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Data Analytics Bootcamp

Homework Assignment #4

June 21, 2019

Written Response Portion

You must include a written description of at least two observable trends based on the data:

1. The first noticeable trend was that the district schools had more students than the charter schools. Looking at the complete school summary it was seen that the *largest* charter had 2283 students while the *smallest* district (thereby public school) had 2739 students. This supports the common reality that each charter school is typically its own entity (and essentially its own district) from the state’s perspective (source: my work with the AZ Dept of Education and State Board of Education).
2. Second and more glaring trend was the massive achievement difference between district and charter schools. In math charter students outperformed district students by 6.51% while in reading charters outperformed district schools by 2.93%. This resulted in the following: Charters were all Top 5 schools while District schools comprised all of the Bottom 5.

One final comment on this performance gap: Selection of students. It can be easily shown that the Charter student population is a selected subset of the general population of students. Charter schools heavily draw from the top 10% of the students in the population. With that said I personally have seen many public schools that beat charters so good teachers and administration can cancel this!