DRA REPORT ON REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT PRACTICES FOR MUNICIPALITY OF

SWANZEY

For the Property Tax Year Beginning APRIL 1, 2004

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OBJECTIVE

Pursuant to RSA 21-J:11-a, the NH Legislature identified five areas of assessing practices for the commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) to review and report on:

A. Whether the level of assessments and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges as recommended by the assessing standards board by considering, where appropriate, an assessment-to-sales-ratio study conducted by the department for the municipality;

B. Whether assessment practices substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;

C. Whether exemption and credit procedures substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;

D. Whether assessments are based on reasonably accurate data; and,

E. Whether assessments of various types of properties are reasonably proportional to other types of properties within the municipality.

DRA METHODOLOGY

EQUALIZATION STATISTICS

Each year the DRA conducts sales-to-ratio studies known as the Equalization Survey in accordance with procedures recommended by the Equalization Standards Board (ESB). These equalization statistics are used in this report to determine whether the level and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges in accordance with guidelines established by the Assessing Standards Board (ASB).

SAMPLING

When a statistically valid sample is obtained, it is possible to determine, with a stipulated degree of confidence that the number of errors in the sample applies proportionally to the non-sampled portion as well. The department utilized the statistical sampling program of the US Office of Audit Services to determine the appropriate sample size of records to be examined.

TESTING

Department Review Appraisers examined the selected samples to determine if there was substantial compliance with applicable statutes and whether assessments of various types of properties were reasonably proportional to other types of properties within the municipality. Our determination and recommendations follow.

A. LEVEL AND UNIFORMITY OF ASSESSMENTS

ASB GUIDELINE: Level of assessments and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges as recommended by the Assessing Standards Board by considering, where appropriate, an assessment-to-sales-ratio study conducted by the department for the municipality.

- A median ratio should be between 0.90 and 1.10 with a 90% confidence level in the year of the review.
- An overall coefficient of dispersion (COD) for the municipality's median ratio should not be greater than 20.0 without the use of a confidence interval.

DRA Methodology: To determine compliance with these guidelines, the DRA relied on statistics from the 2004 Equalization Survey. (See Appendix D, 2004 Assessment Review Summary.)

DRA Determination: The results of the 2004 NH Department of Revenue Administration Equalization Survey for Swanzey for April 1, 2004 are:

2004 Median Ratio with Confidence Range:	Low	Median	High
	92.3	93.4	96.5

2004 COD 12.4

Swanzey met the guidelines for level and uniformity of assessments.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

B. ASSESSING PRACTICES

SHALL SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES

B1. ASB GUIDELINE: All records of the municipality's assessor's office should be available to the public pursuant to RSA 91-A.

DRA Methodology: To determine whether all records of the assessor's office were available to the public, the DRA requested any written guidelines that Swanzey had that addressed this issue. Absent the existence of any written guidelines, the DRA then specifically asked the town personnel what records were available to the public, and which specific records, if any, were not generally made available.

DRA Determination: Based upon our review and personal observation while working in the town, there was no apparent evidence that the public was denied access to public documents. It appears that Swanzey meets the guidelines for public documents available to the public.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

B2. ASB GUIDELINE: Ninety-five percent of the property records in the sample reviewed by the DRA should reflect assessments of properties as of April 1, pursuant to RSA 74:1; and that a municipality should not assess parcels or new construction that did not exist as of April 1 of that tax year.

DRA Methodology: To determine if property records properly reflected values as of April 1, 2004, and that new parcels or new construction not in existence as of April 1, 2004, were not being assessed, the DRA selected a random sampling of properties to review.

DRA Determination: A review of these properties confirmed that in all cases the values did reflect new construction that existed as of April 1, 2004, and that there was no evidence that any new parcels or new construction that occurred after April 1, 2004, were being assessed for 2004. Based upon this review, it appears that Swanzey is in general compliance with this guideline.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

B.3. ASB GUIDELINE: A municipality should have a revised inventory program in place that addresses compliance with RSA 75:8, which provides that annually, and in accordance with state assessing guidelines; assessors and selectmen shall adjust assessments to reflect changes so that all assessments are reasonably proportional within the municipality.

