Understanding Your Data

What do you first notice about the data?

What patterns appear in the data?

Outliers or "things that make you go hmmm..."

Only high scores or only low scores	No variation in scores	Do the numbers look "right"?

Trends

Measures changes over time

Gaps/Missing Data

Missing data is not always 'missing'. What else might missing data mean?

Digging a little deeper...

Do you trust your data? Does it make sense?

Does this data surprise you? Does it pose more questions?

Does this data source give you all of the information you need to know to understand what may be occurring? If not, what else would you need?

Are there missing perspectives? Are all stakeholder voices represented in the data?

Using Data to Action Plan

✓Trust your data
✓Representative of stakeholder's voice
✓Is there anything about this data that indicates the need for broader or swifter attention (e.g., a equity/inclusion issue, a safety issue)

👁 Now we can ask: WHY? What is your **hypothesis** about why the data is the way that it is – good, bad or even ugly.

💡 Once you have a hypothesis, then we can **determine a course of action** (deciding first whether you want to pursue it, of course)

Lets take these ideas for a test drive

- Imagine you're a consultant working with a PRTF. What suggestions would you make to another agency to improve low scores in this section?