

Admission to Selective Schools

Emily Standish

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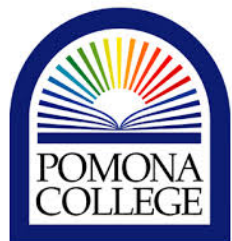


Make a list of
9
colleges

What's Selective?

- **Most Competitive:**
Acceptance rate 5 to 15%
- **Extremely Competitive Colleges:**
Acceptance rate 16 - 25%
- **Highly Competitive Colleges:**
Acceptance rate 26 - 35%
- **Competitive Colleges:**
Acceptance rate 36% - 50%

Lowest West Coast Acceptance Rates – 5% - 15%



Extremely Competitive – West Coast

16% - 25%



Highly Competitive – West Coast

26% - 35%



Very Competitive – West Coast

36% - 50%



WHITMAN
COLLEGE



REED



Many kids are applying to the same short list of highly selective schools

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- Cross out any “public Ivy” and the entire University of California system

Trends

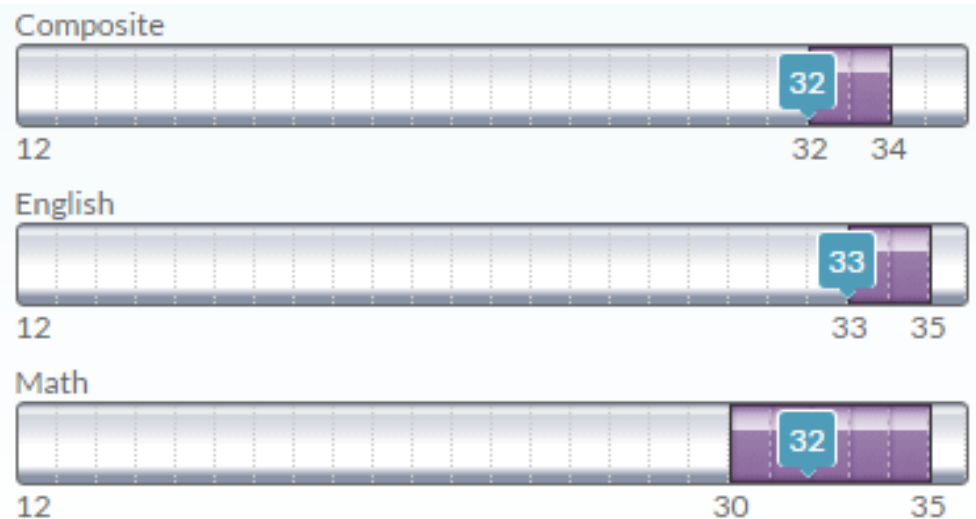
- Students are applying to more schools, and to the same schools 20 – 25 schools
- Admit rates are down at selective schools, but up across all colleges
- Admission is more competitive in business and STEM fields than in humanities
- Costs are still escalating

Know Before You Apply

- Calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) before you apply: fafsa4caster.gov
- Net Price Calculator on every college website
- Costs are pushing \$70K per year
- Many selective schools do not offer merit aid

Know the data points (source: collegedata.com)

Qualifications of Enrolled Freshmen	
Average GPA	3.78
SAT Math	720-800 range of middle 50%
SAT Critical Reading	710-780 range of middle 50%
SAT Writing	680-770 range of middle 50%
ACT Composite	32-34 range of middle 50%



What Readers Rate

- Academics
 - Rigor
 - Performance (GPA and class rank, if available)
 - Standardized test scores
 - Academic Distinctions

Academic Distinctions

- Score a 5 or higher on 4+ AP tests
- Score a 750 or higher on 3+ Subject tests
- Earn an A or B in a college class taken in person on a college campus
- Conduct research with a PhD and provide details on what you did, name of the lab, how much time spent, PhD's contact information

What Readers Rate

- Personal
 - Recommendations
 - Essays
 - Extracurricular (activities, work, community service)
 - Leadership/community service/employment
 - Distinctions (anything that matches school priorities)
 - Demonstrating interest

Community Service: Do Something!

