



# FAIR GAME

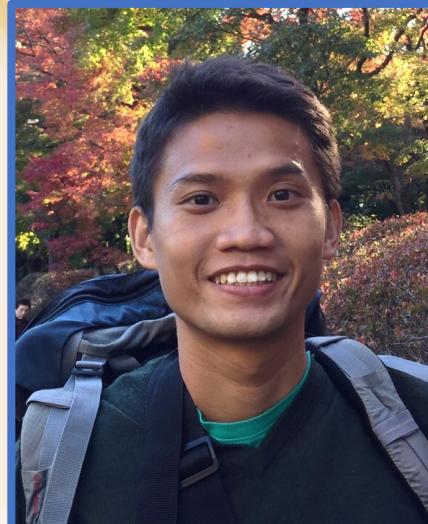
RETHINKING THE ACT FOR EQUITABLE COLLEGE ADMISSION



# ABOUT US



**RICHELLE-JOY CHIA**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**JUN SIONG ANG**  
*SLEEPING INVESTOR*



**ALVIN TAN**  
CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER



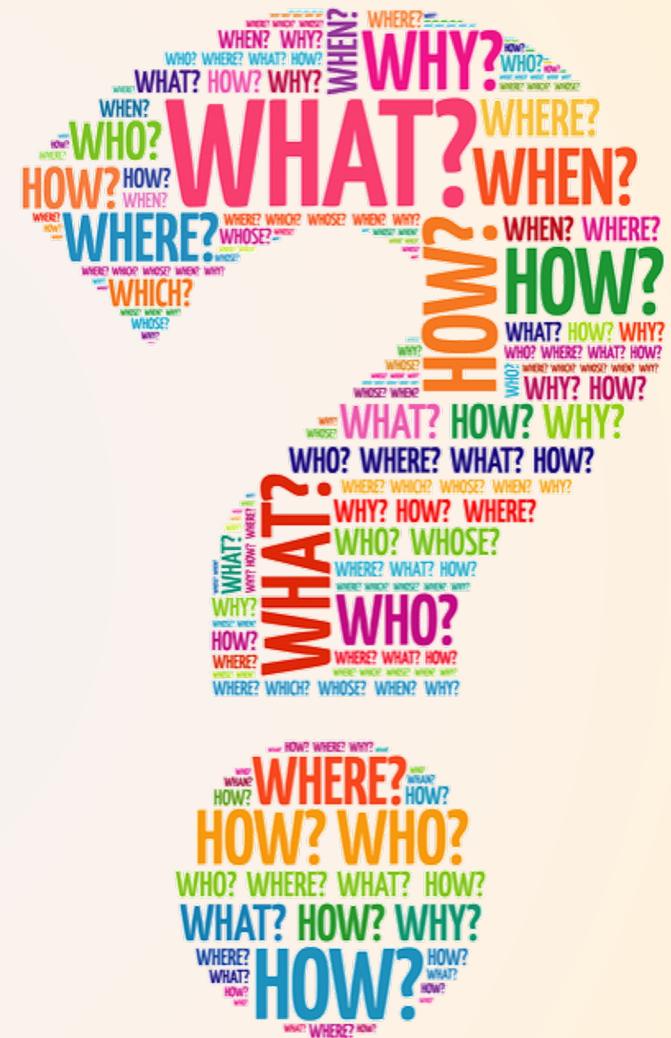
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# PROBLEM STATEMENT

## How Do MACRO-SOCIAL FACTORS AFFECT ACT PERFORMANCES AMONG HIGH-SCHOOLERS?



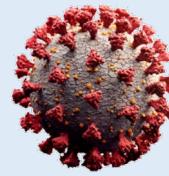
# BACKGROUND

THEN...



**ACT & SAT:**  
A US HIGH-SCHOOLER'S RITES OF PASSAGE

RECENTLY...



