



Data Equity Maryland

The Maryland State Data Disaggregation Workgroup

Subject: Urgent Call for Legislation on Data Disaggregation for Equitable Policies in Maryland

Dear Representative,

I am writing as a member of the Maryland State Data Disaggregation Workgroup, a collaborative effort focused on advancing equity and inclusivity in policy-making through the disaggregation of data. We are reaching out to advocate for a crucial change in our state's approach to data reporting and collection – one that has the potential to drive more effective and equitable policies across the board.

Data disaggregation involves the practice of breaking down aggregated data into specific subgroups based on various demographic characteristics such as race, ethnicity, gender, income, and more. This process provides a clearer picture of disparities that might be masked when data is collected and reported in aggregate form. We strongly believe that implementing data disaggregation policies is an essential step towards understanding and addressing systemic inequities that persist within our state.

Evidence from various jurisdictions across the country has shown that data disaggregation leads to more targeted policy interventions, ensuring that marginalized communities receive the resources and support they need. Jurisdictions in California have experienced significant improvements in policy

Why does a Data Disaggregation Plan Matter?

Expands Data Collection and its Access Across Maryland's Organizations/Agencies

Provides more information on diverse populations and give access to all data users across Maryland



Increases Analytical Insights on Diverse Groups of People

Better data and analyses sheds light on inequalities allowing for data-driven change



Promotes Data Standards and Accountability

Create standards to ensure consistency, accuracy, and efficiency of data collection and reporting across Maryland

outcomes and a better allocation of resources as a direct result of implementing data disaggregation measures.

(See examples on included data sheet)

In Maryland, we have an opportunity to create policies that are truly equitable and responsive to the diverse needs of our communities. By disaggregating data, we can identify and address disparities in areas such as education, healthcare, housing, employment, and criminal justice. This approach will empower policymakers to make informed decisions, allocate resources effectively, and ensure that no community is left behind.



We understand that the process of implementing data disaggregation policies may require legislative action. We humbly urge you to consider introducing legislation that mandates the disaggregation of data within state reports and data collection efforts. This legislation could establish clear guidelines for data collection, analysis, and reporting, ensuring that we have the information needed to drive equitable policies.

The Maryland State Data Disaggregation Workgroup is committed to providing our expertise and support throughout the policy development and implementation process. We are prepared to collaborate with relevant stakeholders, offer guidance on best practices, and share resources to ensure the successful adoption of data disaggregation policies within our state.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to the possibility of working together to make Maryland a leader in data-driven, equitable policy-making.

Warm regards,

The Maryland State Data Disaggregation Workgroup
for Data Equity Maryland

We are convinced that by embracing data disaggregation, we can unlock the potential for transformative change and create a more just and equitable society for all Maryland residents. We kindly request an opportunity to discuss this matter further and explore ways in which we can collaborate towards this common goal.

Yes, I'd like more information.



Contact us

info@dataequitymd.org

Data Disaggregation Plan Recommendations



1 Legislation for Data Disaggregation

Advocate for the introduction of legislation that mandates the collection, reporting, and analysis of disaggregated data across various sectors, such as education, healthcare, criminal justice, and economic opportunities.

2 Statewide Data Collection Guidelines

Collaborate with relevant agencies to establish clear guidelines for collecting and reporting disaggregated data, ensuring consistency and accuracy in data collection methods.

3 Equity Impact Assessments

Require that all proposed policies and programs undergo an equity impact assessment, which includes analyzing disaggregated data to identify potential disparities and inequities.

4 Training and Capacity Building

Support initiatives that provide training to government officials, analysts, and stakeholders on the importance of data disaggregation, how to interpret disaggregated data, and its implications for equitable decision-making.

5 Public Awareness Campaigns

Launch public awareness campaigns to educate the public, policymakers, and stakeholders about the value of disaggregated data in creating more inclusive and effective policies.

6 Regular Reporting and Accountability

Implement a system for regular reporting on disaggregated data findings and outcomes to hold government agencies accountable for addressing disparities and improving outcomes for all segments of the population.

The Maryland State Data Disaggregation Workgroup for Advancing Data-Driven Equity and Inclusivity is made up of representatives from:

- Allegany County Health Planning Coalition
- Baltimore City Local Health Improvement Coalition
- Healthy Calvert
- The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County
- Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County
- Harford County Local Health Improvement
- Prince George's Healthcare Action Coalition

Visit our webpage for additional resources and information