- Take whatever it is you love to do and make an impact
- Don't "buy" experiences
- Go deep (above and beyond the norm)
- Don't try to predict what a school wants—be your best self

- A professional dancer for the Dance Theatre of Harlem
- A saxophonist selected for the Grammy Jazz Program
- A world-record-holding juggler
- The no. 1 ranked debater in the country
- Two *Project Runway Junior* contestants
- A student building a tiny house from a school bus
- A freelance blogger for the award-winning blog *MuslimGirl*
- A competitive jump roper
- A student proficient in four languages
- A nationally ranked birder
- A children's book author
- A student who can recite pi to 250 digits
- One of a handful of people on Earth who can communicate in Volapuk
- An athlete selected for the Philippines Women's Nat'l Soccer Team
- Multiple patent-holding inventors

Hooks

- Athletics
- Legacy
- Talent
- Under-represented students
- Donor development potential

CHS Most Competitive Apps

This year 23 applications were submitted to the eight Ivy League colleges, Stanford and MIT.

How many acceptances?

CHS Most Selective Apps

2

Early Application Advantage?

• School	ED%	RD %	% Filled ED	Freshman Class Size
• Brown University	22%	8%	44%	1540
• Columbia University	17.6%	6%	44%	1400
• Cornell University	26%	13%	39%	3200
• Dartmouth College	28%	10%	42%	1100
• Duke University	23.5%	9%	38%	1700
• Harvard University	14%	5%	54%	1700
• MIT	8%	7%	62%	1050
• Northwestern	35%	9%	44%	2150
• Princeton University	15%	6%	60%	1350
• Stanford University	9.5%	5%	43%	1700
• U Pennsylvania	23%	9%	46%	2460
• Williams College	35%	15%	42%	550
• Yale University	17%	7%	58%	1550

Class of 2021 Yale EA Stats

- 5086 EA applicants
- 871 accepted = 17.1%
- 53% deferred to the regular decision round
- 28% denied
- 2% incomplete or withdrawn
- 58% of the incoming class filled during EA

Early Decision Advantage

- Apply ED only if:
 - You have a *definite* first choice school you have visited and understand the academic and social climate of the campus
 - Apply out of love and not as a strategy
 - You can afford your EFC & the school meets full need **or** money is not a factor in your decision

Advice – Expand your list!

Every school on your list can be
a solid first choice.

Do your research!

2 Reach/4 Target/2 Safety

Look for overlaps

If you love Brown's "no core"
requirements.....

These colleges also have no core curriculum:

University of Rochester

Hamilton College

Smith College

Evergreen State College

Vassar College

Hampshire College

U Redlands – Johnston Center

If you love Cornell's Hotel and Restaurant
Management Program.....

Consider these colleges:

Johnson and Wales University

San Diego State University

University of Hawaii Manoa

Cal Poly Pomona

Northern Arizona University

College of Charleston

If you love Columbia's Great Books
core curriculum.....

Consider these colleges:

St. John's College

Thomas Aquinas College

Baylor University

St. Mary's College of California

Brooklyn College

East Tennessee State University

If you want to major in engineering at MIT or Cal Tech

Consider these engineering options:

Case Western Reserve University

Oregon State University MECOP

Santa Clara University

University of Utah

Virginia Tech

Union College

Montana State University

REMEMBER!



Where
You Go
Is Not
Who
You'll Be









DEPAUW
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE
ADMISSION COACH







INDIANA UNIVERSITY





Wellesley
COLLEGE

COLLEGE
ADMISSION COACH







**the evergreen
state college**
olympia, washington











Resources

- *The Gatekeepers* by Jacques Steinberg
- *Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be* by Frank Bruni
- *How To Raise An Adult* by Julie Lithcotte-Haims
- *Colleges That Change Lives* by Loren Pope
- *Creating a Class* by Mitchell Stevens

Questions?

Emily Standish

emilystandish@comcast.net

Jodi Walder-Biesanz

jodi.walder@comcast.net

COLLEGE
ADMISSION COACH

