

## Resources for Evidence-Based Policy

This list of resources for evidence-based policy was developed by the NC Office of Strategic Partnerships to accompany “Becoming a Performance Management Champion,” the final session of the NC Performance Management Academy. NC Office of State Budget and Management offered the Academy in October/November 2020. This list includes resources based in and outside North Carolina and in and outside government. All descriptions come directly from the corresponding website links. This list may be useful to individuals and organizations across a wide range of budget, policy, research, and practice issues. *It is not intended to be comprehensive.*

### Resources based outside of North Carolina

#### **Arnold Ventures’ Evidence-Based Policy team**

Arnold Ventures’ core objective is to improve lives by investing in evidence-based solutions that maximize opportunity and minimize injustice. The Evidence-Based Policy team seeks to increase the effectiveness of social spending using rigorous evidence about what works. To do this, they fund randomized controlled trials (RCTs) of programs across the spectrum of social policy whose prior evidence shows sizable effects on education, earnings, crime, and other important outcomes.

<https://www.arnoldventures.org/work/evidence-based-policy/>

#### **Center for Results-Driven Governing, National Conference for State Legislatures (NCSL)**

The Center for Results-Driven Governing seeks to help decisionmakers use the best data and evidence available to inform future budget and policy decisions and offers a framework and a set of tools that can be used to allocate resources most effectively.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/results-driven-governing.aspx>

#### **Center on Social Determinants, Risk Behaviors, and Prevention Science, RTI International**

The Center promotes evidence-based prevention, harm reduction, and treatment strategies to help communities thrive. Center scientists identify factors at the individual, family, community, institutional, and societal levels that underlie substance use and misuse, mental disorder, sexual risk behavior, interpersonal violence, and infectious disease. Our experience allows us to develop, test, and refine strategies for prevention, harm reduction, and treatment.

<https://www.rti.org/focus-area/rti-center-social-determinants-risk-behaviors-and-prevention-science>

#### **The Data Coalition**

The Data Coalition is America’s premier voice on data policy. The Coalition, a membership-based trade association, advocates for responsible policies to make government data high-quality, accessible and useable. Their work unites the data communities that focus on data science, management, evaluation, statistics, and technology, including individuals in companies, nonprofit organizations, and academia.

<https://www.datacoalition.org/>

### **Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center, SAMHSA**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is committed to improving prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for mental and substance use disorders. The Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center provides communities, clinicians, policymakers and others with the information and tools to incorporate evidence-based practices into their communities or clinical settings.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>

### **Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018**

Emphasizes collaboration and coordination to advance data and evidence-building functions in the Federal Government by statutorily mandating Federal evidence-building activities, open government data, and confidential information protection and statistical efficiency.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4174>

### **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**

IES is the statistics, research, and evaluation arm of the U.S. Department of Education. IES is independent and nonpartisan. The IES mission is to provide scientific evidence on which to ground education and practice and policy and to share this information in formats that are useful and accessible to educators, parents, policymakers, researchers, and the public.

<https://ies.ed.gov/>

### **National Implementation Research Network (NIRN)**

NIRN is a multidisciplinary team with the mission to contribute to the best practices and science of implementation, organization change, and system reinvention to improve outcomes across the spectrum of human services. NIRN partners with government, philanthropic and non-profit entities to support the development and use of evidence to improve outcomes for children, families and communities.

<https://nirn.fpg.unc.edu/national-implementation-research-network>

### **Office of Evaluation Sciences (OES), General Services Administration (GSA)**

OES is a team of interdisciplinary experts that works across government to help agencies build and use evidence. OES provides government-wide expertise and support on leading practices for evidence-building evaluations, and partners with Federal agencies to answer priority questions using rapid and rigorous evaluation.

<https://oes.gsa.gov/>

### **Evidence Team, United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**

The Evidence Team collaborates with other OMB offices to set evidence building priorities and select appropriate evaluation methodologies, use findings from evaluations and other studies in program design and develop agency capacity to build and use evidence. The team helps lead Evidence Act implementation, chairs the Evaluation Officer Council, and provides expert advice and technical assistance on evidence-related activities and initiatives for a broad range of Federal agencies and functions.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/information-for-agencies/evidence-and-evaluation/>

**Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families (ACF)**

OPRE studies ACF programs and the populations they serve through rigorous research and evaluation projects. These include program evaluations, research syntheses and descriptive and exploratory studies.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre>

**Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), The White House**

OSTP provides the President and his Executive Office with advice on the scientific, engineering, and technological aspects of the economy, the environment, foreign relations, national and homeland security, health, and the technological recovery and use of resources, among other topics. OSTP leads interagency science and technology policy coordination efforts and assists OMB with an annual review and analysis of Federal research and development in budgets.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/>

**Pew Charitable Trusts**

Pew Charitable Trusts uses evidence-based, nonpartisan analysis to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/>

**Pew Results First Initiative**

The Results First Initiative works with states to implement an innovative evidence-based policymaking approach that helps them invest in policies and programs that are proved to work.