DRA Methodology: To determine whether there was a revised inventory program in place, the DRA first requested any written guidelines that Swanzey had in this regard. Absent the existence of any written guidelines, the DRA reviewed the requirements under RSA 75:8 with the town personnel to determine the town's actual practice.

DRA Determination: Based upon our review in this area, and our conversation with the town personnel, the DRA has determined that Swanzey does have a program in place, which, if adhered to, will result in the annual adjustment of assessments necessary to maintain reasonable proportionality among all properties. Based on our review, it appears that Swanzey is in substantial compliance with this guideline.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

B.4. ASB GUIDELINE: In accordance with RSA 31:95-a, a municipality's tax maps should:

a. Show the location of each property drawn to scale;
b. Be updated annually; and
c. Include an index of each parcel by the property owner's name and parcel

identifier.

DRA Methodology: To determine the adequacy of the tax maps, the DRA selected a random sampling of properties. These properties were located on the town's tax maps, and reviewed to determine if they were in their proper location and drawn to scale. In addition, the DRA verified the existence of an annual map-updating contract, and the existence of current indexes by both owner's name and parcel identifier.

DRA Determination: Of the properties reviewed, all were located properly and drawn to the proper scale. Based upon this review of the tax maps, the DRA has determined that Swanzey appears to be in substantial compliance with this guideline.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

B.5. ASB GUIDELINE: Eighty-five percent of the current use property records in the sample reviewed by the DRA should have:

a. A timely filed Form A-10, Application for Current Use Assessment (RSA 79-A:5 and Cub 304);
b. If applicable, a timely filed Form CU-12, Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment (RSA 79-A:5 and Cub 304.03);
c. Current use valuations assessed in accordance with Cub 304; and
d. A procedure to determine, prior to July 1 of each year, if previously classified land has undergone a change in use for purposes of assessing the Land Use Change Tax (RSA 79-A:7).

DRA Methodology: To determine if current use properties were properly documented and valued, the DRA selected a random sampling of current use properties. The records for these properties were reviewed to determine if the appropriate Form A-10, Application for Current Use Assessment and Form CU-12, Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment (if required) were on file. In addition, the current use values assigned to these properties were reviewed to insure that the assessments were within the valuation ranges established by the Current Use Board and consistent with Cub 304. The DRA also determined if Swanzey had a procedure in place to identify if previously classified current use land had undergone a change in use for the purpose of assessing the Land Use Change Tax.

DRA Determination: Based upon the DRA review of current use practices,69.70% were found to meet the guideline criteria. The threshold for compliance is 85%. Therefore it appears that Swanzey has not substantially complied with this guideline.

DRA Recommendation: Swanzey should review all Current Use files for 2005 to verify that Form A-10, Application for Current Use Assessment and Form CU-12, Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment (if required) are on file.

Municipality's Response: "The town will be continuing its program reviewing current use files and working with property owners to ensure that current use applications, maps and when indicated a CU-12 Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan or other documentation demonstrating stewardship are on file with the town as required. Since the adoption of current use taxation by the State, the application process has changed significantly. The application process utilized currently is significantly more effective in documenting a parcel's status than that used in the program's early years. Applications and maps filed early in the program frequently included multiple parcels. The practice, early in the program, of recording a master list of the current use parcels approved each year contributes to the difficulty tracking and documenting these older applications. In addition, because DRA personnel reviewing town records were understandably unfamiliar with the town's property owners they could not cross reference easily to files for the parcels in an expedient manner to other parcel files with the same owner to locate required documentation. As these records are reviewed attention will be paid to improve the records of the owners of multiple parcels."

