Ratio Study / Trending

2026 Level II Tutorial

Ratio Studies

- Primary tool used to measure mass appraisal performance.
- Compares assessed values to “objectively verifiable data.”
- In our case, compares the assessor’s estimate of TTV to indicators of market value in use. (i.e. sales prices and/or independent appraisals)

Ratio Studies

- Ratio studies measure certain aspects of assessments:
  - Accuracy – the level of assessment; the overall percentage that TTV represents of market value-in-use.
  - Uniformity – relates to fair and equitable treatment of individual properties; uniformity requires that properties be valued equitably within each major property class, township and that each these groups be valued at the same level of assessment.
  - Regressivity / Progressivity – relates to whether lower valued properties are under or over-assessed in relation to higher valued properties.

Ratio Studies

- An assessment ratio is calculated using the following formula:

  TTV divided by market value = ratio

- Example:

  TTV = $46,500 Sale Price = $50,000

  46,500 / 50,000 = .93 or 93%

Ratio Studies

- Let's calculate the assessment ratio on these two sales.
- Sale 1 – sale price is $218,500; TTV is $232,400.
- Sale 2 – sale price is $98,300; TTV is $96,200.

Ratio Studies

- Let's review the answer to the assessment ratios.
- Sale #1 – $232,400 / $218,500 = 1.064 or 106.4%.
- Sale #2 - $96,200 / $98,300 = .979 or 97.9%.

Ratio Studies

- The measures of central tendency are:
  - Median
  - Mean
  - Weighted Mean

Ratio Studies – Median

- The Median is the middle ratio in a rank order of ratios. A rank order lists the ratios in ascending or descending order.

Ratio Studies – Median

- If the sample contains an odd number of sales ratios, the median will be the one which divides the ranked observations into two equal parts.
- If the sample contains an even number of sales ratios, the median will be the arithmetic average of the two ratios in the middle.
- There is a formula for finding the location of the median within the sample once you have ranked the ratios.

Ratio Studies – Median

- The formula is: *n* + 1 divided by 2 = location of the median.
- The letter *n* represents the number of ratios in the sample.

Ratio Studies – Median

Example with "odd" # of sales

Sales Ratio	Ranked Sales Ratios
0.920	0.920
0.920	0.920
1.055	0.983
0.983	1.055
1.075	1.075
Median	.983 or 98.3%

Ratio Studies – Median

Example with "even" # of sales

Sales Ratio	Ranked Sales Ratios
0.920	0.920
0.920	0.920
1.055	0.935
0.935	0.983
0.983	1.055
1.075	1.075
Median	.959 or 95.9%

Ratio Studies – Median

- The median is affected very little by extreme values because it is based on the ranks of the data – it represents only the middle value.

Problem #1

- Please go to the Ratio Study Problem / Answer packet with Audio and work Problem #1.

Problem #2

- Please go to the Ratio Study Problem / Answer packet with Audio and work Problem #2.

Ratio Studies – Mean & Weighted Mean

- The next things we want to look at are the mean and the weighted mean.
- The mean is the result of adding up all of the ratios and dividing by the number of ratios in the sample.

Ratio Studies – Mean

- The mean is the most common measure of central tendency.
- However, it can be heavily influenced by extreme values.

Ratio Studies – Mean

- Mean (arithmetic average) – The result of adding all the individual ratios and dividing by the number of ratios.
- Mean = sum of ratios ÷ number of ratios

Sale #	True Tax Value	Sale Price	Sales Ratio
1	$ 45,800	$ 49,800	0.920
2	$ 48,200	$ 52,400	0.920
3	$ 42,200	$ 40,000	1.055
4	$ 57,150	$ 58,125	0.983
5	$ 55,300	$ 51,450	1.075
	Total of Sales Ratios		**4.953**
	Total Number of Ratios		**5**
	Mean		**99.05%**

4.953 / 5 = .9905 or 99.05

Ratio Studies – Weighted Mean

- The weighted mean is a measure of central tendency in which each item is adjusted/weighted by a factor reflecting its relative importance to the whole before the items are summed and divided by their number.

Ratio Studies – Weighted Mean

- Weighted Mean – the total of the TTV's for all sales divided by the total of the sales prices for all sales
- Weighted Mean = Sum of the TTV's ÷ Sum of the Sales

Sale #	True Tax Value		Sale Price
1	$ 45,800		$ 49,800
2	$ 48,200		$ 52,400
3	$ 42,200		$ 40,000
4	$ 57,150		$ 58,125
5	$ 55,300		$ 51,450
	$ 248,650	Divided by	$ 251,775

Weighted Mean	.9876 or 98.76%

Problem #3

- Please go to the Ratio Study Problem / Answer packet with Audio and work Problem #3.

Problem #4

- Please go to the Ratio Study Problem / Answer packet with Audio and work Problem #4.

Ratio Studies – Absolute Deviation and Absolute Average Deviation

- The absolute deviation measures the difference between each ratio and the median. Also, the absolute deviation ignores the (+) or (-) differences. (See example on next slide.)
- The absolute average deviation measures the average difference between each ratios and the measure of central tendency.
- Both can be calculated around any measure of central tendency but is usually calculated around the median.

