

Opioid Prescribing Data

INFO 609 Data Centric Reengineering

12/13/2021

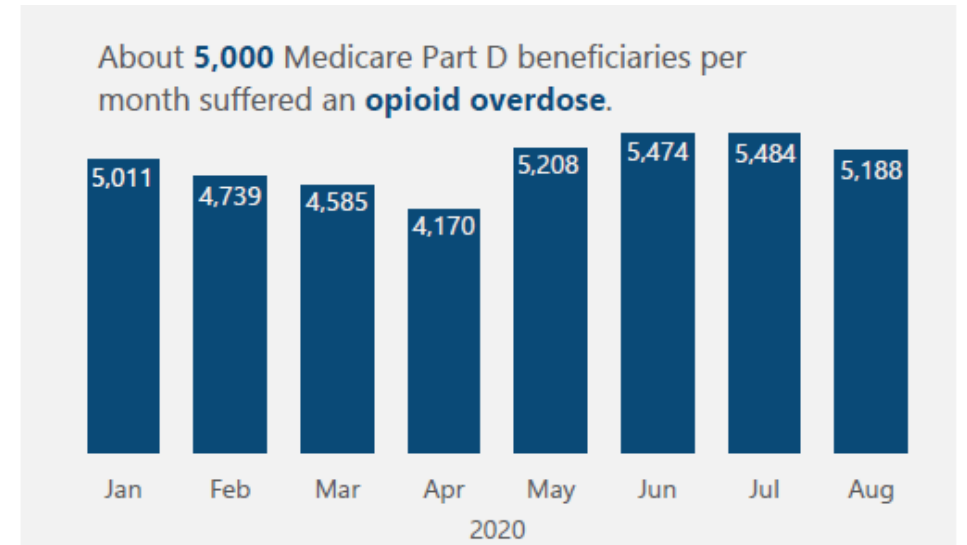
Bryce Bowles

Bhumika Modi

Allen Philips Agnelo

Why

- Key to addressing the Opioid Crisis:
 1. Identifying individuals and geographic areas who are at risk of overdose or abuse
 2. Concerns related to accessing treatment.
- “At least 5,000 Part D beneficiaries per month suffered an opioid overdose during the first 8 months of 2020.”
- Families and Children are affected by loved ones lost



Source: OIG analysis of Medicare data, 2020.

Data Background

Data is from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Data.CMS.gov)

In 2019, Medicare Part D spending was \$183 billion; U.S. retail prescription drug spending was about \$370 billion.

“Nearly a million (930,433) people are covered by Medicare Part D in **Virginia** in 2018.”

“74% of Medicare beneficiaries have Medicare prescription drug coverage”

Virginia Sample size is roughly, almost 700,000

Year	Tot_Clms
State	Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate
County	Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate_5Y_Chg
Locality_Level	Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate_1Y_Chg
Region	LA_Tot_Opioid_Clms
Tot_Prscrbrs	LA_Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate
Tot_Opioid_Prscrbrs	LA_Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate_5Y_Chg
Tot_Opioid_Clms	LA_Opioid_Prscrbing_Rate_1Y_Chg

Data Definitions

- Medicare:
 - Federal (Government-run) health insurance program that provides health coverage if you are 65+ or under 65 and have a disability, no matter your income.
- Opioid Prescribing Rate
 - $\text{= Total Opioid Prescribers} / \text{Total Prescribers}$
 - Derived using data from Medicare Part D claims prescribed by health care providers.
- Long-Acting Opioid:
 - Opioid medicines used to relieve moderate to severe long-term pain (extended-release opioids)
- Claim:
 - A claim asks Medicare or your insurer to pay for your medical care. Claims are submitted to Medicare after you see a doctor or are treated in a hospital or in this case, filling a prescription



