



Admission Testing 2019:

What You Need to Know

Matt Steiner *(they, them, theirs)*
Senior Director
Compass Education Group

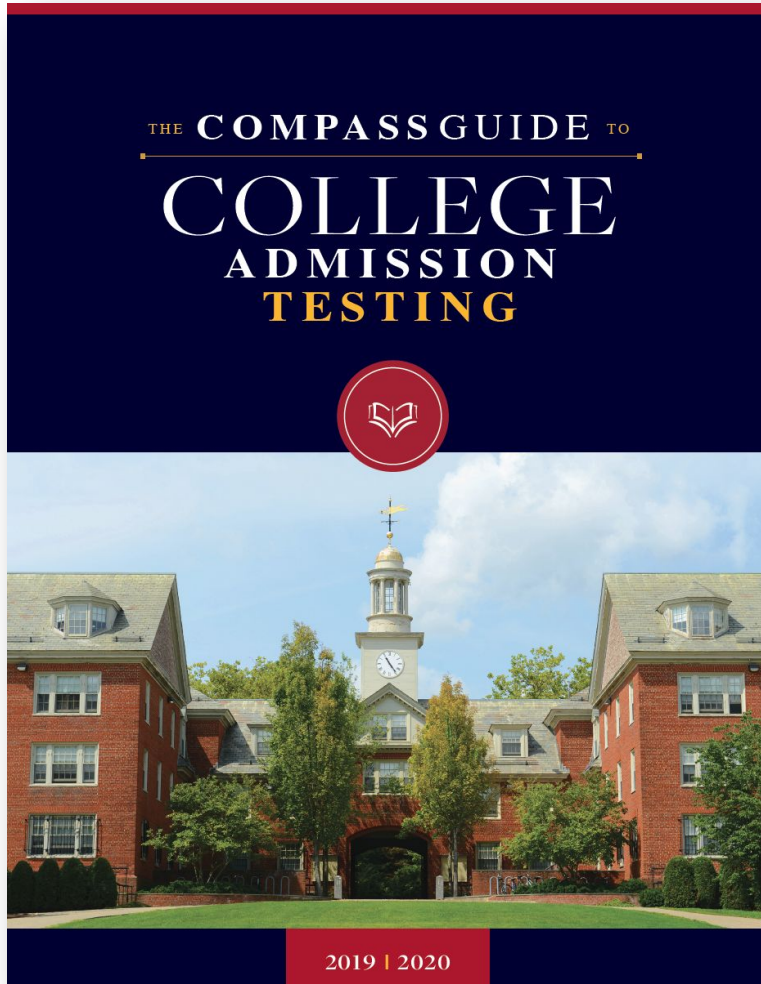


HERE LIES
FREDERICK
JONES

VERBAL - MATH
680 720


R. Christ

Stay Current, Stay Connected



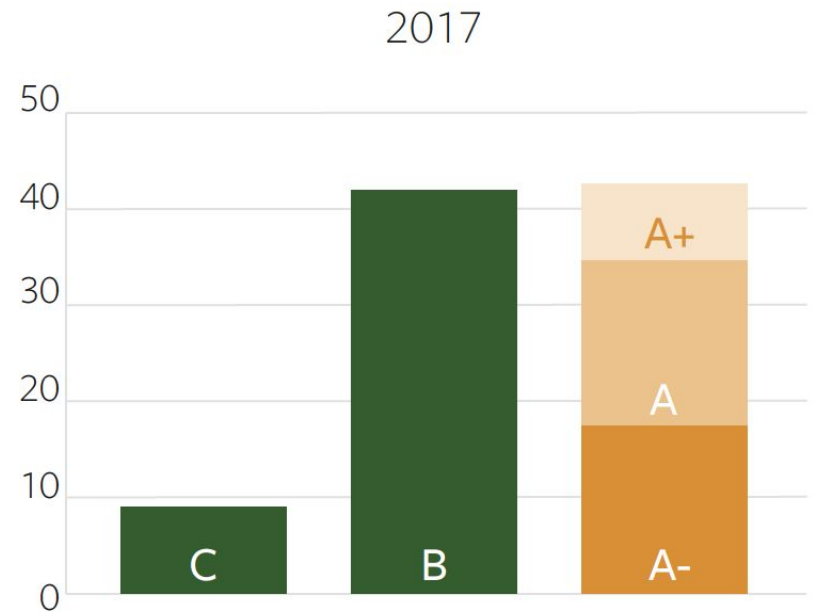
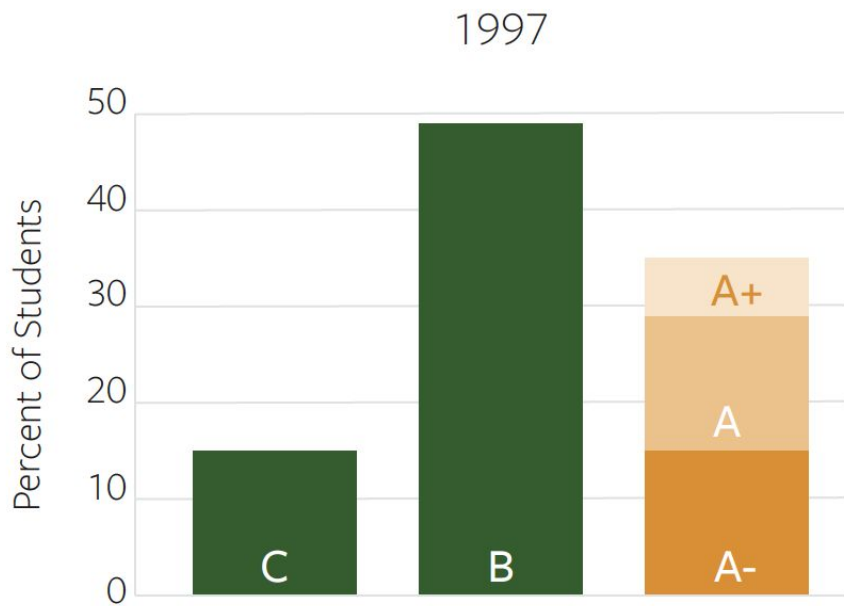
The Compass Guide to College Admission Testing:

