

College Board Case Study

SAT & ACT trends 2017 - 2018

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Context

ACT

In 2012, the ACT replaced the SAT as the most popular college admissions test in the US. (1)

Test-optional colleges

More than 800 colleges and universities across the country no longer require SAT or ACT scores. (2)

SAT

In 2010, the College Board introduced SAT School Day program.

Redesigned SAT released in 2016. (3)

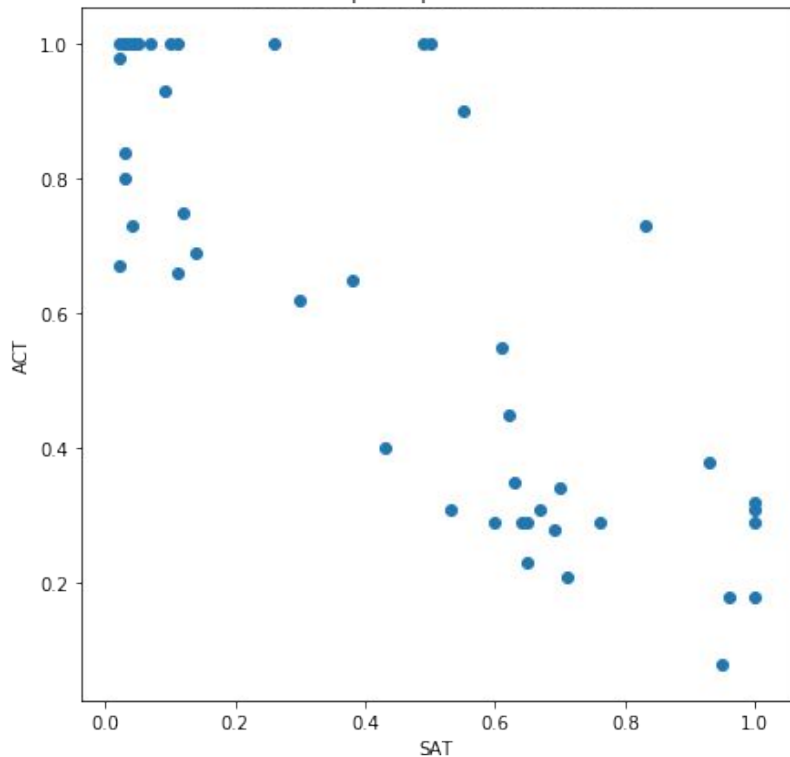
(1) <https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2017/05/24/in-race-for-test-takers-act-outscores-sat--for.html>

(2) https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/11/28/sat-act-not-required-colleges_n_2206391.html

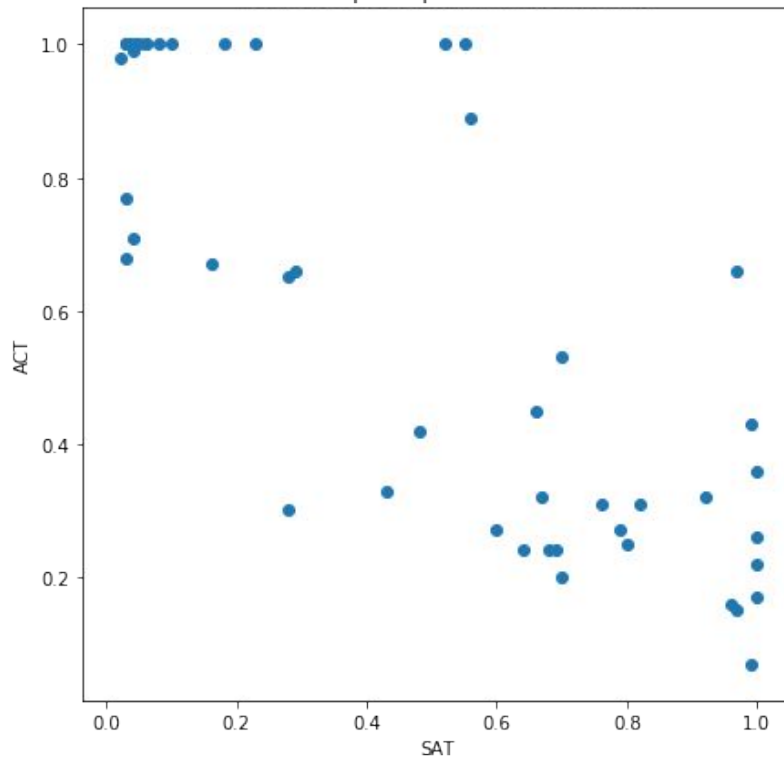
(3) <https://blog.prepscholar.com/which-states-require-the-sat>

