Increasing visibility through managing the national COVID dashboard

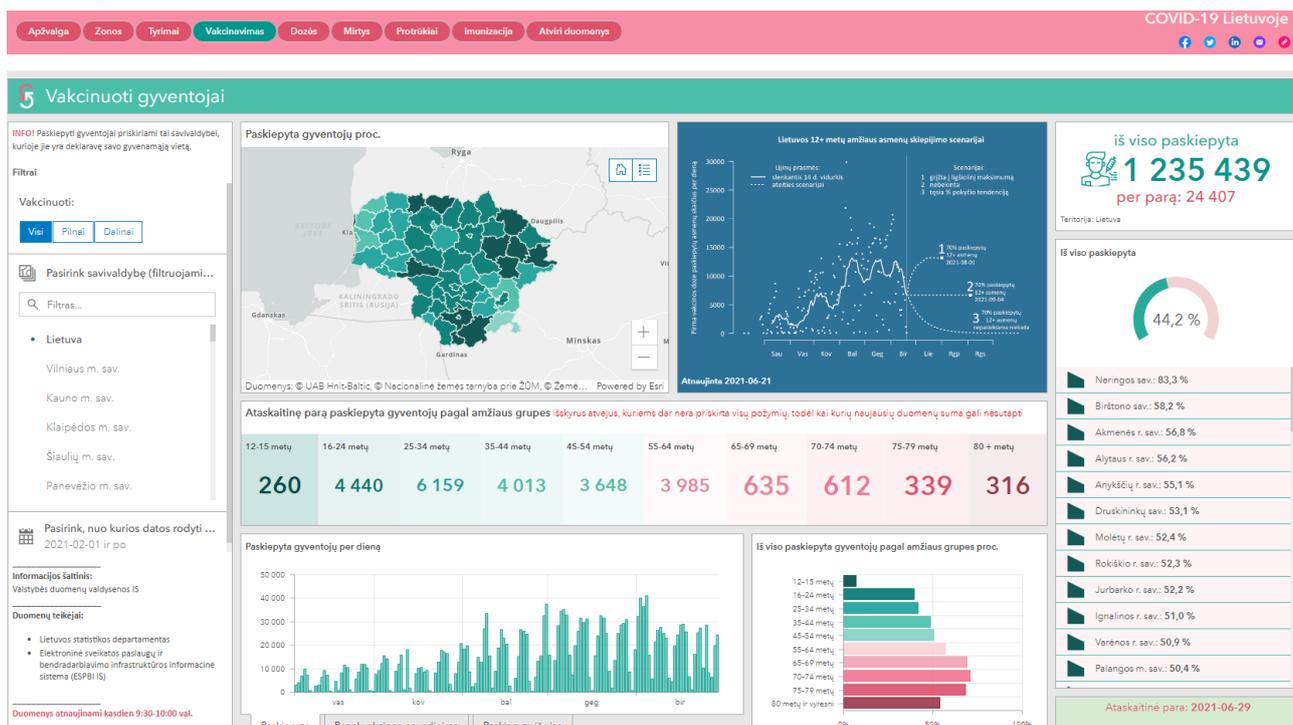Laima Grizaite (Statistics Lithuania)

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Abstract

At the end of 2020, Statistics Lithuania took over the calculation and publication of COVID-19 indicators. Statistics Lithuania is most likely the only NSI in the World, which took leadership to manage and publish operational COVID-19 data. This courage paid off: we got new users of official statistics, twice more followers in social media, duplicate numbers of quotations in traditional media.

For the publication of operational pandemic statistics we used interactive dashboards.

The ESRI Experience Builder tool was used to create an application for public users, which provides a set of dashboards on COVID-19 statistics. The application is also adapted for mobile devices. It is widely used and is viewed tens of thousands of times daily.

The dashboards can be used to monitor not only cases, tests and deaths but also the course of vaccination, i.e. the proportion of the vaccinated population and distribution thereof by age group and municipality. Municipal administrations also monitor the information on vaccination doses: the number of vaccines received, distribution thereof by municipality. At the request of users, the dashboards also provide information on the use of vaccines by manufacturer.

The published information on outbreaks has also received much attention: users can monitor where and in which establishments there are new outbreaks of COVID-19 and where the outbreak is already subdued.

The ESRI platform is also used for publication of timely open data, which are growing in popularity every day. Open data provide more detailed information on COVID-19 cases, testing and vaccination, as well as data to predict emerging outbreaks.

Such an understandable, easily accessible and open presentation of data builds public confidence and facilitates the understanding of state decisions on quarantine conditions.

This solution allowed Statistics Lithuania to become more visible. Leadership in data management has strengthened the brand of the institution, especially among decision makers and analysts, to name the paths in the production of operational statistics.