- Available for free download
 - ▢ compassprep.com/guide
- Subscribe to our **newsletter!**

 Please fill out this form to receive information on practice test opportunities and other helpful resources.

Student Name	<input type="text"/>	Parent Name	<input type="text"/>
School	<input type="text"/>	Parent Phone Number	<input type="text"/>
Class Year	<input type="text"/>	Parent Email Address	<input type="text"/>

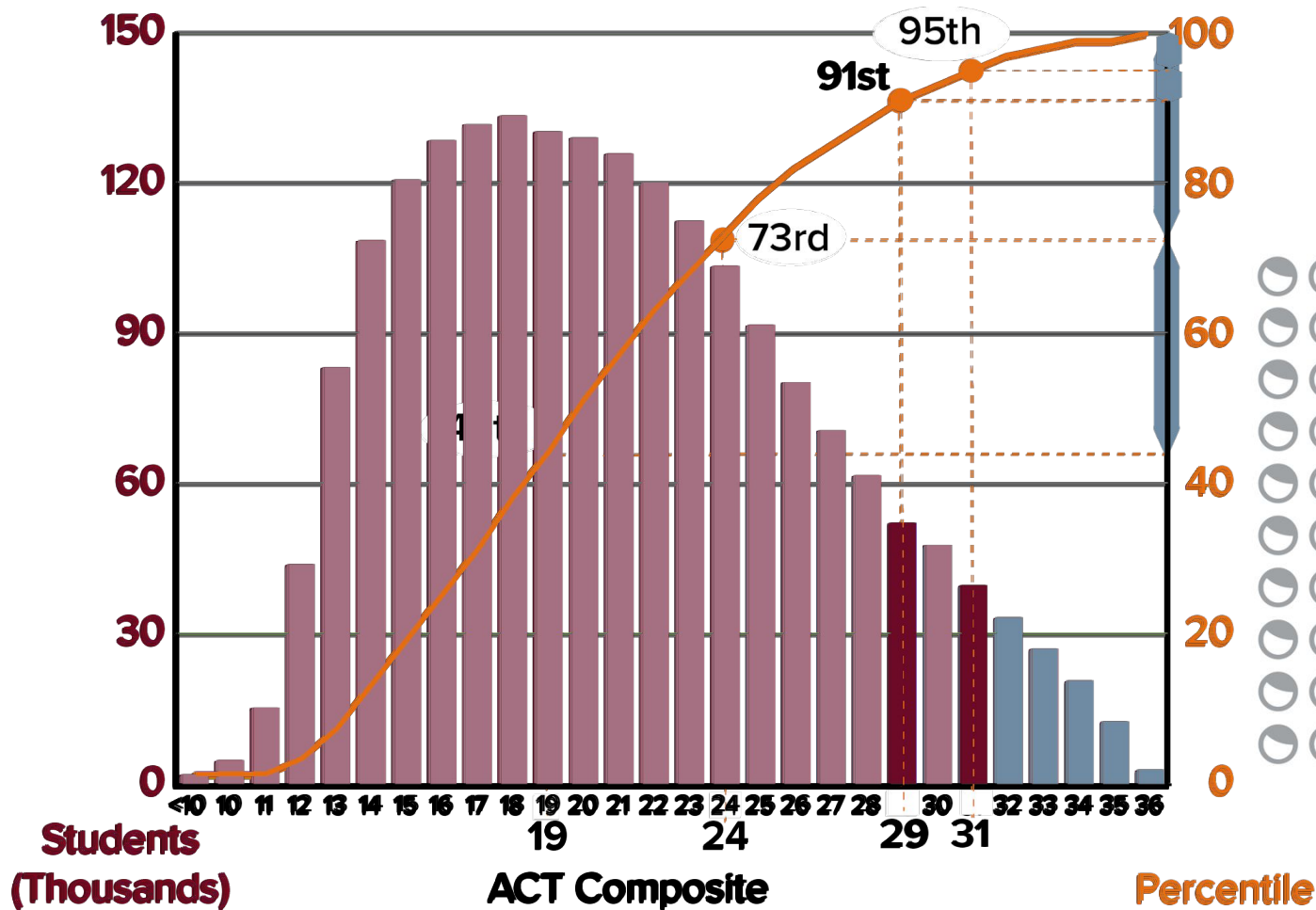
Why Standardized Tests?



