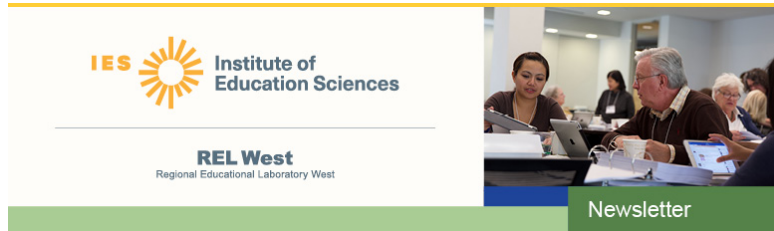


July 2022

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These days, schools and districts are awash in data. While databases and data platforms can be comprehensive, understanding how to best use these data is critical. Part of our mission at REL West is to build education leaders' capacity to learn from the data they already have and help them assess what additional data they might need. This newsletter features resources to help educators use data and evidence more effectively. Read on for guidance to help you create more effective surveys, a summary of our work in northern Arizona focused on logic model development, and resources on evaluating research evidence. We would love to hear from you about how these resources support your work!

John Rice
Director, REL West

New Resources

Improving Your Surveys

Guide: [Creating Effective Surveys](#)

Learn about best practices in designing stakeholder surveys and tips for creating more effective survey questions.

Video: [Survey Design Best Practices](#)

Missed our webinar on survey design? View a video excerpt that walks you through key points from the survey guide.

Spotlight on Our Work:

Logic Modeling with Head Start in Northern Arizona

Leaders of Head Start and Early Head Start in northern Arizona aim to be "100 percent data-driven" by 2025. Recognizing that the process of setting long-term, measurable goals can be organized in strategic ways with logic models, the Head Start leadership team reached out to REL West for training, coaching, and supports. In response, REL West provided five, 90-minute workshops focused on: (1) the purpose and components of a logic model, (2) how to create a logic model, (3) alignment of data and measures within logic models, and (4) using logic models to support continuous improvement toward program outcomes. The primary resources used in the training were adapted from REL Central's [Program Evaluation Toolkit](#), specifically, Module 1 – Logic Models and Module 6 – Data Collection. The project meets our partner's needs by providing training and coaching for how to use logic models to clarify and represent Head Start programs and their intended outcomes for early learners from families with incomes below poverty guidelines in northern Arizona.

More REL Resources on Evidence Use in Education

Infographic: [ESSA Tiers of Evidence: What you need to know](#)

Read a summary from REL Midwest highlighting the ESSA tiers of evidence and the factors determining an intervention's evidence rating.

Guide: [The Basics of Reviewing a Research Study](#)

Read a summary from REL West of key elements to consider when evaluating an intervention study.

Webinar archive: [Basic Elements of High-Quality Research: What to Look for in a Study](#)

View our webinar on how to select evidence-based interventions.

Guide: [Effect Size Basics: Understanding the Strength of a Program's Impact](#)

Confused about effect sizes? Read our quick reference guide for a summary of key points.

Infographic: [Five Steps for Structuring Data-Informed Conversations and Action in Education](#)

Read an overview from REL Pacific of different data types that educators might use, as well as five steps to beginning or continuing data-informed conversations on high-leverage problems of practice.

Future newsletters will highlight our partnerships and additional resources.

Check out REL West's [improving outcomes for students and educators](#) handout for an overview of the REL program and examples of how REL West works in partnership with stakeholders to address high-leverage needs.

Contact Us

You can find updates on our work on our [website](#), and by following us on Twitter [@REL_West](#). In the meantime, please let us know if you have questions or ideas you would like to share: relwest@wested.org.

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