

The Impact of the ACT/SAT–Decision on Students Continuing to Higher Education

Author: Michael Riedeman

Content Overview

1. Problem Statement
2. Data Dictionary
3. Findings:
 - a. ACT Data
 - b. SAT Data
 - c. College Attendance Data
4. Conclusions
5. Recommendations
6. Questions



Problem Statement

This study determines whether students who take the ACT or the SAT have higher college attendance rates.

Additional factors that may contribute to a state's college attendance rates.

Data Analyzed:

2017 ACT data

2017 SAT data

2018 College Attendance

Data Dictionary

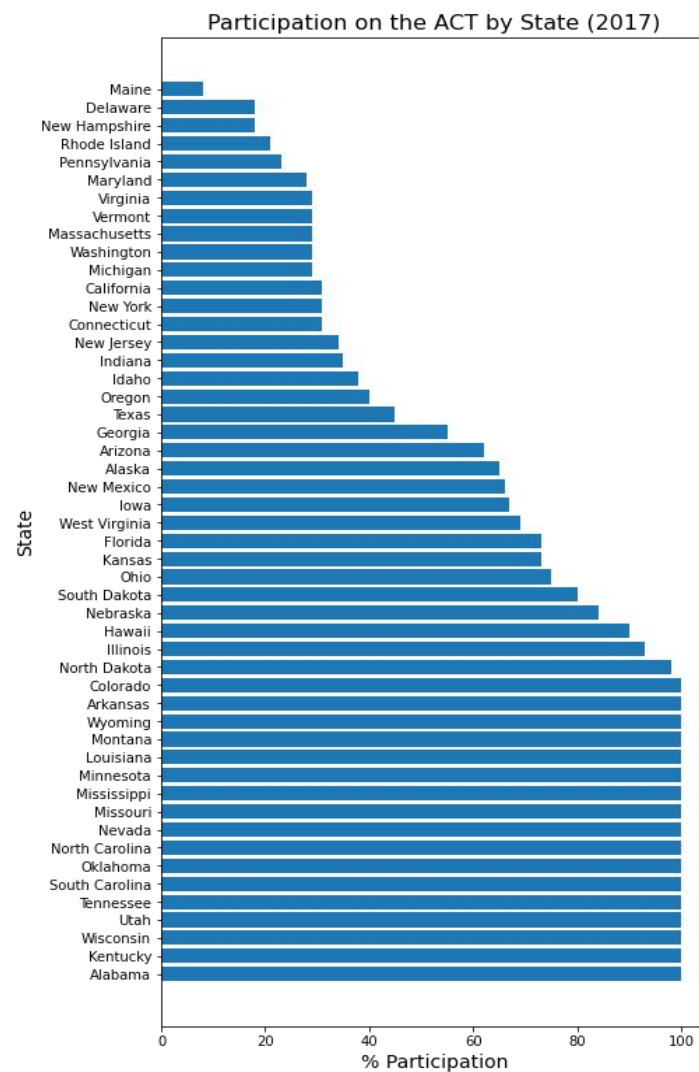
Terms you need to know

