How Administrative Data are Used to Inform Decisions
Pew Charitable Trusts

The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems.

Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and invigorate civic life.
Data as a Strategic Asset (DASA)

Initiative to increase knowledge of how data is being utilized in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
How States Use Data to Inform Decisions

A national review of the use of administrative data to improve state decision-making

www.pewtrusts.org/strategic-data
“Data’s an untapped resource, like having a bunch of oil or gold in your land.”

− Robert Manuel, Louisiana’s chief data officer, in a May 2016 Pew interview
4 strategic ways states use data for decision-making

• Craft policy responses to complex problems
• Improve service delivery
• Manage existing resources
• Examine policy and program effectiveness
Factors Posing Challenges to State Data Work
State officials cite staffing issues as the greatest obstacle
Supporting Factors in State Data Work
State officials cite leadership as the greatest support to analyzing data for decision-making.
5 key actions to promote data-driven decision-making

- Plan
- Build Capacity
- Share
- Analyze
- Sustain
Plan ahead by setting up guiding goals and structures

- Data strategy
- Develop data governance
- Take stock of systems
Build Capacity

Build the capacity of stakeholders to effectively use data

- Hire skilled staff
- Leverage partnerships
- Dedicate funding
Ensure that quality data can be accessed and used by stakeholders

- Improve data quality and access
- Develop enterprise view of data
- Establish data sharing agreements
Average Annual Opioid-Related Death Rate in Massachusetts
Per 100,000 residents

Sources: Massachusetts Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Analyze data to create meaningful information

- Analyze data to extract information
- Visualize data
- Use findings to make decisions
Indiana Crash Risk Map
Interactive platform predicts automobile crash risks on roads

Sustain support for continued data efforts

- Enhance leader’s commitment
- Enact legislation
- Culture
Thank you!

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