ACT vs SAT participation, 2017-2018

SAT vs ACT participation rates for 2017

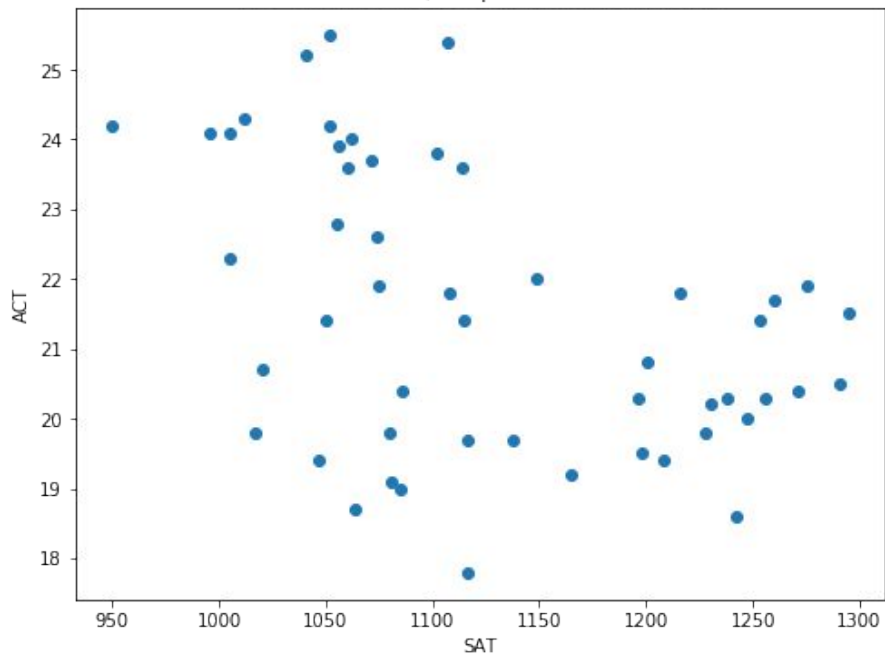


SAT vs ACT participation rates for 2018

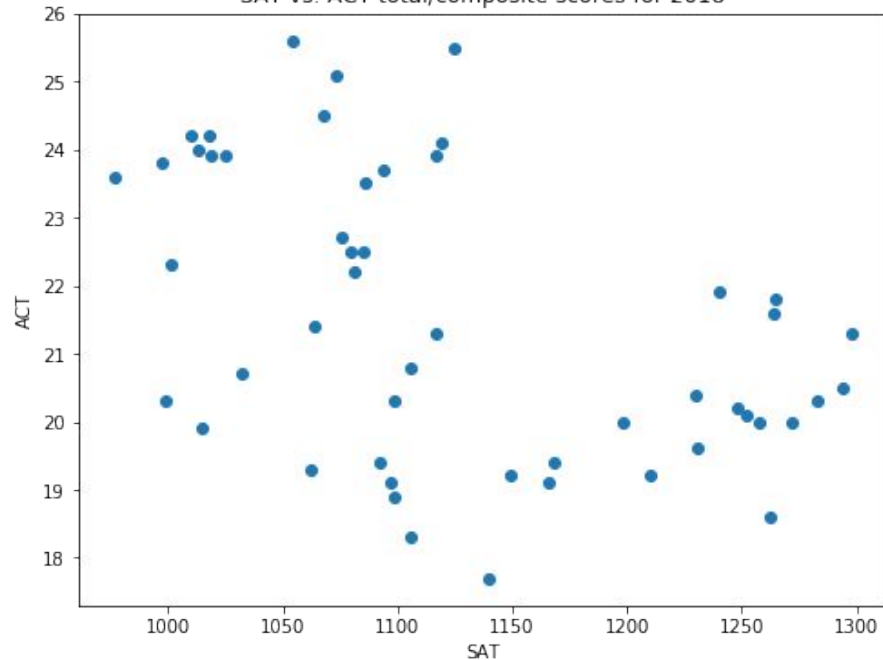