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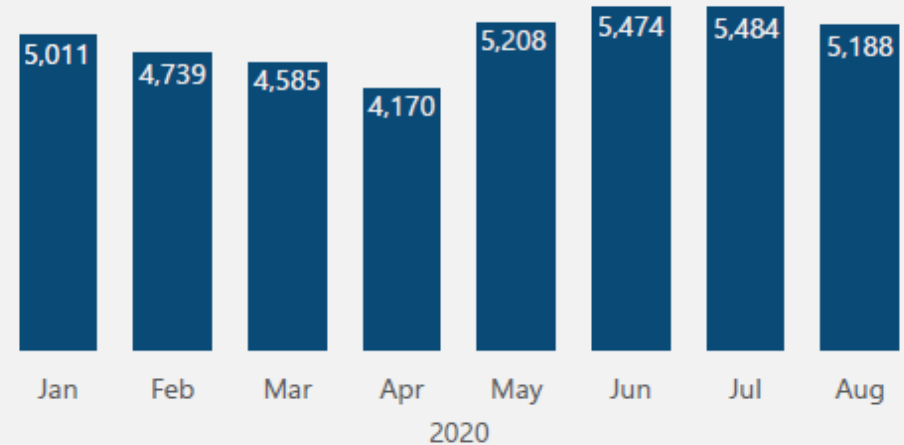
Conclusions

- From 2016 to 2019, Medicare Prescribing rates saw a steady decline in opioid use, along with an increased use of drugs for treatment of opioid use disorder.
- Highest and lowest county with opioid prescribing rate change in 5 years is Harnett and Shelby in the state of North Carolina and Tennessee respectively.
- Highest and lowest county with opioid prescribing rate change in 1 year is Botetourt and Washington in the state of Virginia and Maryland respectively.
- The highest and lowest long-acting opioid 5-year change would be the county of Warren and Prince George's in the states of North Carolina and Maryland respectively.
- The highest and lowest long-acting opioid 1-year change would be the county of Rockingham and Baltimore in the states of Virginia and Maryland respectively.
- Locality levels: Level 3 is Greatest, then Level 2 and Level one
- High Total Opioid Claims and Prescribers
 - Fairfax (Geo cd 51059), Richmond City (Geo cd 51706), Norfolk City (51710) etc.

Continued Research Throughout Covid-19

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has continued to monitor opioid use in Part D during the onset of COVID-19
- They have found:
 - About 5,000 Medicare beneficiaries per month suffered an opioid overdose during the first 8 months of 2020.
 - # receiving short-term opioid prescriptions dipped, with a particularly sharp decline in April.
 - About 220,000 beneficiaries received high amounts of opioids in the first 8 months of 2020.
 - At the same time, the number of beneficiaries receiving drugs for medication-assisted treatment of opioid use disorder increased slightly.
 - The number of beneficiaries receiving naloxone—a drug that can reverse an opioid overdose—declined through April, but increased in the following months.
- <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/OEI-02-20-00400.asp>

About **5,000** Medicare Part D beneficiaries per month suffered an **opioid overdose**.



Source: OIG analysis of Medicare data, 2020.

