

“Hey dude, are you gonna take one of those exams?”:

**The Relationship Between
Test-Taking Percentage and
Benchmark Scores Percentage**

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Problem Statement

The percentage of 12th Grade students from each California high school who take either the ACT or SAT varies widely between schools. This project seeks to determine whether a relationship exists between the percentage of 12th Grade students from each school who take either exam and the percentage of 12th Grade students from each school whose scores meet the respective benchmarks.

College-Going Culture

Environment and attitudes present in a school that encourage students and families to obtain tools for accessing a college degree



Argument

- % of Test-Takers is positively correlated with % of Test-Takers Who Obtain Benchmark Scores
- Big emphasis on testing is element of strong College-Going Culture
- Students who take PSAT obtain higher scores on SAT than those who don't

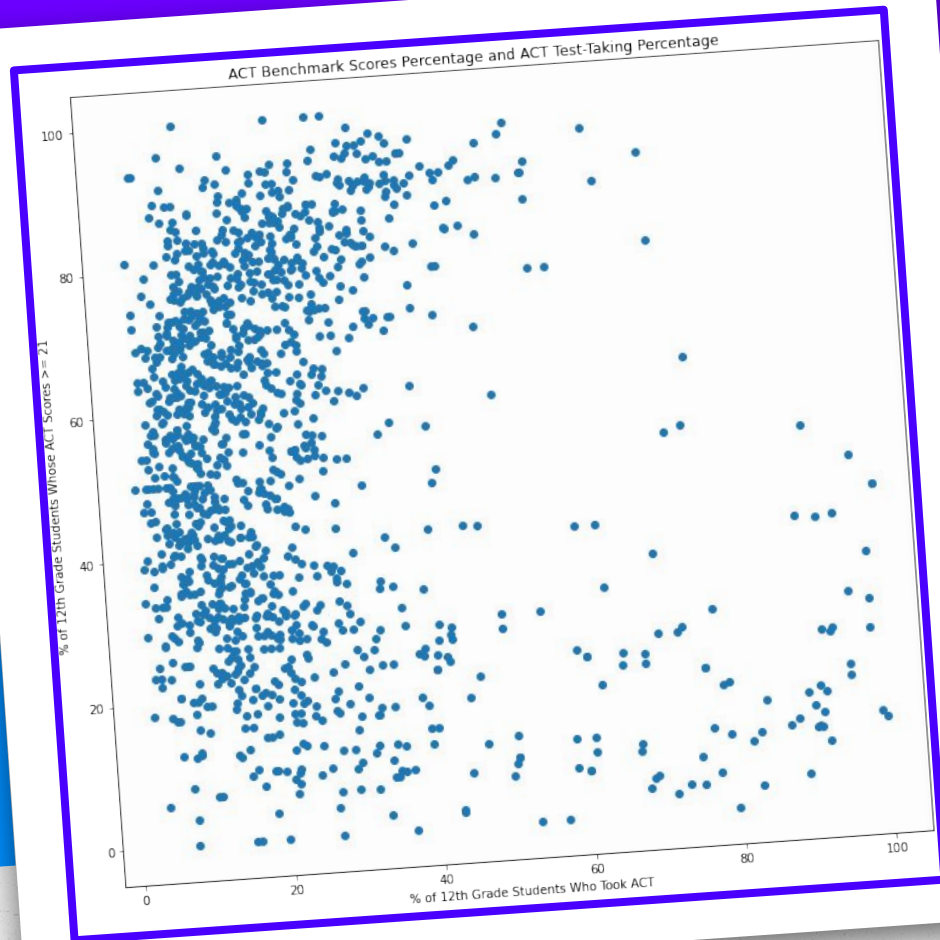
Datasets Utilized

- 2019 ACT Scores in California by School (Cal. Dept. of Education)
- 2019 SAT Scores in California by School (Cal. Dept. of Education)



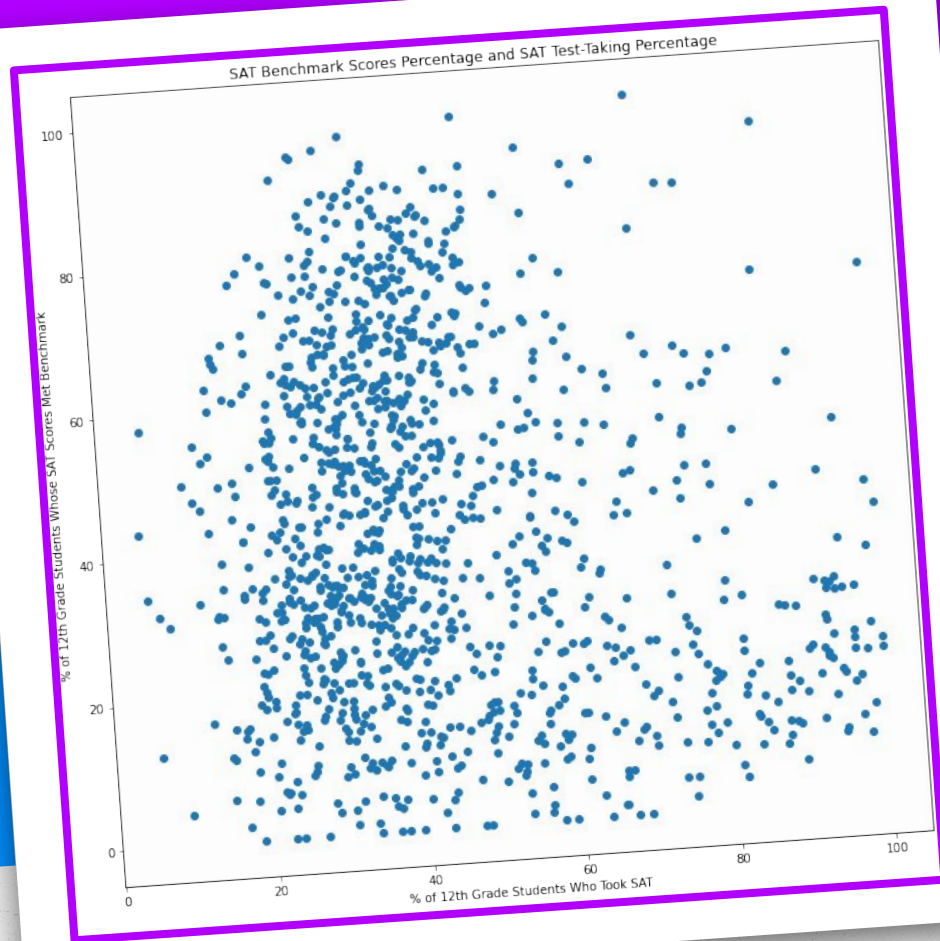
CORRELATION

-.169



CORRELATION

-.173



Findings

- No correlation between a school's % of test-takers and % test-takers whose scores meet benchmarks
- Attending school with large test-taking percentage has no effect on exam performance



Further Areas of Study

- ACT Data only available for 12th Grade
- Other Measures of College-Going Culture
- Relationship in other states



Questions?

Thank You!