

Data Analysis

According to the data, it would appear that charter schools have the edge when it comes to overall passing in math and reading. We can see that lower populations of students does seem to have a correlation to higher passing rates, which might have something to do with less students assigned per teacher in the school, leading to better instruction and more attention to their students in comparison to a higher ratio of student to teacher. This might be a reason why charter schools have a higher overall passing rate, as the average charter school population is lower than the average district school population.

And although it would appear that the district school types are able to allocate more budgeting per student, the data shows that this does not necessarily lead to higher overall passing rates, as there seems to be a negative correlation between spending and passing rates, with lower spending budgets showing higher overall passing rates in comparison to high budgeting per student. This might also feed into the student to teacher ratio, as a lower student to teacher ratio leads to less teachers overall being needed, lowering the per student budgeting. The lower per student budgeting might be a result of less overall support needed for a larger population of students, as the charter schools with a lower population are able to more efficiently utilize their budgeting to provide specific support to effectively ensure that their students are performing well. These teachers might also be able to provide more support outside of the classroom, effectively increasing their productivity while maintaining the same level of overall budgeting, all due to having less students per teacher.

Both low student population and lower per student budgeting seem to have a positive effect on overall student passing, as the top 5 performing schools are all charter and the lowest 5 performing schools are all district, directly showcasing how a lower budget and lower student population lead to a higher quality education for the students.