Covid
ActNow

The impact of easily accessible COVID data

Agenda

1. Intro to Covid Act Now
2. What does accessible data mean?
3. Characteristics of accessible COVID data
4. Q & A

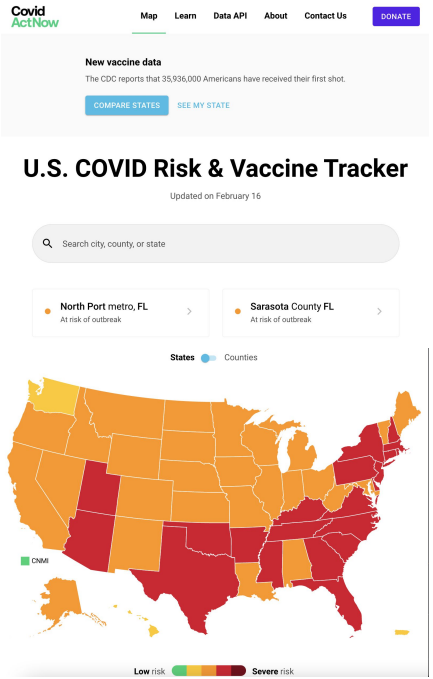
We hope that, by the end of this session, you:

- Can spot ways that you can make your COVID data more accessible to different types of users
- Have a toolkit of examples to refer to when communicating your own COVID data
- Better understand the possible downstream impacts of your COVID data

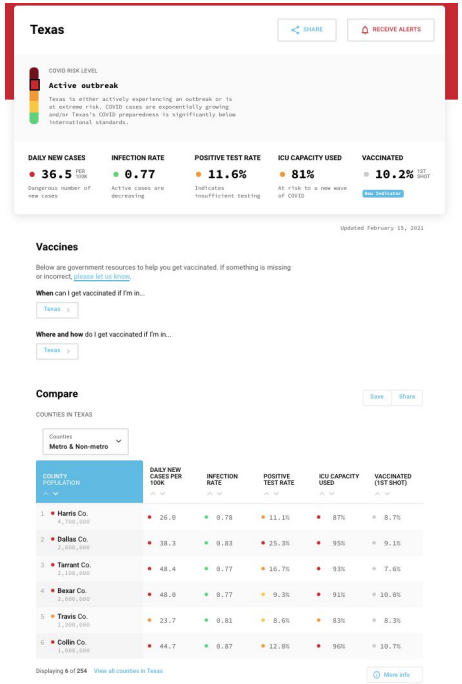
What role has Covid Act Now played?

US COVID data and risk tracker

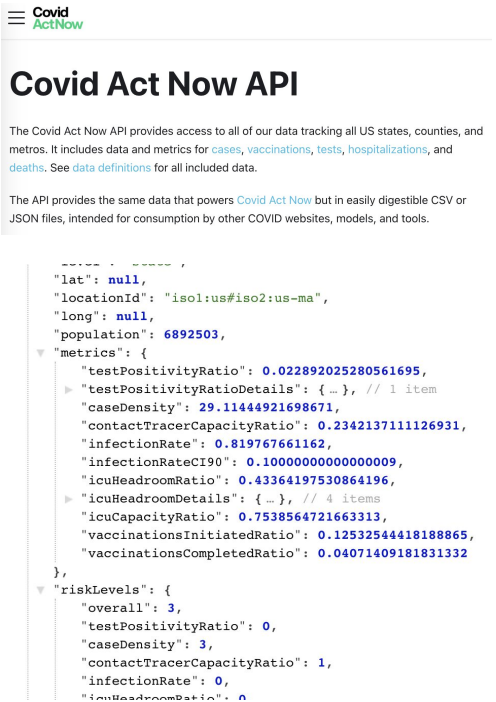
Risk map



Location specific pages



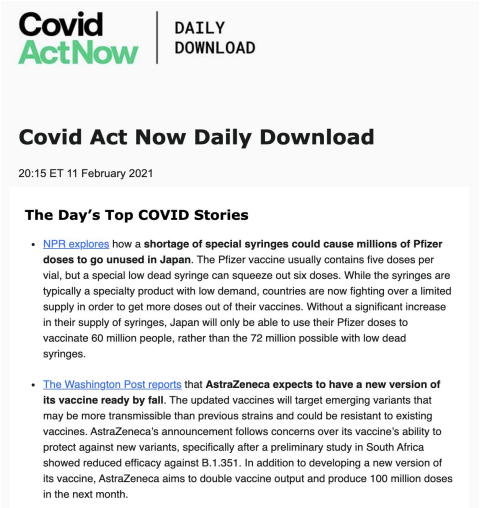
Data API



Present COVID information over multiple channels

Twitter: Ask an Expert series

Email: Daily Download



Covid ActNow | DAILY DOWNLOAD

Covid Act Now Daily Download

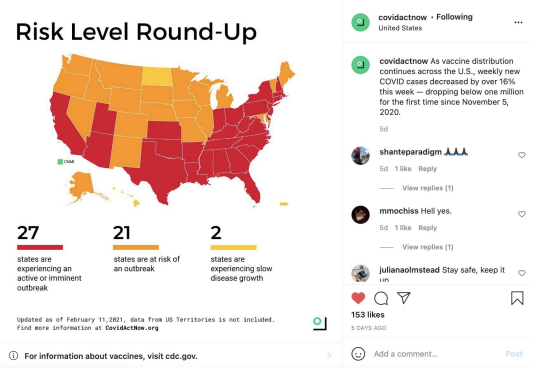
20:15 ET 11 February 2021

The Day's Top COVID Stories

- NPR explores how a **shortage of special syringes could cause millions of Pfizer doses to go unused in Japan**. The Pfizer vaccine usually contains five doses per vial, but a special low dead syringe can squeeze out six doses. While the syringes are typically a specialty product with low demand, countries are now fighting over a limited supply in order to get more doses out of their vaccines. Without a significant increase in their supply of syringes, Japan will only be able to use their Pfizer doses to vaccinate 60 million people, rather than the 72 million possible with low dead syringes.

