

To Submit Test Scores or Not?

How admissions has been affected by
the Pandemic and College Admissions
Decisions Post-Pandemic



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REVOLUTION PREP



ED DEVINE

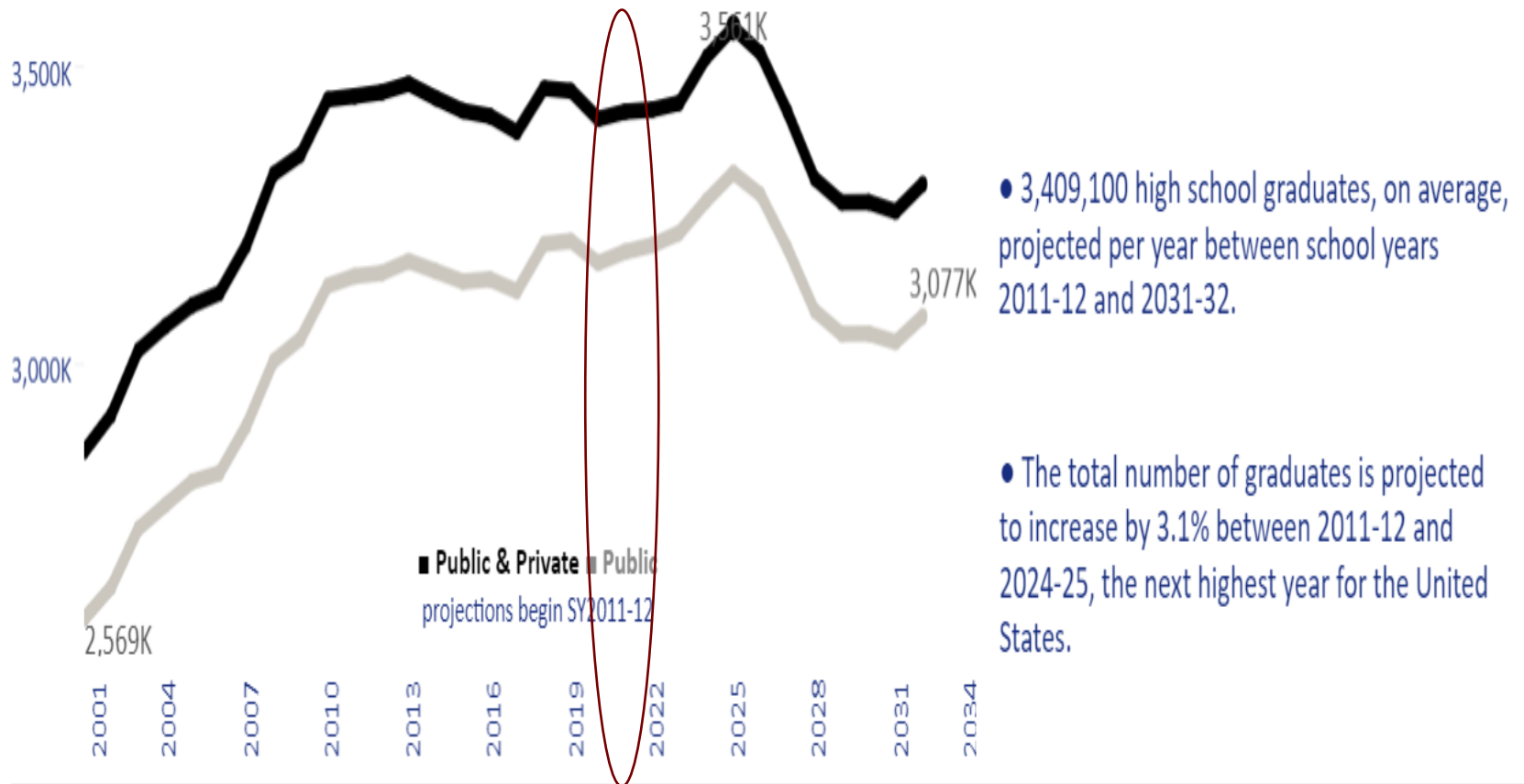
XAVIER UNIVERSITY

Today's SLC Session

- ✓ Some data reflection – 30,000 ft
- ✓ Early admission rounds
- ✓ Regulars round indications
- ✓ At your school/with your students
- ✓ Preparing students of future classes
- ✓ Take away/best practices for institutions

