



5 Whys

A method that uses a series of questions to drill down into successive layers of a problem. Each time you ask why, the answer becomes the basis for the next why. It's a simple tool useful for problems where you don't need advanced statistics. May not be best for complex problems. adapted from [blog](#)

[CDE Template](#)



Pareto Charts

A special type of bar chart that shows how various causes can contribute to an effect. It is based on the Pareto Principle or the "80/20" rule - 80% of an effect comes from 20% of the causes. While the Pareto Principle might not apply as neatly when working on complex issues, it remains a powerful way to focus your efforts on those areas with the greatest impact.

[Tool Description and Template](#)



Problem Solving Analysis

The problem-solving cycle facilitates powerful exploration of the intersections while helping us uncover contributing causes of our undesirable results

[Intersections of Multiple Measures](#)

Contributing Factors Analysis

a sampling of tools...

Fishbone Diagram



Fishbone Diagrams facilitate discussion in identifying the causal factors for a problem and provide a visual for improvement teams to discuss those factors.

Identify a problem- preferably a high-leverage, challenging, "wicked", equity-based problem - prior to diving into causal system analysis.

adapted from [School Performance Institute blog](#).

[CDE Tool](#)
[Minnesota Tool](#)

Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA)



A tool that helps teams to identify where problems occur in processes and identify ideas to prevent these breakdowns. This tool builds on the high level process map. Plan at least 45 minutes as a team to complete the FMEA.

[Template](#)
[Video](#)

Other Resources



[Shift Results Online Learning](#)
[CDE Circle Map](#)