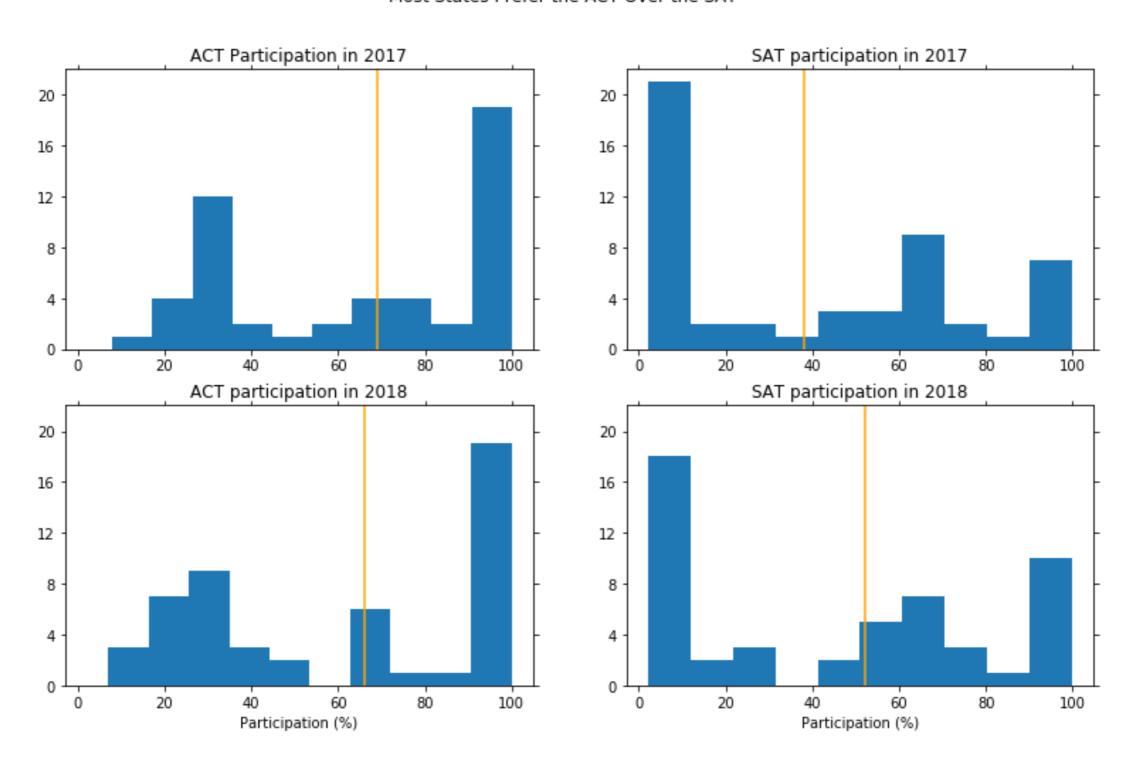
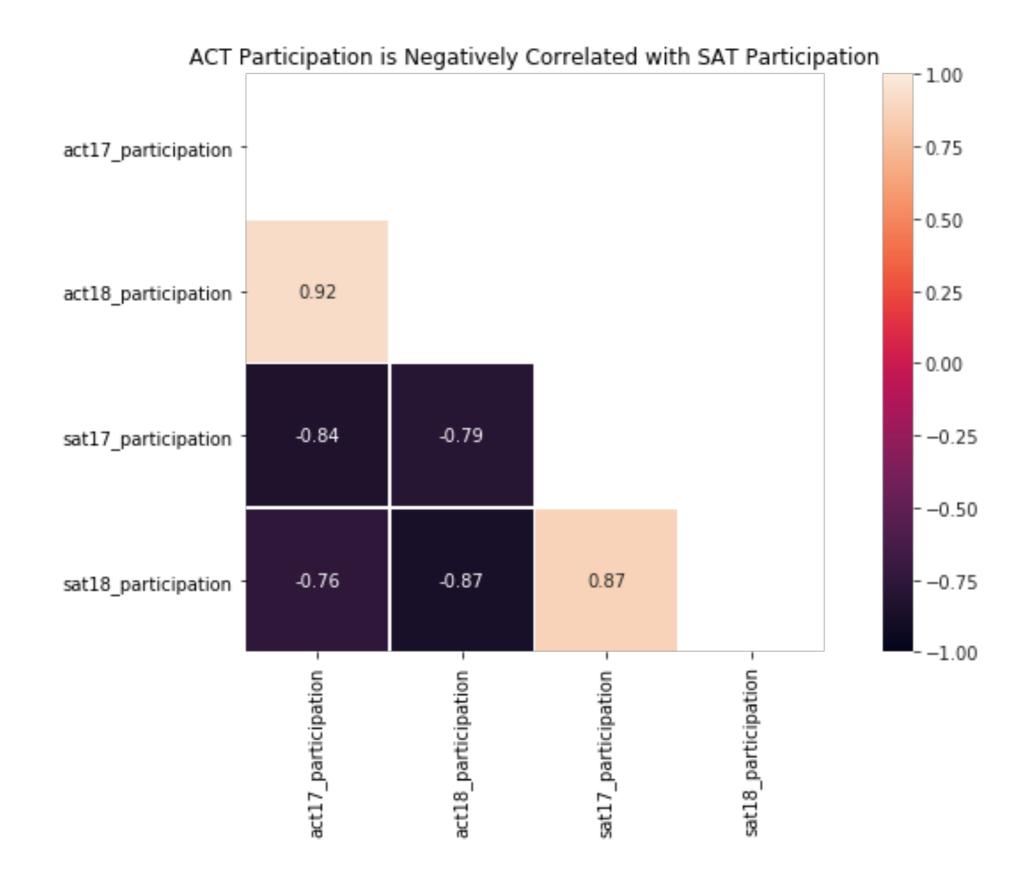
An Analysis of SAT and ACT Participation Levels

