Data Dictionary

Confirmed Cases & Deaths Dataset

UCLA Law Covid-19 Behind Bars Data Project

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*Follow us on Twitter @uclaprisondata*

*Data to add? Please email covidbehindbars@law.ucla.edu*

This document is updated regularly. Last updated on: 07/09/20

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## Data Overview

This dataset tracks Covid-19 confirmed cases and deaths in jails and prisons across the US. The data are collected daily from self-reported counts from state Department of Corrections (DOC) websites. DOCs vary in what they report and when they began reporting. The data were collected between March 31st and June 26th, 2020. We will soon update the data to contain daily counts up to the current date.

Each row in the data is a Name-Date. Each Date is a day on which we collected counts from a DOC website. Each Name is either a jail/prison facility or an aggregate count (for example, a statewide count). This is because some states, at different dates, do not report counts broken down by facility, they only report statewide or other aggregate counts. An important note about these aggregate rows is that *not all rows labelled Name = “STATEWIDE” are actually total statewide counts*; if you plan to use these rows in your analysis, please see the section “Important Note about Statewide Counts.”

We collect six main counts:

**Staff.Confirmed:** The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among corrections staff members at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

**Residents.Confirmed:** The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among incarcerated persons at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

**Staff.Deaths:** The cumulative number of corrections staff who have died from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

**Residents.Deaths:** The cumulative number of incarcerated persons who have died from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

**Staff.Recovered**: The cumulative number of corrections staff who have recovered from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

**Residents.Recovered**: The cumulative number of incarcerated persons who have recovered from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

We are currently working to add more counts to our data. On July 26th, we began collecting the counts (listed below) daily from DOC websites where they are reported. These variables will be missing for all dates except July 26th, 2020. We are currently working to retrieve these counts for before July 26th using our archived versions of daily DOC websites; we will retroactively fill these counts in as we are able.

**Total.Recovered**: The cumulative number of corrections staff and incarcerated persons who have recovered from COVID-19.

**Staff.Tested**[[1]](#footnote-2): The cumulative number of corrections staff tested for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of tests performed of corrections staff.

**Residents.Tested**: The cumulative number of incarcerated persons tested for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of tests performed of incarcerated persons.

**Staff.Negative**: The cumulative number of corrections staff who tested negative for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff that returned negative.

**Residents.Negative**: The cumulative number of incarcerated persons who tested negative for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff that returned negative.

**Staff.Pending**: The cumulative number of corrections staff whose COVID-19 test results are pending, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff for which results are pending.

**Residents.Pending**: The cumulative number of incarcerated persons whose COVID-19 test results are pending, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on incarcerated persons for which results are pending.

**Staff.Quarantined**[[2]](#footnote-3): The current number of corrections staff who are in quarantine or isolation.

**Residents.Quarantined**: The current number of incarcerated persons who are in quarantine or isolation.

**Residents.Population**: The current number of incarcerated persons held in a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

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## How to cite this data

Citations for academic publications and research reports:

Sharon Dolovich, Aaron Littman, Kalind Parish, Grace DiLaura, Chase Hommeyer, and Michael Everett. UCLA Law Covid-19 Behind Bars Data Project: Jail/Prison Confirmed Cases Dataset *[date you downloaded the data].* UCLA Law, 2020, <https://law.ucla.edu/centers/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-program/related-programs/covid-19-behind-bars-data-project/>.

Citations for media outlets, policy briefs, and online resources:

UCLA Law Covid-19 Behind Bars Data Project, <https://law.ucla.edu/centers/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-program/related-programs/covid-19-behind-bars-data-project/>.

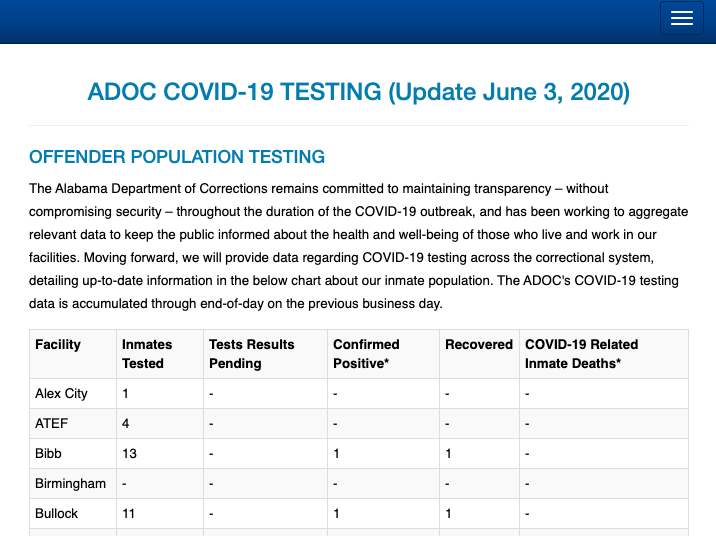
## 

## Data Collection

This data is collected primarily from Department of Corrections (DOC) websites. This includes dashboards, press releases, and posted updates. We collect these counts using a combination of manual entry and web scraping (computer programs which automatically collect numbers posted on a website). In the beginning months of data collection (March & April), we used news sources[[3]](#footnote-4) to collect counts that a DOC was not reporting at the time.

