Data Governance Maturity Self Test

Capability #1: Organizing Your Data Governance Initiative

Grading Key

	Please indicate **how well** each statement describes your institution.	**1** Not at all	**2** Poorly	**3** Somewhat	**4** Fairly well	**5** Well

Institutional Strategy	**Data-Driven Culture**	**Data Committee Structure**	**Organizational Continuity**	**Implementation Framework**
The institution has a formal data plan which articulates the steps to be taken to better leverage data and which names those responsible for executing those steps. Score: _____	Campus members recognize that data is an institutional asset and as such is not owned by individuals or departments, but is owned by the institution. Score: _____	We distinguish between strategic and operational data issues and match the seniority and expertise of people to the data governance activities we task them with. Score: _____	A designated individual(s) oversees data governance and management, working in tandem with unit-level data stewards. Score: _____	Data stewards are appointed and known within all operational units, and have clear policies outlining their roles and responsibilities. Score: _____
Campus leaders recognize data governance as an enterprise-level capability, requiring shared governance across the institution. Score: _____	Leaders promote a culture of data informed decision-making, pressing campus to base resource decisions and choices on fact, not intuition. Score: _____	The roles and responsibilities of each committee and its members are clearly defined, recorded, and revisited regularly. Score: _____	We have an established and clearly documented process for onboarding new members of the data governance group at the leadership and implementation levels. Score: _____	Our data domains are clearly mapped, providing full coverage of enterprise information across different functional areas and silos. Score: _____
Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:

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Data Governance Maturity Self Test

Capability #2: Operationalizing Your Data Governance Initiative

Grading Key

Please indicate **how well** each statement describes your institution.	**1** Not at all	**2** Poorly	**3** Somewhat	**4** Fairly well	**5** Well

Definition Strategy	Common Data Dictionary	Data Access Controls	Data Quality Assurance	Data Consumption
Our institution defines data terms in clusters, with a strategic focus, and in pursuit of higher objectives for the institution. Score: _____	Institutional data-of-record is clearly identified, and definitions are readily accessible from a common or centralized location. Score: _____	Our institution has a standardized method for segmenting confidential data from public data. Score: _____	We actively monitor for anomalous data in enterprise systems and take steps to identify and remediate the underlying causes. Score: _____	Analytical resources are structured so that campus members are guided to the most useful resources associated with their roles and responsibilities. Score: _____
We have a data definition decisioning framework that includes the right people at the right time, enables opt outs, and provides an agile mechanism for creating shared data definitions. Score: _____	Our data dictionary is accessible and understandable by all campus stakeholders, including all metadata associated with represented terms. Score: _____	Our institution grants data access on a principled, (semi-)automated basis. Score: _____	We hold units accountable for data quality by designating unit-level stewards and monitoring compliance with university-wide standards for data cleanliness. Score: _____	End users' needs and usage patterns are monitored and incorporated in planning to determine future investments. Score: _____

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Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:	Subtotal:

Data Governance Maturity Self Test

Copy Numbers From Pages 1-2 Below and Add Up to Discover Your Data Governance Maturity Score

Page 1

Institutional Strategy

Organizational Culture

Committee Structure

Organizational Continuity

Implementation Framework

Page 2

Definition Strategy

Common Data Dictionary

Data Access Controls

Data Quality Assurance

Data Consumption

Your Data Governance Score

☐ **+** ☐ **=** ☐

20-30

31-50

51-70

71-90

91-100

Data Denier

Your institution is sitting pretty—pretty behind the times. As the world of higher ed marches steadfastly into the data revolution, you're still juggling multiple spreadsheets and arguing about the number of students enrolled for the coming semester. Time for the journey to begin.

Barely Begun

You're starting to make headway. Maybe there's an evangelist, and people are starting to take notice. But there's no coherent plan, and no-one is taking steps toward an enterprise-wide data-asset revolution. You need more guidance and guardrails, but at least you're on your way.

Gathering Steam

You've got your committees and stewards; you've got a plan. Someone's leading the charge and people are plodding along – but mostly at higher ed's typically glacial pace. Although you've got the right folks beginning to line up, you just need the right approaches and structure to push them over the line.

Leading the Pack

When it comes to data initiatives, you're ahead of the curve. You've got standards and documentation, stewards and evangelists. Your data is reliable, it's inflecting decisions, and the institution is deriving strategic value from your hard work. It's hugs and smiles – not doom and gloom – when the data folks walk into the room.

Data Dominance

What data problem in higher education? Your university is humming with the excitement of seamless data flows careering through the institutional ether. Data-driven decision-making feeds off clean, secure data, and silos are a thing of the past. "Student success" and "Institutional Efficiency" have replaced traditional business concerns, and the institution is always looking for new ways to add to central data, and leverage it for innovation. Well done you, Data Hero.

Looking to Improve?

The IT Forum has a library of tools and frameworks to support you in sustaining effective data governance. Talk to one of our researchers about the services we provide.