs to provide resources for those students who may not have parents/parental figures with higher levels of education.

Thank you!

Sources

- U.S. SAT Scores:
 - <https://blog.collegevine.com/here-are-the-average-sat-scores-by-state/>
 - <https://blog.prepscholar.com/average-sat-scores-by-state-most-recent>
- Parental Education SAT Scores:
 - <https://reports.collegeboard.org/pdf/2020-total-group-sat-suite-assessments-annual-report.pdf>
 - <https://reports.collegeboard.org/pdf/2019-total-group-sat-suite-assessments-annual-report.pdf>
 - <https://reports.collegeboard.org/pdf/2018-total-group-sat-suite-assessments-annual-report.pdf>
 - <https://reports.collegeboard.org/pdf/2017-total-group-sat-suite-assessments-annual-report.pdf>