*Sample Department of Corrections Dashboard*

*(Alabama, June 3rd, 2020,* [*http://www.doc.alabama.gov/covid19news*](http://www.doc.alabama.gov/covid19news)*)*



We add DOCs reported counts to our data exactly as reported, except in these cases:

1. *When we need to sum their numbers together to get the cumulative case count.* Most states post cumulative counts. But, in some states, if someone dies or recovers from Covid-19, the DOC subtracts them from the confirmed case count. For these states, we get the cumulative case count by summing their reported number of recovered cases, number of deaths, and number of confirmed cases. For more details on which states do this and how we know if they subtract, see the section “Notes about Individual States.”
2. *If a news source reports deaths that a DOC has not yet reported, we add the deaths to our data’s count.* If this occurs, we make a note of it in the Add’l.Notes column. This is the only instance in which we enter information from a news source that conflicts with a DOC’s reported data.
3. *Sometimes, if a DOC does not report a count, we assume the count is zero.* If a DOC does not report a count we want to collect, it either means: (a) the count is zero so the DOC hasn’t begun to report it, or (b) that the count is greater than zero but the DOC has chosen not to report the count. Usually, if a DOC does not report a count, we leave it as missing in our data since we can’t know for sure which of the cases (a) or (b) above is true. However, sometimes, we are able to ascertain that case (a) is likely true--that there is a zero count and that’s why the DOC isn’t reporting it--so we fill in a zero for the missing count. We do this in cases where DOCs are diligent about reporting other Covid-19 counts[[4]](#footnote-5) and we find no news articles that indicate the count to be nonzero.
4. In the early months of data collection, we supplemented our data with news articles because most states were not reliably reporting Covid-19 counts. By June, our data almost never included information from news sources. If we incorporated information from a news source into our data, we added the source to the “Additional.Notes” column. We prioritized DOC reports over counts found in the news--except in cases where a death is reported in the news that is not yet reported by the DOC (see #2 above). If the DOC’s reported count is inconsistent with a count we find in the news, we add the news source to the “Additional.Notes” section.

A common way we incorporated news sources into our data was: if a state only reports statewide counts, we could use the news to deduce which counts come from which facilities. For example, if a DOC reports four statewide cases and a recent news article reports that four residents of facility X tested positive for Covid-19, we code facility X as four and code all other facilities in that state to zero.

## 

## Important Note about Statewide Counts

Some rows of the dataset are statewide counts. This will be indicated by Name = “STATEWIDE.” [[5]](#footnote-6)

**Please note that not all rows labelled Name = “STATEWIDE” are actually total statewide counts.** In some cases, these rows actually contain *the number of statewide counts for which we could not identify at which facility they occurred*. We recorded counts this way more frequently in the earliest weeks of data collection. For example, if a news article reported “20 staffers are positive, and five are at facility X”, we add a row with Name = facility X and record five cases, and add a row with Name = STATEWIDE and record 15 cases. We are working on fixing this in later versions of the data. We’d like to recode these rows as Name = “Unspecified facility.”

## 

## Description of Columns

### Date

The date that counts were recorded by UCLA researchers. We have been recording counts, daily, since March 31st, 2020.

* Date is *not* the date that a DOC most recently updated their counts on their website.
  + The frequency with which a DOC updates their reported counts online varies across states. Each day, UCLA researchers report whatever the DOC is currently reporting on their website.
    - For example: If on April 1st, we see that the Wisconsin DOC has posted 1 confirmed resident case, and reports that their information was last updated 4/1/20, we would input a “1” in the Residents.Confirmed and enter 4/1/2020 in the “Date” column. If we return to that page on April 2, 2020, and the “1” still remains, we would input a “1” for our 4/2/2020 sheet and enter 4/2/2020 as the date. We would do that even if the Wisconsin DOC has not updated the page and it still shows “4/1/20” as the last updated date.
  + We are just capturing a snapshot of what DOCs are reporting on each day. We are not necessarily recording the date an infection happened, the date a test was returned, or the date a person died.
* As DOCs began reporting counts, we added them to our data on a rolling basis. So, not all facilities or aggregate counts (i.e. statewide, countywide) have counts for all dates. However, once they appear in the data, they have daily counts for every subsequent day.

### State

The state where the jail, prison, or prison system is located.

* If a facility belongs to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, State = “Federal”

### City

The city where the jail, prison, or prison system is located.

* City was only collected in a few instances in which it is necessary to clarify which facility the DOC was reporting.

### Name

The name of the jail or prison facility. Or, the name of an aggregate count, for example “STATEWIDE,” “COUNTY WIDE,” “REGION 4 PRISONS,” etc.

* If you plan to use *statewide* counts in your analysis, please read the section “Important Note about Statewide Counts,” because the way DOCs report Statewide counts is often very misleading.

### Facility.Type

This column indicates the type of facility. This column currently reflects only “prison” or “jail.”

* In April and May, we excluded facilities in which no residents are actually held in custodial housing, such as administrative offices or parole offices. Some snuck into the data since it is not always easy to identify which facilities are residential. Throughout June, we began to collect even non-residential facilities such as administrative offices or parole offices.

### Staff.Confirmed

The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among corrections staff members at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* By cumulative we mean *the total number of staff who have tested positive to date,* not the number of staff with “current” or “active” infections.
* Most states report cumulative case counts, but some report “current” or “active” case counts by subtracting recovered cases and deaths from their case count.
  + Where states report case “current” or “active” counts, we obtain the cumulative count by summing together their case count, recovery count, and death count. This total is what we report as Staff.Confirmed.
  + It is not always possible to know if states are doing this subtraction, so we make educated guesses. See our section “Notes about Individual States,” where we note if we believe a state is reporting the current case count.

