



**Serving on Groups That Make Decisions**  
**Section 6: Using Data as Information**  
**October 27, 2022**

Presented by:  
**Jan Serak**

WI FACETS 877-374-0511

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### Agenda

- Serving on Groups Overview
- Section 6 – Using Data as Information
  - What is data?
  - How can I learn more about data groups use?
  - What are the 8 stages of data use?
- Resources




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### Serving on Groups Overview

- Developed due to an identified need
- Collaborative effort by stakeholders
- Audience – parents, educators, students, others
- [www.servingongroups.org](http://www.servingongroups.org)




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## What is Data?



### Data...

- Is factual information
- Helps groups make decisions
- Must be:
  - Reliable
  - Valid
  - Accessible



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## Confidentiality

- A set of rules or a promise
- Limit access or put restrictions on certain types of information
- When working with data as a group, it is important to state if certain information should not be shared with others outside of the group.



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## Forms of Data



### Quantitative Data

- Typically numbers
- Answers the questions:
  - How much? How often?
  - When? Where?



### Qualitative Data

- Typically descriptions
- Answers the questions:
  - What is it like? What do you observe about it?



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## Stages of Data Use

1. Planning & Preparing to Use Data
2. Collecting Data
3. Organizing Data
4. Analyzing Data
5. Developing Hypotheses & Making Recommendations
6. Creating an Action Plan
7. Displaying & Sharing Results
8. Continuous Monitoring for Progress & Improvement

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## Tool for Using Data

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## Stages of Data Use

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## Stage 1: Planning & Preparing to Use Data

### What do we want to know?

#### Tips

- Ask focusing questions
- Use a variety of methods & sources
- Find data already out there - baseline
- Try to find gaps
- Pinpoint possible roadblocks
- Ask others knowledgeable of the data




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## Stage 2: Collecting Data

Answer questions to make an informed decision and act.

### Data from Schools

- Student Learning Data
- Student Demographic Data
- School Perception Data
- School Process Data



### Families as a Data Source

- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Participants or Attendees
- School Perception Data

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### Stages of Data Use

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### Stage 3: Organizing Data

**Aggregated Data:**  
a whole set of data formed by combining several parts

**Disaggregated Data:**  
a whole set of data separated into its categories or subgroups

**Youth 20-24 Neither Enrolled in School Nor Working**

Education Level	Percentage
Less than HS	10%
HS diploma	48%
Some college	32%
Bachelor's degree +	10%

**Youth 20-24 Neither in School Nor Working with HS Diploma by Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage
White	~30%
Black	~40%
Hispanic	~30%
Asian	~20%
Native	~55%

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### Stage 3: Organizing Data

**Triangulated Data:**  
Use of multiple independent sources of data to establish the truth & accuracy of a claim.

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### Stage 3: Organizing Data

#### Tips for Interpreting Graphs

Read all labels.

- What is...
  - in each COLUMN?
  - in each ROW?
  - the RANGE OF VALUES?
- Where was...
  - the MOST change or growth?
  - the LEAST change or growth?

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### Stage 3: Organizing Data

#### A Snapshot in Time

#### 2021 Post High School Outcomes

(5,071 students responded Statewide)

Category	Percentage	Number of Students
Higher Education	22%	1,126
Competitive Employment	49%	2,469
Other Postsecondary Education or Training	19%	980
Other Employment	6%	327
Indicator 14 Categories Not Met	3%	169

<https://www.indicator14wi.org/>

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### Stage 3: Organizing Data

#### Comparisons

#### 2012-2013 Elementary Enrollment

Total = 603 students

Grade Level	Number of Students
K-4	96
K	86
1st	77
2nd	88
3rd	78
4th	83
5th	95

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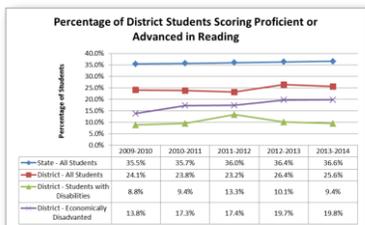
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## Stage 3: Organizing Data