- The Washington Post reports that **AstraZeneca expects to have a new version of its vaccine ready by fall**. The updated vaccines will target emerging variants that may be more transmissible than previous strains and could be resistant to existing vaccines. AstraZeneca's announcement follows concerns over its vaccine's ability to protect against new variants, specifically after a preliminary study in South Africa showed reduced efficacy against B.1.351. In addition to developing a new version of its vaccine, AstraZeneca aims to double vaccine output and produce 100 million doses in the next month.

Instagram

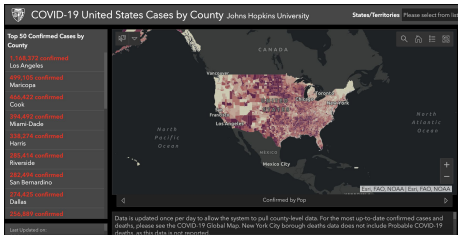


What is data accessibility?

Data accessibility is the ability to access and benefit from data

Data accessibility looks different for different users

Software Engineer

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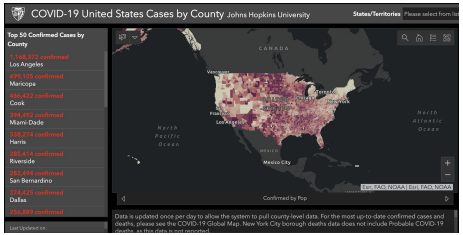
Concerned Citizen

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  },
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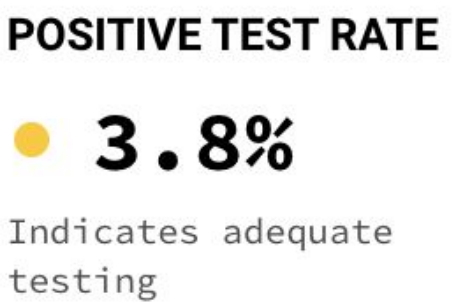
Characteristics of accessible COVID data

Accessible COVID data is

Specific

When data is specific it reduces confusion

Connecticut Test Positivity



State Summary

Connecticut COVID-19 Summary

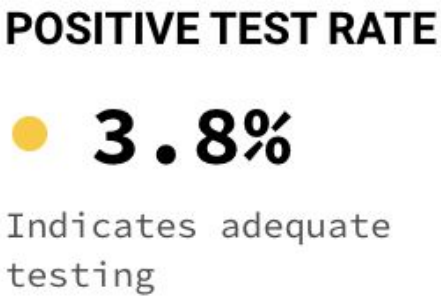
Summary for the most recent day of reporting. Includes confi
persons with positive antigen results

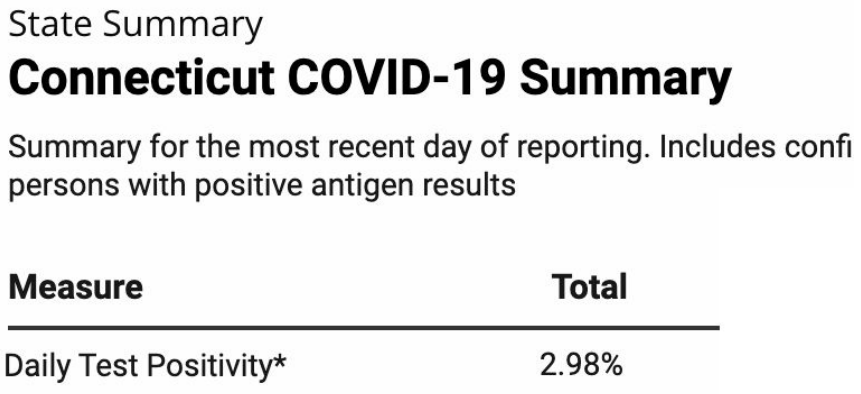
Measure	Total
Daily Test Positivity*	2.98%

Covid Act Now CT test positivity

CT Department of Health test positivity

Share methodology to make data more specific





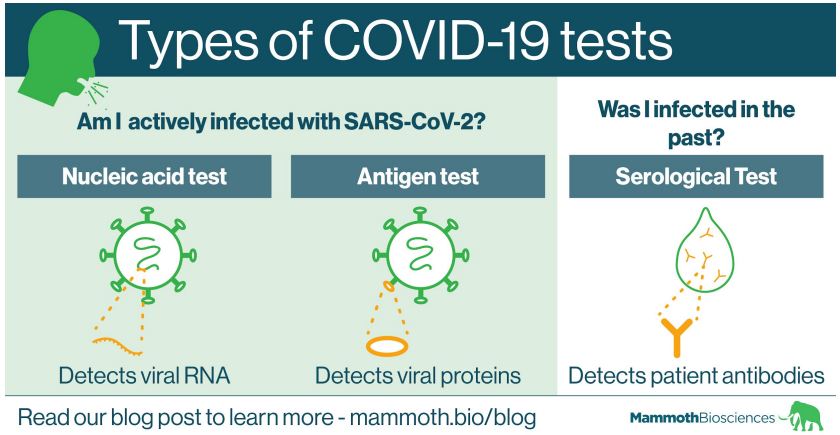
“We calculate the rate as a 7-day trailing average.”

