

## Core Concept

Data Governance in government helps to clarify the roles, responsibilities and processes for ensuring accountability and appropriate ownership of data assets across the enterprise.

## New Legislation Highlights Interoperability, Data Matching

The recent passage of HB 2170 includes the creation of the Data Governance and Organization to Support Equity and Racial Justice Act. This legislation requires that agencies report data on race and ethnicity for program participants in major programs at each agency, and that agencies denote a standardized set of demographic markers for this reporting by July 1, 2022. To support this effort, the legislation tasks the Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) with assisting agencies by establishing Data Governance, which is a set of processes necessary to better manage and provide an accountability framework for data across the state. Data Governance is critical to being able to create the data infrastructure necessary to ensure that the state can report by demographics and race to allow for more equitable service provision.

Data Governance processes include cataloging the state's data, identifying fields with similar meanings (in particular, but not limited to, race and ethnicity), managing data requests, supporting the sharing and collection of data, and improving data quality. In addition, DoIT is tasked with assisting in matching data across agencies, helping support an analytics and research agenda, and reporting program participation by race and ethnicity. These processes will require technologies such as Informatica's Master Data Management (MDM) and IBM's CloudPak4Data to implement the processes. They will also require the definition of appropriate roles and responsibilities throughout state government. With that said, the benefits will be immense – clean data and improved reporting and analytics that can drive both equitable policy and practices.

This legislation codifies the Data Governance work that HHSi2, the State Data Practice (SDP), and the Longitudinal Data System (LDS) teams have been working on for several years. Critically, the legislation also calls on the Governor's Office to develop a plan by October 31, 2021 to support agencies' input into these Data Governance processes. This plan may also include the resources required both centrally and at each agency to support improved Data Governance. HHSi2 is proud to be a part of this effort.



## Spotlight on... Jesse Ruiz, Deputy Governor for Education

"Data Governance is a critical element to improve data quality, analytics and reporting in the State of Illinois. It is particularly important with regard to racial and ethnic equity to ensure the right individuals are eligible for programming, and that those individuals are provided the appropriate services they need."