My friend, Rob works as a teacher in the math department at the Marine Park Middle School. I decided to focus my analysis around his school and compare his department to others both internally and within the entire NYC school system.

First I wanted to start by finding how Rob’s math department stacked up his own internal departments at school:

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Clearly Rob’s Science department is getting better test scores overall, so is this because Rob’s math department isn’t up to snuff? To check I compared his math department to all of the others in the city:

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

It appears that Rob’s math department is better than the average math department, so maybe it’s the test? To confirm I plotted all of the data points together changing the color based on the index:

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Now the full story is revealed. Math, on average, seems to produce lower test scores than science across the board. Meaning that the math test is probably tougher than the science is. So Rob shouldn’t be upset that his department scores lower than the science department; rather, he should be focused on the fact that his math students test higher than the average math students. Good job Rob!!