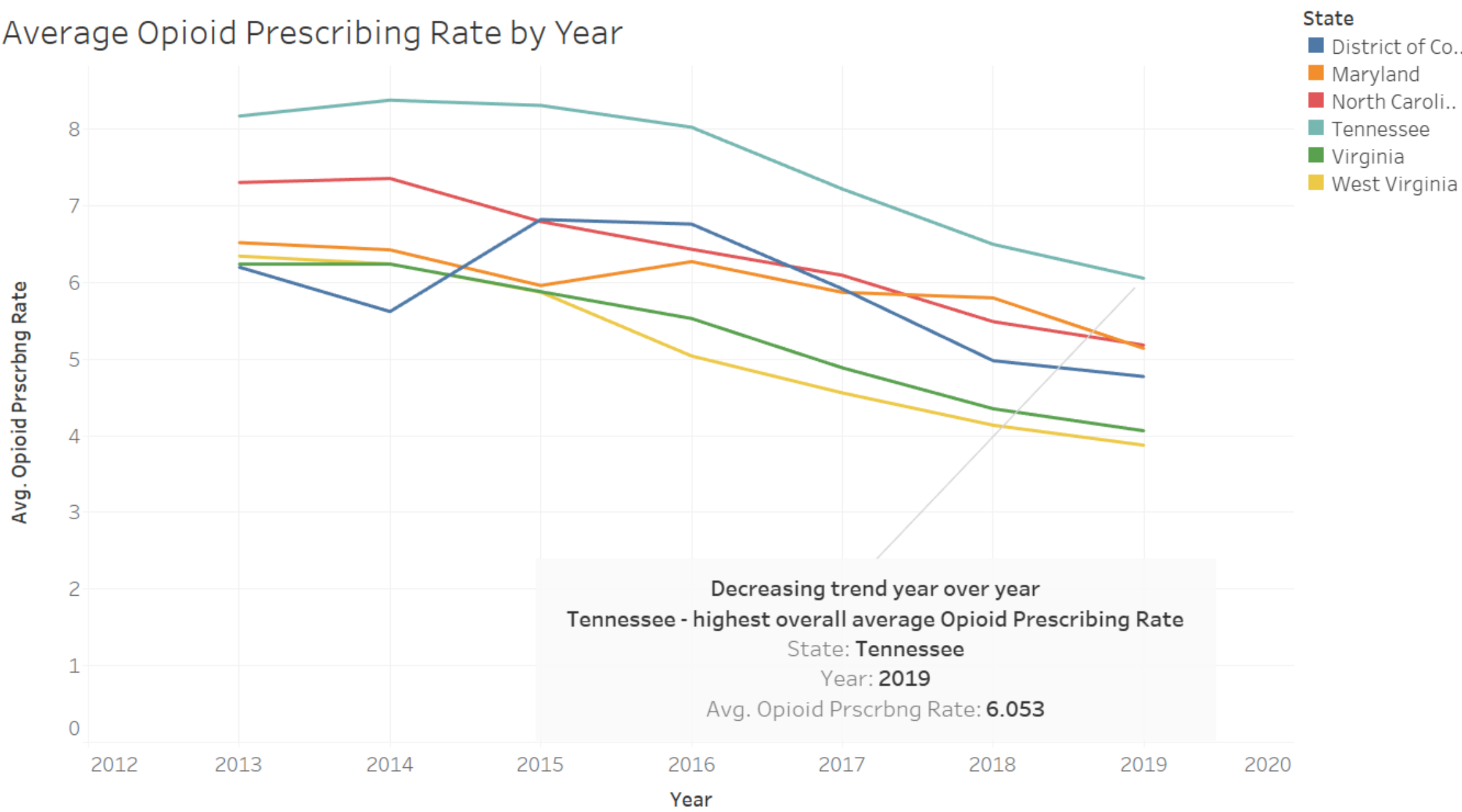
Questions?