ACT vs SAT scores, 2017-2018

SAT vs. ACT total/composite scores for 2017



SAT vs. ACT total/composite scores for 2018

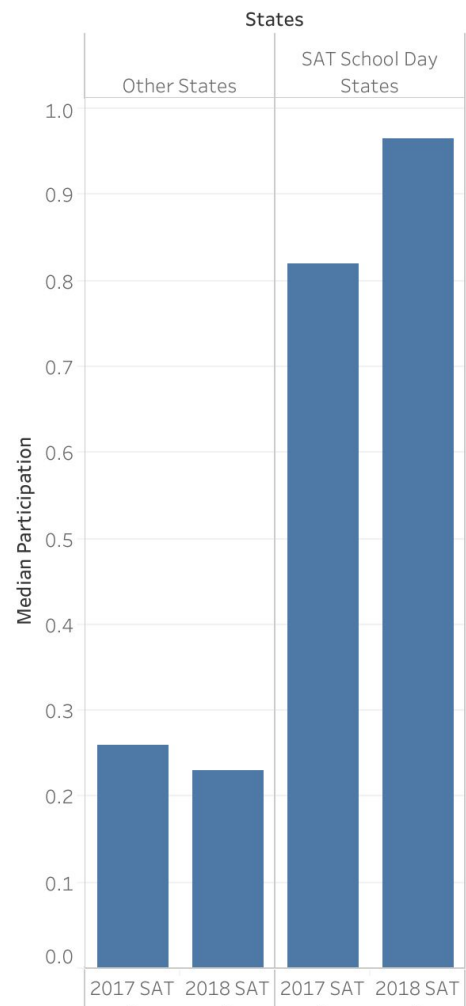
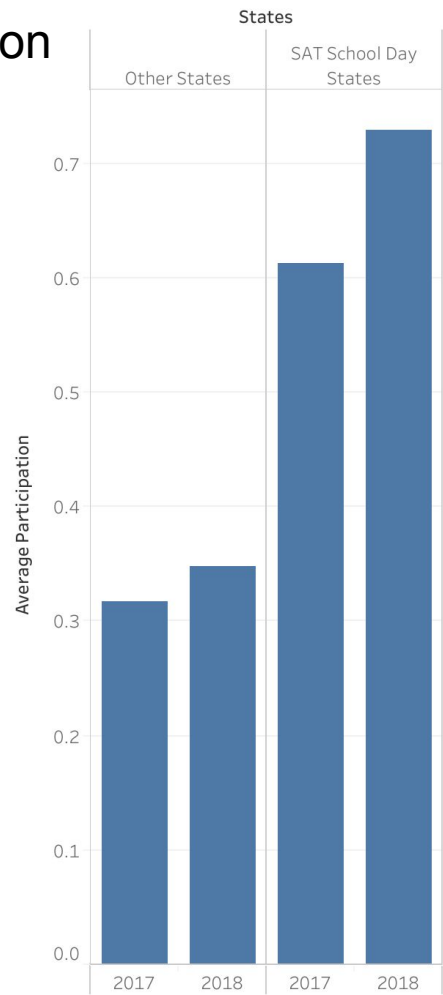


