

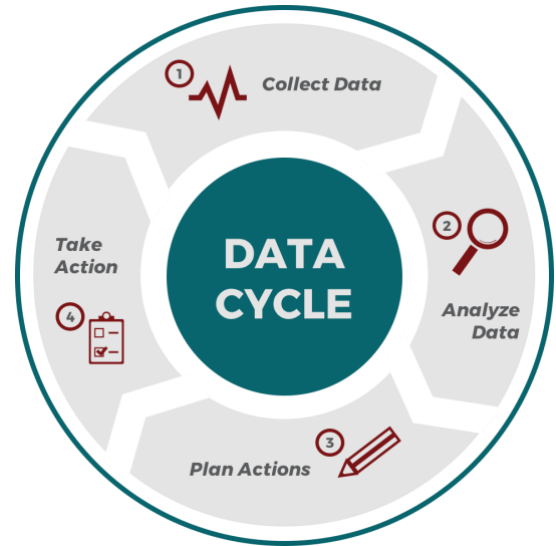
DATA CYCLE FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

ANALYZING DATA

DATA CYCLE OVERVIEW

The data cycle for continuous improvement can help your program make sense of complex data. The cycle consists of four steps:

- 1) Collect Data
- 2) Analyze Data
- 3) Plan Actions
- 4) Take Action



ANALYZING DATA

When analyzing data, begin by asking a few main questions:

- **What** are the data telling us? What is significant?
 - What are we doing well?
 - What are growth areas?
 - How have we performed from mid- to end-of-year?
 - How do mentors, principals, residents, and graduate responses compare?
 - How are we performing on our priorities or goal areas?
- **Why** does the data look this way?
 - What has led to our strengths?
 - What has led to our growth areas?
 - How do we know?
- **What** other questions do we have? What does other data tell you?

Keep these key strategies in mind:

- First answer the “what” questions before moving on to the “why” questions
- Triangulate data sources, by examining multiple questions, and even exploring other data sources
- When answering the “why” questions, try examining various data points, such as:
 - Trend data (Mid- to End-of-Year data)
 - Different respondents (mentors, residents, principals, and graduates)
 - Sub-questions
 - Qualitative data
 - Frequency data