Challenge Four

Written Report

Analysis Summary:

The analysis done in this challenge largely highlights the average math and reading scores of 15 schools and then further shows how the type of school, budget, per capita budget, and grade level might play a role, or at least show have some effect, on those scores.

Comparisons and Conclusions:

Some interesting things I noticed in the data include the fact that per capita spending had an inverse relationship with the average math and reading scores. This I didn’t expect at all, I would have assumed that the more a school spends on their students, the better scores they would get, but this data seems to suggest otherwise. I also found that despite the per capita spending being opposite my assumption, the school type (between charter and district) had a much more expected result, where the charter school scores were significantly higher on average than the district scores. Another expected result was that of the math and reading scores being different on average. Math scores were lower across the board than reading scores.

Based on these findings, I believe charter schools are better at allocating their money than district schools. The per capita spending doesn’t have a direct relationship with scores, therefore the charter schools have other ways of teaching their students than by throwing money at them. This all being said, none of the data included anything about differences in the kids that go to district school vs charter school. I believe that this should be explored more before drawing any real conclusions.

One conclusion that is safe to draw, however, is that kids on average are worse at math than at reading.