### Residents.Confirmed

The cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among incarcerated persons at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* By cumulative we mean *the total number of residents who have tested positive to date,* not the number of residents with “current” or “active” infections.
* Most states report cumulative case counts, but some report “current” or “active” case counts by subtracting recovered cases and deaths from their case count.
  + Where states report case “current” or “active” counts, we obtain the cumulative count by summing together their case count, recovery count, and death count. This total is what we report as Residents.Confirmed.
  + It is not always clear whether or not a state is doing this subtraction, so we make educated guesses. See our section “Notes about Individual States,” where we note if we believe a state is reporting the “current” or “active” case count.

### Staff.Deaths

The number of corrections staff who have died from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* We are increasingly seeing some DOCs report “confirmed” and “presumed” COVID-19 deaths separately. We assume presumed deaths are due to COVID-19. So, we sum together presumed and confirmed deaths and report this total as Staff.Deaths.
  + The reason we made this assumption is because testing is often limited in jail and prison facilities. It is likely a common occurrence that staff exhibit obvious COVID-19 symptoms but are not tested. We assume these staff have COVID-19. We assume that if these staff die, they are included in “presumed” death count.
* Some states track different categories of COVID-19 fatalities, such as reporting a specific count for “staff with underlying conditions.” We do not track these differences. We sum together categories like this and report the total as Staff.Deaths.
* See the section “Notes about Individual States” for more detail about how a state reports deaths.

### Residents.Deaths

The number of incarcerated persons who have died from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* We are increasingly seeing some DOCs report “confirmed” and “presumed” COVID-19 deaths separately. We assume “presumed” deaths are due to COVID-19. So, we sum together presumed and confirmed deaths and report this total as Resident.Deaths.
  + The reason we made this assumption is because testing is often limited in jail and prison facilities. It is likely a common occurrence that residents exhibit obvious COVID-19 symptoms but are not tested. We assume these residents have COVID-19. We assume that if these residents die, they are included in “presumed” death count.
* Some states track different categories of COVID-19 fatalities, such as reporting a specific count for “residents with underlying conditions.” We do not track these differences. We sum together categories like this and report the total as Resident.Deaths.
* See the section “Notes about Individual States” for more detail about how a state reports deaths.

### Staff.Recovered

The cumulative number of corrections staff who have recovered from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* How DOCs define “recovered” is not always clear. See the section “Notes about Individual States” for details about how specific states define recovered. We are not always able to ascertain this information, but we note it when we can.

### Residents.Recovered

The cumulative number of incarcerated persons who have recovered from COVID-19 at a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

* The definition of “recovered” is not always clear. See the section “Notes about Individual States” for details about how specific states define recovered. We are not always able to ascertain this information, but we note it when we can.

### Staff.Tested

The cumulative number of corrections staff tested for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of tests performed of corrections staff.

* Some states post the number of persons tested, while others post the number of tests administered. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Residents.Tested

The cumulative number of incarcerated persons tested for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of tests performed of incarcerated persons.

* Some states post the number of persons tested, while others post the number of tests administered. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Staff.Negative

The cumulative number of corrections staff who tested negative for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff that returned negative.

* Some states post the number of persons tested whose results returned negative, while others post the number of tests that returned negative. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Residents.Negative

The cumulative number of incarcerated persons who tested negative for COVID-19, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff that returned negative.

* Some states post the number of persons tested whose results returned negative, while others post the number of tests that returned negative. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Staff.Pending

The cumulative number of corrections staff whose COVID-19 test results are pending, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on corrections staff for which results are pending.

* Some states post the number of persons tested with pending results, while others post the number of pending tests. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Residents.Pending

The cumulative number of incarcerated persons whose COVID-19 test results are pending, or the cumulative number of COVID-19 tests performed on incarcerated persons for which results are pending.

* Some states post the number of persons tested with pending results, while others post the number of pending tests. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Website”.

### Staff.Quarantined

The current number of corrections staff who are in quarantine or isolation.

* Some states report quarantine counts, some report isolation counts, some report both, and some report neither. This variable contains quarantine and isolation counts. (When both counts are reported, we sum them together and record that total.)

### Residents.Quarantined

The current number of incarcerated persons who are in quarantine or isolation.

* Some states report quarantine counts, some report isolation counts, some report both, and some report neither. This variable contains quarantine and isolation counts. (When both counts are reported, we sum them together and record that total.)

### Resident.Population

The current number of incarcerated persons held in a jail facility, prison facility, or in a DOC system.

### Address

The address of the jail or prison facility.

* We were only able to find this in a few cases. Our team is working on getting locations for every facility; we hope to upload that soon.

### Notes

We use this column to record any supplementary sources we used to find data and to flag any notable aspects of a state’s reporting procedure.

* We have a rough convention to format multiple notes in one Additional.Notes cell. We add new notes to the front of the cell as follows: (date of entry) text describing issue or data entered (source, such as URL, if applicable) [5 spaces]

### Website

The main DOC website where COVID-19 information is reported.

* If a DOC has a dashboard page where they continually update counts, the link to this page is in the Website column.
* If a state does not have a designated dashboard page, the Website column links to whatever website page we found the counts on, which may change daily.

## 

## FAQs

### Why are some cells missing?

When there are no numbers in a cell (i.e. not even a 0), that means we were not able to find any information. We try to only enter a 0 if the state is affirmatively reporting that there are no infections, deaths, or recoveries for that facility (or state-wide). If they simply do not report that information, we leave the cell blank.

