

The School Choice Advantage: More Bang For The Buck

Data from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction enable a comparison of public and private school cost-effectiveness. The results are described in a new [School Choice Wisconsin report](#).

Using conservative assumptions, the report shows a **marked advantage** for schools in the state's private school choice programs. The advantage is most pronounced in Milwaukee and Racine. A lesser but still sizable advantage exists in the statewide program.

Figure 1 shows that per pupil public school revenue substantially exceeds that at private choice schools.

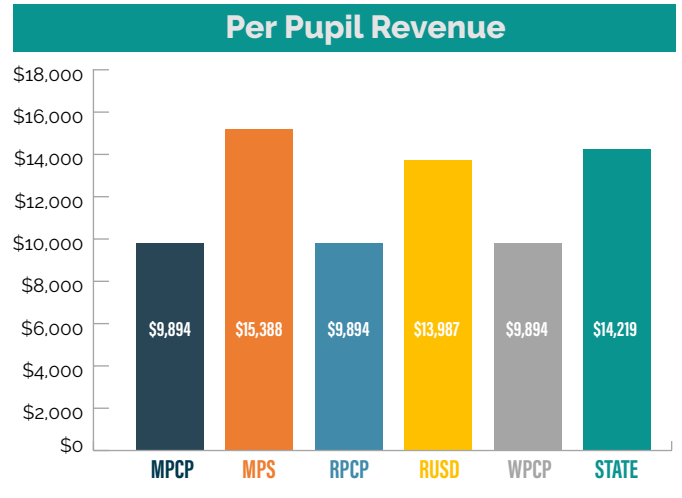


Figure 1

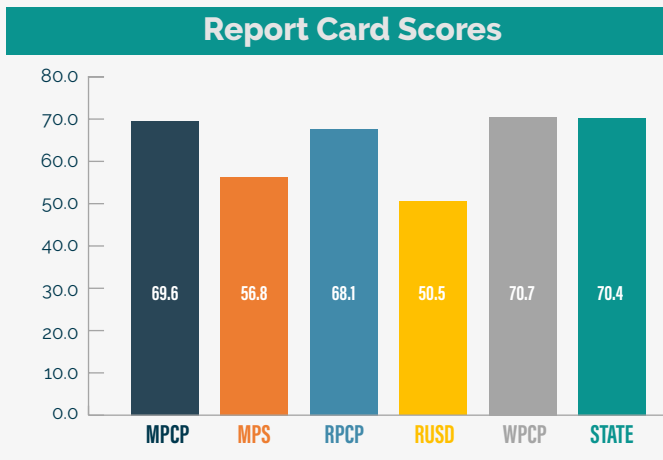


Figure 2

DPI Report Card scores show a different picture. Despite less revenue, **Figure 2** shows **higher Report Card scores for the Milwaukee and Racine choice programs**. Report Card scores for low-income students in the statewide Wisconsin Parental Choice Program are similar to scores for all students in public school districts.

The School Choice Wisconsin report uses a Cost-Effectiveness Index to measure Report Card results per \$1,000 of school revenue. **Figure 3** shows a cost-effective advantage for the MPCP, RPCP, and WPCP of 89%, 92%, and 42%.

The complete SCW report describes conservative assumptions that likely understate the cost-effective advantage of schools in the state's parent choice programs. Advantages exist even when recently approved higher payments are considered.

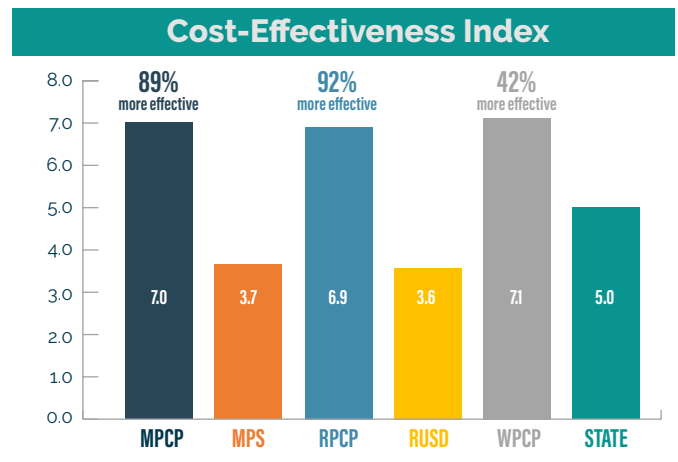


Figure 3