

# Maanas Sharma

States of Emergency

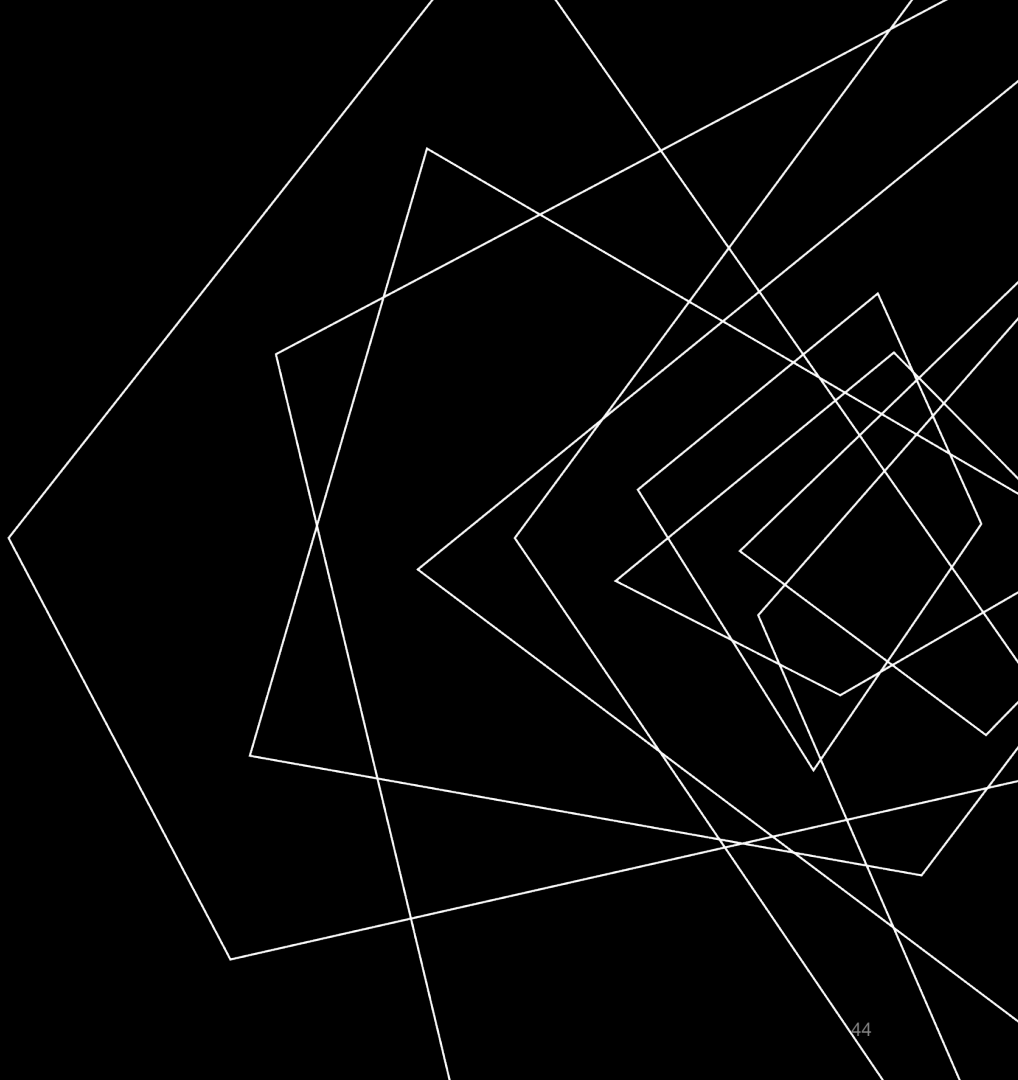
**Open Data**  
**@ MIT**

# STATES OF EMERGENCY: OPEN DATA IN PRISON RESPONSES TO COVID-19

**Maanas Sharma**

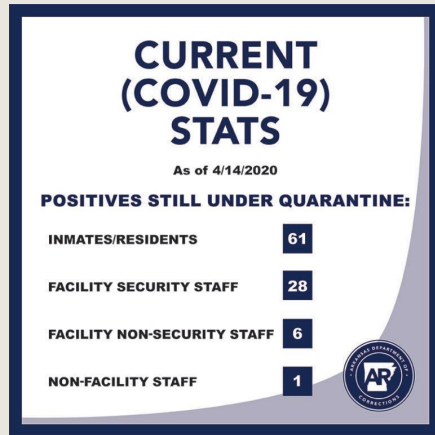
MIT Prize for Open Data /

10.28.2022



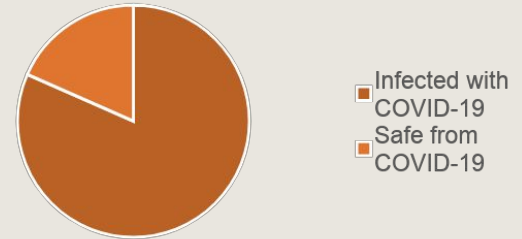
# THE PROBLEM

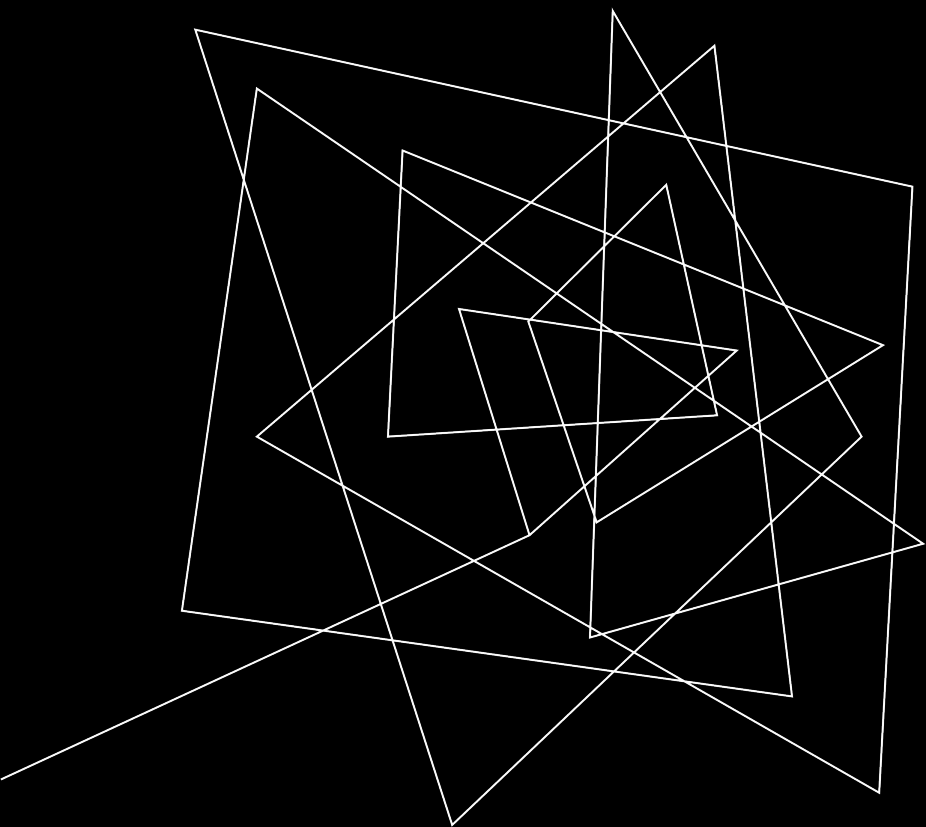
Untransparent and lacking data



Failing Public Health in Prisons

Michigan DOC, July 1, 2021





HOW DO WE GET  
TO SOMETHING  
MEANINGFUL?

# STEP 1: DATA

## MIT Policy Hackathon: Data Transparency and Quality Framework

- ❖ Adopted nationally by UCLA Law's COVID Behind Bars Data Project

Data reporting for incarcerated people					
Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	Active Cases	Tests Administered	Population	Vaccinations
✓ By facility	✓ By facility	✓ By facility	✗ None	✓ By facility	✓ By facility

Data reporting for staff					
Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	Active Cases	Tests Administered	Population	Vaccinations