"After review of town records, particularly those related to owners of multiple parcels, offer the following additional information relative to DRA's comments on the sample chosen:

Sample#	DRA Comment	Municipality's Response
# 58/34	No map in file	Map located, now in file
#4 65/4	No map/application	Map located, now in file Application = Perry Farm
#9 63/6	No map in file	Map located, now in file
#12 34/34	No map in file	Parcel located on large multi-parcel map known in town records as Heimann map
#15 64/3-5	No map in file	Map located, now in file
#18 66-2	No application or mgt plan	Application = Perry Farm, management plan in file
#19 10/10	No map/application	Application in folder/parcel is included on Heimann map"

B.6. ASB GUIDELINE: In accordance with RSA 21-J:11, all appraisal service contracts or agreements in effect during the assessment review year for tax assessment purposes should:

a. Be submitted to the DRA, prior to work commencing, as notification that appraisal work shall be done in the municipality; and
b. Include the names of all personnel to be employed under the contract.

DRA Methodology: To determine if appraisal contracts or agreements in effect for 2004 had been submitted to the DRA, along with the names of all personnel to be employed under the contract, the DRA verified that the contracts and the list of personnel were in the town's permanent file in the DRA office.

DRA Determination: A review of the town's permanent file indicated that a copy of the 2004 appraisal contract was submitted, along with a list of personnel. Based upon that verification, it appears that Swanzey is in substantial compliance with this guideline.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

C. EXEMPTIONS AND CREDITS:

PROCEDURES SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE STATUTES AND RULES

C.1. ASB GUIDELINE: A periodic review should be done by the municipality of all exemptions and credits at least once every assessment review cycle. Municipalities scheduled for assessment review in 2004 should perform the review of all exemptions and credits by December 31, 2004.

C.2. ASB GUIDELINE: The municipality should have on file a current Form BTLA A-9, List of Real Estate and Personal Property on Which Exemption is Claimed, as described in Tax 401.04(b) for all religious, educational and charitable exemptions.

C.3. ASB GUIDELINE: The municipality should have on file a current form BTLA A-12, Charitable Organization Financial Statement, as described in Tax 401.01(c), for all charitable exemptions.

DRA Methodology: To determine whether Swanzey met these guidelines, the DRA conducted a random sampling of properties that had been granted a religious, educational, or charitable exemption. A review was then made of the records for those properties to determine if a current Form BTLA A-9 was on file, and in the case of a charitable exemption, if a current Form BTLA A-12 was on file. In addition, the DRA reviewed documentation supplied by the town personnel to determine if exemptions and credits had been reviewed for this assessment review cycle and to insure that proper documentation existed to justify the exemption or credit granted. This documentation consisted of reviewing the PA 29s with notation of a date and initial by the Assessor for the review.

DRA Determination: Based upon our review, it appears that Swanzey had not adequately reviewed exemptions and credits as 12 of 45 records reviewed were found to lack proper documentation. In addition, a review of the religious, educational, and charitable properties indicated that the current Form BTLA A-9 or Form BTLA A-12 for 1 of 15 samples was not timely filed. Swanzey does not appear to be in substantial compliance with these guidelines.

DRA Recommendation: Swanzey should conduct a thorough review of all credits and exemptions for 2005. The municipality should monitor more closely the files for religious, educational and charitable exemptions to insure that Form BTLA A-9 and, when applicable, Form BTLA A-12 are timely filed for the 2005 tax year.

Municipality's Response: "Swanzey will continue reviewing credits and exemptions working toward compliance with this guideline. As evidenced by the errors found within the sample selected by the DRA, this will be an exceedingly time consuming process as many of the deficiencies noted related to applications for credits and exemptions that were filed many years ago and clerical in nature."

"Tax Credits
Comments on the veterans' tax credit sample all related to failure by the applicant to fully complete the form. The errors in this sample were generally more clerical in nature than substantive. Documentation of service records, demonstrating qualification for the credit, was complete. In regard to the specific DRA sample selected, the following additional information is offered.

