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States of Emergency
Open Data
@ MIT
STATES OF EMERGENCY: OPEN DATA IN PRISON RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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THE PROBLEM

Untransparent and lacking data

Failing Public Health in Prisons

Michigan DOC, July 1, 2021

CURRENT (COVID-19) STATS
As of 4/14/2020

POSITIVES STILL UNDER QUARANTINE:
INMATES/RESIDENTS 61
FACILITY SECURITY STAFF 28
FACILITY NON-SECURITY STAFF 6
NON-FACILITY STAFF 1

Infected with COVID-19
Safe from COVID-19
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
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
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Please direct any questions or concerns to maanas@mit.edu

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