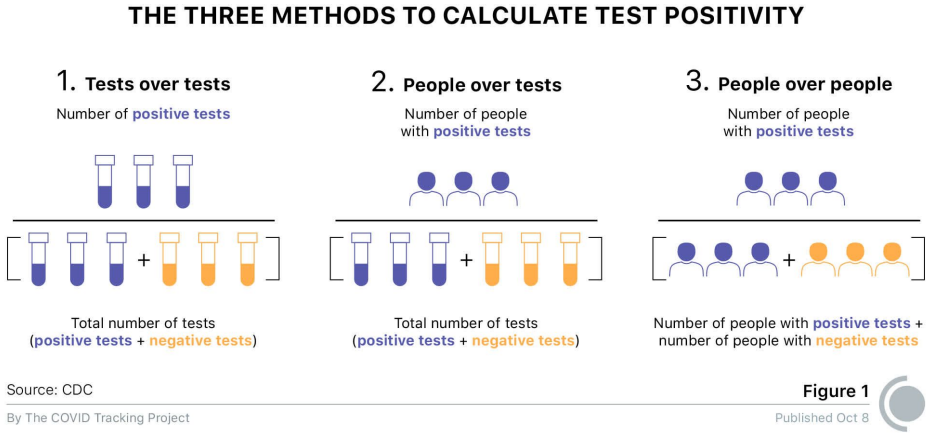
“Daily test positivity is the number of new positive molecular and antigen cases divided by the number of new molecular and antigen tests reported in the past 24 hours.”

Covid Act Now CT test positivity

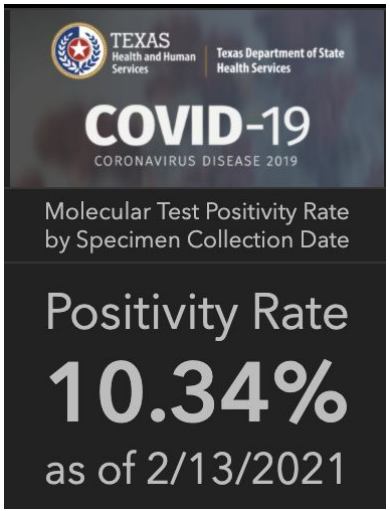
CT Department of Health test positivity

Presenting specific data is difficult because metrics are complicated





Lean on good documentation and great examples



Testing Positivity Rate

Measures the percentage of people tested that are positive. The DSHS formula divides the number of new cases reported in the past seven days by the new molecular test results received in the past seven days.

[Texas data dashboard]

Specific data lets users apply data in other contexts

	STATE POPULATION	DAILY NEW CASES PER 100K	INFECTION RATE	POSITIVE TEST RATE	ICU CAPACITY USED	VACCINATED (1ST SHOT)
1	California 39,500,000	24.5	0.75	6.5%	84%	11.4%
2	Texas 29,000,000	36.5	0.77	11.6%	81%	10.2%
3	Florida 21,500,000	32.9	0.88	8.9%	81%	11.0%
4	New York 19,500,000	43.8	0.90	6.4%	70%	10.3%
5	Pennsylvania 12,800,000	26.7	0.86	7.3%	74%	10.6%
6	Illinois 12,700,000	17.8	0.83	3.5%	61%	11.2%
7	Ohio 11,700,000	23.4	0.82	5.8%	67%	10.6%
8	Georgia 10,600,000	31.5	0.80	10.3%	87%	9.7%

