



# Helping parents - by Ministry of Education

By: Prem Honghimaphan  
DSI Project 1



# Project

In the past year, the world has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and there has been a lot of complaints from parents of high school students on having to spend extra money for SAT and ACT tuitions as they are not taught in many schools as a part of the curriculum. The Ministry of Education would like to step in to help ease this problem by making it mandatory that every high school should be offering either SAT or ACT programs as part of their extra-curriculum.

## Project Objective:

This project aims to help the Ministry of Education in providing information to the schools in each State on which curriculum should they be offering to best cater to the interest of high school students.



# Contents

- Background information
- Research findings
- State level analysis
- Conclusion
- Recommendation



# Background

It is often not enough for students to get into their desired university just by using their school grades. Students are required to do standardized tests in order to showcase universities their readiness and measure their possibility of success in their university life.

There are two main types of standardized test that universities will accept in the U.S.:





# What are SAT and ACT

## Scholastic Assessment Test

More of a predictor of how students will do in university based on what they learned in school.

Test includes:

- English Reading and Writing
- Math

Score ranges:

- 200 to 800 for each test
- Total score between 400 to 1600

## American College Testing

Measures what the students already know from what they learned during their school years.

Test includes:

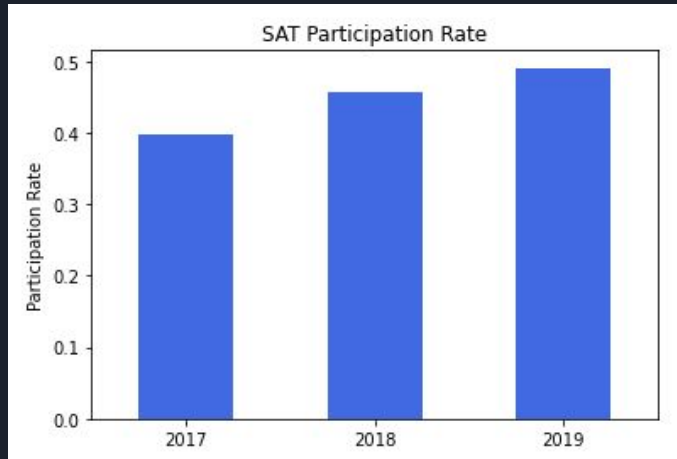
- English
- Math
- Science
- Reading

Score ranges:

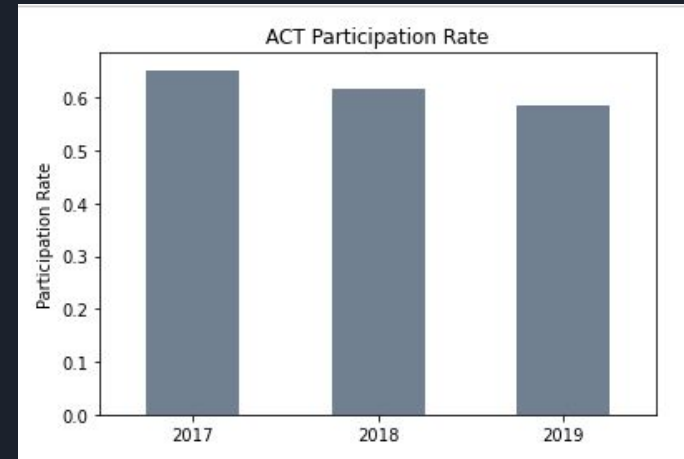
- 1 to 36 for each test
- Total score is average score of all 4 tests combined.

# Research Findings

- From the fifty-one states in the U.S., students from each state does either SAT or ACT or both.
- There are 13 states which have 100% participation rate for ACT tests for all 3 years.
- There are 3 states which have 100% participation rate for SAT tests for all 3 years.
- There are 3 states in which students have at least 50% participation rate in both test, those of which include South Carolina, Florida and Hawaii.