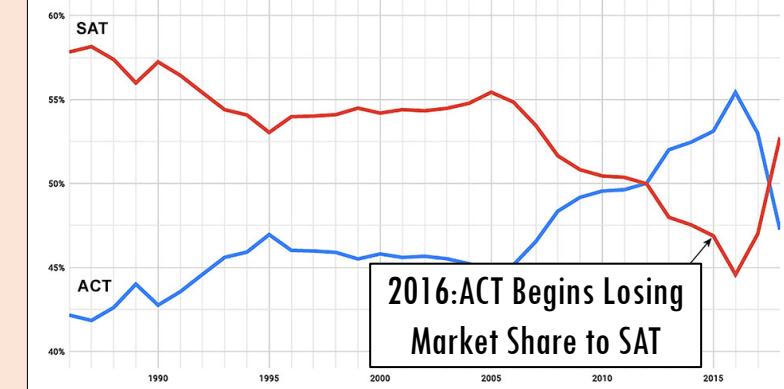
**“CLASSIST”; COVID-19:**  
~2000 COLLEGES DO NOT REQUIRE ACT / SAT SCORES

PRESENT

MONEYWATCH >  
**Harvard says it won't require SAT or ACT scores through 2026**

MONEY WATCH DIVE BRIEF  
**Over 1,700 colleges won't require SAT, ACT for fall 2023, up from same point last year**