Participation Rates

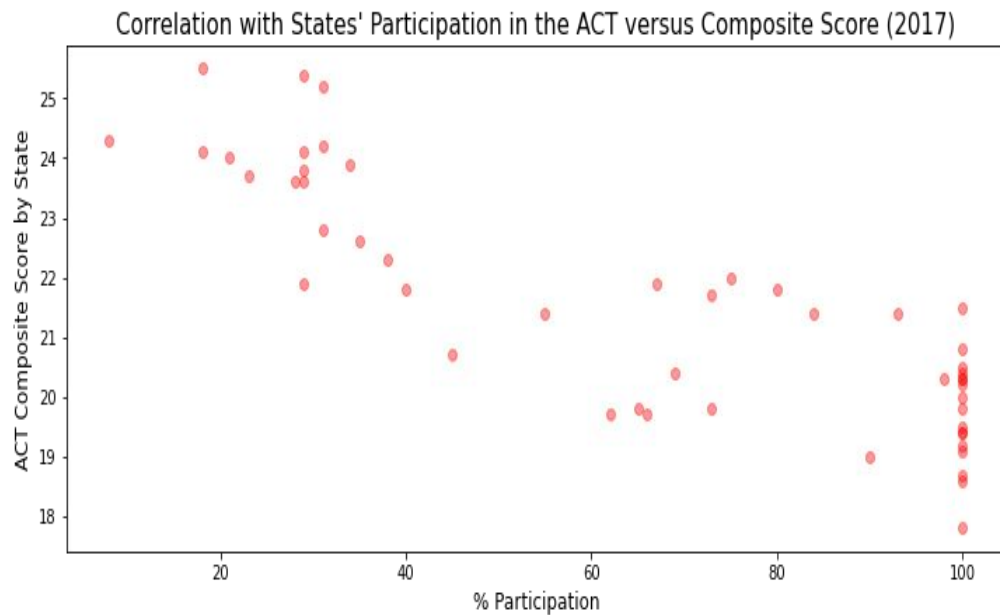
Total/Composite Scores

College Attendance Rates

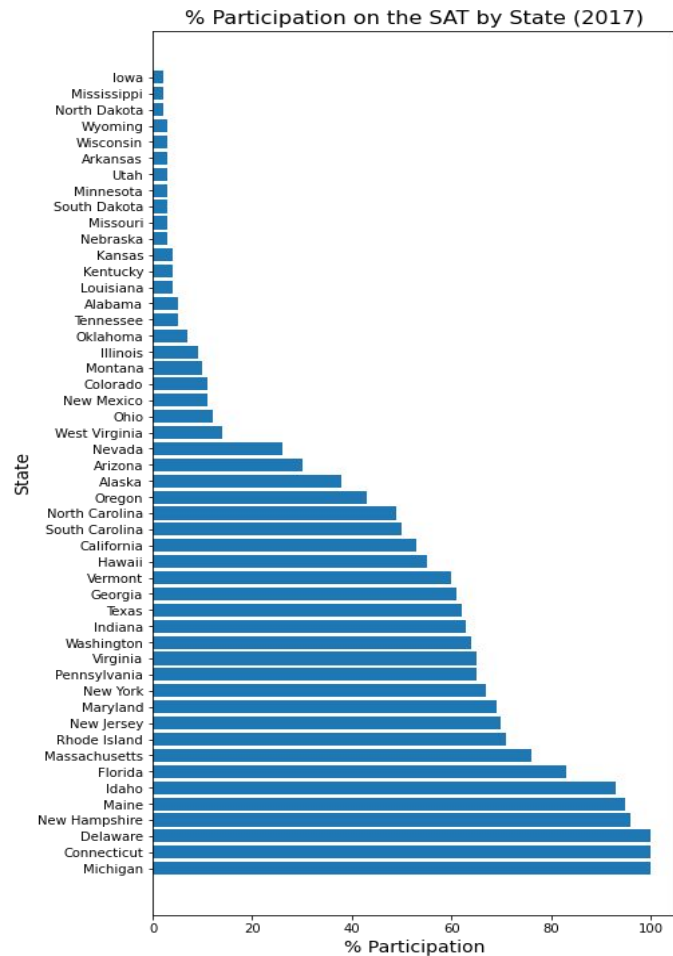
ACT Findings



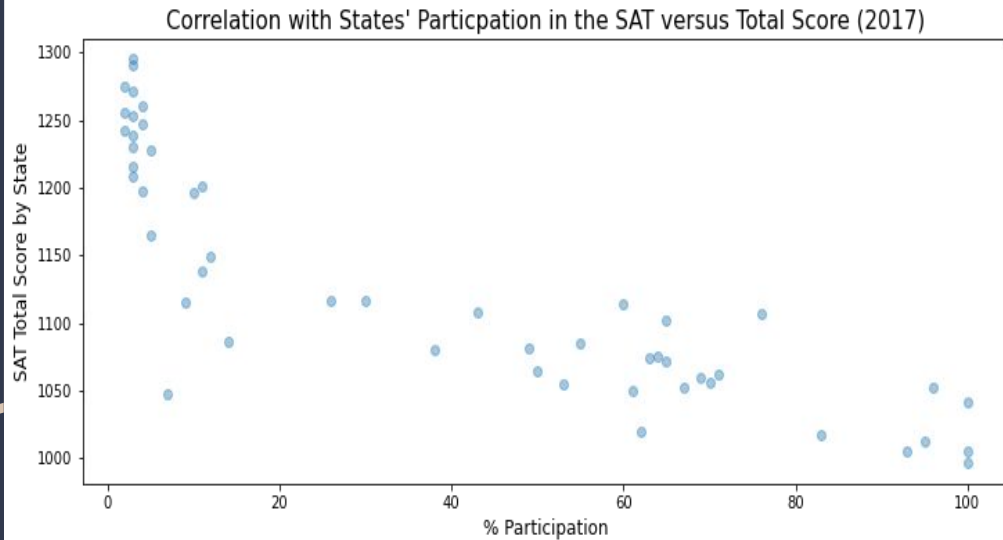
ACT Findings continued...



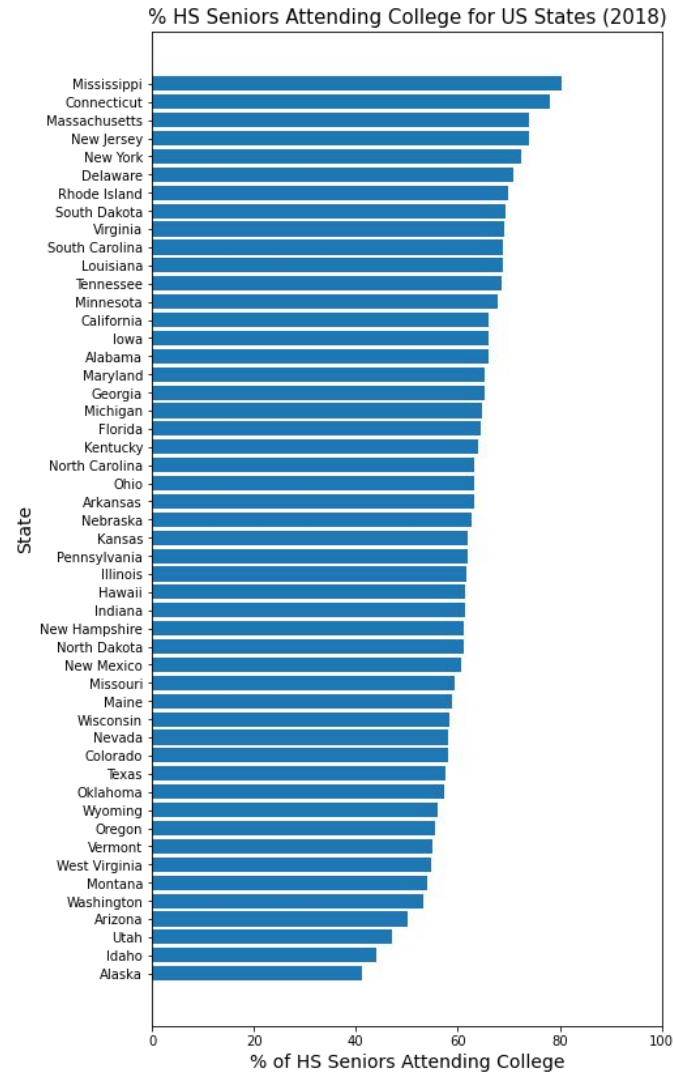
SAT Findings



SAT Findings continued...



