4.9.1   Find the Highest Performing Schools

In a two-hour morning meeting with Maria and her supervisor, you decide that you need to find which schools are the highest-performing based on the overall percentage of passing students. This will help the district determine how much money should be allocated to and spent on each school; this will also allow the school board to set the budget for the upcoming school year. While the meeting is in progress, Maria asks you to work on finding the data, so you open your computer, start Jupyter Notebook, and get to work.

To display the top five highest-performing schools, we can sort the `per_school_summary_df` DataFrame on the `% Overall Passing` column.

REWIND

To view the first five rows of a DataFrame, use the `df.head()` method.

To view the last five rows of a DataFrame, use the `df.tail()` method.

Using the Pandas `sort_values()` function, we can sort a DataFrame or Series for a given text, index, or column that is passed within the parentheses. In addition, we can add the parameter `ascending=False` to sort from highest to lowest, or `ascending=True` to sort from lowest to highest the value referenced in the `sort_values()` function. If we don't add the `ascending` parameter, the default is `ascending=True`.
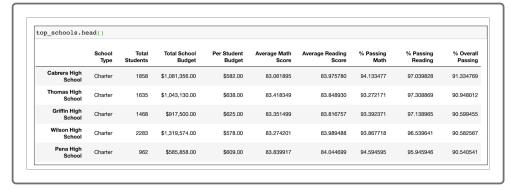
To sort the schools on the `% Overall Passing` column from highest to lowest, add the following code and run the cell.

```
# Sort and show top five schools.
top_schools = per_school_summary_df.sort_values(["% Overall Passing"], ascen

top_schools.head()
```

When we execute the code, we are going to sort the `per_school_summary_df` DataFrame on the `% Overall Passing` column from the highest `% Overall Passing` to the lowest.

FINDING

The top five highest-performing schools based on the highest % Overall Passing are charter schools that have a low student population. See the following results:

```
top_schools.head()
```

	School Type	Total Students	Total School Budget	Per Student Budget	Average Math Score	Average Reading Score	% Passing Math	% Passing Reading	% Overall Passing
Cabrera High School	Charter	1858	$1,081,356.00	$582.00	83.061895	83.975780	94.133477	97.039828	91.334769
Thomas High School	Charter	1635	$1,043,130.00	$638.00	83.418349	83.848930	93.272171	97.308869	90.948012
Griffin High School	Charter	1468	$917,500.00	$625.00	83.351499	83.816757	93.392371	97.138965	90.599455
Wilson High School	Charter	2283	$1,319,574.00	$578.00	83.274201	83.989488	93.867718	96.539641	90.582567
Pena High School	Charter	962	$585,858.00	$609.00	83.839917	84.044699	94.594595	95.945946	90.540541

NOTE

For more information, read the **Pandas documentation on the sort_values() function** **(https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/reference/api/pandas.DataFrame.sort_values.html)**.