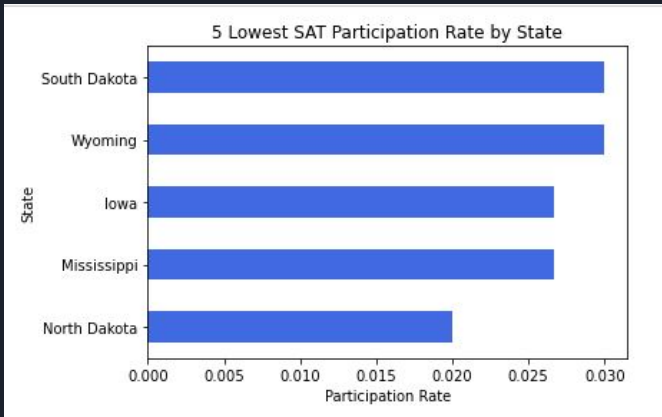


Increased by 23.3%

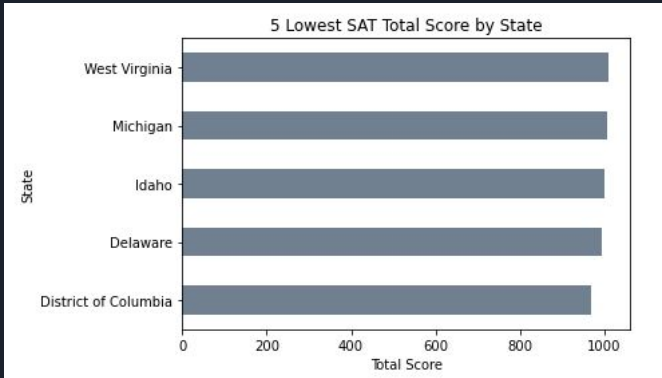
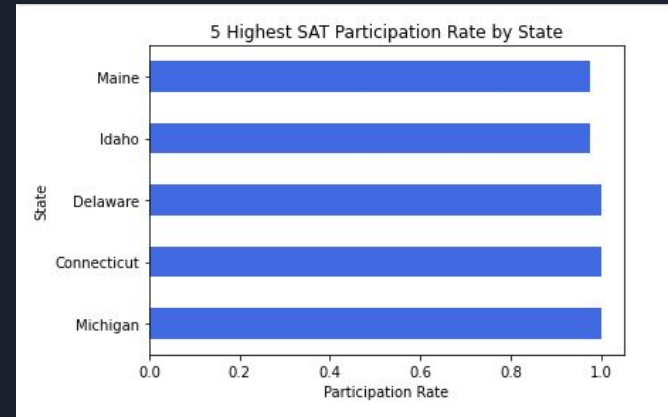


Decreased by 10.1%

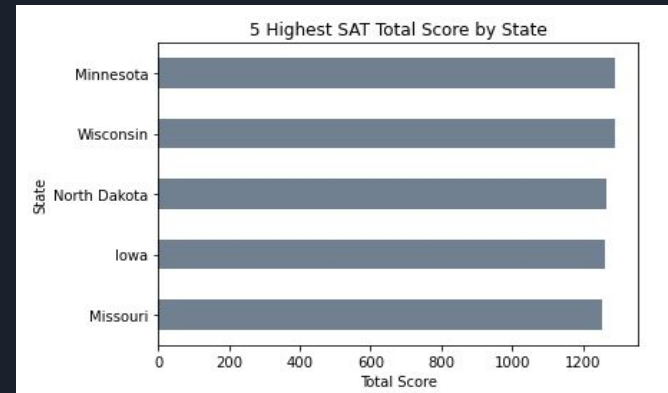
# Research Findings (SAT)