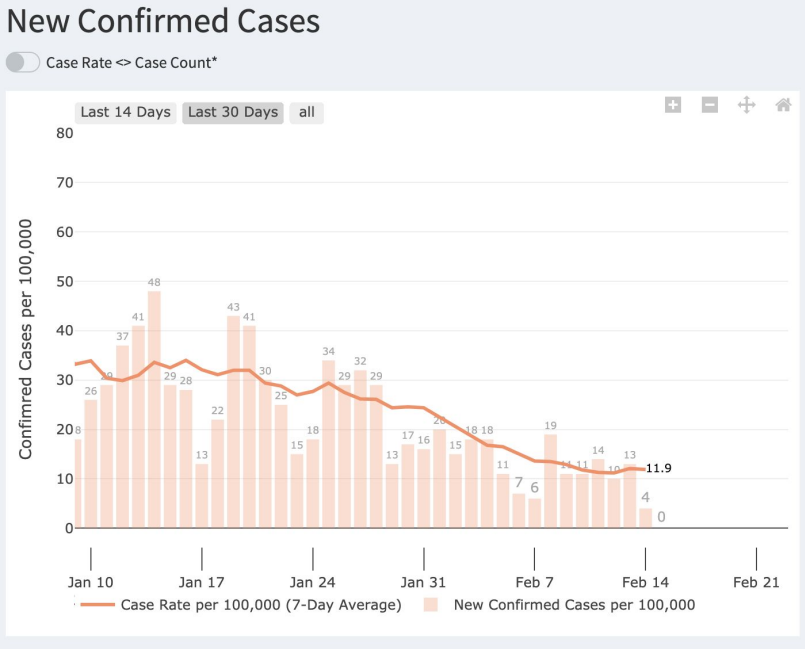
Accessible COVID data

Includes context

Without enough context, users may turn to their assumptions

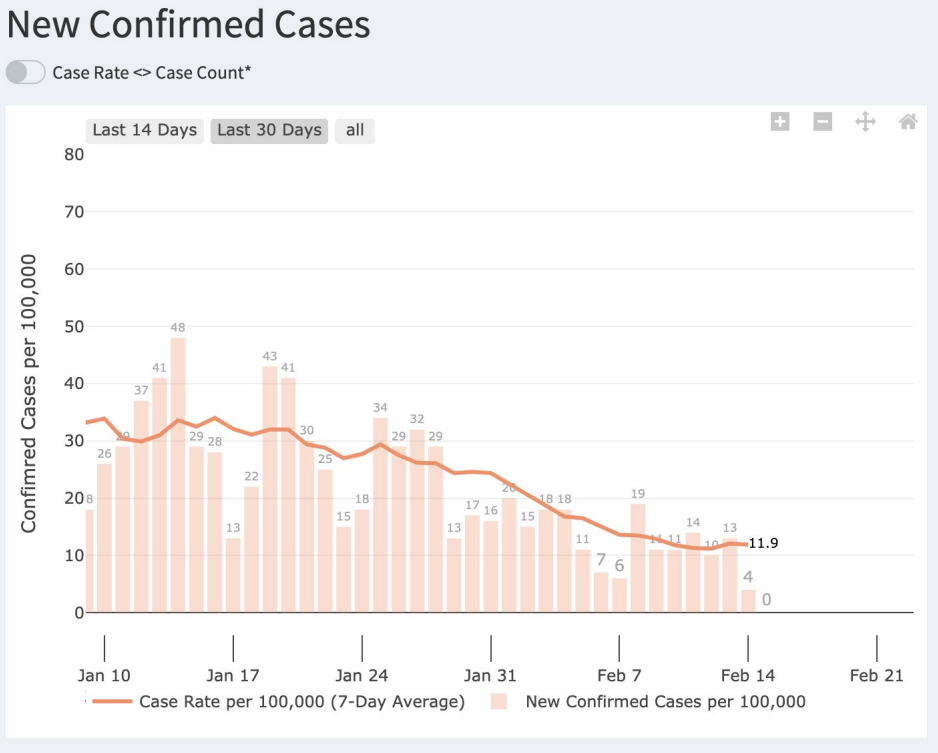
City of Cambridge, MA

New confirmed cases by event date



City of Cambridge Dashboard

Context helps users correctly interpret data

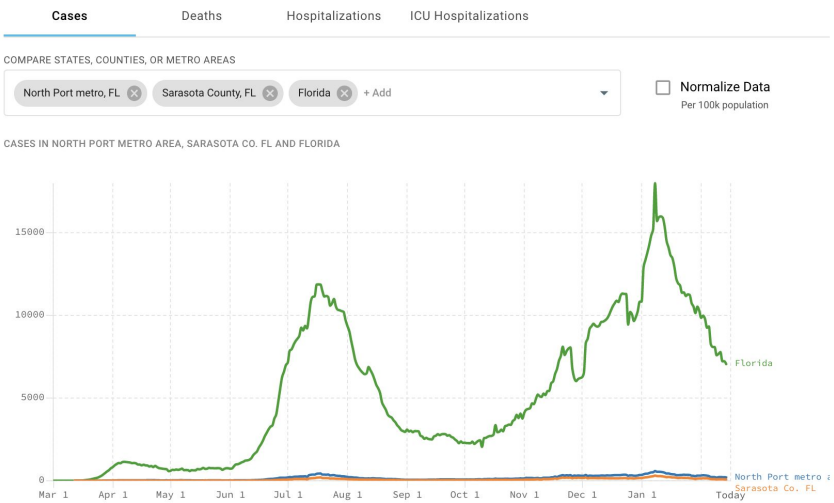


About these Charts

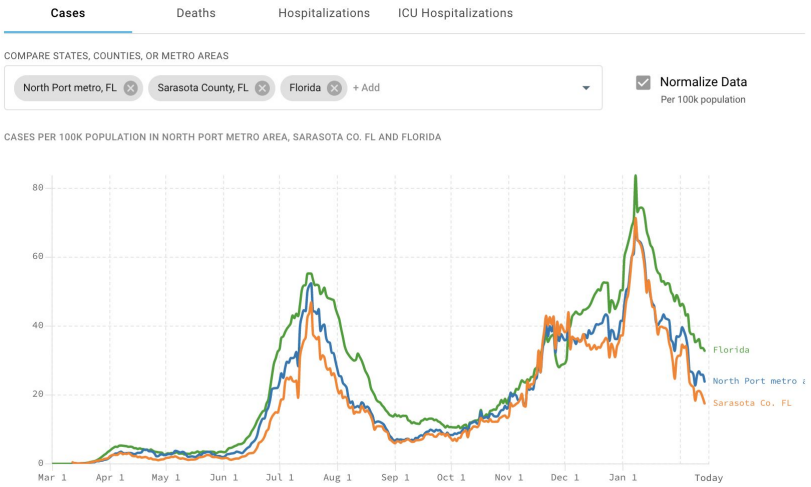
The chart **reflects the event date for each new case**. An event date can be the date of symptom onset, date of test, or date of report. Symptom onset date, when available, is the best marker of when a person is experiencing illness and infectious to others. For people who are asymptomatic, or for whom symptom onset date is unknown, date of test is used. When the test date is unknown, the date of report is used. **As more information becomes available, case counts for individual dates going back in time may change** as the Cambridge Public Health Department receives new data. **For this reason, the number of new cases initially reported on a given day might shift to other dates.** The dates in the most recently reported data are the most accurate.