Source: College Board

Standardized Tests Are Consistent

But Score Gains Are Relative

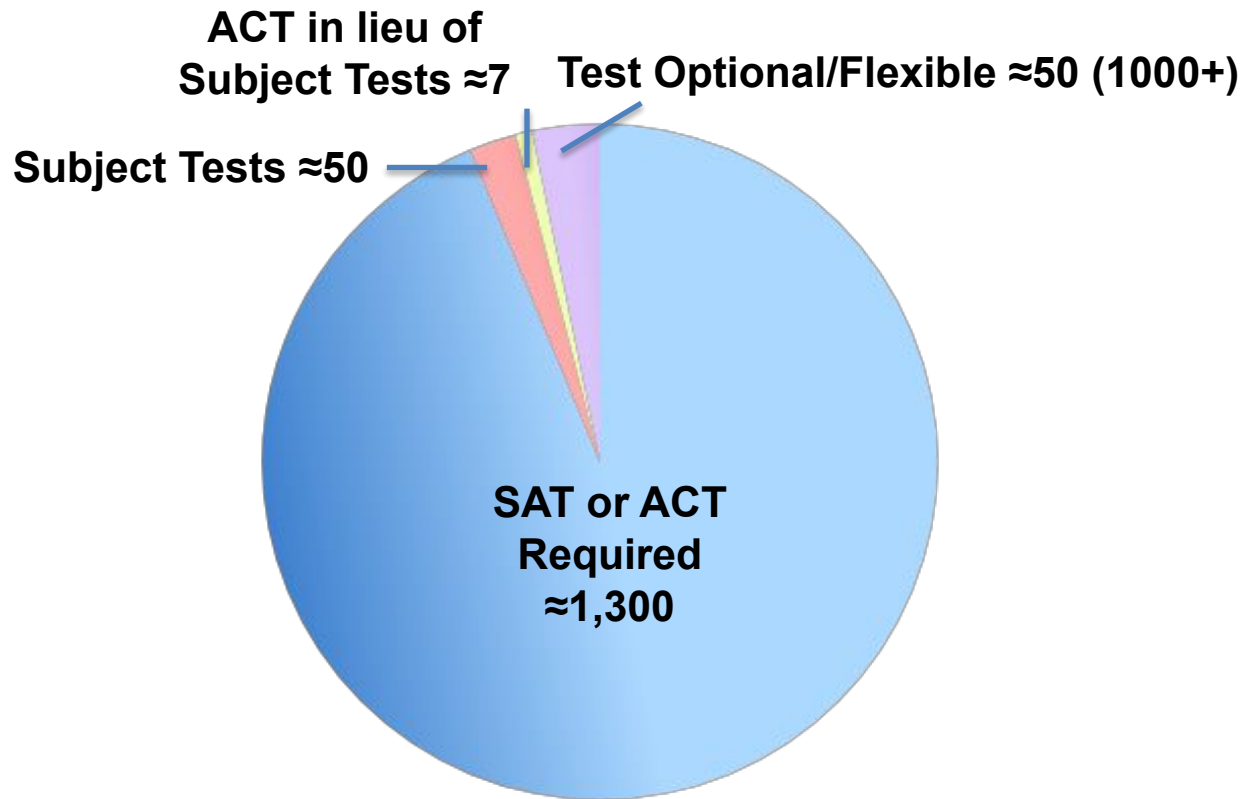


“Good” Scores Are Relative

NEW ENGLAND	Admit Rate	Yield	SAT			ACT
			ERW 25th-75th	Math 25th-75th	Total 25th-75th	Composite 25th-75th
University of New Hampshire	77	20	550-640	540-640	1090-1280	23-28
University of Vermont	68	18	600-680	580-680	1180-1360	26-31
Wellesley College	20	47	670-740	660-780	1330-1520	30-34
Wesleyan University	17	36	660-740	660-760	1320-1500	30-34
Williams College	13	43	710-760	700-790	1410-1550	32-35
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	42	29	630-700	670-750	1300-1450	29-33
Yale University	6	70	720-770	730-790	1450-1560	33-35

The Competitive Landscape *pp. 12-18*

Test Requirements



Comparing Test Structure

PSAT 10 & NMSQT

(320 – 1520)

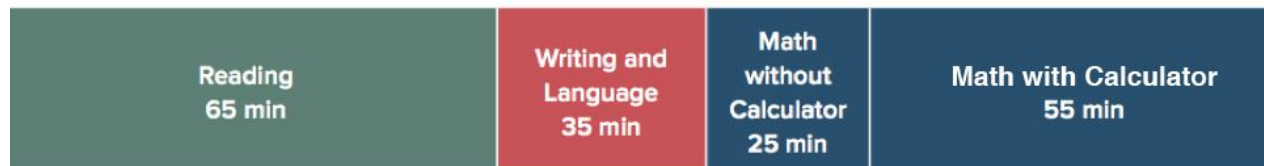
4 Sections, 2 Hours and 45 Minutes



SAT

(400 – 1600)

4 Sections, 3 Hours



Comparing Test Structure

PSAT 10 & NMSQT

(320 – 1520)

4 Sections, 2 Hours

Reading
60 min

SAT

(400 – 1600)

4 Sections

Reading
65 min

*This passage is adapted from Adam Smith, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, originally published in 1759. Smith was a key Scottish Enlightenment figure, whose earliest writings focused on his moral philosophy. These writings provided the ethical foundation for his later, more famous economic treatise, *The Wealth of Nations*.*

However selfish man may be supposed to be, there are evidently some principles in his nature, which interest him in the fortune of others and render their happiness necessary to him, though he derives nothing from it except the pleasure of seeing it. Of this kind is pity or compassion, the emotion that we feel for the misery of others, when we either see it, or are made to conceive it in a very lively manner. That we often derive sorrow from the sorrow of others is a matter of fact too obvious to require any instances to prove it; for
10 this sentiment is by no means confined to the virtuous and humane, though they perhaps may feel it with the most exquisite sensitivity.