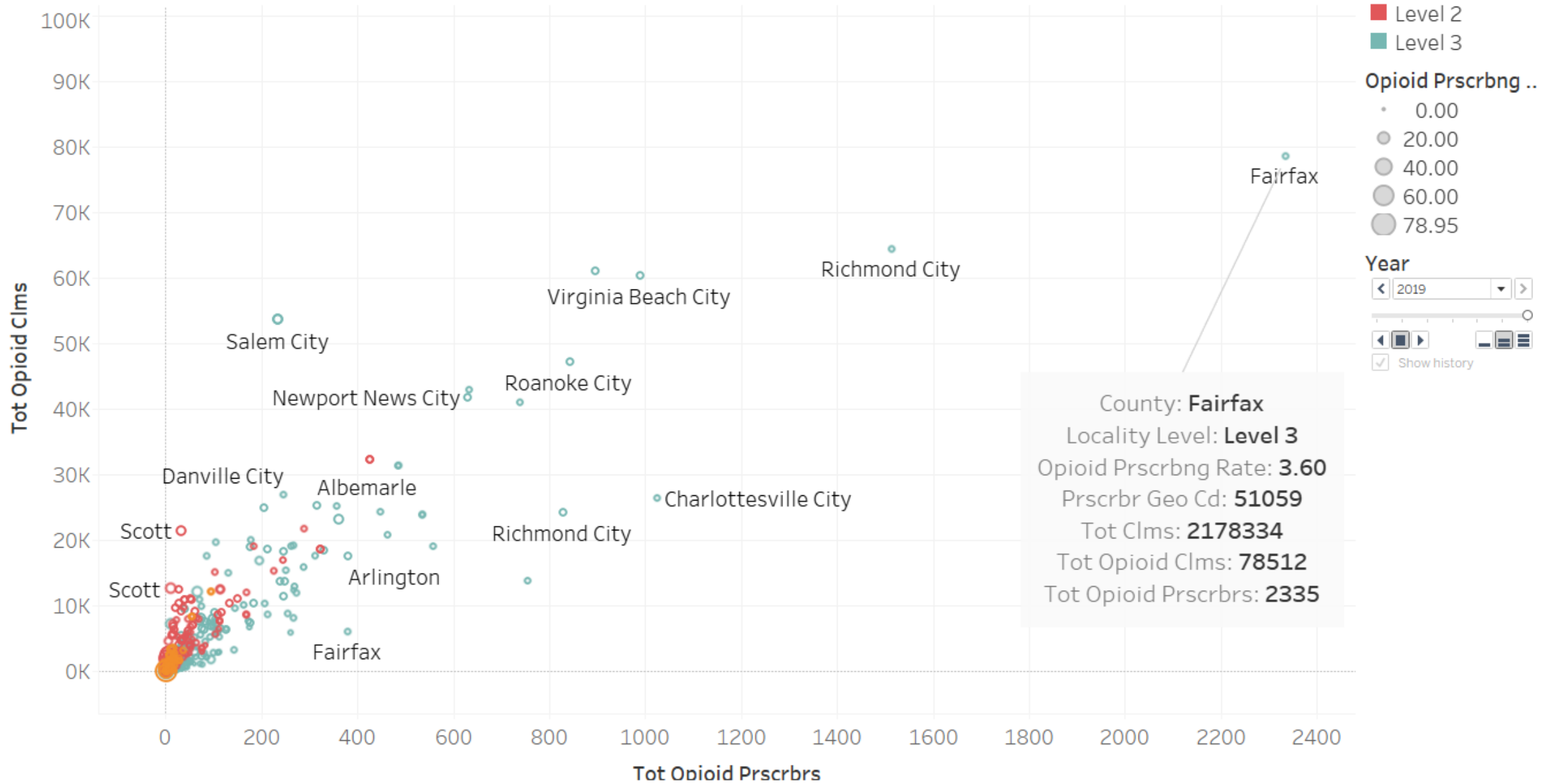
Sources

- Source: <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/Medicare-Provider-Charge-Data/OpioidMap> and <https://data.cms.gov/summary-statistics-on-use-and-payments/medicare-medicaid-opioid-prescribing-rates/medicare-part-d-opioid-prescribing-rates-by-geography>
- Our dataset is on Medicare [Part D Opioid Prescribing Mapping Tool](https://cms-oeda.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=5390718d875d4c049b1ac5976a9ff083). (<https://cms-oeda.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=5390718d875d4c049b1ac5976a9ff083>). Provides data on opioid prescriptions filled.
- Dataset Methodology and Data Limits: <https://data.cms.gov/resources/medicare-part-d-opioid-prescribing-rates-by-geography-methodology>
- <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/OEI-02-20-00400.asp>

Average Opioid Prescribing Rate by Year



VA 2019 Opioid Prescribers vs Opioid Claims - 2019



5Y vs 1Y Rate Change - 2019

