

**“A Message from the Inspector General: Interactive Dashboards Relating to COVID-19 Within the Federal Bureau of Prisons,” October 2020**

Hello, I'm Michael Horowitz, Inspector General for the US Department of Justice.

Since March 2020, my office has directed a great deal of our oversight efforts to assessing the DOJ's response to the COVID pandemic. We determined that one of the most immediate challenges to DOJ operations involved containing and preventing the spread of the virus among the over 150,000 inmates in the custody of the Department's Bureau of Prisons, or BOP. As part of our COVID-related oversight of the BOP, the OIG is conducting remote inspections of BOP institutions, contract prisons, and halfway houses. In connection with those inspections, our Data Analytics Office has analyzed COVID data from the BOP, as well as Johns Hopkins University, relating to COVID-19 in BOP institutions and their surrounding communities.

As part of these efforts, our Data Analytics Office has launched a dashboard to provide the public with access to a set of interactive tools that display this data, which we will be updating on a weekly basis. We believe providing this data to the public will supplement our remote inspection reports and enhance transparency about BOP's response to the pandemic. To access these dashboards and see our related inspection reports please visit our website, [oig.justice.gov/coronavirus](https://oig.justice.gov/coronavirus), or go to the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee's website, [pandemicoversight.gov](https://pandemicoversight.gov).

Thank you for joining me today.

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