**ACT vs SAT MARKET SHARE**



## COVID-19 IS HISTORY – LONG LIVE THE “CLASSIST” DEBATE

LARGE NUMBER OF COLLEGES MAINTAIN “NO COMPULSORY ACT / SAT” STANCE; OPPORTUNITY FOR A MODERATED ACT

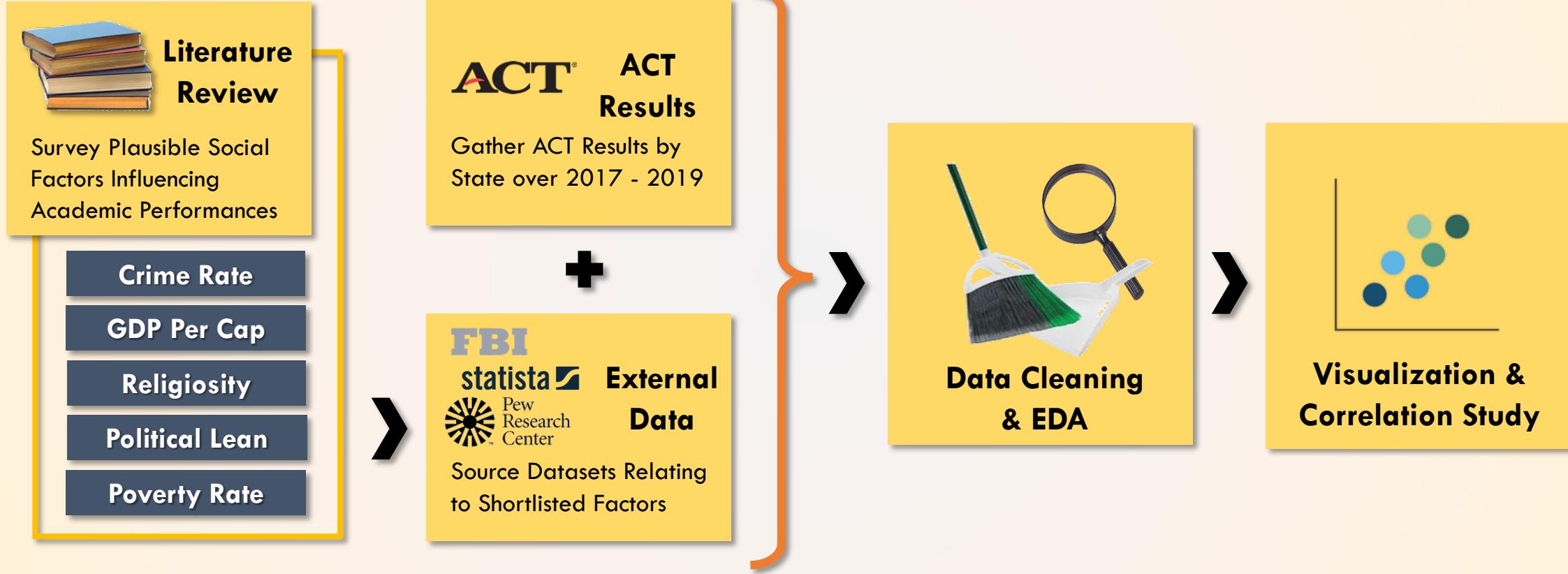


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# PROCEDURE & METHODOLOGY



# PRIMARY FINDINGS



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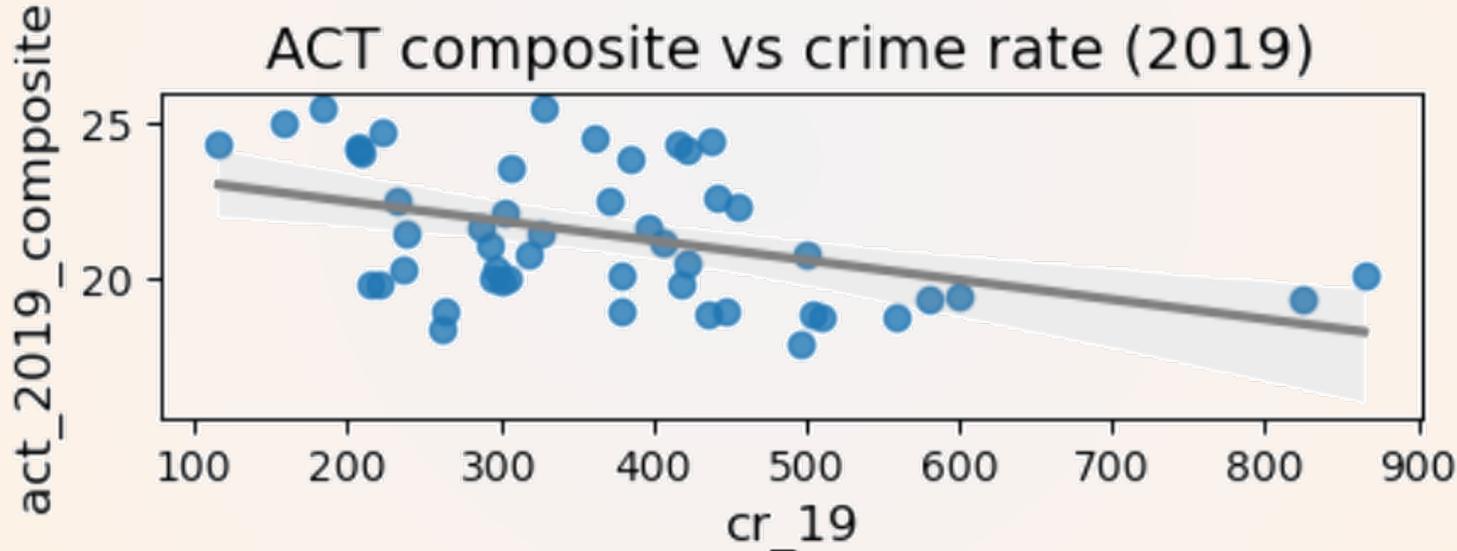


# PRIMARY FINDINGS

## Finding #1: The higher the crime rates, the lower one scores on the ACT

*Definition: Number of violent crimes per 100,000 people*

We observed the same trends from 2017 – 2018



Source: [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/List\\_of\\_U.S.\\_states\\_and\\_territories\\_by\\_violent\\_crime\\_rate](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_violent_crime_rate)