Adding context can reveal new information

Daily new cases



Daily new cases normalized by population



Historical data lets users test their own hypotheses

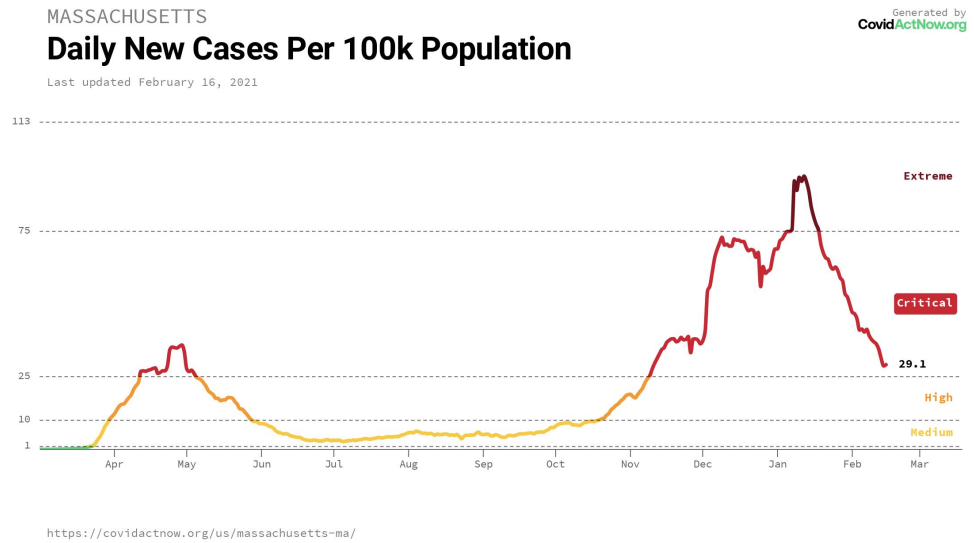
Massachusetts

COVID RISK LEVEL

Active outbreak

Massachusetts is either actively experiencing an outbreak or is at extreme risk. COVID cases are exponentially growing and/or Massachusetts's COVID preparedness is significantly below international standards.

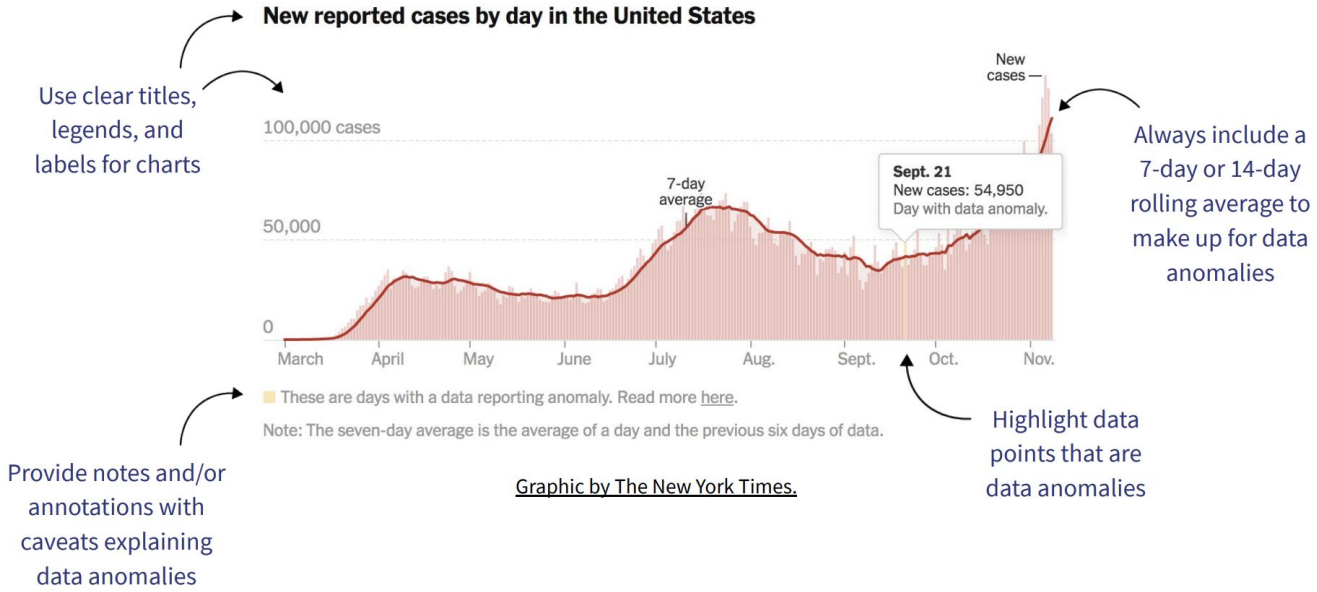
DAILY NEW CASES	INFECTION RATE	POSITIVE TEST RATE
29.1 PER 100K	0.82	2.5%
Dangerous number of new cases	Active cases are decreasing	Indicates widespread testing



Context helps remove potential stumbling blocks

Graphics that build understanding and trust

ANNOTATE AND DISCLAIM.