Data and Trends

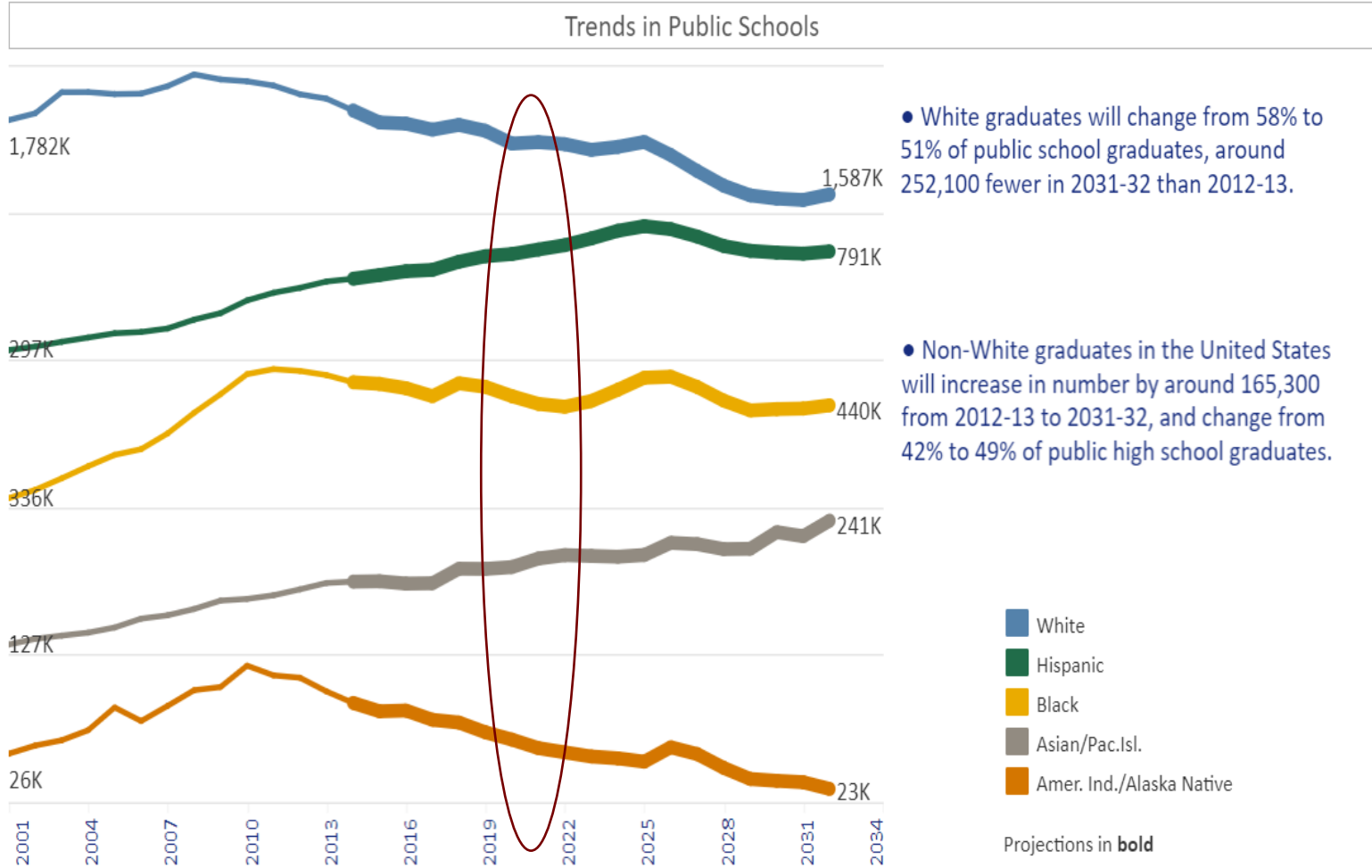
Overall High School Graduate Trends



- 3,409,100 high school graduates, on average, projected per year between school years 2011-12 and 2031-32.

