Education data can be a valuable tool to help educators and parents support student learning. From test scores to data on attendance or behavior, transparent, user-friendly information on student and school performance shines a light on strengths and areas for improvement. At the same time, it’s imperative that states and schools keep this data secure and protect students' privacy.

This week’s newsletter focuses on how states are using data and implementing policies to ensure data is used in smart, safe ways to make education equitable for all students.

Visit StatesLeading.org and follow #StatesLeading on social media to learn more and join the conversation.

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**State Spotlights**

Illinois State Board of Education

The Illinois State Board of Education launched Ed360, a free, secure, and mobile-friendly data
dashboard for educators that delivers schools’ data back to them in near real-time.

Just three weeks after the launch, more than 300 school districts joined the platform. Ed360 helps teachers and administrators make data-informed instructional decisions and connect to relevant professional development resources.

In *The Art of the Possible: Data Governance Lessons Learned from Kentucky, Maryland, and Washington*, the Data Quality Campaign spotlights how states link, use, access, and protect education data to establish a culture of effective data use.

The three data programs highlighted in this paper—the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics, the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center, and Washington’s
Education Research & Data Center—reflect the unique context of each state and have broken down the silos that tend to exist among state agencies that use data to support education and workforce efforts.
Among the more than 30 states with data privacy laws on the books, **West Virginia** stands out as a model for ensuring that student data is protected without hampering innovative uses to help students.

NASBE profiles the West Virginia Board of Education’s experience reviewing and adopting its data privacy policies, offers lessons for other states, and breaks down key elements of the state’s exemplary Student DATA Act.

**Louisiana** created the Principal and Superintendent Secure Reporting System, an interactive data exploration tool that provides schools and school system leaders with access to important information about school systems, schools, teachers, and student performance.

The secure website includes numerous resources, such as visualizations and insight statements to help interpret complex data, downloadable files to allow deeper data exploration, and more.
The Education Commission of the States found that 37 states and the District of Columbia connect data between at least two educational systems (such as early learning, K-12, post-secondary, and workforce data systems) to provide reports, data websites, and dashboards.  

50-State Comparison: Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems explores how these tools can help decisionmakers evaluate the impact of education policy and support student success.
State Longitudinal Data Systems: The Power and the Promise outlines how a robust longitudinal data system can enable a state to track student performance from early learning through the workforce.

Released by the Hunt Institute, the paper highlights how statewide longitudinal data systems enhance the ability of states, districts, schools, educators, and other stakeholders to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, and use education data to make informed decisions that can improve student learning and outcomes.
In *Policymaking on Education Data Privacy: Lessons Learned*, NASBE Director of Education Data and Technology Amelia Vance outlines key lessons policymakers should consider before adopting evidence-based interventions to improve school performance through access to student data.

**We want to hear from you!**

Send your state's stories or organization's resources to communications@ccsso.org
The States Leading campaign celebrates the progress states are making toward providing equitable education for all students through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and innovative policies in other key areas of education, such as early childhood education, teacher preparation, and career readiness, among others.

Thank you to our proud partners:
The Council of Chief State School Officers
Education Commission of the States
The National Association of State Boards of Education
National Conference of State Legislatures
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