by Brendan Chan

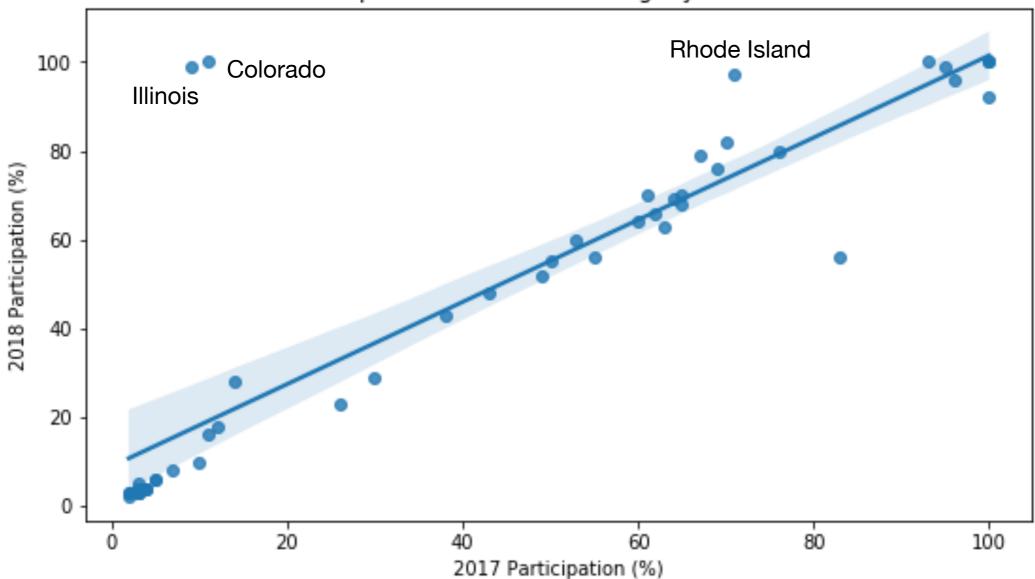
SAT has Lower Participation than the ACT

Most States Prefer the ACT Over the SAT





2018 Participation in the SAT was slightly better than 2017



- Participation levels did not change for most states
- Exceptions: Illinois, Colorado, and Rhode Island saw a massive change in SAT participation levels. Why?

Deep Dive

- It turns out that College Board successfully negotiated contracts with all three of these states to make the SAT mandatory and free for high school students.
- High school juniors are required to take the SAT as of:
 - 2016-2017, in Colorado
 - 2016-2017, in Illinois
 - 2017-2018, in Rhode Island
- Recommendation: negotiate contracts with states to make your test mandatory in high school.



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POLITICS & POLICY

Illinois has embraced the SAT, and the ACT is mad about it

By Elaine Chen | Jul 27, 2018, 6:30am CDT





Some Final Thoughts

- The test data wasn't as useful as I thought it would be
- Test scores were not useful in revealing possible solutions to increasing participation
- Recommendations were not as data-driven as I would like them to be. They are based on what happened to a few outliers.
- The data helped me identify outlier cases, but did not provide much insight beyond that.