As we have no immediate experience of what others feel, we can form no idea of the manner in which
15 they are affected, but by conceiving what we ourselves should feel in the like situation. Though our brother is upon the rack, as long as we ourselves are at our ease, our senses will never inform us of what he suffers. They never did, and never can, carry us beyond our own
20 person, and it is by the imagination only that we can form any conception of what are his sensations.

1. The author states that we can only access the feelings of others through
 - A) our imagination.
 - B) our five senses.
 - C) innate intuition.
 - D) personal sorrow.
2. Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
 - A) Lines 5–8 (“Of this . . . manner”)
 - B) Lines 8–10 (“That . . . prove it”)
 - C) Lines 17–19 (“Though . . . suffers”)
 - D) Lines 19–22 (“They never . . . sensations”)

Charles Drew and the Creation of Blood Banks

Charles Richard Drew was the most prominent African American doctor in the field of blood transfusion during the 1940s, and his work leading direct⁶⁰ to the creation of the American Red Cross Blood Bank. Prior to the 20th century, all blood donations had to be made⁶¹ directly from the donor to the receiver; the first institution focused on blood transfusion research was in Moscow.⁶²

60. F. NO CHANGE
G. led directly
H. led direct
J. directly leading
61. A. NO CHANGE
B. could of been made
C. was made
D. may had made
62. Given that all of the following statements one most effectively elaborates on a point in the sentence?
F. NO CHANGE
G. a Belgian doctor performed the first transfusion.
H. the first blood donors were sheep.
J. otherwise, the blood would clot.

1. PUNCTUATION

Frederick Law Olmsted the famous landscape architect, was also a conservationist.
Frederick Law Olmsted, the famous landscape architect, was also a conservationist.

2. PRONOUNS

Each of the trees had dropped their leaves.
Each of the trees had dropped its leaves.

3. VERB TENSE AND AGREEMENT

I planted vegetables last year, but a late frost kills my tomatoes.
I planted vegetables last year, but a late frost killed my tomatoes.

4. PARALLEL STRUCTURE

The subjects Shana likes best are biology, physics, and studying French.
The subjects Shana likes best are biology, physics, and French.

5. SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

While Charlie was at the beach to enjoy the sunshine and the ocean breeze.
While Charlie was at the beach, he enjoyed the sunshine and the ocean breeze.

6. COMMA SPLICES

I moved to Washington when I was seven, my brother followed a year later.
I moved to Washington when I was seven, and my brother followed a year later.

7. CONJUNCTIONS

Thomas had been walking for miles, so he finally spotted his campsite in the distance.
Thomas had been walking for miles when he finally spotted his campsite in the distance.

8. FAULTY MODIFICATION

Leaping from the window onto the roof, Grandma was delighted by the cat's agility.
Leaping from the window onto the roof, the cat delighted Grandma with its agility.

9. IDIOMS

Choosing where to apply about college is a difficult process for high school students.
Choosing where to apply to college is a difficult process for high school students.

10. FREQUENTLY CONFUSED WORDS

I completed all of the summer reading accept the Jane Austen novel.
I completed all of the summer reading except the Jane Austen novel.

4 SECTIONS, 3 HOURS



Comparing Test Structure

Algebra		
	SAT	ACT
Direct and Inverse Variation	X	○
Domain and Range	○	◐
Equivalent Expressions/ Simplifying	●	●
Exponential Change	●	○
Graphs of Lines and Inequalities	●	◐
Inequalities	●	◐
Linear Equations	●	●
Matrices	X	○
Parabolas	●	○
Parallel and Perpendicular Lines	○	◐
Polynomial Division	○	○
Quadratic Formula	●	●
Quadratic Functions	●	◐
Slope	◐	◐

Plane and 3-D Geometry		
	SAT	ACT
Absolute Value Equations and Graphs	○	◐
Angles	◐	●
Area	○	●
Circle Equations	○	○
Circles—Arcs, Chords, Radii	◐	●
Circumference	○	●
Distance Formula	○	◐
Ellipse Equations	X	○
Geometric Visualization	X	◐
Hybrid Figures	○	◐
Line Segments/Midpoints	○	◐
Perimeter	○	●