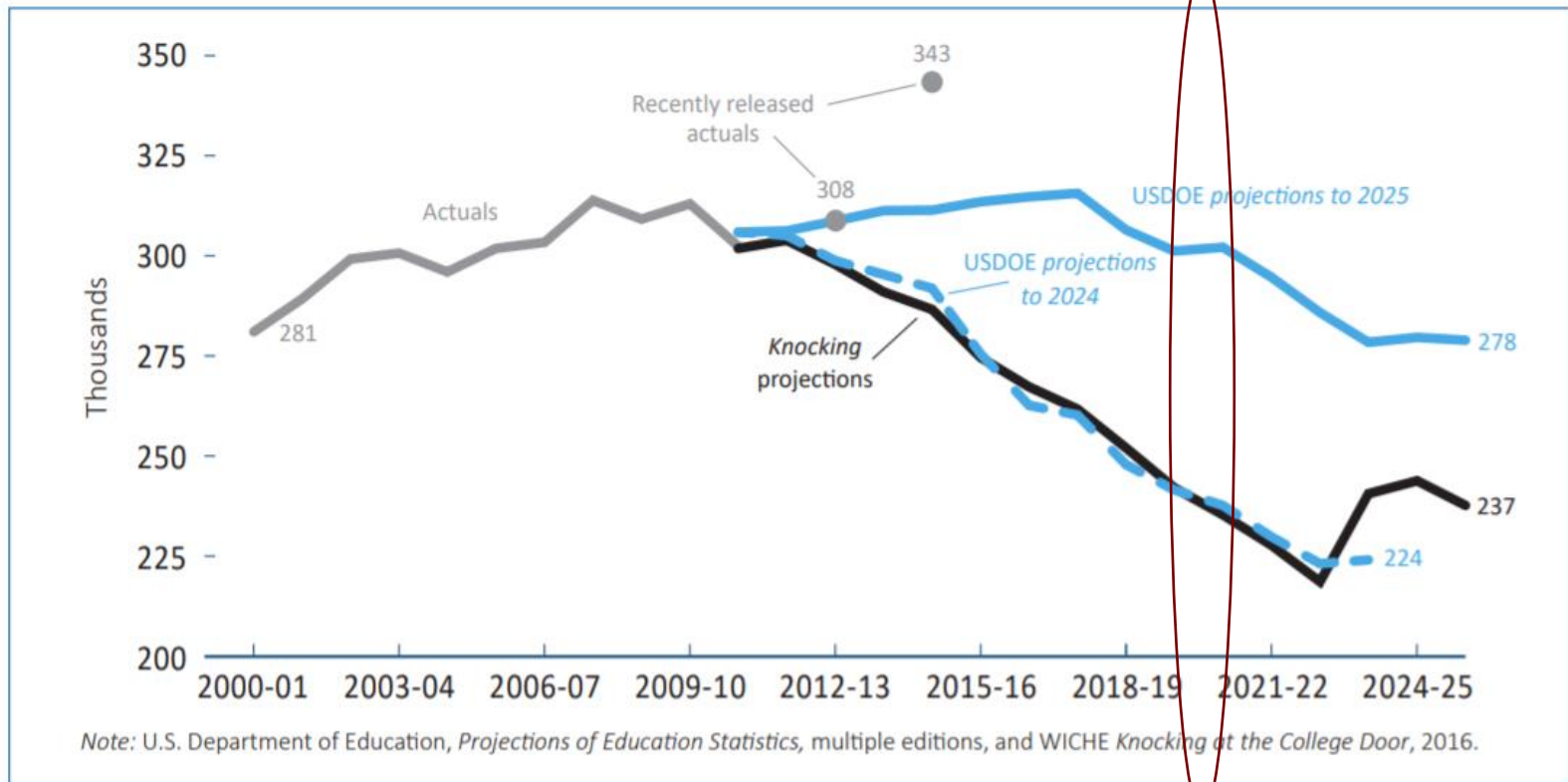
- The total number of graduates is projected to increase by 3.1% between 2011-12 and 2024-25, the next highest year for the United States.