Ratio Study – Absolute Deviation

- When calculating the absolute deviation you need to ignore the (+) or (-) differences of the ratios.

Sales Ratio	Median	Deviation	Abs Dev
0.928	0.995	+0.067	0.067
1.013	0.995	-0.018	0.018

Ratio Studies – Absolute / Average Absolute Deviation

- Example: Absolute Deviation / Average Absolute Deviation Example

Sale #	True Tax Value	Sale Price	Sales Ratio	Median	Absolute Deviation
1	$ 45,800	$ 49,800	0.920	0.983	0.063
2	$ 48,200	$ 52,400	0.920	0.983	0.063
3	$ 42,200	$ 40,000	1.055	0.983	0.072
4	$ 57,150	$ 58,125	0.983	0.983	0.000
5	$ 55,300	$ 51,450	1.075	0.983	0.092
	$ 248,650	**$ 251,775**	**Total Absolute Deviation**		**0.290**
			Average Absolute Deviation		**0.058**

Ratio Studies – COD

- Coefficient of dispersion – based on the average absolute deviation, but is expressed as a percentage of the measure of central tendency.
  - Most often used with the median.
  - **Calculated by dividing the absolute average deviation by the median and multiplying that answer by 100.**

Ratio Studies – Statistics

Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) =

Ave. Abs. Deviation ÷ Median x 100

Sale #	True Tax Value	Sale Price	Sales Ratio	Median	Absolute Deviation
1	$45,800	$49,800	0.920	0.983	0.063
2	$48,200	$52,400	0.920	0.983	0.063
3	$42,200	$40,000	1.055	0.983	0.072
4	$57,150	$58,125	0.983	0.983	.000
5	$55,300	$51,450	1.075	0.983	0.092
	$248,650	**$251,775**	**Total Absolute Deviation**		**0.290**
			Average Absolute Deviation		**0.058**
			Median		**0.983**
			COD		**5.90%**

Ratio Studies – PRD

- There is one other factor that will need to be taken into account when you work with ratio studies – the price-related differential (PRD).

- The PRD is a statistic that measures assessment regressivity or progressivity.

Ratio Studies – PRD

- Assessments are considered *regressive* if high value properties are under assessed relative to low value properties.

- Assessments are considered *progressive* if high value properties are over assessed relative to low value properties.

Ratio Studies – PRD

- PRD is calculated by dividing the mean assessment to sales ratio by the weighted mean ratio.

Ratio Studies – PRD

- Mean = Average of the sales ratios.
- Weighted Mean = Total True Tax Value / Total Sales Price.

Sale #	True Tax Value	Sale Price	Sales Ratio	
1	$ 45,800	$ 49,800	0.920	
2	$ 48,200	$ 52,400	0.920	
3	$ 42,200	$ 40,000	1.055	
4	$ 57,150	$ 58,125	0.983	
5	$ 55,300	$ 51,450	1.075	
	$ 248,650	**$ 251,775**		
			Mean	**.991**
			Weighted Mean	**.988**
			PRD	**1.003**

PRD = 1.003 or 100.3%

Ratio Studies – Statistics

- **Measures of Regressivity/Progressivity**
- PRD's above 103% tend to indicate assessment regressivity; higher valued properties are under-assessed in relation to lower valued properties.

- PRD's below 98% tend to indicate assessment progressivity; higher valued properties are over-assessed in relation to lower valued properties.

Ratio Study

- Let’s review a completed Ratio Study.

Ratio Study – Example

Sale	TTV	Sales Price	Sales Ratio	Median	Abs Dev
1	81,900	86,000	0.952	0.958	0.006
2	68,900	72,000	0.957	0.958	0.001
3	66,200	69,000	0.959	0.958	0.001
4	135,200	120,000	1.127	0.958	0.169
			Total Abs. Dev.		0.177
	352,200	347,000	Avg. Abs. Dev		0.0443
			# of sales	4	
			Mean	0.999	(Average of the 4 sales ratios)
			Median	0.958	(Middle sales ratio - Average of .957 & .959)
			Wghtd. Mean	1.015	$352,200 / $347,000
			COD	4.624	Avg. Abs Dev / Median x 100
			PRD	0.984	Mean / Wghtd. Mean

Ratio Study

- Now you will now work a ratio study.
- You will calculate the Sales Ratio, Mean, Median, Absolute Deviation, Average Absolute Deviation, COD, Weighted Mean, & PRD.

Problem #5

- Please go to the Ratio Study Problem / Answer packet with Audio and work Problem #5.

Evaluating Ratio Study Results

- The Annual Adjustments and Equalization Standards Rule sets the following standards:
  1. Accuracy – Median assessment ratio for any class within a township must be between 90% and 110% of TTV.
  2. Uniformity – The coefficient of dispersion for residential improved must be 15% or less and 20% or less for all other classes within a township.
  3. Regressivity/Progressivity – The PRD for any class within a township must be between 98% and 103%.

Level II – Ratio Studies

- This concludes the Ratio Study tutorial and is a reminder that should you have questions you can email these questions to the Department.

- Please send emails to Level2@dlgf.in.gov.