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All data used were obtained by the New York State Education Department at [www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov). SED publishes the number of students receiving Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) for each school district. FRPL is one of the indicators used to illustrate level of poverty in each school district. In addition, the State also uses the Combined Wealth Ratio (CWR) as one measure of a school district’s fiscal capacity which is based on income and property wealth. The higher the property values and personal income of the residents, the higher the school district’s ability to raise local revenue, thus the highest is its ability to fund its schools. The school aid runs were provided electronically by the NYSED Fiscal Analysis and Research Unit (FARU). Using the enacted school aid runs for school year 2011-12, we calculated the per pupil cut for each school district for which there was available data. We used the NYS Department of Labor regions as found at <http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/lsgeog.shtm>. We sorted all school districts in each of the counties they belong, and then in each of the Labor Market Regions.

To calculate the cut per pupil for each school district we used the total school district cut, divided by the most recent total enrollment for the particular year. For instance, for the 2011 enacted cut, we used 2010 enrollment numbers; whereas, for 2010 enacted cut, we used 2009 enrollment. To calculate the combined 2010 and 2011 cut, we summed the enacted cut for each year for each school district. Then, we averaged the enrollment for the two combined years by adding the total enrollment for each school year and then dividing by two. To calculate the Free and Reduced price lunch for each Labor Market Region, we summed the number of FRPL for each school district (as published by NYSED) in that region and then divided by the total enrollment in that region (summed the enrollment of each school district in the region).

Lastly, we used the CWR for each school district, as published by NYSED, to sort school districts from the poorest to the wealthiest or by the smallest to the largest CWR (CWR 1 = average wealth, <http://www.oms.nysed.gov/faru/PDFDocuments/Primer11-12C.pdf> ) We then divided the total number of school districts by five to determine how many school districts are in each quintile. For each quintile we calculated the total enacted cut, total enrollment, enacted cut per pupil for school year 2010, 2011, and combined two-year, as well as the FRRP for each quintile (for a description of the way we made all the calculations, see above).