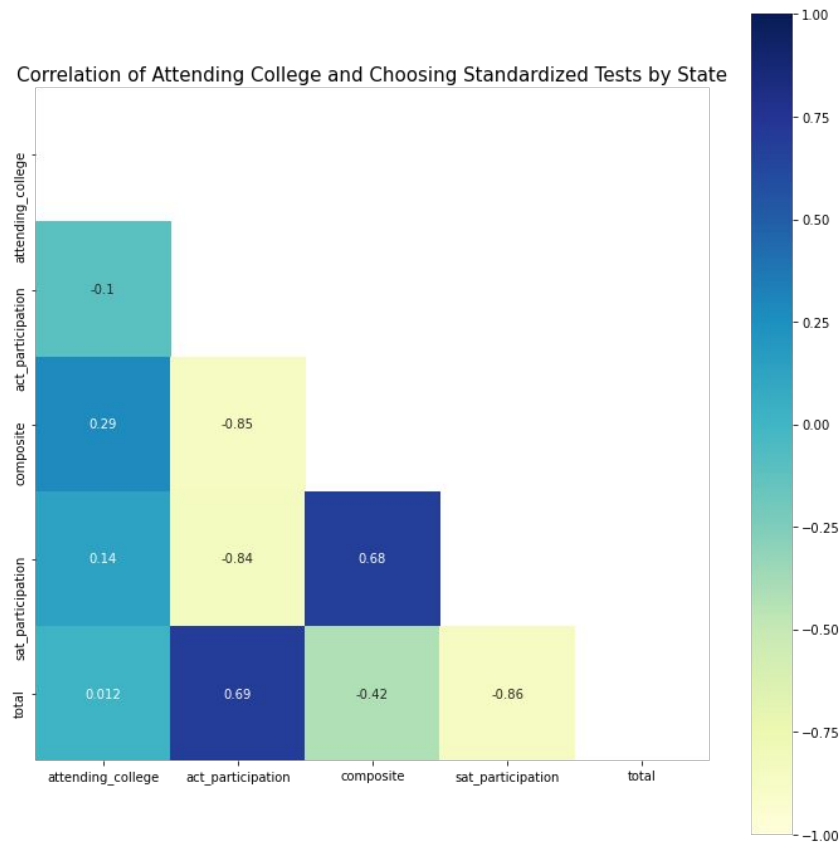
College Attendance Findings



Conclusions

state	attending_college	act_participation	composite	sat_participation	total
Mississippi	80.47	100.0	18.6	2.0	1242.0
Connecticut	78.05	31.0	25.2	100.0	1041.0
Massachusetts	74.09	29.0	25.4	76.0	1107.0
New Jersey	74.02	34.0	23.9	70.0	1056.0
New York	72.42	31.0	24.2	67.0	1052.0
Delaware	70.93	18.0	24.1	100.0	996.0
Rhode Island	69.81	21.0	24.0	71.0	1062.0
South Dakota	69.32	80.0	21.8	3.0	1216.0
Virginia	69.00	29.0	23.8	65.0	1102.0
South Carolina	68.89	100.0	18.7	50.0	1064.0

No significant correlation between standardized test choices and college attendance rates



Recommendations

Shawn Lea Temple's six reasons students did not continue their education:

1. Socioeconomic Status
2. Cultural Capital
3. Social Capital
4. Family Structure and Expectations
5. Financial Circumstances
6. General Organization of the High School

Additional Data Collection:

1. College tuition Rates
2. Local Job Markets
3. Public School Funding

Questions



Sources

1. Title Image

<https://ampla-edu.com/sat-vs-act-which-one-to-take/>

2. A heatmap that demonstrates the higher density of farmers in the midwest region.

http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/future_tense/2012/06/a_map_of_farmers_in_the_u_s_and_world_.html?query=Hillary%20Clinton,%20Donald%20Trump&view=histogram

3. An updated list of states that require the SAT/ACT.

<https://www.testive.com/state-sat-act/>

4. College attendance data:

<http://www.higheredinfo.org/dbbrowser/index.phpsubmeasure=63&year=2018&level=nation&mode=data&state=>

5. *Factors that Influence Student's Desires to Attend College*
(Dissertation by Shawn Lea Temple)

<https://scholarship.shu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1420&context=dissertations>