### Trends



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## Stage 3: Organizing Data

### Tips to Validate the Findings

To make sure the data are sound:

- Use trusted sources
- Follow-up with questions
- Use different ways of gathering data
- Ensure everyone agrees and accepts the findings



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## Stage 4: Analyzing Data

### Look for Relationships in the Data

- Each view provides unique insight
- Look from many viewpoints
- Understand the parts as well as the whole
- Strengths and challenges
- Don't draw conclusions too soon
- Record information as it appears in the source




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## Stage 4: Analyzing Data



### Terms when Working with Numbers

- **MEAN** – average of a group of numbers  
 $1+2+3+4+5=15$  divided by 5     **3 is Mean**
- **MEDIAN** – middle value  
 2, 1, 8, 3, 6, 10, 2, 6, 7, 3, 3, 2, 2  
 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, **3**, 3, 6, 6, 7, 8, 10     **3 is Median**
- **MODE** – most frequent value  
 2, 1, 8, 3, 6, 10, 2, 6, 7, 3, 3, 2, 2     **2 is Mode**
- **RANGE** – difference between lowest & highest  
 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 6, 6, 7, 8, 10  
 10 minus 1     **9 is the Range**
- **OUTLIER** – very high or very low number  
 2, 1, 8, 3, 6, 10, 2, **27**, 6, 7, 3, 3, 2, 2     **27 is outlier**
- **STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT** – results true & not because of chance

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## Stage 4: Analyzing Data

### Examples of Working with Numbers



Mean = 817.3  
 Median = 825  
 Mode = 880  
 Range = 665

Outlier




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### Stage 5: Developing Hypotheses & Making Recommendations

**Hypotheses (if, then, because)**

- Understand why we *think* it is happening
- Look at other data
- Ask additional questions
- Agree upon the conclusions
- Figure out possible solutions

**Recommendations**

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### Stage 6: Creating an Action Plan



1. Bring key people together
2. Figure out:
  - What
  - Who
  - When
  - Where
  - Resources
  - Communication
3. Review completed action plan
4. Follow through
5. Communicate
6. Keep track of progress
7. Celebrate!




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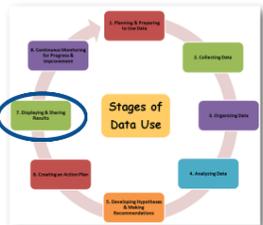
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### Stage 7: Displaying & Sharing Results

#### Displaying Results

- Make Sure the Report is:
  - Appealing
  - Accessible
  - Accurate
  - Audience-specific
- Be Fair and Objective





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### Stage 7: Displaying & Sharing Results

#### Sharing Results

- Know the Purpose of your Report
  - Does it need to provide information?
  - Is it to raise awareness?
  - Will it be used to make decisions?
- Know your Audience
  - What do they already know about the topic?
  - Do they need the big picture or lots of details?



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### Stage 7: Displaying & Sharing Results

#### Make the Data Come Alive

##### Social Math

- Relating data numbers to what is familiar and concrete to your audience.



##### Data Stories

- Compelling narrative
- Audience-Specific
- Be objective
- Don't censor
- Explain the data



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### Stages of Data Use

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### Stage 8: Continuous Monitoring for Progress & Improvement



#### Check Your Work

- Regularly revisit the plan
  - Identify challenges
- Make changes as needed

#### Evaluate the Action Plan

- Collect the same TYPE of data from the same data SOURCE




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### Stage 8: Continuous Monitoring for Progress & Improvement

#### Process Begins Again

Ask yourself:

- To what extent has the initial question been answered?
- What new concerns or questions have come up?
- Which factors are clearly understood and which ones need more data?
- **Has the situation improved?**




