Assignment #4: Building a District Target and Aspiration Profile

As you now have discovered, a matrix (or table) is a series of rows and columns, which contains summary data that is easily viewed, filtered, sorted, ranked, and digested. Usually, the columns are specific types of data (indicators) and the rows are major categories of data (districts). A spreadsheet is a perfect example of a matrix. Matrices (or tables, if you prefer) allow us to focus our data and aggregate these data for comparative and summative analysis procedures.

Part 1:

In Assignment #3, you chose a target district and rank ordered (by sort or selection) your data, which gave you a sense of where your target district is in relation to the very "top of the heap" districts in various indicators. Rank ordering data and assigning a numerical rank is an easy way to aggregate lots of data. (Remember Assignment #1 and the rank ordering methodology used at two of the websites you visited?)

Because data come in various forms (%, $, Sq. ft…), rank ordering these data gives you instant descriptive information as well as instant comparative information. That's a very powerful amount of information from just one simple ranking! But you have 2 variables in 8 major areas (16 rankings!). Yikes! How might you distill this information more adroitly?

1) Using the data in the charts you compiled for Assignment 3, assign a rank of 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 for each district in each major area. The best score for each topic gets a 10. Put the name of the district in the table based on its data rank from Assignment #3.

Time saving tip- Cut and Paste data from Assignment 3!

You should get something like this!

Achievement	
Grade 8 ELA	Grade 8 Mathematics

	Rank	Pass Rate		Rank	Pass Rate
	10	Cold Spring Ha		10	Harborfields
	9	Montauk		9	Shelter Island
	8	East Hampton		8	Cold Spring Ha
	7	Commack		7	East Hampton
	6	Fishers Island		6	Mount Sinai
	5	Port Jefferson		5	Smithtown
	4	Elwood		4	Sayville
	3	Miller Place		3	Northport
	2	Harborfields		2	West Islip
	1	Half Hollow Hi		1	Half Hollow Hi

Now its your turn!

Rank		**Achievement**		**Rank**
10	A 1		A 2	10
9	A 1		A 2	9
8	A 1		A 2	8
7	A 1		A 2	7
6	A 1		A 2	6
5	A 1		A 2	5
4	A 1		A 2	4
3	A 1		A 2	3
2	A 1		A 2	2
1	A 1		A 2	1

Rank		**Budget**		**Rank**
10	B 1		B 2	10
9	B 1		B 2	9
8	B 1		B 2	8
7	B 1		B 2	7
6	B 1		B 2	6
5	B 1		B 2	5
4	B 1		B 2	4
3	B 1		B 2	3
2	B 1		B 2	2
1	B 1		B 2	1

Rank		**Census**		**Rank**
10	C 1		C 2	10
9	C 1		C 2	9

8	C 1	C 2	8
7	C 1	C 2	7
6	C 1	C 2	6
5	C 1	C 2	5
4	C 1	C 2	4
3	C 1	C 2	3
2	C 1	C 2	2
1	C 1	C 2	1

Rank	**Enrollment**		**Rank**
10	E 1	E 2	10
9	E 1	E 2	9
8	E 1	E 2	8
7	E 1	E 2	7
6	E 1	E 2	6
5	E 1	E 2	5
4	E 1	E 2	4
3	E 1	E 2	3
2	E 1	E 2	2
1	E 1	E 2	1

Rank	**Fiscal Spending**		**Rank**
10	F 1	F 2	10
9	F 1	F 2	9
8	F 1	F 2	8
7	F 1	F 2	7
6	F 1	F 2	6
5	F 1	F 2	5
4	F 1	F 2	4
3	F 1	F 2	3
2	F 1	F 2	2
1	F 1	F 2	1

Rank	**Instructional Support**		**Rank**
10	I 1	I 2	10
9	I 1	I 2	9
8	I 1	I 2	8
7	I 1	I 2	7
6	I 1	I 2	6
5	I 1	I 2	5
4	I 1	I 2	4
3	I 1	I 2	3

2	I 1	I 2	2
1	I 1	I 2	1

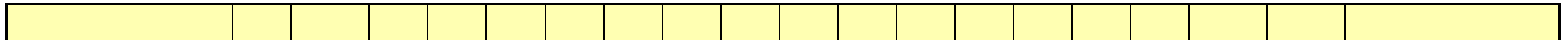
Rank		Personnel		Rank
10	P 1		P 2	10
9	P 1		P 2	9
8	P 1		P 2	8
7	P 1		P 2	7
6	P 1		P 2	6
5	P 1		P 2	5
4	P 1		P 2	4
3	P 1		P 2	3
2	P 1		P 2	2
1	P 1		P 2	1

Rank		Special Education		Rank
10	S 1		S 2	10
9	S 1		S 2	9
8	S 1		S 2	8
7	S 1		S 2	7
6	S 1		S 2	6
5	S 1		S 2	5
4	S 1		S 2	4
3	S 1		S 2	3
2	S 1		S 2	2
1	S 1		S 2	1

Rank		Student Indicators		Rank
10	SI 1		SI 2	10
9	SI 1		SI 2	9
8	SI 1		SI 2	8
7	SI 1		SI 2	7
6	SI 1		SI 2	6
5	SI 1		SI 2	5
4	SI 1		SI 2	4
3	SI 1		SI 2	3
2	SI 1		SI 2	2
1	SI 1		SI 2	1

2) Now, write in the name of the district and its rank, by category, to the chart below and total the rankings in the final column. You may need to add rows to this table for additional district names. (Highlight the last row in the table below, go to "Table" on the menu, click "Insert" and click "Rows".)

District Name	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	E1	E2	F1	F2	I1	I2	P1	P2	S1	S2	SI1	SI2	District Totals



You should get a table somewhat like this. Note that districts may or not be in the top 10 on all the tables, hence, the blanks. Your table will also have <u>many</u> more rows than this example. Notice the <u>sum totals</u> to the right.

District Name	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	E1	E2	F1	F2	I1	I2	P1	P2	S1	S
Amagansett	10								9							
Cold Spring Harbor	9	6														
Westhampton Beach	8	4														
Quogue	7	10							6							
Sag Harbor	6	7							1		3					
Shelter Island	5								3							
Harborfields	4															
Port Jefferson	3	1			8				5		7	1				
Elwood	2															
Half Hollow Hills	1	5					4	4		4		6	6		3	3
Remsenburg		9	7	7												
Southampton		3							4		5	4				
Tuckahoe Commons		2	2						2		2					
Springs			10	10												
East Moriches			9	9												
Fishers Island			8	6					7							
Millers Place			5	3	2											

Tally the totals for each of the districts in your survey group.
1) What districts scored consistently high across the indicators?
2) Which districts were ranked in at least three of the categories?
3) How many districts scored 100 points or more?
4) How did your Target District fare?

Summarizing data in this way allows us to more easily answer such questions across a wide selection of indicators. It may, however, mask some trends as well. Such is the give and take of data aggregation!