

Analysis:

Seven out of fifteen of the schools had the percentage of students that passed math and reading in the 70%-80% range. The other eight out of fifteen schools had the percentage of students passing math and reading in the 90%-100% range. This begs the questions: was it the percentage of students passing math or the percentage of students passing reading that affected the seven schools overall passing percentage more? It turns out that for all seven of these schools the percentage of students passing math was lower than the percentage of students passing reading. If these schools wanted to increase the overall percentage of students passing math and the overall percentage of students passing reading, then it would be optimal for them to focus their efforts on raising the math skills of their students. More room for improvement means a higher potential increase in percentage of overall students passing both math and reading.

When looking at the spending ranges (per student) one can see that as the spending ranges (per student) increases past the \$585-\$615 range the average math score and average reading score starts to drop. This could mean that if schools want to increase their overall percentage of students passing both math and reading then just increasing their per student budget would not be a good idea. Decreasing the per student budget to the \$585-\$615 range could be a good idea. That range has the highest percentage of students passing math and reading but it is possible that the percentage is high for this spending range (per student) due to reasons other than the spending ranges (per student).

Further analysis shows that school size is more indicative of the percentage of students passing math and reading than spending ranges (per student). All the large schools had an overall passing rate percentage of 76.36% while the medium and small schools had 95.20% and 94.82% respectively. Based on this it is possible that if the large schools were split into medium and small schools then these new medium and small sized schools would have a high percentage of students passing math and reading (~95%).