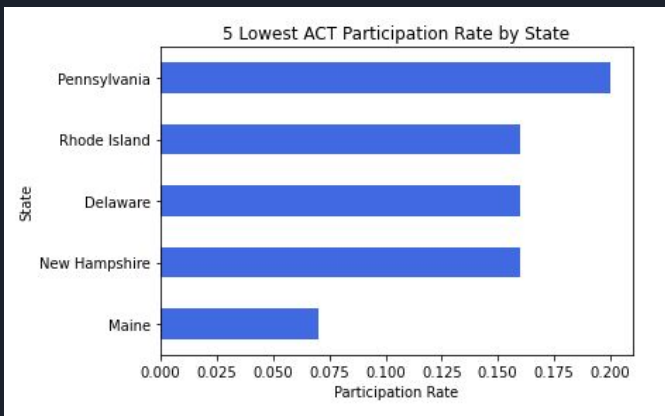
Average  
44.9%



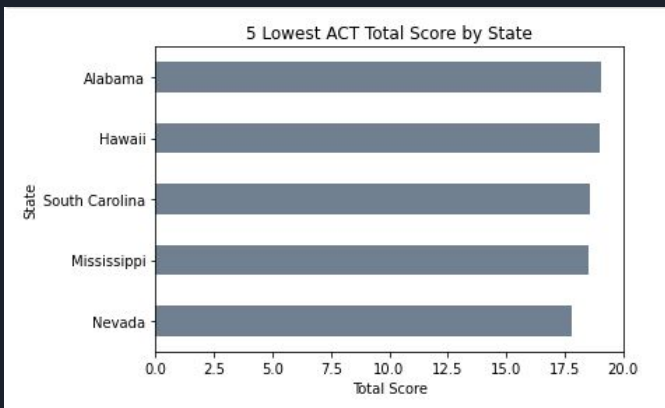
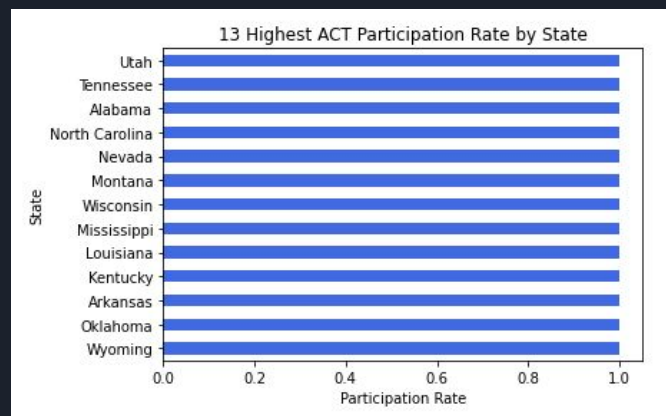
Average  
1120



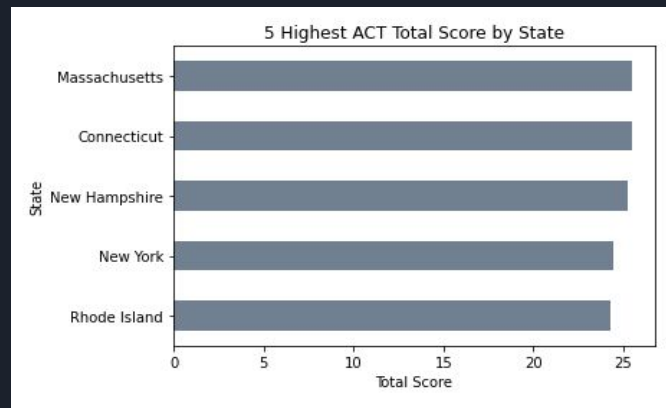
# Research Findings (ACT)



Average  
61.9%



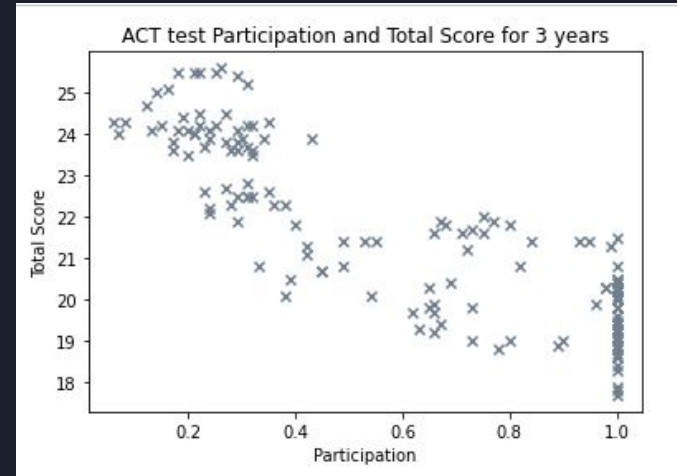
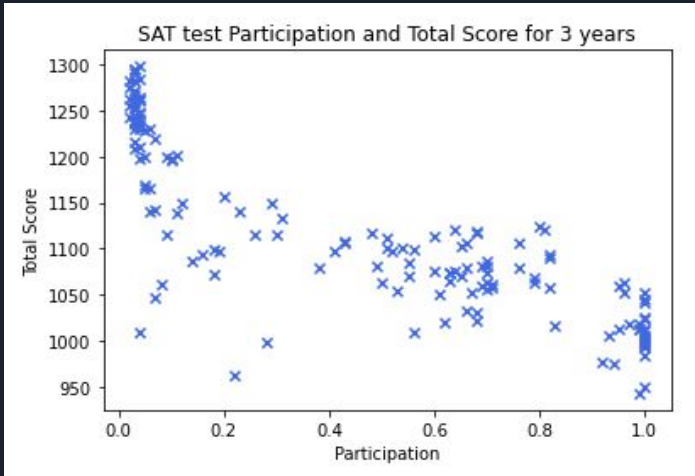
Average  
21.5