### How often do DOCs update the counts on their websites?

It varies by state. Each day, we collect whatever numbers a DOC reports on their website.

For example, if on April 1, we see that the Wisconsin DOC has posted 1 confirmed resident case, and reports that they last updated the page on 4/1/20, we would input a “1” in the appropriate column and enter 4/1/2020 in the “Date” column. If we return to the page on April 2, and the “1” still remains, we would input a “1” enter 4/2/2020 as the date. We would do that even if the Wisconsin DOC has not updated the page and it still shows “4/1/20” as the last updated date.

### Why do some facilities not have counts for all dates?

As DOCs began reporting counts, we added them to our data on a rolling basis. So, not all facilities or aggregate counts (i.e. statewide, countywide) have counts for all dates. However, once they appear in the data, they have daily counts for every subsequent day.

### Who Do We Consider to be Staff?

Ideally, we’d like this count to only include staff who interact with residents, such as corrections officers, health personnel, or other custodial staff--not administrative staff or non-custodial employees. When a DOC’s report distinguishes between different types of staff, we only include these “resident-facing” staff. When a DOC does not distinguish between different types of staff, we include the entire count.

Though this means that the definition of “staff” varies across states, we decided to exclude non-resident-facing staff where possible because our project’s goal is to track Covid-19 “Behind Bars.” Non-resident-facing staff are not present at the facility. So, the most accurate staff counts are in states in which we can exclude non-resident-facing staff. States in which we cannot exclude non-resident-facing staff will have comparably higher staff counts.

Please check the section “Notes about Individual States” because we note where we were and weren’t able to distinguish between resident-facing and non-resident-facing staff. (Our notes are not perfect since it’s hard to keep them updated. If you have a question about certain states, please email us. We capture the screens of DOC dashboards, so we can go back and look at specific days to see how a DOC reported staff.)

### What Do We Consider to be a Positive Covid-19 Case?

We do not apply any standard criteria for what constitutes an “infection.” If the DOC has reported a positive case, we record it. A positive case does not include staff or residents who were quarantined due to exposure but not actually tested and confirmed positive.

## Notes about Individual States

Though data collection began on March 31st, 2020, we began recording state-specific notes in early May 2020. Notes about the data before May are scant.

Alabama

* Alabama does not appear to be subtracting recoveries or deaths from their infection total.

Alaska

* Only reports resident infections (5/2/20) and is not facility-specific.

Arizona

* Until 5/2/20, Arizona was not subtracting out recoveries. Then they started subtracting them out. Make sure to add them back in.
  + Do we need to go back and check against these?
* Arizona’s recovery situation is confusing. On 5/12, the resident infection count at Eyman is 3, 2 residents recovered. On 5/11, the resident infection count was 5, 2 recovered. So it has gone down by 2, but recoveries did not go up. Were people released?
* Arizona reports “confirmed” and “preliminary” resident fatalities, we add both and report as death count

Arkansas

* Arkansas is subtracting from total infections - their infection numbers are only “Positives under quarantine,” so once someone leaves quarantine, they are no longer counted. Arkansas is not separately reporting the number of recovered individuals. (changed sometime before 5/12)
* On 5/12/20, Arkansas began reporting both residents “not recovered” and residents “recovered”. I added them to report a cumulative total, but there might be an unexplained jump in infections here
* ~5/15: They are not breaking out recovered staff, but staff infections are obviously decreasing. I made one state-wide total, removing the count that was at Cummins - no way to tell now how many are still infected at Cummins or not. ~5/19 drop of 21 staff infected so for sure subtracting them out and not adding them back in.
* We report both “Facility Security Staff” and “Facility Non-Security Staff”. When non-facility staff were being reported, those were not included.

California

* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths for residents or staff (use the “confirmed” column for infection counts for staff--the active count does subtract out recoveries).
* Since 5/5/20, visit “table view” to see the total confirmed count.
* Reports staff recoveries as of 5/5/20 and does not subtract them out of the count. Still does not report staff deaths.

Colorado

* Has a great tracker now. On the second tab there is staff positive information.
* 5/12: staff tracker now on third page. Reports “On Leave,” “Positive,” and “Active” staff cases. “On Leave” includes those quarantined but not tested. Unclear what “Positive” v. “Active” means, interpreting “Postiive” to mean cumulative positive and reporting that as infection count, reporting Positive minus Active as recovered.
* 5/18: Colorado staff numbers puzzling. Both “active” and “postiive” are decreasing, so “positive” is not a cumulative total. The numbers being reported today for previous date are different than what was previously posted for those dates. For today, recorded 29 total cases with 22 recoveries.
* 5/23: Colorado staff numbers in the early stages puzzling but pretty clear now that “positive” means the total, while “active” is the active total, so you can take the “positive” - “active” to get recoveries. It is less clear what is happening in the early days, where recoveries are dropping, but mathematically this makes the most sense since otherwise the cumulative staff positives would be highest in early May.
* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths.

Connecticut

* Does not subtract out recoveries from total case count for residents.
* Does not disclose staff deaths in the tracker, so need to look at press releases and the news.
* On 5/11, started reporting by facility (again), but we are waiting to see if the numbers are consistently updated. On 5/12, the totals on the facility breakdown matched the state-wide reported totals. On 5/13, we changed back to facility-level data, using the LEFT SIDE OF THE SPREADSHEET (“Inmates from Facility to NCI”) since that is the count of infection origin.
* 5/17/20: the facility-specific data seems to lag behind the total counts, Before entering facility-specific, check to see if it matches the current totals reported. If it does, report by facility. If it does not match, report only state-wide (and delete facility-specific values to avoid double-counting).
* 6/4/20: CT stopped reporting staff recoveries, and only reports active infections. UGH! For now (6/4), leaving the old number there in the hopes that this is a one-day thing.
* 6/4/20: CT also stopped reporting state-wide data for residents. The data for the right side of the facility-level data is correct, though (“Inmates Returned to Facility”), when you add the 7 deaths in.

