

Request #: 581 - CPD - Dissertation  
REPRESENTATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN CHARTER SCHOOLS  
COMPARED TO TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brenda Smith [A00295500] - Doc Student (w/Keith Christensen)

October 25, 2021

**Background**

I'm doing a secondary data analysis of student enrollment data to determine how students with disabilities are represented in charter schools compared to traditional public schools and how well they are being served based on federal reporting data.

**Sample**

Enrollment data disaggregated by school type (charter school versus traditional public school), enrollment data disaggregated by school type and grade level and disability type. Five years of data from 2015-2019.

Annual Performance Report scores disaggregated by school type (charter school versus traditional public school). Five years of data from 2015-2019.

**Hypothesis**

Research Questions. The first purpose of this study is to determine to what extent is enrollment of students with disabilities in charter schools similar to the enrollment of students with disabilities in traditional public school districts based on the percentage of students with disabilities served in each and the types of disabilities being served. The second purpose of this study is to determine to what extent Annual Performance Report (APR) indicators compare between charter schools traditional public school districts based on enrollment levels (high, average, and low) and do relationships exist between rates of enrollment of students with disabilities and APR outcomes. The APR is a federally mandated report that describes how the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is being implemented.

**Progress**

I've worked on cleaning my data.

**Request**

I need to know if my data is cleaned and organized to load into R. I also need some support with coding. It's been 3.5 years since I took the stats class. I know what analysis I want to run (t-tests and ANOVAs), but need a little support getting there.

**Timeline**

I'm trying to do my defense in December, so ideally, I'd like to have my data analysis done by mid-November.