Sample#	DRA Comment	Municipality's Response
14 to 20	PA 29 not completed by applicant	Service record indicating veteran name/record attached PA 29
	PA 29 not completed by applicant	Applicant failed to indicate another veteran owned part of the property. Omission of check indicating Yes or No to this question does not seem material to whether the town is correcting administering the statutes as they apply to this application
22	PA 29 not completed by applicant	Town can find no errors on this card. Copy enclosed.
26	PA 29 not signed by applicant	Signature line on PA 29 is signed. Signature compared and verified to 2005 inventory"

"Tax Exemptions
Comments on the samples within this area related to 2 issues, solar exemptions and properties subject to life estate. Vision Appraisal representatives have advised town officials that they do not generally note whether or not solar might exist. The town has requested that data collectors note existence of solar when listing properties in the future. As a result of the DRA's comments related to the PA 33 form, a process to collect the required form for all parcels with exemptions that are the subject of Life Estate has been initiated. Responses have been received from several of the properties already."

"Religious, Education & Charitable Exemptions
This in an area which the town has expended significant energy to ensure that parcels receiving exemptions are eligible under statute and case law and that documentation required to maintain eligibility is filed annually. The deficiency noted in our record related to a pending A-12 to be filed by the Monadnock Humane Society. The filing was made by the Society on August 8,

2005 after completion of their 2004 financial reports. Town staff and representatives of the Humane Society had discussed the pending filing concurring to defer until August when financial reports for 2004 would available."

D. ACCURACY OF DATA:
ASSESSMENTS ARE BASED ON REASONABLY ACCURATE DATA

D.1. ASB GUIDELINE: The municipality should have no material errors on at least eighty percent of the property record cards reviewed by the DRA. A material error is defined to be any error or combination of errors that results in a variance greater than 5% of the total assessed value of the property; and includes, but is not limited to:

a. Mathematical miscalculations;
b. Inconsistent land values without notation or documentation;
c. Inconsistent depreciation without notation or documentation;
d. Inconsistent neighborhood adjustments without notation or documentation;
e. Market adjustments without notation or documentation;
f. Acreage noted that does not match the tax map unless otherwise noted;
g. Omission of data such as, but not limited to;
   i. Addition of improvements;
   ii. Removal of improvements;
   iii. Conversion of improvements;
h. Erroneous measurements resulting in a square foot variance of 10% or more of the primary improvement(s).

D.2. ASB GUIDELINE: The level of accuracy of the data elements should be determined by the DRA by comparing the information regularly collected by the municipality on a sample of property record cards with the actual property. Prior to commencement of the review process, the DRA should meet with the municipality's assessing officials to obtain an understanding of the municipality's data collection techniques used to determine value and the data elements regularly collected by the municipality that are included on the municipality's property record cards.

DRA Methodology: To determine if Swanzey's assessments were based on reasonably accurate data, the DRA conducted a random sampling of properties. A field review was conducted to compare the data on the property record cards with the actual property. Whenever possible, the DRA verified both the interior and exterior information. Of the properties sampled, all had the exterior reviewed, and less than half had interior inspections. DRA verified the accuracy of the town's data in the two areas specified in the ASB guideline. First, the DRA checked for any material errors, or those errors resulting in a variance of greater than 5% of the total assessed value of the property. And second, the DRA verified the overall accuracy of all of the data elements regularly collected by Swanzey.

DRA Determination: The result of that review indicated that of the property record cards in the sample there appeared to be no material errors in excess of 5% on all of the cards, for 100%

accuracy. It appears that Swanzey is reasonably compliant with this guideline, as the accuracy is within the recommended guidelines set by the Assessing Standards Board.

As a matter of reporting only, the DRA found that of the property record cards reviewed in the field all had fewer than 5 data element discrepancies.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

E. PROPORTIONALITY:
ASSESSMENTS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PROPERTIES ARE REASONABLY PROPORTIONAL TO OTHER TYPES OF PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY.

E.1. ASB GUIDELINE: The municipality's median ratio with a 90% confidence level for the following 3 strata should be within 5% of the overall median ratio (point estimate):

a. Improved residential up to and including 4-family units;
b. Improved non-residential;
c. Unimproved properties.

E.2. ASB GUIDELINE: No ratio should be calculated for a particular stratum unless a minimum of 8 sales is available in that stratum. If no ratio has been calculated, the sales should not be collapsed into another strata.

E.3. ASB GUIDELINE: The DRA should calculate the municipality's price related differential (PRD) with a 90% confidence level and report the PRD to the municipality and the ASB.