Data and Trends - Public



Data and Trends - Private

Figure 1. Actual and projected private high school graduates



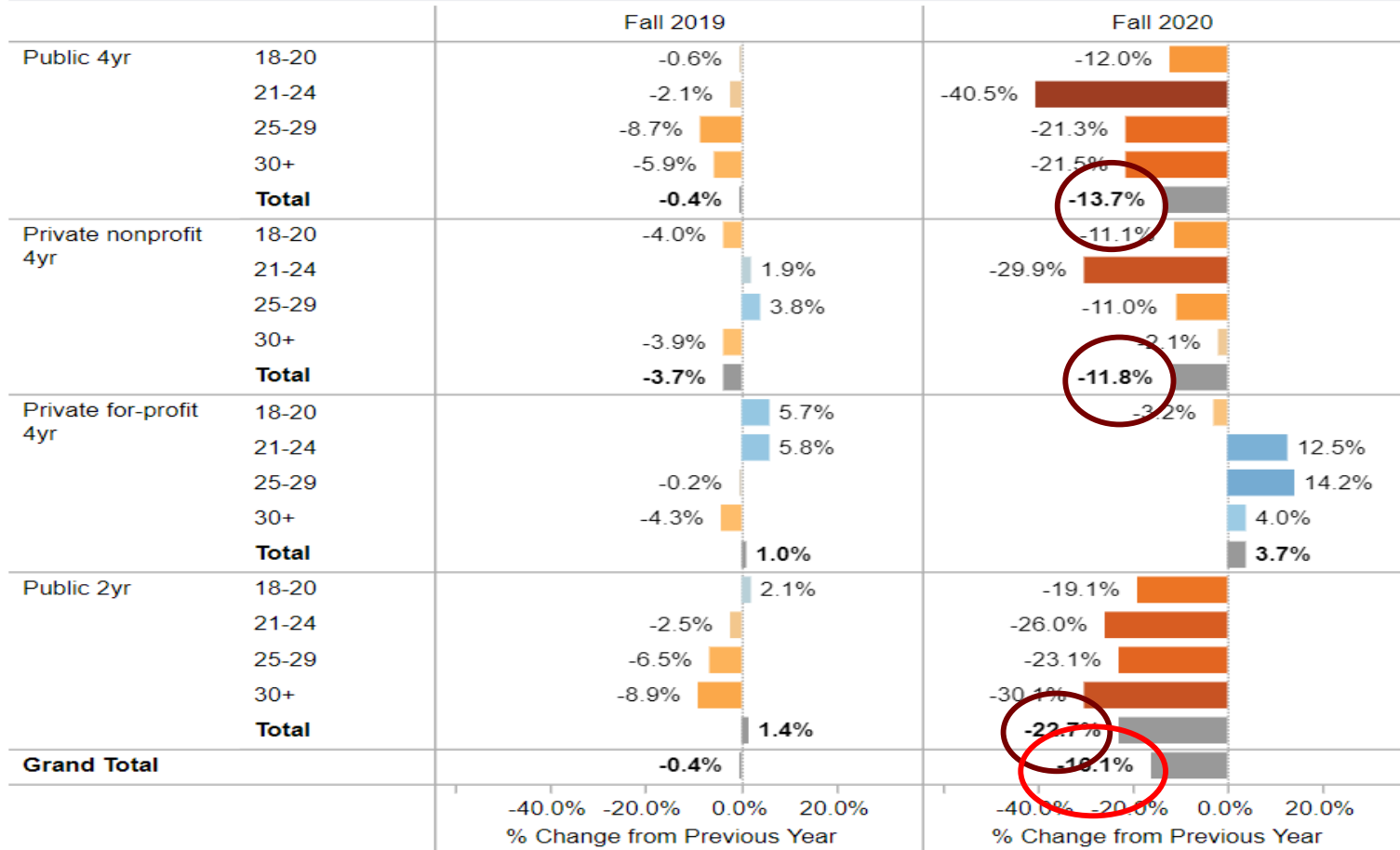
Visit knocking.wiche.edu for charts, data, and regional and state projections