[Covid Tracking Project “Recommendations for a National Pandemic Dashboard”]

Accessible COVID data is

Available in multiple formats

Providing the same data in different formats expands reach

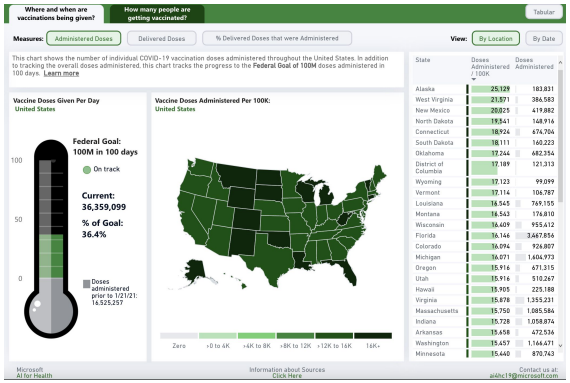
Business Intelligence dashboards

Pros:

- Powerful tooling simplifies creation
- Powerful filtering and annotations

Cons:

- Typically not responsive
- Hard to access underlying data
- Generally very slow



Downloadable data

Pros:

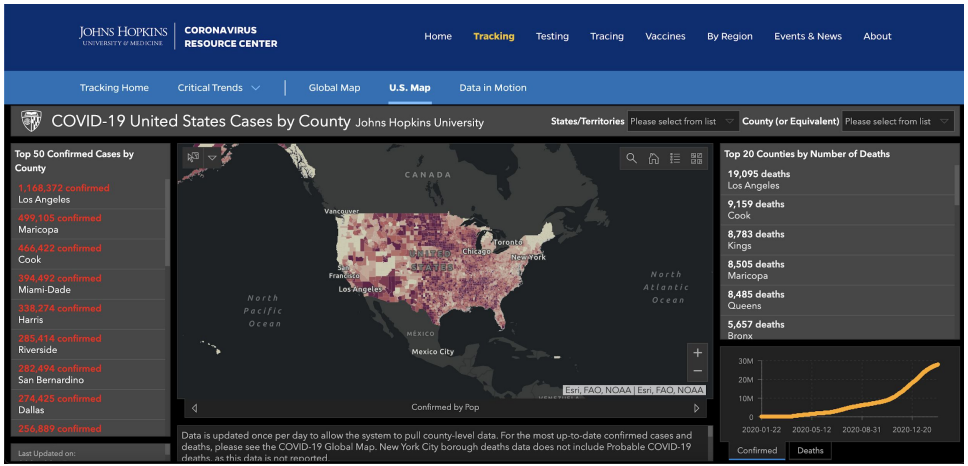
- Data can easily be imported to other tools
- Gives users with excel skills a lot of flexibility to analyze data

Cons:

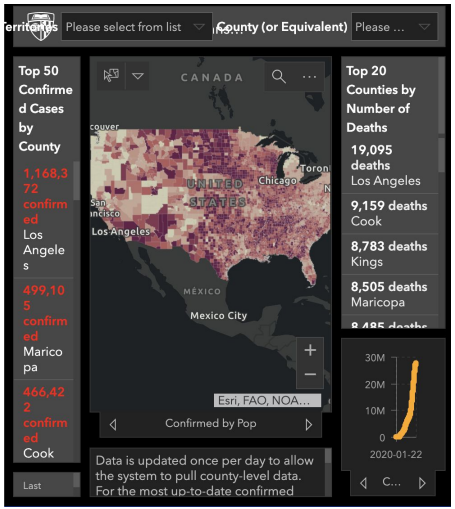
- Requires separate software
- Takes more work to add context and describe anomalies in data

