Identifying Data Sources for Need Indicators (Activity)

This activity can be used to support you and the NAC in creating strong Need Indicators and, in turn, identifying potential data sources for Step 3, Gather and Analyze Data. The activity uses the sample table, [*Linking Concerns, Needs, and Data Table (Handout)*](https://results.ed.gov/cna-toolkit/article/2-c-list-of-resources-and-tools-for-step-2/linking-concerns-needs-and-data-table-handout), where you will see examples of Concern Statements, gaps that define the need, Need Indicators, and suggested data sources. Review this information and use the criteria for strong Need Indicators and consideration for data sources to complete the information for the last Concern Statement provided.

Criteria for a Strong Need Indicator

Provides evidence specific to the Concern Statement.

Provides a measurement for the need (the gap between what is and what is required).

Defines a specific group for which the need exists.

Identifies a time frame in which the measurement of the indicator (data collection) will take place.

Indicates a type of data that would be appropriate (number, percentage).

Includes details for what will be measured.

Considerations for Data Sources

Where could you get the data needed to create this indicator?

* Do the data already exist?
* If not, what data source should we consider?