

South Carolina and the Opioid Epidemic

What are Opioids?

Opioids are a highly addictive class of drugs commonly prescribed to treat pain.

Regular use of these drugs can lead to dependency; misuse can lead to overdose incidents and possibly death.

The highly addictive nature of opioids led to increased instances of misuse and overdose.

Medicaid's Role

The Medicaid program covers some of the most vulnerable populations in the state, helping to pay for health and long-term care services.

The presented maps show the change in the Medicaid opioid prescribing rate from CY13 to CY16 in the Southeast region.

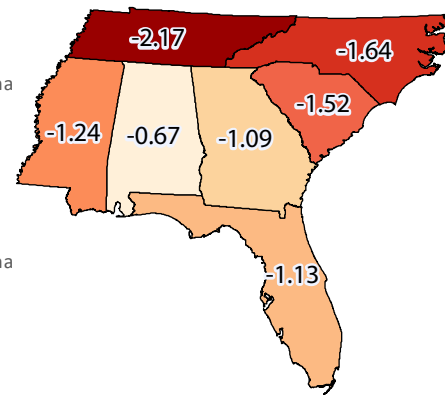
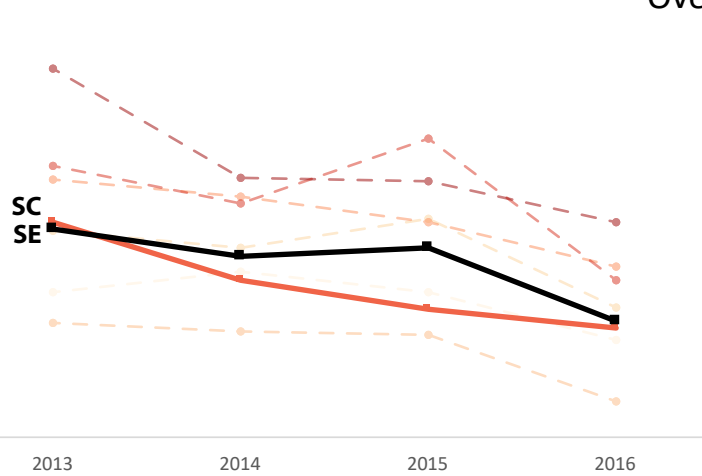
Among the Southeast, SC had the second greatest change in overall opioid prescribing in FFS (-2.5) and Managed Care (-1.5).

Addressing the Epidemic

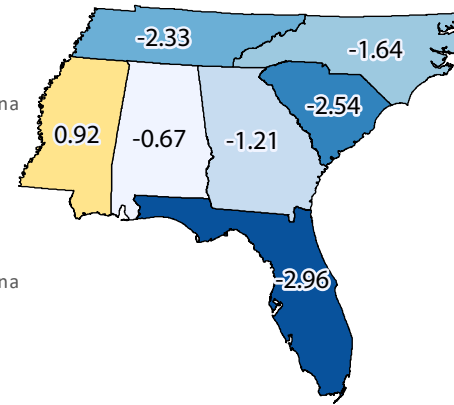
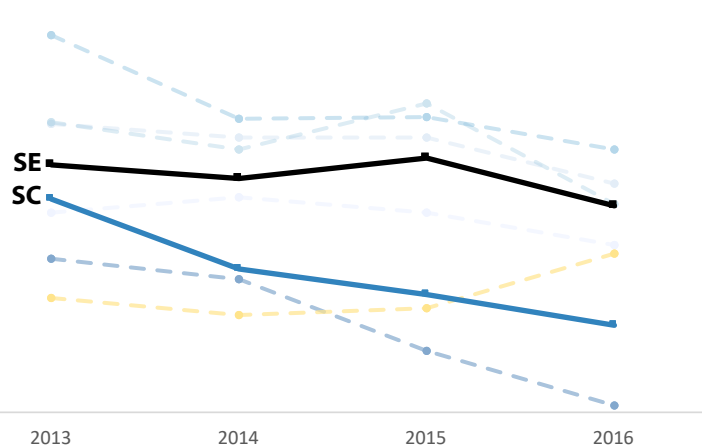
Prescription monitoring programs are state-administered databases that collect, monitor, and analyze prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances. The goal of PMPs are to assist clinicians and law enforcement in curbing misuse, abuse, and diversion of controlled substances.

In 2014, SCDHHS implemented a prescription tracking system requiring that providers verify a Medicaid members' prescription history before issuing prescriptions for opioids.

Overall



Fee-for-Service (FFS)



Managed Care