Data and Trends - 2020

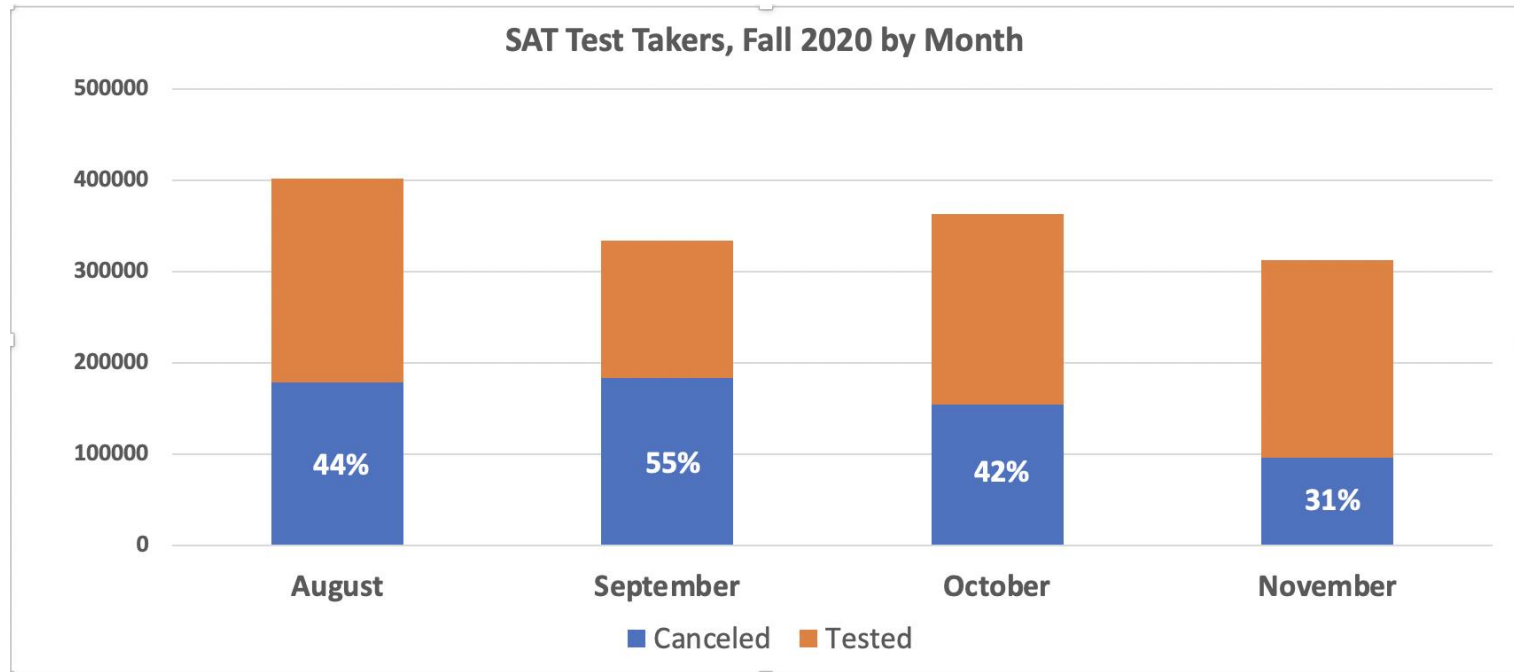
- ✓ **4.0%** drop in undergraduate enrollment this Fall
 - ✓ **8%** down for Native Americans
 - ✓ **6%** down for Black and White students
 - ✓ **3%** down for Hispanic and Asian undergrads
- ✓ **16.1%** drop in first time beginning students
 - ✓ **22.7%** dip in first time beginning at community college
- ✓ **2.7%** increase in graduate admission
- ✓ **1.8%** drop in higher education enrollment

Data and Trends

Figure 4. First-time Beginning Student Enrollment Changes by Sector and Age



Testing Availability



Regional Variability : June 2020 ACT

State	Centers Open	Centers Closed	% Open
MA	0	26	0%
WI	1	106	1%
NJ	5	70	7%
NY	15	188	7%
MD	3	32	9%

State	Centers Open	Centers Closed	% Open
UT	36	17	68%
ID	28	18	61%
LA	89	53	63%
SD	20	15	57%
AR	72	63	53%



Early Admissions: Data Insights

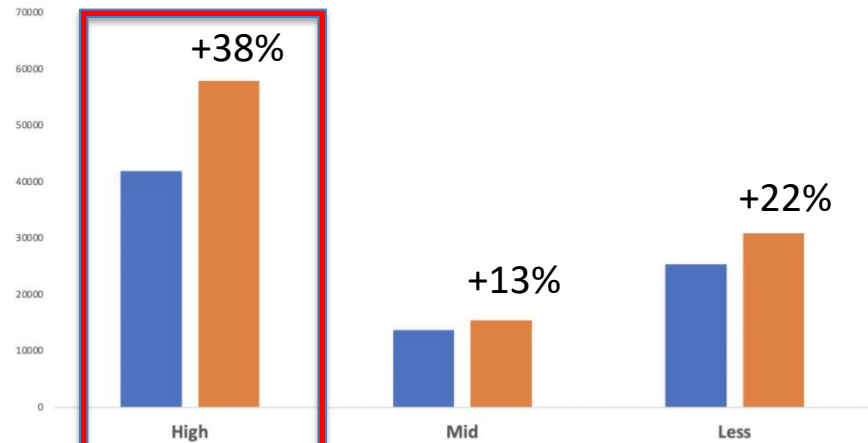
- From a selection of 13 schools with comparable data from ED/EA so far: **31% increase in student applications over last year**
- This surge in applications has only resulted in an **8% increase in student admits over last year**
- The trends are different if you group the schools by selectivity:

Different results by selectivity

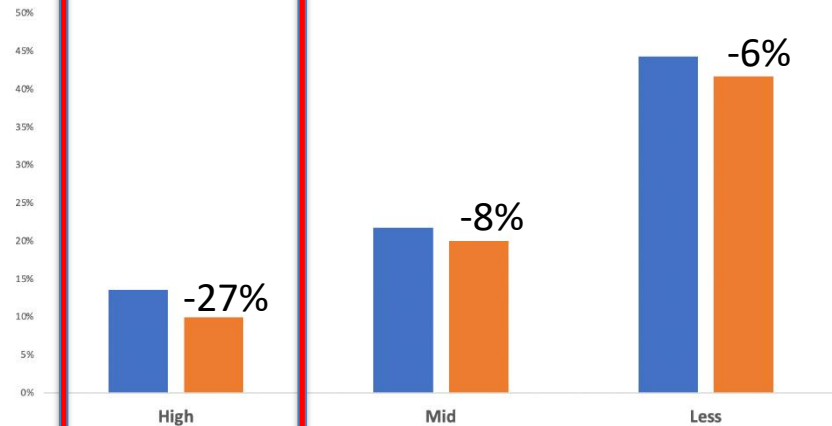
- High : $\leq 20\%$ admit rate for last year's EA+ED applicants
- Mid: Between 20% and 30% admit rate
- Less: Above 30% admit rate

From last year to this year amongst highly selective schools' EA/ED, it's as if 16,054 additional students applied, and only 55 were admitted (0.3%)

EA & ED Applicants, c/o 2024 -> 2025



EA & ED Admit Rate, c/o 2024 -> 2025



Points to Ponder

Reflect on fall 2021 Early Decision

- ✓ 1665 + test optional Institutions for Fall 2021
- ✓ 566 on NACAC list
- ✓ Change in percent of test takers by high school
- ✓ Do students/can students trust test blind/optional?
- ✓ Are institutions being transparent

Please share your comments, chat is an option as well.



Discussion

What are your observations from early admissions decisions?

Do you feel like decisions were fair?

Different than previous cycles?

How do you think testing played a part in decisions?

Do students with test scores seem to have an advantage

How many of your Seniors didn't have a test to submit?

What was your percent seniors who tested?

Is testing too important for scholarships?

How did seniors adjust/manipulate their lists this fall to current?

To submit, or not to submit, that is the question!

Please share your comments, chat is an option as well.

Points to Ponder Class of 21 and Beyond

**The SAT and ACT
Are Optional Now***

**If you aren't competing against other applicants*

**My Students Raise Their ACTs
7.1 Points on Average**

Harvard Graduate
15 years' Experience
Call **347.593.8783**
SAT + ACT, on Zoom!

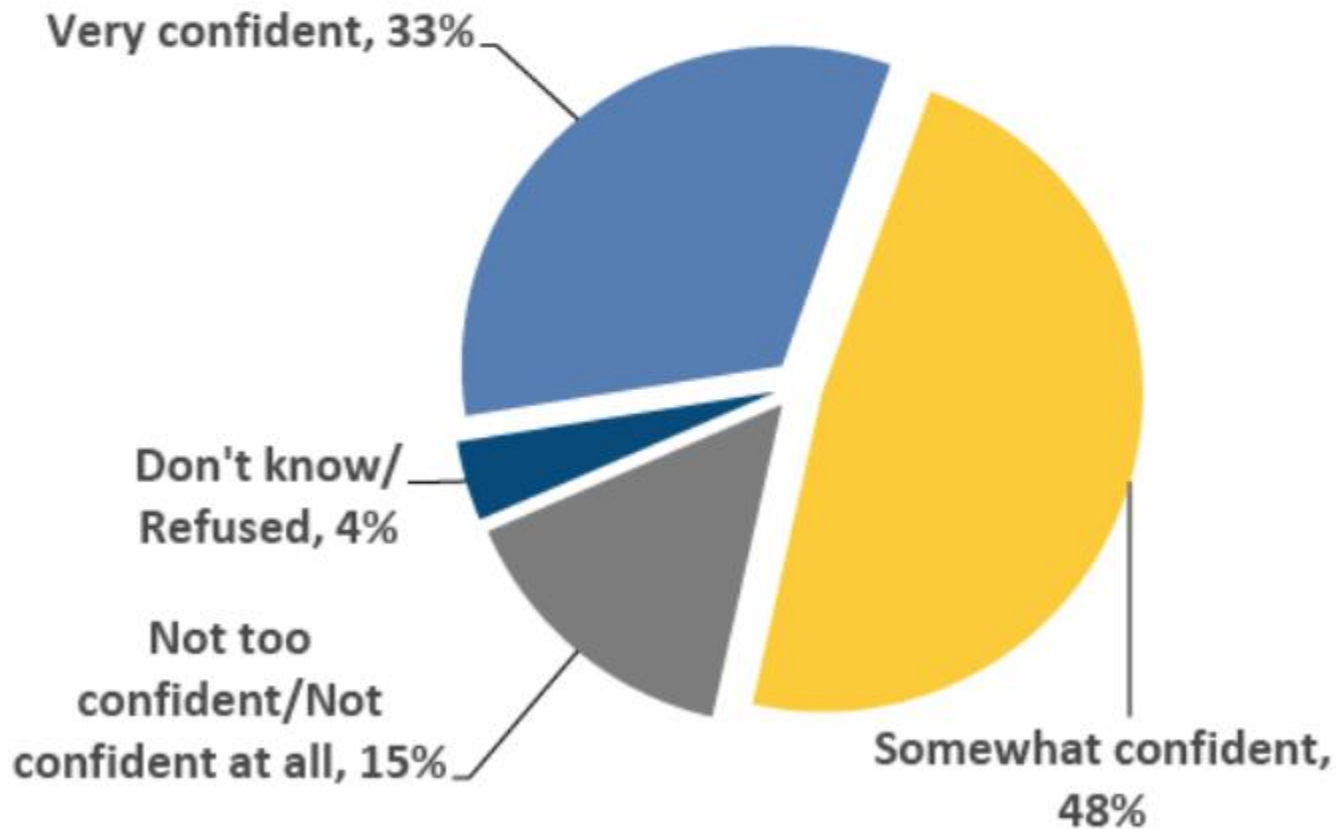
"Jack thoroughly enjoyed working with Jim, and he's taken a number of tools with him into the rest of his life - reducing the anxiety that he's had for myriad reasons.