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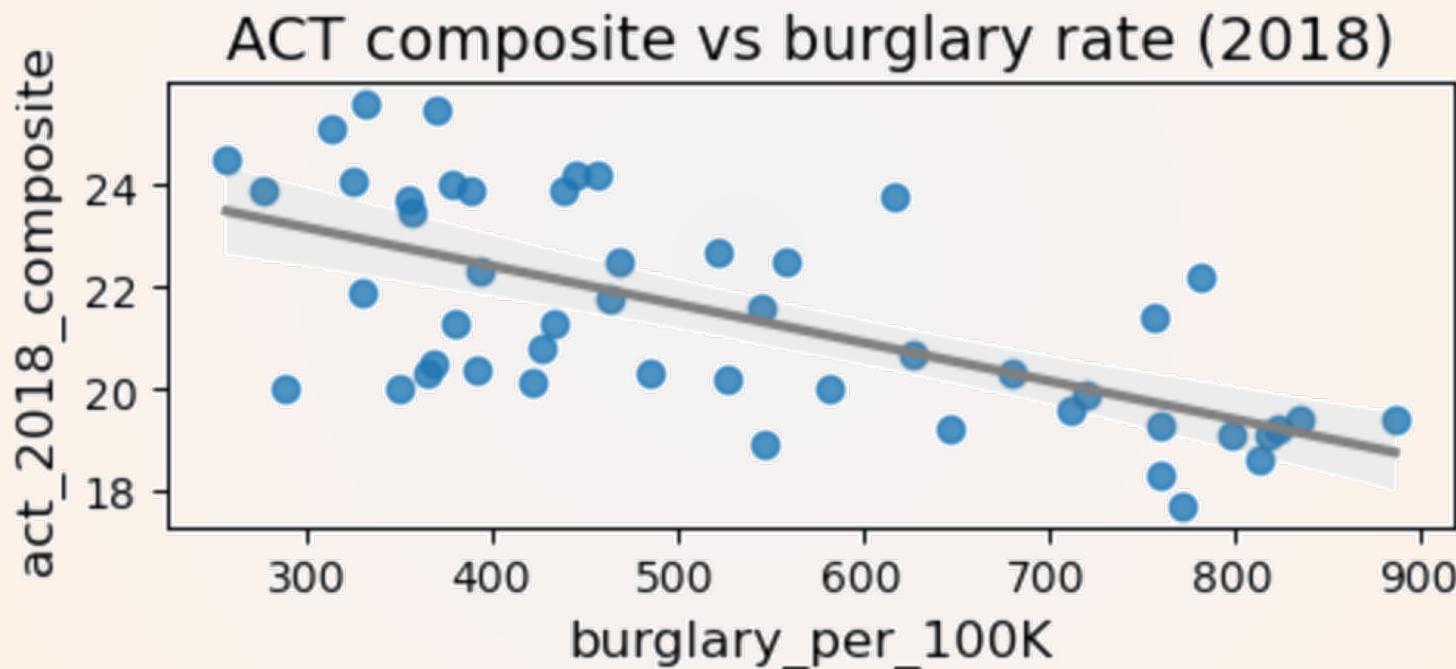
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# PRIMARY FINDINGS 🔎

## Finding #2: The higher the burglary rates, the lower one scores on the ACT

Definition: Number of burglary crime rates per 100,000 people



Source: <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-most-burglaries-in-the-us.html>



