

### **Mailing list for future technical updates**

Oxford has set up an email list of technical users of the OxCGRT database. Future technical updates (like this one) will be distributed through that mailing list. If you want to receive future technical updates, please add your email here: <http://eepurl.com/hiMsdl>

You will receive ad hoc technical notices (approx. every 3-6 weeks) when Oxford pushes changes to the data structure or publishes new indicators.

### **DATA UPDATES 11/25/2020**

#### **Addition of Brazil subnational observations**

Our main dataset (at [www.github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker](http://www.github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker)) has been updated to include Brazilian state data. It now has sub-national data for US, UK, and Brazil (more coming). Of course, this means that if you have any applications or scripts that search for `CountryCode=="BRA"`, you will now return 28 observations on each date.

#### **Addition of jurisdiction type column**

To help sort and filter the data, we have added a new 'Jurisdiction' column to our datasets. For the main datasets, this will be either `NAT_TOTAL` or `STATE_TOTAL`.

#### **Removal of some British Overseas Territories**

We had previously had data for many British Overseas Territories. Due to capacity constraints, we have stopped updating (and have removed) most of these, such as Pitcairn Island, Montserrat, and Ascension Island. If you rely on data for these territories, please let us know.

#### **Creation of 'combined' CSV that includes the policy level and the geographic scope in a single variable**

For most of our indicators we publish two variables: the level of the policy (ordinal number), and the geographic scope (a binary flag depending on whether it is a nationwide policy, or just localised in one or more targeted areas). Many people that use OxCGRT data ignore the scope flag for simplicity. We have now created a CSV that reports a single 'combined' value for each indicator where a targeted policy is treated as a half-step.

For instance, school and university closures are recorded as `C1=3` if they apply nationwide. If these closures only occurred in one state or territory, not across the whole country, we would report `C1_combined=2.5`. The CSV can be found here:

[https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/data/OxCGRT\\_latest\\_combined.csv](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/data/OxCGRT_latest_combined.csv)

This uses the same as the methodology we use when aggregating data for our indices (including the Stringency Index), and you can read the methodology here:

[https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/index\\_methodology.md#calculating-sub-index-scores-for-each-indicator](https://github.com/OxCGRT/covid-policy-tracker/blob/master/documentation/index_methodology.md#calculating-sub-index-scores-for-each-indicator)

### **Changing source of case/death data from ECDC to JHU**

Our database includes cumulative reported cases and Covid-19 deaths for each country. We get this data from the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC), but they are going to [stop doing daily updates](#) at the end of November. We are exploring a shift to [John Hopkins University](#) as our source of daily case and death data. This would also replace our historical data, and so from December there will be slight differences in the cases and deaths included in our data files (eg. JHU counts seem to regularly lag a day behind ECDC counts).