For us, the test was such a perfect day. Jack had a swagger. I said 'Jack, how did you feel?' He said 'Mom, I felt awesome. I had no anxiety, no stress. I did really, really well.' It was an amazing experience." - Parent

Please share your comments or questions in the chat

Student Confidence

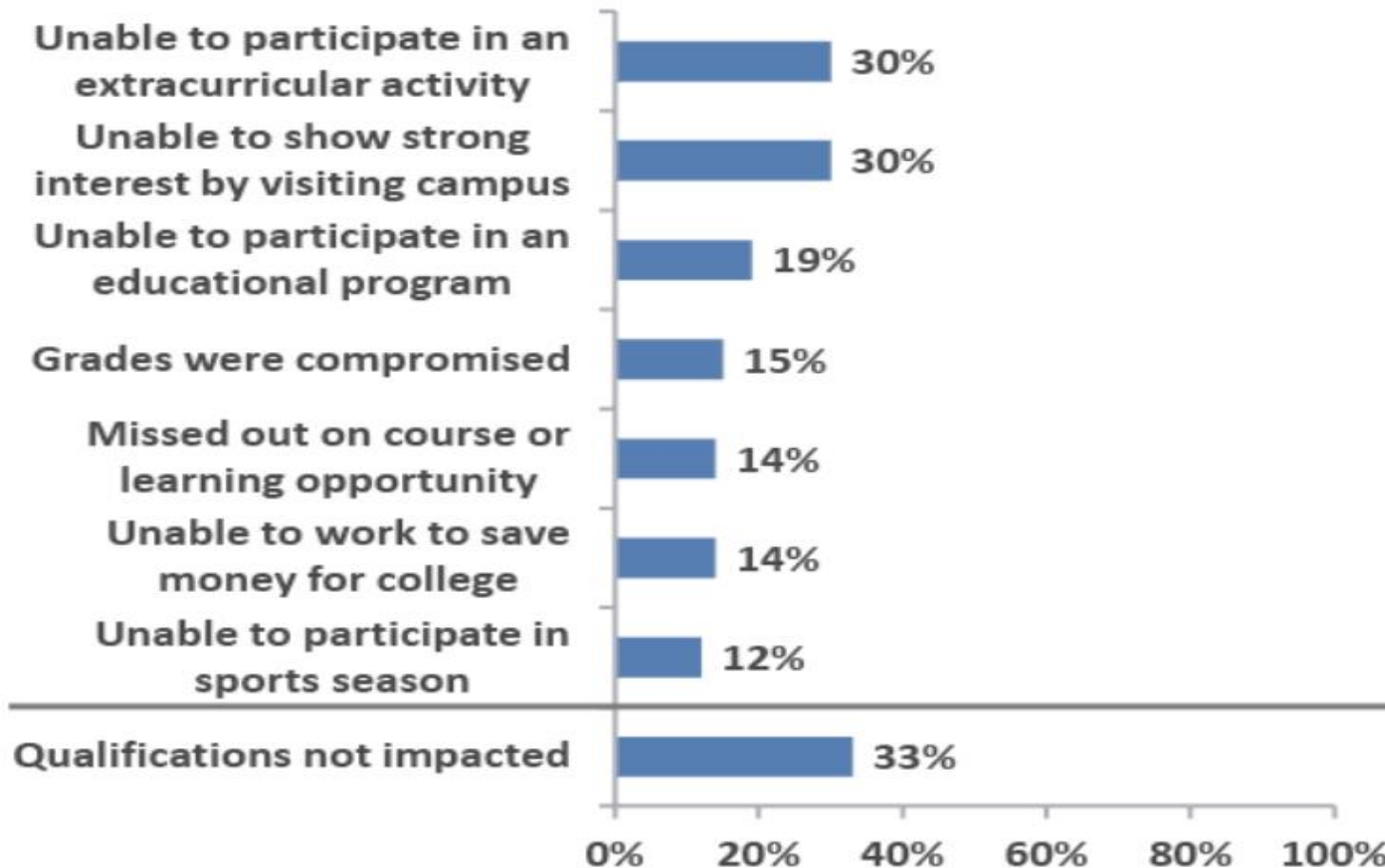
Chart 1: Confidence that Schools Will Be Able to Re-Open Campus by Fall 2021



