



# Administrative Advocacy for Data Disaggregation – Connecticut's approach





## Our Mission

To connect people and data to promote **informed decision-making** and to **advance equity** in Connecticut.

# Services We Provide



## Data & Data Tools

Raw data, interactive data projects, data visualization & analysis consulting



## Data Helpline

Email [info@ctdata.org](mailto:info@ctdata.org) for quick data assistance.



## CTData Academy

Data Workshops



## Integrated Data System

Hartford Data Collaborative



## Conferences & Community of Practice

Data Convenings



## Census State Data Center

Census data, census data education, analysis of census data

# Our “Advocacy” Approach



Education



Transparency  
through data  
requests



Building a  
Community and  
Safe Spaces



# Data Training



# What is Data Literacy?

Data literacy is the ability to systematically and ethically ask and answer real-world questions with data. This includes:



**Collecting &  
Finding Data**



**Critiquing &  
Interpreting Data**

Critical Consumer



**Analyzing &  
Applying Data**

# CT Data Academy



## Intro to Data: Build Your Data Literacy

Learn to evaluate data quality, become a critical consumer and creator of data, and improve your data work in this introductory workshop.

## Visualize What Matters: Create Impactful Data Visualizations

Create impactful charts that communicate insights and engage your audience.

## Measure What Matters: Build Better Surveys

Learn how to craft surveys that gather meaningful insights with the skills and knowledge you'll gain from this informative workshop.

## Making Sense of Words: Analyzing Qualitative Data

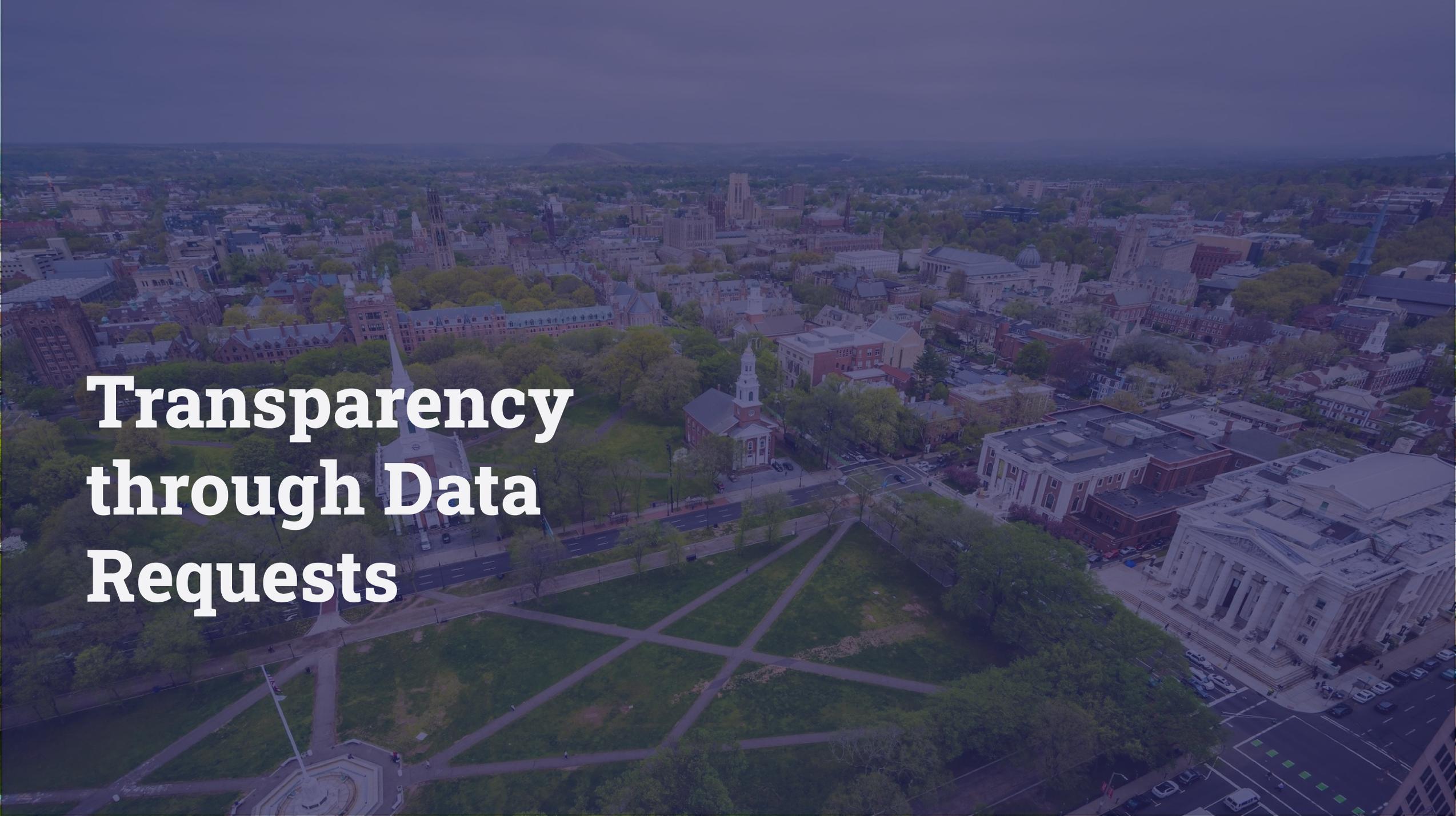
Gain lessons and insights from analyzing words.

