

The Competitive Landscape

The following is a sampling of admission statistics at well-known colleges. Data are from the class entering in 2013 or 2014. The test scores represent the range in the middle half of the freshman class. The scores should not be viewed as cutoffs or qualifying scores. Not all colleges report (or use) scores from the SAT Writing section.

The Acceptance Rate and Yield columns remind students and parents that college admission is a two-way street. Students want to gain admission to their top choice schools, and colleges want to entice their admitted candidates to attend. Even very competitive schools such as Northwestern University, Amherst, and Pomona end up enrolling about 40% of their admitted candidates.

The % Submitting SAT and ACT columns provide a sense of how popular the use of SAT scores versus ACT scores is at a particular institution (compare the University of Michigan to the UC system, for example), and how often students choose to submit scores even at test optional colleges such as Bowdoin.

School	Acceptance Rate	Yield	SAT Mid-50%	ACT Mid-50%	% Submitting SAT	% Submitting ACT
Amherst College	14	40	CR: 670–760 M: 680–770 W: 670–760	30–34	63	41
Arizona State University	84	40	CR: 500–620 M: 520–650	22–28	64	51
Boston College	34	29	CR: 620–710 M: 650–740 W: 640–730	30–33	75	44
Boston University	35	21	CR: 570–670 M: 620–720 W: 600–690	27–31	85	32
Bowdoin College	15	49	CR: 680–760 M: 680–750 W: 690–770	30–33	53	27
Brandeis University	35	24	CR: 600–710 M: 630–760 W: 620–720	28–32	75	28
Brown University	9	59	CR: 660–760 M: 670–780 W: 670–770	29–34	79	38
Bryn Mawr College	40	32	CR: 600–710 M: 610–760 W: 620–720	27–32	79	31
Bucknell University	31	39	CR: 580–680 M: 620–720 W: 600–690	27–32	77	40
California Institute of Technology	9	39	CR: 730–800 M: 770–800 W: 730–790	34–35	88	41
California State University System						
California State Poly, Pomona	52	28	CR: 450–580 M: 480–630	20–27	92	28
California State Poly, San Luis Obispo	31	34	CR: 550–640 M: 580–680	25–30	82	66
California State Univ, Bakersfield	71	26	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
California State Univ, Channel Islands	72	15	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
California State Univ, Chico	71	19	CR: 440–550 M: 440–550	19–24	91	39
California State Univ, Dominguez Hills	81	20	CR: 380–470 M: 380–470	15–19	82	18
California State Univ, East Bay	70	15	CR: 400–500 M: 400–510 W: 400–500	16–21	90	32
California State Univ, Fresno	59	31	CR: 390–500 M: 410–520 W: 390–500	16–22	89	39
California State Univ, Fullerton	44	24	CR: 450–550 M: 470–570	19–24	92	33
California State Univ, Long Beach	35	21	CR: 450–560 M: 480–600	20–25	95	34
California State Univ, Los Angeles	61	17	CR: 380–480 M: 390–510 W: 390–480	16–22	94	34
California State Univ Maritime Academy	67	28	CR: 490–590 M: 500–610	22–27	86	45
California State Univ, Monterey Bay	45	13	CR: 430–540 M: 440–550 W: 430–540	18–24	95	36
California State Univ, Northridge	53	31	CR: 400–510 M: 400–520	16–22	90	24
California State Univ, Sacramento	73	24	CR: 410–520 M: 420–530	17–22	92	34
California State Univ, San Bernardino	65	25	CR: 390–490 M: 400–500	16–20	95	40
California State Univ, San Marcos	62	27	CR: 430–520 M: 430–520	17–22	90	32
California State Univ, Stanislaus	73	27	CR: 400–510 M: 400–510 W: 400–500	16–22	86	32
Humboldt State University	77	15	CR: 440–560 M: 430–540	18–24	93	38
San Diego State University	34	26	CR: 490–600 M: 510–620	22–27	87	48
San Francisco State University	66	18	CR: 430–550 M: 440–560	18–24	90	26
San Jose State University	60	20	CR: 450–560 M: 470–600	19–25	90	28
Sonoma State University	80	16	CR: 440–550 M: 440–550	18–23	92	42
Carleton College	23	36	CR: 660–750 M: 660–760 W: 650–750	30–33	64	55
Carnegie Mellon University	25	30	CR: 640–740 M: 700–800 W: 660–760	30–34	87	35
Chapman University	47	24	CR: 550–640 M: 560–650 W: 560–660	25–29	76	51
Claremont McKenna College	11	50	CR: 660–750 M: 690–770 W: 680–760	30–33	54	46
Colby College	28	33	CR: 610–710 M: 620–720 W: 630–710	28–32	74	35
Colorado College	18	40	CR: 610–710 M: 610–720 W: 620–700	27–32	49	47
Columbia University	7	62	CR: 690–780 M: 700–790 W: 700–780	31–34	81	34
Connecticut College	38	25	CR: 620–710 M: 620–700 W: 640–710	29–31	29	14
Cornell University	14	53	CR: 650–740 M: 680–770	30–34	82	41
Dartmouth College	12	52	CR: 680–780 M: 680–770 W: 690–790	30–34	65	35
DePaul University	70	12	CR: 530–630 M: 520–630	23–28	20	86
Duke University	11	48	CR: 670–760 M: 700–790 W: 690–780	31–34	72	50
Emory University	27	29	CR: 630–710 M: 650–750 W: 650–730	29–32	70	44
George Washington University	44	29	CR: 590–690 M: 610–700 W: 610–700	27–31	75	40
Georgetown University	17	47	CR: 660–760 M: 660–760	30–33	84	40