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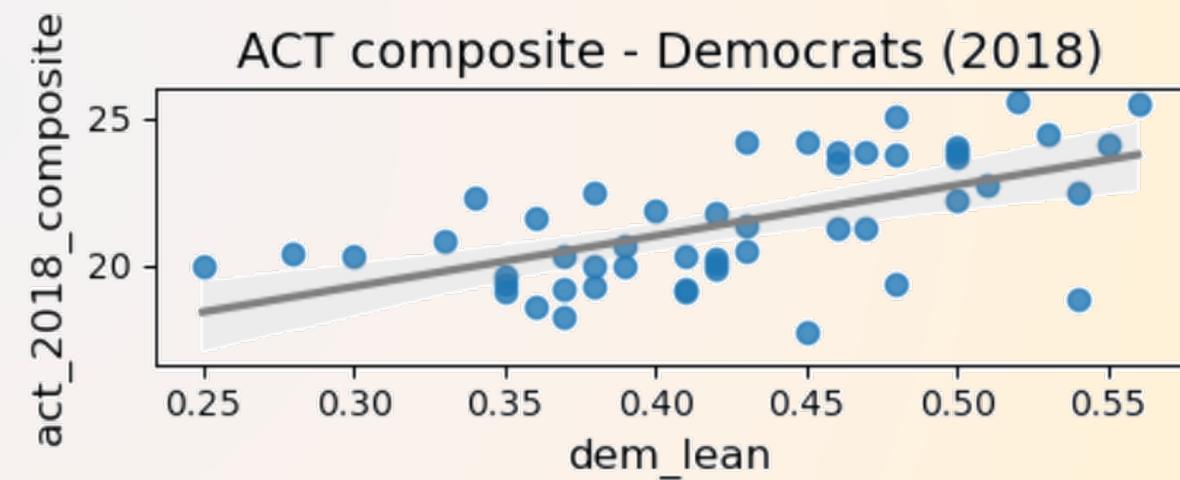
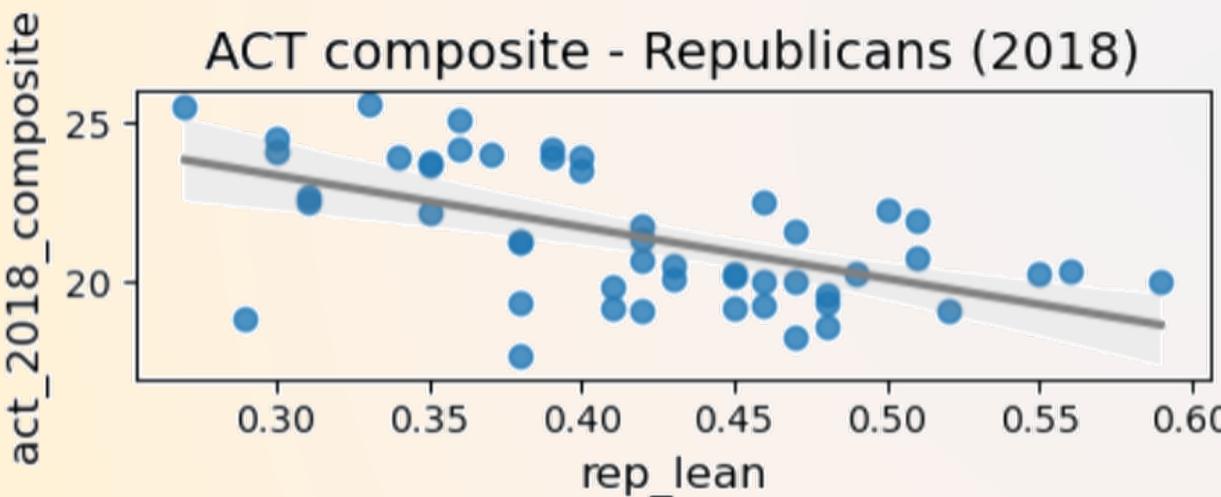
# PRIMARY FINDINGS



## Finding #3:

**The more one leans towards Republicans, the lower one scores on the ACT.**  
**The more one leans towards Democrats, the higher one scores on the ACT.**

*Definition: Proportion of people expressing inclination towards Republican/Democratic Party*



Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/religious-landscape-study/compare/party-affiliation/by/state/>

