Category

Data & AI

Data Literacy for Public Sector & Smart City Programs Playbook

Reading civic data with an eye for who it represents and who it might be missing

- Practitioner
- Intermediate
- Template Included

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- 4 minute(s)

Overview

A framework for building data literacy within public sector and smart city program teams — representativeness and equity assessment in civic data, public accountability reporting integrity, and appropriate privacy-aware data use — addressing the specific stakes of public sector data informing decisions that affect entire communities, including populations underrepresented in the data itself.

How is data literacy for public sector programs different from

private sector data literacy? Public sector data decisions affect entire communities, including residents who may not be well-represented in digital or civic data sources (due to limited internet access, distrust of government data collection, or other barriers), raising representativeness and equity considerations that most private sector data literacy frameworks don't specifically address.

What's the biggest data literacy risk specifically for smart city

and civic data programs? Treating digitally-collected civic data (app usage, sensor data, digital survey responses) as representative of the full community, when it may systematically underrepresent residents with less digital access or engagement — potentially skewing public resource allocation decisions.

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sector data decisions affect entire communities, including\nresidents who may not be well-represented in digital or civic data\nsources (due to limited internet access, distrust of government data\ncollection, or other barriers), raising representativeness and equity\nconsiderations that most private sector data literacy frameworks don't\nspecifically address." } }, { "@type": "Question", "name": "What's the biggest data literacy risk specifically for smart city", "acceptedAnswer": { "@type": "Answer", "text": "and civic data programs?\nTreating digitally-collected civic data (app usage, sensor data,\ndigital survey responses) as representative of the full community, when\nit may systematically underrepresent residents with less digital access\nor engagement — potentially skewing public resource allocation decisions." } }] }

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