State of Ohio: Delivering a Critical COVID-19 Dashboard Overnight

Overview

The State of Ohio's data platform team, in partnership with Avaap, supports dozens of state governmental agencies, with thousands of different data sources. Each agency acts as an isolated secure ecosystem, with skill sets, use cases, data sources, and infrastructure that vary widely between agencies.

To support this decentralized organizational structure, Avaap recommended providing agencies with a common data platform that was easy-to-use and could support any data source and infrastructure environment—on-premise, hybrid, or in the cloud. The State's data platform team enabled each agency to use StreamSets Data Collector to build data pipelines.

After years of using StreamSets for important cross-state projects like tracking behavioral attributes that led to infant mortality, identifying duplicate payments to contractors (which led the State to recoup $1M in excess payments), and tracking how people are using unemployment benefits, the team was ready when called on to support the health department in a time of crisis.

Challenge

When COVID-19 hit in the spring of 2020, Ohio Health Director Dr. Amy Acton and Governor Mike DeWine needed a dashboard, fast, to report on key COVID metrics. The first team struggled for a week to build the dashboard due to the highly varied sources of public health and economic data across each county in the state, many of which were brand new.

Solution

Avaap and the data platform team were contacted to take over building the COVID dashboard. With agencies already enabled to use StreamSets to build data pipelines, the hundreds of different data sources across 88 Ohio counties, in formats from databases to spreadsheets, were easy to ingest for transformation into a cohesive Tableau dashboard. "For the COVID pipeline, not all counties could give us standardized data. With StreamSets we can easily take and use any file format," said Sagar Mangam of Avaap, for the State of Ohio.

Moreover, because StreamSets pipelines are flexible and portable across environments, the team knew that updates to data sources or endpoints would be easy throughout the life of the dashboard. Sagar said, "When an agency wants to switch endpoints, they don't have to redo the whole pipeline. All they have to do is change the origin."
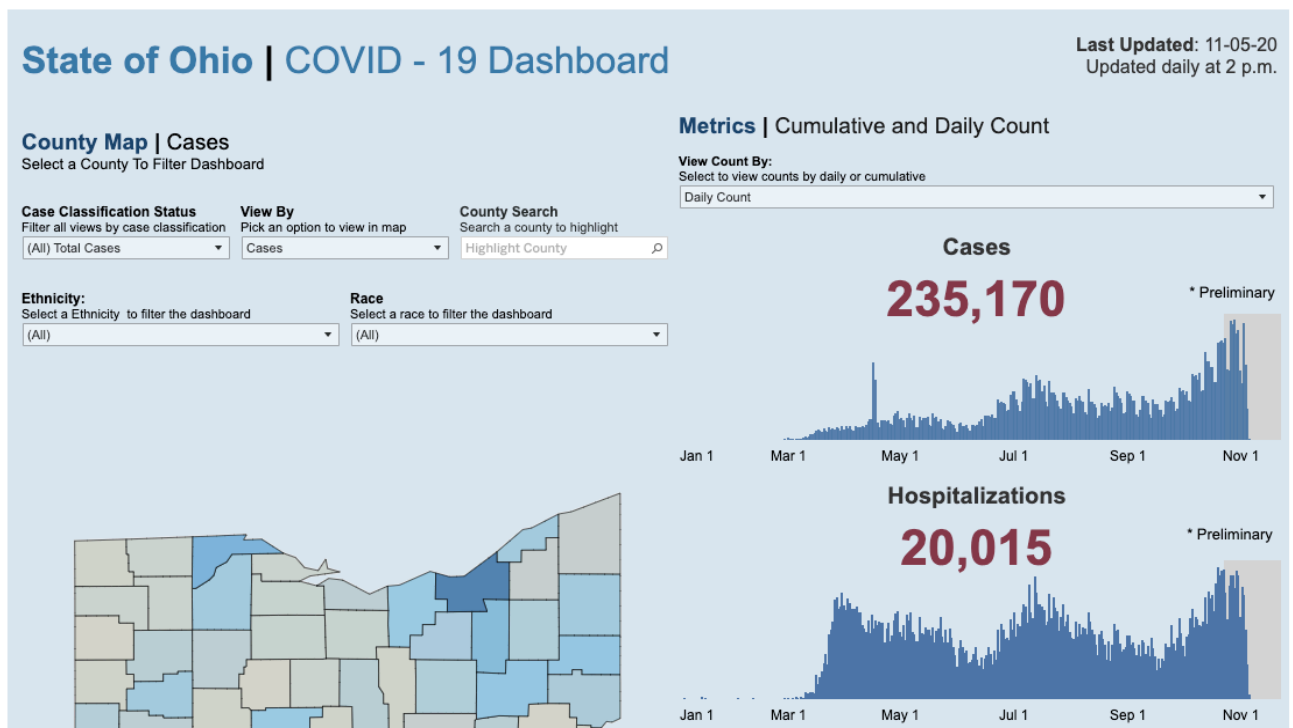
StreamSets

Result

Using StreamSets, Avaap and the State's data platform team pulled together and ingested the data to build the COVID dashboard overnight. Dr. Acton and Governor DeWine were able to share the dashboard at their press conference the next day.

With the success they've had using StreamSets, the team is looking to develop further efficiencies with StreamSets Transformer and by using StreamSets Control Hub to spin up StreamSets Data Controllers on Kubernetes on demand. The ultimate goal is to make every agency as self-service as possible, and still be able to easily consolidate and report on data statewide.

About Avaap

Avaap is an industry-focused technology management and advisory services consulting firm. They serve as overall Managed Services provider, project delivery partner, and as the key partner to drive governance, adoption, and continuous improvement for the InnovateOhio Platform. By providing integrated and scalable capabilities, they enable state agencies to become more customer-centric and data-driven, delivering on InnovateOhio's vision to better serve Ohioans.

State of Ohio | COVID - 19 Dashboard

Last Updated: 11-05-20
Updated daily at 2 p.m.

Cases: 235,170

Hospitalizations: 20,015

ABOUT STREAMSETS

StreamSets built the industry's first multi-cloud DataOps platform for modern data integration, helping enterprises to continuously flow big, streaming and traditional data to their data science and data analytics applications. For more information, visit www.streamsets.com.