Impact of SAT School Day program on participation

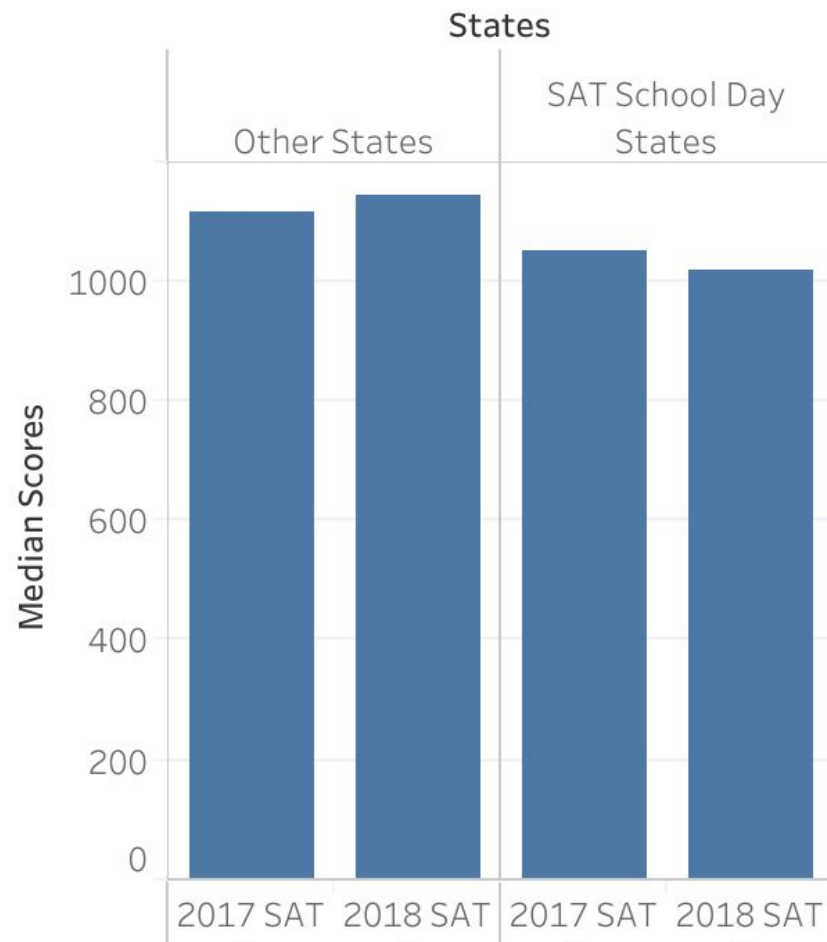
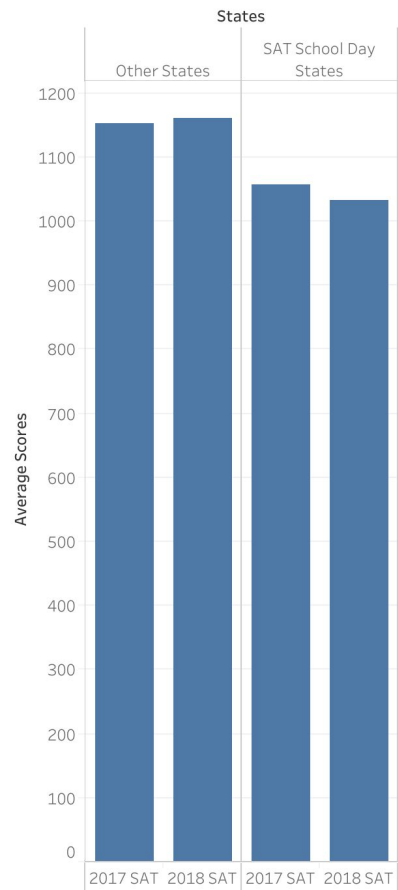
SAT School Day states



SAT Participation



SAT Scores



Top performers 2017-2018

- Illinois (largest increase in SAT participation, from 9% to 99%)
- Michigan, Connecticut and Delaware were the only states with 100% SAT participation in both 2017 and 2018
- top 2018 SAT scores:
 - Minnesota: 1298
 - Wisconsin: 1294
 - North Dakota: 1283

Targets for Improvement

- District of Columbia (largest decrease in SAT participation from 2017 to 2018, from 100% to 92%)
- states already in SAT School Day with lowest 2018 participation rates: Tennessee, Oklahoma; and lowest 2018 scores: DC (977 total), Delaware (997 total)
- states w/lowest 2018 SAT participation rates (not already requiring ACT): Oklahoma (8%), Ohio (18%)

States of interest

Top performers 2017-2018

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- Michigan, Connecticut and Delaware were the only states with 100% SAT participation in both 2017 and 2018

(1)

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