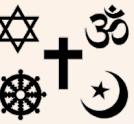


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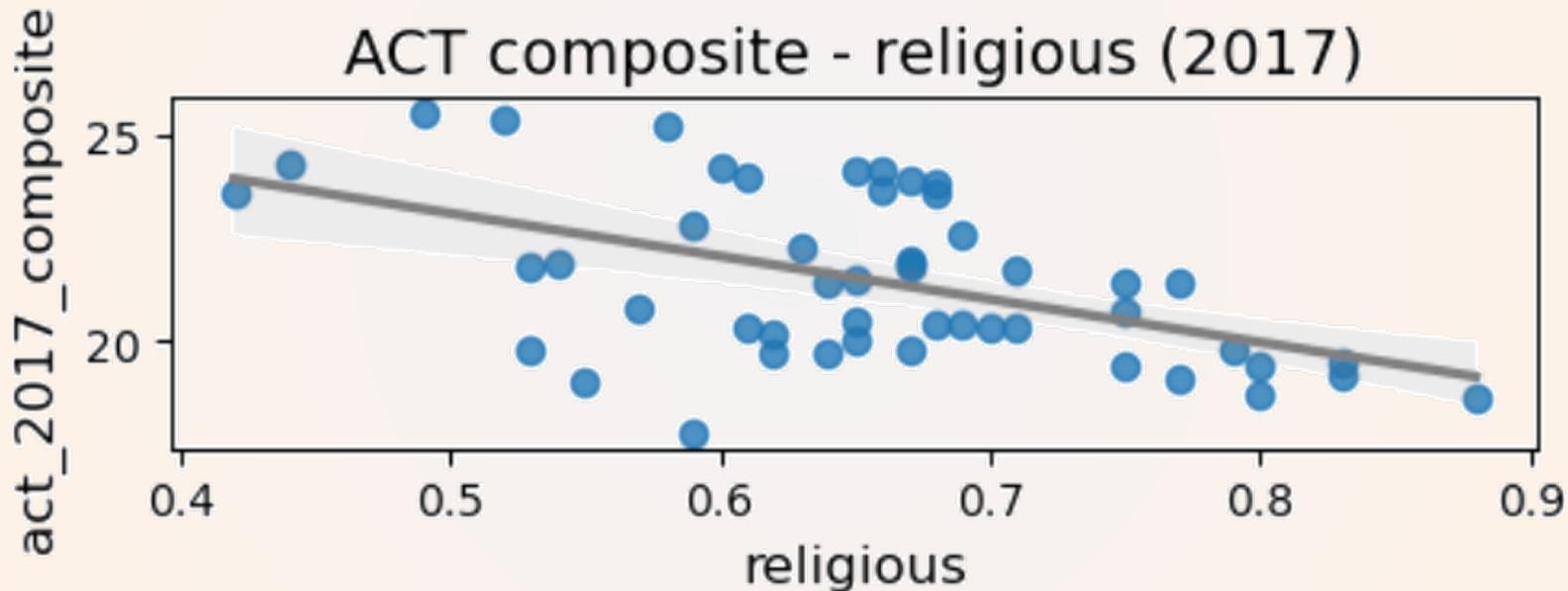


# PRIMARY FINDINGS



## Finding #4: The more religious a state is, the lower one scores on the ACT

*Definition: Proportion of people identifying as religious*



Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/221454/share-of-religious-americans-by-state/>



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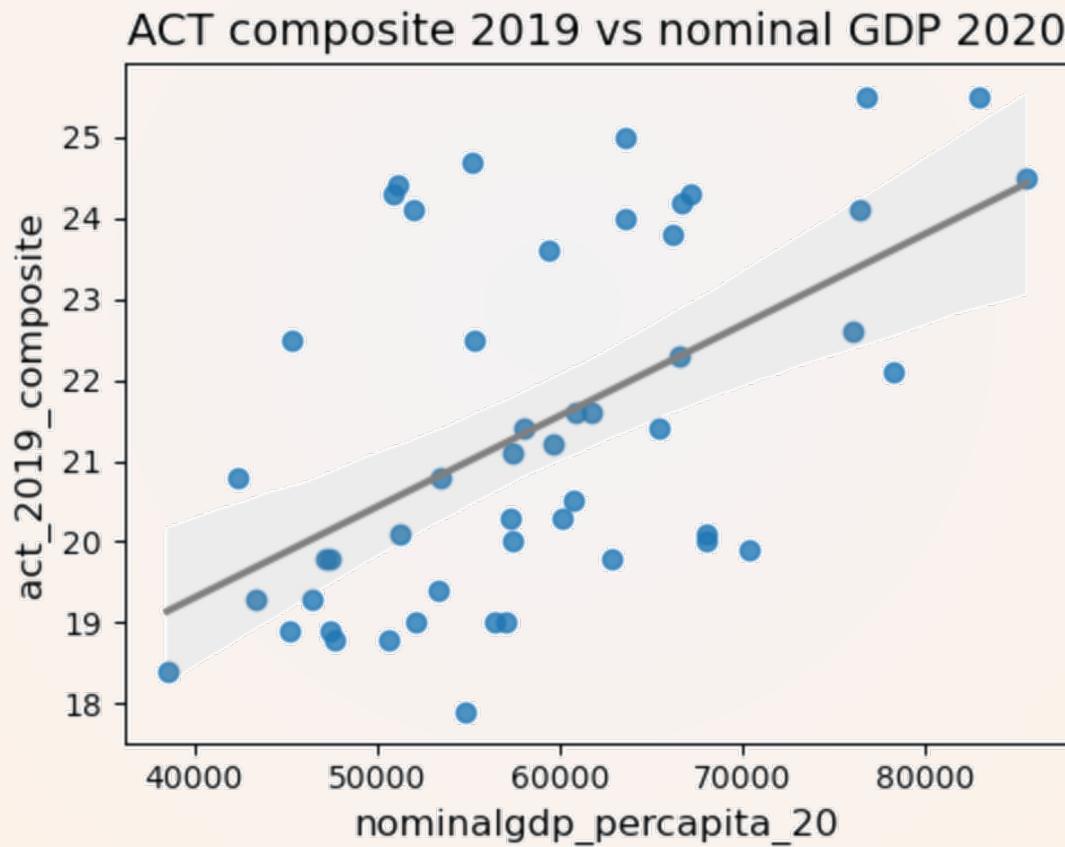


