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## Recommendations

Here are some recommendations to help make the most of the data in *State of Our Cities* and to advance education policy conversations in your city:

- Refer to the data in *State of Our Cities* when making a case for a new policy initiative.
- Use the data to catalyze leaders across your city to drive social, economic and private sector growth and development.
- Test whether what the data and trends indicate is aligned to what your community stakeholders perceive.
- Use the data as a starting point to encourage stakeholders to offer a more complete picture of what is influencing student outcomes.
- Plan a roundtable and invite policymakers, stakeholders and decision-makers to discuss the data and show how it can be used to drive change.
- Facilitate dialogue about opportunities to use data from *State of Our Cities* to influence education policy and practice.
- Write an op-ed or blog post discussing what you've learned about your city's education landscape from the data in *State of Our Cities*.
- Share data from *State of Our Cities* with parents, educators, school leaders, and business and community leaders to start conversations on how to drive education improvement in your city.