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/results-first-initiative>

**Results for America (RFA)**

RFA helps decision-makers at all levels of government harness the power of evidence and data to solve our world's greatest challenges. The RFA mission is to make investing in what works the "new normal," so that when policymakers make decisions, they start by seeking the best evidence and data available, then use what they find to get better results.

<https://results4america.org/>

**Social Programs that Work (site administered by Arnold Ventures' Evidence-Based Policy team)**

This site seeks to identify those social programs shown in rigorous studies to produce sizable, sustained benefits to participants and/or society, so that they can be deployed to help solve social problems. The specific purpose is to enable policy officials and other readers to distinguish credible findings of program effectiveness from the many others that claim to be.

<https://evidencebasedprograms.org/>

**WT Grant Foundation – Improving the Use of Research Evidence**

Through this focus area, the WT Grant Foundation supports research to identify, build, and test strategies to ensure that research evidence is used in ways that benefit youth. The Foundation is particularly interested in research on improving the use of research evidence by state and local decision makers, mid-level managers, and intermediaries.

<http://wtgrantfoundation.org/focus-areas/improving-use-research-evidence>

## **Resources based in North Carolina**

### **Evidence-based Policy: Strategies for Improving Outcomes and Accountability**

This briefing report provides an introduction to the rationale, criteria and strategies for evidence-based policy. It also provides concrete examples and lessons learned from successful evidence-based policy initiatives in North Carolina and Pennsylvania. Note: The information in this 2009 report remains relevant.

[https://www.purdue.edu/hhs/hdfs/fii/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/s\\_ncfis05report.pdf](https://www.purdue.edu/hhs/hdfs/fii/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/s_ncfis05report.pdf)

### **NC Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP)**

OSP increases and enhances partnerships between state government and the state's renowned research institutions and philanthropic sector. We do this in part by building and enhancing collaborative networks of public officials and research partners. We focus on partnerships of various scope and complexity and opportunities that have lasting impact, are scalable, and yield public, open-source resources.

<https://www.osbm.nc.gov/management/strategic-partnerships/all-about-evidence>

### **NC Results First**

The NC Results First Initiative is a framework that relies on rigorous program evaluations and benefit-cost analysts to help identify programs that generate positive outcomes and maximize the value of taxpayer dollars for North Carolina. The Results First Initiative was developed in partnership by the MacArthur Foundation and Pew Charitable Trusts.

<https://www.osbm.nc.gov/operational-excellence/north-carolina-results-first>

### **Performance Management Advisory Committee**

Established in May 2018 by Executive Order 43, the Performance Management Advisory Committee advises the Governor regarding progress on the Pew-MacArthur Results First initiative, new performance management initiatives, proposed or pending state legislation, rules or policies related to performance management, and strategies for increasing evidence-based policy efforts.

<https://www.osbm.nc.gov/operational-excellence/governors-advisory-committee-performance-management>

### **Research and Development Office, NC Department of Transportation**

The Research and Development Office oversees transportation-related research investigating materials, operations, planning, mobility, safety, structures, human environments, natural

environments, and more. In this role, the Office solicits ideas and proposals, oversees selection with a rigorous, multi-step process, and manages all State Planning and Research (SPR Part B) funded research projects.

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/research/Pages/default.aspx>

### **RTI-UNC Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC)**

The EPC, a collaborative effort between UNC Chapel Hill and RTI International, produces original and updated systematic reviews of the scientific evidence on a variety of health care and health policy topics, from prevention and screening through diagnostic testing to therapy, rehabilitation, counseling, and palliative care. The EPC draws extensive assets from five significant clinical and public health areas (dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and public health), combined with expertise in research and policy analysis with depth of technical skills in all forms of quantitative, qualitative, and social sciences methodology.

<https://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/programs-projects/evidence-based-practice-center/>