Tested frequently on each exam ●

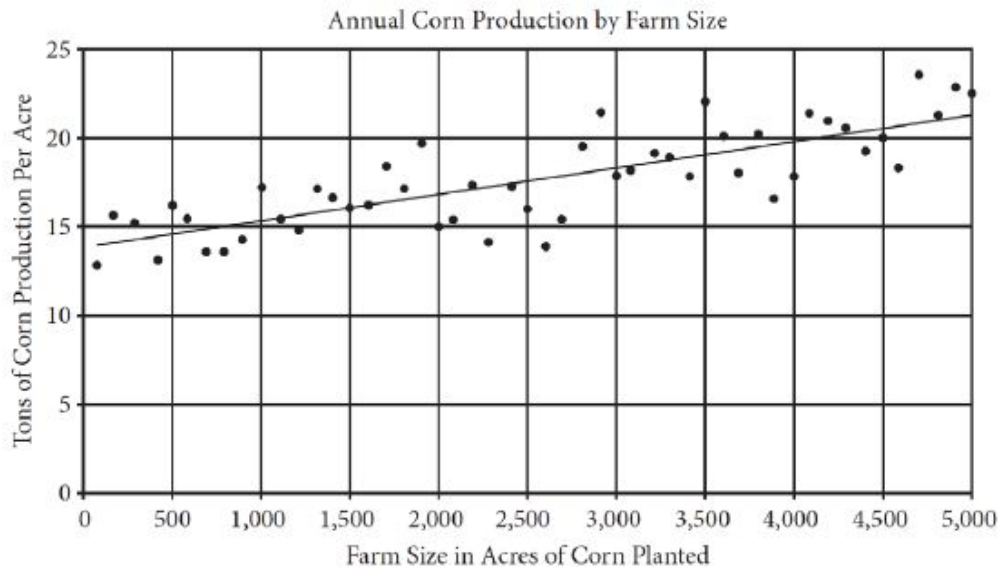
Tested approximately once per exam ◐

Tested infrequently ○

Not included in content standards X

Comparing Test Structure

PSAT 10 & NMSQT



The scatter plot above shows corn yield in tons per acre for farms averaging between 100 and 5,000 acres of corn planted.

24. The agronomist assumes that the relationship between farm size and annual crop yield per acre will continue its trend on farms of larger size. Based on the line of best fit, which of the following would be the best estimate of annual production of corn, in tons, for farms of 6,000 acres?
- A) 21
 - B) 23
 - C) 25
 - D) 26

(1 – 36)

4 Sections, 2 Hours and 55 Minutes w/ Experimental + 20 minutes w/ Essay + 40 minutes



SAT/ACT Essay Required

REQUIRED	
Martin Luther College	University of California, Merced
Soka University of America	University of California, Riverside
United States Military Academy	University of California, San Diego
University of California, Berkeley	University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Davis	University of California, Santa Cruz
University of California, Irvine	University of Miami*
University of California, Los Angeles	University of North Texas*

*University of Miami and University of North Texas require the essay for placement, not admission.

SAT and/or ACT Essay

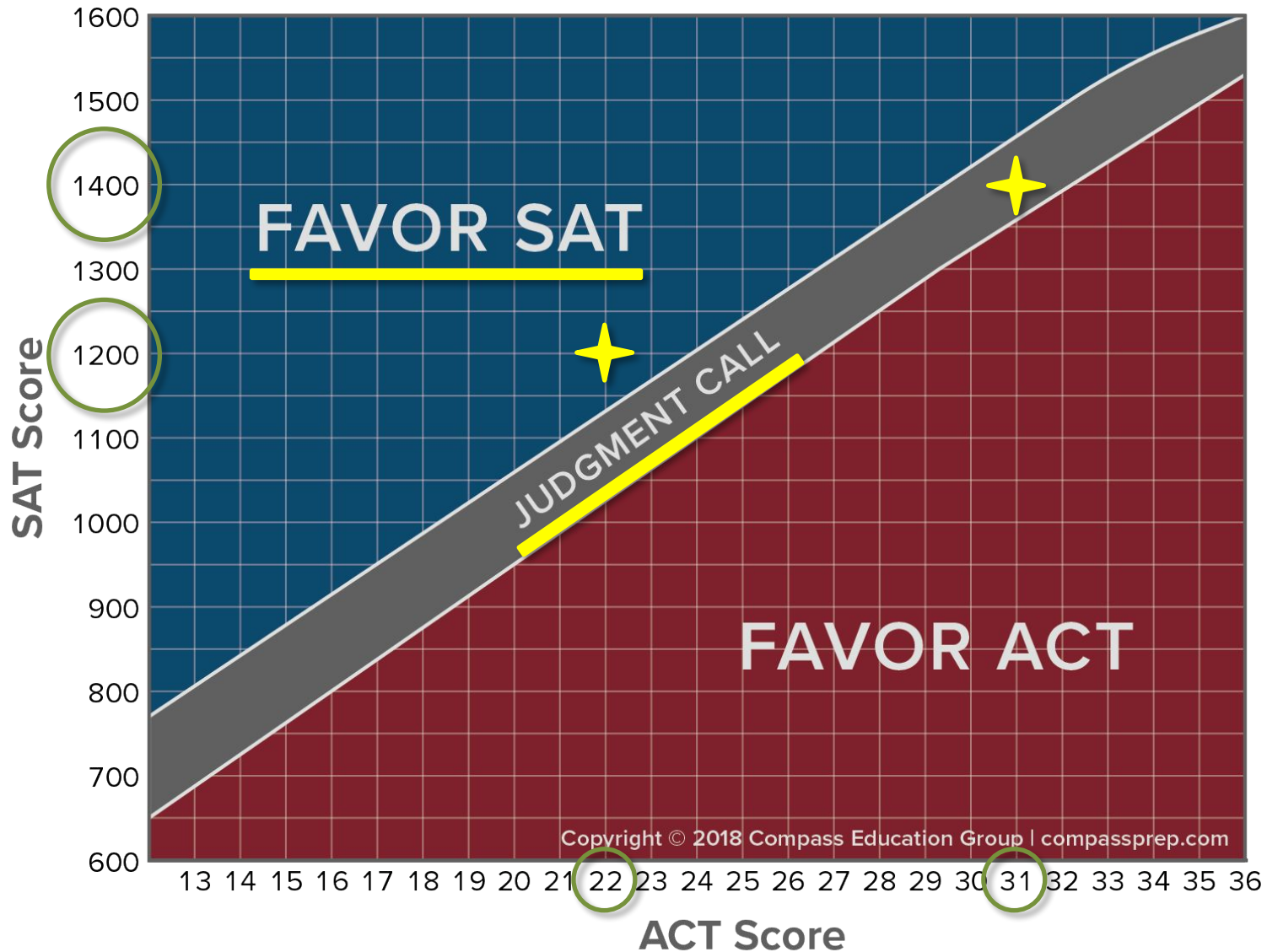
RECOMMENDED	
Abilene Christian University	Simmons College
Austin College	Stanford University
Berry College	Stony Brook University, SUNY
Chapman University	Taylor University
Concordia College, Moorhead	University at Buffalo, SUNY
Duke University	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Michigan State University	Webb Institute
Oregon State University	

ACT or SAT?