Principals: Craig Goebel, David Strauss, Richard Hesel

Personal Student Impact

Chart 3: Impact of COVID-19 on Qualifications for College Application



**Note: Student could select multiple options*

student**POLL**
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IN COLLABORATION WITH COLLEGE BOARD

Principals: Craig Goebel, David Strauss, Richard Hesel

Points to Ponder

Reflect on fall 2021 and beyond

- ✓ 43% of Juniors feel Covid impacted their qualifications
- ✓ How are the resume/activity lists going to look?
- ✓ Is there more concern for grades and curriculum?
- ✓ Will student still prepare for and take tests
- ✓ Committee decisions – anticipated changes in data
- ✓ Redefining fit and demonstrated of interest.

Key Decision Factors

TABLE 7. PERCENTAGE OF COLLEGES ATTRIBUTING DIFFERENT LEVELS OF IMPORTANCE TO FACTORS IN ADMISSION DECISIONS: FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN, FALL 2017

Factor	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in All Courses	220	74.5	15.0	5.5	5.0
Grades in College Prep Courses	220	73.2	16.8	5.9	4.1
Strength of Curriculum	219	62.1	21.9	8.7	7.3
Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	221	45.7	37.1	12.2	5.0
Essay or Writing Sample	220	23.2	33.2	24.1	19.5
Student's Demonstrated Interest	218	16.1	23.9	28.0	32.1
Counselor Recommendation	218	15.1	40.4	26.6	17.9
Teacher Recommendation	219	14.2	40.2	26.5	19.2
Class Rank	220	9.1	29.1	34.1	27.7
Extracurricular Activities	219	6.4	42.9	32.0	18.7
Portfolio	219	6.4	11.9	26.9	54.8
Subject Test Scores (AP, IB)	219	5.5	18.3	35.2	41.1
Interview	219	5.5	16.4	28.3	49.8
Work	217	4.1	28.6	36.9	30.4
State Graduation Exam Scores	218	2.3	8.7	18.8	70.2
SAT II Scores	216	1.9	5.6	14.8	77.8

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2018–19.



What we Evaluate

Academic Qualities

Curriculum

High School

Grade Trend

GPA

Test Scores

Rank

Teacher Recs*

Personal Qualities

Activity Resume

Counselor Rec

Teacher Rec (1-3)*

Supplemental Rec

Essay

Supplemental Writing

Interview

Demonstrated Interest

Points to Ponder

Reflect on fall 2021 and beyond

- ✓ Impact will be greater for low-income, first gen and under represented student populations
- ✓ How are the resume/activity lists going to look?
- ✓ Is there more concern for grades and curriculum?
- ✓ Will student still prepare for and take tests
- ✓ Committee decisions – anticipated changes in data
- ✓ Redefining fit and demonstrated of interest.

Please share your comments or questions in the chat

Discussion

How will the “Key Decision Factors” change?

What will take more importance when making nuanced decisions?

Rigor?

Grade point average?

Activities?

Will there be pressure to inflate grades?

How are students doing with online learning this year? What will their curriculums look like? How about their proficiency in subjects they have learned online?

What is your messaging to your juniors and sophomores about testing?

Have your opinions about testing changed?

What are the messages/feedback you would like deans of admissions to get regarding how they can be transparent with future cycles?

Please share your comments, chat is an option as well.

Thoughts and Future Conversations

- ✓ Will students overreach their lists
- ✓ Where will they put their anxiety chips now?
- ✓ Early applications, will they grow?
- ✓ College/University leveraging FA, making up for deficits
- ✓ Activities have shifted to new things
- ✓ Positive of decreased activities?
- ✓ Positive/negative of test optional/flexible/blind policy

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