Population and Student Groupings

Doug Hall June 2018

This analysis was suggested by Dan Vallone. Thanks, Dan.

233 towns of NH are sorted from low to high based on their Equalized Valuation per Pupil (EqVal/P). Valuation data is from the DRA spreadsheet for 2017. Pupil count is ADM/R from data for 2016/17 school year published by DoEd. The population data are the 2016 estimates from Office of State Planning. All are the most recent available.

Each figure shows one dot for each town. Whether it is Manchester or Easton it gets one dot. Viewers tend to overlook the fact that there are huge differences in student counts and populations among the seemingly equal dots.



Figure 1 shows the 233 towns divided at the state average EqVal/P of \$1,040,719. Fully 74% of the state's population lives in towns with lower than this state average.

Figure 1 also shows the population divided into thirds. 1/3 of the state's population lives in 58 towns with the lowest EqVal/P. The next 1/3 of the population lives in the 59 towns with somewhat higher EqVal/P. The 1/3 of the state's population with the highest EqVal/P live in 116 towns.



Figure 2

Figure 2 shows the 233 towns divided at the state average EqVal/P of \$1,040,719. Fully 77% of the students live in towns where the EqVal/P is lower than this average.

Figure 2 also shows students divided into thirds. Fully 1/3 of the students live in 55 towns with the lowest EqVal/P. The next 1/3 of students live in the 59 towns with slightly higher EqVal/P. The 1/3 of the students living in towns with the highest EqVal/P live in 119 towns.

There are considerable implications for advocacy for change. Any methods to assist those towns with below average EqVal/P will benefit not half, but 77% of the students and 74% of the population.