July 24, 2020

Analysis of COVID-19 Infection Rate in NYC Jails

Coronavirus Infection Rates as of July 24, 2020

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locations:</th>
<th>COVID-19 Cases*</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Infection Rate</th>
<th>Infections/1,000 people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in DOC Custody**</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>3,959</td>
<td>7.27%</td>
<td>72.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC Staff</td>
<td>1,420</td>
<td>10,977</td>
<td>12.94%</td>
<td>129.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC Total</td>
<td>1,708</td>
<td>14,936</td>
<td>11.44%</td>
<td>114.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>219,489</td>
<td>8,175,133</td>
<td>2.68%</td>
<td>26.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>414,405</td>
<td>19,440,469</td>
<td>2.13%</td>
<td>21.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4,171,358</td>
<td>331,002,651</td>
<td>1.26%</td>
<td>12.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*last updated July 24th 2020 at 12:50PM (data as of July 17th)

** This is not the cumulative number of cases of people who have contracted COVID-19 while detained in NYC jails. See our daily analysis report for more information on the limitations of the data provided by the Department of Correction.

The rate of infection among people who work for and who are incarcerated by the NYC DOC remains much higher than New York City, New York State, and the United States.

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NYC DOC Comparisons</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in DOC Custody and DOC Staff have an infection rate X times higher than:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>4.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>5.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>9.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 This number does not reflect the total number of people who have contracted COVID-19 while in DOC custody, as it does not include those who have been released, transferred, or who have died in DOC custody. The population of people in DOC custody changes daily, with an average of 34 people released per day and 27 people admitted per day since April 1, 2020. See Table 5.
COVID-19 Exposure of Current Population in DOC Custody

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People in DOC Custody</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Likely Exposed but Asymptomatic</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed COVID-19</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown if Exposed</td>
<td>3,671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of Incarcerated Population Likely Exposed or Confirmed COVID-19 7.27%

Table 4

COVID-19 Exposure of Current Population in DOC Custody

- Confirmed COVID-19: 7.3%
- Unknown if Exposed: 92.7%
- 3,671 (92.7%)
July 24, 2020

**Turnover in NYC Jails**

*Table 5*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Average/ Day</th>
<th>Likely and Confirmed Exposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Released from DOC custody since 4/1</td>
<td>3,276</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Admitted to DOC custody since 4/1</td>
<td>2,591</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of People in DOC Custody since 4/1/2020</td>
<td>7,235</td>
<td>3,987</td>
<td>2,084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than 3,000 people were likely exposed to the virus while in DOC custody since April 1, 2020. This does not include DOC staff or community spread of people likely exposed when coming into contact with DOC staff or people released from DOC custody.

**NYC DOC Infections Since April 1, 2020, Compared**

*Table 6*

The curve for people incarcerated by DOC may look like it is “flattening”, but this reflects the fact that the City is only reporting the number of COVID-19 positive people who are still in custody that day. As people with COVID-19 are released from DOC custody, new COVID-19 diagnoses are replacing those who have been released. On the other hand, the number of infections in the comparator populations - DOC staff, NYC, and New York State - are cumulative. Absent cumulative data from DOC, the rate of infections among DOC staff is likely a better proxy of the true rate of infections among those in DOC custody, as both populations are in frequent contact.
### Citations:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Population</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NYC Jails</strong></td>
<td>Board of Correction, Daily Covid-19 Update, Friday, July 24, 2020,</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOC Staff</strong></td>
<td>Board of Correction, Daily Covid-19 Update, Friday, July 24, 2020,</td>
<td>Financial Plan Summary, Committee Report - Department of Correction (March 16, 2020),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York City</strong></td>
<td>New York Coronavirus Map and Case Count, N.Y. Times (July 24, 2020 2:17 PM),</td>
<td>Worldometer, Main Cities by Population in the U.S.A.,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New York State</strong></td>
<td>New York Coronavirus Map and Case Count, N.Y. Times (July 24, 2020 3:17 PM),</td>
<td>World Population Review, New York Population 2020,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>United States</strong></td>
<td>Worldometer, Confirmed Cases and Deaths by Country, Territory, or Conveyance,</td>
<td>Worldometer, Countries in the world by population (2020),</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All data on COVID-19 among people in DOC custody and DOC staff is from the NYC Board of Correction and COVID-19 page, available online at: [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/boc/covid-19.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/boc/covid-19.page).
July 24, 2020

Contact:

Alexander Lesman
Staff Attorney
alesman@legal-aid.org

Molly Griffard
Equal Justice Works Fellow
mgriffard@legal-aid.org

Vincent Ciaccio, Ph.D.
Interim Data Analyst Manager
vciaccio@legal-aid.org

Yosmin Badie
Law Student Volunteer
ybadie@legal-aid.org

Data and updates available at: https://legalaidnyc.org/covid-19-infection-tracking-in-nyc-jails/