Delaware

* Facilities that are not currently being reported in our Excel sheet:
  + Special Operations Group
  + Dover Probation and Parole
  + New Castle Probation & Parole & Day Reporting Center (Hares Corner)
  + Northern New Castle County Adult Probation & Parole (Cherry Lane)
  + Georgetown Administrative Services
  + Georgetown Probation and Parole
  + Seaford Probation and Parole
* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths from the infection count for staff or residents.
* Provides all information as of 5/5/20.
* 5/21/20: Delaware switched from reporting cumulative totals and recoveries by facility. Active infections are now broken out by facility, but there is a cumulative recovery count. Staff reporting is the same (unchanged).
  + I deleted facility-specific data for this day and entered everything into the state-wide row. Added recoveries and deaths to active count to get cumulative infections.
* 5/28/20: Delaware has removed facility designations from staff recoveries. I deleted the individual values and reported the total. Also did this for infections to clarify reporting, and to be consistent with resident infections
  + To calculate total staff positive, added current positive cases to total recovered staff

Florida

* Florida doesn’t release the location of inmate deaths. We use newspapers to code those. When we cannot ID the location, they are added to the state-wide count until we figure out where they were. Usually the family has to come forward and the news will then cover them.
* There are no data on recoveries in FL, nor on staff fatalities.
* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths from the infection count for staff or residents.
* May 16: Florida is publishing a separate report of resident deaths on their DOH website. To access it, go here: <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/> , and scroll down to "Review deaths associated with COVID-19 at Florida Department of Corrections Facilities," and it will open a report like this: <http://ww11.doh.state.fl.us/comm/_partners/action/report_archive/fdc_death/fdc_death_20200512.pdf>. On 5/16, it was out of date (one fatality not accounted for).

Georgia

* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths from the infection count for staff or residents.
* 5/20/20: For numbers that have an asterisk in the table, they do not show up as numbers in the summation, so the “total” count for staff is an undercount by 3. Our sheet reflects accurate count.

Hawaii

* Nothing to add as of 4/30 because there are no positives (but also hardly any testing)

Idaho

* Staff count is state-wide and comes from the daily director update, rather than the tracker
* As of 4/30/20, no positive resident counts so can’t add anything about subtractions of recoveries. Hardly any testing though.

Illinois

* Facilities not being included:
  + General Office
  + Parole
* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths from the infection count for staff or residents.
* Only reports facilities that have some sort of positive. If you click on “all facilities” you can see there are actually a lot more facilities in Illinois.

Indiana

* Facilities not being included:
  + Central Office
* Recoveries and deaths are not subtracted out.

Iowa

* No death statistics reported--perhaps will be added once we have one (4/30).
* Recoveries are not subtracted from the total infection count it seems.

Kansas

* Does not seem to subtract deaths (none so far though) or recoveries from infection count

Kentucky

* Unclear as of 4/30/20 if deaths are subtracted out. No recoveries tracker and the number never drops so I think it’s safe to say they are not taking them out of the count so far.
* 5/18: Kentucky is reporting a state-wide recovery number for staff and residents. It does not appear that they are reducing infection numbers to account for the recoveries.

Louisiana

* Does not seem to subtract deaths or recoveries from the positive count.

Maine:

* There is no staff information posted. We got a positive staff report on 3/31 but haven’t seen anything since, and that was reported in a newspaper article.
* There have been no positive resident cases reported yet. So far, Maine does not do facility-specific tracking but maybe when there is a positive they will post it.
* Maine has two state wide counts: one for adults and one for juveniles. (Name = “STATE WIDE ADULT” and “STATE WIDE JUVENILE” As of 06/10/20, Maine is the only state in our data with multiple state wide counts.

Maryland

* Maryland SUBTRACTS recoveries from their posted totals for both staff and residents. They make this extra complicated by not saying where the recoveries are, but just posting a state-wide recovery total. They also do not say where deaths are (as of 4/30 we know where the one death was).
* For the state-wide count, put the recoveries and the death count if it exceeds the death count at the facility level (e.g. on 4/30 there is 1 reported death. We know it’s at Jessup and coded it there, so we leave it blank for state-wide).

Massachusetts

* Our data are currently taken from the ACLU Mass website. There is no tracker on the DOC website.
* Neither of these websites have death or recovery data. The infection counts do drop so they are subtracting either deaths or recoveries out.
* Death count is taken from news sources. If we cannot place the location (for whatever reason they often give the county, rather than the facility, which takes a lot of digging to place) we put it in the state-wide row until we can properly ID it.
* 5/23: The count at MCI Shirley for residents dropped by about 50+. Not sure if there will continue to be drops in the positive count? Can always email the ACLUM to see what they are planning/if they have total data for us.
  + ACLUM reported back that this was a data glitch and it’s fixed, the 158 number was correct

Michigan

* Facilities not being included:
  + Central office
  + Field Operations Administration Memo
* Seem to include every facility
* Does not subtract out recoveries or deaths from the infection count.
* Does not report recoveries for staff