Dashboards don’t always translate well to different devices

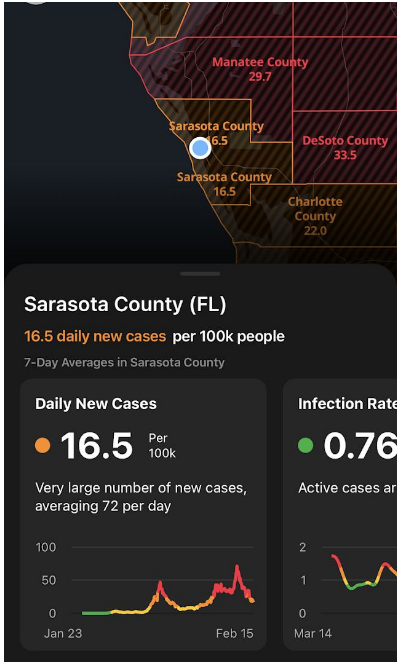
Looks great on desktop



Needs work on mobile



Let users download your data to build their own dashboards



https://citizen.com/

County Name	Critical Change	CAN URL	This Monday Overall Risk	Last Monday Overall Risk	County Population	Average Daily Cases Last Week	This Monday Infection Rate	This Monday Incident Rate
Juneau City and Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	31,974	4.3	0.94	13.4
Kenai Peninsula Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	58,708	7.7	0.75	13.14
Kenai Peninsula Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	58,708	7.7	0.75	13.14
Kenai Peninsula Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	58,708	7.7	0.75	13.14
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Kenai Peninsula Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	58,708	7.7	0.75	13.14
Kenai Peninsula Borough		Link	At Risk	At Risk	58,708	7.7	0.75	13.14
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Better	Link	Slow Growth	At Risk	13,901	0.7	0.95	5.14
Matanuska-Susitna Borough		Link	Active Outbreak	Active Outbreak	108,317	28.9	0.85	26.64
Matanuska-Susitna Borough		Link	Active Outbreak	Active Outbreak	108,317	28.9	0.85	26.64
Matanuska-Susitna Borough		Link	Active Outbreak	Active Outbreak	108,317	28.9	0.85	26.64
Nome Census Area		Link	At Risk	At Risk	10,004	1.3		12.85
Sitka City and Borough	Better	Link	Slow Growth	Active Outbreak	8,493	0.4		5.05
Clackamas County		Link	At Risk	At Risk	418,187	56.7	0.8	13.56
Clackamas County		Link	At Risk	At Risk	418,187	56.7	0.8	13.56
Clackamas County		Link	At Risk	At Risk	418,187	56.7	0.8	13.56
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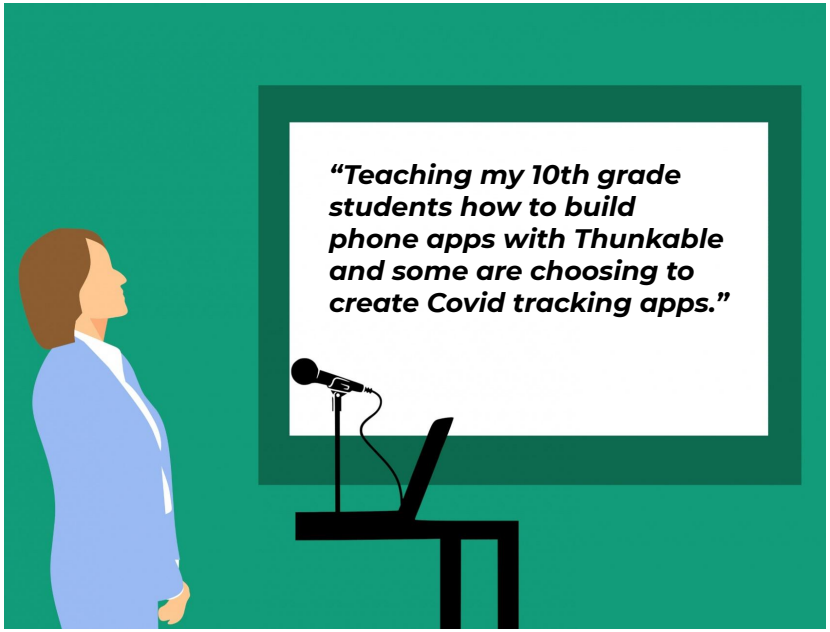
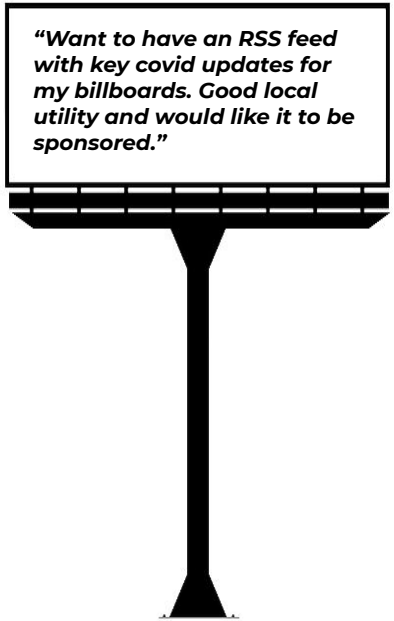
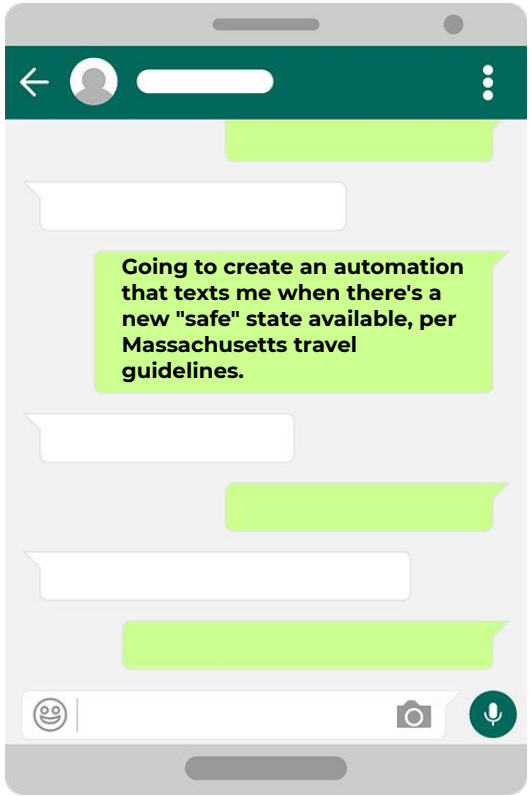
Clackamas County		Link	At Risk	At Risk	418,187	56.7	0.8	13.56
Clackamas County		Link	At Risk	At Risk	418,187	56.7	0.8	13.56