"We were originally thinking SAT, but then Noah's admissions advisor told us left-handed students born on Tuesdays do better on the ACT."

SAT vs ACT: Making the Choice



Practice Tests & Score Reports

Practice Test Dates and Times:

LOCAL PROCTORED TESTS

Take a practice test in an in-person group setting supervised by a proctor for a \$50 fee.

Glenview

Courtyard Marriott
1801 Milwaukee Ave
Glenview, IL 60025

Saturday, November 23

All tests at 9 a.m.

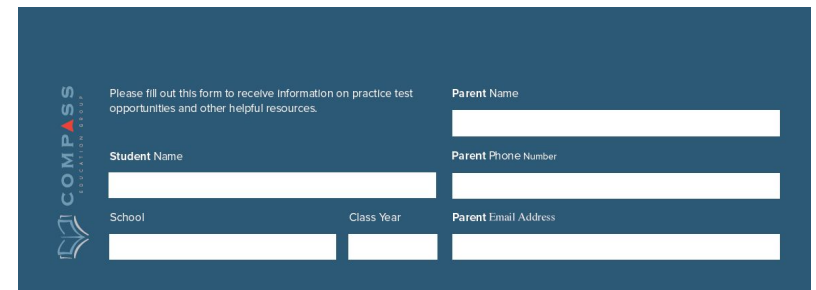
ONLINE PROCTORED TESTS

Take a test at home in a virtual group environment supervised by a live proctor online for a \$50 fee.

Online tests are offered nearly every weekend.

SELF-ADMINISTERED TESTS

Available anytime. Use Compass's online videos to provide virtual proctoring.



The form is a registration card for practice tests. It features the COMPASS EDUCATION GROUP logo on the left. The main text reads: 'Please fill out this form to receive information on practice test opportunities and other helpful resources.' The form contains several input fields: 'Parent Name' (a single line), 'Parent Phone Number' (a single line), 'Student Name' (a single line), 'School' (a single line), 'Class Year' (a single line), and 'Parent Email Address' (a single line).

Please fill out this form to receive information on practice test opportunities and other helpful resources.		Parent Name
		<input type="text"/>
Student Name		Parent Phone Number
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
School	Class Year	Parent Email Address
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

A Sensible Timeline: 11th Grade

- ❑ **SAT or ACT Decision:** Fall of 11th grade at the *latest*

- ❑ **1st Official Test:** SAT (March) or ACT (Feb)
 - *Prep begins 4-5 months prior (Winter Break)*

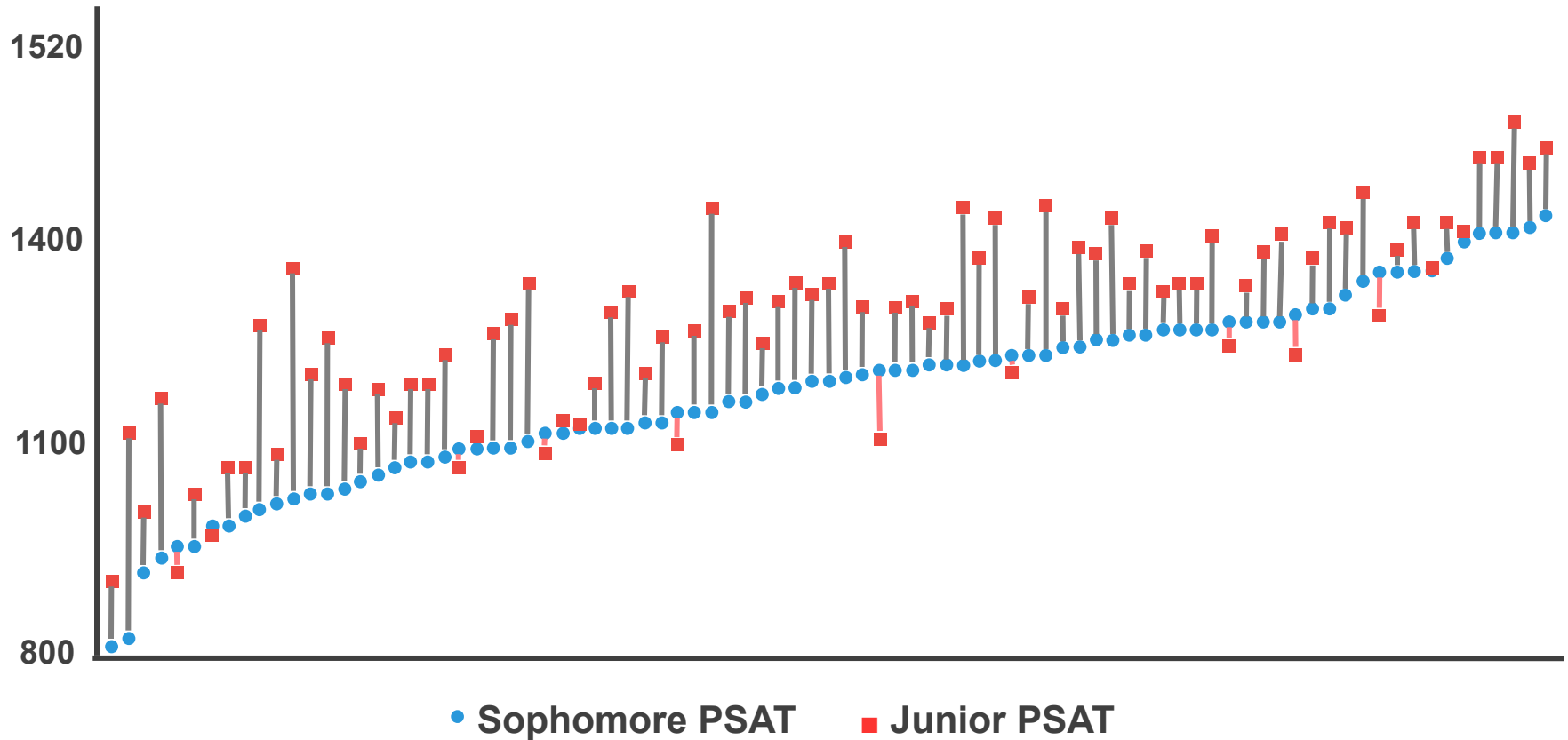
- ❑ **2nd Official Test:** ACT (April) or SAT (May)
 - ❑ *Refresher prep and practice tests*