# PRIMARY FINDINGS



## Finding #5: The higher the nominal GDP, the higher one scores on the ACT

*Definition: State GDP per capita*



Source: <https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp/gdp-state>

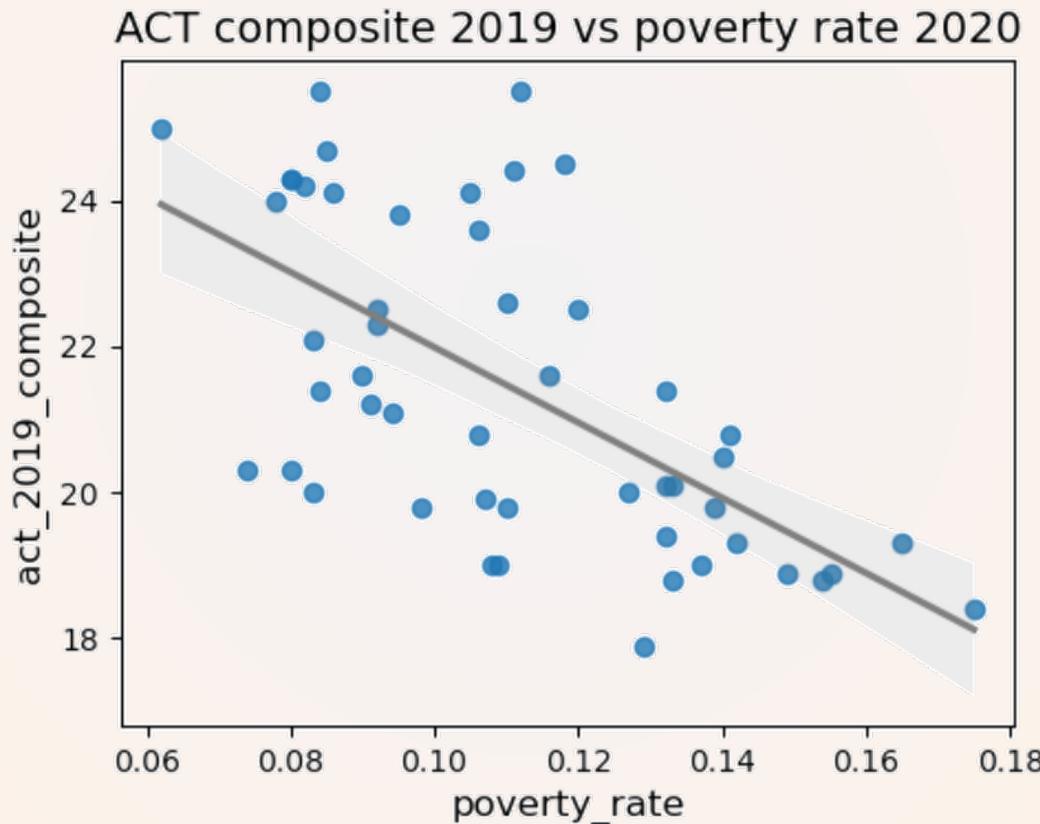


# PRIMARY FINDINGS



## Finding #6: The higher the poverty rate, the lower one scores on the ACT

*Definition: Proportion of people living below the national poverty level*



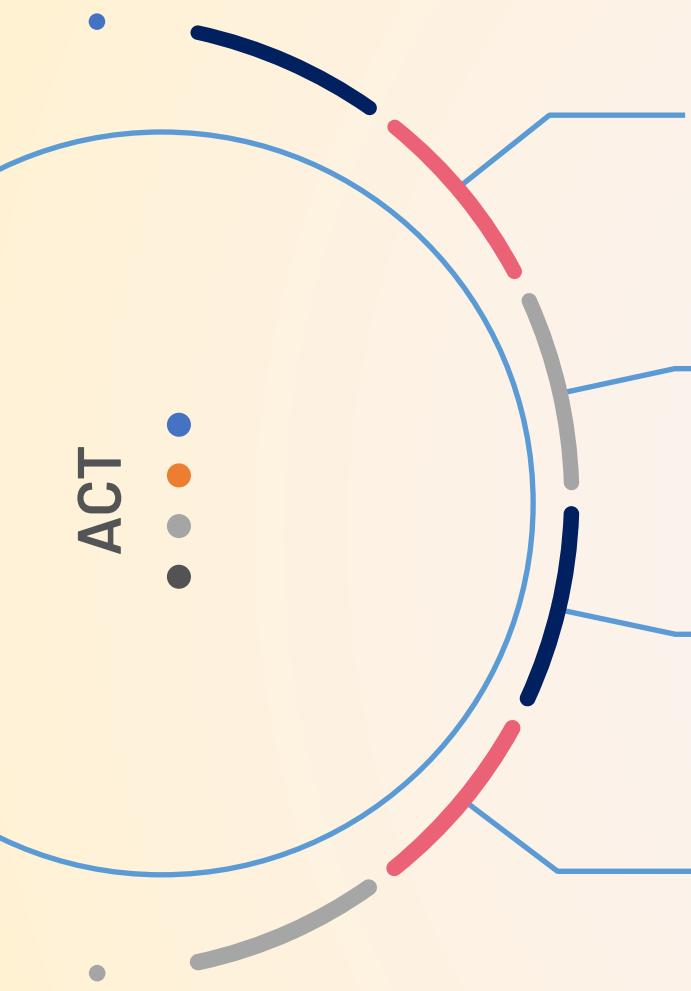
Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/233093/us-poverty-rate-by-state/>



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## Impact on ACT performance

- Negative relationship across the years
- Negative relationship
- Negative relationship
- Positive relationship
- Negative relationship
- Republicans – negative relationship
- Democrats – positive relationship



# CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

We Deliver Solutions...