API use cases





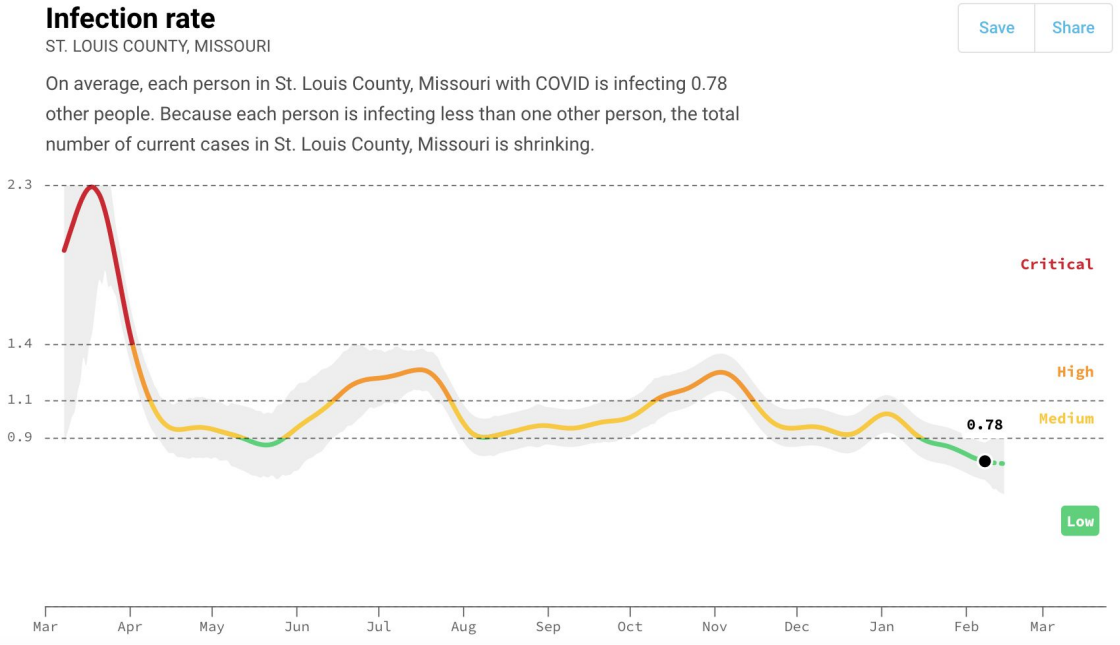


Accessible COVID data

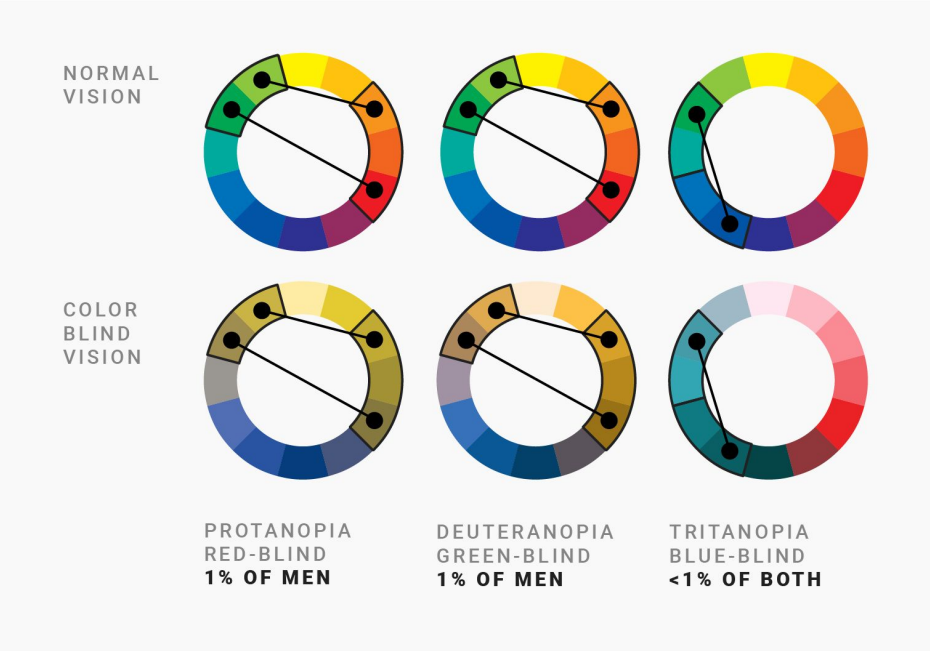
Follows best practices for web accessibility

Charts may be difficult to comprehend with screen readers

“I am a blind researcher and most dashboards do not include any text, making the vital information inaccessible to people who use screen reading software. I was able to read important data points on your resource and I really appreciate it.”



Use colorblind aware colors



NOT IDEAL: COMBINING GREEN WITH ORANGE/RED OR BLUE

[Datawrapper colorblindness post]

Characteristics of accessible data

1. Specific
2. Provides context
3. Available in multiple formats
4. Follows best practices for web accessibility

Questions? Stay in touch!

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Covid Act Now

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