- ❑ **SAT Subject Tests (2):** May or June
 - ❑ *Practice Subject Tests can gauge readiness*

- ❑ **3rd Official Test (Optional):** ACT (July or Sept) or SAT (Aug or Oct)

PSAT Results – Sample Class

Score Change Sophomore to Junior Year



How Test Prep Works

**Content
Knowledge**

**Command of
Strategies**

**Emotional
Control**

**Test
Management**

ACT Math: Structure & Pacing

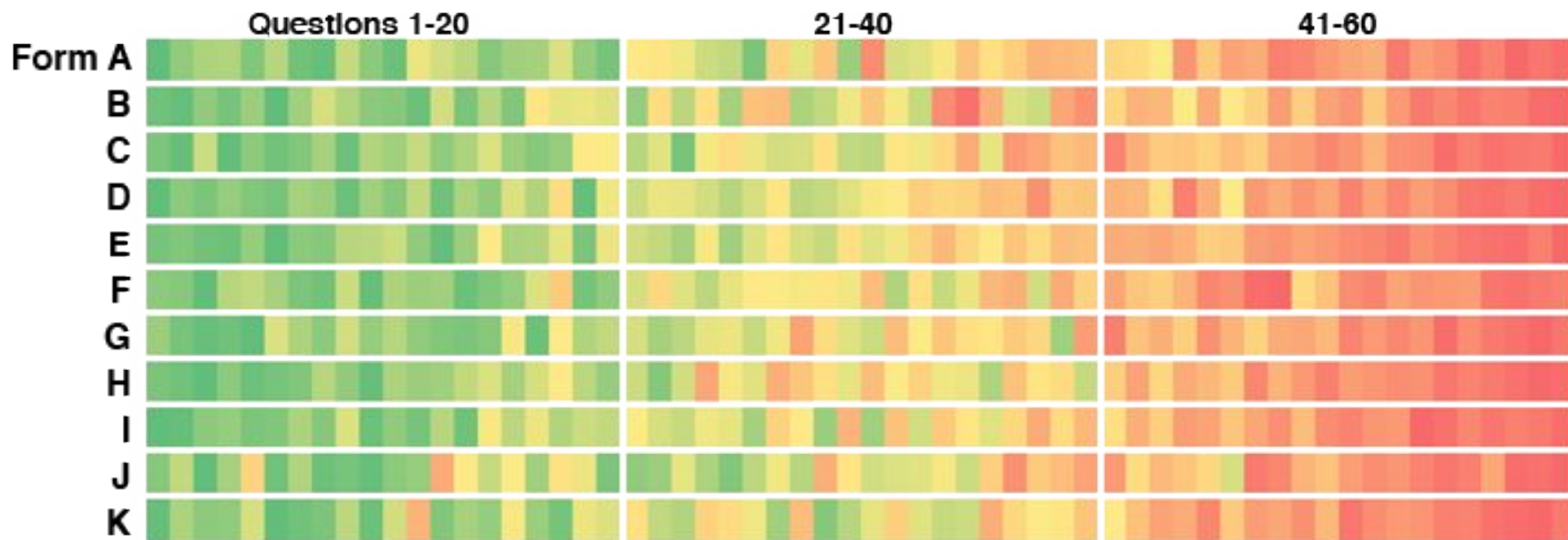
Structure:

- 60 questions in 60 minutes
- Content breakdown
 - 23% Pre-Algebra
 - 17% Elementary Algebra
 - 15% Intermediate Algebra
 - 15% Coordinate Geometry
 - 23% Plane Geometry
 - 7% Trigonometry

Pacing Concerns:

- Average 1 minute per question*
- Difficulty escalates steadily throughout
- Problems at the end are much harder but worth same points
- Rushing and cherry-picking can be dangerous