DRA Methodology: To determine compliance with these guidelines, the DRA relied on statistics from the 2004 Equalization Survey. (See Appendix D, 2004 Assessment Review Summary.)

DRA Determination:

	Low	Median	High
2004 Improved Residential with Confidence Range:	91.6	92.6	94.4
2004 Improved Non-Residential with Confidence Range:	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004 Unimproved Property with Confidence Range:	90.9	98.0	116.9

It appears that Swanzey does comply with this guideline, as the median ratio with a 90% confidence interval for the calculated strata does fall within 5% of the overall median ratio of 93.4.

As a matter of reporting only, the PRD for Swanzey, using a 90% confidence level, shows a point estimate of 1.00 with a confidence interval from 0.99 to 1.02.

DRA Recommendation: None

Municipality's Response: None

APPENDIX A - ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD GUIDELINES

I. The following guidelines are recommended by the Assessing Standards Board (ASB) in accordance with the provisions of RSA 21-J:14-b and RSA 21-J:11-a. These guidelines will be used by the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) to measure and analyze the political subdivision for reporting to the Municipality and the ASB. These guidelines assist the Commissioner to determine the degree to which assessments of a municipality achieve substantial compliance with applicable statutes and rules.

II. Pursuant to laws of 2004, Chapter Law 307, section 5, "The general court recognizes all the work in creating a set of proposed standards for the certification of assessments. There is reason for concern, however, that these standards may have an inequitable impact on municipalities within the state due to differences between municipalities in such characteristics as size, parcel count, number of sales, and geographic location. Therefore, the general court finds that in order for the state to continue to implement fair and equitable assessing practices, it is necessary to further analyze the assessing practices of the state's political subdivisions. This analysis can be accomplished by using the assessing standards board's recommended standards as guidelines for a measurement tool, rather than as certification requirements, in the first 4 years of the process. The results of measuring these guidelines can then be analyzed for the state's large and small political subdivision, with a report to be made to the municipalities and through the assessing standards board to the general court."

III. These guidelines address the five assessment areas the Commissioner may consider, which are specifically identified in RSA 21-J:11-a, regarding whether the:

A. Level of assessments and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges as recommended by the Assessing Standards Board by considering, where appropriate, an assessment-to-sales-ratio study conducted by the department for the municipality.

1. A median ratio should be between 0.90 and 1.10 with a 90% confidence level in the year of the review.

2. An overall coefficient of dispersion (COD) for the municipality's median ratio should not be greater than 20.0 without the use of a confidence interval.

B. Assessment practices substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules.

1. All records of the municipality's assessor's office should be available to the public pursuant to RSA 91-A.

2. Ninety-five percent of the property records in the sample reviewed by the DRA should reflect assessments of properties as of April 1, pursuant to RSA 74:1; and that a municipality should not assess parcels or new construction that did not exist as of April 1 of that tax year.

3. A municipality should have a revised inventory program in place that addresses compliance with RSA 75:8, which provides that annually, and in accordance with

state assessing guidelines, assessors and selectmen shall adjust assessments to reflect changes so that all assessments are reasonably proportional within the municipality.

4. In accordance with RSA 31:95-a, a municipality's tax maps should:

    a. Show the location of each property drawn to scale;

    b. Be updated annually; and

    c. Include an index of each parcel by the property owner's name and parcel identifier.

5. Eighty-five percent of the current use property records in the sample reviewed by the DRA should have:

    a. A timely filed Form A-10, Application for Current Use Assessment; (RSA 79-A:5 and Cub 302)

    b. If applicable, a timely filed Form CU-12, Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment; (RSA 79-A:5 and Cub 304.03)

    c. Current use valuations assessed in accordance with Cub 304; and

    d. A procedure to determine, prior to July 1 of each year, if previously classified land has undergone a change in use for purposes of assessing the Land Use Change Tax. (RSA 79-A:7)

6. In accordance with RSA 21-J:11, all appraisal service contracts or agreements in effect during the assessment review year for tax assessment purposes should:

    a. Be submitted to the DRA, prior to work commencing, as notification that appraisal work shall be done in the municipality; and

    b. Include the names of all personnel to be employed under the contract.

