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.
“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
Few employees are experienced in both policy and data analytics.
Archaic data systems often restrict data input and accessibility.
Data Quality

Whether it is inputting the wrong data or leaving data fields blank, these data-quality issues can impair analyses.
Data Sharing

When the data is readily available and accessible in the system but culture, laws, staff, or external factors prohibit it from being shared.
Culture can disrupt strategy.
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
Plan ahead by setting up guiding goals and structures

- Data strategy
- Develop data governance
- Take stock of systems
Build the capacity of stakeholders to effectively use data

- Hire skilled staff
- Leverage partnerships
- Dedicate funding
Share

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
Any Questions???
Thank you!

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