## ACT Inc.



Rebrand to Shed Image as  
“Classist” Standardised Test

Revamp ACT Scoring System



## Partnership Opportunities

### STATES / NATIONAL



Collaborate with High-Participation States to Roll Out New ACT Scoring System

Incentivize States to Impose Mandatory ACT

### UNIVERSITIES



Partner with Universities to Be More Inclusive,

- Review Admission Criteria
- Adopt New ACT Scoring System



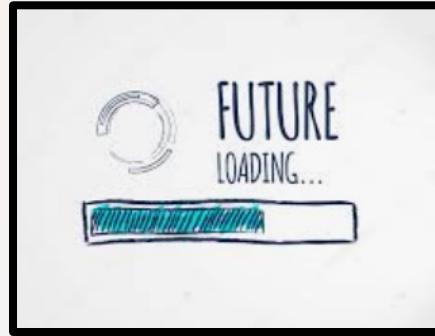
# CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

We Deliver Future Solutions...



## Correlated ACT Performance with Key Macro-Factors at the State Level:

- Nominal GDP per capita
- Poverty rate
- Violent / burglary crime rates
- Political affiliations
- Religiosity



## A More Holistic Approach:

- Examine data at county / district level
- Examine other macro factors  
(e.g. student access to education)



# QUESTIONS?



# THANKS!

