

For the first time in decades the average life expectancy has decreased in the United States, and though that is caused by a number of things, one of the things driving it is the increase in deaths from unintentional injuries, which includes drug overdoses. We have all heard how more people have died now from opioid overdoses since the opioid crisis began than during all of vietnam. There is now a huge need to look for solutions to the problem, including figuring out which treatment programs work. For my project I will be looking at data provided by New York State Department of Health found [here](#). The data set lists opioid related visits to health facilities in the state since 2010, including information on the type of visit, the insurance type, and the county of the state. I want to focus on looking for trends in the number of visits and how they vary for different regions and insurance types to see if any counties are doing a better job of dealing with these visits. Insurers with more total outpatient opioid visits may be make more programs available before patients reach the point of needing ER visits. Counties with higher number of related opioid visits may need to be further investigated to see what is driving this increase. We can also find which areas are responding to ER visits due to opioids with better care by checking the number of visits against the number of discharges to see the mortality rate by county. The data analysis should provide direction for further data collection and also suggest which counties need more resources to better handle the crisis. The end goal is to put together a report of the findings and an interactive map for this information to be represented.