✗ None	✗ None	✗ None	✗ None	✓ By facility	✓ By facility

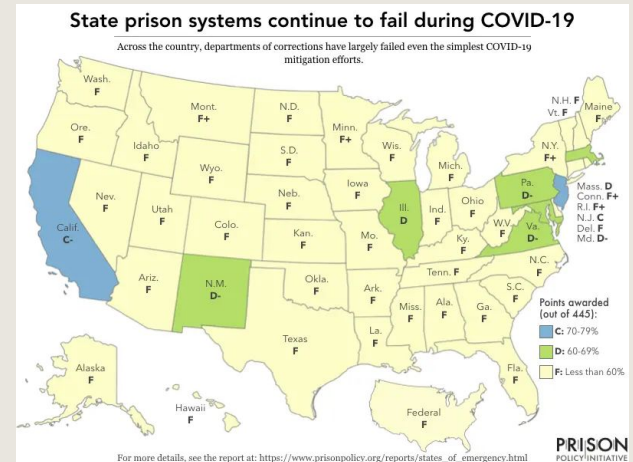
  

Data quality			
Machine Readable	Regularly Updated	Clearly Defined	Contextualized Historically
✗ No	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes

## STEP 2: ANALYSIS

Build upon original framework to grade material changes made to preserve safety of incarcerated populations

- ❖ Work with the Prison Policy Initiative to collect data (from data provided by DOCs, independently obtained by other advocates, and personally obtained)
- ❖ Publish final ratings on 50 state Departments of Corrections and federal Bureau of Prisons, replete with full technical appendix and data
- ❖ Focus on easy understanding by regular people in addition to technical contribution to research





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Please direct any questions or concerns to [maanas@mit.edu](mailto:maanas@mit.edu)

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