School	Acceptance Rate	Yield	SAT	ACT	% Submitting	
			Mid-50%	Mid-50%	SAT	ACT
Grinnell College	28	26	CR: 630–740 M: 660–760	30–33	46	54
Harvard University	6	81	CR: 700–800 M: 710–800 W: 720–800	32–35	83	35
Harvey Mudd College	14	37	CR: 680–760 M: 720–800 W: 670–760	32–35	78	52
Haverford College	25	39	CR: 670–750 M: 660–740 W: 660–750	31–34	71	39
Howard University	48	22	CR: 500–610 M: 490–610 W: 490–600	21–27	71	48
Indiana University, Bloomington	76	28	CR: 520–630 M: 540–660 W: 510–620	24–30	72	62
Johns Hopkins University	16	37	CR: 670–740 M: 690–770 W: 670–760	31–34	75	41
Kenyon College	25	27	CR: 620–730 M: 610–690 W: 620–720	28–32	62	53
Lewis & Clark College	67	14	CR: 600–700 M: 580–670 W: 580–690	26–31	60	37
Loyola Marymount University	53	21	CR: 540–640 M: 560–660 W: 550–650	25–30	73	47
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	8	72	CR: 680–770 M: 740–800 W: 690–780	33–35	84	42
Michigan State University	66	37	CR: 430–580 M: 540–690 W: 460–570	23–28	15	81
Middlebury College	17	41	CR: 630–730 M: 630–740 W: 650–750	30–33	68	44
Mills College	76	13	CR: 530–640 M: 490–610 W: 520–610	23–29	66	35
New York University	36	33	CR: 610–710 M: 630–740 W: 620–720	28–32	77	22
Northwestern University	13	46	CR: 690–770 M: 700–790 W: 690–770	31–34	65	55
Occidental College	42	21	CR: 600–690 M: 610–700 W: 610–700	27–31	73	49
Penn State, University Park	50	32	CR: 530–620 M: 560–670 W: 540–640	25–29	75	17
Pepperdine University	35	21	CR: 550–650 M: 570–680 W: 560–660	25–30	70	53
Pitzer College	13	46	CR: 600–700 M: 610–700	N/A	14	N/A
Pomona College	12	48	CR: 690–770 M: 690–770 W: 690–780	31–34	73	52
Princeton University	7	66	CR: 690–800 M: 710–800 W: 700–800	31–35	84	36
Reed College	39	23	CR: 660–750 M: 630–730 W: 650–720	29–33	73	37
Rice University	15	35	CR: 680–760 M: 710–790 W: 670–770	31–34	77	51
St. Mary's College of California	76	16	CR: 490–600 M: 500–610 W: 510–610	22–27	75	43
Santa Clara University	49	18	CR: 590–680 M: 620–710	27–32	69	55
Scripps College	28	29	CR: 640–750 M: 620–710 W: 640–720	28–33	64	50
Smith College	42	33	CR: 610–720 M: 610–730 W: 630–730	28–31	66	21
Stanford University	5	78	CR: 680–780 M: 700–790 W: 690–790	31–34	86	39
Swarthmore College	17	43	CR: 680–770 M: 680–770 W: 680–770	31–34	77	44
Syracuse University	53	24	CR: 520–620 M: 550–660 W: 530–630	24–29	77	35
Trinity College (CT)	33	25	CR: 570–660 M: 580–670 W: 590–670	25–29	48	30
Tufts University	17	41	CR: 680–760 M: 680–760 W: 690–760	30–33	58	42
United States Naval Academy	8	85	CR: 570–680 M: 610–710	25–33	79	73
University of Arizona	75	32	CR: 480–600 M: 490–620 W: 470–590	21–27	63	52
University of California System						
University of California, Berkeley	16	46	CR: 600–730 M: 640–770 W: 620–750	29–34	87	46