Minnesota

* The “no longer requiring isolation” column is treated as the recovery column
* Recoveries are not subtracted out from the infection count which is great (resident only, there is no staff recovery report)
* No staff death column but maybe will change if there is a death (4/30 none currently). Death column with 0s for residents currently.
* There is a “Presumed Positive” column, we have not been including this in our count.
* Facilities not being included:
  + Field Services
  + Central Office/MINNCOR

Mississippi

* The tracker only reports resident infections (as of 4/30) and is too new to know if they subtract out recoveries.
* We pull deaths from the news. Problem with Mississippi deaths is that they are refusing to release the location of the resident or the cause of death (in other words, they will not test them for COVID-19). There have been 39 inmate deaths from 01/01/2020 to 04/30/2020 but only one confirmed as COVID-19 and most of them have no information at all.

Missouri

* They do not seem to remove recoveries (though they do not report recoveries, but the infection number has never dropped for staff or residents)
* Prison staff positives get coded into a facility for now. Non-prison staff are coded into the state-wide count for now because they don’t give the exact number at each facility (7 non-prison staff positive at 5 facilities). Leaving the count at those facilities blank. It just so happens that there is no overlap between positives for prison- and non-prison staff, so we haven’t had to decide (as of 4/30) what to do if those counts get mixed, though I guess we can maybe figure it out by seeing if it’s an addition of 1 non-prison staff and they list a facility we have other positives at. Will get messy after that though.

Montana

* Very little information on their website. Only positives posted, and for staff it’s state-wide. It did tick up by 1 after weeks of not moving, so I guess they are updating it. The two positives at Gallatin Reentry Program have been there since 4/6/2020, so now (4/30/2020) it seems that they do not subtract out recoveries at least.

Nebraska

* No tracker on their website as of 4/30/2020
* Staff counts are taken from the news.
* The news page on the nebraska DOC website does post when there are positives which is good to check regularly (the nebraska press is also good at reporting it)

Nevada

* Go to “facility type” and select “correctional.” Then select each facility one at a time, and then unselect it (since you can select multiple).
* Subtracts out recoveries on the bar graph but reports it on the left side of the interface.
* 5/26/20: Nevada now has both resident and staff cases in its facilities, but is only reporting recoveries as a total number for the facility - there is no way to differentiate which recoveries are staff and which are residents. Because of this, we cleared out the recovery data beginning today and are no longer reporting it. A note has been added to the sheet.

New Hampshire

* New tracker (4/30/20 when writing it is new) so not a lot of time for positives to recover. Will update if they subtract out
* Facilities not being included:
  + TWC & THU's\*
  + Field Services
  + All other staff worksites

New Jersey

* Recoveries not posted, nor are staff deaths. Leave those columns blank unless you find a news article reporting them (haven’t yet).
* Subtracts out recoveries. Just report how they report for now--ugh.
* Facilities not included:
  + Bo Robinson Assessment and Treatment
  + Clinton House
  + Columbus House
  + CURA, Inc.
  + Fenwick House
  + Fletcher House
  + Garrett House
  + Hope Hall
  + James A. Hemm House
  + Kintock Bridgeton 1
  + Kintock Bridgeton 2
  + Kintock Newark
  + The Harbor House
  + Tully House

New Mexico

New York

* Recoveries and deaths not subtracted out of the total positive count. Staff count is not specific to facility (as of 4/30/20), nor is staff death. No staff recovery statistics posted as of yet.
* Facilities not included:
  + Parole numbers (posted on the front page but not on the facility breakdown)

North Carolina

* Only reports resident infections, tests, and deaths. Does not seem to subtract out recoveries or deaths.
* Staff infection and death count are taken from news articles.
* Do not report recoveries here (or anywhere) if from the news because that’s not comprehensive.
* 5/12: North Carolina has started reporting a state-wide cumulative positive and “presumed recovered.” We are using the “presumed recovered” as our recovery number.

North Dakota

* Only reports resident infections and deaths. So far, no positives so no idea if they subtract out deaths or recoveries (5/1/30).

Ohio

* For RESIDENTS: add recovered inmate column and inmate death column (both confirmed and probable) to the total Resident Confirmed column in our dataset. They subtract out recoveries and deaths for residents. They *do not* do this for staff so do not do it on the staff counts.
* Add probable covid deaths to confirmed covid deaths for fatality count

Oklahoma

* Resident recoveries are subtracted out, so make sure to add them back in after doing the additions. 6/3: Staff recoveries are also subtracted out and are not reported as recoveries.
* NOTE: Kalind might override these instructions down the line (currently 5/1) when he has the R code written to fix the coding automatically.
* Fixes: one recovery should be added to Brannan before 4/28
* Facilities not included:
  + Probation and Parole
  + Bridgeway, Inc. (Halfway House)
  + Carver Transitional Center (Halfway House)
  + OKC Transitional Center (Halfway House)
  + Tulsa Transitional Center (Halfway House)
* Oklahoma is subtracting recoveries from “current” count, as well as releases.
* To find cumulative confirmed infection count, add recoveries to current count.
* No fatalities as of 5/1, but anticipate those will need to be added in, too

Oregon

* Recoveries are not facility-specific for residents or staff. Do not seem to be subtracted out of the total infection count though which is helpful!
* No deaths for staff or residents yet so cannot state if they are subtracted out of the recovery count or not (5/1)

Pennsylvania

* We currently include the Central Office but that can probably be removed eventually since we do not include these types of facilities elsewhere
* Does not (as of 5/1/20) include staff recoveries. On 5/18, added staff recoveries. Does not subtract them out.
* Does not subtract out deaths or recoveries from infection count.
* Facilities not included:
  + Parole

Rhode Island

* Data taken from their Facebook page. They don’t update daily but fairly often. They don’t subtract out recoveries (nor report them). No deaths to date (5/1/20) but imagine they would report those as well.
* No facility list in our codebook yet but get the facilities into the spreadsheet whenever they post about a new case.
* 5/23: RI had “6” in state wide but still 3 in a minimum security on the sheet, but i think it should be 6 total, so I removed the 3

South Carolina

* No resident recovery data posted. Staff recoveries are not subtracted out of the positive count total.
* No deaths reported but we check the news daily for those.