ACT Math: Difficulty Distribution

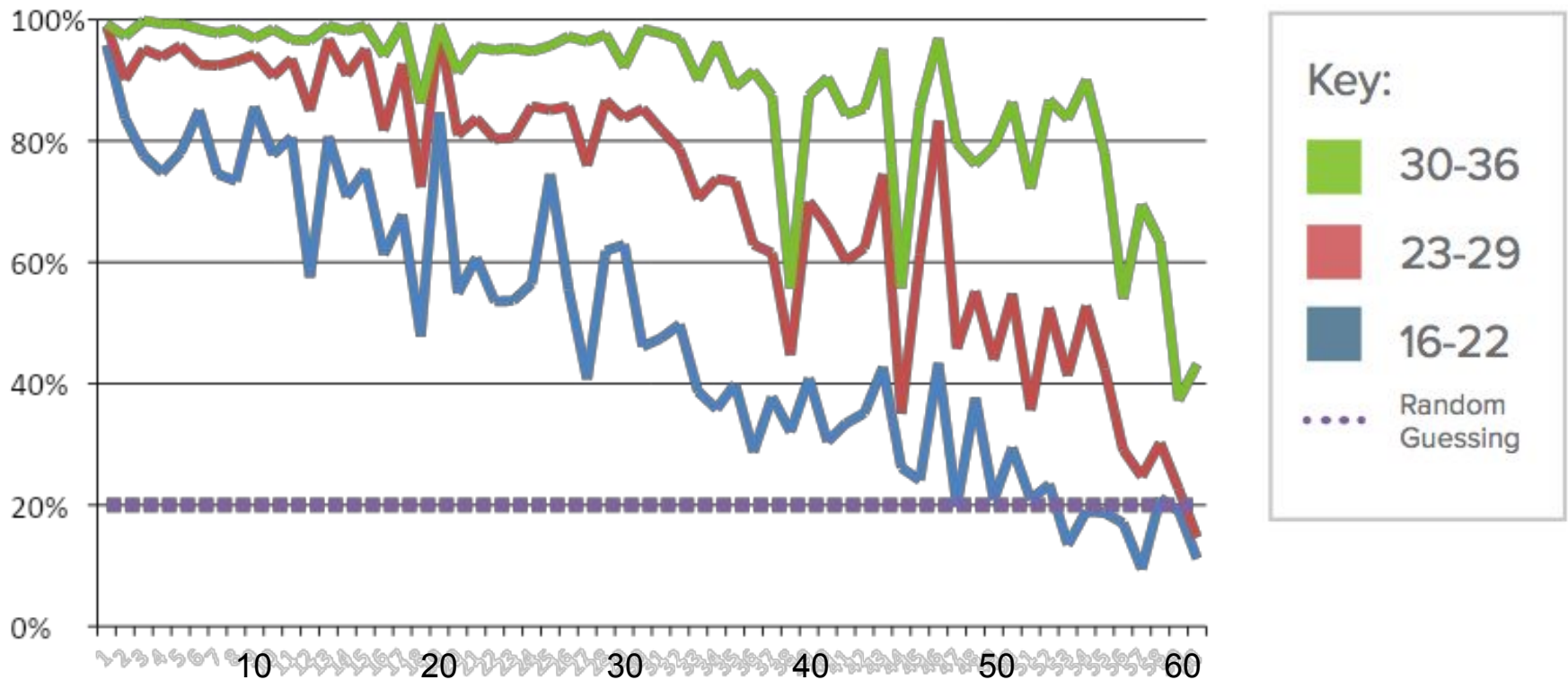


Data reflects performance of several thousand first-time ACT takers on eleven different tests.

See Compass Guide page 45

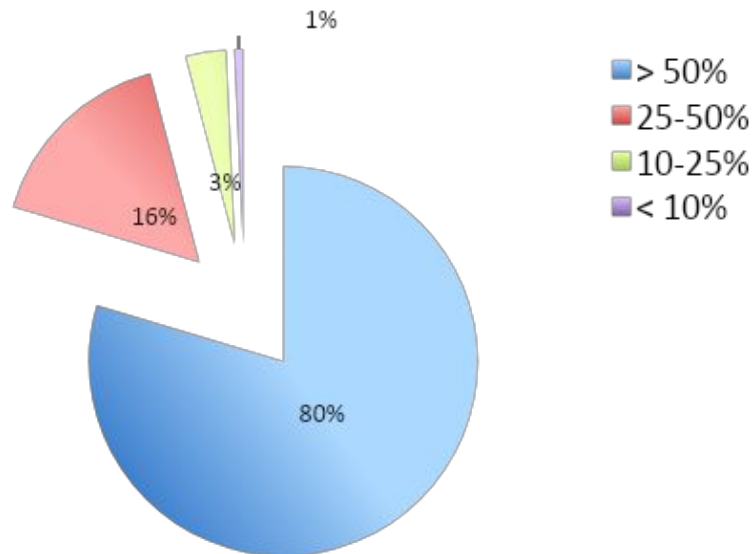
ACT Math: Where to Invest Effort

Student Accuracy Per Question



The Reality of College Admission

Enrollment by Admission Rate



- Admit Rate: 70%
- Yield: 33%

*Stanford (<5%) denied 70% of applicants with **perfect test scores***



"You're kidding! You count S.A.T.s?"

Thank you!

compassprep.com | 800.685.6986



COMPASS
EDUCATION GROUP

Please fill out this form to receive information on practice test opportunities and other helpful resources.

Student Name	<input type="text"/>	Parent Name	<input type="text"/>
School	<input type="text"/>	Parent Phone Number	<input type="text"/>
Class Year	<input type="text"/>	Parent Email Address	<input type="text"/>