University of California, Davis	40	22	CR: 510–640 M: 560–700 W: 540–660	25–31	90	49
University of California, Irvine	37	22	CR: 480–600 M: 550–690 W: 510–620	23–29	94	45
University of California, Los Angeles	19	36	CR: 580–710 M: 610–750 W: 600–730	27–33	88	48
University of California, Merced	67	14	CR: 450–550 M: 460–580 W: 450–550	20–25	93	52
University of California, Riverside	58	20	CR: 490–600 M: 520–650 W: 500–610	22–27	94	46
University of California, San Diego	33	20	CR: 560–670 M: 630–760 W: 590–700	27–32	90	43
University of California, Santa Barbara	36	20	CR: 530–660 M: 570–710 W: 560–670	26–31	89	52
University of California, Santa Cruz	56	18	CR: 480–620 M: 510–650 W: 490–620	23–29	88	45
University of Chicago	9	60	CR: 720–800 M: 720–790 W: 710–780	32–35	66	53
University of Colorado, Boulder	84	24	CR: 520–630 M: 540–660	24–30	42	74
University of Florida	46	50	CR: 580–670 M: 590–690 W: 580–670	26–31	60	40
University of Miami (FL)	38	17	CR: 600–690 M: 620–730 W: 590–690	28–32	45	41
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	32	41	CR: 620–720 M: 660–760 W: 620–720	29–33	32	81
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	28	45	CR: 600–700 M: 620–720 W: 590–700	28–32	60	43
University of Notre Dame	21	53	CR: 660–750 M: 680–770 W: 650–750	32–34	42	58
University of the Pacific	55	11	CR: 500–640 M: 530–680 W: 500–640	22–29	82	38
University of Pennsylvania	10	65	CR: 670–770 M: 690–780 W: 690–780	31–34	66	34
University of Puget Sound	79	15	CR: 560–680 M: 550–650 W: 550–670	25–30	71	50
University of Redlands	73	23	CR: 500–600 M: 500–600	22–27	77	51
University of Rochester	36	23	CR: 600–700 M: 650–750 W: 620–700	29–32	66	35
University of San Diego	46	17	CR: 560–650 M: 570–670 W: 560–660	26–30	68	54
University of San Francisco	60	14	CR: 510–620 M: 530–630 W: 510–620	23–28	75	41
University of Southern California	18	33	CR: 620–720 M: 660–760 W: 640–740	29–33	74	45
University of Texas, Austin	40	47	CR: 570–690 M: 600–720 W: 560–690	26–32	81	57
University of Virginia	29	41	CR: 620–720 M: 630–740 W: 620–720	28–33	86	40
University of Washington	55	36	CR: 530–650 M: 580–700 W: 520–640	25–31	83	34
University of Wisconsin, Madison	57	43	CR: 560–660 M: 620–740 W: 590–680	26–31	18	89
Vanderbilt University	13	42	CR: 710–780 M: 720–800 W: 680–770	32–34	41	62
Vassar College	24	36	CR: 670–750 M: 650–740 W: 660–750	30–33	70	43
Washington University in St. Louis	17	35	CR: 700–770 M: 720–800 W: 700–770	32–34	48	66
Wellesley College	30	42	CR: 650–740 M: 640–740 W: 670–750	30–33	74	42
Wesleyan University (CT)	24	33	CR: 650–740 M: 660–750 W: 660–750	30–33	77	34
Williams College	19	45	CR: 680–790 M: 670–770 W: 690–780	31–34	83	39
Yale University	6	70	CR: 710–800 M: 700–800 W: 710–790	31–35	79	41