South Dakota

* Recoveries are not subtracted from infections. No deaths yet (5/1/20) so cannot say if they will be subtracted out in the future but it seems unlikely.
* The staff count at South Dakota State Penitentiary reduced by 1 on 5/7/20, but it does not appear to be because of recovery - unclear why.

Tennessee

* As of 5/7/20, Tennessee has begun subtracting recoveries - the resident count at Bledsoe fell from 586 to 6, and the recovery count was posted at 580. So we will need to start adding recoveries to the current infection count. Deaths are also subtracted, so add those back in.
* They have also begun posting staff state-wide counts (5/7), 55 positive, 25 recovered. It is not clear if the 25 is a subset of 55, so I did not add them on 5/7
* Staff infections and recoveries are posted as of 5/8/20. Deaths still not reported so check news to make sure it’s actually 0. Update this if there is a death and they post about it.
* 5/12: Staff infections and recoveries are now posted per facility, but some abbreviated facility names are unclear to me and I could not determine where all of the staff infections should be allocated
  + 5/23: To make sure we are capturing all staff numbers, I began adding the balance of the infections and recoveries into the state-wide column (subtract facilities I can identify from total and add to state-wide)

Texas

* Texas subtracts out recoveries (and deaths? unclear) from their positive total count.
* Texas does not give recovery information at the facility level. For now, put the recovery total at the state-wide count for the infection count as well so we have a track record of the total infection count (which is what we care about).
* Texas also subtracts out recoveries for staff positives (and deaths too? They don’t report them so hard to say). The staff recovery count is not posted on the tracker page, however - it is reported on the covid-19 main page for updates (<https://www.tdcj.texas.gov/covid-19/index.html>).
* GD, 5/11: I’m puzzled about Texas. Their page reports a “total offender positive” at the bottom, which today is 1,711. The current positive count is 1078. The recovered count is 371. The fatalities (both confirmed and presumed) are 50. So there are 1,711 total positives, but those numbers only total to 1,400. Where are the other 300 resident positives?
* Texas began reporting “presumed” deaths separately from “deaths pending autopsy,” around 5/2 ish (need to check archive). For now we assume that “presumed” includes “deaths pending autopsy,” and we do not add them.
  + 5/13: but, today the language on the updates page says “There have been 7 employee/staff deaths and 31 offender deaths with COVID-19 as a contributing cause. There are an additional 24 offender deaths that are under investigation and pending preliminary autopsy results." That suggests that the ‘presumed’ number does not include those pending autopsy. Reported just the presumed number for today, but we should handle this.
* 5/15: Texas’s front page today does not seem to report staff recoveries, so I did not update the data - I could not find it elsewhere.
  + 5/19: it seems to be back
* 5/19: Another change on Texas. The difference between their current report and their total cumulative is more than their recovery number. Possibly due to releases?
  + To account for this, enter the recovery number as TDOC reports it. To calculate the cumulative confirmed number, add in the facility values as they appear. In the “state-wide” row, place the value for the recoveries plus [total confirmed - current count +recoveries]. If you add every row for texas, we should get their total infection count.
* 5/29: Texas has a new dashboard.
  + Recoveries for residents and staff are reported by facility.
  + The facility totals do not add up to the reported total infected and recovered resident and staff numbers that are reported on the dashboard.
  + If you add the reported total infection and recovery numbers (for inmates and staff), the total does not add up to the reported total positive cases for either.
  + On 5/29, I added recoveries and deaths to active and added numbers to the state-wide row to make the total equal the number of infections (and recoveries) that are reported by unit. That is still shy of the reported “total” infections.

Utah

* Only provides state-wide staff infection totals, no facility data for staff and no death or recovery data. Specifically says there is a law preventing the release of that information.
* Resident information includes positives, recoveries, deaths, and tests. Not sure if these get subtracted out because there are no deaths or recoveries (5/1/20).

Vermont

* The resident infection tracker is state-wide, but you can find out the facility infection rates by looking at their press releases, which provide information.
* Staff infection tracker is facility-specific.
* Recovery information is state-level for both staff and residents. Does not subtract out from the infection rate.
* Not sure whether deaths subtract out because there hasn’t been one yet (5/1/20).

