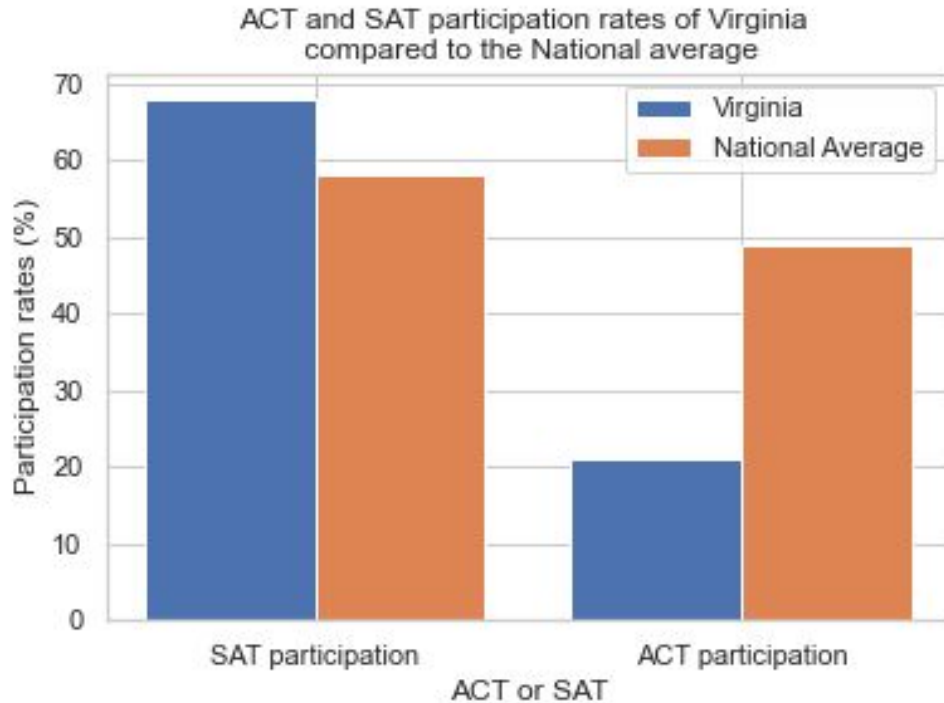


How to increase ACT and SAT participation rates among high school students in Virginia

Sean McNamara

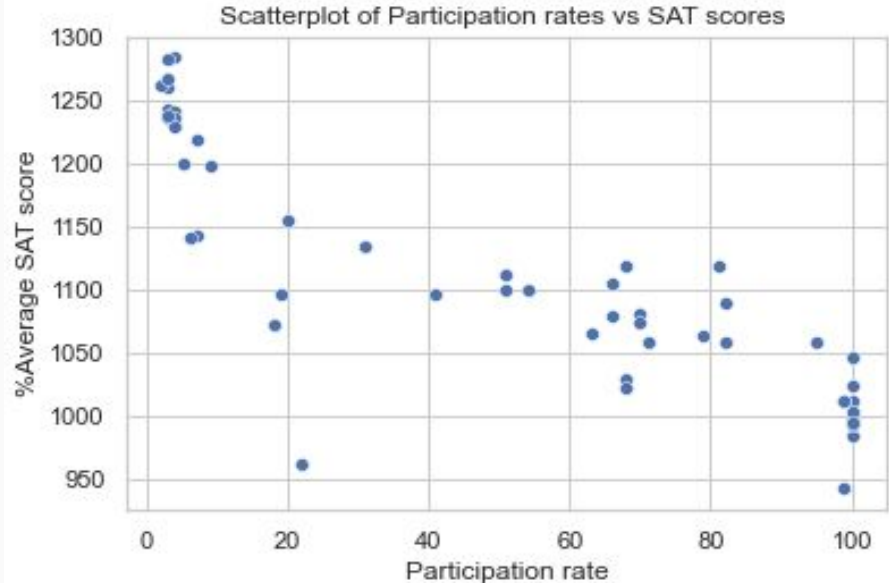
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Washington fares well compared to the national average participation on ACT but is below average for SAT



Why are participation rates low?

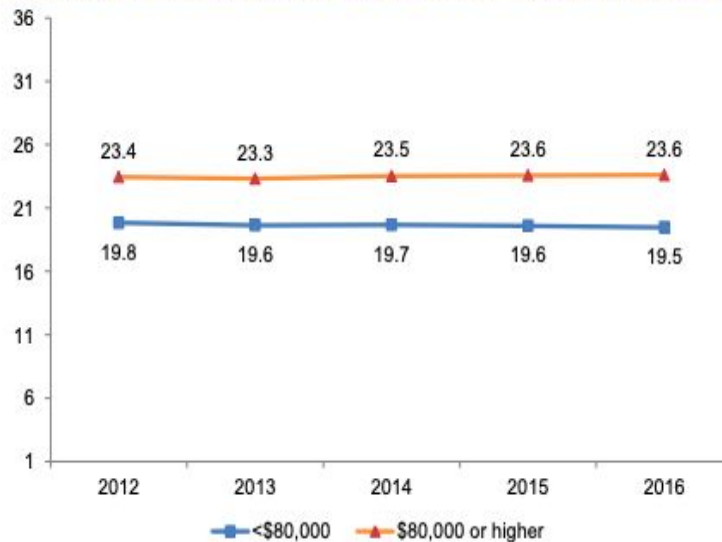
- Those who do not feel like they are going to do well, don't take the test.



The cost of ACT and SAT

- ACT costs \$67 dollars
- SAT cost \$65 dollars
- Average tutor is \$45 to \$100 per hour

Average ACT Composite Score of 2012–2016 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Family Income



Recommendation - Make ALL students ready for the ACT

- The state can provide free online resources
- Emphasis on school culture and appearance
- Include SAT and ACT preparation as a part of grade 11 and 12 classes

Recommendation - reduce the cost of the SAT and ACT

- Fee Waivers for low-income students
- Offering the test during regular school hours

Recommendation - Make SAT mandatory

20 states have mandatory SAT

- + 70% students in Virginia already take the SAT
- + Be able to take the test for free
- + Preparation in classroom

Key takeaways

- Make all students ready for the SAT
- Make the SAT more affordable
- Make the SAT mandatory
- Participation rates statistics have to be looked at in conjunction with other statistics.

Thank you for listening

Any Questions?