

Providing Design and Analysis Tools for State Longitudinal Data Systems



Empirical Education's participation in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding is focused on providing state and local education agencies with the means to develop capacities for data analysis and evidence-based continuous improvement. We believe that the stimulus funds are an opportunity for agencies to put in place capabilities that will retain value long after these short term funds have been spent.

The ARRA calls for improvements in state data systems, accelerating the pace of their implementation. But having the data warehouse in place is only the starting point for generating value from the investment. Empirical Education is here to build capacity within the state department of education to convert data into *actionable evidence*. By empowering existing research and analysis staff with tools that support the formulation of research questions and provide outsourced analytic tools, many critical questions can be addressed inexpensively and in a timely manner.

Empirical Education offers to school districts a set of outsourced tools and services called MeasureResults™. MeasureResults makes it easy to design comparisons and conduct the sophisticated statistical computations needed to:

- Identify the schools and districts that are exceeding expectations
- Identify the greatest challenges in student achievement—Analyze trends to determine if gaps between subgroups are growing or shrinking.
- Evaluate new programs for the impact on student achievement—Generate evidence of the impact of a program on state population.

The initial investment in setup—professional development and technical; however, the ongoing cost is low. Thus, it fits within the scope of the one-time stimulus funds going into LDSs, educational technology, and any other funding stream that offers systemic reform as a valid expense or that calls for accountability for results.

To set up a consultation on how Empirical Education can help your district or state, please contact Kylene Shen at (650) 328-1734 x137 or kshen@empiricaleducation.com.