Virginia

* Virginia is now posting a “total infections” column. We report this as our infection column. It includes people who have died and recovered.
* Virginia also has columns reporting current infections in custody and current infections in hospitals. To calculate the number of recovered persons, we subtract these numbers, plus deaths in a facility, from the total infection count.
* Virginia does not report staff recoveries, but they do drop out of their count. For now, just subtract them out. Kalind will go back and fix this with R code (might slightly undercount if there is an infection and a recovery on the same day, since we have no way of knowing when that happens, but *c’est la vie*).
* Staff infection counts also drop with recoveries and there is no recovery data available. Not sure what to do about that since we don’t know if no change means that there was +1 infection and +1 recovery or no new infections. Will deal with in the future.
* Facilities not included:
  + Administration and Operations

Washington

* No recoveries or death information. Numbers never seem to go down for infections so seems that they do not subtract out.
* Facilities not included:
  + Headquarters
  + Mill Creek Regional Performance Center
  + County Jail (origin of infection)
  + Community Medical Center (origin of infection)
  + Ahtanum View Work Release
  + Bellingham Work Release
  + Bishop Lewis Work Release
  + Brownstone Work Release
  + Eleanor Chase House Work Release
  + Helen B. Ratcliff Work Release
  + Longview Work Release
  + Olympia Work Release
  + Peninsula Work Release\*\*
  + Progress House Work Release
  + Reynolds Work Release
  + Tri-Cities Work Release
  + Community Corrections
  + Community Corrections Section 1
  + Community Corrections Section 2
  + Community Corrections Section 3
  + Community Corrections Section 4
  + Community Corrections Section 5
  + Community Corrections Section 6
  + Community Corrections Section 7

Washington

* No facility-specific tracker for resident recoveries, but you can get state-wide resident recoveries from the “testing trends” tab of the “persons in our care” dashboard.
* Recoveries are not subtracted from the infection total for staff or residents.
* No death reporting as of yet. Make sure to check the news and site daily!

West Virginia

* No tracker and no infections or deaths reported thus far (5/1/20). Would not hold breath on any updates being posted, as the last time the DOC website was updated was in 2018.
* 5/21: WV has had a tracker for some time, but only recently had positive infections. Tracker notes that “To avoid double-counting, recovered case are moved to those columns from the “Positive” columns, so it appears recoveries for staff and residents should be added into the “Positive” column to produce a cumulative positive count.

Wisconsin

Wyoming

* No tracker but does do occasional updates on the website. Notified of only infection and recovery through there.

Federal

* The BOP facilities change frequently.
* On 5/7/20, BOP started reporting recoveries by facility. It appears they are subtracting recoveries from the infection count, which reflects “open” cases. To get a cumulative total, add the recoveries for both staff and inmates back into the infection count.
* If a facility disappears from the BOP website, that’s because it is now coding at 0 infections (e.g. there were recoveries). For now, just remove them to make your life easier. Kalind will update when time to return them--he needs to do a few hours of work to get them all back in so that we have the correct baseline again
* When a new facility comes online that is an RRC and does not have a clear name, include the location with a “-LOCATION” (e.g. “CORE Services Inc., (RRC) - Brooklyn”).
* Seems to subtract deaths out of the infection count too.

New York City

* Recoveries are subtracted out of the positive total but as far as I can tell they are not reported anywhere? The document is a mess!

Cook County (as of 4/26/20)

* For residents, we add the current infection reported number to the recovered infection number to produce our resident infection number. We report the recovered resident number as it is stated.
* For staff, we add all currently infected staff (corrections officers and other sheriff’s employees) and add recovered employees for the number infected. We report recovered employees as the recovery number.

Los Angeles County

* For staff infected, we add the number recovered to the number currently infected. We do not include the number quarantined.
* Below the counter, LASD reports the total number of people who have tested positive since the beginning of the pandemic. Use this as the “infection” count.
* Below the counter, LASD reports the number of recovered residents. Use that as the resident recovered number.

Washington, D.C.

* Report the “Total Number of Personnel Who Have Tested Positive” as the staff infection number. Report the number recovered as the staff recovery number.
  + Note: possible issue in the backlog with people being released from quarantine possibly being recorded as recovered, which is not strictly accurate.
* For residents, record the “Total Number of Residents Who Have Tested Positive” number as the infection number. Report “Total number recovered” as the recovered resident number.

Philadelphia

* Seems to subtract out recoveries (went from 68 to 58 resident positives on 5/1/20). Need to go back and fix subsequently.
* Only data reported are only for resident infections.
* On 5/11, previous Philadelphia prison page now sends you to <https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/testing-and-data/#philadelphia-prisons-covid-19-data> to get testing results, and that page reports 12 active cases and 196 cumulative cases. Subtracted active to get recovery number.

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

* No data for staff deaths or recoveries for either population.
* Too recent to see if recoveries are subtracted (5/1/20). As of 5/21, can confirm that they subtract them out. They report deaths and it’s not clear if those are subtracted or not, but recoveries/releases certainly are and are not reported.

Orleans Parish Jails

* Recovery data posted for staff but not for residents. Recoveries are subtracted from their current infection count so add them back in for staff.

1. A note about the testing variables: some states post the number of persons tested, while others post the number of tests administered. In some states, it is unclear which. We record whatever number is available. If you use testing data in your research, you can find information for each state about whether the count is number of persons tested or number tests by visiting the URL for that state, which is listen in the data in the column called “Sources”. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Some states report quarantine counts, some report isolation counts, some report both, and some report neither. This variable contains quarantine and isolation counts. (When both counts are reported, we sum them together and record that total.) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Our definition of a news source excludes personal blogs, comments, and message boards. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. If a state has a sophisticated DOC website set up to report Covid-19 cases, reports other Covid-19 related counts (maybe they report resident cases but not resident deaths), updates their counts frequently, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. One state, Maine, has two statewide aggregate counts: Name = “STATEWIDE ADULT” and Name = “STATEWIDE JUVENILE.” [↑](#footnote-ref-6)