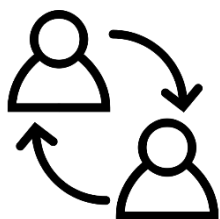


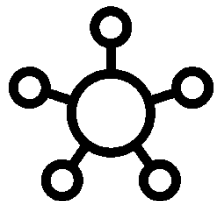
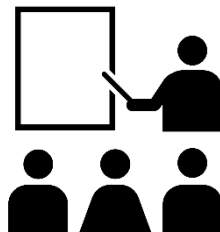
Minnesota Survey Design and Analysis Support

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) administers more than **65 surveys each year** to better understand the needs of stakeholders and **to inform policy and program implementation**, which are critical to MDE's success.



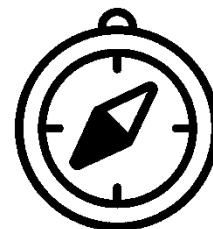
MDE requested support from the Midwest Comprehensive Center (MWCC) to increase interdivisional collaboration, survey quality, data analysis and stakeholder engagement.

In Year 3, MWCC collaborated with Regional Educational Laboratory Midwest to host a training for MDE on best practices for survey design and administration.



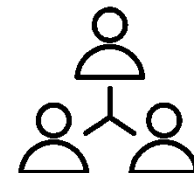
MDE found the training relevant and beneficial to their work. After the Year 3 workshop, MDE leadership formed a cross-division Survey Team to provide sustainable support for survey development.

In Year 4, MWCC provided the MDE Survey Team with coaching for survey design and worked with the team to draft a guidance document for the development of MDE surveys based on best practices.



MWCC provided ongoing technical assistance and feedback as the MDE Survey Team developed and reviewed surveys from across the department, created and administered a survey training needs assessment, and created an inventory of all MDE surveys.

In February 2016, the MDE Survey Team with MWCC support cohosted a workshop with Regional Educational Laboratory Midwest on survey data analysis and reporting survey findings.

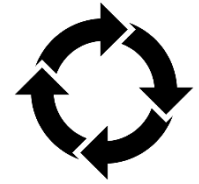


A Survey Team member summed up the impact of MWCC's technical assistance:

"This work has provided SEA [state education agency] staff with the realization that they have the knowledge and skills to be able to do this work themselves in the future. The hidden benefit of this work has been the empowering of our staff to do this work in the future."

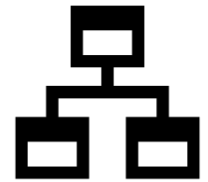
What are the outcomes of MWCC's technical assistance?

As a result of working with MWCC, the MDE Survey Team expanded their expertise in survey methodology and built a reputation as a valued advisory group for survey development within the agency.



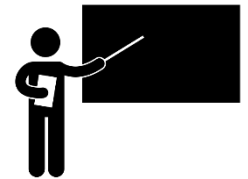
The MDE Survey Team has created an inventory of all MDE surveys, including recognizing key characteristics of the surveys that will help reduce redundancies, create efficiencies, and support collaboration across divisions.

The MDE Survey Team has established processes and survey development guidance tools to support MDE survey projects across divisions.



What are the next steps for MDE?

MDE will use the knowledge and tools provided by MWCC to develop surveys and facilitate focus groups on the state's draft Every Student Succeeds Act plan. To support this effort, the MDE Survey Team will conduct three training sessions on survey methods.



In addition, MDE plans to create an intranet site that will include guidance documents, best practices, and other resources to help staff create and use high-quality surveys and focus groups.