## Share What Matters: Become a Data Storyteller

Become a data storyteller and create compelling stories that motivate action.

## Making Sense of Numbers: Analyzing Quantitative Data

Confidently analyze and interpret numerical data to gain insights and make data-driven decisions.

An aerial photograph of a university campus, likely Cornell University, showing a large green lawn with a grid of paths, several large buildings, and a prominent white classical building with columns in the foreground. The text "Transparency through Data Requests" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

# Transparency through Data Requests



# Are Connecticut's young children on track developmentally?

# Unknown Race/Ethnicity





# Building a Community

# Equity in Data Community of Practice

A monthly convening of data users in Connecticut who are supporting one another as we work toward integrating more equitable data practices.





# Equity in Data Community of Practice

## Racism public health crisis

Public Act passed in 2021

## How does Where matter?

Chief GIS Officer talked about mapping for equity

## P20 WIN Equity framework

How the State is using equity rubric to assess data requests

# State of Connecticut Equity Initiatives

## Equity in Practice Learning Community

Training and Technical assistance from UPenn to incorporate community voice into the development of research questions and state data integration

## Race, Ethnicity, and Language (REL) Mandate (PA 21-35 Section 11)

Requires CT Office of Health Strategy to develop REL Data Standards and an Implementation Plan/Guide for mandated collectors, which includes state agencies and community providers

## DPH Socioeconomic Data Standards

CT Dept. of Public Health established Policy and Procedures for collecting Sociodemographic Data, which includes minimum and ideal standards based on OMB guidance. Currently surveying agency to understand compliance and barriers.

## Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health

Legislative commission created to document and make recommendations to decrease the effect of racism on public health.

## Equity Learning Community

Voluntary learning and sharing forum for state employees engaged in agency specific equity initiatives to present and solicit feedback

## Affirmative Action

Streamlining the state's affirmative action plan process to enable agency EEO to dedicate more time to pursuing broader and more strategic initiatives



# State of Connecticut Equity Studies

## Equity Study

Analysis of at minimum 15 state agencies and/or programs to understand any barriers to enrolling or accessing services, with a focus on underserved communities impacted by the pandemic

## Disparity Study

Analysis of whether Connecticut's procurement program achieves the State's goal of identifying and hiring small contractors and minority business enterprises

## Housing & Segregation Study

Determine levels of segregation in Connecticut and extent to which federal and state housing programs have contributed to or alleviated segregation over time.





**Thank you**

**CTData.org**  
@CTOpenData

# Background – Why PA 21-35?

CT compares favorably against other states with most measures but performs poorly on race-based equity and disparities measures. PA 21-35 is an effort:

- ❖ To advance race-based equity and eliminate disparities in all sectors (e.g., healthcare, public health, education, criminal justice, economic etc., etc.)
- ❖ To reduce financial impact of racial and ethnic health disparities<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ collect granular race/ethnic data, analyze the data to identify disparities, and conduct root cause analyses to identify and implement interventions to address those disparities.
- ❖ To develop and implement a strategic plan to eliminate racial disparities and inequity
- ❖ To reduce disparities in CT by 70%

<sup>1</sup>In 2018, DPH estimated the 2014 estimated excess hospital cost for Non-Hispanic Blacks CT residents was over \$384 million and for Hispanics/Latinos/as was \$121 million. Source: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/hems/chronic\\_dis/DisparityAnalysis/Disparity\\_Summary\\_DEC\\_2018-final.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/hems/chronic_dis/DisparityAnalysis/Disparity_Summary_DEC_2018-final.pdf)