C. Exemption and credit procedures substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;

1. A periodic review should be done by the municipality of all exemptions and credits at least once every assessment review cycle. Municipalities scheduled for assessment review in 2004 should perform the review of all exemptions and credits by December 31, 2004.

2. The municipality should have on file a current Form BTLA A-9, List of Real Estate and Personal Property on Which Exemption is Claimed, as described in Tax 401.04(b) for all religious, educational and charitable exemptions.

3. The municipality should have on file a current form BTLA A-12, Charitable Organization Financial Statement, as described in Tax 401.01(c), for all charitable

exemptions.

D. Assessments are based on reasonably accurate data; and

1. The municipality should have no material errors on at least eighty percent of the property record cards reviewed by the DRA. A material error is defined to be any error or combination of errors that results in a variance greater than 5% of the total assessed value of the property; and includes, but is not limited to:

    a. Mathematical miscalculations;

    b. Inconsistent land values without notation or documentation;

    c. Inconsistent depreciation without notation or documentation;

    d. Inconsistent neighborhood adjustments without notation or documentation;

    e. Market adjustments without notation or documentation;

    f. Acreage noted that does not match the tax map unless otherwise noted;

    g. Omission of data such as, but not limited to;

        i. Addition of improvements;

        ii. Removal of improvements;

        iii. Conversion of improvements;

    h. Erroneous measurements resulting in a square foot variance of 10% or more of the primary improvement(s).

2. The level of accuracy of the data elements should be determined by the DRA by comparing the information regularly collected by the municipality on a sample of property record cards with the actual property. Prior to commencement of the review process, the DRA should meet with the municipality's assessing officials to obtain an understanding of the municipality's data collection techniques used to determine value and the data elements regularly collected by the municipality that are included on the municipality's property record cards.

E. Assessments of various types of properties are reasonably proportional to other types of properties within the municipality.

1. The municipality's median ratios with a 90% confidence level for the following 3 strata should be within 5% of the overall median ratio (point estimate):

    a. Improved residential up to and including 4-family units;

b. Improved non-residential; and

c. Unimproved property.

2. No ratio should be calculated for a particular stratum unless minimums of 8 sales are available in that stratum. If no ratio has been calculated, the sales should not be collapsed into another strata.

3. The DRA should calculate the municipality's price related differential (PRD) with a 90% confidence level and report the PRD to the municipality and the ASB.

IV. Property sales utilized in the DRA's annual assessment ratio study conducted for equalization purposes should be used to calculate the median ratios, CODs, and PRDs under guidelines (A) and (E) above. The ratio percentages should be rounded to 3 places. The sample size of the ratio study should contain at least 2% of the total taxable parcels in a municipality; and have a total of at least 8 sales. Alterations to property sales may be based upon documentation submitted by the municipality such as, but not limited to:

A. Sales involving an exchange of property for boundary line adjustments; and

B. Sales of personal property included in the sale; and

C. Sales of properties located in more than one municipality.

V. In accordance with RSA 21-J:14-b, II, these guidelines will be reviewed and updated annually. Minutes of the ASB along with meeting and forum schedules may be found at the Department of Revenue Administration website.

APPENDIX B - Assessment Review Municipalities for Tax Year 2004

Andover
Antrim
Ashland
Bartlett
Bennington
Brentwood
Campton
Canaan
Candia
Chatham
Colebrook
Conway
Cornish
Dorchester
Dover
Dublin
Dummer
East Kingston
Enfield
Fitzwilliam
Francestown
Freedom
Gilford
Gilmanton
Gilsum
Gorham
Greenfield
Hancock
Hill
Holderness
Hopkinton
Hudson
Jackson
Manchester
Milton
Peterborough
Pittsburg
Plainfield
Plymouth
Randolph
Richmond
Roxbury
Rumney
Sharon
Somersworth
Stark
Stoddard
Strafford
Sullivan
Surry
Swanzey
Tamworth
Temple
Thornton
Tilton
Troy
Unity
Warren
Wentworth

APPENDIX C - GLOSSARY

ASB – Assessing Standards Boards established under RSA 21-J:14-a.

