Leia, researcher

Bio and motivations:

They are working on a project looking at how covid-19 has spread and the mortality rate of the virus in different regions. They are likely to be doing some research as part of a team or individually

Information needs:

- Rich data is needed by Leia for her research. This means that complex and comprehensive datasets are required allowing for many different relationships in the data to be explored.
- Standardised data: To allow for meaningful comparisons across different locations, countries or the world it will be easier if figures for different areas have complete data that can be compared. This means the same formats in the datasets and how it is presented is needed.
- Historic data: Researchers will need to be able to access comparable data from the beginning of the pandemic so they can spot trends, peaks and troughs.

Uses of the data:

- Researching to compare the spread of the virus in different locations and how deadly the virus is in different areas
- Researchers will also work collaboratively with local government departments that lack the resources to perform comprehensive analyses and extract useful patterns

Challenges of using Covid-19 data:

- Access to comprehensive dashboards
- Trustworthiness of data

Richie, government employee

Bio and motivations:

Covid-19 is a complex issue that affects areas differently and has required varying degrees of action from national government bodies. People in government positions, like Richie, can understand their area and the different challenges it faces better than any international body. They are who will be coordinating responses with different departments and whether or not there is a need for any localised response. To do this, detailed local data is required.

Information needs:

- National data: To understand how many people are being affected in the areas they need detailed data regarding the spread of the virus, and how many people are dying. Just seeing the total cases won't give enough context, an idea of any current spikes will also be needed.
- Readily accessible data: To be able to make quick and effective decisions Richie needs to be able to easily access all the data in one location and be able to filter, select and compare different periods and locations
- Historical data needs to be accessible to understand how the impact of the virus is evolving in an area and so that different trends can be identified.

Uses of the data:

- Richie will use the data to make critical decisions during the pandemic about the local economy and health responses. He will often be using this data in conjunction with other team members and departments.

Challenges of using mobility data:

- Skills: governments differ in size and each country has various concerns and approaches. In these locations, they will also differ in the available budget, skills and resources.

- Collaboration between different governing bodies is not always the best and different national and international government bodies may not readily share all the data they have available. This is a international concerns and as such, knowing how other nations are doing can help form the approaches a government may take.