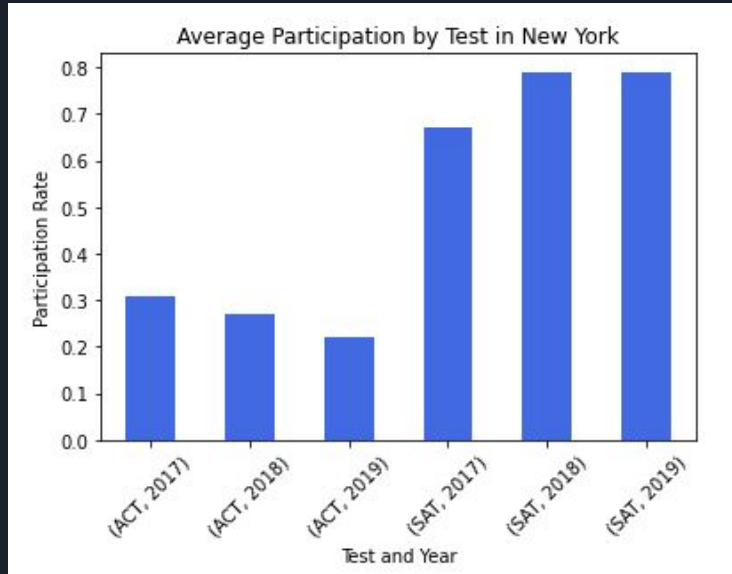


# Participation Rate and Total Score

A negative relationship exists between participation rate and total score for both tests.



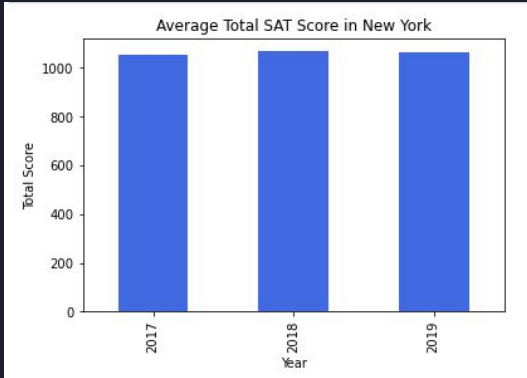
# Zooming in on a particular State - New York



Participation Rates of 2 tests:

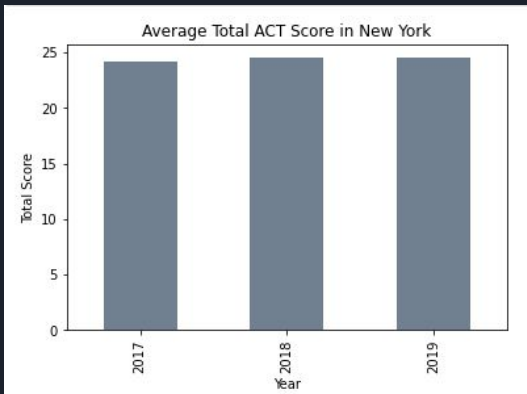
- Average SAT participation - 75%
- Increase in SAT participation by 18% in 3 years.
- Average ACT participation - 27%
- Decrease in ACT participation by 29% in 3 years.

# Zooming in on a particular State - New York



SAT Total Score:

- Average SAT Score in every State: 1120
- Average SAT Score in New York: 1061.3



ACT Total Score:

- Average ACT Score in every State: 21.5
- Average ACT Score in New York: 24.4



# Conclusion

1. There is an increase in overall participation rate for SAT test
2. When looking at individual states, there are few states that have made it compulsory for students to take one of the tests.
3. States with high participation rate, does not always yield a high score on the test
4. For an example state like New York, participation rate for SAT test has increased a lot compared to decline in participation rate for ACT test, however, scores do not change by much.
5. Every state has students taking both test, thus increasing expenses for parents.
6. Since the total scores for each exam is made of a combination of different test, the scores could be significantly higher on one test compared to the other.



# Recommendation

- Check to see the previous performance for SAT and ACT in your state. Compare the findings with the nations to set a benchmark for the school.
- Make it compulsory that every student has to do a practice test for both ACT and SAT to determine the position of the student.

Conduct a survey and keep track of results of the following:

- The interest of students - particular majors and universities
- Keep track of schools academic performance on subjects that relate to these test
- Make a comparison on similar test like SAT Math and ACT Math to see the level where the students are at.

\*It is also important to note that the student interests, policies and demand may always change. Therefore, it is also important to keep with latest law and regulations regarding education systems.

Thank  
You

