

Recommendations to Improve SAT Participation Rates in Tennessee

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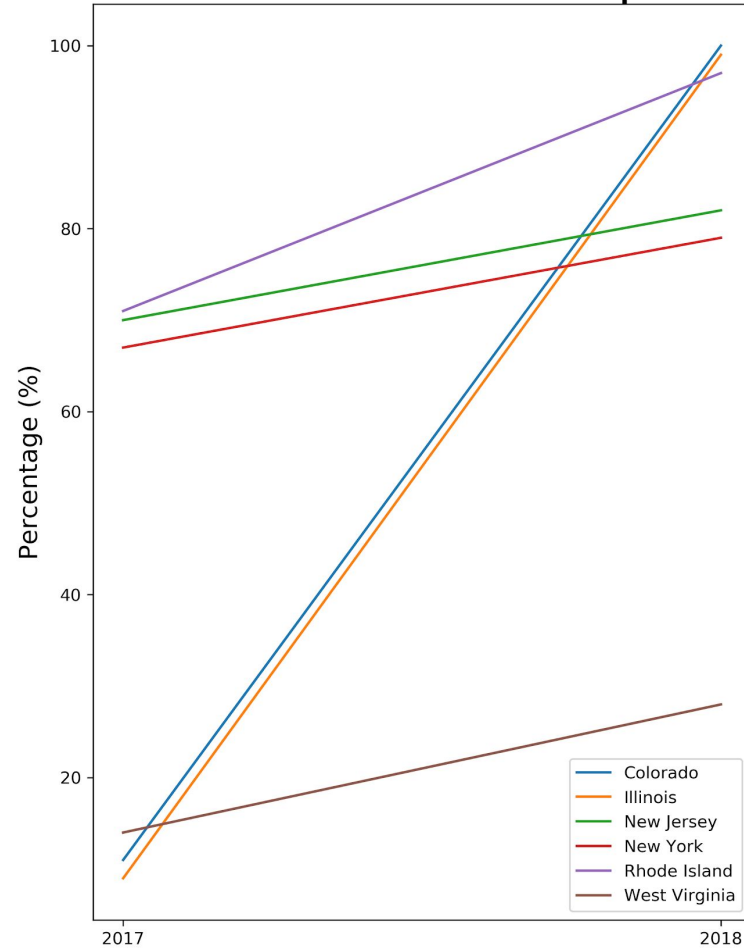
Outline

- Background
- Recommendations
- Conclusion
- Q&A

Why Tennessee?

- 16th largest state based on population
- One of the lowest participation rates for SAT (5-6%)
- Participation rates for ACT at 100% even though both SAT and ACT are administered in schools

A look at how other states increase participation for SAT



How did Colorado and Illinois do it??

Colorado

- Announced shift in their college prep exams from ACT to SAT in 2015
- SAT took over as the main exam in 2017

Illinois

- College Board outbid ACT to be awarded contract that mandates SAT to be taken as part of their college exams
- SAT kicks in as the main exam in 2017

Why was ACT more popular than SAT in Tennessee?

- TNReady, part of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) that is used in the education system in Tennessee, is greatly aligned with how ACT is tested
- Greater inclination to take ACT

So what should College Board do?

1. Work with Tennessee's Department of Education on aligning SAT's scope with what TNReady provides
2. Calls for greater push to make SAT the more preferred test within Tennessee

Conclusion

- Improving participation rate in Tennessee is greatly dependent on cooperation with the Education Department
- Enforcing implementation of SAT state-wide will require follow-up
- More insights could be gathered if we can drill down our information to the schools within the state to understand the dynamics and the performance of the students from the various schools

Questions?

Thank You!