

APPENDIX XIV

School Mark Adjustment

In each case, the amount of adjustment is calculated for each course within each school using the following formula:

$$\text{Adjustment} = \pm 5 - [(SE_S - PE_S) - (SE_P - PE_P)]$$

Where:

SE_S = School average on school evaluation

PE_S = School average on public examination

SE_P = Provincial average on school evaluation

PE_P = Provincial average on public examination

Factor ± 5 is positive, if relative difference is positive, and negative, if relative difference is negative.

Safeguards have been put in place to ensure that students are not adversely impacted by the application of the school mark adjustment

- (a) Aberrant students are not included when an average is calculated (20 more/less than the average difference);
- (b) if a student does as well or better on his/her exam there is no negative adjustment applied regardless if there was a negative adjustment for the school; and,
- (c) If a school mark is adjusted down, the lowest mark a student from that school will be awarded is his/her exam mark.

The application of the school mark adjustment procedure is best illustrated by the example below:

World Geography 3202 Class List:

	School Submitted Mark	School Adjusted Mark	Public Exam Mark	Final Mark
Student 1	88	84	78	81
Student 2	76	72	52	62
Student 3	94	90	89	90
Student 4	80	76	47	62
Student 5	62	58	54	56
Student 6	88	84	78	81
Student 7	76	72	55	64
Student 8	92	88	69	79
Student 9	76	72	46	59
Student 10	90	86	88	88
Student 11	76	76	78	77
Student 12	66	62	36	50
Student 13	66	62	46	54
Student 14	64	60	39	50
Student 15	71	67	48	58
Average	78	74	60	67

Calculation of the Adjustment

School average (for this school) before adjustment = 78
 Public examination average (for this school) = 60
 Difference in averages = 18

Note: the average drop for the students in this school is 18 marks. An aberrant student for this class would be one who either;

(a) Dropped by 38 marks or more (20 less than the average difference)

OR

(b) Went up by 2 marks or more (20 more than the average difference)

Notice that student 11 is an aberrant student for this class. This student went up by 2 marks. This is 20 marks more than the average difference (Average difference = - 18). **Therefore to calculate the D-factor we drop this student from the class, for both the school average before adjustment, and the public examination average.**

School average (for this school) before adjustment minus aberrant student(s)	= 78
Public examination average (for this school) minus aberrant student(s)	= 59
Difference after aberrant student(s) removed	= 19

This school dropped 19 marks on the examination after aberrant student # 11 was removed.

Provincial Averages

School average (provincially)	= 76
Public examination average (provincially)	= 66
Difference	= 10

The province dropped 10 marks on the examination.

The school dropped 9 marks ($19 - 10 = 9$) more than the provincial drop (-10). When we employ the ± 5 differential ($-9 + 5 = -4$), the final adjustment becomes **- 4**.

As you can see from the table above, the school adjusted mark reflects this **- 4** adjustment.

Therefore, the combined or final mark for this course would now be 67% (average between school adjusted mark and public examination mark: $(74 + 60)/2 = 67$).

Note:

- Student 10's public exam mark dropped below their school mark and the d-factor was applied, but the d-factor did not bring the student's final mark below their public exam mark.
- Even though student 11 was aberrant, their public exam mark was above their school mark, thus the d-factor is not applied to this student.