



BY THE NUMBERS



15 FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT

THE BEST 390 COLLEGES: 2025 EDITION

(August 27, 2024, Penguin Random House, \$26.99)

- 15%: Percent of U.S. four-year colleges in the book / 263 are private, 127 are public
 - 50: Categories of ranking lists in the book / each one names the 25 top colleges
- 168,000: Surveys of students [tallied](#) for the ranking lists / average: 430 students per school
 - 89: Questions students answered on the [survey](#)

Acceptance Rates & Test Policies

- 241: Colleges in the book that accepted more than 50% of their applicants last year
- 56%: Average acceptance rate of the colleges in the book last year
Range: 3% (Caltech and Harvard) to 99% (Kansas State and U-South Dakota)
- 327: Test optional colleges in the book (will consider scores)
 - 32: Test blind colleges in the book (won't consider scores)
 - 23: Colleges in the book that require SAT® or ACT® scores
 - 8: Test flexible colleges in the book

Cost and Financial Aid

- \$17,084: Cost of attendance* at Brigham Young U—private college in the book with the lowest COA
- \$18,024: Cost of attendance (in-state) at U-Central Florida—public college in the book with lowest COA
- \$27,333: *Average* need-based scholarship awarded by U-Virginia—public college in the book awarding highest such scholarships last year
- \$71,864: *Average* need-based scholarship awarded by Princeton U—private college in the book awarding highest such scholarships last year
 - 92%: Percent of students (overall) at colleges in the book determined to have need that received need-based scholarships and grants last year

*Tuition, fees, room & board = cost of attendance (COA)

ACT® is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc.

SAT® is a trademark registered by the College Board, which is not affiliated with and does not endorse The Princeton Review.

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings/best-colleges>