Assessment Review Year - The property tax year set by the department for which a municipality's assessment review shall occur.

BTLA – Board of Tax and Land Appeals

Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) - A measure of assessment equity that represents the average absolute deviation of a group of ratios from the median ratio expressed as a percentage of the median.

Confidence Interval - The range established by electronic means within which one can conclude a measure of population lies.

Confidence Level - The required degree of confidence in a statistical test or confidence interval.

DRA - The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration.

ESB – Equalization Standards Boards established under RSA 21-J:14-c.

Level of Assessment - The overall ratio of appraised values of properties to market value of properties.

Mean Ratio - The result reached after the sum of all ratios is divided by the total number of ratios.

Median Ratio - The middle ratio when a set of all ratios is arranged in order of magnitude.

Point Estimate (of the Median Ratio) - A single number that represents the midpoint, or middle ratio, when the ratios are arrayed in order of magnitude.

Price Related Differential (PRD) - A measure of the differences in the appraisal of low value and high value properties in assessments, as calculated by dividing the mean ratio by the weighted mean ratio.

Ratio Study - The study of the relationship between appraised or assessed property values and the current market value of the properties.

Strata - A division of properties into subsets for analysis.

Uniformity of Assessments - The degree to which assessments bear a consistent relationship to market value.

Weighted Mean Ratio - The result reached when the sum of all appraised values is divided by the sum of all sale prices.

APPENDIX D – EQ SUMMARY

New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration
2004 Assessment Review Summary
SWANZEY
(FINAL DRA version)

Type	Description	Low Median Ratio	90%CI Median Ratio	High Median Ratio	Low PRD	90%CI PRD	High PRD	Coefficient of Dispersion	# Untrimmed Sales
ANY	FULL REPORT (NO STRATIFICATION)	92.3	93.4	96.5	.99	1.00	1.02	12.4	134
GA1	AREV IMPROVED RES	91.6	92.6	94.4	.99	1.00	1.01	11.9	117
GA2	AREV IMPROVED NON-RES	NA	100.7	NA	NA	1.04	NA	8.0	6
GA3	AREV UNIMPROVED	90.9	98.0	116.9	.99	1.04	1.10	16.6	10
GA4	AREV MISCELLANEOUS	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1

MEDIAN TESTS FOR OVERALL & STRATA

OVERALL MEDIAN POINT ESTIMATE (PE) CONFIDENCE INTERVAL (CI) should overlap the range of (90 to 110)

Type	Criteria Low-High Range	20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140	MEETS CRITERIA?
ANY	FULL REPORT (NO STRATIFICATION)	L H *M--*	YES

AREV IMPROVED RES MEDIAN CI should overlap the OVERALL MEDIAN PE +/-5% range of (88.7 to 98.1)

Type	Criteria Low-High Range	20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140	
GA1	AREV IMPROVED RES	L H *M-*	YES

AREV IMPROVED NON-RES MEDIAN CI should overlap the OVERALL MEDIAN PE +/-5% range of (88.7 to 98.1)

Type	Criteria Low-High Range	20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140	
GA2	AREV IMPROVED NON-RES	L H Less than 8 Untrimmed Sales. Test Not Applicable.	NA

AREV UNIMPROVED MEDIAN CI should overlap the OVERALL MEDIAN PE +/-5% range of (88.7 to 98.1)

Type	Criteria Low-High Range	20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140	
GA3	AREV UNIMPROVED	L H *-------M----------*	YES

The Full Report (overall) COD should be 20.0 or below. IS IT?	YES
HAVE ALL CRITERIA ABOVE THIS LINE BEEN MET?	YES

PRD TEST FOR OVERALL

OVERALL PRD CI should overlap the range of (.98 to 1.03)

Type	Criteria Low-High Range	.20 .30 .40 .50 .60 .70 .80 .90 1.00 1.10 1.20 1.30 1.40	
ANY	FULL REPORT (NO STRATIFICATION)	L H *P-*	YES