Higher Education Research Digest Report

How to Best Predict Your Applicants' Performance at Your College





The percentage of students retaking college admissions tests is rising. This increases the complexity of the college admission process.

B When students submit multiple scores, which scoring method best identifies those who are college ready?



The superscoring method resulted in the least amount of prediction error by number of testing occasions as compared to the three other scoring methods.



Among scoring methods,

superscores have the **largest correlation** with freshman GPA.

The superscoring method did not result in a less diverse admitted class than the other three methods.

But why?

Superscores and number of retests may reflect not only academic preparation but also a motivational element-

Both "can do" and "will do" components.



Students who are willing to give up their free time on multiple Saturdays to sit for a hours-long test with the hope of increasing their score... ...are also the students who are likely to ask questions in their college courses...

...visit their professor during office hours... ...and take advantage of any extra credit opportunities to ensure the best possible grade.

*How should colleges treat multiple admissions test scores? www.act.org/research/R1638-fairest-retest-admission-score

This study is worth replicating in future studies to help inform policy and practice.