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### Review




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### Section 6 Resources

- **Data-driven Decision Making** (video 3:28) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LeW4yWlv5Q>
- **What is Data-Driven Decision Making?** (video 4:17) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5efZCmUaTyw>
- **WISEdash** (WI Information System for Education Data Dashboard) <http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/>
- **Intro to WISEdash** (video 3:27) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMzTy3hJvzw>
- **National Center for Education Statistics Kids' Zone** <https://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/>
- **Profile of Your State/County** <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/profile?q=0100000US>
- **Data about Children in Your State** <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>
- **State Education Data Profiles** <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/profiles/stateprofile?chart=1&sub=MAT&sj=&sfj=NP&st=MN&year=2019R3>
- **WI School Performance Report** <https://dpi.wi.gov/spr>
- **U.S. Dept. of Education Public Data Listing** <https://www2.ed.gov/about/data/lista/list.html>
- **Data.gov** (U.S. Open Data) <https://www.data.gov/>
- **WI Post High School Survey Data (Indicator 14)** <https://www.indicator14wi.org/reports.statewide.php>
- **Census Bureau Quick Facts Data** <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045217>

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### Section 6 Resources

- **Data Driven: Making Student and School Data Accessible and Meaningful To Families**, U.S. Dept. of Ed. (video 1:20:00) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF-UPuEMyS8>
- **A Nonprofit Dashboard and Signal Light for Boards** <https://blueavocado.org/board-of-directors/a-nonprofit-dashboard-and-signal-light-for-boards/>
- **Data Visualization: User-Centered Design** <https://blueavocado.org/leadership-and-management/data-visualization-user-centered-design/>
- **What is Data?** (video 2:45) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhcWQmg9EeE>
- **Data Use** (Institute of Education Sciences) [https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/data\\_use.asp](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/data_use.asp)
- **Sample Confidentiality Policy** <https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/sites/default/files/documents/SAMPLE%20Confidentiality%20Agreements.pdf>
- **Constructing a Hypothesis** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMVuPjclwaY>
- **Continuous Improvement - A Tool Kit** [https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/northeast/pdf/REL\\_2021014.pdf](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/northeast/pdf/REL_2021014.pdf)
- **National SEPAC Guide** [https://www.parentcenterhub.org/wp-content/uploads/repo\\_items/National\\_SEPAC\\_Guide\\_120218.pdf](https://www.parentcenterhub.org/wp-content/uploads/repo_items/National_SEPAC_Guide_120218.pdf)

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## Where to Go From Here?

Sections 1 – 6. Contact Lori Karcher for recordings and handouts: [lkarcher@wifacets.org](mailto:lkarcher@wifacets.org)

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**11/3/22: Section 7.** The Role of Families on Groups & **Section 8.** Skills for Serving on Groups

**Register:** <http://wifacets.org/events>

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**Engaging & Supporting Families through Groups & Networks**

The Statewide Family Engagement Community of Practice and Learning is excited to offer this **FREE** 4-part workshop series!

Using the Serving on Groups curriculum participants will:

- learn how to form a group, identify a purpose and structures to ensure the group works well together.
- assess and grow their own personal strengths, knowledge, and skills for effective participation and leadership within group.
- create a plan that will engage and support families in their school and community.

**Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm via Zoom**  
 February 22nd / February 22nd / March 8th / March 22nd

**Audience:** Families of a child with an IEP. Educators welcomed too!

This learning opportunity is for YOU if:

- You want to offer opportunities for families to network with one another.
- You know families who want to form a special education advisory group.
- You want to take a more active part in decision-making processes in your child's school district or community.

Register at: [Engaging & Supporting Families Workshop Series](#)

For more information please contact Cheryl Syla at [csylla@cesa1.k12.wi.us](mailto:csylla@cesa1.k12.wi.us).

Family Engagement Community of Practice & Learning

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**Thank you!**  
 Please complete the evaluation!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DSQQ32S>

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